



---

# CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS

16501 Jersey Drive Jersey Village, TX 77040  
713-466-2108

---

## MAYOR'S LETTER DECEMBER 2011

### READY OR NOT HERE IT COMES

One of the only complaints I have about living in Jersey Village is that the shortest way to my office in Greenway Plaza is via Highway 29

0. Unfortunately, that is not always the quickest way. When I moved my family here in 1992, 290 was the best freeway in town; in the last few years, it has become the worst freeway in town. I have heard about 290 traffic relief in many different forms: Hempstead Toll Road, 290 expansion, Hempstead upgrades, commuter rail, expanded Park & Rides. While all of those ideas would be helpful, none of them had any immediate funding. The total package was estimated at \$4.6 Billion. The vision as stated in the website <http://my290.com> is:

- Freeway capacity reconstruction and widening from IH 610 to FM 2920 to create:
- Five general-purpose lanes in each direction from IH 610 to just west of Beltway 8, plus auxiliary lanes where appropriate
- Four general-purpose lanes in each direction from just west of Beltway 8 to near the proposed SH 99/Grand Parkway, plus auxiliary lanes
- Three general-purpose lanes in each direction from near the proposed SH 99/Grand Parkway to the west study limit, plus auxiliary lanes
- Two- or three-lane frontage roads in each direction throughout the corridor
- A four-lane, two-way managed lanes facility along Hempstead Tollway from IH 610 to the proposed SH 99/Grand Parkway
- Two general-purpose lanes (possibly three) with curb and gutter in each direction to be reconstructed along Hempstead Highway from IH 610 to Beltway 8
- US 290 METRO HOV operations moved to the Hempstead managed lanes
- Proposed high-capacity transit corridor located along Hempstead Tollway
- Bicycle and pedestrian improvements

Finally funding is happening and work on the project was started at the 290/610 interchange. I was under the impression that the project would start at the east end and progress west. That schedule would have construction in Jersey Village several years from now. We were recently informed, however, that the next phase of the 290 construction will be in Jersey Village and it will be happening very quickly. All of a sudden, there is a lot of work to do.

The eventual completed project will be great for Jersey Village. However, as we all know construction is dirty and messy. The expanded freeway will impact the city in many negative ways: increased noise pollution, increased drainage problems, loss of revenue of condemned properties and loss of retail outlets along the right of way.

I have initiated discussions with several Memorial Village mayors who experienced similar issues along the Katy Freeway in recent years. I have scheduled meetings with Congressman John Culberson and TxDOT, and will discuss the construction with other influential state representatives and our State Senator, Dan Patrick.

City Council has made preparations to protect the city's interest, to protect our properties and to minimize the negative impact of the highway expansion.

The most powerful voice in all governmental decisions, however, is the voice of the citizens. This was demonstrated when a large group of Jersey Village residents led by Mark Maloy persuaded the Harris

County Toll Road Authority to resurface the toll road with sound reducing asphalt. I encourage you to find out about the 290 construction and get involved to maximize the benefits of this project and minimize the problems encountered along the way.

I will keep you informed as we move along during construction.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays



**★ Council Action Report – Regular Session Meeting – November 21, 2011**

<b>ORDINANCE, RESOLUTION, OR ACTION ITEM</b>	<b>PASS/FAIL</b>
1. Consider approval of the Minutes for the Regular Session Meeting held on October 17, 2011 and the Special Session Meeting held on November 1, 2011.	<b>APPROVED</b>
2. Consider Resolution No. 2011-63, casting its ballot for the election of Ed Heathcott to the Board of Directors of the Harris County Appraisal District.	<b>PASSED</b>
3. Consider Resolution No. 2011-64, authorizing an agreement with Jones and Carter, Inc. for engineering services relating to the Storm Water Management Program.	<b>PASSED</b>
4. Consider Ordinance No. 2011-49, approving additional software and installation purchases for the CJIS Authentication Requirements Supplemental and amending the budget for fiscal year October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012, in the amount not to exceed \$10,000 to provide for these additional software and installation purchases.	<b>PASSED</b>
5. Consider Resolution No. 2011-65, adding that section of Acapulco Drive from Lakeview east to Carlsbad to the selection of streets for Phase 3 of the City of Jersey Village Street Rehabilitation Program, and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Brooks & Sparks, Inc. for the related engineering services associated with this street addition.	<b>PASSED</b>
6. Consider Resolution No. 2011-66, authorizing the City Manager to submit a letter to the Comptroller of Public Accounts detailing the City’s legal authority to exercise the power of eminent domain, as required by Senate Bill 18 enacted by the 82 <sup>nd</sup> Legislature.	<b>PASSED</b>
7. Consider Resolution No. 2011-67, appointing members to the unexpired terms that began October 1, 2010 and will end September 30, 2012 for Place 4 and Alternate, Place 2 on the Board of Adjustment.	<b>PASSED</b>
8. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding city efforts to mitigate the effects of U.S. 290 expansion project.	<b>DISCUSSED</b>
9. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Deliberate the appointment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of the Presiding Municipal Court Judge and the Municipal Court Judges of the City of Jersey Village, pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act Section 551.074.	<b>N/A</b>
10. Consider Resolution No. 2011-68, appointing the Presiding Municipal Court Judge and the Municipal Court Judges of the City of Jersey Village for the term beginning January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2013.	<b>FAILED/NO MOTION</b>