



From the Office of the Mayor

Welcome to the monthly newsletter from The Office of the Mayor, curated by Mayor Sakbun himself. This newsletter highlights upcoming city events, street closures, ongoing city project updates, public safety information, and whatever else the Mayor thinks you, the citizens, should be informed of this month.



Mayor Sakbun and his daughter, Scarlett, at the 12 points tree lighting on December 6.

"Happy New Year! Be on the lookout for the next round of leaf pickup in January."
-Mayor Sakbun

"Happy New Year! 2025 will be a big year for Terre Haute as we start new projects and continue to previous ones. The Herz-Rose Park project, 19th and Beech EPA cleanup, Rea Park renovations, and much more will continue in 2025. Our housing initiatives remain a steadfast pillar of our local economic growth. Through the Vigo County Homes for the Future Program, we have seen a number of new residential housing developments in all corners of the city. Let's maintain a mindset of progress and not political polarization in 2025 and continue to grow our beloved city."

-Mayor Brandon Sakbun

2025 UPDATES FROM THE MAYOR

2025 will be pivotal year for the city of Terre Haute. I have outlined several projects that we are already working on.

- The city is assisting our local YMCA and the Wabash valley Community Foundation in applying for grant based funding to renovate our local YMCA. We anticipate some announcements later this week.
- The city is looking forward to increased road funding through the Community Crossing Grants Program and gaming revenue. The full project list will be out for bid this winter.
- In partnership with Vigo County Solid Waste Management, the city is planning for three city wide clean ups in 2025. Our clean up days, code enforcement, and Walk About Wednesday Program represent some of our efforts to clean up our city from blight and debris.
- The Terre Haute Park's Department is proud to launch the implementation of their 5 year master plan. A number of our neighborhood parks will receive investments in 2025.
- From a housing perspective, the city is hyper-focused on adding to our housing stock. This includes income

JANUARY *City Events*

Check out what events are happening this month in Terre Haute!

[City Events](#) | [CVB Events](#)

JANUARY *Street Closures*

View the planned street

View the planned street closures within the city limits for the month of January.

THERE ARE NO PRE-PLANNED STREET CLOSURES IN JANUARY.

Additional Street closure information will be available on the [City of Terre Haute Facebook page](#) and news sources.

On adding to our housing stock. This includes income based housing projects being launched in 2025, infill housing projects through Terre Haute Redevelopment, and neighborhood developments across our city.

These are just some of the initiatives and projects the city is undertaking in 2025. I look forward to adding to this list throughout the year and promoting a positive vision for the city of Terre Haute. - Mayor Brandon

MLK DAY CELEBRATION



All of our City Hall Departments will be closed on Tuesday (12/24) and Wednesday (12/25) for Christmas and Tuesday (12/31) and Wednesday (1/1) for New Year. We will re-open on Thursday (1/2) at 8 a.m. If you have a municipal issue to report during that time, contact 311 by texting (812)-645-6811, using our app My T.H. 311+, or email 311Center@terrehaute.in.gov.

Craft Time Open House

at Dobbs Park Nature Center
5170 E. Poplar St.
Terre Haute, IN 47803
812-877-1095

December 14th, 2024
Through
January 18th, 2025
Mon - Fri 10am - 4pm
Sat 11am - 3pm

Cost varies depending on craft.
(\$0.50 - \$4.00)



Stop by the Nature Center and make a craft or two. Choose a movie

The City of Terre Haute's Annual

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration



Featuring a Panel Discussion

VIGO COUNTY
HISTORY CENTER
AUDITORIUM

929 Wabash Ave,
Terre Haute, IN 47807

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2025

12 PM - 6 PM: MUSEUM OPEN

Free Admission

6 PM: PROGRAM BEGINS

Free Admission

Light Refreshments to Follow

"One day we must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal.

We must pursue peaceful ends through peaceful means."

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Panelists:

Mayor Brandon Sakbun | Councilperson Dr. Kandace Hinton |

Stop by the Nature Center and make a craft or two. Choose a movie or watch the birds and squirrels in the Wildlife Viewing Area.
 Many crafts will be available to choose from.
 All materials will be supplied.
 Pick up a complete list of our Saturday programs.

Moderator:
 County Historian Suzy Dunning



For any questions or information please call 812-877-1095.

