



Village Manager's Report
Week ending June 14, 2019

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, June 17:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 7 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber

- Tuesday, June 18:
 - No meetings scheduled

- Wednesday, June 19:
 - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., room 215

- Thursday, June 20:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., room 215

- Friday, June 21:
 - No meetings scheduled

Federal funding recommendations – The Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee is preparing the draft Program Year 2019 Action Plan for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds that help support local nonprofit agencies. The Village Board soon will be asked to consider the committee’s recommendations and release the draft plan for a 30-day public comment period. The recommendations are for the distribution of \$1,633,190 in CDGB funds and \$143,061 in ESG funds. The 2019 CDBG allotment is \$52,814 less than last year, but funds not expended in the prior year will keep overall funding at the same level as in 2018. The 2019 ESG funding for homelessness relief is up \$5,998 from last years’ allocation.

Citizen camera registration update – Since the Police Department [issued the call](#) in May for residents and business owners to register their security cameras, some 25 residents and 11 businesses have signed up through the [online form](#). Looking for nearby private cameras has long been standard procedure for officers when they canvas a neighborhood after a crime has been reported. By setting up the formal, but voluntary camera registration process, investigators hope to create a list of possible video evidence that might be available at a particular location and who to contact to retrieve it. The website also allows anyone to upload video or images without registering a camera. So far, about 22 videos have been submitted to investigators. The registration and uploading service will continue to be promoted with our various communications tools.

Youth skills workshop – More than a dozen local youths ranging in age from 15 to 18 participated in the Community Relations Department’s annual Summer Youth Skills Initiative held this week at the main branch of the Oak Park Public Library. The week-long program was designed to help participants learn the life skills and techniques necessary to find and keep a job. Learning and development modules included improving interpersonal communication skills, job search techniques, resume writing, completing an employment application and interviewing techniques. The program also offered an opportunity for participants to network with area business owners.

Downtown construction – Traffic interruptions continued this week on Lake Street and Forest Avenue as ComEd installs the infrastructure needed to bring power to the Albion development site. Most of the work, which includes installing a large underground manhole and conduit, is occurring overnight, which lessens traffic impacts. Other necessary work is being coordinated with the ComEd nighttime activity, including installation of AT&T fiber optic conduit and the Village project to upgrade the intersection’s traffic signal and lighting system. A new fire hydrant and storm sewer catch basin also are scheduled to be installed next week at the intersection as part of the after-hours activity.

Village Hall parking lot status – About two-thirds of the Village Hall Parking lot was opened this week, offering some relief to the neighborhood streets. The lot is restricted to Police vehicles, municipal vehicles and visitors. However, bringing these vehicles into the partially completed lot has opened up spaces on the adjacent streets closer to Village Hall to staff. Structural work on the roof of the underground garage should be completed by mid-July, which will allow the entire lot to reopen.

Madison Street update – The concrete replacement work between Ridgeland Avenue and Austin Boulevard was expected to be completed by the end of this week. The installation of a main sewer line between Euclid and Oak Park avenues is expected to be completed by the end of next week. Staff and contractors have continued to maintain communication with the business operators and residents most affected by the project. Frequent construction updates have been distributed via email and posted on the dedicated project website at www.madisonstreetconstruction.com.

Water and sewer improvements – Clarence Avenue remains closed this week between Roosevelt Road and Harvard Street as sewer work continues. Activities include installing a sewer main and associated building services beginning at Harvard Street and moving south along Clarence Avenue. Harvard and Fillmore streets remain open to traffic. Work next week will continue along Clarence Avenue between Harvard and Fillmore streets.

Alley improvements – Pavement was removed this week in the alley south of Van Buren Street and west of Humphrey Avenue, while pavement was installed in the alley south of Jackson Boulevard between Lombard and Taylor avenues. Thirteen of the fifteen alleys that are scheduled for reconstruction this season now have new pavement.

Miscellaneous construction updates – Sidewalk repairs are underway on the east side of Oak Park Avenue on the bridge over I-290, but the CTA blue line entrance remains open and accessible as the project moves toward a late June completion target. Curb work is planned for next week on Maple Avenue as the Rush Oak Park Hospital construction project nears completion. The sidewalk passageway adjacent to the Holley Court Garage has been replaced to correct drainage issues and beautify the area, with landscape restoration to follow. Activity is winding down on South Boulevard between Harlem Avenue and Marion Street although the bus shelter likely won't be delivered and installed until late July.

Employee news – The Development Customer Services Department's Alejandro Hardaway recently earned his MBA from [North Central College](#) in Naperville. Since joining DCS in October 2018, Alejandro has served as a budget and revenue analyst.

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