

2021 BLOOMINGTON COMMUNITY SURVEY: RESPONSES DUE BY WEDNESDAY, MAY 5TH

During the last week of March, the **2021 Bloomington Community Survey** was mailed to a random sample of 3,000 residents. Now, the same survey is available online and is open to all residents.

It's not a short survey.

In fact, it took me almost 30 minutes to complete.

That said, I was genuinely impressed by the *range* of questions and the opportunity to dig into issues like quality of life, city services, public safety, educational opportunities, infrastructure, water quality, and more.



You'll be asked to provide your email address and zip code, but your responses are confidential. Responses will be collected, analyzed, and published anonymously in separate data sets.

[Note: If you received a survey in the mail, please fill out and return that one. If not, then this open participation survey online is your chance to share your opinions.]

This is the third community-wide survey of Bloomington residents (the first two were in 2017 and 2019) and it is being administered again by National Research Center, Inc. (NRC). The new results will provide data that allow us to compare ourselves with peer cities, will help inform decision-making, and will help identify relevant shifts in perceptions of city services and conditions.

2021 survey results will be presented in a public meeting later this year and will be available alongside previous years' results on B-Clear.

FIND OUT MORE AND COMPLETE THE SURVEY:
bloomington.in.gov/communitysurvey

LOWER CASCADES PARK: ROAD CONVERSATION PROJECT UPDATE

In March 2020, the City of Bloomington launched a pilot project to convert a .6 miles segment of Old State Road 37 North through Lower Cascades Park to a bicycle- and pedestrian-only trail. That pilot has been ongoing, and the City continues to gather feedback from park users, but we are now approaching a decision point. Two key groups will be meeting to discuss the pilot, review feedback, and decide how to move forward. Please consider offering public comment on how a permanent road closure would impact you and your neighborhood during these important meetings:

Board of Park Commissioners

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

4:00 pm via Zoom

Board of Public Works

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

5:30 pm via Zoom

FIND OUT MORE:

bloomington.in.gov/parks/lower-cascades-road



B-CLEAR DATA SET SPOTLIGHT: BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MAPS

"B-Clear" is short for **Bloomington Clear**, a web-based, one-stop site for data about the City of Bloomington, its services, and its neighborhoods. The site is open to the public and includes over 200 data sets about everything from park trails to police calls to paving schedules. This month, I'm spotlighting **Bicycle and Pedestrian Maps**. Where are the City's greenways (signed bike routes)? Where might we need *more* paths for cyclists and pedestrians? Where can I take my kids mountain biking? It's all here!

FIND OUT MORE:

bloomington.in.gov/interactive/maps/bikepedmap

PLEXES AND A NEW ZONING MAP: COUNCIL VOTES AHEAD

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

In mid-April, following public hearings with multiple opportunities for public comment, proposed changes to the UDO were approved by the **Plan Commission** and certified to City Council. Here are some key outcomes:

- **The number of new R4 Zones (urban residential areas that allow multiplexes) has been reduced** and concentrated in nodes or corridors across the city offering proximity to transit routes, major employers, schools, and/or shopping centers, or in new undeveloped areas.
- **Duplexes are permitted by right (not conditionally) in R1, R2, R3, and R4 zones.**
- In the existing R1-R3 zones, proposed **use-specific standards for physical spacing and timing of duplex projects** (designed to keep too many duplexes from being built in close proximity or in a short amount of time) were **voted down**.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Proposed Ordinance on Plexes:

City Council now has the following options: **(1) adopt** the ordinance (which gives the UDO amendments force of law), or **(2) amend** it, or **(3) reject** it. If we vote to **amend or reject** this ordinance, then we must send it back to **Plan Commission** with a statement of our reasoning. The Plan Commission then has 45 days to act. If they approve our changes, the amended UDO will become law. If the Plan Commission disapproves what we have submitted, then Council's action on the *original* rejection or amendment will stand *only* if confirmed by *another* vote of Council within 45 days.

We had an 5.5 hour meeting on April 28th to receive public comment on plexes, and we plan to receive *additional* comment at meetings on May 4, 5 and 6.

Zoning Map:

Once the Map is certified to **City Council**, we have 90 days to vote it up or down. We do not have the power to amend it. If we vote it up, then it takes effect. If we reject it, then the map is defeated.

FIND OUT MORE:

bloomington.in.gov/planning/udo/map/updates
bloomington.in.gov/council/meetings/2021

WHICH PICNIC SHELTER HAS ENOUGH ROOM FOR EVERYBODY AT MY FAMILY REUNION? THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!

Bloomington's Parks are among our greatest local treasures, and visiting the parks just got even easier. Now you can access information through your mobile device using **OuterSpatial**. This mobile app is a one-stop tool for accurate, up-to-date information on trails and recreation resources throughout the City. It's free and available for both Apple and Android. (It even includes offline mapping capabilities so you can navigate without a cell phone signal. That's HUGE for me!)



So what can we do with OuterSpatial?

- Plan a visit to a park or trail and navigate trails
- Access information about ecological, geological and historical points of interest
- Get notifications about hazards and closures and other timely information
- Follow outings curated by the amazing staff of Bloomington Parks and Recreation
- Locate parking, restrooms, picnic areas and other park amenities
- Share experiences and photos and connect with others who love city parks and trails
- Tell Bloomington Parks and Recreation about maintenance and other issues you encounter.

FIND OUT MORE AND DOWNLOAD THE APP:
bloomington.in.gov/parks/parks-mobile-app



KEEP IN TOUCH! →

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