



March 14, 2022

RE: Renew Cannelton, Inc. Annual Fund Drive

Dear Friends:

Over the past year Renew Cannelton, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, has continued our efforts in our mission to facilitate the revitalization of the city of Cannelton, Indiana and the surrounding area by enhancing the attractiveness of the community and by working to preserve historic sites, buildings, objects and antiquities of significance.

In spite of the continued challenges presented by COVID-19, we believe 2021 turned out to be a watershed year for the city of Cannelton. In late 2019, a renowned team of professional architects from across the country selected Cannelton, Indiana to provide their expertise in the form of a Sustainable Design Assessment to use in the revitalization and future development of historic downtown Cannelton.

The immediate and unprecedented onset and prolonged effects of COVID-19 greatly impacted this team's efforts. They prevailed, however, and presented Cannelton with a final report in October of 2021. This invaluable document provides insight and clear direction from professional unbiased experts and their perspective regarding the necessary steps to facilitate the changes needed to allow the revitalization of our beautiful city. This group's fresh eyes saw our

city as it can and should be. Their professional collective opinion is that Cannelton's future is limited only by its citizens and their willingness to work together for their common good.

We believe this report is crucial to the success of our organization's revitalization efforts. We also believe that it is equally important for our mission as a Main Street organization. This report, in its entirety, can be accessed from the Home Page of our website, renewcannelton.org under the AIA section. Simply click the link to view the AIA Assessment. We encourage you to read this report to better understand and appreciate the opportunity our city has going forward.

It is because of the significance of this report that Renew Cannelton will be hosting an event to allow the public the opportunity to meet and interact with the team virtually. The date will be announced on our website as well as other venues.

We achieved the following accomplishments in 2021 despite the challenges.

Because of the generosity of the Friends of Perry County, we received a grant funded through the Perry County Community Foundation for \$3,000. This grant, combined with other contributions, allowed us to complete the Historic Downtown Christmas Decorations Campaign.

Although COVID-19 forced us to cancel our annual Cannelton Heritage Festival in 2020, we were thankful that we were able to sponsor it again in 2021. Given the circumstances, we were delighted with the community participation and turn out. We expect this year to be an even bigger and better event.

With the hope that we have started a new tradition, we sponsored the first annual Visit with Santa event following the Cannelton Christmas Parade. This event took place at the Cannelton Community Center where Santa Claus handed out small gifts to all children who came to visit. It provided the opportunity for attendees of all ages to snap a photo with Santa.

In 2021, we continued our annual Deck the Halls Decorating Contest which encouraged businesses and residences to show their holiday spirit by lighting up the town. Cash prizes were awarded to the chosen winners. As expected, the participation improved this year, and we anticipate continued growth in the future.

We are excited to announce Renew Cannelton, Inc. is sponsoring Cannelton's participation in the Perry County Dogwood Festival for the first time in many years. The event will feature a Festival Marketplace with a variety of crafters, direct sales, flea market, game and food vendors.

We hope we have demonstrated our commitment and ability to succeed in our endeavors. As an Indiana Main Street organization, one of our primary objectives is to provide a Façade Revolving Loan Fund to assist property owners with the rehabilitation of the facades of their buildings. These programs have proven successful in other Main Street communities. We simply need to follow these successful models and implement them in our historic district. This is an ambitious undertaking but one that is critical to the revitalization of our Historic Downtown as modeled in other successful Main Street communities. It is also well documented that this type of program encourages improvements by other property owners.

With that in mind, we ask this year that you be especially generous when you consider donating to our organization. The future of our Historic District is at a critical juncture. We are encouraged by the AIA Report as well as the positive input of numerous visitors who see the beauty in our city that our local people sometimes take for granted. We appreciate your continued support and promise to maximize the investment of your contribution.

Based on the experience of other successful communities, we have implemented a tiered system for donations. That being said, donations in any amount are always appreciated.

The contribution levels are:

_____ \$25 Donor _____ \$50 Contributor _____ \$100 Supporter _____ \$250 Friend
_____ \$500 Partner _____ \$1,000 Patron _____ \$2,500 or more Benefactor

If you prefer to donate to a specific project, please indicate that on your contribution slip. All donations are fully tax-deductible.

We realize that charitable contributions are competitive.

We hope you can see that a revitalized Historic Downtown Cannelton will benefit the entire community.

Sincerely yours,

Carolyn M. Barr
President

Brenda L. Bryant
Vice-President

Barbara B. Beard
Secretary-Treasurer

Detach and return this portion with your donation.

Renew Cannelton, Inc. 2022 Annual Fund Drive

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ \$25 Donor _____ \$50 Contributor _____ \$100 Supporter _____ \$250 Friend

_____ \$500 Partner _____ \$1,000 Patron _____ \$2,500 or more Benefactor

Preferred Project _____

Please make checks or money orders payable to Renew Cannelton, Inc. and mail to
Renew Cannelton, Inc., 527 Saint Louis Avenue, Cannelton, IN 47520 or go to www.renewcannelton.org.
812-719-2756