



City of Bloomington Common Council

Legislative Packet – Addendum

Containing legislative materials related to:

Wednesday, 3 December 2025

Regular Session at 6:30pm



City of Bloomington Common Council

AGENDA AND NOTICE: REGULAR SESSION Wednesday | 6:30 PM 3 December, 2025
Council Chambers (#115), Showers Building, 401 N. Morton Street

The meeting may also be accessed at the following Zoom link:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/81910240028?pwd=F09ZNyFSQxOq27QMokVfmQldUoPlCh.1>

1. ROLL CALL

2. AGENDA SUMMATION

3. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

- A. September 10, 2025 – Deliberation Session

4. REPORTS (A maximum of twenty minutes is set aside for each part of this section).

- A. Council members
- B. The Mayor, City Clerk, City Offices, and City Boards and Commissions
 - a. Economic and Sustainable Development Department – Climate Action Plan Update
- C. Council Committees
- D. Public*

5. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

None

6. LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READINGS

- A. Ordinance 2025-46 – To Amend The Bloomington Zoning Maps And Zone Property Currently In the Monroe County Jurisdiction To Residential Medium Lot (R2) In Anticipation Of Voluntary Annexation Re: 2005 W. Cory Drive (William Wamathai, Petitioner)
- B. Ordinance 2025-47 – To Amend Title 8 Of The Bloomington Municipal Code, Entitled “Historic Preservation And Protection” To Establish A Historic District Re: The Ivan Adams House Historic District (Bloomington Historic Preservation Commission, Petitioner)
- C. Ordinance 2025-43 – An Ordinance Annexing Certain Real Estate To The City Of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana
 - a. Public Hearing: This item serves as the public hearing required under Indiana Code 36-4-3-5.1.

*Members of the public may speak on matters of community concern not listed on the agenda at one of the two public comment opportunities. Individuals may speak at one of these periods, but not both. Speakers are allowed up to three minutes.

Auxiliary aids are available upon request with adequate notice. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please call (812) 349-3409 or e-mail council@bloomington.in.gov.

Posted: November 21, 2025
Revised: December 3, 2025

7. LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution 2025-19 – Adopting A Fiscal Plan For the Annexation of Property Contiguous To The City of Bloomington, Indiana
- B. Appropriation Ordinance 2025-14 – To Specially Appropriate from the General Fund, Parks And Recreation General Fund, Motor Vehicle Highway Fund, CC Jack Hopkins Fund Expenditure Not Otherwise Appropriated (Appropriating Various Transfers of Funds within the General Fund, Parks & Recreation General Fund, Motor Vehicle Highway Fund, Local Road and Street Fund, Public Safety LIT Fund, Solid Waste Fund, and Fleet Maintenance Fund)
- C. Ordinance 2025-44 – To Amend Title 10 of The Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled “Wastewater” (Septic Hauler Rate Adjustment)
- D. Ordinance 2025-19 – To Amend Title 15 of The Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled “Removal And Impound of Vehicles” Re: Chapters 15.48 and 15.52 – Updating Permissible Towing and Storage Charges for Authorized Towing Services
- E. Ordinance 2025-20 – To Amend Chapter 4.32 of The Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled “Non-consensual Towing Business” Re: Updating Towing License Requirements and Permissible Towing and Storage Fees for Non-consensual Towing Services under Chapter 4.32

8. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT * (A maximum of twenty-five minutes is set aside for this section)

9. COUNCIL SCHEDULE

10. ADJOURNMENT

Bloomington City Council meetings can be watched on the following websites:

- Community Action Television Services (CATS) – <https://catvstv.net>
- YouTube – <https://youtube.com/@citybloomington>

Background materials and packets are available at

<https://bloomington.in.gov/council/meetings?year=2025>

*Members of the public may speak on matters of community concern not listed on the agenda at one of the two public comment opportunities. Individuals may speak at one of these periods, but not both. Speakers are allowed up to three minutes.

Auxiliary aids are available upon request with adequate notice. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please call (812) 349-3409 or e-mail council@bloomington.in.gov.

Posted: November 21, 2025
Revised: December 3, 2025

****Amendment Form****

Ordinance #: 2025-19
Amendment #: Am. 01
Submitted by: Cm. Piedmont-Smith
Date: December 3, 2025

Proposed Amendment:

1. Section 1 of the Ordinance 2025-19 shall be amended and shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~; additions shown in **bold**):

~~Section~~ **SECTION** 1: Section 15.48.030 of the Bloomington Municipal Code ~~Section~~ entitled “Towing and storage charges” is hereby deleted and replaced as reflected in the amended Section 15.48.030 in “Attachment 1,” such that it reads as follows:

The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing, or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$150.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment that includes the use of dollies or skates may not exceed an additional \$50.00. Special treatment that includes the use of winching may not exceed an additional \$150.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$30.00 per day. The storage fee may ~~being begin~~ to accrue after twelve hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility. The storage fee may incorporate an additional fee of not to exceed \$75.00 if pick up is made outside of business hours. **The cost of a heavy tow for vehicles weighing more than 10,001 pounds shall include an additional fee of \$450.00.**

2. Section 2 of the Ordinance 2025-19 shall be amended and shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~; additions shown in **bold**):

SECTION 2. Section 15.52.060 of the Bloomington Municipal Code entitled “Maximum towing and storage charges” is hereby deleted and replaced as reflected in the amended Section 15.52.060 in “Attachment 1,” such that it reads as follows:

The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing, or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$150.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment that includes the use of dollies or skates may not exceed an additional \$50.00. Special treatment that includes the use of winching may not exceed an additional \$150.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$30.00 per day. The storage fee may ~~being begin~~ to accrue after twelve hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility. ~~That the~~ **The** storage fee may incorporate an additional fee of not to exceed \$75.00 if pick up is made outside of business hours. **The cost of a heavy tow for**

vehicles weighing more than 10,001 pounds shall include an additional fee of \$450.00.

3. Section 3 of the Ordinance 2025-19 shall be amended and shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~striketrough~~; additions shown in **bold**)

SECTION 3: Section 15.52.065 of the Bloomington Municipal Code ~~Section~~ entitled “Release of vehicle” is hereby deleted and replaced as reflected in the amended Section 15.52.065 in “Attachment 1,” such that it reads as follows:

A vehicle towed under this chapter shall be available to be claimed within sixty minutes of its arrival at a vehicle storage facility, and the vehicle shall be released promptly upon demonstration of proof of ownership, such as title or registration of vehicle and **Payment payment** of fees.

4. Section 4 of the Ordinance 2025-19 shall be deleted such that section 15.52.070 of the Bloomington Code reads as it is currently stated, as follows:

To facilitate the removal of abandoned vehicles or parts or vehicles declared public nuisances, the police department may enter into towing contracts or agreements for the removal and storage of abandoned vehicles and parts.

5. The “Attachment 1” of Ordinance 2025-19 shall be deleted and replaced with the following as its Attachment 1 to reflect the amendments made by this ordinance.

15.48.030 - Towing and storage charges.

