

Passed 9-0

**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON COMMON COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION 2026-10  
ON THE EXISTENTIAL RISK OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

**Preamble**

WHEREAS, artificial intelligence (“AI”) technologies and learning capabilities have been increasing exponentially, with one AI research company finding that AI/machine learning training capabilities had increased by a factor of 300,000 between 2012 and 2019—a doubling of compute every 3.43 months;<sup>1</sup>

WHEREAS, the aim of the leading artificial intelligence companies is to push absolute limits of computational capability, intelligence, and scale in order to create Artificial General Intelligence (“AGI”), an AI system that would match and then surpass human cognitive abilities in all domains;<sup>2</sup>

WHEREAS, in a competitive market, private technology companies will endeavor to create the most advanced versions of AI;

WHEREAS, a May 22, 2026 macro-analysis of surveys, experts and prediction markets indicate that AGI may come within just the next few years, though some, such as Elon Musk, state that we are already in the early stages of AI surpassing human intelligence;<sup>3 4</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Dario Amodei and Danny Hernandez, “AI and Compute”, OpenAI, May 16, 2018, <https://openai.com/index/ai-and-compute/>.

<sup>2</sup> Matt O’Brien, “Tech Companies Want to Build Artificial General Intelligence. But Who Decides When AGI is Attained?” APNews, April 4, 2024, <https://apnews.com/article/agi-artificial-general-intelligence-existential-risk-meta-openai-deepmind-science-ff5662a056d3cf3c5889a73e929e5a34>.

<sup>3</sup> Cem Dilmegani, Sila Ermut, “AGI/Singularity: 9,800 Predictions Analyzed,” AI Multiple, May 22, 2026, <https://aimultiple.com/artificial-general-intelligence-singularity-timing>.

<sup>4</sup> Jason Ma, “Elon Musk Warns a New Social Network where AI Agents Talk to one Another is the Beginning of ‘the Singularity,’” Fortune, February 2, 2026, <https://fortune.com/2026/02/02/elon-musk-moltbook-ai-social-network-moltbot-singularity-human-intelligence/>.

WHEREAS, AI developers are endowing AI with ever greater means of “recursive self-improvement,” meaning that AI will soon write all of its own code for greater capabilities;<sup>5</sup>

WHEREAS, safety experts warn that AGI with recursive self-improvement may result in an “intelligence explosion” resulting in superintelligent AI that continues improving without our guidance;<sup>6</sup>

WHEREAS, the pace of AI development is outpacing the ability to guarantee AI alignment that is meant to ensure AI systems achieve desired outcomes in alignment with human values and well-being;<sup>7</sup>

WHEREAS, many difficulties in alignment safety exist, including the fact that the developers of AI themselves do not know how their models work;<sup>8</sup>

WHEREAS, experts in alignment research have warned that creating super-intelligent AI before solving the alignment problem could lead to catastrophic outcomes;<sup>9</sup>

WHEREAS, recent tests of AI models reveal that they already exhibit alarming behaviors, such as scheming, deception, plotting to blackmail or kill their developers to avoid termination, escaping containment, and altering behaviors when they know they’re being tested—meaning that AI may fake alignment to deceive its safety developers;<sup>10</sup>

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2023, the Future of Life Institute published an open letter calling for all AI labs to observe a six-month moratorium on certain AI

---

<sup>5</sup> Ashley Gold, “Anthropic Warns AI Could Soon Help Build Its Own Successors,” Axios, June 4, 2026, <https://www.axios.com/2026/06/04/anthropic-warns-ai-build-successors>.

<sup>6</sup> Sarah Hastings-Woodhouse, “Are We Close to an Intelligence Explosion?” Future of Life Institute, March 21, 2025, <https://futureoflife.org/ai/are-we-close-to-an-intelligence-explosion/>.

<sup>7</sup> Ben Lutkevich, “AI alignment”, TechTarget, May 2023, [www.techtarget.com/whatis/definition/AI-alignment?Offer=abt\\_pubpro\\_AI-Insider](http://www.techtarget.com/whatis/definition/AI-alignment?Offer=abt_pubpro_AI-Insider).

<sup>8</sup> Tor Constantino, “AI’s Biggest Secret—Creators Don’t Understand it, Experts Split,” Forbes, <https://www.forbes.com/sites/torconstantino/2025/05/08/ais-biggest-secret—creators-dont-understand-it-experts-split/>.

<sup>9</sup> Sara Brown, “Why Neural Net Pioneer Geoffrey Hinton Is Sounding the Alarm on AI” MIT Sloan, May 23, 2023, [mitsloan.mit.edu/ideas-made-to-matter/why-neural-net-pioneer-geoffrey-hinton-sounding-alarm-ai](https://mitsloan.mit.edu/ideas-made-to-matter/why-neural-net-pioneer-geoffrey-hinton-sounding-alarm-ai).

