

Community Conversations series continues

Goshen's Community Conversations series organized by the Community Relations Commission (CRC), Goshen Community Schools and the City of Goshen continues this year with three events aimed at bringing the community closer together.

Planning began in 2018 to create a series of community events that would allow residents among diverse groups to engage in conversation about various topics affecting Goshen.

Following a successful pilot, the organizations planned three more conversations for the fall of 2019, leading participants to explore topics of education and power. Hearing about the positive response to the fall series, the CRC agreed to fund three more conversations in the spring of 2020.

This year's events will allow for candid conversations about discrimination in Goshen, public safety and what it takes to step out of one's own circle of friends and acquaintances.

All three conversations will take place at Schrock Pavilion of Shanklin Park, 411 W. Plymouth Ave., on the following dates:

- *Discrimination: Increasing our awareness and improving our response* | Thursday, February 27 | 6–8 p.m.
- *Safety in Goshen: What do we fear?* | Tuesday, March 24 | 6–8 p.m.
- *Different circles, same city: Which Goshen are you?* | Thursday, April 23 | 6–8 p.m.

Full descriptions of the upcoming conversation topics will be added to the City website at goshenindiana.org/growingtogether.

You can follow the CRC on Facebook at facebook.com/CRCgoshen, on Twitter at [@CRCGoshen](https://twitter.com/CRCGoshen) or on its homepage at goshenindiana.org/crc.



CRC member Sreekala Rajagopalan (right) talks with a resident during a Community Conversation last fall. Three more conversations are scheduled, starting February 27.



EN ESPAÑOL
Para recibir este boletín en español,
por favor póngase en contacto con
nuestra oficina al 537.3883.

City website: goshenindiana.org
nextdoor.com—City of Goshen, Indiana
/goshen_in
/goshen_city
/CityOfGoshen

LET'S STAY CONNECTED:

City of Goshen
202 S. Fifth St.
Goshen, IN 46528-3714
574.533.8621

Winter 2020

MapleCityNow



A GUIDE TO GOSHEN HAPPENINGS

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Community Conversation Thursday, February 27, 6 p.m., Shanklin Park
- Community Conversation Tuesday, March 24, 6 p.m., Shanklin Park
- Census 2020 Begins Wednesday, April 1 More info on page 7
- Good Friday April 10 City offices close at noon; trash-pickup schedule does not change
- Community Conversation Thursday, April 23, 6 p.m. Shanklin Park

2020 looks like a great year for Goshen!

As I start my second term as Mayor, I would like to thank each of you for your part in helping create a stronger, more vibrant Goshen community. My administration will continue to work at bringing people together. No matter your political or religious affiliations, your income level or your neighborhood, your sexual orientation or your race, no matter what makes us different we will continue working to build an inclusive community that is welcoming and safe for all.

This year we'll be working on several infrastructure projects that will help improve our community. Of course, with improvement will come some temporary disruptions to our regular routines, but in the end our daily commutes and our neighborhoods will be improved. Here are just three of the projects:

- Main Street will get a much-needed facelift. It will be reconfigured to a two-lane surface, and four-way stops will be installed at the intersections with Jefferson, Washington and Clinton streets.
- The Department of Community Development is working on starting construction for Goshen's first ice rink and multi-use pavilion. It will be located on the west side of the Millrace near downtown.
- Construction of the new condominiums and townhomes along the Millrace will continue.

I encourage you to read our next edition of *MapleCityNow* (Spring 2020), which will contain detailed information about this year's projects. You also can follow our news and updates at goshenindiana.org.

I am happy to begin work with the newly seated Goshen City Council. This community is fortunate to have a group of seven council members who are more interested in working together than in fighting about differences. This doesn't mean we always agree. It does mean, however, that we are working to find the solutions and, yes, compromises that allow us to best represent all 33,000-plus residents of our city. I am committed to working with all sides to help Goshen remain a community that continues to attract people and businesses.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to my office by calling 533.9322 or emailing me at mayor@goshencity.com.

With deep respect,

Jeremy Stutsman, Mayor of Goshen



Quick updates

Technical-review fees

The Fall 2019 edition of *MapleCityNow* had information about the technical-review process, a set of meetings among departments to review site plans prior to the issuance of permits. All developers must go through the technical-review process to get a permit.

In December the Goshen City Council established technical-review fees because it's necessary to offset City expenses, including the hardware and software costs in implementing the new online plan submittal and review system. The new fees went into effect January 3.

