



Mayor's Newsletter

September 2023

Mayor Bobby Warren - bwarren@jerseyvillagetx.com

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

While flooding might be the last thing on your mind during this extraordinary drought we're experiencing, it is an issue that our city has been continually working on for the past seven years. We have been fortunate to receive various grants to elevate homes and improve drainage in our city.

Last month the city was informed by FEMA that we were selected to receive home elevation grants totaling over \$9 million. By this time next year, we should have work underway to elevate 28 additional homes in our city thanks to these grants.

Since adoption of the Long-Term Flood Recovery Plan in 2017, Jersey Village has secured over \$24.6 million in federal and state grants for flood mitigation projects. This represents a return on investment of \$39.65 in outside funding for every \$1 of local taxpayer money spent on development of our flood mitigation plan. I am extraordinarily proud of the hard work of our city staff and the support and leadership of our councilmembers past and present to continue pursuing this plan.

Quite a few citizens have expressed concerns and frustration recently with the city's drought contingency plan. During droughts our city staff closely monitors water consumption levels. In the event we hit certain critical usage levels (90% or greater), the city is required by ordinance to implement specific water conservation measures. Near the end of August, our water consumption exceeded 95% of our safe production levels, which required us to implement Phase 2 of our drought contingency plan and limit watering of lawns to just one day a week.

Many objected, noting that the City of Houston allowed residents to water their lawns twice a week. The key difference, however, was the water consumption level – the City of Houston's water consumption was somewhere between 80-90% of their safe production capacity.

Since August 31, reduced water consumption has allowed Jersey Village to relax the conservation measures to Phase 1 of our drought contingency plan, which allows for lawns to be watered twice per week.

I am the first to admit that the city's communication regarding the drought measures has been less than ideal. The city council will be reviewing the drought contingency plan, discussing the feedback we have received from citizens, and identifying ways to improve our response to drought conditions and to improve communication.

Your neighbor,

Bobby Warren
Mayor