

It's a pleasure to welcome you to the City of Aurora. The City of Aurora sits along a regional corridor in vibrant Dearborn County next to our sister cities of Lawrenceburg, Greendale and Rising Sun. Located 45 minutes from Cincinnati, Ohio & Boone County, Kentucky, Aurora is within 1.5 hours from Indianapolis, Indiana. Nestled among the green hillside valleys along the beautiful banks of the Ohio River, historic Aurora is home to a warm, supportive community of energetic volunteers, Grade "A" school systems, and generations of hard working families that are proud to call Aurora home.

As a third term Mayor, having grown up in the City of Aurora, I share with you the vision of our 2015 Comprehensive Plan. You can read more by viewing the link 2015 Comprehensive Plan on our website <u>aurora.in.us</u>. Following major utility infrastructure improvements and capital improvement projects, Aurora next looks to reinvest in our core assets – historic downtown and the Ohio River.

Aurora's "Big 5" Ideas highlight Downtown Revitalization, Neighborhood Revitalization, Tourism/Outdoor Recreation, Riverfront Development and Quality of Life & Community Connections. It has always been my goal to have a series of 'Doable" projects for the City of Aurora and not a comprehensive plan to sit on the shelf. Therefore I can tell you that each "Big Idea" has significant progress in motion and will set the stage for priority redevelopment within the downtown business district and the City of Aurora within the next 5 years.

Phase II of the Comprehensive Plan focuses on the Aurora Riverfront Vision Plan. Highlights are possible Riverfront development, public entertainment plaza, sidewalk replacement, enhanced lighting and downtown Gateway enhancements. In 2016 the newly launched City of Aurora Façade Improvement Program will encourage & assist local commercial property owners to address storefront entryways, painting, windows, roofing and signage. As a regional quality of life enhancement goal, the City of Aurora and the City of Rising Sun are partnering to pursue a Dearborn Trail Extension Feasibility Study to connect the Dearborn Trail between both cities.

As you can tell Aurora has an exciting future landscape that offers road map solutions for local business investment, quality of life enhancements, growth strategies and population retainment for families or companies looking to relocate or expand within our neighborhood community.

Come enjoy the historic charm of Aurora. Visit and stay a while. We will be glad to welcome you home.

Sincerely,

Mayor Donnie Hastings, Jr.