



March Council Actions

APRIL 2004

March 15, 2004 City Council Meeting Summary:

- Approved the Minutes of the February 16, 2004 sessions.
- Approved Resolution No. 04-1 supporting the Keep Texas Beautiful, Inc. organization in the City of Jersey Village and establishing a Keep Jersey Village Beautiful Committee.
- Approved Ordinance No. 04-06 amending the City's comprehensive zoning ordinance to require minimum setbacks for non-residential buildings; providing for severability; and providing for repeal.
- Accepted the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and management letter from Null Lairson
- Approved Ordinance No. 04-05 amending the budget for fiscal year 2003-2004 relating to wireless communications systems, donation account transfers for Emergency Services, replacement of air conditioning system for the club house at Jersey Meadow Golf Course and onsite software training.
- Called for a joint public hearing with the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding an amendment to the zoning regulations in Section 14-88(19)a relating to screening requirements for non-residential lots abutting residential lots to be held April 19, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.
- Adopted a resolution to participate in an interlocal agreement with Region IV Educational Service Center which sponsors the Texas Cooperative Purchasing Network providing for a cooperative purchasing program for goods and services.
- Approved a contract with Myles Bowman for tournament sales at Jersey Meadow Golf Course.

Carol Fox Park Update

Survey Results

Since the original Carol Fox Park was built through a tremendous community effort, the Parks and Landscape Committee and the original park committee worked together to survey the community about their ideas regarding the park. The results were somewhat inconclusive, but informative. Citizens provided information about splinters, sand surface,

favorite equipment, least favorite equipment, and many other important issues. These results will be taken into consideration when making park plans.



Renovation Plans

Renovation plans are currently underway for the playground

Upcoming Events

April 5 - Monday with the Mayor

April 9 - City Offices Closed

April 14 - Charter Review Commission Meeting, 7 p.m.

April 19 - City Council Meeting, Civic Center Auditorium, 7 p.m.

April 28 - Charter Review Commission Meeting, 7 p.m.

Capital Improvements

Each year, the City of Jersey Village allocates funds for upgrading the infrastructure that sustains our community. Our Public Works Department reports on the progress of these efforts at the monthly Council Meeting, and the STAR will include this update as a regular feature.



TASK/PROJECT	COMPLETION		COMMENTS
	DESIGN	CONST.	
Lakeview Water-Honolulu to WOB	100%	100%	Contractor has requested a final inspection.
Lakeview Paving- Honolulu to WOB	100%	95%	Preparing a change order to the contract for stripping and sidewalk repairs.
Fire Station project	100%	100%	Complete. To be removed from the list next month.
Repaint Elevated Storage #1	100%	75%	The Contractor will be removing and repainting the existing City logo in the correct location and painting the Falcon logo weather permitting.
Castlebridge Street Connection	100%	90%	Slope paving and street surface paving are complete.
30-inch Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation	100%	95%	All sections completed. Preparing a change order to televise additional sections of sanitary sewer lines.
Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation	100%	100%	Contractor has completed all sections.
Philippine Lift Station	0%	0%	This will be change order as recommended by the City Engineer..
Jersey Drive - Paving	100%	0%	Paving scheduled to begin in April 2004.
Jersey Drive - Utility	100%	90%	Contractor is working on the water line crossing at Senate Drive.
Lakeview II - Paving	100%	45%	Completed paving on the south side of Lakeview and the north side of Lakeview between City Hall and Carlsbad.
Lakeview II - Utility	100%	10%	Begin construction of water line March 1, weather permitting.
White Oak Bayou Trail	80%	0%	Preliminary plans for the hike and bike trails have been received and are being reviewed.

TIPS TO BE FIT

By the time you leave high school, you have established all the bone mineral density you'll ever have—unless you strength train. Weight training can increase spinal bone mineral density by 10 percent within a six-month period. So strength training is a prevailing tool against osteoporosis.

