

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? Could you add a “granny flat”? 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** (local laws governing land use and development) and the **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 **Unified Development Ordinance (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.

So now the rubber meets the road ... We actually start *applying specific zoning districts* (and their associated rules and regulations) to each area of the city, including neighborhoods. Toward that end ...

A draft of Bloomington’s new proposed **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 includes proposed amendments to UDO standards, a proposed zoning changes story map, an interactive map (where you can enter your own address) and more. →

So what comes next?

Starting in late January, the **Plan Commission** will hold multiple public hearings, and Commission members will review and potentially revise the zoning maps. Once a “final” version of the map has been approved by the Plan Commission, the process moves to City Council.

City Council then has 90 days to do one of two things: **(1)** approve the map (which gives it force of law), or **(2)** send it back to the Plan Commission with recommended changes (in which case the cycle would start again). If City Council fails to do either of those things, then the new Zoning Map automatically becomes law.

Both the Plan Commission and City Council will offer multiple opportunities for public comment, and your feedback is welcome and needed. Help these groups understand how proposed zoning will affect you and your neighborhood. In addition, please consider sharing your feedback through online surveys on the project website.

FIND OUT MORE:

bloomington.in.gov/planning/udo/map/updates



B-CLEAR DATA SET SPOTLIGHT: BLOOMINGTON CRIME MAP

“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 **Bloomington Crime Map**.

Crime mapping helps us better understand local crime activity (or lack thereof) so we can make more informed decisions about increasing public safety.



What crimes have been reported in your neighborhood and when? How can you submit a tip if you have knowledge about a crime? Start here!

FIND OUT MORE:

communitycrimemap.com/?address=Bloomington,IN



SO WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON WITH THE LOWER CASCADES ROAD CONVERSION PILOT?



As many of you remember, in March 2020 the City of Bloomington launched a pilot project to convert a .6 mile stretch of Old State Road 37 North through Lower Cascades Park into to a bicycle- and pedestrian-only trail. The pilot road closure is ongoing and is slated to end in June 2021. In the meantime, the City continues to gather feedback from park and trail users about their experiences in the park, and the impact of the pilot road closure. When you visit the project website (see below), you'll find the following links to two surveys. Please consider filling out BOTH:

- *Tell us how the pilot road conversion has impacted you.*
- *Visit Lower Cascades and share your thoughts on the converted road.*

FIND OUT MORE:

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

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 or call the City at 812.349.3400, (but I've found UReport to be a lot faster!)

FIND OUT MORE:

bloomington.in.gov/ureport-about

2021 RESIDENTIAL STORMWATER GRANTS PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Each year, the City of Bloomington Utilities Department (CBU) helps owners of single-family residential property with small grants to fund environmentally-friendly drainage projects like rain gardens, bioswales, and detention pond maintenance. CBU has allocated \$70,000 for 2021.

Eligible projects are expected to improve the management of stormwater before it enters local waterways or the City's stormwater conveyance infrastructure known as the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4).



To find out more about project requirements and the application process, attend CBU's information meeting via video conference on Tuesday, January 19 at 6:00 pm. (The meeting will also be recorded and available on the CBU grants webpage below.) Prospective applicants are encouraged to submit an optional Letter of Intent by **5 p.m. on Monday, February 1, 2021** before the application to help with project planning. Applications are due by **5 p.m. on Monday, March 1, 2021**. Both the Letter of Intent (optional) and Application may be submitted online.

FIND OUT MORE:

bloomington.in.gov/utilities/stormwater/grants

KEEP IN TOUCH!



Sue Sgambelluri
City of Bloomington Common Council
District II Representative

Council Office:

401 N Morton Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

E-Mail:

sue.sgambelluri@bloomington.in.gov

Phone:

Office: (812) 349-3409
Cell: (812) 345-3215

SueForCityCouncil.com