

Friends and Fellow Citizens:

Earlier this morning, I filed for re-election as your mayor.

Two years ago, while running to be your mayor, I promised “*I make things happen.*” Looking back, what has “happened” in Westworth Village during the past 20 months?

- We completed the city’s first-ever comprehensive citywide citizen survey. Utilizing our citizens’ input and responses, we acted upon their high-priority issues:
 - **lowered the speed limit** on our residential streets
 - **adopted a drainage plan requirement** for all new construction
 - funded and began implementation of **additional street lights**
 - instituted new street parking restrictions
 - updated and improved the Burton Hill Elementary crossing signal
- **We have funded and are now planning the first real parks in the city’s history**, with a groundbreaking on January 30th for the family-oriented Melva Campbell Park, with a grand opening anticipated in October
- The city’s **property tax rate is lower**
- **The city’s financial condition continues to improve.** We have outperformed our operational budget, increased our cash reserves, and received a better bond rating, indicative of the investment community’s growing confidence in the city’s financial strength
- Because of this higher bond rating, we refinanced our relatively-low bonded indebtedness, saving our citizens \$360,000 in interest expense over the next decade
- Despite the pandemic, **our sales tax revenue continues to increase**, shifting the burden of operating the city away from our homeowners and property owners
- **Our golf course now operates in the black**, after years of losing money and operating at a deficit
- Just last night, we began a **comprehensive and professional analysis of our long-standing storm water drainage problems**, seeking a long-term implementation plan to at long last address this decades-old problem
- Trying to maintain the city’s current neighborhood integrity, I initiated a “**one lot = one house**” **residential re-zoning to limit residential density**. Although unanimously approved by our planning and zoning commission, city council approval is in doubt

With the able assistance of your city council and our expert city staff, by any objective standard the past 20 months has been an extraordinarily successful time in our city’s history.

Filing for city races ends on February 12th, and I expect to be opposed; however, I intend to run every bit as hard as I did 24 months ago, when I knocked on every door in this city.

With your assistance, I will do everything I can to continue to move this magnificent little city forward.

As always, I appreciate your support, and I look forward to the challenges ahead.

--Mayor Kelly Jones