



## DECADE-OLD DISAGREEMENT SETTLED

Win-Win for Beech Grove & Indianapolis

**(Beech Grove, Indiana)** – After nearly a decade of disagreement, city officials in Indianapolis and Beech Grove have announced a final settlement of long-standing issues related to Beech Grove's exit from the Marion County Stormwater District in 2006, and sewer and stormwater billing disagreements dating back to the year 2000.

A Memorandum of Understanding was approved by the City of Indianapolis on Monday and was presented to the Beech Grove Board of Public Works on Wednesday, where it was approved unanimously. The Memorandum calls for a final settlement payment by Beech Grove of \$218,401 and the payment of a pro rata share of future capital expenditures which directly benefit the citizens of Beech Grove. Previous bills stemming from the disagreements had the amount at nearly \$1 million.

"With Mayor Ballard's help, we have reached an amicable solution to issues predating both of our administrations. I want to express my deep thanks to Mayor Ballard and his team for helping to resolve these problems and putting this long standing dispute behind us," said **Beech Grove Mayor Terry Dilk**. "Mayor Ballard and his team were willing to be problem solvers and proactively, and fairly address issues between our two great cities, which the prior Indianapolis administration was not willing to do," said Mayor Dilk.

The final resolution of all issues relating to past sewer and stormwater matters comes on the doorstep of the City of Indianapolis's transfer of its water and wastewater utilities to Citizens Energy Group, a public charitable trust operating as a non-profit for the public benefit. Citizens has maintained responsibility for the gas in Marion County for over one hundred and twenty years, and is scheduled to assume water and wastewater responsibilities this month.

"Mayor Dilk has worked with us on this resolution since his first days in office. I am pleased to have a partner in Beech Grove that rolls up his sleeves and solves problems like I do. Our teams waded through complicated historical disagreements to find a solution that is fair for Indianapolis and Beech Grove," said **Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard**. "I look forward to continuing to work with Mayor Dilk on future efforts to spur job creation and redevelopment."

"This is a fair settlement that will have long term benefits for the future of the City of Beech Grove," said Mayor Dilk. We can all be proud that it was brought to a conclusion on our watch," he said.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 25, 2011

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