~~The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$135.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment, including dollying, may not exceed an additional \$25.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$25.00 per day. The storage fee may not begin to accrue until twenty four hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility.~~

The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing, or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$150.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment that includes the use of dollies or skates may not exceed an additional \$50.00. Special treatment that includes the use of winching may not exceed \$150.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$30.00 per day. The storage fee may begin to accrue after 12 hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility. The storage fee may incorporate an additional fee of not to exceed \$75.00 if pick up is made outside of business hours. The cost of a heavy tow for vehicles weighing more than 10,001 pounds shall include an additional fee of \$450.00.

(Ord. 01-33 § 1, 2001; Ord. 96-43 § 1, 1996; Ord. 93-01 § 1, 1993; Ord. 88-43 § 1, 1988; Ord. 82-1 § 1 (part), 1982).

(Ord. No. 19-07, § 1, 3-20-2019; Ord. No. 20-10, § 2, 6-3-2020)

15.52.060 - Maximum towing and storage charges.

~~The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$135.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment, including dollying, may not exceed an additional \$25.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$25.00 per day. The storage fee may not begin to accrue until twenty four hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility.~~

The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing, or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$150.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment that includes the use of dollies or skates may not exceed an additional \$50.00. Special treatment that includes the use of winching may not exceed \$150.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$30.00 per day. The storage fee may begin to accrue after twelve hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility. The storage fee may incorporate an additional fee of not to exceed \$75.00 if pick up is made outside of business hours. The cost of a heavy tow for vehicles weighing more than 10,001 pounds shall include an additional fee of \$450.00.

(Ord. 01-33 § 2, 2001; Ord. 96-43 § 2, 1996; Ord. 93-01 § 2, 1993; Ord. 88-43 § 2, 1988; Ord. 82-1 § 1 (part), 1982).

(Ord. No. 17-22, § 14, 5-17-2017; Ord. No. 19-07, § 2, 3-20-2019; Ord. No. 20-10, § 3, 6-3-2020)

15.52.065 - Release of vehicle.

~~A vehicle towed under this chapter shall be available to be claimed within sixty minutes of its arrival at a vehicle storage facility, and the vehicle shall be released promptly upon demonstration of proof of ownership, such as title or registration of vehicle and either:~~

~~(1) Payment of fees; or~~

~~(2) Payment of twenty percent of the fees and execution of a payment agreement for the fee balance.~~

A vehicle towed under this chapter shall be available to be claimed within sixty minutes of its arrival at a vehicle storage facility, and the vehicle shall be released promptly upon demonstration of proof of ownership, such as title or registration of vehicle and payment of fees.

(Ord. No. 20-10, § 4, 6-3-2020)

Synopsis:

This amendment, sponsored by Councilmember Piedmont-Smith, makes typographical corrections and moves the text regarding the \$450 surcharge for a heavy tow from 15.52.070 to 15.48.030 and 15.52.060 for full transparency. It deletes Section 4 of or Ordinance 2025-19, removing any revisions to 15.52.070. Thus, no specific terms are added for Bloomington Police Department's towing contracts for non-consensual tows, since the contract would have to follow BMC 15.52.060 anyway.

12/03/2025 Regular Session Action: Pending

****Amendment Form****

Ordinance #: 2025-19
Amendment #: Am. 02
Submitted by: Cm. Stosberg
Date: December 3, 2025

Proposed Amendment:

1. Section 1 of the Ordinance 2025-19 shall be amended and shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~; additions shown in **bold**):

~~Section~~ **SECTION** 1: Section 15.48.030 of the Bloomington Municipal Code ~~Section~~ entitled “Towing and storage charges” is hereby deleted and replaced as reflected in the amended Section 15.48.030 in “Attachment 1,” such that it reads as follows:

The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing, or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$150.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment that includes the use of dollies or skates may not exceed an additional \$50.00. Special treatment that includes the use of winching may not exceed an additional \$150.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$30.00 per day. The storage fee may be charged after ~~twelve~~ **twenty-four** hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility. ~~The storage fee may incorporate an additional fee of not to exceed \$75.00 if pick up is made outside of business hours.~~

2. Section 2 of the Ordinance 2025-19 shall be amended and shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~; additions shown in **bold**):

SECTION 2. Section 15.52.060 of the Bloomington Municipal Code entitled “Maximum towing and storage charges” is hereby deleted and replaced as reflected in the amended Section 15.52.060 in “Attachment 1,” such that it reads as follows:

The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing, or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$150.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment that includes the use of dollies or skates may not exceed an additional \$50.00. Special treatment that includes the use of winching may not exceed an additional \$150.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$30.00 per day. The storage fee may be charged after ~~twelve~~ **twenty-four** hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility. ~~That the storage fee may incorporate an additional fee of not to exceed \$75.00 if pick up is made outside of business hours.~~

3. Section 15.48.030 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, as shown in Attachment 1 of Ordinance 2025-19, shall be deleted and replaced with the following language:

15.48.030 - Towing and storage charges.

~~The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$135.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment, including dollying, may not exceed an additional \$25.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$25.00 per day. The storage fee may not begin to accrue until twenty-four hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility.~~

~~(Ord. 01-33 § 1, 2001; Ord. 96-43 § 1, 1996; Ord. 93-01 § 1, 1993; Ord. 88-43 § 1, 1988; Ord. 82-1 § 1 (part), 1982).~~

~~(Ord. No. 19-07, § 1, 3-20-2019; Ord. No. 20-10, § 2, 6-3-2020)~~

The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing, or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$150.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment that includes the use of dollies or skates may not exceed an additional \$50.00. Special treatment that includes the use of winching may not exceed an additional \$150.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$30.00 per day. The storage fee may begin to accrue after twenty-four hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility.

(Ord. 01-33 § 1, 2001; Ord. 96-43 § 1, 1996; Ord. 93-01 § 1, 1993; Ord. 88-43 § 1, 1988; Ord. 82-1 § 1 (part), 1982).

(Ord. No. 19-07, § 1, 3-20-2019; Ord. No. 20-10, § 2, 6-3-2020)

4. Section 15.52.060 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, as shown in Attachment 1 of Ordinance 2025-19, shall be deleted and replaced with the following language:

15.52.060 - Maximum towing and storage charges.

~~The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$135.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment, including dollying, may not exceed an additional \$25.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$25.00 per day. The storage fee may not begin to accrue until twenty-four hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility.~~

~~(Ord. 01-33 § 2, 2001; Ord. 96-43 § 2, 1996; Ord. 93-01 § 2, 1993; Ord. 88-43 § 2, 1988; Ord. 82-1 § 1 (part), 1982).~~

~~(Ord. No. 17-22, § 14, 5-17-2017; Ord. No. 19-07, § 2, 3-20-2019; Ord. No. 20-10, § 3, 6-3-2020)~~

The maximum amount that an authorized towing service may charge for hooking up, towing, or removing a vehicle under this chapter may not exceed \$150.00, except where special treatment may be required. Special treatment that includes the use of dollies or skates may not exceed an additional \$50.00. Special treatment that includes the use of winching may not exceed an additional \$150.00. The maximum amount that may be charged for storage of vehicles shall not exceed \$30.00 per day. The storage fee may begin to accrue after twenty-four hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility.