Technical-review fees are based on the number of sheets submitted for the initial technical review and the first resubmittal. For a full list of fees and information about the technical-review process, go to goshenindiana.org/developer-resources. Questions about the process can be directed to the Engineering Department at engineering@goshencity.com or 534.2201.

2020 Activity Guide

The Goshen Parks & Recreation Department's *2020 Activity Guide* is available now! The 52-page guide, in English and Spanish, features updates on our City's parks and facilities, information about the new Department of Environmental Resilience, and descriptions and schedules for 2020 (and early 2021) recreational programs for residents of all ages. You may pick up a copy at any of the following locations:

- Goshen Parks & Recreation Office, 524 E. Jackson St.
- Rieth Interpretive Center, 410 W. Plymouth Ave.
- Wayne Wogoman Welcome Center, 1424 Lincolnway East (at Fidler Pond Park)

Web newsletter

You can receive updates on road construction, weather events, City office closures and much more by going to goshenindiana.org/blog. Want to receive updates directly on your email? Go to goshenindiana.org/blog and enter your email address in the right-hand column (under the City logo).

Newsletters are sent out at 5 p.m. on days when new updates are generated. If you have any questions about our News and Events section on the website or the e-newsletter, contact the City's Communications Coordinator at 537.3883 or communications@goshencity.com

Snow removal: Do's and don't's after a snowfall

Though snowfall has been relatively light so far this winter, we are in northern Indiana, and we have more weeks (or months?) of cold weather—and snow—to come.

The primary responsibility for cleared streets within Goshen's city limits falls on the Street Department. During and after a snowfall, the crews will be out on Goshen thoroughfares removing snow.

To ensure safe traffic flow after a particularly heavy snowfall, Mayor Stutsman may declare a Snow Emergency. During such emergencies, special parking restrictions and trash-collection provisions may be enacted. Driving restrictions also may be announced if the weather causes very bad or dangerous driving conditions.

Sidewalks

While the Goshen Street Department is responsible for the streets and roads, it's up to residents to keep their sidewalks clear of snow. Parks & Recreation and Street Department workers clear all city trails, often moving onto Goshen's sidewalks to help as well, but City workers can't clear them all. It's important to keep your sidewalks cleaned off to create safe paths, especially for students who walk to school. We can all work together to keep those sidewalks clean and clear!

The Snow Emergency and any special instructions will be announced through local television, radio and/or news services during and after the snowfall. In times of emergency, it's important



A Goshen Street Department truck lays down salt during an icy day.

to pay attention to local news media. You also can check goshenindiana.org and sign up for notices from the City of Goshen. Notices are posted on the website under the "News and Updates" page and are automatically emailed to residents who have signed up to receive them on the day they're posted.

Residents are reminded not to toss snow shoveled from their sidewalks and driveways out onto the streets. Shoveled snow on City streets and roads will increase the crews' work and slow them from getting to other areas in need of clearing.

County roads outside Goshen's city limits and state roads, including the new US 33 overpass, are the responsibility of the Elkhart County Highway Department and the Indiana Department of Transportation, respectively. To learn more about the snow-removal operations of Elkhart County and the Indiana Department of Transportation, check out their websites at elkcohw.org and in.gov/indot.

When the snow begins to melt, please keep an eye on storm drains. If you see one that's plugged, feel free to remove debris that may be clogging it, or call the stormwater office at 537.3832 to report the problem.

If you have any questions or concerns about snow removal or emergencies, you may contact the Street Department at 534.9711 or streets@goshencity.com. For more information about the City's notices, email us at communications@goshencity.com.

United States Census 2020: Why it matters

The 2020 U.S. Census will count every person living in the 50 states, District of Columbia and five U.S. territories. In Goshen every household, residential center, dormitory and living quarters will be required to fill out a census form.

The census is mandated by no less than the U.S. Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The first census happened in 1790! Since then it has been conducted every 10 years.

WHY SHOULD RESIDENTS COOPERATE?

Not only is participating in the census required by law, it also is very important that all residents be counted, because (among other benefits) it determines how much federal funding a city, town or state receives.

Every year about \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed to state, local and tribal governments. As many as 55 programs in the State of Indiana receive more than \$17 billion, based on data from the 2010 census. Those programs include infrastructure projects, Medicare and Medicaid, student loans, Head Start and many others.

The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives and are used to draw state congressional districts.

