



JOHN BARTH
COUNCIL AT-LARGE
for stronger neighborhoods

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My Goal as Your At-Large City/County Councilor:

Every Marion County neighborhood is unique, with its own strengths, goals and problems. I will work to bring out the best in every neighborhood in our county. As a member of the Indianapolis City/County Council, my focus will be to work with neighborhoods to preserve what works, listen to your concerns, and be a partner in helping improve the quality of our county and our lives.

Supporting Indianapolis Neighborhoods

The 890,875 residents of Marion County live in neighborhoods that are unique in many ways, from the community assets they possess to the people who live there. When our fellow citizens put their heads to their pillows each night, they have the same goals for their children, families, neighborhoods and all of Marion County. Street by street, block by block – every resident wants, and deserves:

- Safe places -- to live, work, play, and enjoy family;
- Reliable public services -- police and fire protection, trash pickup, water & sewer, and snow removal;
- Conveniences -- grocery stores, drug stores, and restaurants close to our homes with parking and public transit access;
- Easy access -- to parks, green spaces and other recreational facilities;
- Immediate city action -- on overgrown lots and abandoned homes;
- Mixture of development -- housing, retail, and commercial businesses to match the unique characteristics and strengths of each community;
- Strong partnerships -- between residents, businesses, community groups, and city departments to further community goals.

How do we make this happen?

- Neighborhoods Must Lead the Way: Neighborhoods must have a strong voice in deciding what happens in our community. They should lead the way in creating their own priorities and planning in partnership with the City and Council.

- The Mayor's Office Must Go Above and Beyond: The City must take the time to become experts on the needs and desires of our neighborhoods. There is only one way to do this – through on-going, focused engagement at the block level. This level of community engagement takes time and dedication – and consistent, repeated in-person visits.
- City/County Councilors Must Advocate for Neighborhoods: Beyond activated neighbors and a dedicated Mayor's Office, we must have an elected body that serves and fights for our neighborhoods. It is necessary for City/County Councilors to actively support the needs and desires of neighborhoods through interactive partnership, responsive leadership, and dedicated attention.
- Redesign The Mayor's Neighborhood Liaisons Strategy: The Neighborhood Liaisons program must be "turbo charged" – the Liaisons must know every leader and every issue in the neighborhoods they serve. Beyond this, The Mayor's Office should reform the Liaison staff from being a "conduit" of information into an active, engaged team of experts who can proactively assist neighborhood and business leaders in implementing their neighborhood and entrepreneurial plans, while ensuring that the regulatory environment is simple to navigate.