



Village Manager's Report
Week ending September 19, 2014

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Monday, September 22:
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., room 201
 - HPC Education Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215

- Tuesday, September 23:
 - First Time Homebuyer Seminar, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Liquor Control Review Board, 7:30 p.m., room 215

Township trustees at Farmers' Market – Members of the [Oak Park Township Board](#) will be at Saturday's [Farmers' Market](#). They will share shifts from about 7 a.m. to noon at a booth in the northeast corner of the market.

Testing to close downtown parking lots – The public parking lots that are part of the Colt site redevelopment project downtown will be closed temporarily next week to accommodate additional environmental testing. The south lot (Lot 9) will be closed from Tuesday through Thursday (Sept. 23 – 25) and the north lot (Lot 9T) will be closed on Friday, Sept. 26. Staff will post signs to give motorists ample notice of the scheduled closings and information will be distributed via the Village's communication channels.

GIS Consortium membership approved – The Village learned Thursday that its application to join the [GIS Consortium \(GISC\)](#) was approved unanimously by its board. Membership in this organization, which consists of other local governments, will give the Village access to resources to develop geographic information systems (GIS) that might otherwise be cost-prohibitive for a community of our size. Members apply their GIS investment to solutions and all intellectual property developed by the Consortium belongs to its members. The Village will be joining 25 other Illinois communities that share resources and benefits through the GISC.

Capital improvements update – The federally funded Ridgeland Avenue resurfacing project continues, as sidewalks and curbs are being replaced prior to paving. Work on the east side is nearing completion, and work will start next week on the west side of the street. The final layer of asphalt should be laid this week on Jackson Boulevard from Harlem Avenue to Oak Park Avenue. Work on Clinton Avenue between Randolph and South Boulevard is nearing completion, with the final layer of asphalt scheduled to be placed next week and landscaping already is underway. Work on three of 10 alley segments being rebuilt will begin next week, with the contractor moving from

south to north. The annual sidewalk replacement program is expected to be completed in about two weeks.

Public Works activities – Restoration of street openings to repair water main breaks continued throughout the Village, as did brick restoration in the downtown area and Village-wide sign repair, graffiti removal and pothole patching. A water valve frame was replaced at Augusta Street and Lombard Avenue, and preparation to replace a broken fire hydrant has begun at Madison Street and East Avenue. Water service upgrades were completed at 918 Wisconsin Ave. and 307 S. Ridgeland Ave. as part of the lead abatement program. Water meter replacements continued, with 102 appointments completed to date. Forestry service requests focused on general pruning and roof clearances, while stump grinding and removals of dead and diseased trees continued. The fall plant rotation for the above-ground planters has begun, as has the inventory of parkway trees.

Free energy assessments, products – ComEd asked for the Village's help getting the word out on a program that offers free home energy assessments to help identify ways to save on their utility bills. Participants also will receive free, installed compact fluorescent light bulbs, programmable thermostats, showerheads, sink aerators and hot water pipe insulation. Owners of single-family homes, two-flats, individually-metered condos and townhomes are eligible, but renters must have permission from the landlord. [More information is posted on the ComEd website.](#)

Recycling news – Some 254 households recycled 8,178 pounds of materials at the paper shredding and clothing event held Saturday at the Public Works Center. This Saturday, the department will host a paint exchange where residents can safely dispose of unwanted, but useable latex paint or pick up free paint. Half-to-full cans of paint can be dropped off from 9 to 11 a.m., and from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. anyone in need of paint can chose from the paint collected. Only latex paint will be accepted.

Mutual aid response – Forestry Technician Ron Schwab spent three days this week in Palatine helping clean up storm damage. He was part of a storm damage mitigation team coordinated through the [Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network](#). Palatine was hit hard last week by a microburst that left considerable damage. The Village's participation in the mutual aid network allows us to ask for support should a similar event exceed our staff resources.

Employee news – Four new probationary officers will join the Police Department next week. Officers Leonard Cunzalo Jr., Eric Hernandez, Michael Lambert and David Taylor graduated from the Cook County Sheriff's Police Academy on Sept. 12. They now will spend 16 weeks in the field with seasoned Oak Park officers before assuming regular duties. New officers remain on probation for a year from the date of academy graduation.

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