



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending Sept. 10, 2021**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, Sept 13:
 - Village Board Finance Committee, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
- Tuesday, Sept. 14:
 - Board of Health, 5 p.m., via Zoom
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Wednesday, Sept. 15:
 - No meetings scheduled in observation of Yom Kippur
- Thursday, Sept. 16:
 - No meetings scheduled in observation of Yom Kippur
- Friday, Sept. 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**

Ridgeland Avenue bridge traffic disruption – Traffic over the Interstate 290 Eisenhower Expressway has now been reduced to one lane in each direction on Ridgeland Avenue as anticipated repair work gets underway on the bridge. Pedestrian travel across the I-290 bridge also is now limited to one side at a time. Work is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

Oak Park Avenue final paving – Barring any weather delays, final paving of Oak Park Avenue is expected to be completed next week, well ahead of the original November timetable. Crews adjusted the structure frames for utility access holes and catch basins to ensure a smooth roadway. New electromagnetic vehicle detector loops for the traffic signals also have been installed at each signalized intersection along the route between Roosevelt Road and North Avenue. Work will turn to installing traffic control markings on the new surface and repairing parkways disrupted by the construction once all paving operations are completed. The latest updates on the Oak Park Avenue project are posted at www.opaveanew.com.

Sustainability presentation set – The beta version of the website for the *Better Homes, Better Planet* environmental sustainability marketing campaign will be unveiled publicly by Village staff at a remote meeting of the IGov Assembly scheduled for 9 to 11 a.m., Sat., Sept. 18, followed by widespread promotion efforts via all

available communications tools. The website is intended to be the information hub for a campaign designed to build awareness of and participation in energy-conservation programs sponsored by the Village, utility companies and other organizations. In addition to helping the public learn about the connection between home energy use and climate change, the campaign also will help residents and property owners find and apply for assistance programs.

Aging in place kudos – Oak Park was among communities in northeast Illinois recognized recently by the [Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning](#) for efforts to support aging in place and improve quality of life for senior citizens. The CMAP update cited the Village Board's creation of the [Aging in Place Commission](#), designation as a [Dementia Friendly Community](#) and training to help businesses understand how to identify customers dealing with dementia and provide them with appropriate assistance. The CMAP article also noted the Oak Park Fire Department's informational campaign to teach those working with seniors and people with cognitive impairment about fall prevention and fire safety. To read the CMAP analysis, [just click here...](#)

Bicycles donated for re-use – The Oak Park Police Department recently donated 121 inoperable bicycles to [Working Bikes](#), a not-for-profit organization that collects, repairs and distributes refurbished bicycles to those in need. The Oak Park Police Department has a long history of accumulating bicycles picked up as part of theft investigations or abandoned on public property. Unclaimed bicycles often are in poor condition. Efforts are made to offer working bicycles to organizations in the community to redistribute.

Madison/Euclid project update – Landscaping is set to begin next week on the Euclid Avenue cul de sac south of Madison Street as part of the senior living center project under construction there. Trees, shrub and perennials are being planted in the cul de sac area and new sod laid along the parkway. Euclid Avenue will be repaved from south of Adams Street to the new cul de sac soon after the landscaping is completed. AT&T is responsible for restoring the street as part of its related utility relocation project completed by the site earlier this year. The project, known as [American House Oak Park](#), is scheduled to open in the summer of 2022. The seven-story structure will include 177 residential units and 122 underground parking spaces.

Sidewalk replacement final update – This should be the final update on the annual sidewalk repair and replacement program as the last of the punch list items are expected to be completed next week. This year's program was in northeast Oak Park where about 800 squares were replaced across some 120 blocks. The goal of the program is to eliminate major trip hazards that could create challenges for pedestrians.

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