(Ord. 01-33 § 2, 2001; Ord. 96-43 § 2, 1996; Ord. 93-01 § 2, 1993; Ord. 88-43 § 2, 1988; Ord. 82-1 § 1 (part), 1982).
(Ord. No. 17-22, § 14, 5-17-2017; Ord. No. 19-07, § 2, 3-20-2019; Ord. No. 20-10, § 3, 6-3-2020)

Synopsis:

This amendment, sponsored by Councilmember Stosberg, amends the time period after which storage fees may be charged from twelve to twenty-four hours and eliminates the additional storage fee for pickups made outside of business hours.

12/03/2025 Regular Session Action: Pending

****Amendment Form****

Ordinance #: 2025-19
Amendment #: Am. 03
Submitted by: Cm. Piedmont-Smith
Date: December 3, 2025

Proposed Amendment:

1. Section 3 of Ordinance 2025-19 shall be deleted. All subsequent sections shall be renumbered accordingly so that Section 4 becomes Section 3, Section 5 becomes Section 4, and so on.
2. All of Section 15.52.065 shall be removed from Attachment 1 of Ordinance 2025-19.

Synopsis:

This amendment, sponsored by Councilmember Piedmont-Smith, reinstates the payment plan option for owners of vehicles who are retrieving cars that were towed due to abandonment as defined in BMC 15.04.020. This change is proposed in recognition that many vehicle owners may not be able to pay the full fees up front but depend on their vehicles to get to work, take care of their children, purchase groceries, and/or perform other necessary daily tasks.

12/03/2025 Regular Session Action: Pending

****Amendment Form****

Ordinance #: 2025-20
Amendment #: Am. 01
Submitted by: Cm. Stosberg
Date: December 3, 2025

Proposed Amendment:

1. Section 1 of the Ordinance 2025-20 shall be amended and shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~; additions shown in **bold**):

SECTION 1. Section 4.32.060 of the Bloomington Municipal Code entitled “Non-consensual tow business license – Application” is hereby amended as reflected in the amended Section 4.32.060 in “Attachment 1,” such that it reads as follows:

4.32.060 Non-consensual tow business license—Application.

Any person or towing company who wishes to obtain a license under this chapter must first complete an application prescribed by the department of economic and sustainable development.

- (a) An application for a non-consensual towing business shall include the following information:
 - (1) The towing company’s taxpayer identification number;
 - (2) Applicant’s full name and current physical address;
 - (3) The telephone number and e-mail address of the primary place of business;
 - (4) The address, telephone number, and hours of operation of any vehicle storage facility where towed vehicles will be towed and stored; and
 - (5) A telephone number where the principal owner(s) of the towing company can be reached in the event of an emergency;
- (b) Insurance Required. Upon application for the tow business license, a towing company shall provide proof of insurance and meet the requirements of Bloomington Municipal Code Section 4.32.090.
- (c) Change in Licensee Information. In the event that the information provided by the licensee in the licensee’s application changes during the term of the license, the towing company shall give written notice of such changes to the city within fifteen (15) business days of the occurrence of the change.
- (d) Background check. In order to be eligible for a license, a towing company will be subject to a background check. The background check shall be clear of formal violations **and outstanding fees** from **the City of Bloomington and** any

jurisdiction outside of the City of Bloomington within the last 12 months ~~and from outstanding fees.~~

- (e) Denial or Non-Renewal of License. The license administrator may decline to issue or renew a license issued under this chapter if the license administrator finds:
 - (1) The applicant has previously violated any provision of this chapter and has been subject to any of the penalties listed under Bloomington Municipal Code Section 4.32.160(a); or
 - (2) The applicant has been previously found to be in violation of any other similar law promulgated by a different governmental entity; or
 - (3) The applicant has previously had a license issued under this chapter suspended or revoked.

(Ord. No. 20-03, § 1, 2-19-2020)

- 2. Section 4 of the Ordinance 2025-20 shall be amended and shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~; additions shown in **bold**):

SECTION 4. Section 4.32.130 of the Bloomington Municipal Code entitled “Towing and storage fees” is hereby amended as reflected in the amended Section 4.32.130 in “Attachment 1,” such that it reads as follows:

4.32.130 – Towing and storage fees.

- (a) It shall be unlawful to charge any fee associated in any way with the towing and storage of a vehicle under this chapter, except as follows:
 - (1) For the towing of a vehicle, the maximum fee shall be \$150.00 so long as the weight of the vehicle is under 10,001 pounds. For vehicles weighing more than 10,001 pounds the cost shall be an additional fee of \$450.00.
 - (2) Fees for special treatment, including dollies and skates, shall not exceed an additional \$50.00. Special treatment that includes the use of winching may not exceed \$150.00.
 - (3) For the storage of a towed vehicle the maximum fee for each twenty-four-hour period of storage shall be \$30.00; provided however, that a storage fee may not begin to accrue until ~~twelve~~ **twenty-four** hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility. ~~The storage fee may incorporate additional fee not to exceed \$75.00 if pick-up is made outside of business hours.~~
- (b) This fee limitation does not restrict fees being charged for other services, provided that said other services are requested by the vehicle’s owner.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the fee limitation does not apply to a towed vehicle having a gross vehicle weight of thirteen thousand pounds or greater.
- (d) If it is determined that a vehicle is towed in violation of this chapter, towing and storage fees which have been paid may be recovered by the vehicle’s owner. Liability for damage to a towed vehicle is not limited by the provisions of this chapter.

- (e) It is unlawful for a person, including a towing company or tow truck operator to offer, pay, or rebate money or other valuable consideration to the owner of a parking lot for the authority to tow vehicles from that owner's parking lot.
- (f) When the owner or operator of a motor vehicle is present and desires to instead personally operate and remove his/her own vehicle from a parking lot before the vehicle is in the process of being towed, the vehicle shall not be towed nor shall any fee be charged. However, when the owner or operator of a motor vehicle arrives at the location of the motor vehicle when it is already in the process of being towed, the towing company shall, pursuant to Indiana Code § 24-14-4-4, give the owner or operator either oral or written notification that the owner or operator may pay a fee in the amount that is not greater than half of the amount of the fee the towing company may normally charge for the immediate release of a motor vehicle. For purposes of this section, a motor vehicle is in the process of being towed when it is attached to the tow truck and at least two tires of the vehicle are off the ground.

(Ord. No. 20-03, § 1, 2-19-2020)

- 3. Section 4.32.060 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, as shown in Attachment 1 of Ordinance 2025-20, shall be deleted and replaced with the following language:

4.32.060 Non-consensual tow business license—Application.

Any person or towing company who wishes to obtain a license under this chapter must first complete an application prescribed by the department of economic and sustainable development.

- (a) An application for a non-consensual towing business shall include the following information:
 - (1) The towing company's taxpayer identification number;
 - (2) Applicant's full name and current physical address;
 - (3) The telephone number and e-mail address of the primary place of business;
 - (4) The address, telephone number, and hours of operation of any vehicle storage facility where towed vehicles will be towed and stored; and
 - (5) A telephone number where the principal owner(s) of the towing company can be reached in the event of an emergency;
- (b) Insurance Required. Upon application for the tow business license, a towing company shall provide proof of insurance and meet the requirements of Bloomington Municipal Code Section 4.32.090.
- (c) Change in Licensee Information. In the event that the information provided by the licensee in the licensee's application changes during the term of the license, the towing company shall give written notice of such changes to the city within fifteen (15) business days of the occurrence of the change.
- (d) Background check. In order to be eligible for a license, a towing company will be subject to a background check. The background check shall be clear of formal violations and outstanding fees from the City of Bloomington and any jurisdiction outside of the City of Bloomington within the last 12 months.

