

## Letter from the Mayor

Dear residents and visitors,

Welcome to the City of Hazleton's website. I trust that you will find our site helpful as you learn more about our city's services and Hazleton itself.

The goal of this site, which was funded several years ago through grants awarded to the city's Office of Economic and Community Development, is to provide information about Hazleton and northeastern Pennsylvania. By browsing this site, you'll find out just some of the reasons why Hazleton is special.

Built upon a foundation of coal mining and evolving to meet the diverse needs of today's residents and businesses, Hazleton is part of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Hazleton can claim an excellent location near the crossroads of Interstates 80 and 81 and easy access to other major transportation routes, in addition to a workforce that is consistently highly rated. These factors give us a unique advantage in economic development. If you are considering locating your business in Greater Hazleton, please review the Economic Development section of this site to learn more.

Not only am I proud to serve as mayor of Hazleton, I'm proud to say that I was born and raised in this city. I was first elected as a member of city council in 1988 and served several terms after that, most recently two consecutive terms from 2004 to 2010. My time on council included an appointment as council president in 1989 and from 2004 to 2010.

I plan to continue many of the programs and policies implemented by former Mayor Louis J. Barletta — who was recently elected U.S. Representative for Pennsylvania's 11th congressional district — especially our fight against illegal immigration and the negative effects it's having on our community and our nation. Our appeal to enforce Hazleton's Illegal Immigration Relief Act may be heard by the Supreme Court.

As mayor of Hazleton, my goals include enhancing the quality of life, keeping our city at the forefront of economic development and technology, and maintaining the safety of our neighborhoods and businesses. I'm committed to the City of Hazleton and its future. I'm also committed to my fellow residents as we partner to make this an even better place to raise families, go to work and enjoy life here in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Whether you're visiting our website to learn more about local government, the history of Hazleton or economic development initiatives, I hope you will be able to find the information you need. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact City Hall at (570) 459-4910.

Best regards,

Mayor Joe Yannuzzi