



Village Manager's Report The Week Ending June 3, 2016

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, June 6:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Tuesday, June 7:
 - Environment & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
- Wednesday, June 8:
 - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, June 9:
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Friday, June 10:
 - No scheduled meetings

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- Monday, July 4
 - 4th of July Parade, 10 a.m., Longfellow Park (Ridgeland and Adams St.)

A Day in Our Village details – The 43rd annual [A Day in Our Village festival](#) celebrating diversity and community involvement is Sunday, rain or shine. The Village Board tent will be space #32 – a map will be available at the event for set up. This year's activities will include a charity dunk tank to help raise funds for local services. Elected officials and other community leaders have been invited to come prepared to brave the dunk tank for one or more of the three organizations that each will have one hour from noon to 3 p.m. to garner contributions. The Board will have a special [A Day in Our Village commemorative poster](#) to distribute to residents along with a supply of reusable shopping bags that fold into handy packet.

Severe weather impact – Tuesday afternoon's high winds and heavy rains left a swath of damage in their wake, resulting in damage to several parkway and private trees throughout the Village. Public Works crews and private contractors were on the street immediately following the storm to ensure all roadways were open, with brush cleanup continuing through the week. Water & Sewer Division crews also were on the streets Tuesday during the heavy rains and again on Wednesday patrolling for flooded areas and clearing debris

from storm water sewer inlets. More details on the storm and its aftermath are [posted on the Village website](#).

Latest water quality report online – Oak Park residents interested in knowing about the quality of the water they drink need go no further than www.oak-park.us/waterqualityreport to read the latest report. Each year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requires communities to prepare a *Consumer Confidence Report* that provides information on the quality of the local drinking water. In addition to detailed analyses of substances in the water, the report also includes facts about the community's drinking water delivery system and source. An [archive of past water quality reports also is posted online](#).

Oak Park Station – Sewer line installation on Westgate Street from Maple Avenue to Marion Street was delayed by recent rains. The contractor is using metal plates and cold patch on the roadway at the end of each day until temporary pavement can be poured. A flagger is maintaining at least one traffic lane on Westgate and helping manage partial lane closures. The contractor remains optimistic that a required Illinois Department of Transportation permit will be issued soon, perhaps allowing the necessary work on Harlem Avenue to start next week to connect the new sewer and water mains on Westgate to the lines under the roadway.

Harrison Street lighting improvements – Work to improve lighting on the Harrison Street from Ridgeland Avenue to Austin Boulevard should resume Monday after being suspended since May 30 for local events and the holiday. Remaining work includes making electrical service connections to provide power to system and hardscape restoration.

Alley/sidewalk projects – Concrete pavement has been completed on 11 alleys, with work remaining in another 10 alleys. Sewer work in one alley south of South Boulevard between Marion Street and Home Avenue was delayed by rain. Alley work currently is underway between Pleasant and Iowa streets, progressing northward. To date, 20 residents within the alley project areas have opted to have their garage aprons replaced during the alley work, which gives them the Village's contract cost. Sidewalk improvements are expected to restart next week.

South Boulevard streetscape – Work continues on the remaining underground tasks, including lining the 21-inch sewer that was initially constructed in 1937. Excavation and temporary pavement patching may allow westbound traffic on South Boulevard to be open as early as Mon., June 6 at end of the work day. Work will then shift to the north side of the street and, depending on the weather, the full street should be open in early July. Engineering Division staff is maintaining frequent communication with adjacent businesses to ensure their needs are coordinated during the work.

Street resurfacing – The season's first round of street resurfacing projects continued this week, with binder-course pavement completed on the 800 and 900 blocks of North Mapleton Avenue. Work on the 1000 block of North Mapleton was delayed by the rain. Binder-course pavement also was completed on the 500 block of South Harvey Avenue. The sidewalk expansion for outdoor dining at the southeast corner of South Boulevard and Oak Park Avenue is open, with only punch-list items remaining.

Chicago Avenue – Chicago Avenue is now closed from Ridgeland Avenue to Scoville/Fair Oaks Avenue for the sewer project that will begin in earnest next week. Crews have begun preliminary pavement cutting, as well as material/equipment delivery and staging. Chicago Avenue through traffic is being detoured to Division Street via Oak Park and Ridgeland avenues. Local-traffic is being allowed on Chicago Avenue from Oak Park to Scoville/Fair Oaks. Traffic control measures will be assessed and updated as needed over the next week to alleviate any traffic safety concerns. An overview of all of the work planned that will affect Chicago Avenue for much of the summer is [posted on the Village website](#).

Public Works activities –Streets Division crews repaired brick pavers at various locations, as well as handled a wide range of routine tasks including removing litter, cleaning parking lots, filling potholes, delivering/picking up barricades for special events and various sign work. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a sewer lateral at 919 Clinton Ave. and a water service leak at 635 S. Harvey Ave. [Tree planting](#) continued, but was slowed by the weather. Forestry Division crews also continued routine tasks such as removing problem trees, grinding stumps, restoring landscaped areas and responding to resident service requests.

Employee News – Julia Scott-Valdez, who has served as Human Resources Director for the City of Rockford since August 2010, is scheduled to assume the role of Assistant Village Manager/Human Resources Director for the Village on July 11. She was selected from a field of more than 170 applicants from a dozen states. More details on Julia’s experience are included in a news release posted on the Village website – [just click here to read](#). Civil Engineer Joe Powers successfully passed his Illinois Professional Engineers exam, a major milestone in the industry. Only individuals with a degree from an accredited engineering school and four years working under the direction of a licensed professional engineer are eligible to take the grueling eight-hour exam on practical engineering principals. The Public Works Department is offering nine college students some valuable on-the-job experience as summer interns. These interns, who earn \$12.50 an hour, will be assisting with general maintenance tasks and various other duties as needed within several different divisions. Seven interns already are at work, with two more starting soon.

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