



Village Manager's Report The Week Ending May 13, 2016

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, May 16:
 - Contract Review Committee, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Executive Session, 7 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Tuesday, May 17:
 - No Scheduled Meetings
- Wednesday, May 18:
 - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m. room 101
 - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., room 215
- Thursday, May 19:
 - Oak Park Area Arts Council, 7 p.m., room 102
- Friday, May 20:
 - No scheduled meetings

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- Saturday, May 21
 - Opening Day of the 2016 Oak Park Farmers Market
- Sunday, June 5
 - Day in our Village, Scoville Park, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Building safety open house set – Residents, property owners and contractors are invited to tour the redesigned [Development Customer Services Department](#), which oversees building permits, inspections and code enforcement. An open house is scheduled for 5 to 7 p.m., Mon., May 16, in Village Hall. This event is one of several scheduled as part of [Building Safety Month](#), a time to raise awareness and understanding of what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures. Residential remodeling symposiums were held in Village Hall and at the main branch of the Oak Park Public Library. Events will wrap up with a [lunch-and-learn event on insulation](#) scheduled for May 24 at Village Hall.

CTA Green Line update – This weekend will be the sixth of seven scheduled for improvements to the CTA Green Line tracks through Oak Park. Work occurs from 7 p.m. each Friday until 6 a.m., each Monday, but parking restrictions start at 7 a.m. on Fridays as needed for materials staging and construction preparations. All Oak Park stations are closed during construction and CTA buses provide transportation between stops. Engineering staff

continues onsite inspections every Monday morning to ensure all streets have been reopened and to document any damages.

VillageView update – After two weeks of intensive training, all legacy data systems were shut down and VillageView launched on Monday (May 9). The customer service portal was turned on for testing after staff had a chance to work out a few issues. Normal data conversion issues have arisen, but Village staff is catching on quickly with the help of CityView staff who were on site this week to make software adjustments. The software will be further refined over the next several weeks. Once we are assured that the software works as designed, we will begin a comprehensive communication strategy to get the information out to the public. The link to the public portal will be www.oak-park.us/VillageView, which is a redirect to the actual program.

Oak Park & South Boulevard space enhancement – Work began this week to add 1,300 square feet to the southeast corner of South Boulevard and Oak Park Avenue for outdoor seating that will be used by [Citrine Cafe](#). The tree remains, but shrubs were removed and preparations made for new concrete. The Village is providing sidewalk, curb and a concrete pad in what is essentially a blank space for the restaurant to landscape and light per a negotiated agreement. Basic construction is expected to be completed within the next two weeks, setting the stage for what could become one of the Village's premiere outdoor eating areas.

Oak Park Station development update – Connections to the sewer and water mains have been completed at Lake Street and the new Maple Avenue intersection. Temporary pavement and sidewalk are now in place allowing traffic to flow unimpeded on Lake Street and pedestrian access along the south side of Lake and north side of North Boulevard. Sewer and water mains were being installed on Maple between Westgate Street and Lake. Sewer work is set to begin next week on Westgate from Maple to Harlem Avenue.

South Boulevard streetscape status – Water and sewer main installation should be complete by the end of May and the system switched over within the following two weeks. Engineering Division staff continues checking in with adjacent businesses to ensure their needs are coordinated during the work between Marion Street and Harlem Avenue.

Oasis development update - The alley by the Oasis townhouse development was opened to traffic Wednesday, with only some asphalt work remaining on Washington Boulevard and Randolph Street. Village staff is working on the process to help residents file claims with the developers for damage to private property that occurred during the construction.

Brookfield/North Riverside water project coming – Plans are nearing completion for installing a new water main for the Brookfield North Riverside Water Commission through Oak Park. However, work is not expected to affect the Village until the spring and summer of 2017. The new main will be installed along Fillmore Street the entire length of the Village. The intergovernmental agreement approved in September 2015 requires the commission to rebuild Fillmore when construction is completed. The Village will take advantage of the project to install a new sewer on Fillmore between East and Ridgeland avenues, and a small section of water main at the far west end of the area. The agreement requires the work to accommodate schools such as Irving Elementary, with most construction here occurring in the summer months when school is not in session.

Childhood Collaboration survey – Parents and guardians of very young children are invited to share their experiences, from expecting a newborn or having a toddler to parenting a child through kindergarten by [taking a brief online survey](#). Survey results will help the Village-supported [Collaboration for Early Childhood](#) determine parenting resources and activities for nurturing children’s development. Visit collab4kids.org for more information and to take the survey. Participation is needed by May 27.

Harrison Street lighting update – Boring for electrical conduit began this week for the lighting improvements on Harrison Street from Ridgeland Avenue to Austin Boulevard. The boring is expected to continue through next week.

Alley and sidewalk improvements progress – Sewers have been installed in 12 alleys, and concrete pavement completed in seven alleys, primarily in central sections of the Village. So far, 16 residents within the alley project area have opted into the private apron replacement program, which offers the Village contract unit price. Sidewalk improvements were on hold this week, but should be substantially completed by the end of week.

Street resurfacing – Concrete for curbs and gutters were poured this week on Mapleton Avenue, with sidewalk replacement set for next week. These tasks also are mostly complete on Harvey Avenue. Pavement will follow in the weeks ahead.

Chicago Avenue project update – Sewer work on Chicago Avenue between Fair Oaks and Ridgeland avenues is awaiting the Illinois Department of Transportation to issue a detour permit, which is expected within the next two weeks. The resurfacing project is currently being advertised in an IDOT construction bulletin with a June 10 bid opening for work that is anticipated to begin in August.

Nicor restoration continues – Nicor contractors continue to restore parkways and properties disrupted by new gas main and service installations. The work is occurring at various locations in the northern portion of the Village.

Public Works Activities – Streets Division crews relocated trash cans, a bench and a bike rack to make room for the outdoor seating area construction at South Boulevard and Oak Park Avenue. Crews also continued installing permanent curb, sidewalk and pavement where temporary patches had been installed following repairs to utility lines over the winter. Routine tasks also continued, including removing litter, cleaning parking lots and filling potholes. Barricades were delivered for the first block party of the season as well as for the Ethnic Festival and Parade hosted by District 97 at Julian Middle School. Water & Sewer Division crews replaced a broken fire hydrant at Thomas Street and Humphrey Avenue, and patrolled streets throughout the week during the heavy rain, clearing sewer inlets as necessary to reduce the chances of flooding. In addition to routine tasks of delivering wood chips, removing unhealthy trees and responding to resident requests, Forestry Division crews continued preparing for the upcoming tree planting season and landscaping throughout the Village.

Fire Department report – Calls for emergency medical services declined slightly in April, but the Department reports it is still on track to match last year’s record numbers. The 320 EMS calls represented about 64 percent of the 501 calls for service fielded by the Department in April. The Fire Department had contact with 396 patients in April, of which 198 were transported to a medical facility. Of the transported patients, 116 required advanced life

support services. So far this year, the Fire Department has responded to 2,176 calls for service. In addition to April EMS responses, the Department also responded to 80 calls for general service, 42 for alarm initiated, 32 good intent and 27 fires/hazardous conditions. No structure fires were reported in April, but the Department responded to three passenger vehicle fires that led to losses estimated at \$15,000.

Employee news – Jeffrey Prior is the new Neighborhood Services Supervisor. He comes to the Development Customer Services Department team from the Village of Hanover Park where he performed similar duties. Like all of the inspectors within Neighborhood Services, Jeff is certified by the International Code Council as a property maintenance and housing inspector. He also has a master of business administration degree from Loyola University.

###