(~~ed~~) Denial or Non-Renewal of License. The license administrator may decline to issue or renew a license issued under this chapter if the license administrator finds:

- (1) The applicant has previously violated any provision of this chapter and has been subject to any of the penalties listed under Bloomington Municipal Code Section 4.32.160(a); or
- (2) The applicant has been previously found to be in violation of any other similar law promulgated by a different governmental entity; or
- (3) The applicant has previously had a license issued under this chapter suspended or revoked.

(Ord. No. 20-03, § 1, 2-19-2020)

4. Section 4.32.130 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, as shown in Attachment 1 of Ordinance 2025-20, shall be deleted and replaced with the following language:

4.32.130 – Towing and storage fees.

- (a) It shall be unlawful to charge any fee associated in any way with the towing and storage of a vehicle under this chapter, except as follows:
 - (1) For the towing of a vehicle, the maximum fee shall be \$150~~35.00~~; ~~so long as the weight of the vehicle is under 10,001 pounds. For vehicles weighing more than 10,001 pounds the cost shall be an additional fee of \$450.00.~~
 - (2) Fees for special treatment, including dollies and skates~~ying~~, shall not exceed an additional \$50~~25.00~~; ~~Special treatment that includes the use of winching may not exceed \$150.00.~~
 - (3) For the storage of a towed vehicle the maximum fee for each twenty-four- hour period of storage shall be \$30~~25.00~~; provided however, that a storage fee may not begin to accrue until twenty-four hours have passed since the vehicle arrived at the storage facility.
- (b) This fee limitation does not restrict fees being charged for other services, provided that said other services are requested by the vehicle's owner.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the fee limitation does not apply to a towed vehicle having a gross vehicle weight of thirteen thousand pounds or greater.
- (d) If it is determined that a vehicle is towed in violation of this chapter, towing and storage fees which have been paid may be recovered by the vehicle's owner. Liability for damage to a towed vehicle is not limited by the provisions of this chapter.
- (e) It is unlawful for a person, including a towing company or tow truck operator to offer, pay, or rebate money or other valuable consideration to the owner of a parking lot for the authority to tow vehicles from that owner's parking lot.
- (f) When the owner or operator of a motor vehicle is present and desires to instead personally operate and remove his/her own vehicle from a parking lot before the vehicle is in the process of being towed, the vehicle shall not be towed nor shall any fee be charged. However, when the owner or operator of a motor vehicle arrives at the location of the motor vehicle when it is already in the process of being towed, the towing company shall, pursuant to Indiana Code § 24-14-4-4,

give the owner or operator either oral or written notification that the owner or operator may pay a fee in the amount that is not greater than half of the amount of the fee the towing company may normally charge for the immediate release of a motor vehicle. For purposes of this section, a motor vehicle is in the process of being towed when it is attached to the tow truck and at least two tires of the vehicle are off the ground.

Synopsis:

This amendment, sponsored by Councilmember Stosberg, clarifies that the background check also applies to violations and fees from the City of Bloomington. This amendment also amends the time period after which storage fees may be charged from twelve to twenty-four hours and eliminates the additional storage fee for pickups made outside of business hours.

12/03/2025 Regular Session Action: Pending

****Amendment Form****

Ordinance #: 2025-20
Amendment #: Am. 02
Submitted by: Cm. Piedmont-Smith
Date: December 3, 2025

Proposed Amendment:

1. Section 3 of the Ordinance 2025-20 shall be amended and shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~; additions shown in **bold**):

SECTION 3. Section 4.32.120 of the Bloomington Municipal Code entitled “Additional requirements” is hereby amended as reflected in the amended Section 4.32.120 in “Attachment 1,” such that it reads as follows:

4.32.120 Additional requirements.

- (a) A towing company and a tow truck operator must comply with all applicable federal, State of Indiana, and City of Bloomington laws.
- (b) A towing company and a tow truck operator must display their city-issued license in a conspicuous fashion visible from the exterior of the vehicle.
- (c) The practice of booting or otherwise disabling a vehicle to hold it for towing is prohibited.
- (d) All vehicles that are towed under this chapter shall be towed directly to a vehicle storage facility leased or owned by the towing company, and shall not be placed or kept in any temporary holding area.
- (e) All vehicles towed must be stored within Monroe County.
- (f) A towed vehicle shall be available to be claimed within sixty minutes of its arrival at a vehicle storage facility, and the vehicle shall be released promptly upon demonstration of proof of ownership, such as title or registration of vehicle, ~~and payment of fees;~~ in accordance with Indiana Code 24-14-7-2; **and either:**
 - (1) Payment of fees; or**
 - (2) Payment of twenty percent of the fees and execution of a payment agreement for the fee balance.**
- (g) A towing company and tow truck operator shall allow the vehicle’s owner a reasonable amount of time to inspect the vehicle or to remove or retrieve personal property or possessions that are not affixed from a vehicle. The inspection or retrieval of possessions may be at the scene of the tow or at the vehicle storage facility prior to payment. A towing company or tow truck operator is prohibited from charging a fee for this inspection or retrieval as prohibited under Indiana Code § 24-14-9-2 or from refusing to allow retrieval of such possessions.
- (h) A release or waiver of liability of any kind is prohibited as a condition of the release of the vehicle. A tow business may require proof of identification of the

person retrieving a vehicle. The person retrieving the vehicle shall be the vehicle's owner, as defined in Section 4.32.030.

(Ord. No. 20-03, § 1, 2-19-2020)

2. Section 4.32.120 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, as shown in Attachment 1 of Ordinance 2025-20, shall be deleted and replaced with the following language:

4.32.120 – Additional Requirements.

- (a) A towing company and a tow truck operator must comply with all applicable federal, State of Indiana, and City of Bloomington laws.
- (b) A towing company and a tow truck operator must display their city-issued license in a conspicuous fashion visible from the exterior of the vehicle.**
- (c) The practice of booting or otherwise disabling a vehicle to hold it for towing is prohibited.
- (d) All vehicles that are towed under this chapter shall be towed directly to a vehicle storage facility leased or owned by the towing company, and shall not be placed or kept in any temporary holding area.
- (e) All vehicles towed must be stored within Monroe County.
- (f) A towed vehicle shall be available to be claimed within sixty minutes of its arrival at a vehicle storage facility, and the vehicle shall be released promptly upon demonstration of proof of ownership, such as title or registration of vehicle, **in accordance with Indiana Code 24-14-7-2**, and either:
 - (1) Payment of fees; or
 - (2) Payment of twenty percent of the fees and execution of a payment agreement for the fee balance.
- (f) A towing company and tow truck operator shall allow the vehicle's owner a reasonable amount of time to inspect the vehicle or to remove or retrieve personal property or possessions that are not affixed from a vehicle. The inspection or retrieval of possessions may be at the scene of the tow or at the vehicle storage facility prior to payment. A towing company or tow truck operator is prohibited from charging a fee for this inspection or retrieval as prohibited under Indiana Code § 24-14-9-2 or from refusing to allow retrieval of such possessions.
- (g) A release or waiver of liability of any kind is prohibited as a condition of the release of the vehicle. A tow business may require proof of identification of the person retrieving a vehicle. The person retrieving the vehicle shall be the vehicle's owner, as defined in Section 4.32.030.

