

Village Manager's Report Week ending July 8, 2022

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, June 11:
 - Village Board meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Tuesday, July 12:
 - o Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
 - o Transportation Commission, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Wednesday, July 13:
 - o Farmers' Market Commission, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, July 14:
 - o Civic Information System Commission, 7 p.m. via Zoom
 - o Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m. via Zoom
- Friday, July 15:
 - No meetings scheduled

COVID-19 Weekly Reports are posted at www.oak-park.us/covid19 just click on the Status report bulletin heading

Vehicle license deadline - July 15 is the last day to buy or renew an Oak Park vehicle license at the lowest rate. The rate increases by \$20 after the deadline. Every resident is required to purchase a license for each owned or leased motor vehicle. Rates vary by type of vehicle. Failure to purchase a license also could result in a \$78 ticket. Residents can purchase and renew online at www.oak-park.us/vehiclelicense. Renewal notices were sent from the Parking Permits Customer Portal to all residents with an active Village vehicle license in the past three years. Development Customer Service Department staff continues to express concerns about a significant lag in vehicle license sales this year, which are down more than 40 percent compared to this time in 2021. Through the first nine weeks of sales 7,737 licenses have been sold totaling \$494,015 in revenue. In the same time frame last year 13,320 licenses were sold totaling \$851,808. Click here to see a chart comparing the nine-week sales over the past four years.

Business license update – The Village issued 24 more new business licenses in June, bringing the year-to-date total to 70 as part of an ongoing surge in new business license requests. The Development Customer Services Department processed what is believed to be a record 100 new business licenses last year, and DCS is on well track to surpass that number in 2022. The pace of new business license issuance is 58 percent higher in 2022

compared to the first six month of 2021. <u>Click here</u> to view a chart comparing the number of new business licenses processed over the past few years. The latest list of businesses that have received a license from the Village this year is posted at <u>www.oak-park.us/businessservices</u>.

Zoning Board of Appeals update - The Zoning Board of Appeals met on July 6 and approved two variance requests. An application to construct a parking pad in the corner side yard of the property at 1201 N. Euclid Ave. near the alley was approved by a 4-1 vote. A separate application to construct an off-street parking pad in the front-yard setback at 260 lowa St. was approved by a 4-2 vote.

Farmers' Market update – With the Oak Park Farmers' Market season in full swing, Market officials are busy coordinating special events and initiatives from week to week. Educational and interactive activities for kids await this Saturday as the non-profit organization Cruelty Free You & Me will have be on hand with crafts, vegan snacks and story time. Throughout the month Market customers can stop by the Plastic Free July tent to learn about sustainable alternatives to plastic, and the Health Department's mobile response van is also slated to offer free COVID-19 PCR testing every Saturday at the Market. A list of Farmers' Market activities from week-to-week is posted under the *This Month at the Market* section at www.oak-park.us/farmersmarket.

IPLAN community meeting - The Oak Park Health Department is hosting a community meeting at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, July 19 at the Oak Park Public Library, 834 Lake St., as part of its ongoing effort to build its community health assessment and strategic plan, known as the IPLAN. During the meeting Health Department staff will share results of several community assessments and attendees will be able to participate in activities to help choose the topics that will be included in the final plan. As a state-certified health department, the Oak Park Health Department completes a community health assessment and strategic plan every five years that serves as a guide to local public health initiatives and programming. Learn more about the community meeting and register at https://tinyurl.com/yc4yanvc.

Electric vehicle rebate program – Illinois residents that purchase a new or used all-electric vehicle from an Illinois licensed dealer are eligible for a rebate as part of a new program launched by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The Electric Vehicle Rebate Program offers a \$4,000 rebate for the purchase of an electric passenger vehicle or \$1,500 rebate for the purchase of an electric motorcycle. Rebate applications are being accepted now through Sept. 30, 2022 for vehicles purchased on or after July 1, 2022. Click here for more information and a link to the application form. The Village's sustainability team is working with the Communications Department to share information about the program with Oak Park residents as part of the Village's commitment to promoting environmental initiatives.

LeMoyne Parkway sewer project – The final layer of asphalt was paved on LeMoyne Parkway. The roadway along LeMoyne and the intersecting streets between East Avenue and Edmer Avenue are now open. During the next few weeks contractors will apply pavement markings and complete landscape restoration in areas that were disturbed during

construction. The pavement marking installation will require brief and intermittent lane closures.

Harlem Avenue resurfacing – Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) crews continue to add permanent pavement markings between North Avenue and I-290. Crews will also begin cleaning out storm structures along Harlem Avenue. This work is expected to take two weeks to complete. Bridge repair over I-290 started and will take two nights to complete and will occur between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.

Pete's Fresh Market update – Vibration monitoring is in progress for the new Pete's Fresh Market. The contractor has inspected 26 of 39 adjacent properties to document existing conditions. ComEd has not scheduled any outages associated with its upcoming work. Construction for the upcoming AT&T relocation work is still on hold while they review alternate designs and scope at the request of Pete's in an effort to reduce costs.

Miscellaneous construction updates – Concrete work for the new Senior Living Center at 703 Madison has begun. Meanwhile, contractors are pouring building foundations for the development at Pleasant and Marion streets and have resumed underground mechanical and electrical work.