



**Village Manager's Report  
Week ending September 4, 2015**

**Meetings scheduled for the next week:**

- Monday, September 7:
  - Village Hall Closed in observance of the Labor Day Holiday
- Tuesday, September 8:
  - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Wednesday, September 9:
  - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, September 10:
  - CDCAC, 6 p.m., room 101
  - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
  - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- Thursday, October 1 – Village Board Finance Committee, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, October 8 – Village Board Finance Committee, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, October 15 – 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

**Parking restrictions eased** – As in past years, the [overnight on-street parking regulations](#) will not be enforced on many residential streets over the Labor Day holiday period. Restrictions will be lifted at 2:30 a.m., Saturday and resume at 2:30 a.m., Wednesday. Restrictions will remain in effect in overnight permit areas, such as Village-owned lots, on-street enclaves and on-street overnight parking zones. Other parking regulations also remain in effect, including all daytime posted restrictions and regulations related to traffic and public safety. The holiday parking schedule is [posted on the Village website](#).

**Village Hall closed Monday** – [Village Hall](#) will be closed on Monday in observance of Labor Day. Residents are asked to call the [Police Department](#) non-emergency number 708.386.3800 for assistance should an incident that doesn't quite rise to the level of a 9-1-1 emergency occur when Village Hall is closed.

**Refuse collections delayed** – [Refuse, recycling and yard waste collection services](#) will be delayed by the Labor Day holiday. Monday's regular pick-up and all subsequent collections of the week will be delayed one day.

**Zoning review website up and running** – As the Village continues the first comprehensive review of its zoning regulations since 2002, property owners can follow the progress via a dedicated website at [www.oakparkzoning.com](http://www.oakparkzoning.com). Presentations and reports will be posted and public comments accepted on the site. The goal of the review is to better align local zoning laws with recommendations in Envision Oak Park, the community's long-range [comprehensive plan](#) adopted last year. More details on the zoning review are [posted on the Village website](#).

**West Nile Virus threat continues** – With two deaths related to West Nile Virus confirmed in Illinois, state and local public health officials are cautioning residents not to become complacent and to continue taking precautions to prevent being bitten by mosquitoes. The virus has been found in mosquito pools collected in traps in north and south Oak Park, and one of the deaths occurred in Cook County. The [Desplaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District](#) had sprayed for adult mosquitos by this time last year, but has not announced any plans to spray here so far this year. More information on prevention is posted at [www.oak-park.us/fightthebite](http://www.oak-park.us/fightthebite).

**Ridgeland Avenue reopens** – Ridgeland Avenue reopened to traffic Tuesday between Chicago Avenue and Division Street. The first layer of new asphalt has been placed, with the final layer scheduled to be installed next week. The sewer contractor expects to complete the drainage improvements at Taylor Park just north of Division Street by the end of next week.

**Officer wins state education award** – Police Officer Kevin Collins, a school resource officer who works in Brooks Middle School, has been selected to receive an award of excellence from the Illinois State Board of Education's *Those Who Excel* recognition program. The program honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the state's elementary and secondary schools. Kevin was nominated by the teachers and administrators he works with every day at Brooks, which speaks to the respect he has earned on the job.

**Fire Department report** – Oak Park's firefighter/paramedics responded to 610 calls for service in August, with demand on track to exceed 2014's record year. Calls for emergency services continued to dominate the activity statistics, with 389 calls representing 64 percent of the total calls in August. Crews also responded to 100 alarms initiated (16 percent), 91 general service calls (15 percent), 25 fire/hazardous conditions calls (4 percent) and three other types of calls (1 percent). Contact was made with 438 patients in August. Of the 294 patients requiring transport to a medical facility, 161 needed advanced life support services. Turnout and travel times averaged five minutes and six seconds, well below the six-minute industry standard. Crews responded to 11 fires in August, the most significant in the pharmacy of the Walgreens on Roosevelt Road, which sustained localized smoke damage, but was quickly extinguished before the sprinklers activated.

**Capital improvements update** – Water and sewer improvement projects near Whittier and Holmes schools were completed in time for the first day of school. Sod has since been installed on the parkway between Augusta and Thomas streets, and the final

layer of asphalt surface is scheduled to be installed tomorrow (Saturday) on Kenilworth between Augusta Street and Chicago Avenue. Road patching was scheduled to be completed today (Friday), with microsurfacing expected to be completed in about three weeks. Completed streets are being swept of any loose gravel remaining from the microsurfacing process. Replacement of four large broken water valves began this week as part of the water and sewer improvements planned for this season. The work is expected to take about three weeks.

**Street resurfacing update** – Six local streets have been resurfaced, with four additional streets remaining in the first phase of this year’s projects. Work continued in the second round of street resurfacing projects, with Columbian Avenue next to St. Giles School completed prior to classes starting. Concrete work has been completed on the remaining sites and asphalt milling should start next week.

**Public Works activities** – Sinkholes were repaired at 514 N. Grove Ave., 507 N. Euclid Ave. and 806 Columbian Ave. A water valve at the southwest corner of Linden Avenue and Erie Street and a water service leak at 642 S. Cuyler Ave. were repaired. A 1.5-inch water service was upgraded at 600 S. Kenilworth Ave. as part of the lead abatement program. A new 10-inch cellular technology water meter was installed at Austin Boulevard and Harvard Avenue that will allow tracking Chicago water purchased by Village. An electrical cable that had been damaged in three places was repaired in the 800 and 900 blocks of Hayes Avenue. Pavement, curb and sidewalk restoration continued at various locations where water line repairs had been made. Materials were excavated for new bike rack concrete pads at two locations. Repairs to the brick sidewalks continued in the downtown area, along with litter pickup and weeding in the business districts, and curb painting by fire hydrants. Concrete was repaired along Roosevelt Road where wrought iron fencing was recently removed. Forestry crews continued to focus on routine summer tasks, including responding to resident requests and removing hazardous trees. Some 447 households participated in Saturday’s electronics recycling event at the Public Works Center. Sat., Oct. 31 will be the last electronics recycling event of the year.

**Employee news** –Steven Drazner, the former finance director in Countryside, has joined the Village as Deputy Chief Finance Officer. Steven brings considerable experience to the job, also having worked in Morton Grove and Evanston. Jason Bajor, a contractor with [GovHR](#), has been hired to temporarily fill the Assistant Village Manager position vacant since Rob Cole took a deputy city manager job in New York. Jason has considerable hands-on municipal government experience. He has worked in Batavia and Des Plaines in a number of capacities including human resources director, assistant village manager and village manager.

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