

NORTHSIDE NEWS

Connecting Residents with their City Government.



A Note from Natalie

Your Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate

Hello, Northside!

This has been a notable month thus far. I hope everyone stayed safe and warm during last week's snowstorm. It is important to look out for members of our community during severe weather events, be it through shoveling a neighbor's sidewalk or checking in periodically to ensure they are safe and warm.

As always, if you know anyone who may find this newsletter helpful, please encourage them to add their email to the mailing list at:
<https://forms.gle/8PiAQJlgEZiXThLr7>

Your Neighborhood Advocate,
Natalie van Dongen

RESOURCES

Report potholes, abandoned vehicles, stray animals, & more through the Mayor's Action Center
[317.327.4622](tel:317.327.4622) or
[Request Indy Online at maps.Indy.gov/RequestIndy](https://maps.Indy.gov/RequestIndy)

MNA Contact Info:
Email -
Natalie.vanDongen@indy.gov

Community Office Hours:
[Updated dates, times, and locations coming soon.](#)



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

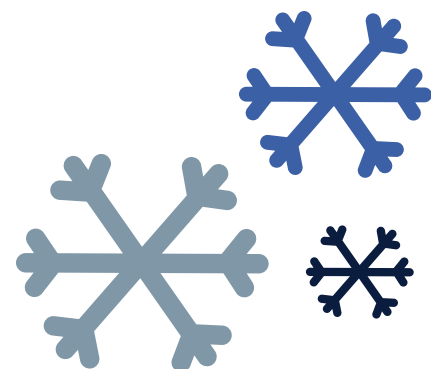
TIME SENSITIVE: WINTER WEATHER (2/11)

The Indianapolis Department of Public Works (Indy DPW) today announced it will have 45 Indy Snow Force trucks on roadways starting at 11 p.m. Friday treating streets against the possibility of overnight freezing. With temperatures expected in the mid-20s overnight, pavement conditions could turn icy after a rainy Friday afternoon.

Indy Snow Force leadership is also looking ahead to snow accumulation and chilly temperatures in the forecast for Sunday. More details on a winter weather response for Sunday will be released this weekend as final predictions for snowfall come into focus.

Motorists are urged to drive with care during wintry conditions, especially on bridge overpasses or locations known to get slippery. Remember to leave plenty of time to safely reach your destination, allow plenty of clearance near other vehicles, and keep at least three car lengths between your vehicle and Snow Force trucks. It is recommended that drivers carry blankets, a small shovel, and a charged cell phone in case of incidents while traveling.

Follow @IndySnowForce on Twitter for regular updates on snow fight activity during winter weather events. The [Indy Snow Force Viewer](#) is used during major winter events to show where roads have been plowed or treated with salt by Indy DPW's Snow Force trucks.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

SPOTLIGHT: OPHS PEACEMAKER PROGRAM

Mayor Joe Hogsett tasked the Office of Public Health & Safety to directly intervene in violence in Indianapolis neighborhoods, build the capacity of grassroots organizations engaged in violence prevention, and ensure resources reach the residents who need them most.

This effort is led by the City's Director of Community Violence Reduction and supported by the Indy Peacemakers – activists from local neighborhoods who act as violence interrupters and provide operational assistance to grassroots neighborhood groups engaged in violence prevention.

Peacemakers are comprised of three different positions: interrupter, life coach, and outreach worker. All are required to be credible messengers, meaning they have connections and direct experience in the communities they serve. Each position works to prevent violence at different levels.

- Interrupters work to stop a conflict that has the potential to turn deadly immediately before or while a crime is happening, including retaliatory violence.
- Outreach workers assess whether an individual's risk factors—including employment status, age, education level, and prior criminal justice involvement—require more intense, personalized support.
- Those individuals are then referred to life coaches, who work with clients up to 18 months to develop a "Life Plan" away from violent crime.

Mayor Hogsett announced a comprehensive violence reduction plan in fall 2021, powered by \$150 million in American Rescue Plan funds unanimously approved by the City-County Council. The plan emphasizes law enforcement investments, including \$9 million in modern policing technology, 100 new IMPD officer positions, and up to 40 IMPD civilian positions to cover non-emergencies. It also addresses root causes of violence through \$45 million for grassroots violence prevention organizations, 50 peacemakers to engage with those at risk of becoming perpetrators or victims of gun violence, \$30 million for mental health resources, and more.