Synopsis:

This amendment, sponsored by Councilmember Piedmont-Smith, reinstates the payment plan option for owners of vehicles who are retrieving cars that were towed non-consensually, in recognition that many vehicle owners may not be able to pay the full fees up front but depend on

their vehicles to get to work, take care of their children, purchase groceries, and/or perform other necessary daily tasks.

12/03/2025 Regular Session Action: Pending

PROPOSED CHANGES TO BLOOMINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE 15.48 AND 15.52

SUMMARY CHANGES OF B.M.C. 15.48

- 15.48.010- NO CHANGES
- 15.48.040- NO CHANGES
- 15-48-050- NO CHANGES
- 15.48.060- NO CHANGES
- 15.48.060- NO CHANGES
- 15.48.030- INCREASE OF RATES AND FEES FOR STORAGE AND TOWING ALONG WITH A NEW RATE FOR HEAVY TOWS

B.M.C 15.48.030 TOWING AND STORAGE CHARGES (CURRENT)

THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT AN AUTHORIZED TOWING SERVICE MAY CHARGE FOR HOOKING UP, TOWING OR REMOVING A VEHICLE UNDER THIS CHAPTER MAY NOT EXCEED \$135.00, EXCEPT WHERE SPECIAL TREATMENT MAY BE REQUIRED. SPECIAL TREATMENT, INCLUDING DOLLYING, MAY NOT EXCEED AN ADDITIONAL \$25.00. THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT MAY BE CHARGED FOR STORAGE OF VEHICLES SHALL NOT EXCEED \$25.00 PER DAY. THE STORAGE FEE MAY NOT BEGIN TO ACCRUE UNTIL TWENTY-FOUR HOURS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE VEHICLE ARRIVED AT THE STORAGE FACILITY.

B.M.C 15.48.030 TOWING AND STORAGE CHARGES (PROPOSED)

THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT AN AUTHORIZED TOWING SERVICE MAY CHARGE FOR HOOKING UP, TOWING, OR REMOVING A VEHICLE UNDER THIS CHAPTER MAY NOT EXCEED \$150.00, EXCEPT WHERE SPECIAL TREATMENT MAY BE REQUIRED. SPECIAL TREATMENT THAT INCLUDES THE USE OF DOLLIES OR SKATES MAY NOT EXCEED AN ADDITIONAL \$50.00. SPECIAL TREATMENT THAT INCLUDES THE USE OF WINCHING MAY NOT EXCEED AN ADDITIONAL \$150.00. THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT MAY BE CHARGED FOR STORAGE OF VEHICLES SHALL NOT EXCEED \$30.00 PER DAY. THE STORAGE FEE MAY BEGIN TO ACCRUE AFTER TWELVE HOURS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE VEHICLE ARRIVED AT THE STORAGE FACILITY. THE STORAGE FEE MAY INCORPORATE AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$75.00 IF PICK UP IS MADE OUTSIDE OF BUSINESS HOURS. THE COST OF A HEAVY TOW FOR VEHICLES WEIGHING MORE THAN 10001 POUNDS SHALL INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF \$450.00.

SUMMARY CHANGES OF B.M.C. 15.52

- 15.52.010- NO CHANGES
- 15.52.020- NO CHANGES
- 15.52.030 NO CHANGES
- 15.52.040- NO CHANGES
- 15.52.050- NO CHANGES
- 15.52.070- NO CHANGES
- 15.52.080- NO CHANGES
- 15.52.060- INCREASE OF RATES AND FEES FOR STORAGE AND TOWING ALONG WITH A NEW RATE FOR HEAVY TOWS
- 15.52.065- REMOVAL OF LANGUAGE FOR 20% DOWN AND AN EXECUTION OF A PAYMENT AGREEMENT

B.M.C 15.52.060 MAX. TOWING AND STORAGE CHARGES (CURRENT)

- THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT AN AUTHORIZED TOWING SERVICE MAY CHARGE FOR HOOKING UP, TOWING OR REMOVING A VEHICLE UNDER THIS CHAPTER MAY NOT EXCEED \$135.00, EXCEPT WHERE SPECIAL TREATMENT MAY BE REQUIRED. SPECIAL TREATMENT, INCLUDING DOLLYING, MAY NOT EXCEED AN ADDITIONAL \$25.00. THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT MAY BE CHARGED FOR STORAGE OF VEHICLES SHALL NOT EXCEED \$25.00 PER DAY. THE STORAGE FEE MAY NOT BEGIN TO ACCRUE UNTIL TWENTY-FOUR HOURS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE VEHICLE ARRIVED AT THE STORAGE FACILITY.

B.M.C 15.52.060 MAX. TOWING AND STORAGE CHARGES (PROPOSED)

THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT AN AUTHORIZED TOWING SERVICE MAY CHARGE FOR HOOKING UP, TOWING, OR REMOVING A VEHICLE UNDER THIS CHAPTER MAY NOT EXCEED \$150.00, EXCEPT WHERE SPECIAL TREATMENT MAY BE REQUIRED. SPECIAL TREATMENT THAT INCLUDES THE USE OF DOLLIES OR SKATES MAY NOT EXCEED AN ADDITIONAL \$50.00. SPECIAL TREATMENT THAT INCLUDES THE USE OF WINCHING MAY NOT EXCEED AN ADDITIONAL \$150.00. THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT THAT MAY BE CHARGED FOR STORAGE OF VEHICLES SHALL NOT EXCEED \$30.00 PER DAY. THE STORAGE FEE MAY BEGIN TO ACCRUE AFTER TWELVE HOURS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE VEHICLE ARRIVED AT THE STORAGE FACILITY. THE STORAGE FEE MAY INCORPORATE AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$75.00 IF PICK UP IS MADE OUTSIDE OF BUSINESS HOURS. THE COST OF A HEAVY TOW FOR VEHICLES WEIGHING MORE THAN 10001 POUNDS SHALL INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF \$450.00.

B.M.C. 15.52.065 RELEASE OF VEHICLE (CURRENT)

A VEHICLE TOWED UNDER THIS CHAPTER SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO BE CLAIMED WITHIN SIXTY MINUTES OF ITS ARRIVAL AT A VEHICLE STORAGE FACILITY, AND THE VEHICLE SHALL BE RELEASED PROMPTLY UPON DEMONSTRATION OF PROOF OF OWNERSHIP, SUCH AS TITLE OR REGISTRATION OF VEHICLE AND EITHER:

(1) PAYMENT OF FEES; OR

(2) PAYMENT OF TWENTY PERCENT OF THE FEES AND EXECUTION OF A PAYMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE FEE BALANCE.

B.M.C. 15.52.065 RELEASE OF VEHICLE (PROPOSED)

A VEHICLE TOWED UNDER THIS CHAPTER SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO BE CLAIMED WITHIN SIXTY MINUTES OF ITS ARRIVAL AT A VEHICLE STORAGE FACILITY, AND THE VEHICLE SHALL BE RELEASED PROMPTLY UPON DEMONSTRATION OF PROOF OF OWNERSHIP, SUCH AS TITLE OR REGISTRATION OF VEHICLE AND PAYMENT OF FEES.

