



**Village Manager's Report**  
**Week ending March 26, 2021**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, March 29:
  - No meetings Scheduled
- Tuesday, March 30:
  - No meetings scheduled
- Wednesday, March 31:
  - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Thursday, April 1:
  - Liquor Control Board, 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Friday, April 2:
  - No meetings scheduled

**Small business loan updates** –Seventy-two applications have been approved to date for the Business Assistance Loan Program designed to help local businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some \$387,485 dollars from the federally funded local relief program have been distributed. Another six applications are under review. The remaining fund balance is \$162,515. The Development Customer Services has conducted extensive outreach to local business to make sure they are aware of the program and how to apply. Hands-on, personal assistance also has been provided to help business operators navigate the application process. More information on the program is posted on the Village website at [www.oak-park.us/covid19businessloan](http://www.oak-park.us/covid19businessloan).

**Oak Park Avenue improvements** – Northbound Oak Park Avenue traffic will continue to be detoured at Chicago Avenue from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the next two to three weeks while water main installation progresses between Iowa and Augusta streets. Northbound traffic will be detoured east to Ridgeland Avenue, north to Division Street and back west to Oak Park Avenue, but only during weekday working hours. Once the water main installation is complete, crews will begin water service line replacements on the 500 and 600 blocks of the avenue. Crews will begin to mobilize next week to begin pavement cutting between Randolph and Madison streets for underground work there. Further south, sewer spot repairs were expected to wrap up this week between Garfield Street and Roosevelt Road. Water service line replacements will then begin between Harrison Street and Jackson Boulevard with sewer main replacement to begin the week of April 5. All underground work on Oak Park Avenue is expected to be completed in June, with resurfacing from Roosevelt Road to North Avenue to follow. The project is expected to be completed in November. Staff is working on additional marketing and promotional efforts intended to increase

patronage in the Southtown Business District during the underground portion of the work. Construction details and schedules are available at a dedicated website, [www.opaveanew.com](http://www.opaveanew.com).

**Madison/Euclid project update** – Infrastructure relocation activities near the intersection of Madison Street and Euclid Avenue should be completed within the next few weeks, as AT&T and ComEd crews make way for the new senior living facility to be built there. Nicor is now inspecting infrastructure between Harrison Street and Jackson Boulevard, and between Gunderson Avenue and Austin Boulevard, with plans to move next week to Austin Boulevard north of Harrison Street.

**Employee news** – Long-time Public Works Department employee Mike Koperniak retired this week after 34 years as a Village civil engineer. Since joining the Engineering Division in 1986, Mike estimates he participated in more than 300 meetings of the Village's Transportation Commission since he began serving as a staff liaison in 1987, a time when plans were drawn by hand and widespread use of computer engineering software was still years away. In his long career with the Village, he played a hands-on role in creating the Village's street address database as part of a GIS project that began in the 1990s. He also helped compile the Village-wide traffic study conducted from 1997 to 2000.

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