



CITY OF EAST JORDAN, MICHIGAN

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

MAYOR RUSSELL PECK
TUESDAY OCTOBER 17, 2017

To the Great Citizens of the City of East Jordan...

I am so very honored to have, had the opportunity to serve as your Mayor this past year. It has also been an honor to have served with an amazing team of City Commissioners, City Administrator, a professional City staff, very knowledgeable members of our boards and commissions, Employees, countless volunteers, along with citizens. This team who has worked diligently to give East Jordan the “This is the place I call my home, feeling”

The state of your Great City is - vibrant! Showing, great life, activity and energy which is leading our beautiful City into the future making East Jordan a place - a place to live, work, and enjoy life.

I am pleased, to once again report that the City Staff and City Commission, put together another balanced budget for 2017 – 2018, allowing us the ability to provide better service to you in infrastructure improvements, road repairs, efficiency with monthly utility billing and radio read meters (that has provided for drastic improvement in leak detection), improvements in street appeal (purchasing line painting and street cleaning equipment), improvements and expansion to the recycling facility and construction has now started on the new Wastewater treatment facility that should be in operation as early as next fall.

The DDA is working (along with the Charlevoix County Community foundation and private investors) to improve our downtown areas with new way-finding signage which is almost complete, movement and placement of “Number 6” to the Sportsman’s Park (giving it more visibility), providing newer efficient Christmas lights throughout the downtown, providing a consultant for the planter planting program (giving it a more consistent look throughout) and they continue to coordinate the high speed internet Wi-fi to enhance the downtowns popularity as many people are getting outside biking and walking more.

The Parks Department had a record breaking season based on transient and fuel sales at the Tourist Park & Harbor due to some new & improvements made to recreation equipment. The Mountain Bike trail that is in the works will bring visitors as well as another community asset and the addition of more Recreation Dept. coordinated events have increased opportunities and economic impact, such as Fall Fest, movies and softball leagues. I also want to say that the Parks, Harbor and DPW staff were tremendous and handled all their jobs very professionally – Great Job!

A list of a few future plans for development and prosperity include:

- *Parks and Rec. plan update (adoption)
- *Redevelopment Ready Community (Engaged Process)
- *Boat Launch Study
- * Memorial and Sportsman’s Park planning

Thank you for your service to the East Jordan area provided by the Public Safety personnel from the E. J. Police Department, E.J. Fire Department and Jordan Valley EMS, for doing what they do best, providing for the health, wellbeing, and lives of our community and surrounding area.

To our East Jordan DPW, you guys deserve praise for a job well done, for being at the ready 24 hours a day to handle broken pipes, snow removal, sewer line breaks, special events issues and many more, all that and with a smile and a wave! Thank You Guys, your Community appreciates you!

In conclusion, I just want to say – There goes another year! Kind of neat to look back and see just some of the year’s highlights and success’s. There is a new enthusiasm taking place in our Community that is causing new activity, new energy, new life in East Jordan. Having just attended the Green Light East Jordan program it was very evident that there is also a renewed interest in investing here and those who are interested let me assure you, East Jordan is preparing for you now and into the future. I thank you for providing me the opportunity to present this 2017 State of your City and I look forward as together we continue to position our great community for a progressive, resilient and sustainable future. It’s exciting, energetic, lively, and active in East Jordan -We are Vibrant!

Thank you.

Mayor Russell Peck