REASON FOR THE CHANGE

- HARDSHIP ON TOW COMPANY
- RARELY HAVE I BEEN TOLD THAT ANYONE WILL FOLLOW UP WITH A PAYMENT PLAN
- COSTS OF LEGAL PROCESS TO PURSUE THOSE WHO REFUSE PAYMENT PLAN
- TOW COMPANIES UNDER BPD TOW CONTRACT ALL REQUESTED THIS CHANGE
- HEAVY TOW RATES ARE NEEDED DUE TO THE HIGH COST OF PERFORMING THIS TOW
- LEGISLATION IN JULY 2025 REQUIRES RATES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CONTRACT
- UNDER INDIANA CODE 24-14-7-2, IT REQUIRES THE TOW COMPANY SHALL RELEASE ANY OR ALL VEHICLES ONCE ALL FEES ARE PAID

****Amendment Form****

- Ordinance #: 2025-44
- Amendment #: Amendment 01
- Submitted by: Councilmember Asare
- Date: December 1, 2025

Proposed Amendment:

1. Section 1 of Ordinance 2025-44 shall be amended and shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~; additions shown in **bold**):

SECTION 1. Section 10.08.120 of the Bloomington Municipal Code (the “Code”), entitled “Waste Haulers - Charges” **subsection (b)**, is hereby amended to **remove the “Out of County Waste” surcharge for hauled waste and to** reflect the ~~following~~ charges~~÷~~, **so that subsection (b) shall read as follows, as reflected in Attachment A:**

(b) The following types of waste may be accepted for treatment by the city utilities:

(1) Domestic Septage. Domestic septage refers to the waste contained in, or removed from, septic tanks or holding tanks which serve residential homes or other sources which generate only food-based waste. Each truckload delivered will be assumed to be a full load unless proven otherwise by the hauler.

(2) Grease Waste. Grease waste is the waste contained in, or removed from, grease traps and interceptors, or other similar devices, which have been installed for the purpose of retaining the portion of the waste stream which floats on water. For the purpose of this title, grease waste refers to grease of plant or animal origin. Petroleum based oils and grease are specifically prohibited from being discharged into the wastewater system. Analysis of the grease wastes may be required before acceptance for treatment and disposal. The charge will be based on the calculated volume of the trap or interceptor. There will be no additional charge for the water used to wash the grease from the trap or interceptor.

(3) Wastewater Treatment Plant Waste. Wastewater treatment plant waste includes the excess solids generated at municipal or semi-public wastewater treatment plants and/or the collection systems associated with those treatment plants. The waste may be in the form of sludge, mixed liquor, lagoon dredgings, or waste from lift stations, and must be compatible with the POTW's processes and capacities. Wastes which jeopardize compliance with the Part 503 rules concerning land application of sludge are prohibited. The board shall establish parameters for the testing of these wastes. The waste hauler will be responsible for the cost of any testing required. Trucks delivering these wastes will be assumed to be full.

(4) Commercial/Industrial Waste. Commercial/industrial waste includes wastes generated by industrial or commercial operations, or an operation which combines domestic waste with waste generated from industrial operations. This waste may be the product of some one-time operation, or may be accumulated in some form of holding tank, such as a septic tank. The wastes may be delivered to the system

facilities only after the written request for such disposal has been approved by the director, or his designee, on a case-by-case basis. The board shall establish parameters for the testing of these wastes. The waste hauler will be responsible for the cost of any testing required. Trucks delivering these wastes will be assumed to be full.

(5) The charge for each delivery of the types of waste described above shall be:

	Portion of Rate Applicable to		
	Operations, Maintenance, and Replacement Expenses	Capital Related Costs	Total
Domestic Septage -			
First 500	\$29.05	\$10.95	\$40.00
Each Additional 100 gallons	\$5.81	\$2.19	\$8.00
Grease Waste -			
First 100	\$5.81	\$2.19	\$8.00
Each Additional 100 gallons	\$5.81	\$2.19	\$8.00
Wastewater Treatment Plant Waste -			
First 500	\$29.05	\$10.95	\$40.00
Each Additional 100 gallons	\$5.81	\$2.19	\$8.00
Commercial/Industrial Waste -			
First 500	\$29.05	\$10.95	\$40.00
Each Additional 100 gallons	\$5.81	\$2.19	\$8.00

- The numbering of "SECTION 5" in Ordinance 2025-44 shall be corrected to "SECTION 4," so that it shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~; additions shown in **bold**):
~~SECTION 5~~ **SECTION 4.** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, and approval of the Mayor and the rates set forth herein shall go into effect on January 1, 2026.
- Add Attachment A below to this ordinance to clearly reflect all changes contained in this ordinance:

Extra Strength Charge		
Charge per pound per month for all strength in excess of 300 ppm:		
BOD	\$0.438	\$0.464
Suspended Solids	\$0.357	\$0.378

(Ord. 11-13 § 3, 2011; Ord. 05-34 § 3, 2005; Ord. 03-24 § 5, 2003; Ord. 00-34 § 3, 2000; Ord. 99-31 § 2, 1999; Ord. 98-29 § 6, 1998; Ord. 97-01 § 2, 1997; Ord. 94-41 § 4, 1994; Ord. 89-36 § 4, 1989; Ord. 81-16 §§ 3, 6, 1981; Ord. 80-26 § 1 (part), 1980).

(Ord. No. 12-28, § 1, 12-19-2012; Ord. No. 14-11, § 61, 7-2-2014; Ord. No. 16-10, § 3, 6-15-2016; Ord. No. 19-16, § 3, 9-18-2019; Ord. No. 19-05, § 13, 2-20-2019; Ord. No. 22-33, § 3, 11-17-2022)

10.08.120 Waste haulers—Charges.

- (a) Waste shall only be accepted for treatment by the utility if the treatment processes and final effluent are not adversely affected. All haulers shall provide the utility with the names and addresses of the users whose waste is brought for treatment. The director shall designate the site where the waste will be accepted.
- (b) The following types of waste may be accepted for treatment by the city utilities:
 - (1) Domestic Septage. Domestic septage refers to the waste contained in, or removed from, septic tanks or holding tanks which serve residential homes or other sources which generate only food-based waste. Each truckload delivered will be assumed to be a full load unless proven otherwise by the hauler.
 - (2) Grease Waste. Grease waste is the waste contained in, or removed from, grease traps and interceptors, or other similar devices, which have been installed for the purpose of retaining the portion of the waste stream which floats on water. For the purpose of this title, grease waste refers to grease of plant or animal origin. Petroleum based oils and grease are specifically prohibited from being discharged into the wastewater system. Analysis of the grease wastes may be required before acceptance for treatment and disposal. The charge will be based on the calculated volume of the trap or interceptor. There will be no additional charge for the water used to wash the grease from the trap or interceptor.
 - (3) Wastewater Treatment Plant Waste. Wastewater treatment plant waste includes the excess solids generated at municipal or semi-public wastewater treatment plants and/or the collection systems associated with those treatment plants. The waste may be in the form of sludge, mixed liquor, lagoon dredgings, or waste from lift stations, and must be compatible with the POTW's processes and capacities. Wastes which jeopardize compliance with the Part 503 rules concerning land application of sludge are prohibited. The board shall establish parameters for the testing of these wastes. The waste hauler will be responsible for the cost of any testing required. Trucks delivering these wastes will be assumed to be full.
 - (4) Commercial/Industrial Waste. Commercial/industrial waste includes wastes generated by industrial or commercial operations, or an operation which combines domestic waste with waste generated from industrial operations. This waste may be the product of some one-time operation, or may be accumulated in some form of holding tank, such as a septic tank. The wastes may be delivered to the system facilities only after the written request for such disposal has been approved by the director, or his designee, on a case-by-case basis. The board shall establish parameters for the testing of these

wastes. The waste hauler will be responsible for the cost of any testing required. Trucks delivering these wastes will be assumed to be full.

