

INSPIRING A MORE LIVABLE AND LOVABLE CITY

2018
ANNUAL
REPORT

MAYOR Pete Buttigieg

VPA SENIOR STAFF:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Aaron Perri

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF VENUES

Jeff Jarnecke

DIRECTOR OF EXPERIENCE

Kari Bumgardner

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES & GROUNDS

John Martinez

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Ken Glowacki

DIRECTOR OF RECREATION

Jonathan Jones

DIRECTOR OF GOLF

Tony Stearns

DIRECTOR OF CHARLES BLACK COMMUNITY CENTER

Cynthia Taylor

DIRECTOR OF SENIOR PROGRAMMING

Rose Kaufman

DIRECTOR OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMUNITY CENTER

Maurice Scott

DIRECTOR OF RUM VILLAGE NATURE CENTER

Garry Harrington

VENUE MANAGER OF MORRIS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Michelle DeBeck

GENERAL MANAGER OF CENTURY CENTER

Leanna Belev

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

Eva Ennis

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS:

Mark Neal, President

Consuella Hopkins, Vice President

Aimee Buccellato

Dan Farrell

CIVIC CENTER BOARD OF MANAGERS:

Aaron Perri, President

Michael Neises, Vice President

David Varner, Treasurer

Randy Kelly, Secretary

Linda Doshi

Greg Downes

Charmaine Torma

Dennis Andres, Jr.

Gil Michel

/DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW/ 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Venues Parks & Arts inspires a more livable South Bend for all, connecting us to emotionally engaging experiences and to one another.

Letter from the Executive Director

With 2018 ending with the announcement that Mayor Pete would not seek a third term as the Mayor of South Bend, I was reminded of how grateful I am for Mayor Pete's remarkable service to our city. It has been an honor to serve alongside him throughout his entire time in office, and I'm extremely proud of the work we've accomplished as a team.

As I reflect on Venues Parks & Arts' role in the city's transformation, I'm humbled by the amount of trust and respect people have for the work we all do. The sum of these efforts is the result of a great team and a supportive community. Our future accomplishments will depend greatly on this ongoing teamwork and support. I have a strong conviction that those who participate and work daily to improve their surroundings are able to make the greatest difference in their communities. To serve your community and help move it forward, regardless of your title or position in life, is a message I hope will continue to resonate throughout our city. I'm convinced that the unyielding opportunity to do this is a major part of what makes South Bend such a special place.

I'm so excited to continue our work in improving and expanding the impact we create through Venues Parks & Arts. It's a historic time to be involved with this work. We've set an unprecedented number of projects in motion, and we have many exciting things yet to accomplish in the very near future. The work we do is important and this not a time to lose focus.

I'm incredibly proud of the Venues Parks & Arts team, the partnerships we've formed, and the things we're accomplishing. We will continue to significantly influence areas like Economic Impact, Social Equity, the Built & Natural Environment, Public Safety, Health, and Culture. Investing in these areas will help shape the city into the best version of itself and ultimately serve our mission of "Making South Bend More Livable for All." This is what makes our work so rewarding, and it's why I'm enthusiastic about continuing our work.



Aaron Perri, Executive Director

MEMBERS OF VPA FOUNDATION:

Dru Cash, President
Jill Dawson, Secretary
Kevin Poe, Treasurer

Marvin Curtis
Amanda Miller
Kenneth Keber
Mikki Dobski
Sam Centellas
Tim Scott

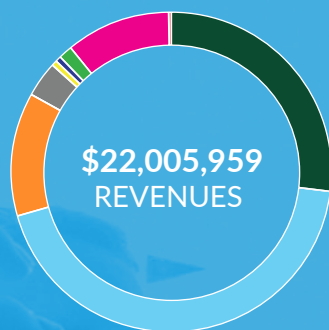
Mark Noeldner
Matt Kahn
Gerald Lutkus
Kyle Chamberlin
Amy Hill
Steve Camilleri

