

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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County-Wide Purchasing Program Moving Forward

On the heels of earning statewide recognition from the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns in September for outstanding cooperation and innovation between La Porte County and the City of Michigan City, local officials are again seeking to expand cooperative efforts aimed at achieving cost savings for the citizens of La Porte County.

“The success we’ve had in moving forward on a County-wide basis in the areas of economic development, regional planning and even stormwater management has encouraged us to work together with officials from our cities and towns even more,” said County Commissioner Bill Hager. “The next logical step is to combine our purchasing power for essential supplies in order to buy in bulk quantities for the entire county and save money.”

Michigan City Mayor Chuck Oberlie said, “For several months now representatives of the County Council, the County Commission and all cities and towns have met to evaluate cost saving ideas. I am pleased to report that we are approaching a general consensus on an overall framework that would allow county entities to participate in a central purchasing program. In the near future we will be sending letters outlining this framework to formalize everyone’s participation.”

“Additional partners that will be welcomed in this program are the various school systems in La Porte County,” La Porte Mayor Leigh Morris said. “We plan to begin our combined purchasing efforts with basic items such as paper and office supplies. Having the participation of local school systems could lead to even greater cost savings.”