



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending June 7, 2019**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, June 10:
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- Tuesday, June 11:
 - Aging in Place Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Environment & Energy Commission
- Wednesday, June 12:
 - Farmers' Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, June 13:
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- Friday, June 14:
 - No meetings scheduled

Gig speed comes to Village Hall – The Information Technology Department has brought gigabyte speed internet service to Village Hall and other municipal facilities. The new ultra-high-speed internet service will increase computer processing speeds by about 15 times. Customer service responses should be noticeably improved as should internal staff operations. In addition to improving interaction with our third-party applications that run process such as permitting, licensing, payroll and accounts payable, the gig speed also should improve other services such as email and GIS mapping functions. In addition, the higher speed should make it possible to download and upload larger files, such as for the [Police video/image sharing service](#) and FOIA-related documents.

A Day wrap up –The 46th annual *A Day in Our Village* festival proved to be another success thanks to good weather, a wide range of vendors and enthusiastic attendees. This year's event featured more than 160 booths showcasing opportunities to discover the variety of civic, cultural, social service, business, educational and religious organizations and groups in the Village. The eclectic mix of entertainment also helped to create an atmosphere of community cohesion and pride. The Community Relations Department, which manages the event's many logistics with the help of volunteers, expressed special thanks to the Public Works Department and the Park District for helping make the event such a success.

Free condo management seminar – The Neighborhood Services Division of the Village’s Development Customer Services Department has partnered with [Mastercare Building Services](#) to host a free seminar about dealing with difficult management situations. Condominium owners and association board members are invited to attend the seminar set for 7 to 9 p.m., Tues., June 11, in Room 101 at Village Hall. The presentation will be led by Attorney Gabriella Comstock from [Keough & Moody](#), whose practice focuses on legal services for condominium and homeowners’ associations. Topics will include smoking, bed bugs, hoarding and screening of prospective buyers. [More information is posted on the Village website.](#)

Village Hall parking lot status – Trees, plants and electric vehicle charging stations were installed this week in the Village Hall parking lot, and crews have applied and stripped most of the final asphalt surface. The south portion of the lot is scheduled to reopen Monday (June 10) for Police vehicles and the municipal pool cars now parked at the Holley Court Garage. Visitor parking also will be available in the lot beginning next week. Substantial work on the roof of the underground garage still remains to be completed and the new concrete will require time to properly cure before the remaining portion of the lot can be reopened. Parking in the lot likely will remain restricted for several more weeks.

Oak Park and Lake signal disruption – Crews from the Street Lighting Division of the Public Works Department installed a new traffic signal cabinet at Oak Park Avenue and Lake Street this week after the existing box failed unexpectedly on Saturday (June 1). When the control box failed, the signals defaulted to a flashing mode, which slowed traffic significantly through the busy intersection. Cause of the failure is still under investigation, but may have been triggered by an electrical power surge. Crews made the best of the situation by installing a new signal cabinet that includes a battery backup system that should keep the signals functioning properly in a power outage, a capability the old cabinet not have.

Lake and Forest construction – A month of overnight traffic interruptions began this week on Lake Street and Forest Avenue as ComEd began installing the infrastructure needed to bring power to the Albion development site. Work began in the alley west of Forest Avenue and will progress towards Lake Street. Installation of a large underground manhole is expected to begin next week at the west jog of Forest Avenue, which will require closing northbound Forest Avenue for several days. The contractor then will install conduit on Lake Street from the alley west of Forest Avenue to the east jog of Forest Avenue, closing eastbound Lake Street during the overnight hours into early July. AT&T will install fiber optic conduit in the same trench so that high-speed internet service will be available to businesses on Lake and Marion streets south and west of the Forest Avenue intersection. In addition, the Village’s contractor is set to begin reconfiguring and upgrading the existing traffic signal and lighting system on the northwest corner of Lake Street and Forest Avenue. Activities are being coordinated with the construction already underway in the area. Temporary traffic signal components will be installed to maintain the existing signal function during construction. The project includes installing underground conduit, electrical hand holes and the new traffic signal controller base, which may create minor traffic delays in the intersection.

Madison Street update – Concrete curb, gutter and sidewalk replacement on Madison Street between Ridgeland Avenue and Austin Boulevard is expected to wrap up by mid-June. The work has been staged to ensure pedestrian routes remain available wherever portions of sidewalk are closed for replacement. Motorists soon will encounter lane closures on the south side of Madison Street as sewer replacement begins between Euclid and Oak Park avenues. Communication with the business operators and residents most affected by the project has been maintained and frequent construction updates are being posted on the dedicated project website at www.madisonstreetconstruction.com.

South Boulevard streetscape status – Activity is winding down on South Boulevard between Harlem Avenue and Marion Street. ComEd was scheduled to install the electrical service meter this week for the permanent traffic signals at Harlem Avenue. Once the electrical service is operating, crews will remove the temporary wooden poles and complete the remaining sidewalk. The bus shelter likely won't be delivered and installed before late July.

Water and sewer improvements – Clarence Avenue remains closed between Roosevelt Road and Harvard Street as underground work continues for the water and sewer improvement project. Installation of the sewer main and associated structures began this week at Harvard Street, with crews working south along Clarence Avenue. The work created intermittent closures at the intersection, but activities were coordinated with the Police and Fire departments to ensure public safety.

Alley improvements – The last of the storm sewers were installed this week, wrapping up the underground work associated with the current round of alley improvements. Pavement removal has begun in the alley south of Van Buren Street and west of Humphrey Avenue, while pavement was poured in the alley south of Thomas Street between Columbian and East avenues. To date, 10 of the 15 alleys scheduled for reconstruction this season have been substantially completed.

Miscellaneous construction updates – The sidewalk on the west side of Oak Park Avenue should reopen by the end of next week, as work on the bridge over I-290 continues. Activity will then move to the east side of the bridge. Northbound Oak Park Avenue vehicle traffic will be reduced to one lane once work begins on the east side, but the CTA blue line entrance will remain open and accessible. The Rush Oak Park Hospital construction project is nearing completion, but continues to disrupt traffic periodically on Madison Street. Repairs to the railroad overpass retaining walls at the southeast corner of Marion Street and North Boulevard were scheduled to begin today (June 7).

Public Works activities – In-house crews assumed collection of refuse from the public trash containers this week after encountering difficulty finding an outside vendor. Crews from the Street Lighting Division repaired the pedestrian crosswalk at the busy Home Avenue and Roosevelt Road intersection, while Streets Division crews prepared about 20 panels along the Union Pacific Railroad viaduct for the [new murals](#) that soon will begin to appear. Crews also repaired seven locations where utility repairs had been made, power washed the bluestone sidewalks downtown, picked up litter and filled potholes. Forestry Division crews focused on addressing

requests from residents for pruning and other routine tasks. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a broken water service at 935 Forest Ave. and upgraded water services at four locations as part of the lead abatement program.

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