

NEWS RELEASE

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Mayor Henry reemphasizes importance of fiscal policy to City's future

Fort Wayne, Ind. – Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry today reemphasized the importance of supporting a fiscal policy plan aimed at positioning the City of Fort Wayne for future growth and success.

What the fiscal policy plan presented to City Council would do:

- *Add 20 more police officers
- *Add 15 more firefighters
- *Funding for street and road improvements without having to borrow money
- *Funding for neighborhood curb and sidewalk projects
- *Funding for enhancements to Parks facilities
- *Property tax relief for homeowners
- *Small increase in income tax in order to continue with important, necessary services for the community such as Crime Stoppers, Safety Village, Police Athletic League, and parade security to name a few.
- "We must invest in our community, our children, and our grandchildren," said Mayor Henry. "Now is the time to build for the future, strengthen our neighborhoods, and ensure we remain a livable City with all the services our citizens expect and deserve."

Property tax caps implemented by the Indiana General Assembly have resulted in a loss of \$53 million in revenue to the City. As a result, Mayor Henry created a Fiscal Policy Group in 2012 to develop a framework of ideas to save the community money and bring in additional revenue to help meet the financial needs of the City.

"We must be a leader. We're competing in a global economy. Our recommendations have received bipartisan and public and private sector support and will move us forward in a positive direction that sustains our tremendous quality of life and encourages job and business growth," said Mayor Henry.