



Village Manager's Report
Week ending June 10, 2022

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, June 13:
 - Fire Pension Board, 9 a.m. via Zoom
 - Village Board Finance Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom

- Tuesday, June 14:
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m. via Zoom
 - Environment and Energy Commission, 7 p.m. via Zoom

- Wednesday, June 15:
 - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, 7 p.m. via Zoom

- Thursday, June 16:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

- Friday, June 17:
 - No meetings scheduled

**COVID-19 Weekly Activity Reports are posted at www.oak-park.us/covid19
just click on the *Village Manager Reports* heading**

Juneteenth celebration begins – The entire community is invited to join in Oak Park's celebration of Juneteenth, which kicks off at noon this Saturday with a flag-raising ceremony in the courtyard at Village Hall. The ceremony will include speeches about the history of Juneteenth and live music. For those unable to attend in-person, the ceremony will be streamed live and available for viewing on demand at www.youtube.com/watch?v=WIDmzNkt2HM. Oak Park's Juneteenth celebration continues with a parade and community cookout on Sunday, June 19. The parade will begin at 11 a.m. near Jackson Boulevard and march north on Ridgeland Avenue to Augusta Street, with a community cookout to follow throughout the afternoon at Taylor Park, 400 Division St. The events are being organized by community members and co-sponsored by the Village. Complete details are posted on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/juneteenth.

Early voting starts Monday - Suburban Cook County voters can cast an early ballot for the June 28, 2022 Gubernatorial Primary Election starting Monday, June 13 through June 27 at Village Hall. A range of information on early voting, including weekday and weekend hours, is posted on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/earlyvoting. Voting booths will again be in Room 101, with voter flow in and out of the building managed to reduce the possible spread of COVID-19. Voters will enter Village Hall via the courtyard entrance, with any lines kept

outside for proper social distancing. Voters who park in the main lot will be directed to walk around the outside of the building to enter from the courtyard. Village Hall is not a polling place on Election Day June 28.

Demolition permit approved – The owners of the building at 1034 to 1036 Lake Street, formerly the home of Polished Nails and Delia’s Kitchen, have decided to demolish the building following a fire that occurred there last November. The owners have submitted and received approval from the Village for both a demolition permit and right of way permit. A Cook County demolition permit has also been obtained. The demolition is approved to begin next Monday, June 13. Plans call for the demolition to occur from north to south, beginning on the alley side of the property. A pedestrian walkway scaffolding will be installed on the Lake Street sidewalk, immediately adjacent to the structure being demolished, in order to offer maximum protection for pedestrians. A fabric screening will also be installed on Lake Street frontage of the structure, adjacent to the front sidewalk. Adjacent property owners have been notified by the buildings’ owner of the demolition and the associated schedule of work. The building’s foundation will not be removed as a part of this demolition. At the conclusion of the demolition, the property owner will install a fence along the front foundation line of the structure, adjacent to the Lake Street sidewalk. Village staff will keep a daily watchful eye on the demolition process to ensure that the contractors are operating appropriately.

Parking garage improvements complete – The preventative maintenance and repair work that occurred at the Village’s Lake & Forest Parking Garage, 938 Lake Street, is substantially complete. The work, which began May 16, was necessary to ensure the long-term operational efficiency of the parking facility. Village parking permit holders who access the garage were temporarily relocated to the Holley Court garage for the duration of the project.

Stakeholders offer IPLAN input – The Health Department hosted a community engagement session for stakeholders on June 2 as part of the IPLAN strategic plan process. More than 25 key stakeholders gathered at the Oak Park Public Library to assess the delivery of the CDC’s 10 Essential Health Services in the Oak Park and River Forest communities. This assessment is one of four that will inform the identification of key strategic issues that will become the core of the Oak Park Health Department’s strategic plan.

