



# Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Andrew Mitcham

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Mayors Newsletter July 2020

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

I hope you all had a fun 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. The Mitcham family enjoyed the parade and seeing everyone's smiling faces and patriotic displays. I want to thank all the city staff and volunteers who helped coordinate the parade this year. We added an extra "return" route to allow everyone to spread out and I'm thankful our coordinators were able to make that happen. I'm reminded that our city went without a 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade for quite a long time until a small group of JV families decided to hold a simple wagon parade a few years ago, which then evolved into a revitalized city-sponsored parade. There are many other examples of citizens banding together behind an idea and making new traditions for our city (JV Lights, Farmer's Market, etc.) and I love it!

Like most others, this pandemic has forced my family and I to stay home quite a bit. And, like many others, we enjoy evening walks, bike rides, and golf cart rides around the city to shake off the confinement monotony. After City Council's adoption of golf cart regulations last month, we bought a golf cart, so we drive around making our own "tour of homes" comprised of random streets in the neighborhood, and getting ideas for all the things we want to do to our own home as we plan renovations. Jersey Village is truly a beautiful, unique treasure in our quadrant of the metro area.

I tend to point out where my friends used to live growing up. We drove around the high school where my wife and I both went back in the late '90s/early 2000's and marvel at how much bigger that building is since we were last there. My daughters don't listen to my blabbering and instead like to count how many rabbits they can spot (last night they spotted 17).

As Council heads into another budget workshop in a couple of weeks, we are focused heavily on the reality of our economy and sources of revenue. Some projects will be delayed until a more stable, predictable revenue base can be realized. But we will never compromise on the core principles that make our city so great—public safety, infrastructure, and our small-town character. Please keep your eye on the city website for a draft version of the upcoming budget, take a look through the proposals, and give us your feedback. We have the luxury of living in a town where emailing your elected leaders results in a constructive conversation. We're all neighbors and taxpayers and want to see the best for our community.

Please continue to stay safe, look out for your neighbors, find opportunities to help, be kind to everyone, and hang in there!

Best Wishes,

Andrew Mitcham

Mayor