


# State of the TOWN



TOWN OF  
**SPEEDWAY**

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**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2023**

# TOWN COUNCIL



## Town of Speedway Mission Statement

The Town of Speedway is a small, safe, and diverse community rich in tradition which is striving to create vibrant neighborhoods by excelling in Education, Industry and Progress. A community that embraces opportunity for positive change by encouraging redevelopment and working to build a strong quality of life for families.



**Vince Noblet**

Town Council President



**Gary Pedigo**

Town Council Vice President



**Eileen Fisher**

Town Council Member



**David Lindsey**

Town Council Member



**Gary Raikes**

Town Council Member

# TOWN LEADERSHIP



**Grant Kleinhenz**  
Town Manager



**Jacob Blasdel**  
Clerk-Treasurer



**Chief Robert Fishburn**  
Speedway Fire Dept.



**Asst. Chief Chris Millhorn**  
Speedway Fire Dept.



**Chief Charles Upchurch**  
Speedway Police Dept.



**Deputy Chief Jason Dierdorff**  
Speedway Police Dept. Admin.



**Deputy Chief Sam Alexander**  
Speedway Police Dept. Ops.



**John Merritt**  
Building Commissioner - SPD



**Joseph Kramer**  
Code Enforcement - SPD

# TOWN LEADERSHIP



**Cheryl McElroy**

Director of Communications



**Todd Cook**

Economic Development  
Director



**Nikki Parker**

Human Resources Manager



**Tammy Smith**

Parks Director



**Rob Wetnight**

Streets Superintendent



**Brad Sloan**

Wastewater Superintendent



**Ronnie Smith**

Water Superintendent



**Brian Pearce**

SCTV Station Manager



**Bill Pea**

SCTV Promotions Director



**Eder Lopez**

Executive Assistant

# MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

GRANT KLEINHENZ

The Town continues to make improvements in priority areas such as connectivity, economic development, public safety, and the overall quality of life in Speedway.



Each year the Speedway Town Council establishes goals, priorities, and a budget that will support these planned objectives. To ensure that the Town works for this community, the proposed budget is designed with intentional elements that enhance the quality of life in Speedway for residents, businesses, and visitors.

Responsible fiscal management by municipal departments and an increase in assessed value positioned the municipality to provide taxpayers with a tax rate decrease for a second consecutive year.

The Town continues to make improvements in priority areas such as connectivity, economic development, public safety, and the overall quality of life in Speedway. We invite you to be involved in future conversations that will help drive our continued growth and progress.

## WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022

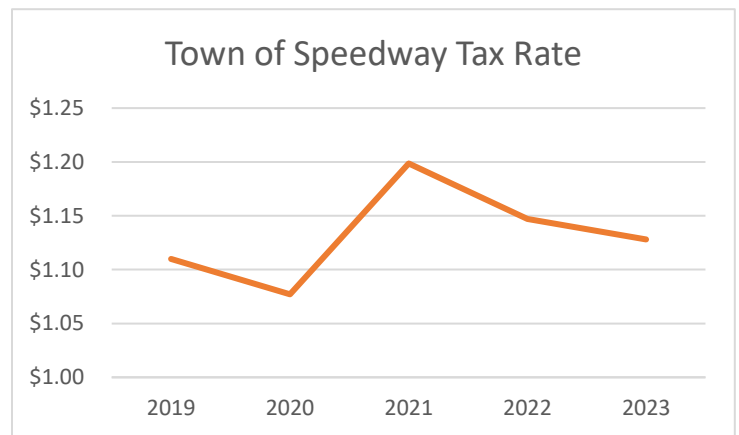
- ✓ Connected with the community during the 3 Casual Conversations that were hosted in varied locations at differing hours – engaged with over 30 residents.
- ✓ Established new Resident Academy program and accepted applications for 2023 implementation dates.
- ✓ To ensure the work being done by Town of Speedway employees aligns with Town objectives, and to promote employee growth, a new performance evaluation process was implemented.
- ✓ Completed \$2 million General Obligation Bond to be used for road improvements and installation of a new gateway sign/landscape at intersection of Crawfordsville Road and High School Road.

# FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

## TAXPAYERS SEE SECOND CONSECUTIVE TAX RATE CUT WITH ADOPTION OF 2023 BUDGET

Adoption of the Town's 2023 budget gave Speedway property taxpayers a rate decrease of more than 1.5 percent. With a 4.21 percent increase in assessed value and good fiscal stewardship, this is the second consecutive year (2022 and 2023) that the municipality has been able to provide taxpayers with a rate decrease.

## ANNUAL TOWN TAX RATE COMPARISON



# FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

## TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT THE 2023 BUDGET

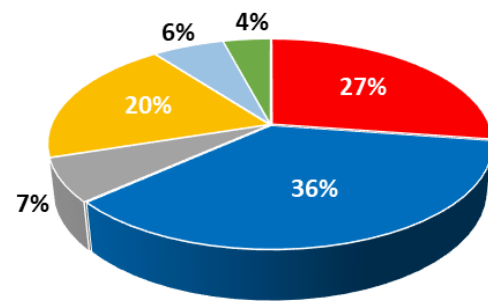
The 2023 budget totals about \$9,446,084 that is specifically funded by property taxes paid by all real and personal property located in the Town limits and is spread out over 7 funds. The remaining of those funds have other revenue sources such as intergovernmental revenue and fees.

The portion of the budget derived from property tax revenue includes the General Fund, Debt Service Funds, several outstanding bonds for capital improvements such as 25<sup>th</sup> Street, the purchase and renovation of the new Speedway Municipal Center, a 2022 General Obligation Bond to fund additional road improvements and the development of an improved gateway signage effort at Crawfordsville Road and High School Road, Recreation, and the Cumulative Capital Development (CCD) Fund. The table below shows the portion of the 2023 Town budget funded by the collection of property tax revenue.

Fund		Approved 2023
101	General Fund Budget	\$6,520,221
180	Debt Service	\$151,432
181	Debt Payment	\$546,628
182	Bond #2	\$1,272,921
1312	Recreation	\$435,902
1380	Park Bond	\$138,329
2391	CCD Fund	\$380,651
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,446,084</b>

Approximately 53% of the annual property tax paid by any homeowner goes to the Town of Speedway to fund these 7 funds. The remaining 47% is distributed to other agencies such as Marion County, Speedway Library, Wayne Township, and the Speedway School District.

Property Tax Funded Functions



- Fire
- Police
- Administration
- Building & Bond Debt
- Parks and Recreation
- Cumulative Capital

Property taxes typically do not fund utilities; utilities are primarily funded by user fees and charges.



# COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

A Comprehensive Plan acts as a guide for the future growth of Speedway, providing a foundation for decision-making on such topics as public services and infrastructure management. It is designed to aid communities in assessing assets and identifying opportunities to address current needs in the areas of land use, government capacity, public services, placemaking, economic development, housing, transportation, agriculture, natural resources, broadband access, and historic resources.

... what is important in Speedway, where the community wants to go into the future, and how this may be accomplished.