Employee news – Several departments welcomed new employees during the past week. Noemy Diaz is the new Revenue and Budget Analyst in the Development Customer Services Department. A first-generation college graduate from DePaul University, Noemi previously worked for six years as a financial assistant. Lori Malinski is the new Grants Coordinator in the Health Department. An Oak Park resident of more than 20 years, Lori comes to the Health Department following a career in the nonprofit sector. The Finance Department also welcomed Milica Logan to the position of Cashier and the Health Department recently welcomed COVID-19 Response Coordinator Jillian Musser and Emergency Preparedness Intern Sruthi Turaga. In other employee news, Assistant Public Works Director Rob Sproule recently was awarded the Public Works Professional-Management Certification (CPWP-M) through the American Public Works Association. This certification is issued to recognize individuals in the public works field who have the knowledge and experience to manage

organizations within a public works department. To receive this certification applicants must complete an eligibility application and pass a difficult comprehensive test covering topics such as budget and finance, asset management, procurement and contract administration, communications, human resources management, administrative functions, project management, emergency management and public works operations. Rob is the 77th public works professional in the United States and Canada who has received this designation and the ninth in the Chicago area.

Vehicle license sales – The number of Village vehicle licenses sold has risen to 4,800 through the fifth week of sales. The sales have resulted in about \$310,000 in revenue so far to help fund public services. Eighty-one percent of sales have been completed online. This is the fourth year vehicle licenses have been virtual and a physical window decal not required. Every Oak Park resident who owns or leases a motor vehicle is required to purchase a local license before July 15 to get the lowest rate, which increases by \$20 after the deadline.

Bulk item collection – Residents are reminded that LRS, the Village's refuse and recycling contractor, will collect one bulk item each week as long as two pink refuse stickers are affixed to the item. Bulk items are large items that do not fit into the garbage cart. Bulk items may not exceed 50 pounds as a general guideline. Mattresses and box/bed springs are required to be placed in a plastic mattress cover and taped securely shut. Plastic mattress covers may be purchased at retail outlets such as Walmart, Lowes, Menards, Home Depot and storage unit facilities. More information is available at www.lrsrecycles.com/oakpark or by contacting Service@LRSrecycles.com or 844.633.3577.

Health Department outreach – The Health Department's mobile response van made a stop at A Day in Our Village, providing free COVID-19 testing and vaccinations as well as health checks for participants. The Health Department also hosted a kid-friendly pediatric COVID-19 vaccine clinic this past Tuesday and has another scheduled for Tuesday, June 21 at Cheney Mansion. More information about the mobile van and the upcoming clinic is available on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/vaccine.

LeMoyne Parkway Sewer Project – Over the past week the contractor finished installing main line sewer, including all connections to adjacent existing sewers. After a few more catch basins are installed, the underground sewer scope for this project will be completed. In the coming weeks, the focus will be on preparing the roadway for new pavement and the restoration of parkways along LeMoyne. This work will begin at the intersection of LeMoyne and East Avenue and progress to the east.

Alley projects – All concrete work has been completed in the 10 alleys being repaired as part of this year's alley project. Brick installation for the green alleys is continuing and should be completed by Monday. The entire project is expected to be completed by the end of next week.

Harlem Avenue Resurfacing – Crews have finished pouring the new curb and gutter along Harlem Avenue from North Avenue to Roosevelt Road. The next few weeks will consist of pouring the binder course, cutting traffic loops and adjusting structures. Once these items are complete, crews will pour the surface course.

Pete's construction update – The upcoming AT&T utility work at the site of the new Pete's Fresh Market has changed in scope and will likely be delayed. The sink holes discovered by the Village last week have been repaired. Overhead ComEd work is in progress with completion anticipated by mid-June. In the meantime, the west lot for the new store is fenced off. Euclid Avenue remains accessible.

Miscellaneous construction updates – ComEd's utility work and concrete work have been completed at the new American House Senior Living Center at 703 Madison St., with utility work on Madison set to begin next week. Excavation for the new building foundation and the underground mechanical and electrical work at Pleasant and Marion is still in progress and will continue for the next few weeks.