



Village Manager's Report
Week ending June 8, 2018

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, Jun 11:
 - Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- Tuesday, June 12:
 - Aging in Place Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
- Wednesday, June 13:
 - Farmers' Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, June 14:
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- Friday, June 15:
 - No meetings scheduled

Final Tax Task Force question – Beginning next week, the [Taxing Body Efficiency Task Force](#) will seek input on the sixth and final topic posted for online commenting. Residents will be asked to offer ideas for improving services and/or lowering costs of programs supported by property taxes. Comments may be posted at www.oak-park.us/taxefficiencycomments, which links directly to the current question. Each new comment page also has links to the past questions where commenting has closed, but the comments may still be viewed. Information on the Task Force, including links to member biographies, meeting agendas and minutes, is posted online at www.oak-park.us/taxtaskforce.

A Day wrap up – The 45th annual A Day in Our Village festival was one of the most successful in recent memory thanks to good weather, a wide range of vendors and enthusiastic attendees. This year's event featured a record 170 booths, many offering interactive experiences that proved to be effective tools for showcasing opportunities for discovering the variety of civic, cultural, social service, business, educational and religious organizations and groups in the Village. The top-notch entertainment had the crowds dancing and screaming for more, which helped to create an atmosphere of community cohesion and pride. The Community Relations Department, which manages the event's many logistics with the help of volunteers, offered special thanks to the Public Works Department and the Park District for helping make the event such a success.

Fair housing video retrospective – A video recently produced by the Communications Department offers an entertaining, but detailed account of the roots and progress of fair housing in Oak Park. Working with the Historical Society and volunteer actors,

Media Production Manager Joe Kreml creatively melded re-enactments with vintage photos and video footage to tell the story of Oak Park's landmark Fair Housing Ordinance, from its rocky start to its current status 50 years later. The video is posted on the Village YouTube channel – [click here for a direct link](#).

ZBA update – The Zoning Board of Appeals this week recommended approval of a special use permit request authorizing a day care facility at 54 Madison St. The application was filed on behalf of Little Jungle Land Day Care. The ZBA recommendation is expected to come to the Village Board for consideration in July.

CDBG public comment period – The 30-day public comment period has begun for the draft Community Development Action Plan. Residents can submit comments until close of business on July 8. The plan is [posted on the Village website](#) and paper copies are available for review at all three branches of the Oak Park Public Library and in room 214 at Village Hall. Once adopted, the Plan Year 2018 Action Plan will [guide local allocations of federal funds](#) for projects supported through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Farmers' Market activities – An activity for kids hosted by the Oak Park Conservatory will be among the highlights of Saturday's Farmers' Market (June 9). The Market is held rain or shine. You can keep tabs on what's coming up at the Market, including a list of scheduled guest vendors, at www.oak-park.us/farmersmarket.

Boulevards project update – Construction is scheduled to begin Monday (June 11) on North Boulevard between Forest and Kenilworth avenues as the season's highest-profile project gets underway. North Boulevard will be closed to all traffic between Forest and Clinton avenues, and open only to local traffic between Clinton and Kenilworth avenues. The open section of North Boulevard will be reconfigured temporarily for local two-way traffic, while through traffic will be detoured around the construction site to Lake Street. The work also will mean on-street permit parking by the railroad tracks will not be available between Forest and Kenilworth avenues. Permit holders will be moved to the Holley Court parking garage. Periodic notifications and schedule changes will be posted on www.oak-park.us/boulevards.

Albion project update – Demolition is complete at the Albion development site at the northwest corner of Lake Street and Forest Avenue. Work on the foundations is expected to be underway for the next several weeks. The work required the fence surrounding the site to be use the southbound lane on Forest Avenue. The street will be restriped to allow traffic to continue to travel south, but the dedicated turn lane will be lost. Staff is working with the contractor to improve signage and barriers to ensure pedestrian safety.

Street resurfacing – Curbs and sidewalks have been poured on East Avenue from Randolph Street to South Boulevard, Elmwood Avenue from Fillmore Street to Harvard Street, and Lombard Avenue from Madison Street to Washington Boulevard. Sidewalks are completed and pouring concrete for curbs have begun on Home Avenue from Harrison Street to Adams Street. Preparations for concrete repair began on South Boulevard from Lombard Avenue to Austin Boulevard, East Avenue at Lake Street, and North Boulevard just west of East Avenue.

Alley improvements – Pavement removal began in the alley between Kenilworth and Grove avenues and north of Fillmore Street. Nine alleys have been completed so far this season. Forty residents within the boundaries of the alley projects have elected to have their private garage aprons replaced as their alleys are reconstructed, taking advantage of the Village's lower contract unit price. Now that school is out for the summer, the sewer contractor has returned to complete remaining underground work.

Miscellaneous construction updates – The westbound lane of South Boulevard between Harlem Avenue and Marion Street along the frontage of the Lincoln development has been reopened after being closed last week for telecommunication utility installations. AT&T installed fiber optic communication infrastructure in the north/south alley adjacent to the Emerson development, north of North Boulevard and west of Marion Street. The alley will be closed for concrete restoration starting on Wed., June 13, but should be reopened by Mon., June 18. Staff has continued to coordinate parking with affected businesses and is working with garbage companies to relocate dumpsters during the work. Union Pacific crews are repairing the viaduct wall at the southwest corner of North Boulevard and Marion Street.

Public Works activities – Street Division crews continued cutting and repairing openings in streets for planned and completed water service upgrades and repairs. Crews also replaced garbage containers on Marion Street with larger cans and replaced traffic delineators at the Washington Boulevard and Lombard Avenue intersection. In addition, Street crews washed the Marion Street viaduct and swept streets in various areas that needed special attention. Street Lighting Division crews began repairs to the viaduct over the northbound lane of Oak Park Avenue that had been damaged by a truck. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a sink hole at 1221 N. Ridgeland Ave. and a sewer lateral at 1102 N. Austin Blvd. Crews also completed water service upgrades at 6 Elizabeth Court and 626 N. Harvey Ave. as part of the lead abatement program. Forestry Division crews responded to resident requests for parkway tree trimming and wood chip deliveries, in addition to ongoing tasks such as removing problem trees and grinding stumps. Parkway tree and stump removals and landscape maintenance services provided by private contractors are ongoing.

Free concerts return to Scoville Park – The annual [free Sunday concerts](#) return to Scoville Park beginning this weekend (June 10) and continuing through Aug. 19. Concerts begin at 5:30 p.m. and will feature a variety of local and well-known bands covering a wide range of music. Details on the bands as well as rain dates are posted at www.pdop.org. Scoville Park also will feature [free movies](#), including tonight (Fri., June 8) when the animated film [Leap](#) will be screened beginning at dusk.

Employee news – The Police Department welcomed five new officers following their recent graduation from the Chicago Police Academy. The new officers are Dwayne Jones, Jake Grabowski, Michelle Marano, Elliot Dawson and Zachary Ferrier. The Health Department recently welcomed Monica Burch as Animal Control Officer. She brings many years of experience working with animals, including with veterinarians. She currently is enrolled at Triton College where she expects to earn a business degree this fall.

###