

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT

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**ATTN EDITORS: PLEASE POST PUBLIC MEETINGS
IN COMMUNITY CALENDARS.**

Indy Parks Announces Comprehensive Plan Update in 2008 *Public input vital to five-year parks, recreation and greenway plans*

INDIANAPOLIS — This month, Indy Parks and Recreation will begin the year-long process of updating the department's comprehensive plan, the *Indianapolis-Marion County Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan*, and the Greenways Master plan. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) requires the comprehensive plan be updated every five years.

This process consists of soliciting public input and participation through two rounds of public meetings, user surveys, and focus groups. Round one meetings, listed below, are fact-finding meetings open to public comment in each township to gauge interest in and support of future park and recreation amenities. Concurrently, public comment regarding future greenway development and connectivity will also be solicited. Each set of meetings will be identical in format and presentation to ensure consistency for residents throughout Marion County. A second round of public meetings will take place early next fall, at which time Indy Parks staff will present a plan drafted in response to the public feedback.

Citizen and user input, combined with additional state and national data, will help analyze Indianapolis' park and recreation needs, evaluate universal accessibility in city parks, establish priorities, and determine a schedule for implementation and completion. Plan components include park facility inventory, natural & cultural resource inventories, national recreation standards, and future needs and trends. Currently, Indy Parks and Recreation operates 192 parks and eight greenways, and maintains more than 11,000 acres of greenspace throughout Indianapolis-Marion County.

Previous comprehensive plan updates have brought forth the public's desire for a skatepark, bark parks, and natural resource areas (parkland left "natural"). The 2009 plan will require approval of and adoption by the Board of Parks and Recreation, IDNR, and the Metropolitan Development Commission (MDC) of Marion County.

The public can contact the Indy Parks Planning Office at 327-5106 with questions.

-public meeting schedule listed on the following page-



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Indy Parks Comprehensive Plan and Greenways Master Plan Update Public Meeting Schedule – Round I

Township	Date / Time	Meeting Location	Address
Franklin Township	Thursday, February 21 6:30 – 8 p.m.	Carver Education and Technology Center (Room 145)	6151 S. Franklin Rd.
Warren Township	Tuesday, February 26 6:30 – 8 p.m.	Warren Education and Community Center	975 Post Rd.
Lawrence Township	Thursday, February 28 6:30 – 8 p.m.	Lawrence North High School (Little Theatre)	7802 Hague Rd.
Wayne Township	Saturday, March 1 10 – 11:30 a.m.	Krannert Park Family Center (Cottingham Room)	605 S. High School Rd.
Decatur Township	Saturday, March 1 1:30 – 3 p.m.	Decatur Branch Library	5301 Kentucky Ave.
Pike Township	Tuesday, March 4 6:30 – 8 p.m.	Pike Freshman Center Conference Room	6801 Zionsville Rd.
Washington Township	Thursday, March 6 7 – 8:30 p.m.	Glendale Branch Library (upper level, south end)	6101 N. Keystone Ave.
Center Township	Thursday, March 13 6:30 – 8 p.m.	White River Garden’s Building (Hulman Riverhouse)	1200 W. Washington Street
Perry Township	Tuesday, March 18 6 – 7:30 p.m.	Southport Branch Library	2630 E. Stop 11 Road
Mayor’s Advisory Council on Disability	Wednesday, March 19 9:30 – 11 a.m.	Washington Park Family Center	3130 E. 30 th Street

