



**Village Manager's Report**  
**Week ending September 28, 2018**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, Oct. 1:
  - Executive session, 7 p.m., room 130
  - Regular meeting, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber
  
- Tuesday, Oct. 2:
  - Environment & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 124
  
- Wednesday, Oct. 3:
  - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
  - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
  
- Thursday, Oct. 4:
  - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
  
- Friday, Oct. 5:
  - No meetings scheduled

**Aggregation rates to drop** – With the news this week that ComEd will lower its electricity supply rates beginning in October, Oak Parkers participating in the [Community Choice Aggregation Program](#) will benefit as well. The Village Board's decision to contract with MC Squared Energy Services, LLC (mc<sup>2</sup>) tied our aggregation program rates to the ComEd rate. The change in the rate is expected to save our aggregation customers about \$33 to \$50 through May. The rate drop does not change the renewable energy blueprint through community solar subscriptions planned for next year. [Click here to read how Crain's Chicago Business reported the rate story...](#)

**Severe weather impacts** – High wind gusts associated with severe thunderstorms that swept through the Village at about 5:45 p.m. Tuesday (Sept. 25) brought down two trees and temporarily blocked traffic in the 300 block of Wisconsin Avenue and on Washington Boulevard at East Avenue. Crews from the Forestry Division and a private contractor responded quickly and cleared the streets that evening, with remaining debris collected Wednesday morning. Police reported traffic signal outages on Oak Park Avenue at both Augusta and Division streets, requiring officers to open the emergency stop signs. The traffic signal at South Boulevard and Harlem Avenue also was flashing red. In addition, a power line came down in the alley in the 400 block between North Ridgeland and Elmwood avenues, but Fire Department were on the scene to within minutes to secure the scene until a ComEd crew could arrive.

**Special tree planting effort** – Forestry Division crews prepared this week for an upcoming special round of tree planting by marking 105 locations south of I-290. The additional trees, which are scheduled to be planted on Oct. 2 and 3, were purchased with funds collected as part of last year's Brookfield/North Riverside Lake Michigan water main installation project along Fillmore Street.

**Redevelopment project news** – Periodic lane closures on Harlem Avenue near the South Boulevard intersections are likely over the next few weeks as crews work to bring the block fronting the Eleven 33 development back into drivable and walkable condition before Thanksgiving. Traffic between Marion Street and Harlem Avenue continues to be detoured around the closed block of South Boulevard to Randolph Street and North Boulevard.

**Boulevards project update** – Pavement removal was set to begin today (Sept. 28) on South Boulevard between Marion Street and Home Avenue. The intersection of South Boulevard and Clinton Avenue was expected to remain closed to traffic through this week for site restoration following the water main construction. South Boulevard traffic continues to be rerouted at Kenilworth Avenue to Randolph Street between Kenilworth and Home avenues. New asphalt is expected to be installed on South Boulevard next week as restoration of North Boulevard continued. North Boulevard remains closed during work hours at Forest Avenue, but access to private driveways has been retained. Periodic notifications and schedule changes are posted online at [www.oak-park.us/boulevards](http://www.oak-park.us/boulevards).

**Street resurfacing and repairs** – Paving is set to continue for up to four more weeks on the 10 blocks of streets and four parking lots being rehabilitated during the season's final round of paving projects. Striping and punch list items still remain on several sections of streets included in the first round of resurfacing projects. A private contractor continued restoring the sidewalk this week along 202 – 210 Harrison Street, which is the frontage of the [Flexhouse redevelopment project](#) underway there.

**Microsurfacing** – Microsurfacing to extend pavement life continued this week on streets in the north end of the Village. Each block where work is underway must be closed for about four hours to apply the mixture and allow it to properly dry before reopening the streets to traffic. No parking signs are posted 48 hours prior to work beginning. Work hours are from about 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

**Rush Hospital update** – Work was expected to wrap up by the end of today (Sept. 28) on the sewer lines under Madison Street east of Harlem Avenue that are part of the Rush Oak Park Hospital expansion. The work had greatly impacted traffic flow during work hours as Madison Street was limited to one lane in each direction.

**Public Works activities** – Streets Division crews repaved six locations where repairs to water lines had been made. Water & Sewer Division crews repaired service line leaks at 748 S. Grove Ave., 815 N. Marion St. and 428 S. Kenilworth Ave., where a water main break also had to be repaired. A leaking water main valve at Harlem Avenue and Erie Street will require shutting off water to several nearby customers next week, but all properties affected will have been notified prior to the repair beginning.

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