

City of Jasper, Indiana

~ 2015 State of the City ~

Presented by Mayor Terry Seitz



Looking Back & Looking Ahead

- Accomplishments
- Challenges
- Opportunities



14 Accomplishments in 2014

- Jasper - GIGA CITY!
- \$40M and 400
- Our first TIF district
- Official Indiana Shovel-ready site designation
- Repurposing of JOFCO along Vine into 67 workforce housing units
- Conclusion of the long-lasting power plant lawsuit
- 3rd Avenue water and street project



14 Accomplishments in 2014

- Our first ever dog park
- Unified Development Ordinance (UDO)
- JPD - First Hispanic officer and a shared SRO
- INSHARP® re-certification
- A plan to bring arts downtown
- Upward trend for new construction permits
- Strategic Stormwater Initiative



Challenges

- Willingness to invest some of the EDIT tax reserve fund and projected revenues into projects the public has favored
- Ongoing monitoring of general funds which are impacted by the property tax caps
- Growing our assessed valuation
- Continued impact of legislation at the state level on municipalities and unfunded mandates



Challenges

- Advancing Jasper's leadership status as a dominant rural city while Indiana continues movement to urban areas of influence
- Not taking advantage of our city-wide fiber buildout
- Transitioning of employee benefits – those administered locally and those administered at the state level



Opportunities – 2015 & Beyond

- Preparing for Jasper 2025
 - 34 out of 49
- Capturing our future GIGA CITY capacity to the fullest measure at all levels
- Commencement on the Downtown/Riverfront Master Plan Courthouse Square project
- Redevelopment of other former industrial properties in the downtown area



Opportunities – 2015 & Beyond

- Adoption of the first Planned Unit Development developed by city government
- Construction of the Jasper Desk Foundation labyrinth
- Replacing the current Squad One rescue unit in 2016 and Tower One later in this decade
- Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Jasper Arts in 2015





1985 - 2015



*It's not the money that you work for;
it's when you have an idea,
and it comes to fruition,
and it works!"*

Bill Cook

American entrepreneur and savior of French Lick

