PRESS RELEASE

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MAYOR GREG BALLARD ANNOUNCES NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CRIME PREVENTION

INDIANAPOLIS – (June 17, 2008) Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard in partnership with the US Attorney’s Office and the Criminal Justice Institute announced today the availability of new funding opportunities for crime prevention as a result of federal and local collaboration.

In a proactive approach to diminishing gang activity in Indianapolis, a Steering Committee and subcommittees were formed in 2007 to plan and execute activities in line with the Attorney General’s Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative (CAGI). The two focus areas for this round of funding is crime prevention and re-entry in the Indianapolis area zip codes which include 46201, 46208, 46218, 46222, and 46224.

Crime Prevention: $1 million will support comprehensive prevention efforts that focus on addressing the full range of personal, family, and community factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency and gang activity. It is the intent of the crime prevention grants to reduce the occurrence of youth gang crime and precursor gang crime incidents, and to increase positive outcomes for youth at high risk for gang involvement through targeted, evidence-based gang prevention.

Re-Entry: $500,000 is dedicated to re-entry assistance programs. The intent of the re-entry grants is to provide aid to formerly incarcerated individuals who are identified as present gang members or are at risk for future gang involvement. Utilization of faith-based and community organizations, pre-release assessment and services, intensive community-based supervision and comprehensive community support are necessary to facilitate reintegration.

For more background information about the Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative (CAGI) and grant application and submission details, please refer to the Criminal Justice Institute’s website: www.in.gov/cji or the City of Indianapolis’ homepage: www.indygov.org.

Funding for this first phase of Mayor Ballard’s comprehensive crime prevention initiative is made possible by a $2.5M grant from the US Department of Justice.

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