2024 COMMUNITY CROSSING GRANT WRAP UP

Total Project Cost: \$2,141,483.05
 Roads Paved in 2024:

- 7th St from Beech St to Maple Ave
- Oak St from S 3rd St to S 9th St
- Oak St from S 12th St to S 25th St
- Center St from College Avenue to Deming St
- Maple Ave from N 25th St to N Fruitridge Ave
- Maple Ave from N 3rd St to N 7th St
- Park St from S 14th St to S 22nd St
- Beech St from N Fruitridge Ave to Schulte St
- Schulte St from Beech St to E Old Maple Ave
- 17th St from Crawford St to Franklin St
- 17th St from Crawford St to Wabash Ave



Monthly First Friday

COMPLIMENTARY COFFEE & NETWORKING

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Start your morning with good vibes.



This monthly event will be held on January 3rd from 7:30 am - 9:00 am at the Terre Haute Convention Center.

2025 COMMUNITY CROSSING GRANT PROPOSED PROJECTS

- 13th St, Margaret to Voorhees, milling and repaving.
- 15th St, Park St to Crawford St, milling and repaving.
- 16th St, Putnam St to Crawford St, milling and repaving.
- 17th St, Hulman St to Franklin St, removal of the old railroad ties and will be replaced with full depth asphalt pavement.
- 22nd St, College Ave to Wabash Ave, milling and repaving.
- 23rd St, College Ave to Poplar St, milling and repaving.
- Barton Ave, Park Ave to Wabash Ave, milling and repaving.
- 22nd St, Locust St to 8th Ave, milling and repaving.
- 23rd St, Locust St to 8th Ave, milling and repaving.
- 14th St, 8th Ave to Beech St, milling and repaving.
- Beech St, 14th St to 21st St, milling and repaving.
- Kent Ave, Wabash Ave to Liberty Ave, milling and repaving.
- 17th St, Wabash Ave to Liberty Ave, milling and repaving.
- Tippecanoe St, 21st St to 25th St, milling and repaving.
- Center St, Washington Ave to College Ave, full depth removal of the old concrete pavement and will be replaced with full depth asphalt pavement.
- College Ave, 3rd St to 25th St, milling and repaving.



2025 Parks and Recreation Department Calendars are now available! Pick yours up at the Terre Haute Parks and Recreation Department or City Hall.



Vigo County Residents, after facing severe storms over the past two years, we realized how important it is to have a dedicated location for yard waste disposal. Thanks to a composting permit granted by the State of Indiana, we can now divert hundreds of tons

Indiana, we can now divert hundreds or tons of yard waste away from landfills to create something useful for our community and environment. -Vigo County Solid Waste Management

Yard waste will be accepted by appointment only. Dedicated drop-off hours will officially begin in March.

[Set up an appointment](#)



Club 720

Connecting Communities to Homeownership

Connecting Communities to Homeownership

The Hoosier Homes Program is a collaborative initiative led by the Fort Wayne Housing Authority (FWHA) and co-administered by Club 720. It aims to increase homeownership opportunities for low-, moderate- and middle-income families within communities across Indiana. Local governments can offer this program with no financial or administrative burden, providing qualified homebuyers with access to competitive mortgage loans, down payment assistance (DPA), and closing cost assistance.

Club 720 is a cutting-edge platform designed to transform the housing market in the U.S. by making homeownership more accessible, equitable, and empowering. We work with local governments, financial institutions, nonprofit organizations, and the housing production ecosystem to bridge the gap between available housing units and prospective homeowners. Our mission is to address the nation's housing crisis by creating a sustainable housing production system, solving workforce attainable housing shortages, and empowering communities to build wealth through homeownership.

[Learn More](#) | [Register](#)



BLACK HISTORY MONTH BANNER PROJECT

THE CITY'S BANNERS ARE GETTING AN UPGRADE. HELP US CELEBRATE HISTORY BY SUBMITTING A NOMINATION.

WWW.TERREHAUTE.IN.GOV

Who inspires you? Our Black History Month banner project is looking for community heroes to feature this February. Nominate someone who has made an impact on Terre Haute!

