



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Launching the Countywide Strategic Investment Plan: 2026-2033

Wayne County, Indiana — Forward Wayne County, in partnership with Wayne County Government and numerous key contributors, has launched Wayne County’s Countywide Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) for 2026-2033. The plan marks an important milestone for the county, positioning its communities as places of innovation, and hubs for recreational amenities and quality of life in East Central Indiana. It can be reviewed [here](#).

The SIP was developed through a multi-step, community-driven process led by Forward Wayne County, as well as the FWC Steering Committee and HWC Engineering. All incorporated communities in Wayne County were invited to participate, along with town and city leaders from throughout the county. Ten of the 14 communities chose to participate. These early conversations laid the foundation for a public engagement campaign that included over 10 workshops and four community stakeholder meetings, engaging more than 150 participants countywide.

“Seeing how our communities came together to share ideas and priorities for Wayne County’s future was both exciting and inspiring,” said Acacia St. John, Director of Forward Wayne County. “The input we received shows just how invested our residents are in their communities. In addition, it showed alignment between town governments and their residents in making sure the plans outlined in the SIP become a reality.”

Through the planning process, five priority investment areas emerged, each representing both a critical need and a significant opportunity for long-term impact. Those areas include housing, infrastructure, parks and recreation, revitalization and beautification, and tourism.

Together, they form a portfolio of more than 30 proposed projects that reflect strong community interest and strategic alignment. All achievable. Projects outlined in the SIP span the entire county, ranging from the continued revitalization of Richmond’s Whitewater Gorge to rural park enhancements in Greens Fork and essential infrastructure upgrades in Dublin.

“The SIP represents the voices of our residents, local leaders, and partners across Wayne County,” said Jeff Plasterer, President of the Wayne County Commissioners. “By focusing on housing, infrastructure, and quality of life investments, we’re creating a county where people want to live, work, and visit. The SIP provides a clear map to future investments.”

At its core, the SIP is about readiness and positioning Wayne County to act when opportunities arise. The plan provides a clear framework to guide future investment, align local and private resources, and support communities as they work to retain talent, attract new investment, and strengthen long-term resilience. With committed leadership, engaged residents, and a shared vision for progress, Wayne County is prepared to move forward with purpose and build a strong, vibrant future for generations to come.