



**Village Manager's Report
Weeks ending September 15, 2017**

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Monday, September 18:
 - Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Tuesday, September 19:
 - Citizen Police Oversight Committee, 7:30 p.m., room102
- Wednesday, September 20:
 - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m., room101
 - Housing Program Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., room 215
- Thursday, September 21:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., room 215
 - Plan Commission Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- Friday, September 22:
 - No meetings scheduled

Shred paper, recycle clothing Saturday – The Public Works Department will host the annual paper shredding and clothing recycling event from 9 a.m. to noon, tomorrow (Sat., Sept. 16). Both services are free. Each household is asked to limit its shredding to two bags or small boxes of paper containing personal information such as social security and account numbers. The clothing recycling service is made possible through a cooperative program with the Epilepsy Foundation, which takes items such as shoes, belts, hats, bags, linens and towels in any condition to send to developing nations to repurpose the raw materials.

Museum grand opening – The [Historical Society of Oak Park and River Forest](#) will celebrate the grand opening of the new *Oak Park River Forest Museum* from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., tomorrow (Sat., Sept. 16). The event will include refreshments, tours and family activities. Brief remarks, a building dedication and ribbon cutting are set to begin at 10:30 a.m. In recognition of the original building's service as a firehouse from 1898 to 1916, the Fire Department will park an engine in front of the museum from 2 to 4 p.m. that can be toured by kids. Complete details on the grand opening are [posted on the Historical Society website](#).

VOP-TV wins awards – Programming created by VOP-TV took top honors from the [National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors \(NATOA\)](#) at the organization's awards show this week in Seattle. A cross section of the diverse work that VOP-TV produces throughout the year was judged best in the programming excellence category for organizations with budgets under \$250,000. Media

Production Manager Joe Kreml's winning reel included videos that focused on public health and safety, Village government, local businesses and economic development. This is the fourth time VOP-TV has won the programming excellence award, which, according to NATOA, is of special significance because it reflects superior programming produced throughout a year, rather than just one good video. NATOA posted Joe's compilation video on YouTube – [just click here to view](#). You can see all of the VOP-TV videos on our YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/vopnews.

Housing conference – Village staff will be among the municipal planners, architects, engineers, developers and advocates who will come to Oak Park Fri., Sept. 22 to explore how small-scale, locally-motivated and incremental development can address equitable housing. The day-long event is sponsored by the [Congress for the New Urbanism \(CNU\)](#), an organization that promotes walkable, mixed-use neighborhood development. Entitled *Mind the (Housing) Gap: Filling the Missing Middle for Walkable and Affordable Neighborhoods*, discussions will focus on the importance of two-flats, townhomes, *granny flats* and coach homes, which are important to affordable, diverse and compact communities, but are disappearing in many communities and not being developed in others. Development Customer Services Department Director Tammie Grossman will participate in the afternoon panel discussion. The program, which is CNU Illinois' 10th annual state conference, is open to the public for a fee. [Click here to read the event announcement and program](#).

Local sites featured in architectural tour – Ten Oak Park sites will be among the 200-plus locations featured in *Open House Chicago*, the Chicago Architecture Foundation's annual free, behind-the-scenes look at many of the region's great places and spaces rarely open to the public. The event is set for Oct. 14 and 15. In addition to Oak Park's iconic Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio on Chicago Avenue, featured local sites also will include the new Oak Park River Forest Museum. Details on times and date for each of the 200-plus properties included in the tour program are posted at openhousechicago.org.

Health needs assessment progress – The Oak Park Public Health Department is very close to finalizing the IPLAN Community Health Needs Assessment, which will identify health needs and guide planning to improve the health of Oak Park and River Forest residents. All certified health departments in Illinois are required to complete a new IPLAN every five years. For the 2017 plan, our Public Health Department partnered with the Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township, River Forest Township, Oak Park Township and the Rotary Club of Oak Park-River Forest. The new IPLAN focuses on public health, behavioral health and developmental disabilities. Once completed, the new community health plan will be reviewed by the Board of Health and then sent to the Village Board for consideration. The final approved document must be submitted to the Illinois Department of Public Health by December 20.

South Boulevard/Harlem Avenue redevelopment update – Foundation installation continues at the new Lincoln Properties development site on South Boulevard east of Harlem Avenue. The eastbound lane of South Boulevard likely will remain closed between Harlem Avenue and Marion Street for materials staging and construction equipment, but ensuring access to the businesses near site will be a priority. Engineering Division staff is working with the contractor to make sure construction signs do not confuse potential customers.

Street resurfacing – Crews worked on the storm sewers on Superior Street between East and Elmwood avenues and on Wisconsin Avenue between Madison and Randolph streets. Concrete and asphalt operations continued on Humphrey Avenue between Division and Greenfield streets, Taylor Avenue between Berkshire and Greenfield streets, Adams Street between Clinton and Home avenues, and on South Boulevard between Cuyler and Harvey avenues. Sewer and concrete work will continue at these sites throughout next week.

Washington/Wisconsin traffic signal – Underground work for the new traffic signal planned for the intersection of Washington Boulevard and Wisconsin Avenue was suspended late this week to accommodate activities related to the adjacent street resurfacing project, but should continue next week. The project requires extensive work both above ground and below ground to be completed before the light is installed and activated, which is tentatively scheduled for November. The project also includes dedicated turn lanes on Washington Boulevard, an unmarked state highway. Traffic will be permitted to pass through the work zone throughout most of the project.

Lake Michigan pipeline project – The water main to carry Lake Michigan water to the villages of Brookfield and North Riverside has been completed to Highland Avenue, with work progressing to the east toward Austin Boulevard. All underground pipe installation is projected to be completed in Oak Park in early October. Street reconstruction activities along the pipeline route are underway. A project website managed by the engineering company posts the latest schedule information – [click here to view](#).

Miscellaneous construction projects – All sidewalk repair and replacement projects are substantially complete. Crews now are focusing on cleanup, repair and replacement of any new sidewalk sections that were damaged or vandalized during construction. Crews applied a thin, micro layer of material to various streets in the community. This *microsurfacing* helps extend the life of the pavement for up five years. Union Pacific Railroad crews continued working on retaining walls where tracks pass over Village streets, removing loose material and preparing for permanent repairs.

Public Works activities – Streets Division crews began painting curbs between Harlem Avenue and Austin Boulevard from Garfield Street to Roosevelt Road. Crews also installed bike racks at Lombard Avenue and Lake Street, began replacing pavers on the Oak Park Avenue crosswalk south of Lake Street and replaced traffic delineators in various locations to improve visibility. The crosswalk work on Oak Park Avenue has created some traffic flow disruptions, but two-way traffic has been maintained. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a water main break at 1010 N. Taylor Ave., a sewer lateral at 811 N. Oak Park Ave. and a fire hydrant at 800 S. Lombard Ave. Crews also reset a water shutoff box at 443 Lenox St. Forestry crews and contractors continued with regular maintenance work throughout the Village.

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