YOUR RESPONSE IS PROTECTED

If you don't respond online, by phone or by mail, the Census Bureau will follow up in person to collect your response. It's very important for the census to get as accurate a count as possible.

While you are required by law to participate, the Census Bureau

also is legally bound to protect your answers. Responses are used only to produce statistics. Under Title 13 of the U.S. Code, the Census Bureau may not release any information about residents, about their home or about their business, even to law-enforcement agencies. The law ensures that private data are protected and that answers are not used in any way against respondents by government, agency or court.

The answers provided are used only to provide statistics. Respondents are kept anonymous, and the Census Bureau is not permitted to release to the public the responses that in any way could identify the respondents or anyone else in their home.

HOW AND WHEN TO RESPOND

By April 1, 2020, every home will have received a form for participating in the 2020 Census. You will have three options for responding:

- Online
- By phone
- By "snail" mail

The 2020 census marks the first time you'll have the option to respond online. You can even enter the necessary data on your mobile device.

In May 2020 census takers will begin visiting homes that haven't responded to the census to help ensure that everyone is counted. The best way to avoid a follow-up visit from a census taker is to fill out the census questionnaire within a couple of weeks of when you receive the invitation to participate.

For more information about the 2020 census, go to 2020census.gov.

New fire-training facility, better training programs

With a training facility now built on the south side of the city, the Goshen Fire Department (GFD) is ramping up its training program, which will help firefighters within Goshen and beyond.

The new facility, at 2109 Caragana Court, was constructed over the summer of 2019. In addition to the classrooms and confined-space training area, the campus now includes a 3,600-square-foot building that will be used for firefighters to train with live fires. Specialized cargo containers were stacked and secured to create a three-story building with a five-story adjacent tower. Firefighters will be able to work on their ground-ladder climbing skills, search and rescue, and rope rescue, among other forms of training.

The new facility also will be accessible to other fire departments in the region. It is expected that the City will be compensated for providing the training grounds and services. Already GFD is working on establishing partnerships to facilitate full training programs in our area.

In mid-2019 the first generation of fully trained and certified firefighters in Goshen graduated. The class was hosted by GFD and sponsored by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Firefighters completed 200 hours of training and received a State of Indiana certification in various levels of fire training and hazmat awareness and operations.

The Fire Department also has created a partnership with the Ivy Tech-Elkhart campus where firefighters-in-training will take cognitive-learning courses. All skills training will occur at the new fire-training facility. Through this partnership, students will be able to receive college credits for completing their fire-training course, in addition to receiving the state certifications. The Ivy Tech-Elkhart campus is one of only two in Indiana to offer such a program; the other is the Ivy Tech-Indianapolis campus.

Skills learning at the GFD fire-training facility will at times involve working with live fires on the building. The Fire Department will set schedules for when live fire trainings will occur—and will send out notice a few days prior to the training to let residents in the surrounding area know. Watch for these notices on Facebook at facebook.com/CityOfGoshen or on Twitter at twitter.com/Goshen_City. You also will find the notices on the City website at goshencity.org; you may sign up to automatically receive the notices via email by going to goshenindiana.org/blog. If you have questions about the training center, call the GFD at 533.7878 or email fire@goshencity.com.



Goshen's Fire Training Facility was completed this winter. The Goshen Fire Department will train with live fires in this space.

Warm shelters and hot food for winter in Goshen

Efforts to provide shelter to the Goshen homeless this winter increased in December, as the days grew darker and colder. The City of Goshen and the Goshen City Coalition for the Homeless have worked together to provide overnight warming centers through March.

There are locations in Goshen offering free meals all seven days of the week, as well as locations offering shelter. Evening meals are provided at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church (109 W. Monroe St.) on Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and at Cornerstone Christian Fellowship (110 S. Fifth St.) on Tuesday and Wednesday every week. The Window (223 S. Main St.) provides free lunches Monday through Friday.

Transportation is provided from the dining locations to the overnight-shelter locations, and then back to The Window in the morning, which can be used as a warming center during the day.

For December and January the overnight-shelter host site was East Goshen Mennonite Church (17861 SR 4/East Lincoln Avenue extended). In February the site is Silverwood Mennonite Church (1745 W. Lincoln Ave.); in March it will be Maple City Chapel (2015 Lincolnway East). Though transportation is arranged, guests may come directly to the overnight warming center on their own.