Mark Carboneau
Mike Chapple
Chris Chockley
Kerie Graham
Greg Kil
David Matthews

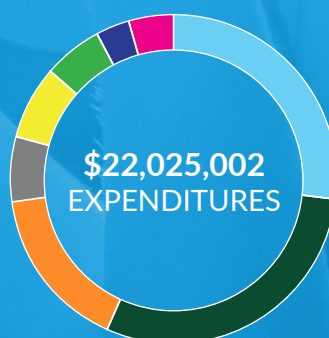
Powered By:

118 FULL TIME STAFF
290 PART TIME STAFF
1,729 VOLUNTEERS
17 INTERNS

Budget Stewarded:

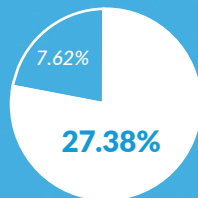


\$9,591,899.14	Property Taxes
\$5,965,569	Venues
\$2,721,482.74	Charges for Services
\$842,315.09	Other Taxes
\$102,650.64	Interest Earnings
\$111,122.71	Donations
\$299,826	Misc. Reimbursements
\$2,345,846	Interfund Transfer In
\$25,248	Miscellaneous Revenue



\$6,521,085	Facilities & Grounds
\$5,984,611	Venues
\$3,546,782	Recreation
\$1,420,678	Golf
\$1,587,809	Capital Reserves
\$1,259,102	Admin
\$756,352	Zoo / Greenhouse
\$948,583	Marketing & Events

Cost Recovered:



Achieved **27.38%** cost recovery in 2018 with just 7.62% remaining to meet goal of 35% by the end of 2020.

Recognized:



VENUES PARKS & ARTS

Re-accredited for five more years by Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) - a status earned by less than 1% of agencies nationwide.



MORRIS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

- #88 on 2018 Year-End Worldwide Ticket Sales
- #69 of all U.S. Venues Ranked by Pollstar



DENISE ZIGLER

Received the Key to the City upon retirement from the Morris Performing Arts Center after 22 years of service



SOUTH BEND CITY CEMETERY

Joins Morris Performing Arts Center on National Register of Historic Places



MY SOUTH BEND PARKS & TRAILS

Covered in national NRPA Magazine

Awarded:

GRAHAM WOODHOUSE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AWARD, SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION

INDIANA PARK & RECREATION ASSOCIATION

- Creative Event Award: Best. Week. Ever.
- Inclusion Program of Excellence Award: My South Bend Parks & Trails

SB TRIBUNE READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

- Best Local Live Performance Theatre: Morris Performing Arts Center (#1)
- Best Local Golf Course: Erskine Park (#2)
- Best Local Golf Shop: Erskine Park (#3)
- Best Local Wedding Reception Venue: Palais Royale (#3)

SOUTH BEND TO HOST ITS FIRST MIDWEST REGIONAL NAI CONFERENCE

Garry Harrington and Hannah Teshka, Rum Village Nature Center, are co-chairs of the NAI Committee for 2019's conference.

\$10,000 DONATED TO THE SBVPA FOUNDATION BY WNBA ON BEHALF OF SKYLAR DIGGINS-SMITH

SKY DIGG LADY SOLDIERS BASKETBALL TEAM: U.S. MIDWEST REGIONAL JR NBA QUALIFIER

Placed within the Elite Eight in the World Championship

CEDRICK JOSEPH-PAULINE

Red Ribbon Community Service Award

GRANTS AWARDED

- GameTime - Playground Grant Funding Award \$250,000
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources - Land Water Conservation Fund \$200,000 for Pinhook
- Community Foundation of St. Joseph County - Special Projects Challenge \$100,000 for Howard Park Redevelopment
- Community Foundation of St. Joseph County - ArtsEverywhere \$5,000 for Fridays by the Fountain
- Community Foundation of St. Joseph County - ArtsEverywhere \$2,500 for Best. Week. Ever. Art Gallery
- Visit South Bend Mishawaka - Tourism Capital Development Fund \$80,000 for Byers Softball

VPA VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

LuElla Webster and Beth Sanford

Refreshed:

GRAND OPENINGS

- Charles Black Community Center
- Rum Village Dog Park
- Kelly Park
- Boland Trail
- Morris Exterior and Jon R. Hunt Plaza
- Bendix Theater in Century Center

/SOCIAL EQUITY

We strengthen the community through increased inclusion by consciously serving all populations throughout our accessible venues, equitable parks and free programming.



