



## **JOINT MEETING:**

### **Goshen Common Council & Goshen Community Schools Board**

**6:00 p.m., February 13, 2023 Special Meeting**

***Council Chamber, Police & Court Building, 111 East Jefferson Street, Goshen, IN***

**Call to Order by Mayor Jeremy Stutsman**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **Council Roll Call:**

**Megan Eichorn** (District 4)      **Julia King** (At-Large)      **Doug Nisley** (District 2)  
**Gilberto Pérez, Jr.** (District 5)      **Donald Riegsecker** (District 1)  
**Matt Schrock** (District 3)      **Council President Brett Weddell** (At-Large)  
**Youth Advisor Karen C. Velazquez Valdes** (Non-voting)

#### **GCS School Board members:**

**Jose Elizalde** (District 3)      **Mario Garber** (At-Large)      **Ryan Glick (District 1)**  
**Allan Kauffman** (District 4)      **Board President Roger Nafziger** (At-Large)  
**Maria Sanchez Schirch** (District 2)      **Bradd Weddell** (At-Large)

#### **Approval of Council Meeting Agenda**

**Privilege of the Floor** (2 minutes maximum per speaker; 30 minutes overall)

- 1) City presentation:** Goshen Parks & Recreation (Superintendent Tanya Heyde)
  
- 2) City presentation:** Goshen Environmental Resilience (Director Aaron Sawatsky Kingsley)
  
- 3) City presentation:** Goshen Engineering Department (Director of Public Works & Utilities Dustin Sailor & Civil Traffic Engineer Josh Corwin)
  
- 4) City presentation:** Goshen Police Department (Assistant Chief Shawn Turner)



**5) Schools presentation:** Stop It! app (Principal Jan Baker, Goshen Junior High School)

**6) Schools presentation:** Demographic Report (Dr. Jerome McKibben, Senior Demographer, McKibben Demographic Research, LLC.)

**7) Schools presentation:** GCS Graduation Report (Principal Cathy DeMeyer, Goshen High School)

**8) Schools presentation:** Model Drive/Traffic Report (Facilities Director Don Ritter)

**9) Schools presentation:** Kindergarten Registration (Assistant Superintendent Tracey Noe)

**10) Council/GCS Board closing conversation:**

1. Are there other issues/matters the City and GCS can/should collaborate on?
2. How can we continue to ensure a good working relationship?
3. Any other discussion topics?

***Adjournment***



**Parks & Recreation Department**  
**CITY OF GOSHEN**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Goshen Common Council & Goshen Community Schools Board

**From:** Tanya Heyde, Superintendent

**Subject:** Presentation to the joint meeting of the Council and School Board

**Date:** February 13, 2023

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During the joint council and school board meeting, the Parks and Recreation Department will present the following updates:

- Joint Parks and Schools Programs
- Neighborhood Park at the Riverdale site
- Shanklin Public Pool Master Planning
- Park Department's 5-year Master Planning



## Department of Environmental Resilience

410 West Plymouth Avenue • Goshen, IN 46526  
Phone (574) 534-0076 • [www.goshenindiana.org](http://www.goshenindiana.org)  
Aaron Sawatsky-Kingsley, Department Head



## Memorandum

To: Goshen Common Council & Goshen Community Schools Board  
From: Aaron Sawatsky-Kingsley, Director, Department of Environmental Resilience  
Re: Presentation to the joint meeting of the Council and School Board  
Date: February 13, 2023

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A short presentation will highlight some of the work which the Department of Environmental Resilience completed in 2022, and projects in place for 2023. This includes:

### 1) Recycling

Curbside recycling for most Goshen residents began in August of 2022. This is part of a strategy to reduce the City costs associated with solid waste removal, and to provide recycling options as the County removes recycling drop-off centers in Goshen.

### 2) Prairie Burn at the Rieth Center

A planted pocket-prairie at the Rieth Center was control-burned for the first time in the spring of 2022. This represents a more sustainable way to manage some landscapes. Controlled burns are planned for a portion of the Abshire Park prairie and again at the Rieth Center in 2023. The Rieth Center prairie burn will include a workshop open to the public.

### 3) Arbor Day Event and Tree Planting

The City's annual Arbor Day Celebration will happen on May 5 on the County Courthouse lawn, and will be in collaboration with First Fridays. The event will highlight the important economic, social and ecological benefits which our trees provide, and will showcase other sustainability practices important to our residents.

