

MAYOR'S NEWLETTER
JANUARY 2009

Jersey Village Vision

One thing I already knew is that there are plenty of opinions in this community. So when I asked for residents to respond to my question, "What is your vision for Jersey Village?" I should have expected that I would get a few answers. In truth, I received more than a few responses to my question and most of the responses were very specific in nature leading me to think that, in general, most residents are satisfied with the way things are in our city. Jersey Village is a nice community that people are happy to call home.

Most people who have left Jersey Village have done so because their circumstances have changed rather than any dissatisfaction with the community. Everyone I have known or spoken with moved for reasons such as a new job or a career change, a desire to move to the country or back into the inner city, retirement, divorce or children leaving home. I have not met anyone who moved away from Jersey Village because they did not like it here, which tells me we are doing something right.

From this point on, I will let the citizens write the remainder of this newsletter. I have taken the liberty of putting these "visions" into categories.

Visual Beautification

- Beautification program for the residential mailboxes. So many are in need of repair and some are an eyesore! This makes the neighborhood seem "rundown."
- Some homes in JV need maintenance.
- What I would love to see here in our home town is a beautiful entrance into our neighborhood. Of all the entrances into Jersey Village, there is not one really breath-taking entrance.
- We have too many eyesores that are connected to our entrances. Car dealerships - convenience stores - etc.
- ...know that every structure I see in the Village is a sound and livable structure according to Jersey Village Codes & Standards
- having stricter code enforcement
- It's great to have a vision of beauty for the neighborhood
- (Residents should) invest in their yards and home's appearance and participate in the neighborhood.

Quality of Investment

- Address the issue of rental properties springing up on my street and the impact it is having on our neighborhood.
- Know that the Village is not only a quality environment to live in but also an excellent investment.
- Hold rental property to a higher standard in the upcoming years.

Develop the Parks

- Some sort of hike/bike trail/park system developed. We have a couple of natural bayous that go through JV that could be developed with little effort. We also have Clark Henry Park that could anchor at one end of the village. At the other end we have the water retention area that could anchor that end.
- Pass a law like the city of Austin has or an ordinance like The Woodlands has that prohibits the cutting down of trees without a permit
- Planting as many trees as possible
- Expanding our parks and trails, creating duck ponds for ALL RESIDENTS to enjoy

Develop Commercial areas

- With a little more effort it would be easy to tie our commercial area to the system and perhaps encourage more development.

Community Spirit

- My vision is for JV to be the top area in Houston.
- A neighborhood where neighbors come together during hard times (like Hurricane Ike) & support each other.
- No one likes taxes but they are part of life
- Safest neighborhood in Houston
- Pursue having the "JV Train Station" and having it accessible by foot.
- Continue to make sure our Police Department is top notch
- Cultivate relationships within our neighborhood, especially during circumstances which were out of our control.
- Make sure the entire Village receives the same attention and commitment to a quality of life that is the "Vision".

TREE PLANTING DAY

Due to the committed efforts of several residents, Jersey Village is working with the non-profit organization, Trees for Houston, to help with beautification efforts around the city. A work day is scheduled for Saturday, January 31 beginning at 9 AM to plant trees on city property around Clark Henry Park. This is a great opportunity to work along side your friends and neighbors in service to the community so bring your work gloves and tools and be a part of this project.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carol M. Hamby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial 'C' and 'M'.