"PARKS AND RECREATION TRULY BUILD COMMUNITIES—COMMUNITIES FOR ALL. THEY ARE THE PLACES AND SPACES WHERE PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE COME TOGETHER TO LEARN, TO EXPERIENCE, TO INTERACT AND TO GROW."

National Recreation & Parks Association,
Park & Recreation Inclusion Report





The Charles Black Community Center Was **Completely Renovated** Effectively Doubling It In Size

- 50% INCREASE IN VISITS
- 3-HOUR INCREASE IN AVERAGE LENGTH OF ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION BY VISITORS

CLICK Sites **Completed**

ALLOWS FREE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET ACCESS TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS AS WELL AS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES, BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

In partnership with the Venues Parks & Arts, City Innovation and Technology, and the St. Joseph County Library

ADA-Accessible Projects Completed

AT KELLY PARK, CHARLES BLACK COMMUNITY CENTER, AND RUM VILLAGE DOG PARK

\$600,000 Invested In Mobile Recreation

DELIVERING ACCESSIBLE AND EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES TO ALL OF OUR PARKS THROUGHOUT THE CITY

500+ Youth **Awarded Scholarships**

- FOR FREE OR REDUCED-COST PROGRAMMING
- DIRECTOR'S YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP GOLF OUTING RAISED \$17,500

92,000+ **Served** THROUGH FREE/LOW-COST PROGRAMMING

338 Community Meetings & Planning Sessions **Attended**

ENGAGED 8,019 PEOPLE

28,800+ Free, Healthy Meals **Served:**

- TO SENIORS
In partnership with REAL services
- TO CHILDREN
In partnership with South Bend Community School Corporation via Summer Lunch & Playground Program

Nearly **15,000** Fitness Center Visits From Seniors

- 9,387 VISITS FROM 229 NEW SENIORS THROUGH SILVER SNEAKER PROGRAM
- 4,978 SENIORS TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE FREE 55+ CLASS THROUGH ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER AT PINHOOK PARK AND O'BRIEN FITNESS CENTER

14 Free Fridays By The Fountain Events

MORRIS PAC SUMMER CONCERT SERIES IN JON R. HUNT PLAZA

9 Students **Mentored** Through The VPA Mentored Mowing Program

THESE TEENS MAINTAINED 112 OF THE CITY'S PROPERTIES FOR A TOTAL OF 573 CUTS

Partnered local teens and community members to provide them with both landscape and business experience, financial compensation, and positive attitudes and work ethics.

Plans For **Updated** SBVPA Website

MORE ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC BY MAKING CONTENT EASIER TO FIND

We empower residents and employees to contribute, take pride, and feel safe in our city.



142 Employees
Were Certified In
CPR/AED & First Aid

41 Lifeguards
Were **Certified** In
2018, Including
13 That Went On
To Be **Trained** In
River Safety

Over \$10,000
Spent In Emergency
Response Equipment
Upgrades For Our
Parks And Facilities

94% Reduction Of
Identified Hazards
- Compared To
The Same Number
Of Inspections
Completed In 2017

Created & Funded
Plan To Improve **19**
Neighborhood Park
Amenities

Community Partners In Beautification Efforts:

- **KELLY PARK WAS OFFICIALLY REOPENED, CELEBRATING TWO NEW HALF SIZED BASKETBALL COURTS, NEW PAVILION, NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, AND OTHER SITE AMENITIES**

The Kelly Park project was led and organized by students from the University of Notre Dame Robinson Community Learning Center as well as Northeast Neighborhood Council members, Lu Ella Webster and Beth Sanford

- **7,904 PROPERTIES MOWED THROUGH OUR CENTRAL MOWING PROGRAM**

Partnered with the Department of Code Enforcement and Department of Community Investment