Learn more at: <https://www.indy.gov/activity/violence-reduction>

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

ADOPT-A-BLOCK RENEWAL (FROM KIBI)

Every 2 years, ALL members of the Adopt-A-Block Program must renew their blocks! This helps ensure Block Captain engagement and up-to-date information. If you are already an AAB member but would like to renew a DIFFERENT block than the one KIB has on file, you will have to wait until the AAB Applications opens on March 22nd.

The AAB application will re-open for NEW applicants and members changing their blocks on Tuesday, March 22nd! If you have any questions about this process, please reach out to Laura Drascic at ldrascic@kibi.org.

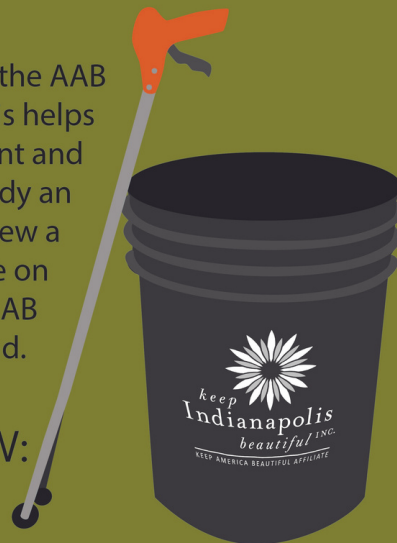
CAPTAINS, RENEW YOUR BLOCK TODAY!

RENEW YOUR BLOCK HERE:
KIBI.ORG/ADOPT-BLOCK-RENEWAL

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DEADLINE TO RENEW:
MARCH 18, 2022

Questions? contact Laura Drascic at ldrascic@kibi.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

NORTH DISTRICT ROBBERY PREVENTION EVENT

What: IMPD North District Robbery Prevention Roundtable

When: Thursday February 17th at 10:00 am

Where: <https://indy.webex.com/meet/john.ly>

Presenting: Detective Sergeant Dean Fischer

Open to everyone.

What to Do in Case of Robbery:

- Call 911 right away, even during the incident if safely possible. If you are not able to talk, just put the phone down; the operator will be able to listen to what is going on as Police is on its way.
- Do not offer any resistance and try to remain calm. Follow the established safety protocol and do not risk your safety by doing anything foolish.
- Do what the robber says, but not more than that. Do not fight, argue or aggravate the robber.
- Everything but your life can be replaced, give the robber the money or items they are seeking; most likely they are going to get them anyway.
- Never get into a vehicle or allow yourself or an employee to be taken away from the location, the struggle should end there.

Make Sure You Get:

- A good physical description of the suspects including clothing, facial hair, scars, tattoos, their speech, odd features or anything “particular” to each individual; and the description of any weapon seen.
- Whatever the perpetrators are saying to one another.
- The number of perpetrators involved and the details of how they got away. Obtain the description and license number of any vehicle involved if you are safely able to do so.
- To assist the police in locating fingerprints, do your best to notice and remember the items handled by the robber.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

NORTH DISTRICT ROBBERY PREVENTION (CON.)

What to Do After a Robbery:

- Once you dial 911, be sure to remain on the telephone to provide information as long as need-ed. Remain calm and answer all the questions being asked.
- Do not disturb the crime scene. Do not put your hands on anything.
- Secure the premises for the Police, letting no one in or out before their arrival.
- Every witness needs to provide a description of the incident and the perpetrators; to avoid muddling anyone's memory, try not to discuss the details before that.
- Get the contact information for any witness who finds it necessary to leave.

VERSITI BLOOD CENTER EMERGENCY APPEAL

This morning, Versiti Blood Center of Indiana issued an emergency appeal for blood donations. With less than a day's available supply, communities throughout the state face a potential crisis as hospitals may not have the blood needed to treat patients.

Versiti provides blood and blood products to 90 hospital partners throughout the state. To maintain a safe blood supply, we need 2,500 donors every week. The current inventory is the lowest it has been in a decade.

To find a donor center or community blood drive near you, call 1-317-916-5150 or visit versiti.org. There is no substitute for blood, and we humbly ask everyone to join together to help save lives.