



**Village Manager's Report  
Week ending August 1, 2014**

**Meetings scheduled for the next week:**

- Monday, August 4:
  - Personnel Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., room 130
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
  
- Tuesday, August 5:
  - Environment & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
  
- Wednesday, August 6:
  - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
  - Public Art Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
  - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 201

**Lake & Forest Garage closing update** – The second and final letter went out this week to remind permit parkers who use the Lake & Forest Garage and adjacent surface lot that the garage will close Monday in preparation for demolition. Permit holders were given specific information when they last renewed their permits in June to provide ample time to either accept a transfer to the Holley Court Garage or work with Parking Services to make other arrangements. Entryways will be blocked early Monday morning and attempts made to contact the owners of any vehicles remaining inside the garage before they are towed. The closing has received considerable publicity and signs have been posted to direct visitors to both Holley Court and the Avenue Garage. Public Works crews also have been busy updating, removing and relocating signs at various downtown locations to improve vehicle and pedestrian travel that will be affected by the project. The Fire Department is planning a range of training activities inside the structure once it is closed and prior to demolition.

**Colt site environmental testing** – Environmental testing necessary for the redevelopment of the Colt site is scheduled for Aug. 11 and 12. Testing will require the surface parking lots on Lake Street just east of Pier One Imports and south of Westgate Street to be closed on both days. Crews will use electromagnetic and ground radar survey technology to assess the presence of any [recognized environmental conditions \(RECs\)](#) beneath the surface, such as fuel tanks. This type of testing is routine in preparation of any major redevelopment project in an urban setting. However, the results of the testing could mean future disruption of parking in these lots if remediation is necessary.

**Parking lot resurfacing update** – The surface parking lot in front of the Marion Street entrance to the Holley Court Garage (Lot #118) is expected to be open as usual Saturday after being closed from 7 a.m. to noon daily since Wednesday for

resurfacing. The project was expedited in anticipation of increased use once the Lake & Forest Garage closes next week.

**I-290 Corridor Advisory Group meeting update** – The Illinois Department of Transportation held the 18th meeting of the [I-290 study's](#) Corridor Advisory Group (CAG) on Wednesday at the Carleton Hotel. The CAG is comprised of agency officials involved in the study, consultant support teams and municipal officials representing corridor communities. Other stakeholders, including area residents who have followed the study, also attended. Several representatives from the Village attended. IDOT staff and consultants provided an overview of the study progress to date, and the CTA provided an update on the [Blue Line Vision Study](#). An IDOT consultant team also presented an overview of the traffic noise analysis they initiated. Both the I-290 Environmental Impact Study and the CTA Blue Line Vision Study are progressing on coordinated schedules, with an I-290 preferred alternative to be developed by spring 2015. IDOT provided a packet of drawings for the Village to review and staff will be coordinating meetings over the next two months to discuss observations and recommendations with IDOT. Two additional CAG meetings are planned this year, with a public meeting likely in the spring of 2015.

**Capital improvement projects** – All the curbs and half of the pavement concrete have been poured on Highland Avenue as part of the water main replacement project. The second half of Highland is scheduled to be poured late next week. Sewer cleaning and inspection is nearing completion, with only a couple of sections remaining to be inspected after repairs are completed. All drainage and concrete work is complete as part of state-funded resurfacing projects on Grove Avenue, Lombard Avenue, Taylor Avenue and Berkshire Street. Pavement patching and the first layer of asphalt are anticipated to start next week. Resurfacing of Clinton Avenue from Randolph Street to South Boulevard is scheduled to begin next week with curb, driveway and pavement removal. The Marion Street and Ridgeland Avenue viaduct enhancement projects are in the final stages, with repair of the malfunctioning lighting and installation of the decorative art panels the only remaining tasks. Marion Street south of Lake Street is scheduled to reopen today as the speed table at Westgate Street has been replaced. Bluestone salvaged from the project will be used for spot repairs to crosswalks at Lake Street and North Boulevard, likely in the fall. Surface patching projects are substantially complete, with only a few remaining. Street crack filling is complete, with microsurfacing and sidewalk replacement set to begin this month. Contracts for local water main projects are scheduled to come before the Village Board on Sept. 2. This contract includes replacing the water main on Forest Avenue adjacent to the Lake and Forest development site. Work on the water main is expected to begin in late September and be completed in early October.

**Alley improvement projects** – Segments selected to be part of the green alley program are scheduled to be presented to the Village Board on Monday. If approved, the first segment will be the east-west alley along Austin Gardens north of Lake Street and west of Forest Avenue. Work could begin on this segment almost immediately to ensure completion before demolition of the Lake & Forest Parking Garage in late September or early October. Bids will be sought next week for the traditional alley improvement projects, with the goal of a contract award on Sept. 2.

**Public Works Activities** – Repairs of street openings where water main repairs were made continued throughout the Village, including concrete curb and sidewalk

restoration. Thermoplastic crosswalks were installed at Van Buren Street and Oak Park Avenue and Maple Avenue and Randolph Street, as well at various locations along Roosevelt Road. Crews painted curbs yellow to mark no-parking zones by fire hydrants and stop signs at various locations throughout the Village and summer workers continued clearing catch basin inlets to prevent ponding. A sewer lateral at 154 N. Ridgeland Ave., a broken fire hydrant at North Avenue and Hayes Avenue and sinkholes at 946 Home Ave. and 526 Highland Ave. were repaired. Forestry crews focused on pruning to ensure roof and sidewalk clearances, while contractors removed trees infested with emerald ash borer. Saturday's [electronics recycling](#) event attracted 264 households. Electronic recycling opportunities are offered the last Saturday of the month from May through October.

**RBOs working to enhance digital presence** – The Police Department's [resident beat officers](#) are working to improve their digital connections with residents. Each RBO publishes a regular newsletter, hosts monthly beat meetings and maintains an email news list. But they also are seeking opportunities for online networking through neighborhood email lists and social media groups. The Police are inviting residents to get to know their RBOs and recommend opportunities to connect at the neighborhood level.

**Vietnam veterans' memorial** – Berwyn officials have asked the Village to help spread the word about the traveling tribute to the veterans of the Vietnam War that will be in [Proksa Park](#), 3001 S. Wisconsin Ave., from Aug. 7 – 11. The Moving Wall, a half-size replica of the [Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in Washington, D.C.](#), contains more than 58,000 names of veterans who died during the war, including eight soldiers from Oak Park. Now in its 30th year, the Moving Wall has visited more than 1,300 cities since 1984. More information is posted at [www.movingwall.berwynparks.org](http://www.movingwall.berwynparks.org). The developer of the Lake and Forest project kindly allowed the Village to post a banner provided by the Berwyn Park District on the property adjacent to Lake Street

**Employee news** -- Marcus Powell, who began his career with the Village in Public Works as a meter reader and moved to Parking Services, has returned to the Water & Sewer Division. Bennett Blankenship also joined the Division.

###