

RESOLUTION 2025-15
TO ESTABLISH EXPECTATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR COUNCILMEMBER
LIAISONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

- WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington Common Council (“Council”) has an interest in the efficient governance of the City; and
- WHEREAS, BMC Title 2 identifies and includes provisions governing the various boards and commissions of the City of Bloomington (the “Boards and Commissions”); and
- WHEREAS, BMC 2.04.370 provides that the vacancies on City Boards and Commissions to be filled by the Council shall be filled by a majority vote of the Councilmembers during a properly convened session of the Council; and
- WHEREAS, the Council currently forms Interview Committees, each consisting of three Councilmembers, to make recommendations regarding appointments by the Council to the following Boards and Commissions: Animal Control Commission, Bloomington Arts Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Bloomington/Monroe County Human Rights Commission, Commission on the Status of Black Males, Board of Housing Quality Appeals, Bloomington Urban Enterprise Association, Bloomington Digital Underground Advisory Committee, Capital Improvement Board, Commission on the Status of Women, Commission on Aging, Community Advisory on Public Safety Commission, Environmental Commission, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission, Telecommunications Council, Transportation Commission, Utilities Service Board, Commission on Hispanic and Latiné Affairs, Bloomington Historic Preservation Commission, Bloomington Commission on Sustainability, Commission on the Status of Children and Youth, Public Transit Corporation, Tree Commission, Bloomington Redevelopment Commission, and Fire Merit Commission; and
- WHEREAS, the Council currently designates Councilmembers to serve on the following: Bloomington Commission on Sustainability, Bloomington Urban Enterprise Association, Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee, Plan Commission, Transportation Commission, and Utilities Service Board; and
- WHEREAS, the Council does not have any appointments to the following Boards and Commissions: Board of Public Safety, Board of Public Works, Board of Park Commissioners, Council for Community Accessibility, Dispatch Policy Board; and
- WHEREAS, the Council currently lacks a consistent mechanism for receiving updates from Boards and Commissions, apart from the annual Commission reports given in a properly convened Council session; and
- WHEREAS, the Council is interested in following and supporting the work of the above Boards and Commissions; and
- WHEREAS, the Council values the contributions of all Boards and Commissions and desires to establish appropriate mechanisms to acknowledge, discuss, and further support their work; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

SECTION 1. This Resolution, clarifying the scope and duties of Councilmembers in relation to City Boards and Commissions, shall be effective upon the conclusion of the Council’s first meeting in January 2026 held for the purpose of electing or appointing officers and establishing the schedule of meetings for the year (the “organizational meeting”).

SECTION 2. Re-organization of Interview Standing Committees. The Council hereby reorganizes the following, three-member standing committees, whose purpose is to review and make recommendations to the full Council regarding the appointment of citizens to the City’s

Boards and Commissions. The three Interview Committees shall divide responsibilities in the following manner:

(a) Committee “A” shall be responsible for the following Boards and Commissions:

- Animal Control Commission
- Bloomington Arts Commission
- Bloomington/Monroe County Human Rights Commission
- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Commission on the Status of Black Males
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission
- Board of Housing Quality Appeals
- Bloomington Urban Enterprise Association

(b) Committee “B” shall be responsible for the following Boards and Commissions:

- Bloomington Digital Underground Advisory Committee
- Commission on Hispanic and Latiné Affairs
- Commission on Aging
- Commission on the Status of Children and Youth
- Commission on the Status of Women
- Transportation Commission
- Public Transit Corporation
- Utilities Service Board

(c) Committee “C” shall be responsible for the following Boards and Commissions:

- Community Advisory on Public Safety Commission
- Tree Commission
- Environmental Commission
- Bloomington Commission on Sustainability
- Fire Merit Commission
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Redevelopment Commission
- Capital Improvement Board

SECTION 3. Interview Committee Chairs shall serve as Council Liaison to up to two Boards or Commissions, while each of the other two members shall serve as Council Liaison to up to three Boards or Commissions, with no member serving as Liaison to more than four Boards or Commissions in total. Interview Committee Chairs shall solicit preferences from Committee members regarding which Boards and Commissions under their purview they wish to serve as Council Liaison. Any Councilmember holding an ex-officio seat on a Board or Commission shall automatically serve as its Council Liaison. Taking these factors into account, each Interview Committee Chair shall prepare the slate of Council Liaison assignments under their purview and the Committee shall then meet to review and vote on it.

SECTION 4. Councilmembers shall meaningfully engage with the Boards and Commissions to which they are assigned as Council Liaisons by:

1. Making initial contact with assigned Boards or Commissions Chairs and Staff Liaisons to establish communication and checking in at least three times per year via email.
2. Attending at least one meeting of assigned Boards or Commissions annually.
3. Ensuring that assigned Interview Committees discuss any resolutions or recommendations passed by their assigned Boards or Commissions.
4. Informing assigned Boards or Commissions Chairs and Staff Liaisons of any relevant legislation being developed or discussed by the Council and soliciting feedback from the Boards or Commissions on said legislation.
5. Serving as the point of contact for Staff Liaisons or Boards or Commissions Chairs who wish to communicate activities or concerns of the Commission to the Council, thereby facilitating two-way engagement.

SECTION 5. The Council President shall annually appoint Councilmembers to serve as Council Liaisons to the following Boards and Commissions: Board of Public Safety, Board of Public Works, Board of Park Commissioners, Council on Community Accessibility, and Dispatch Policy Board.

SECTION 6. Severability. If any section, sentence or provision of this resolution, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be declared invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any of the other sections, sentences, provisions or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this resolution are declared to be severable.

PASSED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this 17 day of September, 2025.


Hopi Stosberg, President
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:


NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk
City of Bloomington

PRESENTED by me to the Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 18 day of September, 2025.


NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this 23 day of September, 2025.


KERRY THOMSON, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution, sponsored by Councilmember Zulich, establishes expectations and processes for Councilmembers serving as liaisons to City Boards and Commissions.

Distributed to: Clerk, Council Attorney, Legal, and Mayor.