- **ANNUAL BACK THE BEND INCLUDED LEEPER PARK, RAVINA PARK, AND KELLY PARK**

Partnered with Notre Dame, St. Mary's and Holy Cross students

- **PUBLIC CLEAN UP ALONG RIVER FROM HOWARD PARK TO VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK**

Partnered with Lowe's Home Improvement employees, Boy Scouts, and volunteers

- **DISPLAY CASE OUTSIDE OF THE NATURE CENTER**

Partnered with Eagle Scout Project in Rum Village

- **PREPPED THE LAND AND FENCE FOR RUM VILLAGE DOG PARK BUILD**

Partnered with The Crossing students

- **PREPPED AND SPREAD PEA GRAVEL FOR KIDS KINGDOM**

Partnered with Central District Youth Conference (CDYC) and the Summer of Service (SOS)

- **INSTALLED THE BIKE SHOP CABINETS AND EQUIPMENT AT CHARLES BLACK COMMUNITY CENTER WITH THE SUPPLIES DONATED BY LOWE'S HOME IMPROVEMENT**

Partnered with Teachers Credit Union for TCU Day of Giving

- **PAINTED THE DECK AT STUDEBAKER GOLF COURSE**

Partnered with Teachers Credit Union for TCU Day of Giving

- **REMOVED INVASIVE SPECIES AND TRASH FROM AROUND BOWMAN CREEK**

Partnered with Emnet, part of Xylem Corporation

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPACT/

IMPACT / ECONOMIC

We cultivate innovative experiences to connect people more deeply to the fabric of the community and use our resources wisely to generate economic impact.



Entered The Second Of Three Years With Service Delivery Partners, SMG & Navarre Hospitality

\$274,929.14 Invested Values Through Volunteer And Intern Hours

102 Events (Most Ever) At Morris Performing Arts Center

- MORE THAN 101,200 GUESTS ATTENDED THOSE SHOWS
- HOSTED ONE OF THE LARGEST TOURING ACTS IN THE WORLD, PHANTOM OF THE OPERA.

932 Events At Century Center

- MORE THAN 185,000 GUESTS ATTENDED THOSE EVENTS AND RESULTED IN MORE THAN AN \$11M ECONOMIC IMPACT IN 2018.

"THE 'SOUL OF THE COMMUNITY' SURVEY SHOWED THAT SOCIAL OFFERINGS, IN THE FORM OF ENTERTAINMENT VENUES OR FUN PLACES TO GATHER, HOW WELCOMING THE PLACE WAS TO DIFFERENT PEOPLE AND ITS PHYSICAL BEAUTY ALONG WITH AVAILABILITY OF PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND GREEN SPACES DETERMINED THEIR ATTACHMENT TO THE COMMUNITY."

Social Life, The Importance of Social Offerings, Openness and Beauty

14,000 Room Nights Contributed To Local Hotel Market By Century Center

- INCREASED MORE THAN 120% OVER FIVE YEARS

\$22M In Economic Impact Contributed By The Palais Royale, The Morris Performing Arts Center, and Century Center

Estimated 50% Of Participants That Use The East Race Are From **Out Of The County**

Two National Softball Tournaments At Byers Softball Complex

- BROUGHT IN 1,300 PLAYERS & 9,000 SPECTATORS

We hold ourselves accountable for ecological progress by implementing sustainable business practices, engaging in public ecological education, and protecting our environment.



"PARKS PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN ENSURING THAT OUR COMMUNITIES SUCCESSFULLY ADAPT AND THRIVE IN LIGHT OF A RAPIDLY CHANGING PLANET."

*National Recreation and Park Association,
Park and Recreation Sustainability Practices*

\$472,000+ In Energy Savings

THROUGH ROOF, LIGHTING, HVAC & SOLAR SOLUTIONS AT CENTURY CENTER

Morris PAC Encouraging Patrons To Go Paperless with E-Tickets

3,900 Volunteer Hours

THROUGH GARDENING, BEAUTIFICATION, TREE PLANTING, & OTHER ECOLOGICAL PROJECTS

26% Tree Canopy

- 210 NEW TREES PLANTED THROUGHOUT THE CITY
- 2,596 TREES RECEIVED PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AND HEALTHCARE PRACTICES
- 12 TREES TRANSPLANTED AND RELOCATED FROM HOWARD PARK DURING ITS CONSTRUCTION
- NAMED TREE CITY USA BY THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION FOR 21ST CONSECUTIVE YEAR
- FIRST TIME EVER IN THE HISTORY OF OUR DEPARTMENT THAT WE PLANTED MORE TREES THAN WE HAD TO REMOVE

