

## Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

## Written by Mayor Justin Ray

<u>jray@ci.jersey-village.tx.us</u>
Mayors Newsletter January 2019

What Does 2019 Have in Store for Jersey Village?

Hello Neighbors, Residents and Friends

Happy New Year from the Jersey Village Executive Mansion. I trust everyone survived the holidays and are tackling 2019 with New Year's resolutions in hand. The City of Jersey Village will do much of the same this year with ambitious plans that will make 2019 the busiest year in JV since Clark Henry paved the first residential streets 60 years ago. 2019 will also mark the conclusion of my tenure in elected office in Jersey Village due to term limits. It has been a tremendously rewarding seven years and I am committed to spending these last five months in office laying down the groundwork for an amazing future in JV.

2019 will see more budget analysis and planning sessions by City Council than in any previous year. Starting this month, City Council and Staff will take a far reaching look at the infrastructure and capital needs of the community. Important items such as continued street rehabilitation and City facilities will be evaluated in conjunction with preferred funding methods. The City will weigh the benefits of funding projects with cash versus debt and what the City's policy regarding cash reserves should be. In light of the capital project needs of the community, we will also take a look at raising the City's homestead exemption for Jersey Village homeowners. Fortunately, our City is in a strong and enviable financial positon which allows us to plan for these important projects.

Last month, I was invited along with representatives from Harris County to a citizen town hall to address flood mitigation. Much of the discussion involved a status and update of the City's flood mitigation projects. 2019 will be the year flood mitigation projects in Jersey Village get kicked off. One of the cornerstone projects, the Golf Course berm and Wall St. corridor street improvements are slated for a final design this spring with construction to begin in the fall. These projects along with home elevations and County bayou improvements will provide critical flood protection for many residents in Jersey Village.

A theme I touted during my tenure on City Council is the need for economic development and harnessing our prime location and upward trajectory. 2019 will be pivotal year in the future economy of the City. Freeway construction completion will bring needed relief to businesses along the 290 corridor and in the City limits. The City will embark on a new golf course convention center and clubhouse which along with an aggressive marketing plan will drive business and revenue to Jersey Meadows. I am most excited about what 2019 holds for the Jones Road development. The City has been regularly meeting with developers over the previous months to iron out the details of what will be a signature location for our community. I look forward to sharing the exciting news of this landmark development in Jersey Village.

In previous January newsletters, I remarked about the status and condition of our community. As in previous years, our community remains strong, our citizens remain engaged and our future is assuredly bright.

All the Best,

**Justin Ray** 

Mayor

Jersey Village, Texas