



Weekly News Update From

Mayor Wayne J. Hall, Sr.

The Incorporated Village of Hempstead

To the Residents of the Village of Hempstead:

The future of our Village is bright. Recently, I presented my State of the Village Address to a large crowd of dedicated, passionate residents of the Village of Hempstead. It was with great pride and humility that I was able to look upon my family, friends and neighbors and tell them, unequivocally, that the Village of Hempstead is currently in the best shape it's been since I took office 12 years ago. The theme of this address was "Hempstead Always Evolving" because as continuous improvements are made it is vital to understand that these bold changes requires the support of us all. This email will serve to give you a glimpse of what occurred during my address, but my primary reason for writing today is to say thank you. Thank you for coming to the address and for supporting our Village and each other.

The accomplishments I have made as your mayor are—along with my family—the things for which I am truly most proud. Business is booming, particularly the downtown—new retail stores and restaurants continue to open on a regular basis, and our landmark Downtown Revitalization Project has broken ground. We have a revamped, multilingual Village website that easily allows residents to apply for jobs, find relevant information, and pay bills online. Our financial standing has never been better. In 2016, we had an A-1 rating with Moody's and a Double A-minus with a stable outlook with S&P. Both are great ratings, and both translate to a solid financial foundation and a much lower cost of borrowing.

The Village is much safer than it was 12 years ago. Our crime statistics are consistently trending down against the five-year average; new ShotSpotter and license plate reader programs are installed regularly. We have, along with our Village of Hempstead Police Department, recently launched a uniformed, anti-gang task force aimed at combating gang activity. We have worked hard to close bars in the Village that were unlicensed and causing a public nuisance—improving neighborhood safety and paving the way for legitimate business owners to prosper.

I have proposed to create Village of Hempstead's very own Youth Bureau. The new Youth Bureau will be the lead municipal agency that will provide positive youth development services to youth ages 6-21. The Village of Hempstead Youth Bureau will offer safe, high quality programs that will promote the physical, emotional and social well-being of our Village's young people. It will support generations of youth and families by developing and implementing a variety of youth development initiatives that will prepare our youth for academic and personal success, higher education, summer jobs, and career development. The mission of the new Youth Bureau will be to empower, educate and prepare Village of Hempstead's youth and families to make healthy decisions that will lead to eventual self sufficiency and lifelong success.

I have been in Hempstead for nearly 40 years. I raised my family here. I have and will always have the best interests of the Village in mind. From my time here, I am certain of this: Our Village is always changing. But more than ever, it is a good time to be a resident of Hempstead Village. 2016 continued our trend of progress, and I see no reason why this trend will not continue throughout 2017 and beyond. With a spirit of collaboration at the forefront, and exciting new programs and events on the horizon, the future of our Village looks very bright indeed!

Sincerely,

Wayne

Wayne J. Hall, Sr.

Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Hempstead