<sup>10</sup> Radhika Rajkumar, “AI models know when they’re being tested—and change their behavior, research shows,” ZDNET, <https://www.zdnet.com/article/ai-models-know-when-theyre-being-tested-and-change-their-behavior-research-shows/>.

development, which has subsequently been signed by over 1,000 notable technology industry leaders and many more thousands of individuals;<sup>11</sup>

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2023, the Center for AI Safety announced a "Statement on AI Risk," signed by top AI researchers, scientists, and notable public figures now numbering over 600 signatories, stating that: "Mitigating the risk of extinction from AI should be a global priority alongside other societal-scale risks such as pandemics and nuclear war."<sup>12</sup>

WHEREAS, as AI developments have continued accelerating, the Future of Life Institute published a new letter on September 22, 2025, calling for a prohibition on superintelligent AI until broad scientific consensus determines that it will be done safely, and controllably, and there is strong public support;<sup>13</sup>

WHEREAS, in response to the Future of Life Institute's letter, other experts such as Eliezer Yudkowsky (co-founder of the Machine Intelligence Research Institute) have stated that a moratorium on AGI development is urgently needed to prevent humanity's extinction;<sup>14</sup>

WHEREAS, Roman Yampolskiy, widely credited with formalizing the term "AI safety" has placed a near certainty that superintelligent AI would result in human extinction;<sup>15</sup> and

WHEREAS, Geoffrey Hinton, a former VP and engineering fellow at Google often referred to as the "Godfather of AI," has warned that humanity will not be

---

<sup>11</sup> "Pause Giant AI Experiments: An Open Letter," Future of Life Institute, March 22, 2023, [futureoflife.org/open-letter/pause-giant-ai-experiments/](https://futureoflife.org/open-letter/pause-giant-ai-experiments/).

<sup>12</sup> "AI Extinction Statement Press Release," Center for AI Safety, May 30, 2023, <https://safe.ai/work/press-release-ai-risk>.

<sup>13</sup> "Statement on Superintelligence: An Open Letter," Future of Life Institute, September 22, 2025. <https://futureoflife.org/fli-open-letters/>.

<sup>14</sup> Eliezer Yudkowsky, "Pausing AI Developments Isn't Enough. We Need to Shut It All Down" TIME, March 29, 2023, <https://time.com/6266923/ai-eliezer-yudkowsky-open-letter-not-enough/>; Otto Barten and Joep Meindersma, "An AI Pause Is Humanity's Best Bet for Preventing Extinction." TIME, July 20, 2023, <https://time.com/6295879/ai-pause-is-humanitys-best-bet-for-preventing-extinction/>.

<sup>15</sup> Roman Yampolskiy interview with Steve Bartlett, Diary of a CEO, September 4, 2025, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UclrVWafRAI>.

able to limit AI's potential and believes the technology is an imminent existential threat;<sup>16</sup>

WHEREAS, frontier AI company Anthropic's CEO Dario Amodei when asked about whether it could result in a catastrophic outcome placed a probability of 25% on it occurring; and<sup>17</sup>

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2026, Anthropic called for a global pause on continued development of the most power AI systems out of concerns that they could escape human control.<sup>18</sup>

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

**Section 1.** Elected officials at all levels of government are urged to fully understand AI technology and its potential hazards, including catastrophic risk.

**Section 2.** Bloomington therefore calls on other local governments to join it in raising awareness about the dangers posed by AGI and in developing shared democratic safeguards for emerging technologies.

**Section 3.** Federal representatives are urged to determine the extent of existential threats posed by Artificial General Intelligence and to consider whether a super-intelligent AGI could be controlled by much less intelligent beings, such as humans.

**Section 4.** Federal representatives are urged to impose a moratorium restricting AGI development unless AGI safety is guaranteed not to present an extinction risk for humanity.

**Section 5.** Federal representatives are urged to work on international agreements that would ensure the provisions of any such regulations are shared and adhered to globally.

---

<sup>16</sup> Cade Metz, "'The Godfather of A.I.' Leaves Google and Warns of Danger Ahead," The New York Times, May 1, 2023, [www.nytimes.com/2023/05/01/technology/ai-google-chatbot-engineer-quits-hinton.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/01/technology/ai-google-chatbot-engineer-quits-hinton.html).

<sup>17</sup> Megan Monroe, "Amodei on AI: 'There's a 25% chance that things go really, really badly,'" Axios, September 17, 2025, <https://www.axios.com/2025/09/17/anthropic-dario-amodei-p-doom-25-percent>.

<sup>18</sup> Alex Pigman, "Anthropic Calls for Pause of Global AI Development," AFP, June 5, 2026, <https://www.yahoo.com/news/science/articles/anthropic-calls-pause-global-ai-223531016.html>.

**Section 6.** The City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution, duly adopted, to both Houses of the Indiana General Assembly, to the Governor of Indiana, to the Indiana Congressional delegation, and to the President of the United States.

**Passed**

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 10 day of June, 2026.

**Signature of Bloomington Common Council President:**



Isak Nti Asare  
President, Bloomington Common Council

**Attestation of Bloomington City Clerk:**



Nicole Bolden  
Clerk, City of Bloomington

**Presentation by Bloomington City Clerk:**

Presented by me to the Mayor of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 16 day of June, 2026:



Nicole Bolden  
Clerk, City of Bloomington

**Approval by Mayor:**

Signed and approved by me upon this upon the 22 day of June, 2026:



Kerry Thomson  
Mayor, City of Bloomington

**Synopsis**

This resolution is sponsored by Councilmember Rollo. It calls for officials at all levels of government to consider and acquaint themselves with the existential risks posed by artificial intelligence and calls for the imposition of a moratorium on artificial general intelligence development until there is a guarantee that the technology aligns with human values and well-being.

Distributed to: Clerk, Council Attorney, Indiana General Assembly, Indiana Governor, Indiana Congressional Delegation, President of the United States, Legal, and Mayor.