



**Village Manager's Report  
The Week Ending April 1, 2016**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, April 4:
  - CDCAC, 6:30 p.m., room 215
- Tuesday, April 5:
  - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
- Wednesday, April 6:
  - Board of Fire & Police Commission, 6 p.m. room 124
  - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
  - Public Art Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
  - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 201
- Thursday, April 7:
  - No scheduled meetings
- Friday, April 8:
  - No scheduled meetings

**Upcoming Meetings and Events:**

- Monday, April 11
  - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
  - Village Board Study Session, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Monday, April 18
  - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Saturday, April 23
  - Earth Fest, 10am – 2pm, Public Works Building

**Environmental lecture series returns** – The annual *Green Tuesdays* public lecture series will return next week to take on a range of important environmental challenges and issues. Lectures are scheduled for 7 to 8:30 p.m., each Tuesday in April at the main Oak Park Public Library. Like Green Tuesdays of the past, the 2016 series will focus on the unique local environmental challenges of our time. [Click here for more information and the schedule.](#)

**Yard waste collection begins** – Seasonal collection of yard waste will begin Mon., April 4. Bundled brush no larger than two feet in diameter and four feet in length and yard waste such as grass clippings, leaves, shrubs and vines will be picked up on regular refuse collection days. A green yard waste sticker must be attached to each brush bundle, 32-gallon paper bag and rigid container. Stickers are \$2.45 each. [Information on where to buy yard waste stickers is posted on the Village website.](#)

**Call issued for sculpture walk artists** – The Public Art Advisory Commission has issued a call for artists to display their work in the 5th Annual Oak Park Sculpture Walk. At least 12 works will be part of the outdoor exhibit set for June 5 through Sept. 5 in Mills Park. The deadline for application submissions is April 25. The application packet is posted at [www.oak-park.us/sculpturewalk](http://www.oak-park.us/sculpturewalk).

**Police part of national education effort** – The Police Department has joined with the [University of Illinois at Chicago's Center for Public Safety and Justice](#) to be featured in a series of five videos on [procedural justice](#). The project is funded by the [COPS Office of the Department of Justice](#) and the videos will be used as training material for law enforcement agencies around the country. The project is set to begin in mid-April. COPS, or the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, is responsible for advancing the practice of community policing by the nation's state, local, territorial and tribal law enforcement agencies through information and grant resources.

**Free condo board seminar** – Condominium association members are invited to learn more about conducting a hearing at a free educational seminar scheduled for 6 to 8 p.m., Tues., April 5 in Village Hall. An attorney specializing in condominium law will lead the discussion. Village staff also will be on hand to discuss local requirements and available support resources. Registration is offered, but not necessary. [More information on registering is posted on the Village website.](#)

**South Boulevard streetscape to begin** – Underground utility on South Boulevard between Marion Street and Harlem Avenue been pushed back a week until Mon., April 11, as some construction details are finalized. The work is part of the South Boulevard streetscape project that will extend the Marion Street palette. Once work begins, South Boulevard will be completely closed to traffic between Harlem Avenue and Marion Street for about a month during this first phase of the project. Once this phase is completed, South Boulevard will be reopened to east-bound traffic, but remain closed to westbound traffic for an additional month.

**Green Line work set begin** – [Improvements to the CTA Green Line](#) tracks were set to begin today (April 1) at the Harlem Avenue station. Work is scheduled to occur over seven weekends, beginning after the Friday rush hour and ending before the Monday morning rush hour. Some limited Friday daytime parking closures are likely along the route. All Green Line stations in Oak Park will be closed when work is underway and passengers bused between stops. The CTA is managing communications with its riders, but the Engineering Division worked with CTA to develop a letter that was mailed Tuesday (March 29) to all Oak Park parking permit holders who may be affected by equipment and materials staging along South Boulevard. Various north/south streets in Oak Park may be temporarily closed as the work progresses. Closings have been coordinated with the Fire Department to ensure public safety. Engineering Division staff will be onsite each Monday morning throughout the project

to ensure all closed streets are re-opened and to document any damages. The project entails replacing track ties and stone ballast.

**Miscellaneous construction updates** – Work is scheduled to resume Monday (April 4) on the Marion street crosswalk improvements remaining from last year. The work has been coordinated with the Downtown Oak Park business association to minimize impact. Lighting improvements are scheduled to begin April 11 on Harrison Street between Ridgeland Avenue and Austin Boulevard. Affected residents are being notified by mail and parking passes provided when needed. Nicor crews have begun restoring parkways in areas of the Village where new lines and services were installed last year. New gas meter installations also are continuing. Preconstruction meetings were held last week for alley and sidewalk improvement projects scheduled to begin Monday (April 4). Letters have been mailed to all affected residents and business owners. Meanwhile, bids will be opened next for the first of two street resurfacing projects, the salt storage dome roof in the Forest Preserve yard in Maywood and this season's Marion crosswalk improvements. Recommendations should be ready for Village Board consideration at the April 18 regular meeting.

**Public Works Activities** – Streets Division crews completed repairs to brick portions of a sidewalk damaged when a fire hydrant was installed, patched bluestone crosswalks, removed litter in parking lots and filled potholes throughout the Village. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a water main break at the northwest corner of Austin Boulevard and Augusta Street, a broken sewer lateral at 708 Columbian Ave. and a broken sewer frame at 834 S. Austin Blvd. Forestry Division crews continued landscaping work throughout the Village, responding to resident requests, removing dead and dying ash trees, and pruning as part of the winter cycle. Village foresters also trimmed trees along Chicago and Fillmore avenues in preparation for upcoming construction projects. The Village's tree-trimming contractor continues moving west, working on South Boulevard, Pleasant Avenue, Randolph Street and Washington Boulevard.

**Conservatory birthday packages** – If you know of any parents of children ages 4 to 10 who are looking for a birthday party venue, you may wish to suggest the [Oak Park Conservatory](#). Themed packages are available from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, and 1 to 3 p.m. Sundays. Parties are led by Conservatory garden staff and include nature-based activities and crafts. [More information is posted on the Park District website.](#)

**Employee News** – John Ross has joined the Public Works Department as Building Maintenance Contract Coordinator. John's career with the Village spans more than 16 years. Prior to assuming the duties of this newly created role, John was chief property inspector with Development Customer Services. In his new role, John will help manage more than two dozen private contractors that provide a wide range of important services for the Village's numerous facilities.

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