Docusign Envelope ID: C91AA221-3D8D-83C4-8127-FCBCC74AE080

Passed 7-0 (Flaherty, Rosenbarger absent)

COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

ORDINANCE 2026-21
UPDATING TITLE 2 TO PROVIDE BETTER APPORTIONMENT OF REPRESENTATION ON THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Preamble
Whereas, in February, 2025, the Transportation Commission was established by the Bloomington Common Council through Ordinance 2025-04 and modified by Ordinance 2026-04;

Whereas, Bloomington Municipal Code 2.02.100(b) sets out the requirements for appointing commissioners to the Transportation Commission, including two seats prioritizing participation by a board member, employee, or formal volunteer related to the Monroe County Community School Corporation (MCCSC) who lives within the Bloomington city limits:

> (7) Two members shall be appointed, one by the mayor and one by the council, and shall be residents living within the city limits. Preference for appointments shall be given to board members, employees, or other formal volunteers with Monroe County Community School Corporation, especially as involved in safe routes to school, pollution reduction, and school bus utilization; and members of community organizations dedicated to serving marginalized groups, especially safety-marginalized transportation users;

Whereas, while all of the seats on the Transportation Commission are currently filled, it has been challenging finding a qualified participant with ties to MCCSC who also lives within the city limits;

Whereas MCCSC facilitates transportation of over 10,000 students per school day in Monroe County, including 18 MCCSC schools within the city limits;

Whereas, due to the volume of students being transported to MCCSC within the city limits, participation by an MCCSC employee on the Transportation Commission remains a high priority;

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Whereas, the Environmental Commission was established in 1971 by Ordinance 71-39 as the Commission on Environmental Quality and Conservation;

Whereas, the Environmental Commission has 12 seats and five seats are currently vacant, including two seats that have been vacant since October of 2024;

Whereas, the Novak Report assessing Bloomington boards and commissions, completed in January 2022, recommended consideration of "fundamental change to the entity's membership" as a strategy to address the issue of any longstanding vacancies on boards and commissions.

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

Section 1. Transportation Commission Appointments. Section 2.02.100(b) shall be repealed and replaced in its entirety with:

(b) Appointments: The commission shall consist of nine members, none of whom may hold any employment, elected, or appointed position with the City, unless specifically permitted as outlined in this section:

(1) One member appointed by the mayor shall be a member from the Council for Community Accessibility or a designated representative. The Council for Community Accessibility shall submit a list of at least three names to the mayor for consideration;

(2) One member appointed by the Public Transportation Corporation Board of Directors shall be a member or a designated representative, including from among staff of the corporation;

(3) One member appointed by the Plan Commission shall be a member or a designated representative;

(4) One member appointed by the Board of Public Works shall be a member or a designated representative;

(5) One member appointed by the Common Council shall be from among its membership;

(6) One member, appointed by the mayor, shall be an employee of the Monroe County Community School Corporation involved in student transportation. The mayor shall request the Monroe County Community School Corporation superintendent to recommend up to three applicants to the mayor for consideration. There are no residency requirements for this appointment. They will be qualified for the appointment by merit of their employment with the Monroe County Community School Corporation.

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If no qualifying applicant can be identified from the Monroe County School Corporation within ninety days, the mayor shall appoint a resident living within the city limits. Preference for appointment will be given to a board member or volunteer with Monroe County Community School Corporation, especially as involved in safe routes to school, pollution reduction, and school bus utilization.

(7) Two members shall be appointed by the Common Council and shall be residents living within the city limits. Preference for appointment will be given to those who have experience using forms of travel other than personal motor vehicles as their primary method of transportation.

(8) One member shall be appointed by the Common Council and shall be a resident living within city limits. Preference for appointment will be a member of a community organization dedicated to serving marginalized groups, especially safety-marginalized transportation users.

Section 2. Transportation Commission Seats. This commission configuration creates two seats appointed by the Mayor and three seats appointed by the Common Council. The Clerk shall align the commission seats as follows: Seat M-1 will correspond to Section 2.02.100(b)(1); Seat M-2 will correspond to Section 2.02.100(b)(6); Seats C-1 and C-2 will correspond to Section 2.02.100(b)(7); and Seat C-3 will correspond to Section 2.02.100(b)(8).

Section 3. Transportation Commission Terms. Section 2.02.100(c) shall be repealed and replaced in its entirety with:

(c) Terms. Members appointed from the membership of the Public Transportation Corporation Board of Directors, Plan Commission, Board of Public Works, and Common Council shall serve a term coextensive with their terms on the body from which they were appointed or until that body appoints another at its first regular meeting of the year. Members appointed by the mayor, members who are acting as appointed representatives, and members appointed by the Common Council who are not among its membership shall serve two-year terms. Member terms appointed by the Common Council and the mayor shall be staggered. Beginning on February 1, 2027, two members appointed by the Common Council (seats C-1 and C-3) and one member appointed by the Mayor (seat M-1) shall serve single year terms, after which those seats will revert to two-year terms.

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Section 4. Environmental Commission Appointments. Section 2.02.090(b) shall be repealed and replaced in its entirety with:

> (b) Appointments. The Environmental Commission shall consist of eleven members, six appointed by the Common Council and five appointed by the Mayor.

Section 5: Environmental Commission Seats. Seat M-6 shall be removed (currently vacant) shall be removed by the Clerk.

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

Section 7. Transportation Commission Change Effective Date. Transportation Commission changes in Sections 1 and 2 will take effect on January 31, 2027, or upon vacation of seat M-2, whichever is earlier.

Section 8. Environmental Commission Change Effective Date. Environmental Commission changes in Sections 4 and 5 along with all other provisions of this Ordinance will take effect upon passage of this ordinance in accordance with Ind. Code § 36-3-4-14.

Passed
Passed by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon the 14th day of October, 2026.

10/19/2026 | 5:53 PM EDT

Isak Nti Asare
President, City of Bloomington

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Attestation of Bloomington City Clerk:

Signed by:
Nicole Bolden
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10/19/2026 | 6:07 PM EDT

Nicole Bolden
Clerk, City of Bloomington

Presentation by Bloomington City Clerk:

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

Signed by:
Nicole Bolden
60DF9211B070448...

10/19/2026 | 6:07 PM EDT

Nicole Bolden
Clerk, City of Bloomington

Approval by Mayor

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

Signed by:
Mayor Kerry Thomson
2ABC5816C245416...

10/27/2026 | 1:54 PM EDT

Kerry Thomson
Mayor, City of Bloomington

Synopsis

This ordinance, sponsored by Councilmember Stosberg, makes changes to the membership of the Transportation Commission by creating a dedicated seat for an employee of the Monroe County Community School Corporation and consequently reconfiguring the remaining community member seats. Additionally, the ordinance reduces the size of the Environmental Commission to eliminate seats with long standing vacancies.

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