At the overnight shelter, a representative of the coalition hosts the guests from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Nitesource, a local security company, provides guarding staff from 9 p.m. to 8 a.m. Funding by the City of Goshen and the Community Foundation of Elkhart County has made overnight security possible and was essential for the warming center to operate.

Kevin Farmwald, coalition chair, said the overnight shelter has been utilized each evening it has been open, often having seven to nine guests per night. The coalition has been working with various agencies and churches in the community to bring together resources to ensure that the homeless have hot meals and a safe, warm place to sleep throughout the winter.

The following organizations are working together to provide resources through the end of March:

- Cornerstone Christian Fellowship
 - East Goshen Mennonite Church
 - Elkhart County Clubhouse
 - Faith Mission of Elkhart, Inc.
 - First Presbyterian Church
 - Goshen Interfaith Hospitality Network (GIHN)
 - Goshen Salvation Army
- Hope House of Faith Mennonite Church
 - Maple City Chapel
 - Oaklawn
 - Operation Treehouse
 - St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
 - Silverwood Mennonite Church
 - The Window, Inc.

Of note as well are the numerous volunteers who have provided an invaluable amount of time to the cause.

Mindy Morehead, GIHN executive director, said she is thankful for the numerous agencies and churches that have come together to offer their services and support: “It’s empowering to see how, in a time of need, our city and all these agencies work together to help our unsheltered residents. And they provide services with much compassion, treating them as the members of this community that they are.”

If you encounter someone in need of shelter, you may call Goshen Interfaith Hospitality Network, which has a 24/7 line, at 534.2300. GIHN will arrange transportation to the overnight shelter.

Sign up for artists’ directory

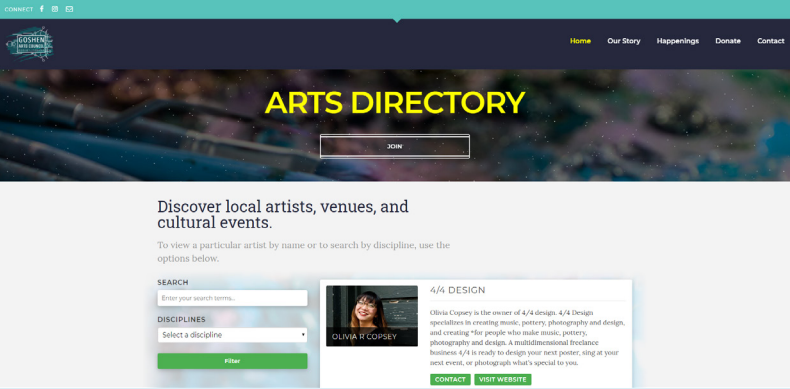
Mayor Jeremy Stutsman created the Goshen Arts Council in 2016 to promote the arts as an economic force in the city—and to offer a platform and networking opportunity for the many artists in our community.

Since its creation, the Arts Council has looked for ways to assist Goshen’s artists, recognizing that one of the most significant challenges for those who want to start an art-related business is learning start-up entrepreneurial practices and creating widened exposure.

A tool being developed is the Arts Directory, which continues to evolve and allows users to search for artists based on name and discipline practiced. It can be found at goshenartscouncil.org. Artists also can add their names and businesses to the directory, which gives users the chance to contact artists via email or visit their website (if applicable).

New collaborations and business endeavors can happen by building an expanding network of artists and art professionals in Goshen; all this gives visibility to the great talent in this community.

To be in the directory, artists are invited to fill out a form at bit.ly/GACdirectory. The form asks for a short description of their



A screenshot of the homepage for the Goshen Arts Directory.

work, affiliations with guilds or other organizations, and preferred contact information for their business (if applicable).

Artists adding their name to the directory must live in Goshen or have a business here. For any questions related to the directory, please email the council at goshenartscouncil@gmail.com.

An orchard for everyone

The City of Goshen has started work on an endeavor—a community orchard—that will take years to come to fruition. Goshen’s first orchard for the community has been established at Abshire Park, 1302 E. Lincoln Ave. The plantings count toward the urban three canopy goal of 45% by 2045, and the fruits, once grown, will be available for picking by any resident.

On a cold Monday in late November, about 50 volunteers gathered at the park to plant the first batch of trees. The project has brought together many different individuals and groups from the community and beyond, including students from Memorial High School in Elkhart, Horizon Education Alliance, Luke Gascho (a local food-for-forest experimenter), Trees for Goshen, the Community Orchard Project, the Goshen Resilience Guild, and the Goshen Parks & Recreation Department, among others.