Jeremy Stutsman  
Mayor of Goshen



## Department of Environmental Resilience

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*Aaron Sawatsky-Kingsley, Department Head*



### 4) Environmental Education – New and Existing Opportunities

Goshen College interns are helping to create a long-term research project in the Beachy Family Classified Forest. The project will be geared for High School students to collect growth and species data year by year, as a way to measure the effects of climate change.

### 5) AmeriCorps Service Members

Two AmeriCorps service members (Shae Dirks and Acadia Imhoff) are working in our Department during 2023. Their work is focused primarily on building greater awareness about biking options in Goshen (a bike valet service at the Arbor Day event, and a women's bike ride and history tour in May), and on enhancing the Public Orchard at Abshire Park, including a greater support network.

### 6) Trees for Graduates

The Goshen Shade Tree Board will again make tree seedlings available to all Goshen High School and Bethany Christian High School graduates this year. The trees will be made available to Goshen High grads on May 1; they will have an opportunity to select a preferred tree species. These trees are an important part of the ongoing campaign to increase Goshen's tree canopy to 45% by 2045.

Jeremy Stutsman  
Mayor of Goshen



**Engineering Department  
CITY OF GOSHEN**

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## **Memorandum**

To: Goshen Common Council & Goshen Community Schools Board

From: Dustin K. Sailor, Director of Public Works

**RE: JOINT SCHOOL BOARD AND CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
(JN: 2023 PRESENTATIONS – JOINT SCHOOL & COUNCIL MEETING)**

Date: February 13, 2023

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Goshen Engineering has been offered ten minutes of your time at the joint council and school board meeting. During this time, Goshen Engineering staff would like to highlight several public works projects that will be undertaken in 2023 and in the near future.

### **I. Wilden Avenue**

The reconstruction of the intersection of SR 15 and the eastern portion of Wilden Avenue, east of SR 15, was completed in 2022. Starting in March of 2023, the western portion of the project between Rock Run Creek and SR 15 will be initiated and completed during this construction season. The roadway will be shut down for phased reconstruction from west to east. This project includes the reconstruction of the water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer lines, along with new curb, sidewalk, and roadway pavement.

This construction corridor is a known primary bus route that will be impacted and needs to be adjusted during the spring and fall semester.

### **II. County Courts (Reliance Road and Peddlers Village Road)**

In connection with the new County court facility, the City and County, in a joint project, will be rebuilding Reliance Road from US Hwy. 33 to Peddlers Village Road, and Peddlers Village Road from Reliance Road to CR 17. The schedule for bid release is March 2023, with construction beginning during the summer and extending through the spring of 2024. A construction phasing plan has been developed but is subject to change if the contractor can offer a plan that streamlines the project schedule.

### **III. Indiana Avenue Reconstruction**

The City is developing plans to reconstruct Indiana Avenue between Pike Street and Chicago Avenue. Utility coordination is occurring now for needed utility relocations this summer. Reconstruction of this corridor is anticipated in 2024.

### **IV. Tenth Street Reconstruction (Redevelopment & Goshen Utilities)**

In conjunction with the reuse of the former Western Rubber property in the northwest corner of Plymouth Avenue and Tenth Street, the City will be reconstructing the Tenth Street right of way between Jackson Street and Reynolds Street. The water main will be replaced south

of Plymouth Avenue, and infrastructure will be replaced north of Plymouth Avenue. Reconstruction will include a new road cross-section with curb and pavement.

The design is scheduled for completion in March 2023, with bids due in May. The construction project will impact traffic routes to the school in the fall of 2023. A public meeting for this project is scheduled for Thursday, February 16.

#### **V. East Lincoln & Steury Avenue (Redevelopment)**

This project entails the total reconstruction of East Lincoln Avenue between Rock Run Creek and the radio station 98.1. The scope of work also includes the total reconstruction of Steury Avenue between East Lincoln Avenue and the north end of the S-curves. The project will go through the bidding process in the spring of 2023, with material assembly anticipated in 2023 and construction planned for 2024. The road improvements will be completed in phases, with full road closures occurring with each phase.

#### **VI. 2023 Pavement Maintenance**

The City has a 2023 pavement plan that will begin in late spring and continue into the summer. A work schedule has not been received from the contractor, but once received, it will be posted on the Goshen Engineering Department webpage. This year, over 2 million dollars will be invested in road pavement maintenance throughout the community.

