

NORTHSIDE NEWS

Connecting Residents with their City Government.



A Note from Natalie

Your Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate

Happy March! ♣

The good news: Spring is just around the corner. The not-so-good-news: the constant shifts in weather patterns has left our roadways worse for wear. Please continue to submit pothole reports via RequestIndy! Indy DPW relies on this information to know where to send our dedicated Street Maintenance Crews.

In addition to all-things-roadwork, this month's newsletter includes a survey from IMPD North District, a Clear Path 365 update from the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), Keep Indianapolis Beautiful (KIB) Adopt-A-Block & Supply Distribution reminders, a public art opportunity from #IndyKeepsCreating & more!

As always, if you know anyone who may find this newsletter helpful, please encourage them to add their email to the distribution 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

INDY DPW: POTHOLE & STRIP PATCHING

After Mayor Joe Hogsett on Sunday announced five days of 10-hour overtime working days for street maintenance crews this week, the Indianapolis Department of Public Works (Indy DPW) on Friday expects to have filled approximately 40,000 potholes by the end of the week on thoroughfares in every part of the county. Indy DPW projects it will have used about 850 tons of hot mix asphalt filling potholes just this week while a year-to-date estimation has total potholes filled at more than 65,000. Pothole-filling work this week has been accompanied by the completion of six major segments of strip-patching from a previously released priority list with many more segments underway or prepared for future work.

While the forecast next week includes some chance of precipitation, work will continue next week on both pothole-filling and strip-patching operations as conditions allow.

“We’ve seen the great majority of pothole requests year-to-date come into the City in just the past two weeks, following revolving freezing and thawing temperatures,” said Mayor Hogsett. “And this week weather has finally allowed some uninterrupted momentum to focus on street maintenance. I am incredibly proud of the hard work of our crews who—after 50 hours on the job this week—will have resolved about 3,000 service requests from Indy citizens by the end of the day.”

Indy DPW reports that the number of service requests resolved this week is greater than the amount resolved year-to-date prior to Monday, February 28, a testament to the hard work of crew members when weather allows street maintenance to occur. As of Friday morning, Indy residents had submitted 11,467 service requests year-to-date regarding potholes; by the end of day, Indy DPW expects to have resolved about 5,000 of these year-to-date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

INDY DPW: POTHOLE & STRIP PATCHING (CON.)

Specific to thoroughfare roadways (the major focus of pothole-filling efforts this week), Indy DPW estimates it will have resolved approximately 2,500 pothole service requests by week's end of the approximately 7,300 service requests made year-to-date along thoroughfares.

Separately, Indy DPW in-house crews and contracted crews completed intensive strip-patching operations at six locations this week, with six more currently underway and many more locations targeted for future work. Strip-patching locations completed in Area 1 this week include:

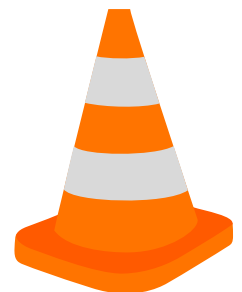
- Kessler Blvd E Dr, from Linwood to Emerson Way

Ongoing and consequent strip-patching locations in Area 1 include:

- Meridian Street, from 54th to 96th streets
- 80th Street, from Keystone Avenue to Westfield Boulevard
- Westfield Blvd, from 75th to 80th streets

Strip-patching locations are pre-selected by Indy DPW using pavement deterioration data, objective of resident requests. However, any Indianapolis resident can report potholes locations via the [RequestIndy](#) online portal or app, the Indy Pothole Viewer, or by calling the Mayor's Action Center at 317-327-4622.

As strip-patching and other road construction continues this season, DPW encourages drivers to give construction crews the space they need. Drivers should watch for orange barrels and cones, slowing down through construction zones and using caution around workers.



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IMPD NORTH DISTRICT SURVEY

A message from Commander Wolley of IMPD North District:

North District Community Partners,

I would like to reaffirm IMPD North District's goal to provide our community with outstanding, equitable, and effective policing focused on three pillars. The three pillars of impacting crime, enhancing community relationships, and personnel development will be at the center of all the crime reduction strategies we deploy. Our goal is to invite community stakeholders to the discussion and problem-solving process. Together, we can create long-term solutions that building toward a stronger and safer community. We know we can't keep this district safe without your help.

