



**Village Manager's Report  
The Week Ending July 8, 2016**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, July 11:
  - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m. room 130
  - Village Board Special Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Tuesday, July 12:
  - No scheduled meetings
- Wednesday, July 13:
  - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
- Thursday, July 14:
  - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
  - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Friday, July 15:
  - No scheduled meetings

**Online forum open for latest I-290 discussion** – Staff has created a web page dedicated to the topic of Monday night's Village Board meeting – the I-290 letter of intent between the Village and IDOT. Residents can comment until noon Monday at [www.oak-park.us/ikecomments](http://www.oak-park.us/ikecomments) where Monday night's presentation is posted for public review. Past commenting pages, documents and presentations from previous public discussions of the project also are available via links on the new page. This is the seventh commenting page created for the project. Monday night's meeting will be broadcast live on Comcast channel 6 and AT&T Uverse channel 99 as well as [streamed live and archived online](#).

**Village Hall open Saturday for vehicle sticker sales** – Village Hall will be open for vehicle sticker purchases and renewals from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., tomorrow (Sat. July 9). With nearly 1,000 fewer stickers sold to date this year as compared to last year, Parking Services staff is preparing for a busy morning. Information Technology staff has installed eight computer terminals near the Parking Services Center to offer the option of renewing online rather than waiting for a person at the counter. Online renewals have remained the largest category of purchases this season, representing about 64 percent of total sales through July 2, as compared to 72 percent of sales in 2015. About a 1,000 more people have renewed in person at Village Hall so far this year than for the same period last year. Mail renewals have remained fairly consistent so far, representing about 7 percent of all sales this season, compared to about 6.3 percent in 2015.

**Marion Street crosswalk repairs** – Repairs to the crosswalks continued this week on Marion Street north of North Boulevard. Work has been staged to maintain traffic flow by repairing

only half of each crosswalk. East sections were repaired last week, with work shifting to the west this week, which has restricted southbound traffic on Marion Street. Repairs north of the viaduct are expected to wrap up next week. Repairs to the crosswalks south of the viaduct likely will begin in a few weeks, but will be coordinated with the South Boulevard streetscape project to minimize the impact on area traffic. Failing bluestone in the crosswalks is being replaced with more durable blue concrete and the white borders are being repaired.

**South Boulevard streetscape update** – Two-way traffic was expected to return to South Boulevard between Marion Street and Harlem Avenue today (Fri., July 8), following application of temporary traffic striping. Meanwhile, work continued along the north side of the street, with concrete poured for the light pole foundations, hand holes and base for the electrical service control box.

**Chicago Avenue sewer improvements** – Work on the sewer improvement project on Chicago Avenue shifts westward Monday (July 11) to between Forest and Grove avenues. This second stage of the project will require detouring Chicago Avenue traffic to Division Street via Harlem and Oak Park avenues. Staff has worked with River Forest to alert east-bound motorists to the detour. This final phase of the project is expected to be completed in early August. The state still has plans to pave Chicago Avenue from Harlem Avenue to Austin Boulevard this year, but the recently resolved funding impasse may mean a slight delay in the start.

**Elevate Oak Park project update** – Water service connections on Westgate Street between Harlem and Maple avenues continued as part of the [Elevate Oak Park](#) development project downtown (formerly Oak Park Station). The work required water to area properties to be shut off from 6 to 10 a.m., Wednesday and Thursday. Engineering Division staff worked closely with the developer to coordinate the shutoffs with all affected businesses. Work on the project also continues to create partial lane closures on Westgate, but flaggers are on site during working hours to ensure safe traffic flow.

**Harrison Street lighting progress** – Crews are expected to begin installing the new ornamental lighting fixtures next week on the south side of Harrison Street from Ridgeland Avenue to Austin Boulevard. ComEd crews also will be on site to connect electrical services to the new lights and disconnect the old ones.

**Alley/sidewalk improvements** – Alleys between South Boulevard and Pleasant Street, Home Avenue and Marion Street, Ontario and Lake streets and Ridgeland and Cuyler avenues have been fully reopened to traffic. All alley improvements included in the season's first phase is expected to be completed by the end of July. Thirty one residents within the alley projects limits opted to have their private garage aprons replaced during the alley work, which allowed them to pay the Village's negotiated rate for the work. The preconstruction meeting for the two alleys adjacent to the Elevate Oak Park development downtown is scheduled for next week.

**Pavement patching/street resurfacing** – Pavement patching began this week on several streets throughout the Village, a strategy that can help prolong the service life of the roadways. The season's first round of resurfacing projects is substantially complete, with only pavement markings and parkway restorations remaining. Nicor crews are continuing to restore areas where new gas mains and services were installed.

**Projects at Village facilities** – With the recent Board approval of the contract, plans now are underway to remodel the men’s locker room and build a new storage garage at the Main Fire Station. Waterproofing membrane was installed at the Public Works Center to repair the leaking foundation at the southwest corner. The project required excavation along the outside of the building, which was backfilled by a Streets Division crew following the installation work.

**Fire Department report** – The Oak Park Fire Department responded to 558 calls for service in June, bringing the annual total to 3,285. Emergency medical services calls remained the largest category (59 percent), but were down slightly from the previous month, while alarms-initiated calls increased. Firefighter/paramedics had contact with 369 patients in June, 273 of whom were transported to a medical facility, with 136 requiring advanced life support services. Crews responded to two building fires in June, both of which were quickly suppressed after causing only minor damage. Testing of each of the Village’s 1,240 fire hydrants was completed in June. In addition to water flow, the mechanical valves were exercised to ensure proper function in an emergency and deficiencies noted for corrective action.

**Public Works activities** – Street Services Division crews swept streets for the weekend events, trimmed sidewalk weeds in business areas, picked up litter and filled potholes. Crews also power washed the east side of the Lombard Avenue viaduct for an upcoming mural project. Water & Sewer Division activity this week included resetting a water shut-off valve at 209 S. East Ave., and repairing a water service at 938 N. Grove Ave., a sewer frame at 165 N. Kenilworth Ave. and out-of-service fire hydrants at various locations. In addition to routine maintenance, Street Lighting Division crews secured a traffic signal pole damaged by a vehicle in an accident at Jackson Boulevard and Highland Avenue. Forestry Division activities this week included routine summer tasks such as tree removals, landscape restorations and responding to resident requests.

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