COLUMBIA CITY
EST. 1888
BUILDING A FUTURE TOGETHER
Greetings!

Columbia City, once known as the Gateway to the Lakes, is now the Gateway to Opportunity! We are proud to call this place home and hope you will as well, whether it be for a weekend or for a lifetime.
Greetings from the

Welcome to the City of Columbia City!

We are so happy you’ve chosen to join our community. I hope you will find this welcome packet to be informational and hospitable.

As Mayor, I have the responsibility to be both the leader of our City and a representative for you. In our community, you will find a safe and enjoyable place to live, a focus on improving and growing the City, and a wealth of economic opportunities throughout the Northeast Indiana region. In our residents, you will find people who are hard-working, friendly, and focused on improving the community for the greater good.

Our tagline, Building a Future Together, truly tells the story of how we are collaborative, innovative, and inclusive in creating a community that we all can be proud of. We’ve consistently ranked in the Top 20 cities in Indiana for Safety, Economic Opportunity, Health, and Prosperity. Becoming a part of our community will be a choice you won’t regret.

So again, from the bottom of my heart, thank you for joining us. I’m so happy you are here and I welcome the opportunity to meet you. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Ryan L. Daniel

Ryan Daniel has served as the Mayor of Columbia City since his election in 2011 and reelection in 2015. He works with various city departments such as street, parks, fire, and police to create a safe and social environment for the citizens of Columbia City. In addition to this, he organizes the Columbia City Youth Council, which is made up of students from Columbia City High School. He serves with the City Council and Board of Works to implement new ideas and laws in our city.
Columbia City
Quick Facts

- Population: 8,850 (2010 census)
- Founded: 1839
- Closest Airport: Fort Wayne International (35 min.)
- Weather:
  - Average Summer Temp: 69.8º F
  - Average Winter Temp: 37º F
- 7th Least Distressed County in Indiana
- 7th Healthiest County in Indiana
- 10th Best Health Factors in Indiana
- 16th Highest Quality of Life in Indiana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance To:</th>
<th>Time/ Miles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>30 min./ 21 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
<td>2 hrs./ 124 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>2 hrs, 40 min./ 140 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>3 hrs./ 187 miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Directory
## City and County Contacts

### Police, Fire, and Medical Emergency

**City Contact Numbers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police and Communications Department</td>
<td>248-5121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility Office</td>
<td>248-5100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>248-5111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Clerk Treasurer</td>
<td>248-5112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Development</td>
<td>248-5114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Service Facility</td>
<td>248-5115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Department</td>
<td>248-5180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnworth Memorial Pool</td>
<td>248-5182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Pollution Control Facility</td>
<td>248-5119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Department</td>
<td>248-5118</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**County Contact Numbers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Sheriff</td>
<td>244-6410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Auditor</td>
<td>248-3100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Township Trustee</td>
<td>244-0045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Township Assessor</td>
<td>248-3110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Assessor</td>
<td>248-3109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Clerk</td>
<td>248-3102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Treasurer</td>
<td>248-3105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Recorder</td>
<td>248-3106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Engineer</td>
<td>248-3107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Drainage</td>
<td>248-3108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Planning/ Building</td>
<td>248-3112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Highway</td>
<td>248-3123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Health Department</td>
<td>248-3121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunization Clinic</td>
<td>248-2959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare Department</td>
<td>244-6331</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Establishing a New Business**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Revenue</td>
<td>(317) 232-8039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Economic Development Corp.</td>
<td>(260) 244-5506</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Miscellaneous Phone Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CenturyLink</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Service</td>
<td>(800)788-3500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair</td>
<td>(800)788-3600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable Television- MediaCom</td>
<td>(800)874-2924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIPSCO</td>
<td>(800)464-7726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern REMC</td>
<td>244-6111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling Center</td>
<td>248-3132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley Environmental</td>
<td>248-8300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>248-8131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>License Branch</td>
<td>244-7107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Shelter</td>
<td>244-6664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Office</td>
<td>244-5962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post &amp; Mail Newspaper</td>
<td>244-5153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parkview Whitley Hospital</td>
<td>248-9000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Assistance</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Action</td>
<td>248-4887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Council On Aging</td>
<td>248-8944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley County Transit</td>
<td>248-8944</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration Building</td>
<td>244-5771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia City High School</td>
<td>244-6136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Springs Middle School</td>
<td>244-5148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Turtle School</td>
<td>244-3343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Raber School</td>
<td>244-5857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coesse Elementary</td>
<td>244-3351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Heights Elementary</td>
<td>691-2371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eagle Tech Academy</td>
<td>244-5707</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This park includes a baseball diamond, six lighted tennis courts, a basketball court, a walking trail, picnic tables, an open pavilion, and a very popular sledding hill. It is located at 620 West Old Trail Road right across the road from Every Kid’s