Deadline: January 3, 2025

[Learn more and nominate](#)

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING



Christmas Tree Recycling

December 26 - January 11

Mon-Fri 10 am-2 pm
Sat 10 am-2 pm
Closed Sun
excluding gov holidays

VIGO COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY
LIVE TREES ONLY
NO FLOCKING
NO TINSEL
NO DECORATIONS

Vigo County Solid Waste
3230 E Haythorne Ave
Terre Haute, IN 47804



Vigo County Solid Waste reserves the right to refuse any or all items

The city of Terre Haute is teaming up with Vigo County Solid Waste Management to bring Christmas tree recycling to the community! Vigo County Solid Waste Management will be collecting live Christmas trees after the holidays from December 26th- January 11th at their Haythorne Ave Location. Learn more: www.vigocountysolidwaste.org

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

If you or someone you know needs assistance this winter, view and share the [two community resource guides](#) created by the Vigo County Public Library and Hamilton Center in the link above. Both guides discuss programs, warming shelters, and other resources available to our community.

-Mayor Brandon

TERRE HAUTE TRANSIT IS FARE FREE IN 2025





SCAN TO LEARN MORE

Terre Haute Mayor's Office

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing high-quality government services that are driven by efficiency, economy, and equity, we are proud to announce that starting in 2025, both our fixed-route bus service and our ADA para-transit service will be fare-free. This decision reflects our belief that access to affordable transportation is a cornerstone of a thriving, connected community.

We believe that eliminating fares will reduce delays and improve service reliability. Our buses will spend less time handling fare collections, waiting for passengers to find exact change, or verifying discounted fares. This means fewer disruptions, smoother operations, and ultimately, a more punctual service for our riders.

From an economic perspective, while this decision does require us to allocate funds from our gaming revenue, we believe this is a sound financial choice that makes good sense for Terre Haute.

Let me put this into context: In 2022, our bus service collected just under \$100,000 in fares, which covered only 3% of the total operating cost. Even with a slight increase in fare revenue in 2023, fares still covered less than 5% of our operational costs. This highlights that the current fare structure is not only ineffective, but it also creates a financial barrier for those who rely on public transportation the most.

We understand that people are facing increasing economic pressures—rising grocery costs, housing, and childcare expenses. If we can eliminate one financial barrier for our residents without raising taxes, then we believe it's our responsibility to do so. We hope this project is the first of many that will make life easier and more affordable for our residents.

We also want to recognize the impact this will have on our local non-profits. We've had conversations with organizations like Mental Health America, Reach Services, the Loyal Veterans Battalion, and others. Many of these groups currently spend hundreds or even thousands of dollars annually to purchase bus passes for their clients. By eliminating fares, we're relieving that financial burden from our residents and our non-profit partners. This will allow these organizations to redirect those funds back into their critical services, such as mental health and homelessness outreach.

I also want to acknowledge the support we've received from our partners, especially Indiana State University. The City has been operating the ISU bus service for over 10 years, and that partnership has been instrumental in connecting students to the City and making our community stronger. We're grateful for ISU's continued collaboration and the positive impact it has had on connecting our city and university.

The City's goals are clear: we want to increase per-capita income and grow our population. But to do that, we must invest in workforce development, and access to affordable transportation is a key part of that equation.

We understand that any big change needs to be measured, and that's why we are starting with a trial period. We are committed to making this decision work for our community, and we'll focus on three key goals:

1. Increased Ridership: We've already seen a positive impact on ridership during our monthly fare-free days. In 2023, ridership on those days increased by over 50% compared to average days. We expect this trend to continue and to lead to an increase in overall trips taken.

2. Improved Service Quality: We will continue to gather feedback from riders through surveys and work with our transit team to enhance service quality based on that feedback.

3. Data-Driven Decisions: We are committed to tracking key metrics, such as ridership numbers and miles

traveled, to gauge the success of the program. We will also be working with the Metropolitan Planning Organization to conduct an Operational Analysis Study to explore ways to further improve our public transportation infrastructure.

Prior to changing routes and times, ridership and total mileage must increase. This is due to state and federal funding formulas. This presents a situation where we must use the resources we have to improve the rider experience while subsequently planning for the future.

We are confident that this decision will make Terre Haute a more connected, accessible, and equitable city for everyone. We look forward to seeing the positive impacts that fare-free transit will bring to our community, and we remain committed to listening to your feedback as we move forward.