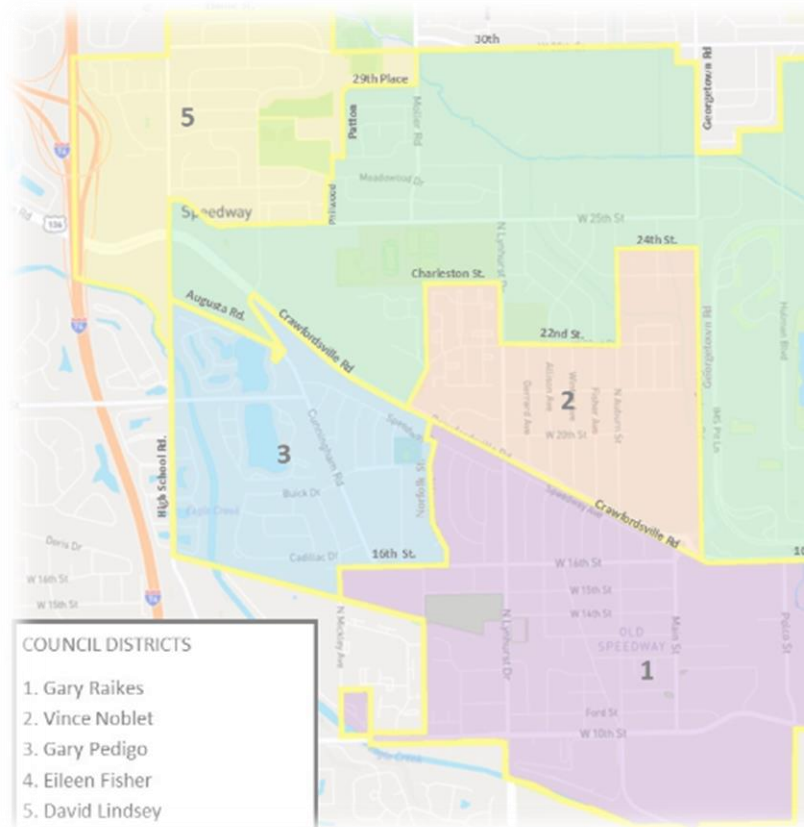
It was announced in December 2021 that the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs awarded the Town of Speedway a \$60,000 Comprehensive Planning Grant as part of the Community Development Block Grant Program.

This funding has allowed the Town to begin working on the development of a Comprehensive Plan that will strategically plan for long-term and comprehensive community development projects to be accomplished over the next decade.

The Town initiated a Comprehensive Plan process with engineering & infrastructure company, American Structurepoint to help facilitate the planning process.

Throughout the spring and summer of 2022, American Structurepoint engaged with residents at Speedway community events to gather input about the future growth of Speedway.

The Town also formed a Review Committee as an additional means of better understanding the goals and vision of the community. The Review Committee is comprised of stakeholders including local business owners, healthcare providers, schools, major employers, organizations, and Speedway residents. This Review Committee meets monthly and provides input on what is important in Speedway, where the community wants to go into the future, and how this may be accomplished.





# INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS



## **Community Crossing Matching Grant**

The Community Crossing Matching Grant allows funding for the 2022 Asphalt Project that provides annual street maintenance such as overlay of streets, and enhancements of sidewalks, gutters, and ADA accessible ramps.

Streets included in the 2022 Asphalt Project are N. Whitcomb Avenue from Beauport Road to Hollister Drive, Patton Drive from W. 29<sup>th</sup> Place to Beauport Road, Hickorywood Drive from Macarthur Lane to N. Whitcomb Avenue, Macarthur Lane from Beauport Road to Hickorywood Drive, and Hickorywood Court from Hickorywood Drive to the dead end.

This project work is scheduled to begin in Spring 2023

## **Water & Wastewater Capital Improvements**

March 2022, an ordinance for a water and wastewater rate increase was passed, allowing funding for much needed capital improvements to its aging water and wastewater infrastructure.

The rate increase amounts to an additional \$14.30 per month for Speedway residential users who use 4,000 gallons of water or less monthly. Speedway has not raised its rates since 2011.

The wastewater plant was built in 1954, with the water plant following in 1965. Both facilities are operating with the original equipment.

At the water plant, the rate increase will support updates to the existing well system; new wells;

dam improvements; chemical treatment changes; improved operational processes; updates to the building facilities; and new water mains, valves and meters.

At the wastewater plant, the rate increase will support new boilers, pumps, and meters; improvements to electrical and safety measures at the lift station; a new lift station at Chapel Hill; and an overall upgrade to the plant's life system.

Improvements were identified in the Water & Wastewater Capital Plan and were deemed critical in ensuring the Town's ability to continue providing clean & safe drinking water and effective wastewater treatment processing.