Remember endurance first, speed later when beginning a running program. You can pick up much of your speed not by training fast but by increasing your staying power.



Keep Texas Beautiful

Gardening Trends for 2004

Simple is chic again both in terms of maintenance and the use of color. One color is easier to visualize and work into the garden. Plant masses of color – buy a dozen of one plant rather than pairs of a dozen plants. Sweeps of color are more effective from a distance. A single sweep of color is soothing in a hectic environment. Plants that are water wise reduce maintenance.

Choice of color is important – red is exciting, an all white garden is elegant, blue is healing, and pink creates a soothing cheerful look. Blocks of similar colors such as lavenders, pinks, whites and blues create a sense of harmony and peace.



The chemical revolution is out. Compost is in. Adding humus, peat moss, compost and organic fertilizer builds a

more environmentally friendly condition for plants to thrive in, rather than monthly feedings of chemical fertilizer – and saves time, too. Adding a layer of newspaper (3 or 4 sheets thick) before topping with mulch creates a weed barrier and sets up a friendly environment for earthworms to flourish – their castings are an added bonus. Healthy soil promotes healthy plants that are more immune to pests and disease.

City leaders across the country are recognizing that green promotes a positive image and is good for the economy of a region. The green revolution is definitely in. Large expanses of concrete are out – both in terms of aesthetics as well as environmentally. Trees and plants cool the atmosphere in a city and absorb more runoff water during heavy rains, reducing flooding, as well as soothe the psyche and create a sense of peace and harmony. Retention ponds that feature moving water are aesthetically pleasing while helping to reduce West Nile virus (mosquitoes do not like moving water). Walking paths with aesthetic lighting further create an ambience while the retention ponds reduce flooding during torrential rains. The Parks and Landscape Committee and Keep Jersey Village Beautiful are groups working to beautify Jersey Village.

You can help, too in several ways. First, by keeping the front of your home or business neatly kept – weed and litter free and encouraging your neighbors when they make efforts to keep their property attractive. For information on Adopt-A-Spot, Adopt-A-Highway, and Adopt-A-Park you can contact Keep Jersey Village Beautiful through Rod Hainey at rhainey@ci.jersey-village.tx.us. Either Rod Hainey, Public Works Director for the City of Jersey Village; Bet Jennings, Chairman of Keep Jersey Village Beautiful; or Joyce Berube, Vice-Chairman of KJVB, will furnish you information on those programs. Who Keeps Texas Beautiful? You do! Who Keeps Jersey Village Beautiful? You do! Let's all do our part to make this one of the cleanest, most beautiful cities in the state.

Flood Insurance for Jersey Village

The City of Jersey Village has received word that the new FIMA flood maps for Harris County, including Jersey Village, will be taking effect next year. When they become official in 8 to 12 months, these maps will define the flood insurance rates. It is the City's understanding that property owners of already owning flood insurance will be grandfathered in when the flood insurance rates change. It is currently not known how the new flood map will affect Jersey Village. The City recommends that everyone in Jersey Village acquire flood insurance before the rates change.

Baby and Pet Sitters Wanted

It is time to update the City of Jersey Village Baby and Pet sitters list. If you or someone you know is interested in having their name published in the Jersey Village Star as a trustworthy baby or pet sitter for the community, now is the chance to do it. Please turn in your name, phone number, and specialty to City Hall. If faxing the name is easier for you, please send it to 713-466-2177. All requests must be written and signed. The deadline for turning names in is April 15, 2004. The list will be printed in the May 2004 issue of the Star.



Volunteers Wanted

The City of Jersey Village is in need of volunteers to serve on City boards, commissions, and committees. If you are interested in helping the city please contact the City Secretary's office at 713-466-2102 or by e-mail at dloesch@ci.jersey-village.tx.us.

Summer is Coming!

Starting May 8, 2004 the Jersey Village pool will be open on the weekends.

