

WEST LAFAYETTE'S PROPOSED ANNEXATION: TRANSFORMING A COMMUNITY

Ordinance introduction May 6; fiscal plan, educational materials available on City's Web site

West Lafayette, IN -- April 30, 2013 – Citing the City's proposed annexation plan as West Lafayette's most promising step forward in creating economic development opportunities for the State's most densely populated municipality, Mayor John Dennis will introduce an ordinance for first reading to adopt a fiscal plan and annex the U.S. 231 corridor at the May 6 City Council meeting.

"We are running out of room – plain and simple. Annexing land along the U.S. 231 corridor and property currently served by City sewer will help us promote private investment on the west side that fits the personality of our community.

"In addition, annexation will enhance Purdue University and Purdue Research Foundation's ability to commercialize by transitioning ideas created at these two major entities into innovative products launched into the worldwide marketplace. Our planned annexation will provide a distinct gateway via U.S. 231 to West Lafayette and Purdue University for significant growth opportunities and our community's success in the 21st Century," Dennis said.

Approximately 1,500 parcels would be affected with the annexation adding approximately 5,000 acres to the City, including Purdue University and its affiliated organizations as well as the subdivisions of Wake Robin and Huntington Farms.

A map of the proposed annexation, a question-and-answer document, a one pager *Annexation 101* and another one pager *Transforming a Community and a State* are available on a dedicated section of the City's Web site: www.westlafayette.in.gov/annexation

Along with these informational pieces, a U.S. 231 Corridor Annexation Fiscal Plan is available on the Web site. The purpose of the fiscal plan is to determine whether municipal services could be provided to the areas being annexed at the same level as those same services currently provided to West Lafayette residents.

Careful, detailed analyses by City department heads working in tandem with the City's economic development and financial consultants concluded municipal services of increased fire and police protection, snow removal, street sweeping, recycling, brush and trash collection can be cost effectively extended for approximately \$1 - \$2 per day in property tax increases for those in the annexed area.

"Annexation provides the opportunity to redefine not only our local economy, but Indiana's economy. By annexing Purdue University and the surrounding area, we will be able to capture the intellectual capital found at Purdue and Purdue Research Foundation and give those ideas room to grow by providing the space necessary within our expanded boundaries for economic development to flourish.

"West Lafayette, Purdue University and Purdue Research Foundation are one extraordinary community. Working together, we can transfer innovative technology from ideas to products and services to transform Indiana from a manufacturing economy to an idea economy where 21st Century careers are born.

"West Lafayette must expand to enhance the City's appeal as a home for Purdue graduates and other entrepreneurs to seize opportunities, establish roots, raise families and contribute their time, talent and energies for the betterment of society," Dennis said.

Partnerships resulting from annexation are intended to elevate the local, regional, national and international brand of West Lafayette, Purdue University and Purdue Research Foundation, including improved identity

along I-65 where more than 20 million people pass the current Exit 178 each year and see the misnomer “Purdue Stadium.”

Based on the City Council’s May 6 action on the first reading of the resolution, a public hearing notice will be sent certified mail to each property owner in the proposed annexation area at least 60 days prior to a public hearing date.

The public hearing is residents’ opportunity to hold public discussion about the City’s plans. In addition, City officials will host neighborhood meetings for residents in the planned annexation area. The May 6 City Council meeting starts at 6:30 in the Council Chambers in West Lafayette City Hall, 609 West Navajo Street.

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For questions or interview requests, contact Mayor Dennis at 765-775-5100 or Development Director Chandler Poole at 765-775-5160.