



**Village Manager's Report
The Week Ending October 28, 2016**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Saturday, October 29
 - I-Gov Committee Meeting, 9 a.m., 130 S. Oak Park – see *Halloween Parade info and related parking restrictions*
- Monday, October 31:
 - No scheduled meetings
- Tuesday, November 1:
 - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
- Wednesday, November 2:
 - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Public Art Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
- Thursday, November 3:
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., room 201
- Friday, November 4:
 - No scheduled meetings

Save the Date

- Thursday, Nov. 10, Village Board Special meeting FY17 Recommended Budget, 6:30 p.m., Room 101
- Monday, Nov. 14, Village Board Special meeting FY17 Recommended Budget, 6:30 p.m., Room 101
- Thursday, Nov. 17, Village Board Special meeting FY17 Recommended Budget, 6:30 p.m., Room 101

Halloween parade may affect iGov assembly parking – Oak Park Avenue will be closed from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday (Oct. 29) for the annual Hemingway District Halloween Parade. Assembly attendees driving to the meeting at the Township Office on south Oak Park Avenue may park on Euclid and Grove avenues between Randolph Street and South Boulevard where parking restrictions will be eased from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. to accommodate parade attendees. Standard safety regulations such as those for fire hydrants and cross walks will remain in effect. The Avenue Parking Garage also is an option, with entry at the Hunter Court alley from north Euclid Avenue by the main fire station right behind Starbucks. Barricades and signs will indicate where to enter.

Final Farmers' Market – The final [Oak Park Farmers' Market](#) of the season is tomorrow (Oct. 29). As in past years' markets, traditional stone soup made from vendor vegetables will be ladled up from about 9 a.m. until the pot is empty. Patrons are being urged to help make the event earth-friendly by bringing their own mugs. This year was the 41st season of the Farmers' Market and plans already are underway for next year.

Trick or treat hours – Official hours for [Halloween trick or treating in Oak Park](#) are 3 to 7 p.m., Monday (Oct. 31). Police are urging parents to accompany their young children, especially after dark, and inspect all treats. Police, who will be out in force throughout the afternoon and evening, also are urging drivers to be extra cautious as unseasonably warm temperatures are expected to attract lots of costumed pedestrians. More [information on Halloween safety is posted on the Village website](#).

Last chance to recycle electronics – Saturday (Oct. 29) will be the last local opportunity this year for residents to safely recycle electronic items. Crews will be on hand from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Public Works Center garage to help residents who bring items in for environmentally safe recycling. Residents are invited to [recycle just about any type of electronic items](#), an important service now that these materials are banned from landfills in Illinois and cannot be tossed in the refuse cart. Used books of all kinds and in any condition also will be accepted for recycling. More information on Saturday's recycling event is [posted on the Village website](#).

Early voting update – Early voting at Village Hall began with a rush on Monday, with long lines continuing through much of Tuesday, when activity appeared to slow to a more manageable pace. Area news outlets reported that early voting in Cook County on Monday was nearly double that of the 2012 presidential election. Officials say more than 3,200 votes had been cast at Village Hall through Thursday, a number that is sure to grow throughout the weekend and next week. Voting continues here through Nov. 7. Polls will be open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Monday Nov. 7, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sundays. The process is being managed by personnel representing the Cook County Clerk' Office.

Free flu shots at Public Library – Free flu shots will be available to anyone age 14 and older next week at the main branch of the [Oak Park Public Library](#). Vaccines will be administered by licensed Walgreens pharmacists from noon to 2 p.m. on Tues., Nov. 1, 5 to 7 p.m. on Wed., Nov. 2 and 2 to 4 p.m. on Thurs., Nov. 3. As the flu season approaches, local public health officials are reminding residents that vaccination is recommended for everyone older than six months. [A few more event details on the event are posted on the library's calendar](#).

Taxi licensing nearing completion – The process of inspecting and processing taxicab permits is nearing completion for the 2016/2017 period. Of the 121 taxis inspected to date, 118 have submitted the necessary documentation and passed all inspections required to operate within the Village. In order to qualify for a permit, each vehicle for hire must provide a completed application as well as proof of insurance and state registration. Each vehicle also must pass four unique inspections – two conducted by Village staff and two by certified private inspectors. The physical permits are being produced through the parking permit software and should be ready for distribution by November 7. The process was highly collaborative with personnel from the Public Works, Police, Parking and Development Customer Services departments working together to streamline and expedite the service.

Downtown construction updates – Existing pavement was removed from the alley being reconstructed north of Westgate Street and west of Marion Street in preparation for the first stage of concrete pours set for early next week, as the Elevate Oak Park development continues to progress rapidly. Meanwhile, just to the south, the concrete base was poured for the outdoor dining area on South Boulevard west of Marion Street and the area prepared for installing the granite planter curb and new tree grates. Work on the street surface is essentially completed for the season, except for some cleanup of the temporary pavement installed in expectation of the redevelopment of the current surface parking lot.

Chicago Avenue resurfacing – The first course of pavement was installed this week on Chicago Avenue between Belleforte and Harlem avenues. Staff is evaluating how a water-main break at Fair Oaks Avenue could affect the paving schedule. In the meantime, subcontractors are onsite re-installing the brick corners at Ridgeland Avenue to ensure crossings are in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Water, sewer, alley improvements – Water main replacement continued this week on the 500 and 600 blocks of Highland Avenue, with new water services expected to be installed next week. Letters were mailed this week to residents and business owners of alleys scheduled for replacement in spring 2017.

Miscellaneous construction Projects – The [pedestrian crossing signal](#) at Chicago and Harvey Avenues was installed and tested this week. However, the signal will not be put into service until the pavement markings are completed next month as part of the Chicago Avenue resurfacing project. The bicycle parking area and ADA-compliant ramps were installed this week at Harrison Street and East Avenue, with landscaping to follow. The final pavement course and markings were installed on Harrison Street between East and Ridgeland avenues as the season's final resurfacing projects wind down. Parkway restoration is underway at locations where paving is completed. Microsurfacing has been completed and will be followed with pavement re-stripping and marking. Brick restoration remaining from the Harrison Street lighting projects was expected to be completed this week.

Public Works activities – In addition to regular maintenance activities, Street Division crews began the fall ritual of pushing leaves during the night for collection the next morning. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a broken water main at Chicago and Fair Oaks avenues, a sink hole at 1004 N. Harvey Ave., a catch basin at 1025 S. Oak Park Ave. and a broken shut-off valve at 937 Wesley Ave. Street Lighting Division crews replaced and relocated a street light pole knocked down in a vehicle accident on Austin Boulevard north of I-290.

Employee news – Kyle O'Connor is the newest Business Licensing Officer in the Development Customer Services Department. Kyle, who has worked with the Village since August 2006, began his career here as a Residential Property Maintenance Inspector, but also had assisted with building inspections including commercial structures. In addition to lending his code enforcement experience to this new position in the Business Services Division, he will work with Tina Brown on the day-to-day management of chauffeur, liquor, solicitor and businesses licenses.

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