

COUNCIL PENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2026-07
AS AMENDED _____
CERTIFICATION DATE _____
CERTIFIED BY _____
FAVORABLY _____
UNFAVORABLY _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GARY COMMON COUNCIL ENCOURAGING INVESTMENT
IN DIRECT REDUCTION STEELMAKING TECHNOLOGY AT U.S. STEEL GARY
WORKS TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS, JOB PRESERVATION, AND
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, Gary, Indiana, has been designated as an Environmental Justice community by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) because it has been over-burdened by historic and current industrial pollution for more than 100 years; and

WHEREAS, while the people of Gary and the region have historically benefitted from the jobs and tax revenue that U.S. Steel Gary Works has generated, they continue to experience significant industrial emissions and associated environmental and public health concerns, including elevated rates of respiratory disease, cancer, and other adverse health outcomes reported in the region; and

WHEREAS, the blast furnaces that are used to make iron from iron ore are the major source of this air emissions associated with adverse public health impacts; and

WHEREAS, a new iron production technology now exists, that is cleaner and more efficient than the blast furnace, without compromising product quality;

WHEREAS, this new technology, known as Direct Reduction or DR, could replace Gary's old, obsolete and emissions-intensive blast furnace technology and allow Gary Works to continue producing high quality iron while dramatically reducing its health-harming pollution; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of this new technology would help ensure Gary Works remains competitive in the high-quality flat-rolled steel market; and

WHEREAS 20% of the iron produced in the United States is already made with Direct Reduction technology; and

WHEREAS, as Direct Reduction technology is the wave of the future, and without a commitment to Direct Reduction, Gary Works could face increasing competitive challenges as newer production technologies become more widely adopted; and

WHEREAS, the investment dollars to transition to Direct Reduction are now available through the sale of U.S. Steel to Nippon Steel, which has committed \$3.1 billion to Gary Works; and

WHEREAS, the combination of the available new technology and the dollars to fund an investment in the new technology present an historic opportunity for U.S. Steel and Nippon to secure a new, sustainable and better future for Gary Works and the people of the city of Gary, the workers inside the mill and all others who are affected; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Steel has announced it will install a Direct Reduction furnace at its Big River plant in Arkansas, but at ; and

WHEREAS, while US Steel has proclaimed that in Arkansas "Hard work means something. Family matters and the future matters," even though it is the hard work of families in the City of Gary and the

region who have produced the steel that has built a nation and made US Steel Gary Works what it is today; and

WHEREAS, continued investment in Gary Works will preserve thousands of family-supporting jobs, strengthen the regional economy, maintain Indiana's leadership in domestic steel production, and enhance the City's long-term tax base; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE GARY COMMON COUNCIL that:

To bring about the environmentally safe, competitive, and productive operation of Gary Works, in Gary, Indiana, the Gary Common Council calls upon Nippon Steel and U.S. Steel to use the remaining investment funds committed for Gary Works, to install Gary's first Direct Reduction furnace and the additional facilities that will be needed to convert the DR iron into high grade steel;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The Gary Common Council encourages Nippon Steel and U.S. Steel to give strong consideration to locating any future greenfield steel manufacturing facility in the State of Indiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The Gary Common Council calls upon Nippon and U.S. Steel to become a good corporate neighbor to the residents Gary and Northwest Indiana by taking meaningful and available actions that can significantly reduce emissions of Criteria and Hazardous air pollutants from Gary Works, and this should include a corporate decision to achieve compliance with EPA's 2024 revisions to its National Environmental Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Integrated Iron and Steel mills, as they appear in the April 3, 2024 Federal Register.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT

The Gary Common Council pledges it will work cooperatively with U.S. Steel to ensure that the measures it is calling for can be implemented through a collaborative transition that protects jobs, strengthens economic competitiveness, improves public health, and supports long-term investment in Gary to achieve a productive outcome for the company, for the City of Gary, for Northwest Indiana, and for the State of Indiana as a whole.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT

The Gary Common Council will send this resolution, upon its adoption, to the Mayor of Gary and the mayors of adjacent cities, to the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC), to the Governor of Indiana, to Indiana's members of the U.S. Congress and Senate, to members of the City Councils of nearby communities adjacent to steel mills including Burns Harbor, Portage, and East Chicago, and to the City Councils of the communities adjacent to U.S. Steel's iron and steel production facilities in Southwest Pennsylvania and to Nippon Steel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT

The Gary Common Council encourages any modernization project to preserve existing union jobs, provide opportunities for workforce training, and support local hiring during construction and operation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Gary, Indiana, on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

PRESIDENT, GARY COMMON COUNCIL

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

PRESENTED by me, to the Mayor for his approval and signature this _____ day of _____, 2026.

CITY CLERK

APPROVED and **SIGNED** by me this _____ day of _____, 2026.

MAYOR, CITY OF GARY, INDIANA

Sponsor: Darren L. Washington, Common Council Member At-Large
Co-Sponsor, Lori Latham, Common Council Member 1st District

1st District

LORI LATHAM

2nd District

DWAYNE HALLIBURTON

3rd District

MARY BROWN

4th District

MARIAN IVEY

5th District

LINDA BARNES-CALDWELL

6th District

DWIGHT WILLIAMS

At Large

DARREN WASHINGTON

At Large

MYLES TOLLIVER

At Large

KENNETH WHISENTON

Prepared by: Rinzer Williams, III, Legal Advisor for Gary Common Council