The new Everyday Kid’s Dreamland, is a playground that is accessible to kids with different kinds of disabilities. The ground has a three inch thick rubber surface which will help kids in wheelchairs get around. It is located at 610 W. Van Buren Street.

For more information on other parks in Columbia City, visit: columbiacityparks.us
The Whitley County Farmers Market takes place on the courthouse square on Saturdays from May through October. Local vendors provide a multitude of craft and food items for residents to purchase each week.

The Fun Center At Paige’s Crossing is a great place for families with children. They have three different miniature golf courses, batting cages, and an arcade.

Main Bowl is the local bowling alley. This location is also home to the 11th Frame Bar and Grill.

Happy Valley Skating Rink offers public roller skating. Their rink is popular with birthday parties and other celebrations. They have skate rentals available, but also allow roller blades.

Bones Theatre shows recently released movies with a refreshment counter. They have gift cards available for purchase.

The Peabody Public Library offers memberships and a quiet place to study or read. There is a children’s section and a computer lab available for use as well.

Columbia City is proud to offer an abundance of activities in addition to our parks. From the public library to the roller skating rink, our city

PLACES OF INTEREST

Peabody Public Library
1160 E. State Road 205 Columbia City, IN 46725
(260)244-5541

Bones Theatre
655 Opportunity Drive Columbia City, IN 46725
(260)244-0051

Happy Valley Skating Rink
625 W. Old Trail Road Columbia City, IN 46725
(260)248-2584

Main Bowl
303 S. Main Street Columbia City, IN 46725
(260)244-6422

The Fun Center At Paige’s Crossing
2821 E. Business 30 Columbia City, IN 46725
Columbia City: City of Fun

Old Settlers Day

This festival celebrates the founding settlers of Columbia City. It takes place in late June and features carnival rides, food, and live entertainment. There is a ceremony for the oldest settlers in Columbia City and the Festival Coordinators present them with plaques to commemorate their tenure. The last day of the festival features a parade. This is a great place to bring your family for a night on the town to celebrate the history of beautiful Columbia City.

Whitley County 4-H Fair

The Whitley County 4-H Fair takes place in the middle of July. Youth participate in projects such as photography, foods, crafts, and animal projects. There is live entertainment, livestock exhibitions, and more throughout the week. Volunteers are always welcome at 4-H events and are a great way to get involved in your community! This fair is free and available for all ages and non 4-H members as well. Everyone will be able to find something to enjoy at the Whitley County 4-H Fair!

Fourth of July

The city’s Fourth of July celebration is in Morsch's Park and is usually celebrated on the 3rd. There is live entertainment and food available before the fireworks display.
The car show takes place on a Saturday in August. Car owners come from all over to exhibit their cars to the public for the chance to win prizes. This is also a great place for people to fundraise for different organizations.

Mihsihkinaahkwa Pow Wow

This is a three day event held in August at Morsches Park that honors the Miami Indians and the great Chief Little Turtle.

Lighted Christmas Parade

This Lighted Christmas Parade event welcomes Santa to the Courthouse Square and allows businesses and organizations to join in on the Holiday Spirit!

The Veteran’s Day Marathon is sponsored by the Three Rivers Running Club. This event takes place in downtown Columbia City. The race begins and ends at the courthouse. Many groups set up tents along the course to aid the runners.