2004 Pool Schedule

May

Sat 9am to 9pm and Sun 1pm to 9pm

June

Tues-Fri 11 am to 9pm
Sat 9am to 9pm
Sun 1 pm to 9pm

July

Tues-Fri 9am to 9pm
Sat 9am to 9pm
Sun 1pm to 9pm

Aug

Aug 1 - Aug 7 10 am to 9 pm
Aug 8 12 pm to 8pm
Starting Aug 11
Tues-Fri 4pm to 9pm
Sat 9am to 9pm
Sun 1pm to 9pm



On days of swim meets the pool will open 1.5 hours after completion of the meet.

Last day the pool will be open is Monday, Sept 6th 10 am to 8 pm.

Don't forget to purchase your family pool pass, \$50.00 for residents, available at City Hall.

Gotcha! Don't Mess With Texas

How to Report a Person who Litters

Did you see that? That man threw a cigarette out the car window! That woman threw out a soda can! So what can you do about it? Report litter violators through the Texas Department of Transportation's GOTCHA! Program.

The GOTCHA! Program allows Texans to report any litterers they observe tossing things out of their vehicles or accidentally littering from an uncovered load.

It's simple. All you need to do is write down a few things about the incident. You need the license plate number (Texas plates only), make of the vehicle, time of day, location, date, who (driver, passenger, or accidental) tossed the trash item littered.

After you've rounded up a handful of these pesky litter violators, you can submit the form online at <http://www.dontmesswithtexas.org/gotcha.php> !

When TXDOT receives the information, it is compared to the vehicle database and an exact match is located. A letter is mailed to the litterer along with a Don't Mess With Texas litterbag to remind them to put their trash where it belongs!



Sandy's Corner

Cell Phone Safety

By: Officer S. Joachim

***How much does your collision risk increase when you use a cell phone while driving?

***What percent of cell phone related crashes are due to incoming calls?

***Hands-free devices do not substantially reduce the risks involved with cell phone use while driving. True or False

***Using a cell phone while driving gives you about the same odds of having an accident as driving legally drunk. True or False
(1. 400% 2. 42% 3. True 4. True)

Did any of the answers make you stop and think about using a cell phone while driving? They should. Using a cell phone while driving is risky behavior. Drivers on the phone do not pay as much attention to their speed and lane maintenance as drivers that are aware of their surroundings. Everyone knows that driving while using a cell phone is dangerous, yet cell phones are used by more drivers everyday and maybe by you.

The use of cellular phones has skyrocketed in recent years, with more than 117 million subscribers in the United States as of July 1, 2001. Estimates suggest that cell phone users spend 60% of their cell phone time while driving.

Distracted driving—including the use of cell phones—is a major contributor to automobile crashes. Between 4,000 and 8,000 crashes related to distracted driving occur daily in the United States. In a year, they contribute to as many as one-half of the 6 million U.S. crashes reported annually. Most of us have been behind

someone who is driving erratically as they try to use their cell phone. They weave and wander, fight to stay in their lane, and almost lose control of their vehicle...made all the more terrifying by the sight of a young child seated in the back of the wayward vehicle. Obviously, drivers are distracted when they take their hands off the wheel or their eyes off the road. Drivers can be distracted talking on the phone or eating a sandwich in the car.

Why are handheld cell phones at the heart of the debate? Handheld cell phones are readily visible to other drivers. When people chance upon a distracted driver and notice a cell phone, they naturally blame the phone. Most drivers are frustrated when they see inconsiderate, inattentive drivers talking on cell phones.

Hands-free? Hands-free phones are not risk-free. The hands-free feature is simply a convenience. It does not increase safety. Contrary to popular belief, studies show that hands-free cellular phones distract drivers the same as handheld phones. The conversation distracts the driver—not the device. In one study, drivers were given simple concentration exercises to perform while driving. None required drivers to remove their eyes from the road. However, performing the exercises significantly diminished the drivers' ability to drive. Specific changes in driving behavior included tunnel vision, decreased road



scanning and decreased use of rear-view mirrors. Drivers also reduced their speed when performing the exercises.