~~(5) Out of County Waste. For each of the above listed categories of waste, there shall be a surcharge of fifty percent added to the respective fees for any waste which originates at any source outside the boundaries of the county.~~

~~(6)~~ (5) The charge for each delivery of the types of waste described above shall be:

	Portion of Rate Applicable to		
	Operations, Maintenance, and Replacement Expenses	Capital Related Costs	Total
Domestic Septage—			
First 500 gallons	\$ 7.52 <u>\$29.05</u>	\$ 2.78 <u>\$10.95</u>	\$10.30 <u>\$40.00</u>
Each additional 100 gallons	\$0.43 <u>\$5.81</u>	\$0.16 <u>\$2.19</u>	\$0.59 <u>\$8.00</u>
Grease Waste—			
First 100 gallons	\$4.30 <u>\$5.81</u>	\$1.59 <u>\$2.19</u>	\$5.89 <u>\$8.00</u>
Each additional 100 gallons	\$4.30 <u>\$5.81</u>	\$1.59 <u>\$2.19</u>	\$5.89 <u>\$8.00</u>
Wastewater Treatment Plant Waste—			
First 500 gallons	\$16.12 <u>\$29.05</u>	\$5.96 <u>\$10.95</u>	\$22.08 <u>\$40.00</u>
Each additional 100 gallons	\$3.23 <u>\$5.81</u>	\$1.19 <u>\$2.19</u>	\$4.42 <u>\$8.00</u>
Commercial/Industrial Waste—			
First 500 gallons	\$16.12 <u>\$29.05</u>	\$5.96 <u>\$10.95</u>	\$22.08 <u>\$40.00</u>
Each additional 100 gallons	\$3.23 <u>\$5.81</u>	\$1.19 <u>\$2.19</u>	\$4.42 <u>\$8.00</u>

- (c) The fees for the treatment and disposal of domestic septage shall be charged to the waste hauler with a valid wastewater management business permit issued by the state department of environmental management who transports the waste to the treatment facility for disposal. Any CBU-approved waste hauler may purchase ~~tickets~~ single-load manifests which authorize that hauler to dispose of one load of domestic septage.

Generators of nondomestic waste must request authorization to dispose of wastes in the utility treatment works. The application will be reviewed by staff and, if approved, the tickets for disposal of the waste may be purchased by the waste generator. Generators may purchase tickets in ~~the manner outlined above~~ in lieu of single-load manifests. The generator must provide the appropriate ticket(s) to the waste hauler and the hauler must present the ticket(s) to the staff at the treatment facility as evidence that the disposal of the waste has been authorized.

Additional procedures that further promote an orderly system for the delivery, tracking and payment of these wastes may be adopted by the board.

(Ord. 06-11 § 6, 2006; Ord. 00-34 § 4, 2000; Ord. 98-29 § 7, 1998; Ord. 97-01 § 3, 1997; Ord. 94-41 § 5, 1994; Ord. 89-36 § 5, 1989; Ord. 80-26 § 1 (part), 1980).

(Ord. No. 12-28, § 1, 12-19-2012; Ord. No. 19-05, § 14, 2-20-2019)

Synopsis

This amendment removes the “Out of County Waste” surcharge for hauled waste from Bloomington Municipal Code 10.08.120 subsection (b) and incorporates Attachment A to reflect the changes made by this ordinance.

12/3/25 Regular Session Action: Pending

ORDINANCE 2025-44

To Amend Title 10 of the
Bloomington Municipal
Code Entitled
“Wastewater”

