

Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Andrew Mitcham <u>amitcham@jerseyvillagetx.com</u> Mayors Newsletter March 2020

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

I want to officially welcome our new police chief, Kirk Riggs, to the Jersey Village family. Chief Riggs joins us from Rockwall, Texas where he served honorably as that city's chief. Jersey Village continues to place public safety as a top priority and I'm glad we have a leader in place who understands just how important the safety and security of our citizens and businesses are. As I mentioned in my last newsletter, City Council has increased spending on public safety drastically since 2015—51% in the Police Department and 31% in the Fire Department. Continued investment in quality staff, training, and equipment has kept our neighborhood noticeably safer compared to our surrounding area. This will be an ongoing challenge for many years to come as the northwest Harris County region continues to experience a population surge. Best of luck to Chief Riggs and all the brave men and women of our police department!

I also want to highlight a couple of opportunities for citizen participation in planning the direction of our city. First, City Council authorized the implementation of a Parks Master Plan to help ensure the needs and desires of citizens are incorporated into future park improvements. There will be several town halls and public comment opportunities throughout the process. Please be sure to follow the City's social media accounts and/or sign up for the City's email notification list to receive updates once those events are scheduled.

Secondly, the Comprehensive Plan, which was formally adopted in 2016, is due for an update. A committee will be formed to review the Plan and recommend updates to the goals and priorities. We are looking for 7 people to join this update committee. If you are interested in serving on this Committee, a copy of the city's Board Application Form is available on the city's web site (www.jerseyvillagetx.com). From the home page, go to the City Secretary link under the "Department" banner. Alternately, you may contact the City Secretary at (713) 466-2102 with your questions. Due to the importance of this committee's purpose, interested applicants will be asked to give a brief presentation to Councilmembers on May 11, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers and donates their valuable time to make sure our community functions smoothly!

Best Wishes,

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Andrew Mitcham Mayor Jersey Village