

### B-CLEAR DATA SET SPOTLIGHT: PUBLIC TREE INVENTORY

“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 the **Public Tree Inventory** for Bloomington. How many public trees are growing in the City of Bloomington? (Hint: It’s more than 10,000.) How many different species of trees are there in Lower Cascades? What are those gorgeous trees growing in your neighborhood? It’s all here!



#### FIND OUT MORE:

<https://data.bloomington.in.gov/dataset/public-tree-inventory>



### UREPORT: ON LINE REPORTING AND HELP REQUESTS

See a sidewalk that’s blocked by overgrown vegetation? A street light that’s not working? A pothole that needs to be patched? Have an idea for a program that you’d like to share with the Parks Department? Have a compliment for a city staff member? **Use UReport!**

This online portal is a quick, easy way to communicate with the city about non-emergency issues like those above. The site is easy to navigate with drop-down menus, open fields to record your comments, and even a place to upload your photos of whatever needs attention. When you submit your reports or comment to the City it will be sent to the appropriate department and you’ll hear back from the staff who are working on the issue (generally within a day or two). You may also send an e-mail directly to [info@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:info@bloomington.in.gov) or call the City at 812.349.3400, (but I’ve found UReport to be a lot faster!)

#### FIND OUT MORE:

<https://bloomington.in.gov/ureport-about>



### UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE (UDO): NEW DRAFT ZONING MAP NOW AVAILABLE (THIS IS A REALLY BIG DEAL)

What changes will you be permitted to make to your property? What could a developer build on that lot next door (or down the street)? What materials need to be used for new construction in your neighborhood? Once finalized, the **Unified Development Ordinance** (UDO) and **Zoning Map** will answer *exactly* these kinds of questions for years to come.

*(So again ... this is a big deal!!)*

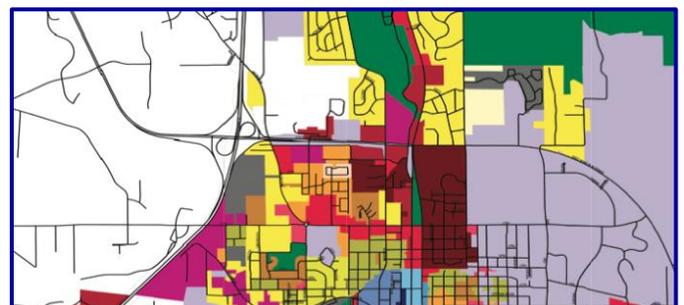
Approved in April 2020, the **UDO** brings the City’s land use and development laws into closer alignment with the City’s **2018 Comprehensive Plan** and supports goals like housing equity, compact urban form, and sustainability. Now, a draft of the proposed new **Bloomington Zoning Map** has been published to the City’s website as part of the last phase of the process of updating these important policy documents.

In addition to the draft map, the website below contains amendments to UDO standards, a proposed zoning changes story map, an interactive map (where you can enter your own address) and more. **There will be multiple public hearings with the Plan Commission and Council in 2021, and you may also want to provide feedback through online surveys on the project website (see below).**

The input collected during this period will help staff prepare for public hearings in early 2021, after which City Council will consider and adopt a new zoning map for the city, along with text amendments.

#### FIND OUT MORE:

<https://bloomington.in.gov/planning/udo/map/updates>



## WHERE DOES SUE FIND OUT ALL THIS STUFF?? CAN EVERYONE GET IN ON THAT?



**Yes, you can!** It's true that I find out a lot through meetings and planning sessions (plus a ton of reading), but I'm also subscribed to Bloomington's *City News* and its departmental newsletters ... and you can be too.

Interested in cultural events? Volunteer opportunities? Planned road closings? Sustainability efforts? Public works projects? The City of Bloomington offers e-newsletters and GoogleGroups that help you stay on top of what's happening. (And you can cherry-pick the topics of greatest interest to you, so you won't have to sift through bunches of less relevant stuff.) Here's a sampling of newsletters and GoogleGroups available:

- **Newsflash** – City of Bloomington General News
- **BEADNews** – Bloomington Entertainment & Arts District News
- **HAND Update** – Housing and Neighborhood Development
- **Planning Post** – Planning & Transportation Updates
- **Sustainability** – Sustainability News
- **Volunteering** – Bloomington Volunteer Network weekly update, including featured volunteer opportunities
- **Public Works Projects** – Road closings and more in the City of Bloomington

### FIND OUT MORE AND SUBSCRIBE:

<https://bloomington.in.gov/subscribe>



**KEEP IN TOUCH!** →

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## I HAVE SOME IDEAS TO SHARE ... ARE THERE PEOPLE ON CITY COUNCIL (IN ADDITION TO SUE) THAT REPRESENT ME?

**Yes!** In fact, every Bloomington resident has FOUR representatives on Council. I am one of six district representatives and it's my role to represent District 2 residents. In addition, City Council has three Members At-Large whose role it is to represent all of us - the entire population of Bloomington. Have some thoughts about city-wide issues like zoning and the Unified Development Ordinance? Please share it with them!

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## SHOP LOCAL WITH A HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE!

The days are getting shorter, the air is getting colder, and holiday shopping has begun. The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce is proud to present its first ever holiday gift guide, complete with fifteen categories and over 100 gift ideas from local businesses. You'll be able to check off everyone on your list without ever leaving town!

- For Bringing Home a Bit of Bloomington
- For the Teacher
- For the Foodie
- For the Beer, Wine & Cocktail Aficionado
- For the Fashionista
- For the Sportsball Enthusiast
- For the Fitness Nut
- For the Sweet Tooth
- For the Vacationer turned Staycationer
- For the Autophile
- For Holiday Cheer
- For Kids & Kids at Heart
- For the Has-Everything-Already Friend
- For Pampering Yourself
- For Those in Need



### FIND OUT MORE:

[www.chamberbloomington.org/gift-guide.html](http://www.chamberbloomington.org/gift-guide.html)

