



## Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Justin Ray

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### October 2015 - Updates, Updates and More Updates

Hello Neighbors, Residents and Friends,

This has been a busy time for the Jersey Village city government. The past several weeks saw us meeting and discussing a wide array of topics from flood control, the budget and the comprehensive plan. I typically structure the Mayor's newsletter around a singular topic, but so much is going on I thought the neighborhood would benefit from an update on multiple topics.

First off, there are more updates on flood control. Mayor Pro-Tem Sheri Sheppard, City Manager Mike Castro and myself met with officials from the Harris County Flood Control District. As I have previously written, flooding is a significant issue and it is important that Jersey Village maintain a strong working relationship with HCFCD and other local officials. In the course of the meeting we reviewed the flood control improvements thus far, the remaining work to be performed and the flood map revision process. HCFCD officials reaffirmed that a significant amount of work has been completed on the White Oak Bayou basin. We have already seen the benefits of these improvements during the last round of significant rain events. There is still more work to be completed which will widen and deepen parts of the bayou, further mitigating flooding. This will take place over the next several years and once all improvements are completed, the reduction in surface water elevations will be 2.9 to 4.0 ft. for a 10 year storm and 0.3 to 1.8 ft. for a 100 year storm. Additionally HCFCD will be undertaking the process of revising the flood maps through the LOMR (Letter of Map Revision) process. This is a multi-year process that is expected to remove numerous properties out of the worst flood zones. We will continue to work with and maintain a relationship with our local authorities on these issues and keep the neighborhood informed of developments.

City Council and staff have also continued to work on developing our comprehensive plan. As I have written about before, the comprehensive plan will be a visionary guideline for current and future city governments. It will deal with items such as community character, economic development and city facilities among others. At the most recent meeting Council and staff discussed and prioritized additional items including conducting a study to review street access into Jersey Village. The other prioritized item is to develop a plan to promote and improve golf course facilities and operations. Council and staff will have several more meetings over the next months to continue to develop and implement this important community plan.

On the community activity side of things, the city held its annual ice cream social complete with hip food trucks. The turnout was fantastic and several more similar community events will take place in the fall and winter. In the spirit of continued community engagement, I hope everyone attended a National Night Out gathering on October 6 while rooting on the Wild Card Astros.

Up to now, I have been the last person to embrace social media and I have finally caved to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Find me on Facebook by searching for "Justin Ray Jersey Village"

Until then, All the Best,

Justin Ray, Mayor, Jersey Village, Texas