



Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Justin Ray
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July 2016 - Continued Flood Mitigation in Jersey Village

Hello Neighbors, Residents and Friends

I trust everyone had a fun and enjoyable Independence Day. Our family had a blast participating in the JV Stroller Mamas 4th of July parade. The parade was a procession of red, white and blue wagons, bicycles and strollers. It was great celebrating our nation's founding with our Jersey Village neighbors and their families. I want to salute the JV Stroller Mamas for organizing such a fun community event as well as our own JVPD for providing security and judging the decorating contest. I recommend any neighbors with young families to lookup the JV Strollers Mamas Facebook page to participate in these types of fun events.

I would also like to update everyone on the City's flood mitigation activities. As I have written about before, the Jersey Village City Council is prioritizing flood mitigation. Council's focus is to understand the flood conditions in Jersey Village, determine what mitigation strategies are available to the City and develop a plan to implement those strategies. The first step in this process is to develop a comprehensive engineering study. This study will analyze the flood conditions in the City and put forth specific recommendation to reduce the flood impact. The study will be a long term flood recovery plan specifically for Jersey Village and will take into account the individual aspects, community features and capabilities of the community.

At June's meeting, City Council got the ball rolling by approving a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to direct prospective engineering firms' bids to the City. The RFQ, which is available on the City's website, directs the engineering firms on the contents to be contained in the flood recovery plan. The major elements will be (1) Evaluation of Existing Conditions and Data Collection, (2) Solicitation of Citizen Comments and Experiences, (3) Problem Identification, (4) Develop and Identify Solutions, and (5) The Environment Impact of Selected Solutions.

Citizen input was instrumental in the development of the RFQ. A number of neighbors provided recommendations that went into drafting the document. I appreciate their efforts at this initial step and I encourage neighbors to continue proposing ideas and suggestions to City Council. The important tasks associated with developing the engineering study and recovery plan are yet to come. There will be town halls and workshops for citizens to work with City Council, Staff and engineering consultants to draft the plan. I envision once an engineering plan is adopted, citizen involvement will also be critical in the implementation of the strategies developed in the plan. I encourage all of our neighbors to check the City's website for information concerning citizen engagement throughout this process.

All the Best,

Justin Ray, Mayor, Jersey Village, Texas