The orchard includes native plants like paw paw and persimmon trees, beech plum bushes and elderberry shrubs, along with more familiar trees like apple, pear and cherry.



Environmental Resilience Director Aaron Sawatsky-Kingsley gives a tree-planting demonstration at Abshire Park during the orchard-planting event November 25, 2019.

Next spring other lesser-known plants that are suited to our climate in northern Indiana will be added to the mix: Seaberry plants dotted with bright orange berries will form a colorful hedge along the southern entrance to the orchard. Honeyberry, blueberry and currant plants will be incorporated throughout the orchard. Hazelnut shrubs, chestnut trees and Korean pines will contribute edible nuts to the “menu.”

The initial idea for a community orchard was raised by Patrick Coonan, a Goshen resident and urban forager who would like to see Goshen residents take advantage of more of

the fruit and nut crops growing around us. He presented the idea of a community orchard to the Goshen Park Board in 2018, whereupon the Goshen Parks & Recreation Department began the work to envision space for such a project.

“The idea behind a community orchard is to create a gathering space where Goshen residents can discover new types of edible fruit and nuts, learn how to care for these plants, and share in the harvest,” Coonan said.

The project was made possible largely due to a \$30,000 Community Resilience Grant from Enterprise Holdings Foundation, a philanthropic arm of Enterprise Holdings, which, through its regional subsidiaries, operates Enterprise Rent-A-Car.

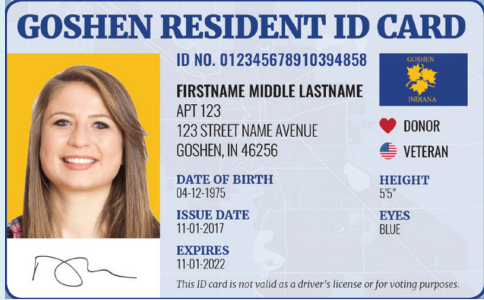
In 2018 Enterprise provided a \$2 million investment for the Arbor Day Foundation’s initiatives in growing urban tree canopies.

For more information about this project contact the department at 534.0076 or environmental@goshencity.com.

It will take several years to see the “fruits” of the labor regarding this project, but we think the results will be well worth the wait.

About the GRID card

The Goshen Resident Identification (GRID) card verifies the identity and address of the person to whom it is issued. The card is issued by the Elkhart County Hope Network (a part of the Center for Healing and Hope) to any residents within Goshen’s city limits.



Sample of a GRID card. | Photo supplied

particularly to the elderly, the homeless and the undocumented.

Mayor Stutsman signed an executive order in November 2017 as a direct order to all City offices to recognize the cards when dealing with services like utilities or park facility rentals.

The cards may not be used as identification for voting or as a driver’s license, but it can be used for the following:

- Identification to access City buildings and services
- Identification at Goshen Community Schools
- Identification to apply for a card at Goshen Public Library

- Identification for the Goshen Police Department (though not as a driver’s license)
- Obtaining discounts at participating local establishments

A GRID card costs \$25 for adults 18 and older—and \$20 for those 17 and younger or 65 and older.

If you would like to apply for a GRID card, you need to bring one proof of identity from each list below (current or expired within the last 10 years), such as:

LIST A

- Passport
- Driver’s license from any country
- ID card from any country
- Consular identification card
- Voter registration card

LIST B

- Birth certificate
- EBT card
- ITIN letter/Social Security card
- Marriage/divorce certificate
- Income-tax-return forms

You must make an appointment at Goshen’s Center for Healing and Hope (902 S. Main St.) to get a GRID card. Call 534.4744, ext. 201, to make an appointment. For questions related to the GRID card, you may email Center for Healing and Hope at HOPE@CHHclinics.org.

