

## **CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

Greetings to all residents, businesses and visitors of the City of Jurupa Valley,

As we leave 2014 behind, I am pleased by the many accomplishments we as a city were able to attain this past year. Several of the most important items were: the establishment of an Inter-Agency Council where representatives from each public agency serving the City's residents and businesses come together bi-monthly to discuss issues of mutual interest; beginning the renovation of the former Sam's Western Wear into our new future City Hall; conducting a successful City Council election; and beginning our Interim General Plan Process. These are just a few of the many positive things that happened in 2014.

Your City Council has reorganized as follows: Mayor Brad Hancock will be presiding this year, Laura Roughton will serve as Mayor Pro Tem, and Council Members Verne Lauritzen, Frank Johnston, and Brian Berkson make up the full City Council. We look forward to their wisdom and direction in the coming year.

There are many activities that will be occurring during this year and here are just a few highlights of what is to come:

First off would be the upcoming move into our new City Hall at 8930 Limonite Ave. After many months of planning and construction, we will finally all be under one roof to better serve the community. We eagerly await moving day in mid-February and opening the doors to all of you for the first time, exciting to say the least! Mark February 19th on your calendar as the City will be hosting a ribbon cutting and open house for the community prior to the City Council meeting that evening.

As many of you may be aware, the General Plan Outreach workshops are underway as the initial phase of public participation in development of the City's General Plan. The schedule is available on the City's website and all residents, business owners, youth, etc. are highly encouraged to attend and participate in as many of these workshops as possible. This is the initial opportunity to put forth your desires for the future of the City. The formal General Plan Advisory Committee meetings will commence on January 27th and will offer additional opportunities for you to come out and share your ideas for the future of the City of Jurupa Valley. There will be a series of these meetings over the course of the year. Schedules for these meetings will be available soon. Please attend as many workshops and meetings as possible and offer your vision of the future of Jurupa Valley.

We will be moving forward in implementing an aggressive economic development campaign over the course of the year with the focus on business attraction to existing and future commercial/retail centers, and existing business retention. Our economic consulting team has developed a substantial amount of information and data concerning demographics, retail leakage and potential business opportunities in the 1st phase of our process. We are scheduling a special workshop in early March to discuss implementation strategies for these focus areas.

Our annual budget process for next fiscal year which starts July 1st will be a focus of the next several months with special budget workshops being scheduled in April and May prior to the formal budget adoption in June. Check the City's calendar for those dates as we finalize those sessions.

Lastly, the City Council has authorized City staff to plan, organize and schedule a series of Town Hall meetings in the community to allow for information gathering on issues of importance to the community. These sessions will be an informal format to allow for adequate question and answer sessions from the community without the formality of a regular City Council meeting. Look for more information on these Town Hall meetings as they are scheduled.

In conclusion, please be sure to contact City Hall for any questions you have concerning City functions, problems that need addressed, or assistance in activities you are engaged in requiring working with City Hall.

Sincerely,

Gary Thompson  
City Manager