

My Fellow Residents,

I am coming to you from City Hall. I hope you had a safe and special St. Patrick's Day. I also hope you had a bit of luck and some Corned Beef and Cabbage.

I'd like to discuss a few topics which include: our Street Department's upcoming projects, meetings I have recently had with area Mayors, and County Line Road.

Even with our dusting of snow yesterday morning, we are all hopeful to spring into warmer weather. As long as Mother Nature cooperates, starting this week our Street Department will be hard at work with leaf pickup and street sweeping. Please keep their safety in mind during your commute. You can help us spread the word: a short delay behind a leaf-collecting machine or a street sweeper may be inconvenient; I will thank you now for your patience. And yes, pot hole crews for our City and INDOT will be filling various pot holes and doing patch work.

Last week I mentioned a trip to Indianapolis, recognizing Indiana Dunes National Park as our Nation's 61st National Park. The trip was productive and informational.

I also met with State Officials in an effort to keep the conversation and cooperation moving forward on future road and infrastructure projects. As many of you know, County Line Road between Central and Stone Avenue needs attention.

As your Mayor, I will be proactive and transparent. As a result, I believe we have a solution for resurfacing that segment of road.

After a phone call with Hobart's Mayor, we have found there may be some projects we can work on together. I will keep you posted.

In my effort to be open in my communications as YOUR Mayor, this video is currently posted in two places: on the City's Facebook page, called "Portage Indiana Municipal Page"; the second place this video is posted is on the City's Official YouTube channel. Please click the "Subscribe" button. You can also find public meetings in their entirety.

Spring is approaching. It is a time of renewal and new life. Soon our landscape will fill with color. We have a great city. Greatness is certainly ahead.

Before I close, I'd like to offer a fun challenge for you all. As Mayor, I address all things good and bad-I love hearing both, but let me hear some good. Whether you live, shop, or work in Portage, let me know in the comments what you like about Portage. I love the diversity in our community; we have a helpful spirit.

God bless, and I look forward to speaking with you next week. See you soon.