# WINNECKE FOR MAYOR





# **LISTENING TO YOU**

The success of our community is directly linked to public involvement in our city's business and the sense of ownership in the way we move forward, together.

In a time when citizens are frustrated with government at every level, it is as important as ever to ensure that our elected leaders are listening to the voters they represent.

As Mayor, I pledge that community engagement will be a cornerstone of our administration. With your help, we can grow and prosper as a united community.

Our great city will turn 200 years old in 2012 and I believe that now is the time to restore pride in our community and return a voice in government to the people of Evansville.

Sincerely,

**LLOYD WINNECKE** 

Paid for and authorized by Winnecke for Mayor Gary Dicus, Treasurer www.WinneckeForMayor.com

### 1. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our administration will hold monthly public meetings throughout Evansville discussing the current and future state of the city. In our conversations with citizens across the city, it is clear that public forums are an effective way to enhance communication with the Mayor's office.

Our administration will conduct Traveling City Hall meetings twice a year in each of Evansville's six wards, gaining feedback on the city's performance and soliciting the public's ideas on how to move Evansville forward.

We will coordinate these forums with the appropriate City Council representative to create a bi-partisan environment that will attempt to build trust and a working relationship between the executive and legislative branches of local government.



To reinforce citizens' voice in government, our administration will also conduct a City Visioning Project. The purpose of this initiative is to allow residents to present ideas for neighborhood and citywide improvements. We will partner with a not-for-profit organization and the three universities to facilitate these discussions.

Our facilitation partners will assist the city in prioritizing these ideas. We will then reach out to the community for assistance in implementing the ideas with the most appeal and affordability. The key to this process is that it should not just be the local government's plan, but instead, the community's plan.

Our city has had numerous "master plans" developed over the years related to downtown development, traffic patterns and quality of life projects. Our administration will retool and revitalize the plans, when needed, to our current environment and challenges. We feel the Visioning project will complement any future plan revisions. Our administration will look to residents for their ideas on how to move Evansville forward.

## 2. MINORITY PARTNERSHIPS

Our administration will form a Community Diversity Board, which will consist of a six member panel serving at the pleasure of the mayor and representing a diverse cross-section of the community. This panel will be charged with identifying and addressing issues of diversity in our community. The panel will meet quarterly with the mayor to exchange ideas on how city government can best serve all members of our community.

In the spirit of increased community engagement, we will establish a direct line of communication between minority leaders in our community and the Mayor's office. Groups such as the Evansville Ministers and Deacons Alliance, NAACP and Hospitality and Outreach for Latin Americans (HOLA) are examples of the community leaders our administration will seek to engage on city issues.

Too often there is a communication gap between city government and the minority community. Our administration will ensure information flows freely and reciprocally between the city and all members of the community.

### 3. CITY WEBSITE

Upon taking office, a priority of our administration will be to complete an overhaul of <a href="www.evansvillegov.org">www.evansvillegov.org</a>. Now more than ever, transparency and access to

information online is an important component of conducting the business of the people.

Some of the issues with the website we will address are:

- Allowing for greater access to forms online
- Allowing for forms to be filled out online, when possible
- Creating a portal for submissions of maintenance requests, such as potholes, sidewalk issues, high weeds, stoplight problems, etc.
- Ensuring information is easy to find
- Keeping information as up-to-date as possible

Whether it is a tourist visiting, a company looking to relocate or even a citizen seeking information, the city's website must be user-friendly and an interactive interface to city government.

# 4. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Participation on boards and commissions is a valuable way for citizens to become engaged in civic affairs. The Mayor of Evansville currently has 47 appointments to boards and commissions.

Our administration will ensure that these boards and commissions represent a diverse and qualified cross-section of the community.

Our administration will also look to make appointments that embrace the diversity of our community's youth. It is imperative that we solicit new solutions for the changing issues facing our city.