Goshen City Council and districts as of February 2020



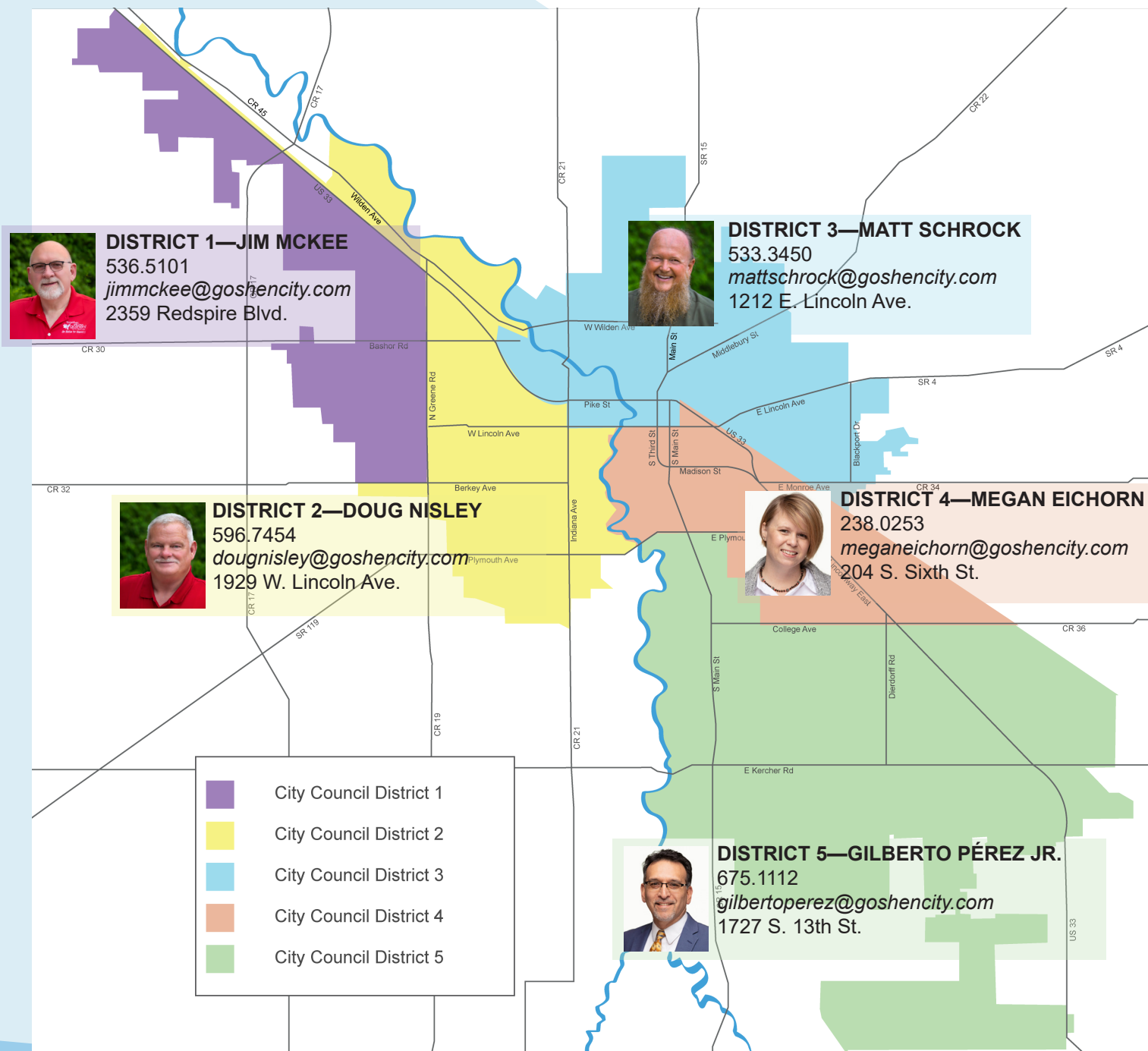
AT-LARGE—JULIA KING
215.6006
juliaking@goshencity.com
312 River Vista Drive



AT-LARGE—BRETT WEDDELL
533.2606
brettweddell@goshencity.com
916 Larimer Drive



YOUTH ADVISER—ZOE EICHORN
Zoe was elected by her peers at Goshen High School in May 2019. She is a non-voting member of the City Council.



A summary of Goshen highlights the past four years—a listing by Mayor Stutsman

Many things changed over the past four years. We completed several large projects, though not without some “growing pains” over road closures in particular. We built a stronger, more inclusive community through new parks and development projects—and we rallied our community together in times of need. Finally, we took important steps to protect our environment.

