

NORTHSIDE NEWS

Connecting Residents with their City Government.



A Note from Natalie

Your Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate

This is May!

May in Indianapolis is always such an exciting time & this year is no exception. As we vaccinate more residents and welcome a sense of normalcy, I hope we all take a moment to enjoy the things that make our City so special.

This newsletter covers topics ranging from the City's re-opening strategy to Indy Parks spray grounds! Give it a once over and let me know if any questions arise.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive these monthly newsletters, please feel free to send them this sign up link:
<https://forms.gle/8PiAQJ1gEZiXThLr7>.

Your Neighborhood Advocate,
Natalie van Dongen

RESOURCES

Report potholes, abandoned vehicles, stray animals, & more through the Mayor's Action Center [317.327.4622](tel:317.327.4622) or Request Indy Online at maps.Indy.gov/RequestIndy

MNA Contact Info:

Email -

Natalie.vanDongen@indy.gov

Community Office Hours:
Suspended indefinitely.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

INDIANAPOLIS COVID-19 UPDATE

On Wednesday, Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett and Marion County Public Health Department Director and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Virginia Caine held their regular COVID-19 update and outlined the recommended future changes to restrictions in Marion County. These changes come as a result of continued efforts to vaccinate Marion County residents, the current downward trend in COVID-19 case and positivity rates, and the new guidance for fully vaccinated individuals released by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention last week.

“We are excited to lay out a clearer path forward for Indianapolis to more fully reopen,” said Mayor Hogsett. “The new CDC guidance made clear what we have said throughout the past several months: the vaccine is getting us back to normal. The more people who choose that option, the stronger our recovery will be.”

On June 7, the Health Department will submit a new public health order to the Indianapolis City-County Council for approval. This order will lift Marion County’s mask mandate for fully vaccinated individuals, except for in certain situations such as hospitals, airports, and public transportation. Fully vaccinated individuals are defined as those who received their final dose of the vaccine at least two weeks prior.

The Health Department will recommend the full reopening of the community to the City-County Council when the county reaches a fully vaccinated rate of 50% of residents and is seeing fewer than 100 new cases per day. The goal is to reach this milestone in Marion County by July 4.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

INDY PARKS IS HIRING!

Starting today, Indy Parks is increasing its lifeguard pay to \$13 per hour as a final hiring push before pool season begins.

Although more than 40 lifeguards are needed, the parks department has implemented guidelines to safely open pools using existing staff on a rotating basis. Selected summer pools will close 2-3 days per week, giving staff needed breaks and allowing for parks to share seasonal staff as needed.

Additionally, Indy Parks is announcing two bonus programs for current and incoming part-time staff:

- \$50 bonus for 50 hours worked: All seasonal, part-time employees are eligible for a \$50 bonus after working 50 hours and completing all required trainings. Both new and returning summer staff members are eligible.
- \$100 referral bonus: Current part-time Indy Parks employees can receive an extra \$100 for referring a lifeguard candidate, after the candidate successfully completes all trainings and 100 hours of work during the 2021 summer season.

To be eligible for the bonuses, candidates must submit all hiring paperwork and be registered for all required trainings by June 4, 2021.

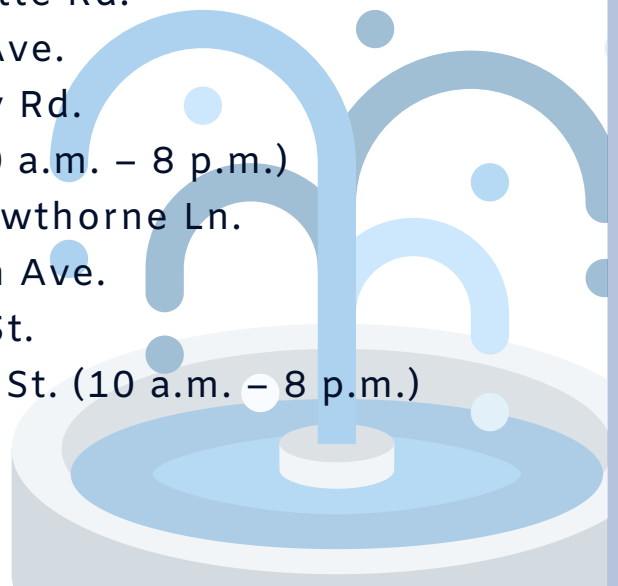
Those applying for lifeguard positions must be at least 16 years old, pass a lifeguard test and attend training. Training costs \$10 and scholarships are available to help cover the cost. To apply for a summer job or learn more about Indy Parks programs, visit parks.indy.gov, contact the Customer Service Center at (317) 327-PARK, or email IndyParksCS@indy.gov.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

INDY PARKS SPLASH GROUNDS

This weekend, Indy Parks will open 20 splash pads for the summer season. Splash pads typically open by Memorial Day weekend and close after Labor Day. On Saturday, May 22, the following splash pads will be open daily from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted:

