



CITY COUNCIL PREVIEW #3: JANUARY 3, 2025

2024 In Review Part 2

When they weren't hard at work restoring the City Council to its rightful place as an equal branch of city government, the City Council Democrats were busy making life better for everyone in the community.

Public safety was a top priority for the Council this year. They unanimously passed City Council Resolution #6 in February, tackling gun safety with practical, common-sense measures to keep the community safer.

Inclusivity was another big win. With Resolution #12, the Council officially recognized June as Pride Month in Valparaiso for the very first time. That meeting was unforgettable, with supporters celebrating the city's historic acknowledgment of the LGBTQ+ community.

Looking out for the environment? The Council had that covered too. Ordinance #26 created an Environmental Advisory Board to help guide the city on sustainability policies and practices. And let's not forget Resolution #20, which brought the Ethics Commission back into city government—a much-needed step to rebuild trust and accountability.

Worker safety also got a boost. Ordinance #16 now requires contractors working on big city projects to prove their workers are properly trained. It's a simple but effective way to keep everyone safe on the job.

On the public health front, the Council made a huge impact by approving Resolution #21. This decision allocated nearly \$350,000 in Opioid Settlement Grant Funds to organizations dedicated to treatment and recovery, a vital lifeline for those in need.

And let's talk infrastructure! With Ordinances #7 through #10, the Council poured resources into fixing Valparaiso's long-neglected infrastructure. That included an extra \$4 million for paving and much-needed upgrades to water and sewage systems.

The City Council Democrats campaigned on a promise to restore good governance: transparent, accountable, and focused on the people. From

public safety to infrastructure and beyond, they kept their word and delivered for Valparaiso in 2024.