



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending July 30, 2021**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, August 2:
 - Village Board Public Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Executive Session followed by Regular Meeting starting at 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Tuesday, August 3:
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom
- Wednesday, August 4:
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Thursday, August 5:
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Friday, August 6:
 - No meetings scheduled

Storm damage – With a few exceptions, the northeast neighborhoods of the Village, east of Ridgeland Avenue and north of Division Street were most impacted by the severe thunderstorms and high winds that swept through the region in the early morning hours of Thursday (July 29). LeMoyné Parkway and neighboring streets were hardest hit. While no trees failed entirely, at least three trees will need to be removed eventually. Damage to the window and roof of one car also was reported. Other parts of the Village also reported spotty damage, including in the 1100 block of Wesley Avenue where a large portion of tree likely weakened by the storm fell onto a garage shortly before noon on Thursday, long after the main storms had passed. In addition to the larger limbs, numerous smaller limbs sustained damage in various parts of the Village.

Bridge closing update – Plans to close the Ridgeland Avenue bridge over I-290 this weekend remain on schedule unless weather conditions cause delays. The bridge is expected to be closed to all traffic from the night of Fri., July 30 through the morning of Mon., August 2. Vehicle traffic will be detoured around the area at Madison Street and Roosevelt Road while the repairs are made.

Sustainability grant programs – Two new sustainability grant programs are being integrated into Village housing programs – an income-eligible initiative and a matching grant program. The income-eligible program will offer up to \$10,000 in financial assistance to low and very-low income residents to reduce their homes' energy consumption with insulation, energy-efficient lighting, upgraded water heaters, high-efficiency showerheads/faucets, air sealing, thermostats and solar

panels, as well as high-efficiency heating, venting and air conditioning equipment. The new matching grant program will provide up to \$10,000 to support solar installations, energy upgrades and retrofits. New energy efficiency programs for renters and multifamily property owners are set to be implemented following Village Board approval of program guidelines. In addition to promoting the programs, information will be posted at www.oak-park.us/housing.

Oak Park Avenue improvements – The current work on Oak Park Avenue is continuing, but with little impact on traffic as preparation for the paving portion of the improvement project progresses. Contractors are replacing crossing ramps, sections of sidewalk and curb along the roadway, working from north to south. The first steps in the paving activity will include milling the surface and patching as needed. If the project remains on schedule, motorists will be treated to new pavement in November from Roosevelt Road to North Avenue. The Hemingway District, which was part of last year's Lake Street improvement project, will not be affected directly. Construction details and schedules are posted at www.opaveanew.com. In an unrelated project, Verizon contractors are installing conduit along Oak Park Avenue for future projects, the timing meant to avoid impacting the resurfacing activities likely to get underway in late summer and fall.

Miscellaneous construction updates – State contractors continue to replace sidewalk ramps on Harlem Avenue from Roosevelt Road to North Avenue to bring them into compliance with federal ADA requirements. The Village's electrical contractor is completing punch list items related to lighting and traffic signals along Lake Street. Sidewalk replacement activities are tentatively scheduled to begin in early August.

Employee news – Sean Keane has been promoted to Manager of the Parking & Mobility Services Division of the Development Customer Services Department. Sean joined the Village's Finance Department as a Budget & Revenue Analyst in 2018 after more than three years with the Village of Homer Glen. In 2020, Sean transferred to the Development Customer Services Department, continuing as a Budget & Revenue Analyst, until his promotion to Parking Manager. Sean earned a Bachelor's Degree in Urban Planning from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago and has spent more than seven years in municipal government work.

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