



Columbia City

CityScene

A Focus on the Future

By Mayor Ryan Daniel

Columbia City has a clear focus on the future. From our Nonprofits to our businesses, and from our City Government to our community groups, one thing is clear: we are moving together into the future. Many upcoming City projects are focused on that future and how we can continue creating an environment that is welcoming to all and builds our community together.

Our Parks Department continues to grow as we've started utilizing the former CCHS Property. We are tentatively calling it "Eagle Park" as a throwback to the former school. We welcome your feedback on that name. Many athletic activities are occurring on this property, and we have a grant into the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to build a few pieces of the new park Master Plan (which can be found on the City's website). The first few pieces, if awarded, will include a new skate park, pump track, a pergola with swings, sidewalks, and a resurfaced parking lot. We are also working on a new amphitheater that could be built in the next two years. The Parks Department are also constructing a new storage building on the former site of the tennis courts in Morsches Park. This will allow us to take down the two old garages in the middle of the park and consolidate storage.

Westgate improvements have begun with electrical upgrades and water line replacements. We should be hearing soon from the Indiana Department of Transportation on the street/sidewalk/curb grant application we submitted this summer. If awarded, we expect the construction to begin this winter and last through most of 2022. This is only for the Easternmost part of Westgate, or "Phase 1" as we've been calling it.

You may have heard that Ivy Tech and WCCS have partnered together to offer college courses at the Marshall building. I'm really excited that higher education opportunities have come back to our community! I am also excited that WCCS, Ivy Tech, and the City are working together on an exciting project that will hopefully be unveiled within the next 3-4 months! Again, the focus is on the future, which includes the educational future of our residents.

This is, of course, just a small sample of many projects that are occurring in our community! Until Next Time....

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"Change is inevitable in life. You can either resist it and potentially get run over by it, or you can choose to cooperate with it, adapt to it; and learn how to benefit from it"
-Jack Canfield

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Community Events

- 9/3/21- First Friday** 
- 9/6/21 – Labor Day (City Hall Closed)**
- 9/7/21- Homecoming** 
- 9/24/21- Woodlands Senior Fair (4-H)**
- 10/1/21- First Friday**
- 10/30/21- Trick-or-Treating (5 p.m.-8 p.m.)**
- 10/31/21 – Halloween** 
- 11/7/21 – Daylight Savings Time** 
- 11/11/21- Veterans Day** 
- 11/13/21- Veterans Marathon**
- 11/25/21 – Thanksgiving (City Hall Closed)**
- 11/26/21- City Hall Closed** 



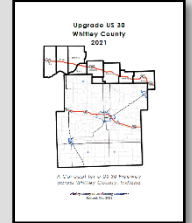
US 30 Updates

By: Mayor Ryan Daniel

As you may have heard, things appear to be heating up on the US 30 front. With the new Amazon facility being built in Allen County, the State of Indiana is taking a harder look at the needs for safety improvements and economic development on US 30.

Back in 2013, as you may remember, the City was given a copy of a conceptual plan to “improve US 30” with multiple J-turns and one interchange at State Road 9, from the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). We fought that concept and ended up creating the US 30 Coalition, which is made up of officials from the seven US 30 counties between the Ohio border and State Road 49. Locally, we created a conceptual document of what a US 30 Freeway **could** be, if done properly, with the help of lots of public input and stakeholder meetings. We recently updated this document, which can be found at www.columbiacity.net/community/departments-news-and-events. Other counties along the 30 Corridor have also begun similar processes and created planning documents. We know that INDOT will be doing something to the highway and we wanted to ensure that our community wouldn't be bypassed.

Recently, INDOT has started a Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study on a US 30 Freeway from the Ohio State Line to State Road 49 in Porter County. There has also been a lot of discussion about utilizing a portion of the American Rescue Plan dollars the State received, to begin planning and construction of the project segment from I-69 into (and possible through) Whitley County. While no construction timeline is firm at this point, you can be assured that we are actively advocating on your behalf to ensure the best possible option for our community's safety and its future. I look forward to informing you in the future as progress is made. More to come!



Scary Emails you Should Never Open

By Terry L. Wherry, IT Director

The internet can be scary, but emails are the scariest. Unsurprisingly, *people* are much easier to trick than security systems like firewalls and anti-virus. If you aren't extremely vigilant about your email inbox, you could be in for a nasty malware surprise.

Confirm Your Account/Unusual login activity:

You use the Internet to log into multiple important websites every day. Likely, you do your banking online. You may pay your bills online. You shop online. And of course, we all have social media accounts. BUT, you should never open emails suggesting a password change or an account confirmation.

You Missed a Delivery:

UPS and Amazon are both big favorites of hackers. If you receive an email from UPS, USPS, Amazon, etc. claiming that you missed a delivery - don't open it. Especially don't click on anything in the email. Log into your various mailing accounts and review your tracking activity. Are you even expecting a delivery?