In sum, we:

- Made several major upgrades to our infrastructure and roads, including the completion of two overpasses above our very busy railroad corridors.
- Built our first fully inclusive playground.
- Improved the Ninth Street Corridor and added important connections to offer a more pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly community.
- Implemented a very successful Youth Adviser position to the City Council; the idea is now spreading to other boards within City government, as well as out into the community.
- Worked with our Youth Adviser and the Youth Caucus to set Goshen’s carbon-neutrality goal for 2035.
- Worked to help the homeless by offering more support to many local nonprofit organizations.
- Helped stop a privately managed immigrant detention facility from being built in our county.
- Created the Department of Environmental Resilience, Goshen’s first new department since the formation of Central Garage in 2006.

- Set our 45 by ‘45 tree canopy goal.
- Worked through one of the coldest winters on record and offered help to those in need as temperatures were as low as 20 degrees below zero, with the wind-chill factor making it feel close to minus 50 degrees.
- Kept our community together during Goshen’s worst flood on record; the flood of February 2018 divided our community geographically in half and caused hundreds to temporarily leave their homes.
- Were named Indiana Community of the Year in 2017 by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce.
- Became the 40th community in the United States to receive the Gold Level certification for the SolSmart program, which helped add 100-plus solar projects to our community.
- Were awarded Best Green Project in Indiana in 2018 for our solar efforts by Accelerate Indiana Municipalities.
- Added millions of dollars to our cash balances while getting much accomplished in neighborhoods, as well as adding needed personnel and equipment to our City departments.

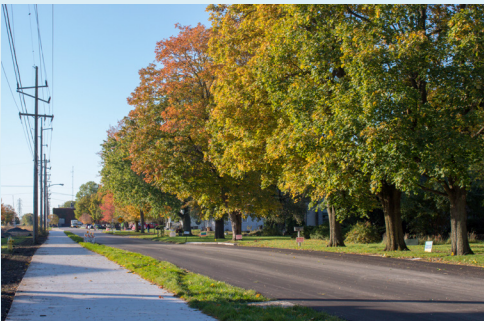
This isn’t nearly the complete list of our community’s achievements the past four years. We accomplished all this first and foremost by not fighting with each other. Rather, we did this by working together for the good of Goshen.

I love my job, and I love my community. Thank you for being supportive of what Goshen already is—and I invite you to work with me on what it still can be.

Renovation of Ninth Street Corridor

Work on the new Ninth Street Corridor Bike and Pedestrian Trail—along with the street surface—was completed in late October.

The new path links the Winona Trail south of Goshen College to downtown Goshen, the Maple City Greenway and the new trail that runs at ground level alongside the new US 33 overpass. The Ninth



The Ninth Street Corridor Trail, looking south.

Street Trail was built between Purl Street and College Avenue, running along the west side of the corridor between Purl and Jackson streets and then crossing over to the east side between Jackson Street and College Avenue. A unique aspect of the new trail is a raised intersection at Ninth and Jackson streets, which provides greater visibility of those using the trail and slows vehicular traffic. This is the first “tabletop” intersection in Goshen. On the south end of the trail, users are directed to cross to the west side of Ninth Street, connecting them to a path that goes into the college campus. This also makes cyclists and pedestrians more visible to drivers crossing the tracks from the east on College Avenue.

The Ninth Street Corridor runs through a neighborhood with a mix of residential and industrial uses, connecting Parkside and Chandler elementary schools, as well as Goshen High School, yet it didn’t have

consistent bike and pedestrian features.

In 2012 the Goshen Redevelopment Commission and City staff met with residents and businesses in the area to create a revitalization plan. Providing infrastructure that would keep bikers and pedestrians safe was on the list of actions the City could take in the revitalization process, in addition to cleaning brownfields and designating a railroad quiet zone along the corridor.

Dustin Sailor, director of Public Works & Safety, commended the Redevelopment Commission for consistently following through with every phase of the project.

“Much planning and dedication have gone into improving the Ninth Street Corridor,” Sailor said. “And the work we see here shows that the Redevelopment Commission has made a commitment to improve the city from the inside out.”

Changes along the Ninth Street Corridor, beginning with the rehabilitation of brownfields, has attracted new developments—such as Scott Signs, the expansion of Dairy Farmers of America and the relocation of Goshen’s Parks & Recreation offices, said Community Development Director Mark Brinson.

“We’re excited to see these developments breathe new life into a corridor so close to the heart of town,” he added. “We’re hopeful that this will attract even more entrepreneurs and businesses into the area.”

The Engineering Department continues to work on designating the Ninth Street Corridor as a quiet zone, a project that may take another year to be completed. For more information, call the Engineering Department at 534.2201 or email engineering@goshencity.com.