Below you see a link to a survey. This survey is designed to get a better understanding of how you currently perceive your neighborhood. I'm not interested in what the media or what politicians have to say. I would like to know your thoughts and concerns so we can direct resources to those areas/locations with the goal of making an immediate impact. I have the ability to look at the data but I am more interested in what you see, how you feel, and what you think will be our best chance at getting a win for your community.

Please consider responding to the survey so we can work on improving the quality of life in your neighborhood. For those of you who have already participated, please disregard this message. As always, I appreciate your time, love, and support as we take on the challenges of 2022. Our officers remain steadfast and focused on their oath to keep our community safe. We look forward to your continued partnership and insight.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IMPDnorth2021>

Michael Wolley II
Commander - North District

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

FROM INDOT: CLEAR PATH 465 UPDATE

Preliminary Clear Path 465 construction begins along I-465

Preliminary construction activities are now underway along I-465 between the White River and Fall Creek. Crews are installing signs and marking reference points ahead of Clear Path 465 construction to rebuild and add lanes to 4.5 miles of I-465. Expect I-465 speed limits to be reduced to 45 mph by mid-March. Clear Path 465 will improve safety and traffic flow on I-465 and I-69 where they connect on the northeast side of Indianapolis. The project includes new ramp lanes, 14 new bridges, two rehabilitated bridges, maintenance work and interchange modifications.

71st Street closure

East 71st Street and the adjacent multi-use trail are expected to close at I-465 on or after Tuesday, March 15. This closure is expected to continue through early May to dig out and drive steel supports into the ground around the I-465 bridge over 71st Street, which is being expanded for the project.

The detour will follow Shadeland Avenue, 75th Street and Binford Boulevard. Local access will be maintained for properties on either side of I-465.

East 71st Street is expected to close again at I-465 from early June through late 2022. Advance notice will be provided as the closure schedule is finalized.

Clearing work begins next week

Contractors expect to start clearing shrubs and trees and removing fencing on state property on or after Monday, March 7. Property owners using state right of way fencing as a pet or other enclosure should make alternate arrangements. The clearing crew expects to begin along the westbound lanes of I-465 at the White River and move east. All trees within the I-465 work zone will be cut and felled by the end of March, with the chipping and removal of trunks, stumps and brush to follow. Demolition and clearing of any remaining structures in the Clear Path 465 work zone is expected to begin in mid-March.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

FROM INDOT: CLEAR PATH 465 UPDATE (CON.)

Stay Informed

A [fact sheet](#) and [presentation](#) provide an overview of the project. They are available for download from the Project Documents page at ClearPath465.com.

For the latest information, sign up for [email updates](#) at ClearPath465.com or text “INDOT Clear Path” to 468311. Social media users can follow the project on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).



FROM THE MLK CENTER: NONVIOLENCE TRAININGS

Racism and Violence have taken a toll on our community. While many of us are thriving, some of our neighbors are struggling. That means we must all do better. At the MLK Center, we are on a mission to build Dr. King's vision for a Beloved Community right here in Indianapolis. It will take each one of us and everyone is welcome. Join us by enrolling in our Nonviolence Training - a twelve-hour training that will increase your knowledge, expand your perspective, and help you take action to build the Beloved Community with us. Register or learn more at <https://mlkcenterindy.org/nonviolence/>



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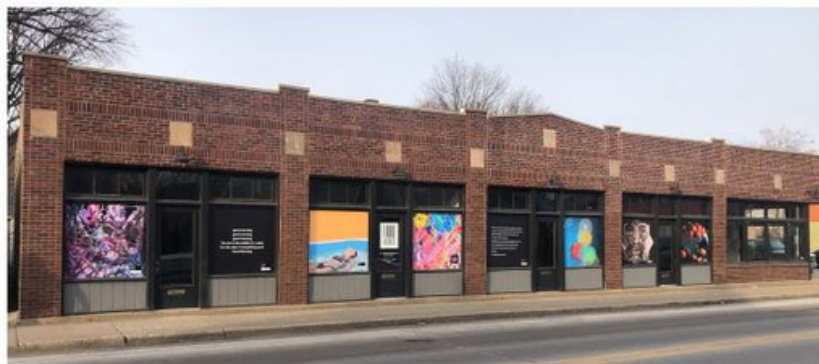
#INDYKEEPSCREATING SIDEWALK GALLERIES PROGRAM

The #IndyKeepsCreating Sidewalk Art Galleries program has successfully seized on the momentum generated by the 2021 "Swish" public art program and has seen an additional 64 large-scale vinyl artwork prints and original artwork commissions by central Indiana artists installed on vacant storefront windows around Indianapolis including: Downtown, the Near East neighborhood, the Englewood neighborhood, Broad Ripple, and on the West side just south of Rhodius Park.

