



February 27, 2018

Welcome to the City of Carmel.

Now that your neighborhood is part of the City of Carmel, I am looking forward to working with everyone in the area to make improvements and enhance the quality of life. One of my goals is to work together to continue to recognize Home Place as a distinct neighborhood but provide the first-class services for which Carmel is known. One of the major reasons that I have been working to consolidate is to provide more efficient government that, in the long run, costs less in taxes.

Over the next few years, my staff and I will be seeking input from you and your neighbors about street and other improvements that are the most important to you.

There are many ways to become involved in the City of Carmel and I hope you become engaged in ways that advance our city initiatives. In addition to this letter, you will receive more detailed information about city trash and recycling services from Carmel Utilities as well as a letter that outlines city services and contacts for city departments.

Carmel has by law until March 1, 2019 to begin providing operational services (such as police protection and plowing snow) so that tax revenue is received when services begin. Some user-fees and the services they pay for, such as storm water and trash pick-up, will start immediately.

Below is a list of services and when they are expected to begin.

Service	Start Date
Trash and Recycling	<p><b>2018</b> – Trash service will become available March 1 for those who do not have a contract that can't be cancelled. If you have a current contract, you will be able to stay with your current service until that contract expires.</p> <p><b>2019</b> – Everyone will be on City Trash service (Republic) by March of 2019.</p>

Water	Municipal water customers remain with Carmel Utilities
Storm Water	<b>2018</b> – Residents will begin paying a storm water management fee in March, 2018.
Code Enforcement	<b>2018</b> – Code enforcement, property maintenance and urban forestry services will begin immediately. All planning and zoning functions are already handled by the City.
Sanitary Sewer	Municipal sewer customers remain with Clay Regional Waste
Carmel Police Department	<b>2019</b> – Neighborhood patrols, response to calls, crime investigation, animal control, etc., will begin one year from the date of annexation although in the interim Carmel police will continue to assist in emergencies when necessary.
Carmel Fire Department	Remains unchanged
Carmel Street Department	<b>2019</b> – City begins painting lines & markings, LED Street light conversion begins, street signs replaced, minor repairs on storm sewer drains, street sweeping, mowing, snow removal
E911 emergency dispatch service	Continues to be provided by Hamilton County for all of Carmel

**Code Enforcement:**

One of the first services we plan to offer is in Code Enforcement and Property Maintenance. We plan to do a block by block analysis of needs and issues, compiling a list of violations by degree of severity. The inspectors will focus first on the worst offenders and on absentee landlords that have allowed junk to accumulate and properties to deteriorate to the detriment of the surrounding community.

**Urban Forestry:**

The City’s Urban Forestry staff will begin conducting health and safety assessments of trees located in public street rights of way, as well as updating the City’s street tree inventory. Street trees that pose a risk to public health and safety will be scheduled for removal. Urban Forestry staff will assist code enforcement officers with administration of codes related to unsafe trees on private property.

**Redevelopment:**

A comprehensive review of commercial properties will be conducted to determine what areas could benefit from improvements made by the city’s redevelopment commission.

**Council Representation:**

You will have representation on the Carmel City Council through the two current At-Large members, Kevin Rider (current Council president) and Ron Carter. Due to the change in Carmel’s city status from third class to second class, the next municipal election, which occurs in 2020, will include voting for two additional council seats. The new City Council will include six district seats and three at-large seats, elected from the entire city.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at (317) 571-2401. I will be glad to personally help or direct you to the right department that can assist you with your issue.

This is an exciting time for the Home Place area and Carmel. I am optimistic about the future of this neighborhood and improvements which will benefit everyone.

Together we have a wonderful opportunity to continue to improve the Home Place area while honoring its distinct traditions and sense of place.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Brainard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" and "B".

James Brainard  
Mayor