



Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Justin Ray

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July 2015 - Jersey Village: A Destination Location

Hello Neighbors, Residents and Friends

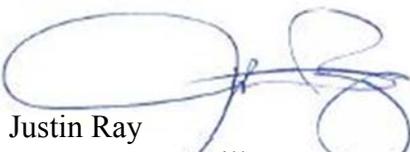
In my first election for City Council in 2012, one of my top talking points involved making Jersey Village a destination location for homebuyers in northwest Harris County. I, like many residents, agreed that Jersey Village has numerous attributes that make this a desirable community. I had the opportunity to communicate those attributes in the upcoming Community Impact Newspaper 2015 Guide to Cy-Fair. In the article I discussed Jersey Village's prime location, city services, golf course, trails, pool, parks, large lots and Cy-Fair schools. It became obvious as I was writing the article that very few, if any, communities in Harris County can offer what Jersey Village can offer homebuyers.

It seems others are starting to take notice and agree that Jersey Village is a destination location. In my discussions with realtors, home values are up and homes are selling in a matter of days after listing. The Houston Chronicle recently ran a story ranking the top suburbs for young professionals. Jersey Village came in 4th and ranked 16th across the state. In the article, Jersey Village's access to restaurants and nightlife as well as affordable homes contributed to its high ranking.¹

There is still much we can do to continue to make Jersey Village a destination location. The Community Impact's May 2015 edition ran an article titled "Older Neighborhoods set sights on making community upgrades". In a story applicable to Jersey Village, the article says that:

Older neighborhoods in Cy-Fair are working to stay competitive in the local real estate market by upgrading older parks, renovating amenities and adding new ones. Steeplechase [is renovating] three of the community's parks [and] is looking at other upgrades, such as monument replacements and recoating tennis courts....Older communities put in the extra effort to maintain high property values as they age and newer neighborhoods continue to grow in other parts of Cy-Fair...Older communities do have the appeal of larger lot sizes and less "cookie cutter" homes on their side...When you run out of space at these older communities [you can't build more], but redoing things and adding pocket parks and keeping the grounds nice keeps the character.²

As an older neighborhood with tremendous attributes and services, we must continue to do the things necessary to make our community a destination location. Our continued efforts with the Comprehensive Plan seeks to put in place recommendations and direction for future City Councils and Staff to continually improve the community. I encourage our neighbors to attend the upcoming public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan and voice your opinion on how we can improve our City and continue to make it a destination location. I expect our efforts will eventually land us the Chronicle's number one spot in the next round of rankings.



Justin Ray
Mayor, Jersey Village, Texas

1. Levin, Matt. "The Best Suburbs for Young Professionals in the Houston Area" *Chron.com*. The Houston Chronicle, 29 May 2015. Web. 28 June 2015.
2. Taylor, Carrie "Older Neighborhoods Set Sights on Making Community Upgrades". *Community Impact Newspaper* 21 May-17 June 2015: 25. Print.