#### **VII. Source Water and Wellfield Planning**

The City operates two wellfields with a combined capacity of 10 million gallons per day. Both wellfields sit on small parcels of land that do not allow for expansion of service. In planning for the City's future, the City and Goshen Redevelopment recently closed on 79 acres of land south off of CR 27 by the airport. The Goshen Water Utility is vetting the property and the underlying aquifer for use as a public wellfield. The project outcome is for this property to serve the City as a wellfield for over 100 years.



# GOSHEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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To: Goshen Common Council members &  
Goshen Community Schools Board members

From: Assistant Police Chief Shawn Turner

I would like to start my presentation by thanking the Goshen Community Schools for our continued partnership which has only grown stronger over the years. My goal is to reintroduce our SRO's to the board and the council. I will talk about how long each SRO has been assigned to our school system and the impactful relationships they've developed with staff, students, educators and administrators.

- Introduction of Jade Murphy our newest SRO assigned to the Goshen Elementary Schools.
- Tara Powell who's spent the last seven (7) years as an SRO and has mentored several of our prior SRO's, she will be assisting Jade with the transition from patrol officer to SRO.
- Tommy Steele who's well known at the middle school, he's been serving as an SRO for the last 13 years. Tommy is also the Vice President of INSROA (Indiana School Resource Officers Association).
- Jeff Eaton who has served for approximately one year at the High School as an SRO. Jeff was recruited from retirement after serving 24 years with the Elkhart Police Department. During his time in Elkhart, Jeff served as an administrator, a homicide detective, and was in a specialized multi-jurisdictional task force.
- How our officers are evaluated and our commitment to the school system.
- School Safety initiatives, getting back to basics after the "Covid years."
- School Guard, why we know it's an effective tool.
- Jim (James) Ballard, who is our Behavioral Health Response Coordinator. This was a position created by the Mayor for the purposes of providing more resources to community members who are dealing with some level of mental crisis/trauma.
- Jim has been an officer for 27 years, he was a hostage negotiator for the Emergency Response Team, he is CIT certified, and a CIT Coordinator certified by the National Alliance of Mental Health. Jim has made a name for himself in Elkhart County for developing and utilizing resources, and for his compassionate handling of some of our most vulnerable community members.





## Memo

To: Goshen School Board of Trustees and Goshen City Council Members

From: Jan Baker, Principal, Goshen Junior High School

Date: February 13, 2023

RE: StopIt! App

GCS is constantly looking for ways to improve the safety and security for students and staff. At the request of high school students, GCS will be launching the anonymous reporting StopIt! app on student devices Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> for grades 5-12.

StopIt! allows individuals to anonymously report safety, misconduct, or compliance concerns to school officials and SROs via the app, website, or phone call.

Megan Eichorn and GCS students created this video to promote a *See Something, Say Something, Do Something* preventative concept for our school community. <https://youtu.be/U4RF0r6xLHA>.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY—GOSHEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

1. The resident total fertility rate for the Goshen Community Schools over the life of the forecasts is below replacement level. (1.98 vs. the replacement level of 2.1)
2. Most in-migration to the district continues to occur in the 0-to-4 and 20-29-year-old age groups.
3. The local 18-to-24-year-old population continues to leave the district, going to college or moving to other urbanized areas. This population group accounts for the largest segment of the district's out migration flow and will increase steadily over the next 10 years. The second largest migration outflow is 30- to 44-year-old residents moving to suburban areas. The third largest migration outflow is in the 70+ age groups.
4. The primary factors causing the district's enrollment to decrease over the next eight years is the increase in empty nest households, the relatively low number of elderly housing units turning over coupled with a flat rate of in-migration of young families.
5. Changes in year-to-year enrollment over the next six years will primarily be due to small cohorts entering and moving through the school system in conjunction with larger cohorts leaving the system.
6. The elementary enrollment will slowly increase over the next 10 years school years.
7. The median age of the district's population will increase from 34.2 in 2020 to 35.2 in 2030.
8. Even if the district continues to have some amount of annual new housing unit construction over the next 10 years, the rate, magnitude, and price of existing home sales will become the increasingly dominant factor affecting the amount of population and enrollment change.
9. Total district enrollment is forecasted to decrease by 289 students, or -4.7%, between 2022-23 and 2027-28. Total enrollment will increase by 16 students, or 0.3%, from 2027-28 to 2032-33.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY-CITY OF GOSHEN FORECAST

