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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**GARY 2017 INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE MOVES TO NEW ROUTE  
SAME FUN AND EXCITEMENT**

**Gary, Indiana-** The City of Gary will present its annual Independence Day Parade on the Fourth of July holiday, Tuesday, July 4, 2017. While this year's parade will continue to celebrate this national holiday and showcase the festive spirit of the community, this year's festivities will move to the 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor and travel west from Washington Street to Grant Street. The selected Parade theme this year is "Gary Indiana: On the Shores of Opportunity." The Parade will begin at 9:00 a.m.

The city was forced to change the Parade route this year as the Indiana Department of Transportation readies Broadway for construction this summer. Among the work planned for Broadway in Gary is concrete patching, curb ramps, lighting and demolition of the bridge between 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>.

All are invited to join Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson, members of the Gary Common Council, family and friends in this display of Gary patriotism and pride during this annual traditional celebration in the city's midtown area. Featured in the parade will be special guests, clowns, floats, vehicles, bands and more.

The City of Gary's parade has been dubbed, "one of the best Independence Day Parades in Northwest Indiana." Mayor Freeman-Wilson will recognize first, second and third place winners in each parade category as well as an overall winner during a Press conference. Plan now to start your 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday with the fun and excitement of a neighborhood parade.

Those interested in participating in the parade may download the application at [www.gary.in.us](http://www.gary.in.us) or visit City Hall to complete an application. Sponsorship and volunteer opportunities are also available. For more information, contact the Department of Communications at (219) 881-1314.