



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending September 30, 2022**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, October 3:
 - Village Board Meeting, 6:45 p.m. via Zoom

- Tuesday, October 4:
 - Environment and Energy Commission, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
 - Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

- Wednesday, October 5:
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m. via Zoom

- Thursday, October 6:
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m. via Zoom

- Friday, October 7:
 - No meetings scheduled

**COVID-19 Weekly Reports are posted at www.oak-park.us/covid19
just click on the *Status report bulletin* heading**

In-person Village Board meetings –Plans are being finalized for the Village Board to return to in-person meetings starting Oct. 10. Village Board meetings will be held in the Council Chamber at Village Hall and open to the public. A hybrid meeting option will also be available via Zoom to facilitate public comments, remote speaker presentations and any other participant who needs to attend a meeting remotely. Additionally, Village Board meetings will continue to be streamed live at www.oak-park.us/boardtv and cablecast on VOP-TV, which is available to Comcast subscribers on channel 6 and ATT Uverse subscribers on channel 99. A memo outlining details about the return to in-person meetings is posted on the Village website at www.oak-park.us/memos.

CRC selects grant recipients – After careful consideration, the Community Relations Commission awarded grant funding to 10 upcoming projects that further the commission's goal of fostering community engagement. The CRC launched its small grants program this year to distribute \$10,000 among organizations and groups that lead community programming involving issues related to diversity, equity and inclusion. The CRC received a total of 25 applications, underscoring the depth of community engagement work being done across Oak Park. This year's grant recipients are Kinfolk CoLab (\$1,500), ROYAL (\$1,200), One Earth Collective (\$1,200), Race Conscious Dialogues (\$1,000), Juanta Griffin Uniquely You Tea Party (\$1,000), The Collectivist (\$1,000), Ofrenda De Dia De Muertos (\$1,000), Harambee Kuumba Kids (\$1,000), Pan Asian Alliance (\$600) and Food Aid (\$500).

New public art installments – Several new public art displays have been or will soon be installed at various planned developments around the Village. The new American House senior living development at 703 Madison St. recently installed a [new sculpture](#) near the northeast corner of the property. A [new mural](#) was recently completed along the Humphrey Avenue side of the Oak Park Edge apartment complex located at 6031-6035 North Ave. Meanwhile, the District House development at 147 N. Euclid is obtaining permits for the installation of an interactive, movable sculpture to be located in the Euclid Avenue right of way. [Click here](#) to view an artists' rendering of the interactive sculpture.

Planned development application hearing – The Plan Commission will conduct a public hearing next Thurs., Oct. 6 on a planned development application for a five-story, 24-unit multi-family cohousing building at 839 Madison St. The proposed development would be located in the MS-Madison Street Zoning District. The applicant is seeking an allowance to build to a height of 58 feet 3 inches, which is taller than the 50 feet allowed in the Village's zoning ordinance.

National Fallen Firefighter Memorial – The Oak Park Fire Department plans to light its headquarters in red from Oct. 2-9 to honor fallen firefighters who have died in the line of duty this past year. The nationwide initiative is part of the annual National Fallen Firefighter Memorial commemoration. More information about the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation is available at www.firehero.org.

Flu vaccination encouraged – As the flu season approaches, local public health officials are reminding residents that shots are recommended for everyone older than six months. Flu vaccine is offered at numerous commercial pharmacies, grocery stores and other retail sites in the Oak Park area. Most of these sites accept private insurance and Medicare Part B to help cover the cost of the flu shot. Many sites will vaccinate children as young as 18 months. Residents can email health@oak-park.us or call 708.358.5480 with questions about access to an affordable flu shot. For more information from the CDC about the flu vaccine and preventing seasonal flu, visit www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent.

Community survey process begins – Surveys will begin arriving as soon as this weekend in the mailboxes of Oak Parkers selected at random to help the Village gauge citizen views on a wide range of community aspects and issues. The survey is conducted by Polco (formerly the National Research Center), a social science research firm that specializes in gathering and analyzing information for public sector entities. The National Research Center assisted the Village with surveys in 2000, 2004, 2008, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019, standardizing questions for accurate comparisons of findings over the years. New this year will be an opportunity for the entire community to weigh in as part of an open participation window that will begin about four weeks after the random sample surveys are mailed. More information and a link to past surveys is available at www.oak-park.us/2022communitysurvey.

Sewer improvement project – Crews continued to move toward completion of sewer improvement projects in progress across the Village. On Thomas Street, work is now complete in the intersection at Linden Avenue and the final structure is being installed at Grove Avenue. Next week's work will include curb and sidewalk replacements and the start

of pavement removal along Thomas Street. Residents impacted by the work will receive parking passes in the mail. On Lenox Street, a majority of barricades have been removed and general clean-up is underway. On Kenilworth Avenue, the detour between Lake and Ontario streets has been removed.

Street resurfacing project – This week the contractor completed placement of the binder course on the 400 block of S. Taylor Avenue and the 600 block of N. Euclid Ave. Excavation is also underway on the 500 block of N. Euclid Ave., which will be fully reconstructed. Crews also replaced concrete curb and sidewalk at select locations this past week.

Miscellaneous construction updates – Underground utility and electrical work associated with the project at Pleasant and Marion streets is ongoing and crews are working on sealing and waterproofing the joints for the precast structures. The excavator on site is hauling off material and prepping for the future garage and maisonette units. Meanwhile, installation of the underground detention system at the Pete's Fresh Market development on Madison Street is wrapping up, with additional materials for the project expected to begin arriving this Sat., Oct. 1.