

Draft Vision Statement

This vision statement reflects the concerns, wishes and aspirations of the residents of Bloomington, Indiana. The ImagineBloomington process engaged hundreds of residents, along with elected officials and members of City boards and commissions, to develop this vision for the future of Bloomington. This vision statement will provide both City government and the public with policy guidance and a common understanding of the values and themes that will shape Bloomington in the future.

We begin by recognizing Bloomington's strong foundation. We are culturally rich, cherish our progressive college town atmosphere and embrace diversity. We respect our past, while using innovation and collaboration to keep moving forward. Our wealth of natural and community resources allows us to maintain a highly desirable quality of life. Together, these are the defining features of a community with many strengths and a bright future.

This is our vision. Bloomington achieves excellence through collaboration, creativity, cultural vitality, inclusion and sustainability. We establish the following as core principles that will guide Bloomington's future.

As a COMMUNITY, we will STRIVE to do the following:

- Fortify our strong commitment to equality, acceptance and openness through active and widespread public engagement.
- Nurture our dynamic, vibrant and historic downtown as the flourishing center of the community.
- Ensure all development activity makes a positive and lasting community contribution and recognize the many virtues of preservation, rehabilitation and reuse of our historic structures.
- Embrace all of our neighborhoods as active and vital community assets that require essential services, infrastructure, assistance, protection and access to small-scaled mixed-use centers.
- Celebrate the rich blend of our arts, culture and local businesses that makes our city a special and eclectic place.
- Foster high quality economic development that provides equitable opportunities to our residents, enhances the overall community and considers issues of concern on a global scale.
- Offer a wide variety of excellent educational opportunities for our residents at every stage of life so they can pursue their full potential.

- Deliver efficient and responsive local government services through open, collaborative and forward-thinking methods.
- Reduce the community's environmental footprint by judiciously utilizing our scarce resources, replenishing our natural assets and protecting our greenspaces.
- Offer a wide variety of quality housing options for all incomes, ages and abilities.
- Provide a safe, efficient, healthy, accessible and convenient system of transportation that emphasizes walkability and bikeability and reduces our overall dependence on the automobile.
- Respect all residents, without prejudice, by balancing personal growth and self-sufficiency with a variety of support networks that keep our community healthy.
- Deliver high quality public spaces and parks that provide an array of recreational activities and events inviting for both residents and visitors alike.
- Fortify our progress toward improving public safety, civility, social equity and everyday healthy lifestyles.