

# MAYOR'S CORNER

A BLOG BY MAYOR JAMES D. STEWART, JR.

MARCH 6, 2025

## A New Era for Irondale: The Grand Opening of Ruffner Park Sports Complex

Saturday, March 1, 2025, will forever be remembered as a defining moment for Irondale—the day we officially opened the Ruffner Park Sports Complex (RPSC)! After years of waiting, hoping, and believing, our city has a home for youth sports, a place where dreams take shape, and a foundation for community growth.

With two incredible playgrounds and three cutting-edge artificial turf playing fields, RPSC is more than just a park—it is a beacon of opportunity for our children. And with 100 kids already signed up for this inaugural season, it's clear that families across Irondale have been longing for a place like this.



But we're only getting started! The park's schedule is fully booked for the next four months, bringing travel ball tournaments to Irondale every weekend. Hundreds of families, athletes, and visitors will experience our city, hospitality, and community spirit firsthand.

If you haven't already, bring your kids! Let them run, laugh, compete, and grow in a place built for them. Let them experience the joy of teamwork, the thrill of the game, and the beauty of a community that believes in them.

Whoever said, "If you build it, they will come," must have considered the City of Irondale.

The fields are ready. The lights are on. The future is bright!

**Welcome to Ruffner Park Sports Complex.  
Let's play ball, Irondale!**

**What are your thoughts?**



But the blessing of RPSC didn't happen overnight. It was built through vision, faith, and an investment in our future. With a price tag of \$8.6 million, funded through a dedicated bond issue, this complex proves that incredible things happen when a community comes together. This is not just a financial investment—it's an investment in our children, our families, and the legacy of Irondale.



The City of  
**Irondale**

Build Community. Build the Future.