Veteran’s Day Marathon
Community Resources

GROUP VENUES

- **The Van Buren** — 310 W Van Buren St. Columbia City
  (260) 609-9626
- **Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge** — 606 W. Van Buren St.
  Columbia City
  (260) 244-7641
- **Eagle’s Nest Event Center** — 125 S. Eagle Glen Trail, Columbia City
  (260) 248-2563
- **Peabody Public Library** — 1160 E. State Road 205, Columbia City
  (260) 244-5541
- **Morschés Park Pavilion** — 1035 E. State Road 205
  Columbia City

Whitley County

950 E. Van Buren Street
Columbia City, IN 46725

Whitley County

950 E. Van Buren Street
Columbia City, IN 46725

Whitley County Council On Aging and County Transit
710 Opportunity Drive Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 248-8944

The Center For Whitley County Youth
201 W. Market Street Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 248-2977

Whitley County Economic Development Corporation
220 W. Van Buren Street, Suite 102, Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-5506

Whitley County Chamber of Commerce
128 W Van Buren St, Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 248-8131

Whitley County Historical Society and Museum
108 W. Jefferson Street Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-8573

Whitley County Agricultural Museum
680 W. Squawbuck Road Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-7615

Columbia City Volunteer Fire Museum
425 S. Whitley Street Columbia City, IN 46725

The Post and Mail—Local Newspaper
927 W. Conneon Way Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-5353

Columbia City Post Office
115 N. Chauncey Street Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-5962

Talk of the Town — Online Resource
http://talkofthetownwc.com/
Education: A Columbia City Tradition

Whitley County Consolidated Schools:

2017 At A Glance

- Total District Enrollment: 3,533
- Average Graduating Class Size: 229
- Graduation Rate: 91.6%
- IREAD-3 Pass Percentage: 90.1%
- Attendance Rate: 96.7%

Whitley County Consolidated Schools

WCCS

Small Town Values. World Class Results.

Post High School Plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Four year or more College</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not pursuing Higher Ed</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two year College</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational/Technical School</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOUR STAR SCHOOL

Columbia City High School

Indiana Department of Education
In the fall of 2015, the residents of the Whitley County Consolidated School district voted to build a NEW Columbia City High School. The building will house students in the fall of 2020 and will continue to expand opportunities for lo-

Columbia City High School
Principal: Jennifer Reiff
Assistant Principal: Lyle Kuhmichel
Dean of Students: Andrea Salmon
Students: 1,040  Staff: 72
600 N. Whitley Street
Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-6136

Eagle Tech Academy
Principal: Braden Mullet
107 N. Walnut St.

Coming Soon!
The City that Serves:
City Services

Police Department
Our police force works 24 hours a day to keep our community safe and orderly. They take care of various local safety concerns, such as tickets, noise complaints, and other offenses. You can find a list of City ordinances on our website: www.columbiacity.net. In addition to enforcing the law, our officers also educate our community as well as offer permits and other services. It is currently overseen by Chief of Police Tony Hively.

Columbia City Police Department
112 South Chauncey Street
Columbia City, IN 46725
Phone Number:
(260) 248-5121
(non emergency)

Fire Department
Our fire department offers our community many services in addition to their initial purpose. They provide fire safety training, a fire museum for community residents to enjoy, and even a free candy give away during the Christmas holiday in addition to other community service projects. You can find the fire code on the City’s website. The department is currently overseen by Fire Chief Tom LaRue.

Columbia City Fire Department
112 South Chauncey Street
Columbia City, IN 46725
Phone Number:
(260) 248-5161
(non emergency)

Parkview Whitley Hospital
While Parkview Whitley is not operated by the city, our residents find comfort here. This is the location of the nearest emergency room and doctors’ offices. The medical plaza is also located on campus and houses other medical services not available at the hospital.

Parkview Whitley Hospital
1260 East State Road 205
Columbia City, IN 46725
Phone Number:
(260) 248-9000

Parkview Whitley After Hours Clinic
This is another resource our community has to offer. Parkview Whitley After Hours clinic provides aid to minor injuries and illness. They are open Monday through Friday from 8am to 8 PM and Saturday and Sunday 8am to 2 PM. They are closed on holidays.

