



**Village Manager's Report
The Week Ending May 20, 2016**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, May 23:
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 201
- Tuesday, May 24:
 - First Time Homebuyer Seminar, 6 p.m., room 101
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
 - HPC Education Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215
 - Liquor Control Review Board, 7:30 p.m., room 124
- Wednesday, May 25:
 - Forestry Sub-Committee Meeting, 6:45 p.m., room 101
 - Community Design Access Commission, 7 p.m. room 101
 - Disability Access Commission, 7 p.m., 834 Lake St.
 - HPC Architectural Review Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215
- Thursday, May 26:
 - Special Plan Commission Meeting, 6 p.m., room 101
- Friday, May 27:
 - No scheduled meetings

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- Sunday, June 5
 - Day in our Village, Scoville Park, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Farmers' Market opens Saturday – The Oak Park Farmers' Market will open for its 41st season Saturday with new vendors and special children's activities. The Market is held from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday from opening day through October in the Pilgrim Congregational Church parking lot, just west of Ridgeland Avenue. In addition to the typical wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers, bedding plants, honey, cheese, frozen meat, bread and baked goods, the Market also will once again feature donuts made on-site, fresh coffee and live bluegrass music. Regional vendors will offer sustainable, organic and locally sourced goods again this season, including several heirloom products. More information is posted at www.oak-park.us/farmersmarket.

House walk is Saturday – *The 2016 Wright Plus Housewalk* also is this Saturday. The owners of a variety of landmark residences in Oak Park and River Forest will allow the paying public inside their carefully restored homes from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The organizers

characterized the homes on this year's walk as a standing record of the birth and development of the Prairie style created and fine-tuned by Wright and his fellow architects at Wright's Oak Park Studio on Chicago Avenue. Transportation between Oak Park and River Forest is included in the ticket price. More information about tickets, the house walk and its related events are posted at www.flwright.org/wrightplus.

Fire hydrant testing underway – The Fire Department will be testing each of Oak Park's 1,240 fire hydrants this month to ensure proper operations of these vital emergency response devices. If your notice cloudy water, just let the tap run for a couple of minutes and it should clear up. [More information is posted on the Village website.](#)

Spring tree planting about to begin – Village foresters hope to begin working with contractors next week to plant nearly 350 trees across the Village. With diversity as the key tool against diseases like Dutch elm disease and the emerald ash borer, the new trees will represent 36 species. In addition to its annual spring tree planting, the Village also schedules a fall planting cycle in November when another 200 or so trees likely will be planted. [More information is posted on the Village website.](#)

Oak Park Station Development update – Sewer and water mains have been installed on Maple Avenue between Lake and Westgate streets. Three sewer manholes were scheduled to be installed this week on Westgate near the Maple Avenue intersection. Current sewer connections will be replaced with temporary connections and metal plates placed over the street openings to accommodate traffic. With the required Illinois Department of Transportation permit still pending, project-related utility work at Harlem Avenue is not expected to begin until after the Memorial Day weekend.

South Boulevard streetscape status – The new water main on South Boulevard between Harlem Avenue and Marion Street was flushed and pressure-tested this week, and is just awaiting chlorination before being placed into service. Installation of temporary pedestrian signals and controllers began this week, and sewer main construction should be completed early next week. Engineering Division staff continues checking in with adjacent businesses to ensure their needs are coordinated during the work.

CTA Green Line project wrapping up – This should be the final weekend for construction on the CTA Green Line tracks in Oak Park. As with past weekends, work begins at 7 p.m., Friday and continues until 6 a.m., Monday. South Boulevard will be closed between Home Avenue and Marion Street during this final weekend. Parking restrictions went into effect at 7 a.m. Friday as needed. Engineering Division staff will inspect the work area Monday morning to ensure all streets have been reopened to traffic and to document any damages.

Harrison Street lighting project progresses – Streetlight improvements continue on Harrison Street from Ridgeland Avenue to Austin Boulevard. Work this week included directional boring for conduit and excavation for handholes where electrical connections will be made. Worked was suspended Friday to allow setup of the [What's Blooming on Harrison](#) art festival. The contractor cleaned the work site, filled any holes and moved any stored materials outside the festival limits.

Alley/sidewalk project updates – Concrete pavement has been completed in nine alleys, as work continues from the middle of the Village, progressing north. Seventeen residents within the alley project area have opted to replace their private garage aprons while work on their

alleys is underway to receive the Village's contract unit price. Sidewalk improvements resumed this week in the northwest section of the Village. Locations south of Lake Street will be completed soon, which will wrap up this phase of sidewalk improvements.

Street resurfacing continuing – All curb and concrete work has been completed on both Mapleton and Harvey avenues, with grinding and paving set to begin next week. Paving related to the speed table on Woodbine Avenue north of LeMoyné Parkway has been completed, and the sidewalk café expansion at South Boulevard and Oak Park Avenue should be completed by the end of next week.

Chicago Avenue project about to begin – The required detour permit has been received from the Illinois Department of Transportation, which will allow the Chicago Avenue sewer project to get underway. Work between Fair Oaks and Ridgeland avenues could start as early as next week, depending on the status of an agreement for waste removal. The resurfacing phase of work planned for Chicago Avenue is currently advertised in the IDOT construction bulletin with a June 10 bid opening. Resurfacing is expected to begin in August.

Bid openings/lettings – Bids for the high-intensity activated crosswalk, or HAWK, at Chicago and Harvey avenues, and the bicycle parking project were opened this week. The second round of alley projects and microsurfacing were advertised for bidding this week. Bids for both projects are due June 2.

Public Works activities – Streets Division crews concentrated areas where emergency utility repairs were made during the winter, replacing temporary materials with permanent curb, sidewalk and pavement. Crews also continued routine tasks of removing litter, cleaning parking lots and filling potholes. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a sewer sink hole at Garfield Street and Lombard Avenue, and rodded clogged sewer basins to avoid future drainage issues during heavy rain. Spring tree planting is set to begin next week. In the meantime, Forestry Division crews continued to focus on routine summer tasks, including delivering wood chips, removing problem trees, restoring landscape and responding to resident requests.

Still time to be part of July 4th parade – Participants, volunteers and sponsors still have time to be a part of the July 4th Parade. June 3 is the deadline to register to be in the parade, which typically attracts more than 75 groups each year. Volunteers also are needed on the morning of July 4 to help monitor traffic crossings along the parade route. Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses and organizations interested in helping support this year's parade with money, goods or services. [More information is posted on the Village website.](#)

Free movies in the park start Saturday – The Park District will bring back its summer of free movies in Scoville Park beginning this Saturday. The season's first movie will be [Inside Out](#), a computer-animated comedy drama adventure film, is set to be screened. Movies also are scheduled for Thursdays June 16, July 14 and Aug. 18, and Sat., Sept. 17. Movies begin at dusk. If it rains, check www.pdop.org for information.

Employee news – Members of the Oak Park Police Department had some fun with the community Friday, while also helping a good cause during the statewide [CopOnARooftop Illinois](#). Meanwhile, at the Public Works Center, employees were celebrating [National Public](#)

[Works Week](#), a time set aside in the U.S. and Canada to energize and educate the public on the importance of public works to their daily lives. This year's theme was *Public Works Always There*, which showcases the pervasiveness of public works in our daily lives.

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