



Village Manager's Report Week ending October 3, 2014

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Monday, October 6:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Tuesday, October 7:
 - Environment & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
- Wednesday, October 8:
 - Fair Housing Task Force, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
- Thursday, October 9:
 - Finance Committee, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Civic Information Systems, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201

Upcoming Committee Meetings and Special Meetings:

- Monday, October 13, Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, October 16, Finance Committee, 6:30 p.m., room 130
- Saturday, October 18, I-Gov Meeting, 9 a.m., Oak Park Township
- Wednesday, October 22, Fair Housing Task Force, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, October 23, Finance Committee, 6:30 p.m., room 130
- Saturday, October 25, I-Gov Meeting, 9 a.m., Brooks Middle School, Elected Officials BBQ immediately following I-Gov Meeting
- Monday, October 27, Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101

Divvy grant a hit on social media – The [Divvy bike sharing grant announcement](#) proved popular on social media this week. The [Village Facebook](#) post announcing the Divvy partnership reached nearly 5,000 people, and a series of [Village Twitter](#) posts received similar penetration and high engagement among our followers. One of our tweets was retweeted by the official @DivvyBikes account, which boosted its reach considerably. Comments from residents across social media platforms reflected enthusiasm for helping Village planners find appropriate locations for the 12 Divvy stations coming to Oak Park.

County transportation planning – Cook County is in the midst of its first long-range transportation plan since 1940. The process has moved into its second phase of public engagement with [an online survey](#). Officials say a robust public engagement

effort will help ensure the plan responds to the needs of residents and business owners by increasing travel options, reducing congestion, improving safety and advancing economic and community development. More information is [posted on the Connecting Cook County website](#).

VOP-TV video features local students – A public service television commercial produced by [our Health Department](#) and created by VOP-TV to prevent teen pregnancies will air soon at the Lake Theater. Entitled *There are Lots of Reasons To Wait*, the video features students from St. Catherine's School and Brooks Middle School. The effort was funded through a state Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grant. The video also is airing on [VOP-TV](#) and is posted on the [Village YouTube channel](#) along with 229 other videos about life in Oak Park. To view this latest video, [just click here](#).

North Avenue cleanup planned -- The [North Avenue Business Association](#) is seeking volunteers from among local business owners and area residents to help beautify the district by pulling weeds and picking up litter. The event is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sat., Oct. 11, but volunteers are asked to sign up by Tues., Oct 7. If you or anyone you know is interested in participating, contact Lee Owens at 773.610.3800 or email info@northavenuebusinessassociation.com.

Lake & Forest groundbreaking postponed – Friday's scheduled groundbreaking ceremony for the Lake & Forest [redevelopment](#) project had to be postponed due to a scheduling conflict. We hope to reschedule an event soon. Now that the developer has closed on the property, efforts to begin work will be accelerating. The former public parking lot east of the parcel (Lot 4) has been closed and fencing is expected to go up soon around the project site. The parking lot north of the site by the 19th Century Club likely will close next week, with demolition of the garage expected to begin later this month.

Drug disposal event tally – The recent effort to collect unwanted prescription drugs for safe collection and disposal ended with 82 pounds of materials dropped off at the Police Department. The [Drug Enforcement Administration](#) initiative was intended to prevent pill abuse and theft. The standing drug disposal collection bin in the Police Department, which is available around the clock, regularly collects 15 to 25 pounds of unwanted medications a week.

Electronics recycling update – Saturday's [electronics recycling event](#) collected items from 534 households. The season's last collection event will be Oct. 25. The Public Works Department has been hosting a recycling event the last Saturday of each month since May.

Capital improvements update – Concrete work is nearing completion on the federally funded Ridgeland Avenue resurfacing project, with grinding to remove the surface set to begin by the end of the week and last for three days. This stage of the project is expected to be completed in late October. Clinton Avenue was resurfaced earlier this week, with pavement markings and landscaping to follow. Pavement markings are all that remain to be completed on Jackson Boulevard. Landscaping of the traffic diverters on the 1200 blocks of North Elmwood Avenue and Rossell Avenue should be completed within the next two weeks. Work is underway on five of the 10 alleys included in the green alley project, including the east-west alley west of the Lake & Forest development project site. Work also is underway on six of the 10 alleys being

rebuilt with traditional treatment. The sidewalk replacement program is entering its final two weeks, barring any weather delays.

Public Works activities – A broken sewer lateral at 1024 Superior Street and a water service leak at 333 Harrison Street were repaired. A broken sewer lateral at 238 Forest Avenue required a private contract because the break was 20 feet below the surface. Water services were upgraded at 1026 Clinton Ave. and 920 N. Lombard Ave. as part of the lead abatement program. To help alleviate backups and flooding during heavy rains crews installed two inlet restrictors on north Elmwood Avenue and cleaned 36 catch basins in the area bounded by Austin Boulevard, Harlem Avenue, North Avenue and Division Street. The meter change out program continues with 426 appointments completed to date. Other routine activities included restoring street openings where water main breaks had been repaired, as well as brick restoration in the downtown area and Village-wide sign repair, graffiti removal and pothole patching. Crews also removed the bases for the art displayed during the Sculpture Walk, which ended Sept. 21. Tree trimming for roof clearances continued as did removals of dead, diseased and infested trees. The parkway tree inventory is continuing across the Village. Fleet Services is finishing the final details needed to put the Fire Department's new ladder truck into service and has begun preparing the pusher trucks for leaf season that begins Oct. 20.

Employee news – Parking Services added two new faces, while the Police Department hired a new Community Service Officer. Joining the Parking & Mobility Services Department as Parking Services Specialists are Nancy Diaz and Thomas Mapp. In the Police Department, Aaron Hellwig has also been hired as a Community Service Officer.

###