

November 12, 2018

## **Greetings!**

On behalf of the City of Indianapolis, we look forward to welcoming you next October for the 2019 International Economic Development Council's Annual Conference.

We are excited to host such an impactful group of professionals working to promote economic growth, create jobs, and support quality of life in our communities. Indianapolis' vibrant downtown, entrepreneurial spirit, and healthy business environment is an ideal space for this gathering to flourish.

Thanks to \$3 billion in tourism investment, Indianapolis has grown into a premier meeting and event destination, recognized by "USA Today" as the #1 Convention City in the United States. Our internationally-acclaimed Indianapolis Cultural Trail runs adjacent to your host hotels and provides an accessible connection to an array of dining, shopping, and attractions in six cultural districts. The trail will lead you past \$2 million in public art, into niche neighborhoods, and along the scenic Central Canal in White River State Park.

Indianapolis is also home to a rising culinary scene, with new chef-driven restaurants opening at a fast pace as more and more take advantage of the rich agriculture that surrounds us. In fact, "Condé Nast" dubbed Indy "The Most Underrated Food City in the U.S." In the downtown core, you will find more than 250 restaurants with something for every palate as well as 50 other major attractions nearby, including the iconic Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Super Bowl host Lucas Oil Stadium, skyline views from atop Monument Circle, and world-class performing arts.

Our 80,000 hospitality professionals host more than 28 million visitors annually, and come October, they will stand ready to welcome you with the signature hospitality for which our city is known. Whether you are a first-time visitor, resident, or frequent guest, we look forward to ensuring you have a successful and enjoyable conference here in the Circle City.

Warm regards,

Joe Hogsett Mayor City of Indianapolis