AAA recommends drivers not use their cell phone while driving. If using a phone is necessary, drivers should follow these safety tips:

*Recognize that driving requires your full attention.

*Before you get behind the wheel, familiarize yourself with the features of your cell phone.

*Use your cell phone only if it is absolutely necessary.

*If you must use your phone, do so at a safe time and place.

*Ask a passenger in the car to place the call for you and, if possible, speak in your place.

*Position your phone within easy reach.

*Plan your conversation in advance and keep it short.

*Avoid emotional or complex phone calls.

*Inform the person you're calling that you are speaking from the car.

*Hang up the phone as soon as possible, especially in heavy traffic and hazardous weather conditions.

*Do not take notes or look up phone numbers while driving.

*Secure your phone in the car so that it doesn't become a projectile in a crash.

Cellular phone use while driving can be hazardous to your wellbeing. As always, use caution and make conservative driving decisions. It could save your life.

(Update Continued) equipment at Carol Fox Park. The Parks & Landscape Committee has met with the original park committee several times to discuss plans for the park. In keeping with the original style of the park, the committee is currently considering keeping the same design of the sandbox, but rebuilding it with a more durable product, and replacing Calvin's Cruiser with a new ship design. Current plans include replacing the tire swing, the playhouses, and large play structure with similar, but more durable and updated products that fit with the original style of the park. The committee has consulted

several playground equipment companies to study durability, style and cost.

Public Forum

After meeting with several playground companies, the Parks & Landscape Committee has planned a **public forum in the upcoming months**. During the public forum, the committee will present background information, current progress, possible equipment



options with illustrations, and ask for public input on specific play equipment. All citizens, both adults and children, are encouraged to attend.

It is the committee's desire to make a great park even better and to have the community become involved and provide input about the future of Carol Fox Park. All interested citizens are welcome to attend the upcoming park meetings. Please contact the city at 713-466-2133 for more information.

February 2004 Statistics

JV Police Department

Calls for Service	358
Vehicle Theft	6
Aggravated Assault	0
Burglary, business	2
Burglary, residence	1
Burglary, vehicle	6
Disturbance	36
Narcotics, felony	2
Minor accidents	49
Major accidents	5
Alarms	48
Suspicious person	46
Traffic control	2
Traffic hazard	15

JV Emergency Services

Building Fires	5
Auto Fires	0
Other Fires	1
Rescue/EMS incidents	41
Hazardous Conditions	5
Service Calls	2
Smoke or odor calls	1
False alarms/cancelled enroute	14
Total Ambulance Transports	25

Jersey Village Mens Softball League

If Roger Clemens can come out of retirement, you can too. The Jersey Village men's softball league needs players. Games start the first week in June. New teams are currently forming and to be eligible, you must be at least 18 years old and live in a home in Jersey Village. Call John Singletary at (713)466-7413.

Jersey Village Garden Club

Tuesday, April 13, 2004, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. at the Jersey Village Civic Center, 16327 Lakeview Drive, Jersey Village, TX. Free. Annual Horticulture and Artistic Design Show. Public and members are invited to vote for best exhibits. Winners are announced at 2:30 p.m. Questions call: 832-237-1536 or 832-243-0909.



Spring Cheer Clinic 2004

Presented by the Jersey Village High School Cheerleaders

Date: Saturday, May 8th
When: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Where: Jersey Village High School
Who: Kids from Kindergarten to 9th grade

- * Includes lunch, a t-shirt, and fun activities for \$33.00
- * Learn cheers, chants, jumps, and make crafts
- * Registration forms are available at area school offices, day cares, and at the JVHS front office. Late registration is possible at the door for \$35.00.



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Visit online: www.jerseyvillage.info