

Commissioner Todd Portune

I was elected to the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners on November 2, 2000, after serving eight years on the Cincinnati City Council. I have been re-elected twice and am currently serving my third term.

As your Commissioner I serve as Chair of the County's Emergency Management Agency Executive Committee and chaired the County Homeland Security Commission. I am the Chair of the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District Policy Committee, and am the Past-President of the Hamilton County Family and Children First Council. I am the county's delegate to the Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana (OKI) Regional Council of Governments Board of Trustees where I also served as OKI's President. I also am providing leadership on transportation issues as Chair of the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District.

I currently serve as President of the Board of Hamilton County Commissioners and did so on two prior occasions spanning three years - first from 2007 through December 31, 2008 and again in 2010 from June through December.

Leadership

As President of the Board, I am leading a county agenda focused on five key issues. They are:

1. to develop a regional, integrated and multi-modal transportation system moving people and freight.
2. I want to improve overall public health and especially infant and maternal health by Health by reducing the area's infant mortality rate.
3. I am committed to clean up our Metrop[olitan Sewer District and develop a more cost efficient, reliable and affordable way to comply with our obligations under the Clean Water Act of 1972.
4. I am leading the redevelopment of the county in our neighborhoods and by laying out a plan by which we will also complete the "bix box" development issues facing the region; and
5. I have begun to put an end to the county's budget anarchy by implementing new policies and measures that will control spending and keep all county departments on budget. In order to meet serious budget challenges brought on by the recession, I introduced zero based budget principles, mandated reviews, and aggressively pursued shared services and government reforms. My budget and government reforms have produced a reduction in the size of county government by 25% while the county maintained its full menu of services. Despite a 30% drop in revenues, the county has annually balanced its budgets, improved its reserves and strengthened its financial picture.

Proactive Agenda

My growth agenda for the county focuses on sound land use planning, regional transportation enhancements and strategic economic development investments. At my lead, the promise of The Banks riverfront redevelopment project gained new life with a development agreement being struck within months of my presidency commencing after almost a decade of delay under others. Our initiatives at the Banks have created over 5,000 permanent full-time jobs and have generated over \$1.5 Billion in economic impact to the county.

I proposed the creation of a Land Bank for the county with a reformed Port Authority at the helm. I successfully renegotiated the creation of the Port Authority. I am proud to say that my proposed Land Bank has now been enacted into law, and with funding sources identified by or proposed by me coming into play. The Port and the Land Bank are commencing the redevelopment of blighted and abandoned properties all over Hamilton County for large and small scale commercial development and new residential construction. My Home Improvement Program has leveraged over \$50 million in new private investment fixing up the aging housing stock of the county - 75% of which benefit middle class homeowners and over 2,500 local contractors receiving jobs.

I am leading a regional transportation agenda that will introduce commuter rail options to area residents, will put the already constructed Transit Center to its highest and best use, and will provide for transportation improvements for people and freight under a 3 state, 8 county, regional approach introducing integrated multi-modal service that will be managed and funded regionally.

Health and Safety

I am leading the way for improvements in public health, public safety and the environment - all the while emphasizing the potential in each for growing Hamilton County. As Chair of the County Solid Waste Policy Committee the county is aggressively reducing the impact on landfills; increasing recycling options for residential and commercial customers alike, and pursuing new environmental initiatives that are reducing energy consumption and the county's carbon footprint, while increasing business and individual spending power and creating jobs.

As Emergency Management and Homeland Security Chair, I introduced a process that secured over \$63 million in needed homeland security and first responder needs. The county now has a state of the art Emergency Operations Center; an active Regional Hazmat Response Unit and a county-wide emergency warning system providing 100% coverage for the county for the first time. These safety improvements have made the county a more attractive place to live, work and play and are reducing costs of living and costs of business, and have secured new investments in the region, expanding available jobs and options for safe and secure investments in the county to occur.

In an important issue of public health, my leadership in attacking infant mortality, in pursuing reimbursable revenues for public and behavioral health, expanded oral and dental care and ensuring medical homes for all county residents has saved lives, including a 20% reduction in our infant mortality rate, improving overall public health.

National Recognition

Just because I am a County Commissioner does not mean that the impact of what I have done has only been felt on a local level. A number of my initiatives and areas of leadership have been recognized on a national level as well. I created the "Perfect Storm" coalition of communities affected by the high costs of Clean Water Act compliance. The coalition generated a model new policy of enforcement for EPA that will save taxpayers nationwide an estimated \$200 Billion and local ratepayers as much as \$1 Billion in costs of sewer repairs.

My work in the area of recycling initiatives garnered National Legislator of the Year honors by the United States Recycling Coalition of Communities and Organizations. In addition, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies awarded me its highest award for Local Public Service in ceremonies held in Washington DC in 2013.

Man of the People

As a lifelong resident of Hamilton County, and the son of two career teachers, I was raised in a middle class suburb of Cincinnati. After the sudden death of my Dad in the early 70s, My brothers and I worked to help support each other and Mom while attending public school, maintaining high scholastic achievement and extracurricular participation.

I graduated from Colerain High School as National Merit Scholar in 1976 and was named a "Colerain Distinguished Graduate" in 2002. I went on to study political science at Oberlin College in Ohio where I graduated from Oberlin in 1980, and was inducted into the college's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998. I was accepted to law school at the University of Cincinnati where I became president of the Student Bar Association, received Order of the Barristers honors and graduated in 1983.

As an attorney, I practice law primarily in the areas of employment and civil rights law and mineral rights. Because of legal work on behalf of individual aggrieved property owners in Kentucky, I was named both a Kentucky Colonel and a Duke of Hazard, Kentucky.

I live in Green Township with my three children.