After Hours Clinic
885 Connexion Way, Suite 200A
Columbia City, IN 46725
Phone Number:
Street Sweeping
All City streets are swept regularly.

Recycling
This is a county operated service. All inquiries should be directed to the recycling contact number in our directory, on page 3.

Sanitation Service
Weekly garbage pickup is provided by Advanced Disposal to City residents and a minimal charge is included on your monthly utility bill. Any questions can be directed to the Mayor’s office, see page 3 for his office.

Downtown Parking
There is two hour controlled parking in our downtown area. There is a free municipal parking lot located south of the post office on

City Wide Clean Up
Twice a year, one day is set aside as a clean up day for City residents only. This allows residents to clean house and have discards hauled away at no charge for most items. There is no charge for appliances and tires, but we do ask that you contact the city clerks’ office and schedule this pick up. This date can be found

Limb Pick Up
Limbs and brush are picked up one week each month from April through October. This is for City residents only. Limbs should be placed in front of the resident’s home, near the curb and should be put out by 7 am on the Monday of the week of pickup. There is only one pass of each neighborhood per month. Please check local papers for schedules and regulations.

Leaf Pick Up
Leaf pick up for City residents will begin in the fall when the leaves have fallen. Leaves should be raked between the curb and sidewalk, never in the street or in bags. Leaves are composted and are free to the public in early spring of the following year.
Utility Bills

Bills are mailed the first week of the month and are due on or before the 20th of each month. If the 20th falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, your bill must be in City Hall drop box by 7:30 a.m. of the next working day (postmarks not honored) in order to avoid late fees. The shut off date will fall approximately 10 days after the 20th of each month with special fees as follows:

- Shut-off fee for Electric and Water: $20.00
- Reconnect fee for Electric and Water: $20.00
- After hours reconnect fee for Electric and Water: $60.00

**Ordering new Electric, Water, and Sewer Service**

A meter deposit is required with service order:

- Residential– Electric and Water: $50.00
- Commercial– Small: $150.00
- Commercial– Large: $300.00

24 hour advanced notice is suggested

**Method of Payment**

We accept cash, check, credit/debit cards, and money orders. You can also sign up to have funds directly withdrawn from your bank account or you can make online payments through the city’s website. You can go directly to the City’s webpage, www.columbiacity.net.

There is a service fee to use credit or debit cards and when making payments online.

**Summer Sewage Rates**

The city offers allowance for residential sewer usage rates based off April’s water usage for your July, August, September, and October sewage bill. This provides for citizens to water lawns, etc. during summer months without additional sewage.

Communications

The Communications Department (Dispatch) is located on the first floor of City Hall and open 24-hours a day to assist customers with public safety and after-hours utility issues.
City Council is the legislative body of City Government. There are four members to represent the districts and one member at large. The council is lead by the Mayor. They meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the 2nd floor of City Hall.

Board of Works and Safety
This governmental body is responsible for the administrative management for all City departments. The Board consists of the Mayor and two of his appointees. The Columbia City Board of Public Works meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 5 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the 2nd floor of City Hall.

City-County Joint Planning and Building Department
All building permits, improvement permits, special exceptions, variances or zoning inquiries in the City and within a two mile jurisdiction of the City should be directed to the City/County Plan Department at 248-3112. They are located in the County Government Building at 220 W. Van Buren Street, Suite 204. The building inspector is also located in this office.

Columbia City Community Tree Board
The responsibility of the Tree Board is to study, investigate, develop, update annually, and oversee the administration of a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and

Columbia City Housing Authority
The Housing Authority provides a low interest loan program for lower and middle income families to update and improve their current housing environment. The Housing Authority’s purpose is for the clearance, replanning, and reconstruction of areas in which unsanitary or unsafe housing conditions may exist. Applications for the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program may be found in the Mayor’s

Columbia City Redevelopment Commission
The responsibility of the Redevelopment Commission is to investigate, study and survey blighted areas within the corporate boundaries and promote the use of the land in the manner that best serves the interests of Columbia City. This board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 9 am in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall.

Columbia City Park Board
The Columbia City Park Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 6 PM in the Council Chambers on the
Welcome Home!