## **Crawfordsville Road Pedestrian Enhancements**

Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization providing grant funding to help pay for pedestrian access enhancements on Crawfordsville Road.

This grant award will allow the Town of Speedway to partner with the City of Indianapolis to improve traffic flow and pedestrian access and safety along Crawfordsville Road.

Total project cost is \$2,298,240, with 80% – \$2,128,000 – of it coming from federal funding through the IMPO.

# TOWN GROWTH



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Speedway Economic Development Department sets forth the core objectives, strategies, and actions for the future economic growth and development of the Town of Speedway.

### WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022

#### INVESTMENTS INTO SPEEDWAY

- ✓ Allison Innovation Center \$85M
- ✓ Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers \$1M
- ✓ Heritage Crystal Clean \$650K
- ✓ Performance Racing Industry \$500K

#### RIBBON CUTTINGS

- ✓ Allison Innovation Center
- ✓ Heritage Crystal Clean
- ✓ Performance Racing Industry
- ✓ Flying Squirrel Axe Throwing
- ✓ Jaspén Group Ribbon Cutting
- ✓ Performance Racing Industry

### WHAT'S PLANNED FOR 2023

- Hampton Inn & Conference Center - \$17M investment
- Founders Square Senior Living Development - \$13.5M investment
- 1300 Block – investment \$6M
  - 12 Condominiums
  - Vine & Table
  - Le Peep
  - B. Erin Designs
- Borage Restaurant & Bakery - \$2M investment
- Valvoline Instant Oil Change
- First Financial Bank
- Residence Inn
- Gateway Signage Project



90 COMMERCIAL BUILDING PERMITS

VALUED AT

**\$19.5  
MILLION**



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## COMMUNICATIONS & EVENT PLANNING

Speedway Communications serves as the hub for Town news and information by delivering impactful communications, purposeful event experiences, and amplifying success with our residents and businesses.

- Web management and social networking.
- Author and distribute news press releases.
- Promote Town events and initiatives.
- Community engagement & business outreach.
- Event planning of Town-sponsored events
- Facilitate review & approval process of non-sponsored events held in Speedway.
- Writing and graphic design - print & digital.
- Media Relations: press releases, facilitating interviews, providing story ideas.

## WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022

- ✓ New Town website was planned, built, executed.
- ✓ Managed content on Town Facebook.
- ✓ Designed and wrote Annual Report program.
- ✓ Light Up Main holiday lights & décor.
- ✓ Developed monthly Speedway Business eNewsletter reaching 500+ businesses.
- ✓ Events Planned:
  - Rockin' on Main
  - State of the Town
  - Speedway Municipal Center Open House
  - Boards & Commissions Appreciation Event
  - Quarterly Casual Conversations
- ✓ Secured \$12,250 sponsorships that funded 100% of Rockin' on Main event expenses.
- ✓ Coordinated ribbon cuttings/ground breakings.
- ✓ Communications Plan for Capital Improvements.
- ✓ Managed Comprehensive Plan Communications.
- ✓ Organized Town Holiday Food Drive.



**192,071**  
REACHED

FACEBOOK  
AUDIENCE  
UP 14%

**500+**  
REACHED

SPEEDWAY  
BUSINESSES  
REACHED

**50+**  
STORIES

MEDIA  
STORIES  
ABOUT  
SPEEDWAY

**60+**  
EVENTS

PROCESSED  
BY  
COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT



# PUBLIC SAFETY



## SPEEDWAY FIRE

Firefighters bravely fight fires. They also provide fire prevention education and are available 24-hours a day keeping the Speedway community safe.

- Provides emergency medical services.
- Performs non-emergency service calls such as assisting with flooded buildings and homes.
- Provides stand-by emergency and medical support at large public events such as concerts and community events.
- Actively participates and/or sponsors in community events, organizations, and fundraisers.
- Educates and raises general awareness in the community on issues of life safety.
- Offers free fire stations tours, upon scheduled requests.

## WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022

- ✓ As a continued investment in the Speedway Fire Department and related equipment, all extrication equipment was upgraded.
- ✓ Received a grant that was used to install energy-efficient windows and doors at Station 89.
- ✓ To achieve more efficient lighting, LED lighting was installed at Station 88 and will be installed in Station 89 in 2023.
- ✓ A new fire engine was specked - early 2024 delivery anticipated.
- ✓ Successfully and safely managed the major racing events hosted at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

### Our Vision

Through teamwork, education and training the Speedway Fire Department will work to attain a level of excellence characteristic of the best fire departments in the world.

### Our Mission

The Speedway Fire Departments Mission is to deliver to its citizens and visitors a continually improving level of service quality that exceeds their expectations and requirements.

**3,833**

**INCIDENTS**

**37%**

**FIRE**

**63%**

**EMS**

# PUBLIC SAFETY



## SPEEDWAY POLICE

The Speedway Police Department proudly serves the Town of Speedway providing 24-hour protective service to the residents of Speedway. The SPD officers and employees are committed to maintaining quality and professional police services to ensure the safety and security of the residents and businesses.

The Speedway Police Department employs 36 full-time officers and 5 reserve officers. It is a priority of the Speedway Police to continually strengthen the relationship between the police and the community so that together, crime reduction and resident safety can be better achieved.

## WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022

- ✓ Chief Jim Campbell retired January 3, 2022.
- ✓ February 14, 2022, Speedway Town Council approved the appointment of Asst. Chief Charles Upchurch as SPD Chief of Police.

- ✓ Speedway Police Department restructured, reducing the number of rank positions. Two Deputy Chief positions were created which replaced an Assistant Chief and two Captain positions. This restructuring resulted in taxpayer savings.

During May, Speedway's 14,000 population swells to over 325,000 people. Speedway Police Department successfully and safely manages the major racing events hosted at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

- ✓ To gain a better work/life balance, the operations division transitioned to a 12-hour shift work schedule.
- ✓ As a continued investment in the Speedway Police Department and related equipment, 20 vehicles in the patrol fleet were replaced.

25,548

CALLS FOR SERVICE

844

ARRESTS

5,735

TRAFFIC CITATIONS

755

TRAFFIC WARNINGS

1,375

ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

655

CRASH REPORTS

# PUBLIC WORKS



## STREET DEPARTMENT

The Speedway Street Department provides the Speedway community a wealth of services at the highest quality of levels. The Street Department keeps the Town clean and beautiful while also maintaining roadways and infrastructure for the safety and well-being of all those who reside and visit the Town of Speedway.

### WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022

- ✓ Maintained **45 acres** of right-away land by mowing, weed eating, and picking trash.
- ✓ Yearly maintenance of Dry Run & Dry Run Diversion.
- ✓ Maintained **48.034** miles of Speedway Town roadway and **15** miles of DPW road including snow removal, asphalt repairs, and street sweeping.
- ✓ **2021 Road Resurfacing Project** completed:
  - \$470,500 Project Cost.
  - \$260,800 via Community Crossing Grant Funds.
    - 3,470 feet of new curb
    - 8 new ADA ramps
    - 44 driveway approaches
    - 3,470 feet of new sidewalk
    - .40 miles of road resurfacing
- ✓ Received **2022 Community Crossing Grant** for project work to begin in Spring 2023:
  - \$417,522 via Community Crossing Grant Funds
  - \$884,772 Project Cost
- ✓ **New Equipment purchased:**
  - 2022 Hitachi ZW140 Front Loader

