

RESOLUTION 23-14

**TO INITIATE AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
Re: Accessible Transportation and Mobility Principles**

- WHEREAS, pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-4-501, the Plan Commission is responsible for preparing comprehensive plans and amendments thereto and forwarding them to the Common Council; and
- WHEREAS, a new Comprehensive Plan was adopted on March 20, 2018 via Resolution 18-01, in accordance with Indiana Code 36-7-4-500; and
- WEREHAS, a Transportation Plan was adopted in 2019 via Resolution 19-01 and serves as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-4-511, each amendment to the Comprehensive Plan must be approved according to the procedure set forth in the 500 series; and
- WHEREAS, Indiana Code 36-7-4-511 provides that the Common Council may direct the Plan Commission to prepare an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan; and,
- WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan is the City's long-range vision for the community, upon which future land use and other policy decisions are predicated; and
- WHEREAS, the Transportation Plan, as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan, builds on the goals of the Comprehensive Plan and supports Bloomington's vision of a safe, efficient, accessible, and well-connected multimodal transportation system; and
- WHEREAS, transportation equity is critical to fully participate in community life, yet is too often unavailable specifically to people with disabilities; and
- WHEREAS, disability is intersectional, affecting people regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, class, or gender identity, and any one person may become disabled at some point in their lifetime; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington's Council for Community Accessibility (CCA) promotes awareness of the challenges faced by people with disabilities and works to develop solutions to problems of accessibility in the community; and
- WHEREAS, the City's 2022 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan, which was approved by Resolution 22-19, describes the City's commitment to ensure that public facilities, services, programs, and activities are accessible; and
- WHEREAS, the City's Comprehensive Plan invokes the ADA throughout its text, calling for the implementation of the City's ADA Transition Plan (p. 30) and for the City to "[e]nsure ADA compliance in public spaces and incentivize universal design in private spaces to assure the built environment will serve a market of all ages and abilities" (p. 56); and
- WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan additionally states that "[i]nvesting in multimodal transportation can result in a reduced cost of living for Bloomington residents," and cites the CCA, which says that "approximately 20% of Bloomington's population has a disability" (p. 68); and
- WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan says, "[e]nsuring greater access to the transportation network can result in better mobility throughout the community for the disabled. By prioritizing our walking, bicycling, and transit networks, more destinations will be more accessible for all residents [, and o]ur entire community will receive large returns" (p. 68); and

WHEREAS the Comprehensive Plan prioritizes accessibility in at least three Policies:

Policy 6.1.2: Balance economic, environmental, accessibility, and equity issues in local transportation decisions;

Policy 6.1.7: Prioritize safety and accessibility over capacity in transportation planning, design, construction, and maintenance decisions;

Policy 6.4.1: Consider all ages, all abilities, and all modes, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit vehicles, emergency responders, and freight; when planning, designing, modifying, and constructing transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan calls for the City to “[e]nhance the understanding of maintenance of traffic and ADA compliance standards,” and “[e]nhance the standards for maintenance of traffic and ADA compliance approvals” (p. 76); and

WHEREAS, city leaders seek guidance on how to accomplish these goals and policies through a set of principles for, and from, people with disabilities as they make decisions on transportation and mobility;

WHEREAS, the Common Council wishes, pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-4-511, to direct the Plan Commission to prepare an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan to reflect additional accessible transportation and mobility principles;

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

SECTION 1. Pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-4-511, the Common Council directs the Plan Commission to prepare an amendment to the City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan to include new policies consistent with the following four Accessible Transportation and Mobility Principles:

1. **Involve people with disabilities in decision-making.** Establish a transparent, equitable public process that includes people with low vision, mobility challenges, and other disabilities in the full range of transportation decisions from design to operations.
2. **Develop equitable access.** Connect people with disabilities meaningfully to essential needs and services, including housing, grocery stores, health care facilities, jobs, schools, mass transit stops, parks, and other places to live, work, and play.
3. **Provide safe and functional mobility.** Prioritize transportation safety for the most vulnerable users over and above access and speed for cars and trucks, through funding for infrastructure such as well-maintained sidewalks, readily-available ramps, and accessible transit stops.
4. **Ensure accountability.** Document and evaluate progress on implementation of the municipality's ADA Transition Plan by updating the Plan's data and revising its goals at least biennially.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-4-511, the Plan Commission is instructed to prepare and submit this amendment in the same manner as any other amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. The Plan Commission is instructed to prepare and submit the amendment within three hundred (300) days from the effective date of this resolution, unless granted an additional extension of time, of specified duration, in which to prepare and submit the amendment.

SECTION 3. If any section, sentence, or provision of this resolution, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, 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 section, sentence, 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 26 day of July, 2023.



SUE SGAMBELLURI, 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 27 day of July, 2023.



NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this 27th day of July, 2023.


JOHN HAMILTON, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution, sponsored by Councilmember Volan, directs the Plan Commission to prepare an amendment to the City's Comprehensive Plan consistent with four accessible transportation and mobility principles.

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