



Village Manager's Report
Week ending September 11, 2015

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Monday, September 14:
 - No scheduled meetings
- Tuesday, September 15:
 - No scheduled meetings
- Wednesday, September 16:
 - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., room 215
- Thursday, September 17:
 - Oak Park Area Arts Council Board Meeting, 7 p.m., room 102

Upcoming Meetings:

- Thursday, October 1 – Village Board Finance Committee, 7 p.m., room 101 – *(tentative)*
- Thursday, October 8 – Village Board Finance Committee, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, October 22 – Village Board Finance Committee, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, November 5 - Village Board Budget Study Session, 7 p.m., room 101
- Wednesday, November 18 – Village Tri-Board Meeting, 7 p.m., OPRFHS

Paper, old clothing recycling – The Public Works Center will be a busy site from 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, as vendors will be on hand shredding documents and recycling old clothing that otherwise might end up in a landfill. Residents are invited to bring up to two bags or small boxes of documents containing personal information such as canceled checks, credit card or social security numbers, or medical information. Representatives of Epilepsy Foundation also will be on site collecting apparel of all types in any condition for recycling, including shoes, belts, hats, bags, linens and towels.

Warning sirens tested – The [West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch Center](#) continued testing Oak Park's emergency warning sirens this week to confirm proper functioning after recent equipment and software upgrades. Residents were notified via social media in advance, since the sirens were activated intermittently by the firm overseeing the tests. The primary purpose of the sirens is to warn the community when a tornado has been sighted within a 10-mile radius. The siren typically is sounded the first Tuesday of each month as part of a regular statewide test.

Surveys in mailboxes – The first batch of surveys have been delivered to the mailboxes of Oak Park residences selected at random to help the Village gauge citizen views on a wide range of community aspects and issues. Additional surveys will be distributed as needed to randomly selected addresses until the 1,200 responses needed for a 95 percent confidence level have been returned. This survey will be the sixth one conducted here by the [National Research Center](#). Surveys in 2000 and 2004 were conducted by telephone. But with telephone response rates plummeting across the industry and costs rising, mail has proven to be a more cost-effective approach. Past survey results are [posted on the Village website](#).

Ridgeland Avenue update – The final layer of asphalt was applied this week to Ridgeland Avenue between Chicago Avenue and Division Street. Restriping of the pavement was scheduled to begin today. Drainage improvements at Taylor Park north of Division Street were scheduled to be completed by the end of this week.

Discovery garden to open – A unique garden where both adults and children can observe, touch and interact with plants and natural materials is scheduled to open with a ceremony at 10 a.m., Sat., Sept. 12 at the Oak Park Conservatory. The Elsie Jacobsen Discovery Garden is a joint project of the Friends of the Oak Park Conservatory and the Park District of Oak Park. Visit www.pdop.org for more details.

Capital improvements projects – Minor punch list items and sod replacement is all that remain of the sewer project on Kenilworth Avenue between Chicago Avenue and Augusta Street. Resurfacing projects are underway on five streets included in the season's first contract. Concrete work on projects included in the season's second resurfacing contract is nearly complete. Columbian Avenue resurfacing has been completed, with the remaining resurfacing projects also nearing completion.

Public Works activities – Sink holes at 806 Columbian Ave. and 705 N. Lombard Ave., and a leaking water valve at Lombard and Lake Street were repaired. Pavement and curb restoration work continued at various locations where water line service repairs had been made. Crews also repaired sidewalk brick in the Harrison Arts District, and continued litter pick up and weeding in the business districts. Curbs were painted yellow by fire hydrants at various locations, while concrete patching continued at planting area locations along Roosevelt Road where wrought iron fencing was recently removed. Forestry crews focused on responding to resident requests and removing hazardous trees.

Employee news –The annual program to provide employees with influenza vaccine began this week, with clinics at Village Hall, the Police Department and Main Fire Station. Additional flu clinics are scheduled for next week at the Public Works Center, Village Hall and the Police Department. The free shots for staff are part of our emergency preparedness plan to ensure first responders and other essential staff are less likely to be affected during a particularly severe flu season. Water & Sewer Superintendent Darrell King was featured in the Lake County edition of the *Chicago Tribune* for his role last weekend as interim football coach for North Chicago High School. Darrell was at the team's helm as it ended a 10-game losing streak with a 26 – 23 win over Robeson High School. [Click here to read the story](#).

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