**55.19**  
TONS

TRASH COLLECTED PLUS  
179.33 TONS STREET SWEEPINGS

**855**  
TONS

YARD WASTE  
RECYCLED ANNUALLY

**53**  
DOGS

22 DOGS RETURNED TO OWNER  
31 DOGS FOSTERED THRU SAR

**246**  
TONS

ROAD SALT USED  
MAINTAINS 48 MILES SPEEDWAY ROADS  
AND 15 MILES DPW ROADS

**56,884**  
LINEAR FT

SEWER PIPE CLEANED

**70**  
SIGNS

STREET REPLACEMENT &  
TRAFFIC SIGN REPAIR/

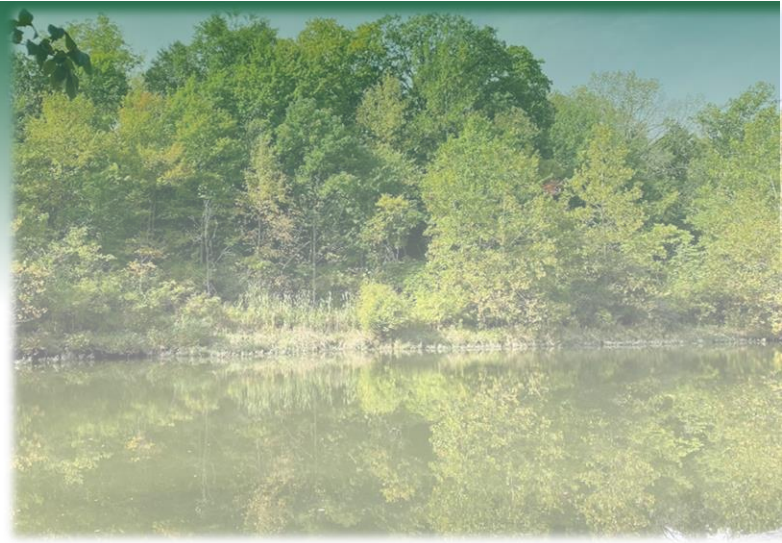
**28**  
FEET

CURB & SIDEWALK REPAIRS

**189**  
JOBS

PLUMBING INSPECTIONS

# PUBLIC WORKS



## SPEEDWAY WATER WORKS

Water Works for the Town of Speedway is committed to enhancing water quality, keeping rates affordable, making continuous improvements to the drinking water system, and ensuring the Town of Speedway residents and businesses have sufficient water supplies for future generation.

Speedway Water Works provides the Town with safe, potable drinking water through careful management and operation of the existing sources of water, and through ongoing maintenance and operation of the distribution system.

Water Works is responsible for the operations and maintenance of 60 miles of distribution mains, 5,000 service connections that service a population of 13,000, and 491 hydrants.



**2**  
WATER  
SOURCES

EAGLE CREEK – SURFACE WATER  
GROUNDWATER – 13 WELLS

**2**  
TREATMENT  
FACILITIES

9.5MGD GROUND WATER  
3.0 MGD SURFACE WATER

WATER PRODUCED

**843,854,895**  
GALLONS

**2**  
DISTRIBUTION  
TANKS

1.5 MG – 16<sup>TH</sup> STREET TANK  
.5 MG – MEADOWOOD TANK

# PUBLIC WORKS

## WASTEWATER TREATMENT

The Wastewater Department is responsible for the collection and treatment of wastewater generated by residential, commercial, and industrial users.

Our goal is to protect human health and the environment while providing wastewater treatment service as efficiently as possible.

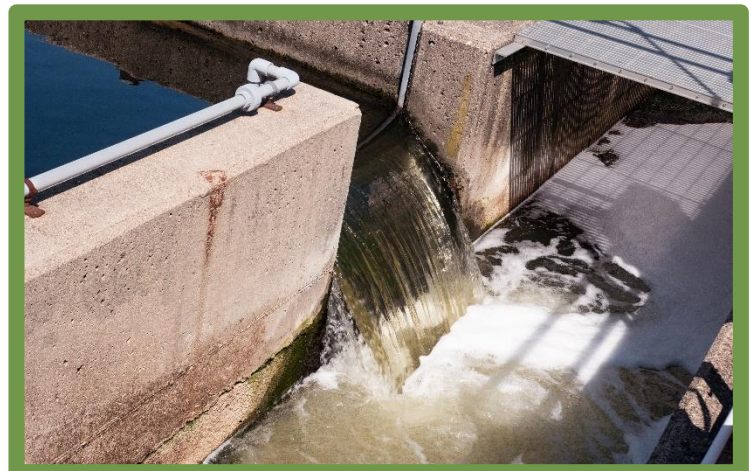
We clean water for our future.

### WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022

- ✓ For the purpose of operations and safety, a weir wolf was added to the number 1 clarifier.
- ✓ The south grit collector was rebuilt and put back online to achieve better grit removal.
- ✓ The plant gained a Class 3 certified operator.
- ✓ One of the UNOX mixers was rebuilt and put back online.

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- ✓ To achieve more efficiency and produce better sludge, the boiler for the digester was replaced.
- ✓ Master Control Center located in the return building was replaced.





# ENHANCING COMMUNITY



## PARKS & RECREATION

Speedway Parks & Recreation serves the community by providing beautiful, well-maintained park facilities and a wide range of events to enhance the lives of citizens and visitors alike.

### WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022

#### PROJECTS:

- ✓ Completion of \$500,000 Leonard Park Improvements Project (*funded from the \$250,000 Federal Land Water Conservation Fund Grant with a \$250,000 match.*)
  - Tennis courts w/pickleball lines renovated.
  - Musical playground equipment.
  - Table tennis & checkerboard/chess table.
  - New water fountains.
  - Eight benches w/ADA companion pads.
  - ADA accessible tables in each shelter.
  - ADA accessible ramp to shelter 1.
  - ADA accessible parking spots and ramp onto sidewalk.
  - Concrete pads at ball diamonds with ADA companion spots.
  - Ball diamond lighting on west diamond (*completed in 2021.*)
- ✓ Yarn Art Project in Leonard Park.
  - Mosaic of Circles crocheted by 12 volunteers and attached to fence as art.
- ✓ Tribute Tree Program – 8 trees added in parks.
- ✓ Record number of 11 Summer Concerts held and 100% funded by donations.
- ✓ Market in Meadowood
  - New location of Meadowood Park.
  - 12 vendors – grew from seven.
  - Local groups/non-profits participated.

- ✓ 525 participants in Summer Camp Programs.
- ✓ 103 participants in Winter Camp Programs.
- ✓ West Indy Art & Music Festival featuring seven bands and welcomed 1,000 attendees.

Local news station listed festival in Top 5 Things listing, ranking festival as #2 behind the Indiana State Fair

#### EVENTS:

- ✓ Public Safety and Service Community Day.
  - Parks partnered with Speedway Police, Speedway Fire, and Speedway Town Depts.
- ✓ Annual Trunk or Treat.
  - 21 participant businesses, groups, and 700 estimated guests attended.
- ✓ Elves Workshop.
  - New program inviting students to select a gift, create, wrap, and top off with a greeting card.
- ✓ Light the Night on Main.
  - 12 participating businesses and groups.
  - Addition of trackless train and partnership with The Spark Coffee Shop.
- ✓ Lions Club Pancake Breakfast & Bazaar.
  - Lions Club invited Parks to partner with and coordinate the bazaar portion of their pancake breakfast event with bazaar vendor fees being donated to Parks Events fund.



# CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT

## BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

The Town of Speedway is comprised of residents, businesses, schools, public services, civic groups, and boards & commissions all working to make our community better and improve the quality of life. A Town board or commission is an independent body consisting of volunteer members appointed by public officials. Speedway has 18 boards & commissions.

### WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022

- ✓ Community Mural on Main - **Arts Council.**
- ✓ Approval of services contract for Town of Speedway Gateway Signage Project – **Speedway Redevelopment Commission.**
- ✓ Rails to Trails Project: B&O Trail Expansion and new bridge over Eagle Creek – **Speedway Trails.**
- ✓ Sidewalk improvements on 1) 25<sup>th</sup> St from Post Office to High School and second improvement project 2) Wilco from 20<sup>th</sup> St to the DMV in Brixmoor – **Transportation Board.**