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON UTILITIES





Waste Haulers - Charges

Reevaluation of Hauled Wastewater Billing Rates
Based on Cost of Treatment

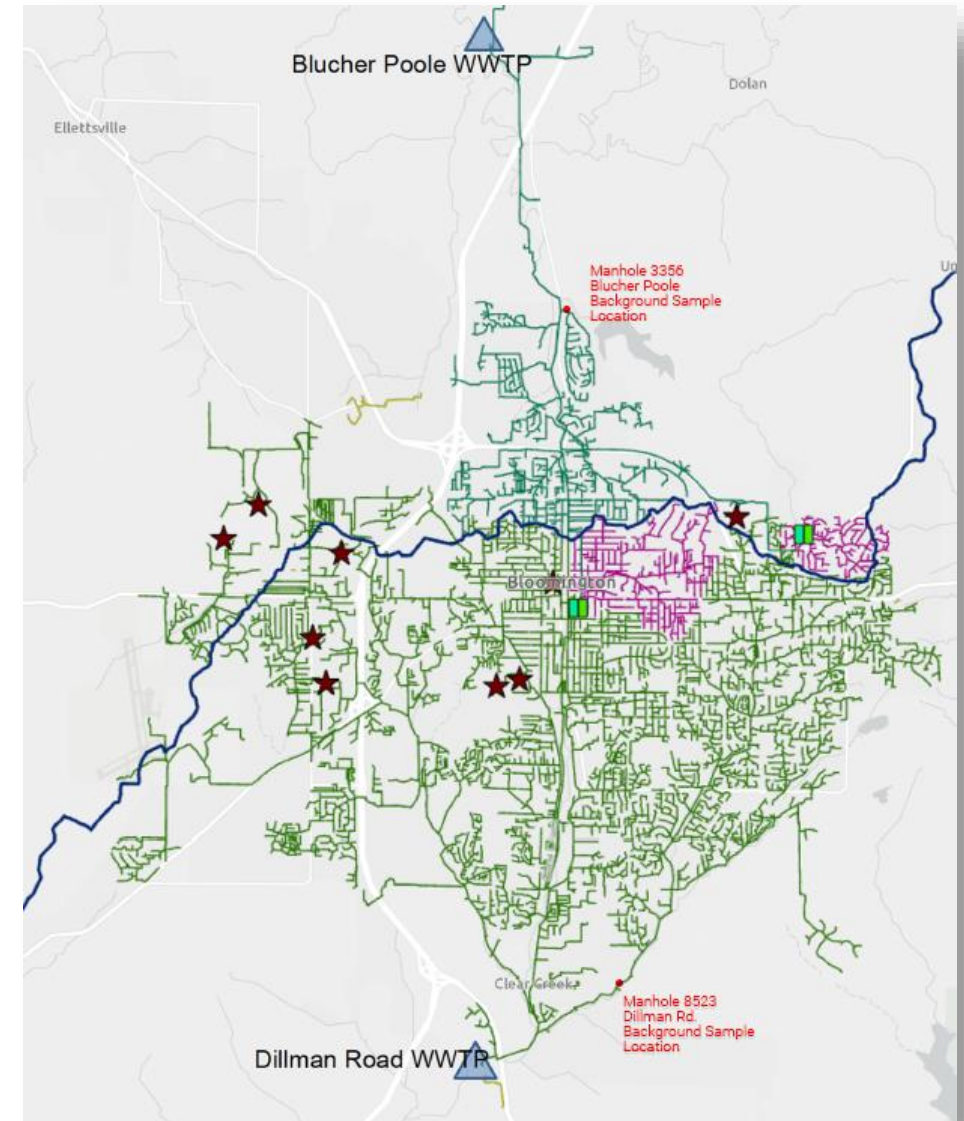


Reason for Reevaluation

- Indiana Code (IC) 36-9-23-2 authorizes City of Bloomington Utilities (CBU) to construct, operate, and maintain a sewage works.
- IC 36-9-23-25 requires the City to set its fees sufficient to pay all expenses incidental to the operation of the sewage works.
 - Factors that may be considered include the amount, strength, or character of sewage discharged into the sewers.

Hauled Wastewater - Background

- Historically, CBU has accepted hauled wastewater at its Dillman Road Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) as a service to local residents and businesses located beyond the reach of its sewer system.





Hauled Wastewater - Background

- CBU receives 4.5 to 5.5 million gallons of hauled waste in an average year.
- 91 percent of hauled wastewater has been domestic septage in 2025, with the balance being food service grease waste.
- 44 Percent of domestic septage is from Monroe County.
- 56 Percent is from beyond Monroe County, delivered by registered haulers from as far away as Indianapolis, Evansville, and even several cities in Ohio.

Domestic Septage vs. Sewage

- Domestic septage is a concentrated, high-strength wastewater pumped from individual septic tanks.
- Septage is a thick mixture of solids, fats, and grease containing pollutants (suspended solids, BOD, ammonia, phosphorous, and oil & grease) totaling approximately 20,000 mg/L (U.S. EPA, 1994).
- Sewage from homes, businesses, and industries is a more dilute mixture of solids and liquids containing pollutants totaling nearly 300 mg/L (Dillman Road WWTP, 2024).

$$\frac{20,000 \text{ mg/L}}{300 \text{ mg/L}} = 67 \text{ times more concentrated}$$



Cost of Treatment

- In 2024, the Dillman Road WWTP took in 4.02 billion gallons of wastewater containing 9.83 million pounds of pollutants.
- In its 2025 Septic Hauler Rate Report prepared for CBU, Crowe, LLP determined that the total cost of treatment was approximately \$10.2 million.

Cost Per Pound:

$$\frac{\$10.2 \text{ million}}{9.83 \text{ million lbs}} = \$1.04 \text{ per pound of pollutant}$$



Current Billing Rates

Current billing rates for sewage were set during CBU's most recent 2022 rate case. However, current waste hauler charges were set more than 25 years ago, in 2000.

Waste Type	Billing Rate
Customers Connected to the Sewer (in-city)	\$0.0095/gal
Hauled Septage (in-county)	\$0.0206/gal
Grease Waste	\$0.0589/gal



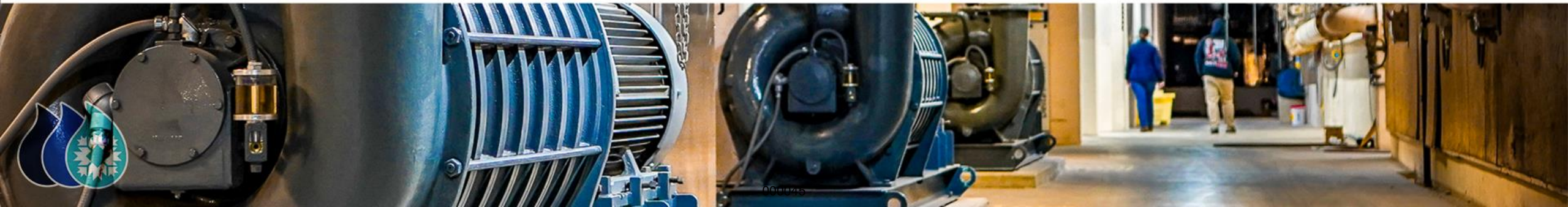
Today's Hauler Rate Proposal

- Crowe's Septic Hauler Rate Report indicates that CBU's cost of treatment for septage is approximately \$0.17/gallon, which is nearly the same as the 2024 average of 19 peer POTWs located in Indiana.
- CBU is currently proposing a stepped up uniform rate of \$0.08/gallon for hauled wastewater, subject to more regular future review.
- CBU is also proposing to eliminate its current 50 percent out-of-county surcharge for its domestic septage customers.



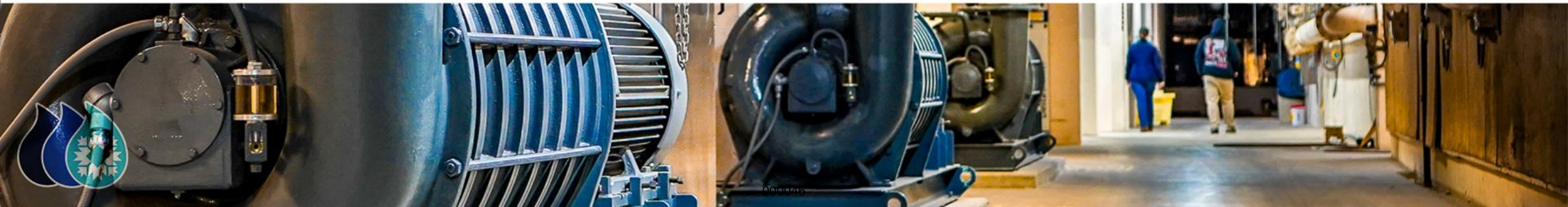
Fiscal Impact to Domestic Septage Customers

- CBU has 26,388 water and/or sewer customers as of November 2025.
- Of its total customers, 2,467 are water only customers, and might therefore depend on domestic septic systems.
- In addition to customers with direct billing accounts, CBU estimates based on the 2020 census, that there are several tens of thousands of households in unincorporated Monroe County and the surrounding counties that also depend on domestic septic systems.



Fiscal Impact to Domestic Septage Customers

- According to EPA (<https://www.epa.gov/septic/how-care-your-septic-system>), the average household septic system should be inspected at least every three years and that household septic tanks are typically pumped every three to five years.
- For the owner of a 1,000-gallon septic tank pumped every 3 years, CBU's waste hauler charge will increase from \$20.60 to \$80.00. On an annual basis, CBU's billing is therefore estimated to increase by \$19.80.



Fiscal Impact to Food Service Customers

- Per the current sewer use ordinance, grease waste customers with grease interceptors are required to pump every 90 days.
- For a typical food service establishment, a grease interceptor with a capacity of 1,000 gallons is most common, requiring pumping of 4,000 gallons of grease waste per year.
- With CBU's proposed adjustment from \$0.0589/gallon to \$0.08/gallon, costs for such a customer are estimated to increase by \$0.0211/gallon, for a total annual increase of \$84.40.