- Andrew Ramsey Park, 310 W. 42nd St.
- Arsenal Park, 1400 E. 46th St. (10 a.m. – 8 p.m.)
- Bel Aire Park, 2901 W. Mooresville Rd.
- Bertha Ross Park, 3700 N. Clifton Ave.
- Carson Park, 5400 S. High School Rd.
- Christian Park, 4200 English Ave.
- Clayton LaSalle Park, 401 S. LaSalle St.
- Dan Wakefield Park, 6501 N. Broadway St.
- Grassy Creek Park, 10510 E. 30th St.
- Haughville Park, 520 N. Belleview Pl.
- Holliday Park, 6363 Spring Mill Dr.
- Jake Greene Park, 1700 Franklin Rd.
- Municipal Gardens, 1831 N. Lafayette Rd.
- Riverwood Park, 7201 Crittenden Ave.
- Stout Field Park, 3820 W. Bradbury Rd.
- Tarkington Park, 45 W. 40th St. (10 a.m. – 8 p.m.)
- Wes Montgomery Park, 3400 N. Hawthorne Ln.
- Wildwood Park, 8100 Southeastern Ave.
- Willard Park, 1901 E. Washington St.
- Windsor Village Park, 6510 E. 25th St. (10 a.m. – 8 p.m.)



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

2021 CONSTRUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Joe Hogsett and the Indianapolis Department of Public Works announced the construction projects included in the 2021 Capital Infrastructure Program.

Construction projects in this year's capital plan include:

- 33,807 linear feet of new sidewalk
- 37,460 linear feet of rehabbed sidewalk
- 10,162 linear feet of new trails
- 855 new ADA ramps
- 157.6 lane miles of street rehabilitation
- 30,473 linear feet of new storm sewers
- 11 bridge projects, including 3 new bridges and 8 bridge rehabilitation projects

View the full 2021 Construction Season list and map, showing where work will be completed this year.

For the 2021 construction season, Indy DPW has programmed \$124.9 million in transportation projects and \$42.6 million in stormwater infrastructure projects for a total capital projects investment of \$167.5 million.

Major construction projects expected to begin in 2021 include:

- The rehabilitation of the Kessler Boulevard bridge over the White River. This \$6.2 million investment extends the life of the five-span bridge that hasn't been rehabilitated in over 25 years. This project also includes new sidewalks and street lighting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

2021 CONSTRUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT (CON.)

- Storm drainage improvements in the Brendonridge neighborhood. The \$2.2 million investment will alleviate flash flooding and ponding water concerns throughout the neighborhood.
- The second and final phase of the Fall Creek Trail expansion. This \$2.7 million investment will connect with the Fall Creek Trail Phase 1 project at Burdsal Parkway to the White River Trail at Indiana Avenue. This project includes a new pedestrian bridge across Fall Creek, high visibility crosswalks, and a separated multi-use path along Montcalm Street. Once complete, the Fall Creek Greenway will provide a regional connection from Downtown Indianapolis to Fort Benjamin Harrison State Park.
- A two-lane roundabout at the Southeastern Avenue and Rural Street intersection. Also included in this \$9.2 million investment is street rehabilitation for Southeastern Avenue and other surrounding streets, additional sidewalks and ADA ramps, a multi-use path, and bike lanes.

For more information on major transportation and infrastructure projects visit indy.gov/DPW.

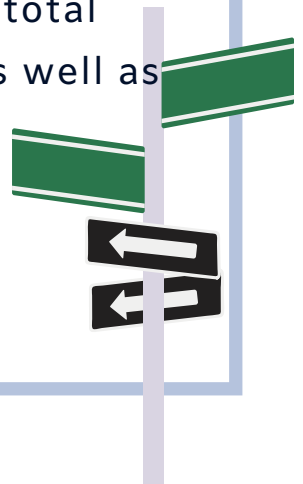


ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

RESIDENTIAL STREET REPAVING

In recent years, Indy DPW has allocated significant funding towards the improvement the city's thoroughfares, and deterioration data show sustained improvement in the quality of these roadways. Though the department has also invested in more staff and equipment to provide better maintenance on residential streets as a complement to work on thoroughfares, deterioration data indicate that residential streets should be next in line for a boost of capital improvement. This \$25 million investment equates to about 50% of the amount DPW has been able to spend on residential streets in the previous 5 years.

City-County Council leadership has made equity a priority for determining where resurfacing dollars are spent. The Department of Public Works has worked with the Council to come up with a formula for distribution that recognizes that each council district is different, with varying amounts of deteriorated street mileage, varying affluence among neighborhoods, and the various considerations of excluded cities whose streets don't fall under Indianapolis jurisdiction. The formula includes a baseline of \$200,000 worth of investment for each Council district, with additional percentages of the total funding based on lane mileage of needy infrastructure as well as median household income.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

RESIDENTIAL STREET REPAVING (CON.)

The Indianapolis Department of Public Works will exclusively target residential streets with a Pavement Condition Index rating of 0-15, objectively identified as being in the poorest condition. The department will consult with councillors based on their local knowledge of the area, understanding that all selected streets are among the most deteriorated in the city.

The Circle City Forward initiative was launched in February with the announcement of \$190 million in enhancements to City-County facilities, to enhance the delivery of local government services while investing in Marion County neighborhoods. This next phase similarly distributes funding across the county, providing quality-of-life improvements for residential areas outside the regular schedule of public construction or budget process, boosting communities as they rebound from the public health and economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

