

LOWER CASCADES PARK: THE MAYOR'S PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE

As has been discussed at a number of neighborhood meetings in recent months, Mayor Hamilton has again indicated his interest in closing the road through Lower Cascades from the south end of the park to Country Club Drive and converting it permanently to a bicycle-and-pedestrian-only path.

When the City did so as a pilot project in 2020, the *pilot* was approved by the Board of Public Works. Based on recent indications from the Administration, it is the Mayor's intention to bring legislation directly to City Council in the coming weeks.

Your feedback is important and very much needed. In working with both the Mayor and my colleagues, I have stressed the importance of seeking public input. I encourage both individuals and neighborhood organizations to follow this story closely and to reach out to Councilmembers to share your views.



FIND OUT MORE:

Local Media +
bloomington.in.gov/parks/parks/lower-cascades



The Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development (HAND) developed **Residents Academy** in 1999 to encourage civic involvement. Through sessions with City Departments, participants learn about the challenges of city government, budget limitations, and day-to-day operations in this fun and educational (and free!) 10-week program, including sessions on the following:

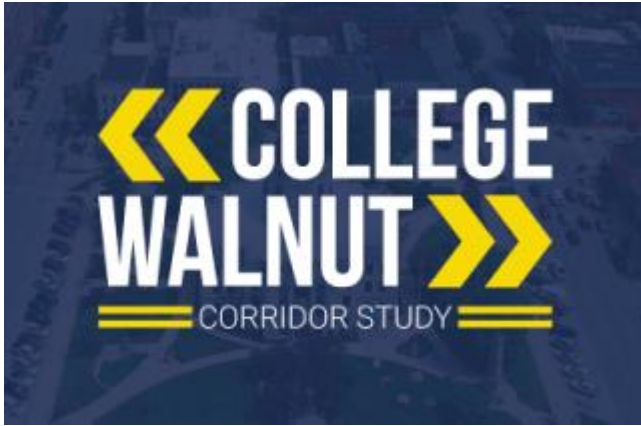
- Office of the Mayor
- City Council and Clerk's Offices
- Public Works
- Parks and Recreation
- Planning and Transportation
- Housing and Neighborhood Development
- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Utilities
- Community and Family Resources
- Controller's Office
- Bloomington Transit
- Information and Technology Services
- Economic and Sustainable Development

2023 classes meet every Thursday, August 24 through October 26, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

FIND OUT MORE AND APPLY:

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





The City of Bloomington's Planning and Transportation Department is launching a **Corridor Study** of College Avenue and Walnut Street. As our central north/south transportation routes, these streets serve as gateways to our community and are the front door for hundreds of local businesses and thousands of residents.

That said, we are aware that these two streets are not meeting the needs of all of our residents. (For example, not all sidewalks, ramps, and crosswalks meet current accessibility standards, many of the bus stops are lacking shelters, and each year, there are several hundred motor vehicle crashes along these routes.)

The Corridor Study is an opportunity to examine College and Walnut from the State Road 45/46 Bypass to Allen Street. The study will look at what's working well, where challenges exist, and where improvements can be made. Using public input, research, analysis, and community goals, the Corridor Study will develop several conceptual designs for the streets.

Here's how you can be involved:

- **Sign up for emails** to hear about project updates, public meetings, and more.
- **Share your perspective**, ideas, and observations about College Avenue and Walnut Street by using the online form, available via the link below.
- **Invite city staff to join your meeting:** Want to invite staff to listen and discuss the project? Or schedule a Stroll and Discuss with a specific group that you organize? [Fill out this form](#), and we'll be in touch.

- **SAVE THE DATE:** Collecting input, analyzing existing conditions, and creating conceptual designs for the street will be the focus of a week-long public engagement process for the week of June 12, 2023. There will be multiple opportunities to share your ideas, concerns, and goals for this project including (1) a public meeting to discuss the existing conditions along the corridor at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, June 13 at City Hall, and (2) a public meeting to discuss design concept ideas for the corridor at 6:00 pm on Thursday, June 15, also at City Hall.

Background and Goals From Planning and Transportation:

A detailed corridor study will identify how best to support the Comprehensive Plan Objectives to "Nurture Our Vibrant City Center" and "Provide Multimodal Transportation Options," through the design of our most prominent north/south streets. The Administration's stated goals include the following:

- Provide pedestrians with safe passage and safe access along and across the length of the corridors;
- Provide bicyclists with safe, protected bicycle paths throughout the length of the corridors;
- Provide buses and other forms of mass transit with safe and efficient ways to travel along the corridors;
- Accommodate potential new and emerging forms of transportation that further the goals of the Comprehensive Plan;
- Facilitate safe and efficient automobile traffic to the maximum extent possible in light of the aforementioned goals; and
- Enhance the vitality of Downtown Bloomington's businesses and institutions.

FIND OUT MORE AND GET INVOLVED!:

<https://bloomington.in.gov/transportation/plan>

KEEP IN TOUCH! →

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