As the program wraps up at the end of March 2022, the Indy Arts Council is looking for additional locations to host these temporary artworks. We are looking for interested building owners who'd like to participate in this "last chance" call for locations. Ideal locations are large storefront-type windows within neighborhoods where the public can easily access and enjoy the artwork.

Artwork licensing fees, installation, and eventual removal are all covered by the program budget. The vinyl, adhesive artworks can last up to a year with the option to extend the display period if they remain in good condition.

If you or someone you know is interested in participating in the Indy Keeps Creating Sidewalk Galleries program, please email Lindsey Lord at llord@indyarts.org with the building location and owner contact information.



Artworks installed on E. 10th Street as part of the Indy Keeps Creating Sidewalk Galleries Program

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

KIB ADOPT-A-BLOCK RENEWAL

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.

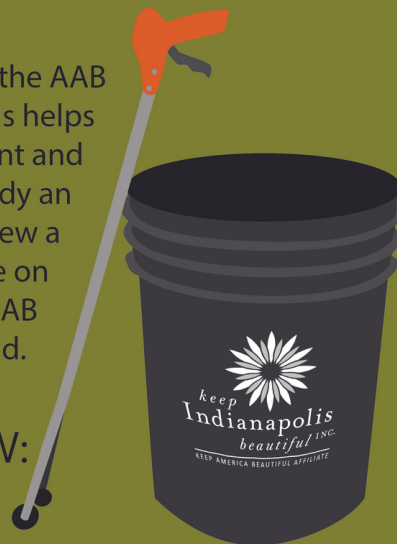
CAPTAINS, RENEW YOUR BLOCK TODAY!

RENEW YOUR BLOCK HERE:
[KIBI.ORG/ADOPT-BLOCK-RENEWAL](https://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

KIB ADOPT-A-BLOCK SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION

If you're hosting a cleanup in April or you recently renewed as a Block Captain, this is for you!

KIB's annual distribution for Adopt-a-Block Renewals and April Great Indy Cleanup Leaders is March 25th-26th. A great way to kick off the cleanup season!

Check out our other projects at kibi.org/projects.

A photograph of a green-handled shovel and a black bucket with a white sun logo and the text 'Keep Indianapolis Beautiful' on a sidewalk. The shovel is stuck in the ground, and the bucket is next to it. The background shows a residential street with houses and trees.

**AAB & GIC
SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION**

For Adopt-A-Block Renewals to re-up on supplies, and for GIC Leaders to come get supplies for their April Cleanups!

WHEN:

Friday March 25th
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
&
Saturday March 26th
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

WHERE:

KIB Headquarters
1029 Fletcher Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46203

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INITIATIVES

FROM SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS

The City of Indianapolis - Office of Sustainability is partnering with 501(c)(3) nonprofit Solar United Neighbors on the Indianapolis Solar Co-op, an exciting opportunity for homeowners and businesses in and around Indianapolis to leverage their bulk purchasing power to get a great deal on going solar. The solar co-op aligns with the city's renewable energy goals laid out in the Thrive Indianapolis plan to make our city more sustainable and resilient.

If you've ever considered installing solar panels for your home or business, the time to act is now. Net metering, the foundation of rooftop solar economics, is ending for AES Indiana customers who install solar after July 1 of this year. And the deadline to join the last round of the co-op while net metering is still available is coming up on March 31. Don't miss a FREE solar 101 webinar from Solar United Neighbors to learn more about solar energy and how the co-op can help you get a great deal on a quality solar installation so you can lower your electric bill.

Co-ops take advantage of the group's bulk-purchasing power and vendor-neutral technical support from Solar United Neighbors to get discounted pricing and a quality installation. Volunteer co-op participants choose an installer on behalf of the entire group through an open and competitive bidding process. The selected installer provides co-op participants with a personalized proposal for their consideration. Joining the co-op is completely free and not a commitment to purchase solar panels.

You can find more information (including future Solar 101 webinars) on the co-op [webpage](#). If you have any questions, please contact Solar United Neighbors of Indiana at INTeam@solarunitedneighbors.org.

