



Statement from Mayor Adrian O. Mapp

In recent weeks, many Plainfield residents have shared their excitement with me over the positive changes they are seeing in Plainfield. In the four months since my Administration took office, we've seen NJTransit's approval of the Transit-Oriented Development designation; a reduction in crime statistics in the first quarter of 2014 over the same period in 2013; and the submission of the first on-time budget submitted to the City Council in eight years.

These are good signs that should make Plainfielders proud and happy. But they strike fear in the hearts of those who would return us to the "bad old days" in our city. Those days were marked by political cronyism; patronage jobs that resulted in payouts that cost our city millions of dollars; and hand-picked officials whose only concern was loyalty to their political boss.

It's sad that some who have held power in our city for so long have so little to show for it. Unfortunately, their power base consists of those who have been convinced that a hand-out is better than a hand up. Those political bosses can only remain in power by keeping Plainfield down.

When Plainfielders elected me Mayor with over 70 percent of the vote, they sent a strong message that they were ready to put the old ways behind and move our city forward.

What we're seeing from the political bosses is no surprise. I am confident that Plainfielders who share our vision of what Plainfield *can* be will continue to put Plainfield first. One future, one Plainfield!