



Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Justin Ray

jray@ci.jersey-village.tx.us

January 2017 – State of the City

Hello Neighbors, Residents and Friends,

I described my January 2016 Mayor's Newsletter as a "mini State of the City for Jersey Village." In it, I focused on the Presidential tradition of summing up the current state of the Union such as Ronald Reagan in 1988 proclaiming "tonight, then, we're strong, prosperous, at peace, and we are free. This is the state of our Union." For this Newsletter I chose to focus on State of the Union quotes acknowledging the Nation's struggles and the obligation to continued perseverance.

John F. Kennedy 1963: "In short, both at home and abroad, there may now be a temptation to relax. For the road has been long, the burden heavy, and the pace consistently urgent. But we cannot be satisfied to rest here. This is the side of the hill, not the top. The mere absence of war is not peace. The mere absence of recession is not growth. We have made a beginning—but we have only begun."

Theodore Roosevelt 1902: We may either fall greatly or succeed greatly; but we cannot avoid the endeavor from which either great failure or great success must come. Even if we would, we cannot play a small part. If we should try, all that would follow would be that we should play a large part ignobly and shamefully."

Presidents Roosevelt and Kennedy in their State of the Unions spoke about the unavoidable challenges we faced as a nation and our obligation to meet those challenges head on. Similarly, Jersey Village continues its upward trajectory which we must continue to foster while embracing our challenges.

Our finances in Jersey Village remain strong. The current budget continues to fund municipal activities at its current tax rate while staying in the black. The City also continues to maintain its AA+ bond rating, further indicating fiscal stability. City Departments including Police and Fire are adequately staffed and active. 2017 will also see City Government continuing to pursue economic development and Comprehensive Plan implementation. I look forward to sharing the updates of those activities in future newsletters.

2017 will also present challenges which we will continue to tackle. The City will continue to develop an engineered flood study and prioritize a long term flood mitigation strategy. Additionally, the sustained growth of northwest Harris County will present opportunities and obstacles alike for Jersey Village. The most notable result of this growth being continued Highway 290 disruption to both traffic and sales tax revenue.

I am excited about where we are and where we're going as a community. I look forward to a 2017 of working with neighbors to encourage future progress and confronting challenges together as a community.

All the Best...and Happy New Year!

Justin Ray

Mayor, Jersey Village, Texas

16327 Lakeview Drive Jersey Village, TX 77040
713-466-2102