New No-mow Zones

Notable Volunteer Projects Completed:

- PLANTED AND MULCHED IN LEEPER PARK AROUND THE HISTORIC POWELL HOUSE MEMORIAL

Partnered with Press Ganey

- PAINTED BENCHES ALONG RIVERSIDE DRIVE

Partnered with Girls Scout Troop #00392

- MULCHED AND BEAUTIFIED THE IU SOFTBALL FIELD AND VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

Partnered with local softball league

- REMOVED VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK INVASIVE SPECIES

Partnered with IU South Bend Sustainability and Honors Clubs

- OVER 70% OF THE CLEANING CHEMICALS USED IN VPA PARKS AND FACILITIES HAVE BEEN SUBSTITUTED BY GREEN SEAL CERTIFIED CHEMICALS

- OVER 75% OF VPA CLEANING AND CUSTODIAL MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES, INCLUDING GREEN SEAL CERTIFIED CHEMICALS ARE NOW PROVIDED BY A LOCALLY OWNED/ OPERATED BUSINESS.

- THE GREEN CLEAN IMPLEMENTATION, IN ITS INITIAL PHASE, IS PROJECTED TO SAVE OVER \$5,000 ON CLEANING CHEMICALS ALONE IN 2019

ECOLOGICAL STEWARDSHIP/

HEALTH & WELLNESS

We promote excellent health and wellness through increasing physical activity opportunities and providing access to parks in our city.



"ACROSS ALL AGE GROUPS, GREATER ACCESS TO PARKS IS ASSOCIATED WITH LOWER BODY MASS INDEX AND REDUCED RISK OF OBESITY."
The Trust for Public Land, ParkServe 2018

Launched Trails 365 Initiative

ENSURED SAFE, RELIABLE ACCESS THROUGH ALL SEASONS

First Year Of *In The River* East Race Challenge

284,000+ Participated In Recreational Activities:

- GYM VISITS
- FITNESS CENTER CLASSES
- BASKETBALL CLINICS AND TOURNAMENTS
- YOUTH RECREATION CLASSES
- YOUTH CAMPS
- YOUTH SPORTS LEAGUES
- SWIM CLASSES
- TENNIS LESSONS & TOURNAMENTS
- NATURE PROGRAMS
- CLIMBING WALL
- EAST RACE RAFTING
- SOFTBALL
- SKATEBOARDING

43,000 Rounds Of Golf

PLAYED AT ERSKINE GOLF COURSE, STUDEBAKER GOLF COURSE, AND ELBEL GOLF COURSE COMBINED

13,324 Visitors To Potawatomi Pool & Kennedy Water Playground

Opened First Permanent, City-Owned Dog Park

NEW ADA-ACCESSIBLE 1.8 ACRE DOG PARK FEATURES:

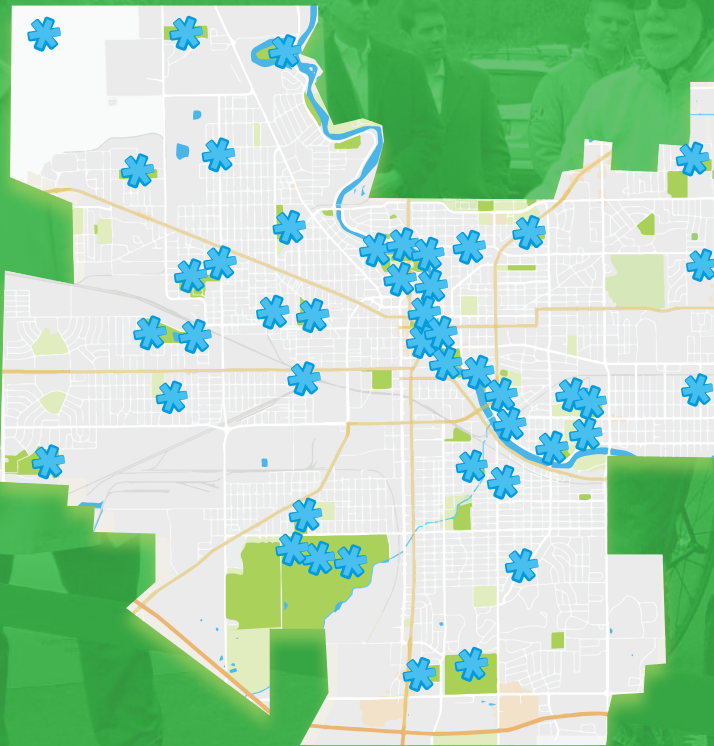
- FENCED ONE-ACRE LARGE DOG AREA
- FENCED HALF-ACRE SMALL DOG AREA
- FENCED QUARTER-ACRE COMMUNITY SOCIALIZATION AREA

Boland Trail Completed, Creating A New Recreational Trail In Northwest South Bend

36 New Pieces Of Cardio Equipment At O'Brien Fitness Center

13 WITH INTERACTIVE SCREENS AND WI-FI CONNECTIVITY FOR ADVANCED EXERCISE TRACKING

/LOOKIN FORWARD



Spanning 39 parks, over 900 acres and 20 miles of trails, My South Bend Parks & Trails is a combination of park, trail, and riverfront upgrades that will fundamentally change the landscape of South Bend's shared green spaces. The projects were identified through various community and city planning initiatives.

MSBPT IN 2019

- GRAND RE-OPENING OF HOWARD PARK IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS, FEATURING SEASONAL ICE SKATING ON AN ICE TRAIL, WATER FEATURE IN WARMER MONTHS, RESTAURANT, COMMUNITY BUILDING, PLAYGROUND AND EVENT LAWNS
- RIVERWALK BETWEEN SAMPLE AND HOWARD WILL BE REVAMPED AND READY FOR ENJOYMENT BY LATE SUMMER
- RESTORED STUDEBAKER FOUNTAIN WILL BE INSTALLED IN LEEPER PARK
- LEEPER PARK RENOVATIONS COMPLETE BY EARLY FALL
- ERSKINE GOLF COURSE WILL UNVEIL ITS CLUBHOUSE TRANSFORMATION IN THE SPRING, FEATURING A RESTORED EVENT SPACE
- PULASKI PARK WILL UNDERGO A COMPLETE RENOVATION
- SPRING GROUNDBREAKING ON AMENITY UPGRADES, BRINGING FEATURES LIKE NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, PAVILIONS, AND MORE TO MANY NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS
- SPRING GROUNDBREAKING ON MODERNIZING ALL OPERATIONAL PARK RESTROOMS AND BRINGING THEM UP TO ADA COMPLIANCE



"DELIVERING UPON THE COMMUNITY'S VISION IS WHAT MAKES OUR CITY SO SPECIAL AND IT'S WHAT WILL ENSURE A LASTING, MEANINGFUL IMPACT."

Aaron Perri, Executive Director
of Venues Parks & Arts

Studebaker Golf Course Celebrates Its Centennial Anniversary, Marking **100 Years Of Golf** In South Bend

FESTIVITIES WILL LAST ALL YEAR LONG, CULMINATING WITH A COMMUNITY PARTY IN JULY

Morris Performing Arts Center Will Host More Than **115 Events**

Grand Opening Of **New Granada VIP Lounge** At The Morris Performing Arts Center

Budgeted To Plant **400 Trees** Throughout The System And The City

VPA In Motion Recreation Program Will Launch "**Boomer**" The **Mobile Experience** In Every District

The Century Center Will Embark Upon Nearly **\$1.3M In Renovations And Enhancements** Including Landscaping, Wayfinding, And Parking Lot Improvements





CITY OF SOUTH BEND
VENUES PARKS & ARTS

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Morris Performing Arts Center