1. The resident total fertility rate for the City of Goshen over the life of the forecasts is below replacement level. (2.08 vs. the replacement level of 2.1)
2. Most in-migration to the city occurs in the 0-to-4 and 20-29-year-old age groups.
3. The local 18-to-24-year-old population continues to leave the city, going to college or moving to other urbanized areas. This population group accounts for the largest segment of the city's out migration flow and will increase steadily over the next 10 years. The second largest migration outflow is 30- to 44-year-old residents moving to suburban areas. The third largest migration outflow is in the 70+ age groups.
4. The number of households in the city increased from 11,735 in 2010 to 12,720 in 2020.
5. The average household size of the city decreased from 2.68 persons per household in 2010 to 2.62 in 2020. Had the average household size stayed at the 2010 level, the city would have had 763 additional residents in 2020.
6. Total city population is forecasted to increase by 289 people, or 2.0%, between 2020 and 2025. The total population will increase by 510 people, or 1.4%, from 2025 to 2030.
7. The city population is forecasted to increase by 3.5% from 2020 to 2030. This compares to the growth rate of 4.9% for the period 2010 to 2020.
8. The median age of the city's population will increase from 34.8 in 2020 to 37.5 in 2030.
9. Even if the city continues to have some amount of annual new housing unit construction over the next 10 years, the rate, magnitude, and price of existing home sales will become the increasingly dominant factor affecting the amount of population and enrollment change.
10. The 65 and older age group will be the fastest growing age cohort in the city over the next 10 years.



# GOSHEN HIGH SCHOOL

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*Phone: (574) 533-8651*  
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To: School Board of Trustees and Goshen City Council

From: Cathy DeMeyer, GHS Principal

Date: February 13, 2023

RE: GCS Graduation Report

I will be presenting a report regarding the Goshen Community Schools graduation rate. Information that will be shared is:

- Current GCS graduation rate
- Recent history of the graduation rate
- Plans for graduation improvement



**Don Ritter, Director of Facilities**

Memo

To: Dr. Hope, Board of School Trustees and Goshen City Council members

From: Don Ritter Facilities Director

RE: Model Elementary Driveway

Date: February 13, 2023

One of our summer projects will be the Model Elementary School Driveway. This project is slated to begin the end of May with substantial completion by the end of July.

Our goal with this project is to solve traffic issues that we have at the beginning and end of each school day.

We believe these improvements we will provide safer conditions for our Model Elementary students along with reducing congested city intersections.



***Mrs. Tracey Noe, Assistant Superintendent***

Memo To: Dr. Hope, Board of School Trustees and Goshen City Council Members

Memo From: Tracey Noe, Assistant Superintendent

Re: Kindergarten Registration

Date: January 11, 2023

Goshen Community Schools will officially open kindergarten registration starting on February 6, 2023. This is always an exciting time as we welcome our youngest learners to our school district.

This year we are offering several options for parents to register their kindergarten students:

- Scheduled appointment
- QR Code on our district website
- Three open evening hours registration
- Online registration
- Open door registration (a scheduled time is preferred during this busy enrollment period)

Parents should be prepared to bring and/or submit online:

- Child's birth certificate
- Immunization records
- Verification of residency (utility bill, cable bill, some form of correspondence)
- Any legal documents (i.e. custody paperwork)

We are anticipating a smooth registration process as parents have a variety of options to enroll their student.

We are thrilled and eager to watch our youngest learners begin their public-school education at Goshen Community Schools.



**Richard Aguirre, City Clerk-Treasurer**  
**CITY OF GOSHEN**

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**To:** Goshen Common Council & Goshen Community Schools Board  
**From:** Clerk-Treasurer Richard R. Aguirre  
**Date:** February 13, 2023  
**Subject:** Council/GCS Board closing conversation

As the final agenda item for Feb. 13, 2023, Mayor Jeremy Stutsman is inviting open conversation among Councilors and School Board trustees on the following questions:

- 1. Are there other issues/matters the City and GCS can/should collaborate on?**
  
- 2. How can we continue to ensure a good working relationship?**
  
- 3. Any other discussion topics?**