-Mayor Brandon Sakbun

REDEVELOPEMENT DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2025

In 2025, the Department of Redevelopment will focus on transformative initiatives to support Terre Haute's growth and development, with a particular emphasis on affordable housing. A key priority is aligning with HUD's guidance to strengthen partnerships with Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). CHDOs are nonprofit, community-based organizations dedicated to developing affordable housing for low-income families and individuals. HUD requires that a minimum of 15% of HOME funds be allocated to CHDOs, making them essential partners in achieving our city's housing goals.

Government entities value working with CHDOs because of their deep community connections and proven expertise in affordable housing development. By partnering with CHDOs, we can be more confident that public funding is being invested in projects that will deliver measurable results and have lasting impacts. CHDOs bring local knowledge, targeted solutions, and a commitment to long-term community improvement, which makes them a reliable and effective investment for limited funding resources.

The Department of Redevelopment also encourages other like-minded organizations to pursue CHDO certification. Becoming a CHDO opens the door to reserved HUD funding and provides the opportunity to directly contribute to Terre Haute's affordable housing solutions. Organizations interested in certification can reach out to our department for guidance and support through the process.

By fostering collaboration with CHDOs and other partners, we aim to expand affordable housing options, revitalize neighborhoods, and strengthen Terre Haute's community fabric in 2025 and beyond.
Major Redevelopment Projects

In addition to our focus on CHDO partnerships, the Department will oversee several key redevelopment projects in 2025:

- **Downtown Demolition Projects:** The demolition of the old Vigo County School Corporation building at 686 Wabash Avenue will continue. This site is being prepared for the construction of a new hotel, which will bring significant economic and tourism benefits to the area. The old police department building at 1211 Wabash Avenue is also scheduled for demolition. This property will be redeveloped into a residential building, contributing to Terre Haute's housing growth and urban renewal. Both parcels already have a large transformational project lined up to continue downtown Terre Haute's revitalization.
- **New Margaret Avenue Project:** Survey work on the New Margaret Avenue roadway has begun and will continue into the first quarter of 2025. Design work and utility coordination will follow shortly thereafter, with construction anticipated to begin by the summer of 2025. This significant infrastructure project will improve connectivity and open up large areas of undeveloped land for future growth.
- **Increased Demolition Efforts:** With an increased demolition budget in 2025, the Department expects to address an increased number of condemned properties. This effort aims to eliminate blighted structures and pave the way for new development opportunities across the city.

By tackling these ambitious projects alongside our ongoing housing initiatives, the Department of Redevelopment remains committed to driving positive change and creating a brighter future for Terre Haute.

DEMOLITION PROJECTS



To increase home building in Terre Haute we have set out to complete demolition projects throughout the city. There has been a large amount of building permit requests, which means there will be much development progress in the coming months and years. We will continue to collaborate with the County, Thrive West Central, and local builders to support residential and commercial growth.



THE POWER OF PAINT

The Power of Paint is an opportunity for local artists to showcase their talent and make a positive impact on their community. By transforming ordinary traffic boxes into vibrant works of art, artists can add color, creativity, and a sense of community to our streets. This project not only beautifies The City of Terre Haute but also encourages public engagement and fosters a sense of pride among residents.

All artist are invited to submit their ideas to help transform our city! By turning traffic boxes into works of art we can encourage public

engagement while beautifying our city! Three projects have already started this year. Don't



wait and get involved today!

[Sign Up To Participate](#)



CITY RECYCLING UPDATE

THE STREETS DEPARTMENT LOCATED AT 1329 Deming Street Terre Haute, IN 47807

ATTENTION PLEASE!!!

DUE TO DEMAND & LIMITED SPACE, GLASS RECYCLING WILL BE REPLACED BY A 2ND FULL SIZE SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING BIN AT THE 14TH ST & CRAWFORD ST (STREET DEPT GARAGE) LOCATION.

GLASS RECYCLING IS STILL AVAILABLE AT THE





Due to high demand and limited space, the glass recycling bin at 14th & Crawford (Street Dept Garage) will be replaced with a second full-size single-stream recycling bin. Glass recycling is still available at the Vigo County Solid Waste facility at 3230 E Haythorne Ave (www.vigocountysolidwaste.org)



My T.H. 311+

311 Citizen Contact Center

Do you have a municipal issue to report?

Large item pickup at your city residence?
Contact 311! A FREE city resource.

[How to contact](#) | [What can I report?](#)



CITY OF TERRE HAUTE



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