Your Account has been locked:

It probably hasn't been. If you get an email like this one, be very careful not to click any button to unlock your account (whether it's Facebook or LinkedIn or Chase). Instead try logging into the account directly from a new window.

Unexpected Refunds or Payments:

Don't fall for this one, either! Think about it - how likely is it that you are owed a refund for something you hadn't even thought about? Why are you being paid for something you're not sure you did? Instead, call up the sender of these sorts of emails to verify their legitimacy.

Information provided by Preferred IT Group <https://www.preferreditgroup.com/>



Summertime Wastewater

By: Mike Cook, Wastewater Superintendent



As we endure the hottest months of the year, wastewater treatment plants face a range of challenges from the elevated summer temperatures. Unlike other industrial processes, wastewater treatment process is a function of biological balance as well as it is physical movement and flow. With biological and chemical reactions being impacted by temperature changes, wastewater treatment processes can change drastically during the summer months.

Rising temperatures decreases biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) reduction efficiency, increases the concentration of suspended solids, and leads to a variety of other problems including:

- Excessive Sludge Aging
- Odor Control Issues
- Biological Balance
- Algae and Weeds
- And many other issues

So, as noted, temperature changes can have a huge detrimental effect on the processes occurring at the Water Pollution Control Facility and on wastewater treatment efficiency.

Leaf Pickup Begins



Leaf Pickup will begin throughout the City of Columbia City on October 25th and will continue through the next seven weeks. Residents are asked to rake their leaves on the curb (not in the street). These leaves will be mulched up next Spring and be available for pickup and use by residents. Recycling at it's finest!

Follow the City of Columbia City on Facebook or Twitter!



Citizen in the Spotlight **Rosie Coyle**

By Madalyn Jagger, Intern

Rosie Coyle has served 10 terms as Columbia City's Clerk Treasurer, and as of August 2021, is celebrating 56 years working for the city. She has worked with 10 different mayors over that time! At the age of 17, Rosie started working for the City on the work release program from Columbia City High School, making only 75¢ an hour when she first started! Rosie and her husband of 56 years, Larry Coyle, have 3 children: Todd Coyle, Kimberly Jones, and Chad Coyle (deceased). Rosie has 4 grandchildren: Regan Blank age 25, Lilia Jones age 17, Hunter Coyle age 24, and Karlyn Coyle age 27. Rosie also has 2 great grandchildren that she watches 2 times a week: Harper Zielinski age 1 and Axell Pegg age 2. Rosie has always wanted to stay in Columbia City, and she has never regretted her decision to live here. She absolutely loves her job because she is a people-person and gets to be so involved with the community. When Rosie goes on vacation, she enjoys going to Florida. Her favorite type of food is Mexican. Rosie's favorite color is blue, and her favorite quote is: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" Luke 6:31.

Meetings to Remember

1st Mondays of Each Month, 7pm
WC Government Center
Columbia City Plan Commission

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 5pm
City Hall – Council Chambers
Board of Works and Safety

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 6pm
City Hall – Council Chambers
City Council Meetings

2nd Tuesday of Each Month, Noon
City Hall – Council Chambers
CC Redevelopment Commission

4th Monday of Each Month, 6pm
City Hall – Council Chambers
Columbia City Park Board

3rd Tuesday of Each Month, 5pm
City Hall – Council Chambers
Columbia City Housing Authority

Proper notice will be given for any changes to meeting dates and times





Halloween Safety Tips

By Chief of Police Gary Parrett



Everyone loves a good scare on Halloween, but not when it comes to the safety of those little trick-or-treaters. Fortunately, there are lots of easy things parents and kids can do to stay safe on the spookiest of holidays.

A Hard Fact about Halloween Safety:

On average, children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car and killed on Halloween than on any other day of the year.

Drive Extra Safely on Halloween:

- Slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited on Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways.
- Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians, and on curbs.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully.
- Get rid of any distractions - like your phone in your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
- Turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.

Walk Safely:

- Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks. Look left, right, and then left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.
- Put electronic devices down, keep heads up, and walk, don't run, when crossing the street.
- Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
- Always walk on sidewalks or paths. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
- Watch for cars that are turning or backing up.
- Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.
- Join kids under age 12 for trick-or-treating. If kids are mature enough to be out without supervision, tell them to stick to familiar areas that are well lit and trick-or-treat in groups.

Costumes for a Safe Halloween:

- Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
- Choose face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision.
- Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.

Betcha' didn't know...



- The first U.S. train robbery was in Indiana, on October 6th, 1866, The Reno brothers got away with \$16,000!! (Worth \$270,888 in 2021 dollars).
- Indiana's most eaten candy is Skittles!
- Indiana's 6 vice presidents are the second-most of any state, other than New York, which has had 11.
- Although Indiana means "Land of Indians" there are fewer than 8,000 Native Americans living in the state today.
- Indiana has been inhabited since the end of the Ice Age.
- Sierra-Mist is Indiana's most popular soft drink.
- Waffle Fries were Indiana's most delivered food during quarantine.