

Department of Communications

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Karen Freeman-Wilson Mayor LaLosa Dent Burns Director of Communications

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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GARY'S ASSETS ATTRACT GROWING BUSINESSES MAYOR FREEMAN-WILSON ANNOUNCES NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES

TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE TO JOB FAIR ON THURSDAY

Gary, Indiana - The number of jobs in Gary are on the rise as businesses continue to look at the city for expansion and relocation. City officials say the city's assets and seamless process in doing business in Gary have contributed to the increase in business development and job creation in the city.

"While our overall work is to improve Gary's economy, included among our priorities is to see a reduction in unemployment numbers," said Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson. "We know that attracting businesses to the community provides a boost to the city's economy and is an integral key to creating jobs for our residents. We have been working to streamline our business processes, and we have seen improvement in a more efficient workflow. We are happy to announce new job opportunities in the city."

The city has been in discussion with a number of businesses over the few past months and even years that are now offering job opportunities in Gary. The Alliance Steel Corporation will move its steel operations to Gary in the coming months and will bring up to 130 jobs over the next two years. Additional jobs are expected in a subsequent project with Alliance.

Amazon is currently advertising jobs openings at its Gary facility. A job fair will be held Thursday, November 15, 2018 at the Courtyard by Marriott 7730 Corrine Ave. in Hammond, IN from 9am – 5pm. Those attending the fair are asked to RSVP <u>here</u>. Mayor Freeman-Wilson added that Gary residents in need of transportation to the job fair may contact the Mayor's Office via jwhiteside@ci.gary.in.us or call 219-881-1302.

Last year, the city welcomed HMD Trucking to the city. The transportation company will construct a new facility in Gary that will include the corporate headquarters, truck and trailer space as well as a warehouse distribution center. This investment in new construction will offer multiple types of job opportunities to the city. Currently, HMD has been hiring while working on financing.

The city's Gary4Jobs initiative has continued to partner with businesses to offer job and training opportunities to Gary residents. The city has hosted numerous job fairs with UPS with a recent UPS job fair being held at the Gary Arthouse Social Kitchen for part-time package handlers. Additionally, the 160 Driving Academy held a job fair at Gary Middle College West for driving positions that offer benefits and educational assistance.

In addition to job opportunities, the city continues to focus on opportunities for entrepreneurs. Recently, the Gary Micro-Enterprise Initiative (GMI) celebrated budding entrepreneurs during the first GMI graduation ceremony at City Hall. The Mayor congratulated thirteen graduates at the November 2nd event on completion of the program. GMI provides a road map for Gary residents as they journey toward business ownership. Small businesses such as R&R restaurant, J's Breakfast Club, Foody's, Tequila and Tacos and All Pet Supplies have also generated job opportunities with several of these business owners being graduates of GMI.

Alliance Steel will announce job opportunities and will participate in a job fair prior to the opening of the facility-date to be determined. Alliance, Amazon and HMD will all be located on the city's east side off of I-65.

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