

January 1, 2006

Dear Citizen:

It is our goal to be fiscally responsible and to use your tax money wisely. We continue to focus on improving services for residents, attracting quality jobs and making Fort Wayne a safer city. The 2006 City Budget reflects this focus.

Our City is positioned to take advantage of improvements in our economy. I have encouraged a regional focus for economic development and increased private investment in our community. The City is enhancing our partnership with the Fort Wayne-Allen County Economic Development Alliance to attract new businesses to Fort Wayne.

Last year the City launched an aggressive three year program to attract \$1 billion of investment into downtown Fort Wayne and the surrounding areas. We are also freeing up public sector funds to pursue economic development opportunities and job creation projects.

The City of Fort Wayne continues to strive to lead the nation in innovation. We have formed i-Teams that draw on the talent of local citizens and businesses to create innovative solutions to everyday challenges.

We continue to face the challenges of having to do more with fewer dollars. Your City leadership team will continue to look for creative ways to overcome these challenges.

Sincerely Gelan Richard

Graham Richard Mayor

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