

## **IDEA 6 How Indianapolis can reduce violence by enabling diversity, excellence, and self-actualization: A Destination City or An Education City...or both?**

Presented in 2010 by then District 1 City-County Councillor Jose M. Evans, “Destination City or Education City?” proposed to not only bring more visitors to Indy, but to provide an opportunity for each Marion County citizen to self-actualize, getting the level of recognition and validation they need and deserve. If self-actualization is an important part of being a fulfilled human being, the actualized person will be less likely to be aggressive and violent.

### *An Education City enables diversity, excellence, and self-actualization*

It’s a city where citizens choose to position education at the head of their priorities. In such a city, education is not what happens during certain hours and in certain places, it is the essence of the city itself. This vision of a “culture of learning” is driven by the belief that individual development and self-fulfillment through education improves the general quality of life.

### *An Education City suggests “pluralistic learning”*

This democratic-oriented type of education acknowledges uniqueness: each person is different with both weak and strong attributes, talents, and abilities.

### *Excellence Centers in an Education City*

An Education City will manifest through collaboration among community, government, and education organizations promoting “Excellence Centers” outside of school and representing a variety of intelligences, interests, occupations/careers, etc. Here, urban students and citizens can see what they are passionate about learning and doing. They can begin intense personal study and/or find others who have the skills, interests, or careers they desire.

*OpportunINDY* will provide storefronts, places in strip malls, or studios for these individuals to pursue their passions. Here, people can develop and/or share their own interests with the community and the world. This would be the first of many steps a city takes to support and develop the personal passion(s), uniqueness, and self-actualization of its citizens.

See the entire proposal at <http://kinumedia.org/vorcreatex2/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Indianapolis-Destination-City-or-Education-City.pdf>