



City of Bloomington Common Council

Post-Meeting Packet

Containing legislative materials related to:

Wednesday, 17 December 2025

Regular Session at 6:30pm

****Amendment Form****

- Ordinance #: 2025-19
- Amendment #: Amendment 05
- Submitted by: Councilmember Ruff
- Date: December 17, 2025

Proposed Amendment:

1. Section 2 of the Ordinance 2025-19, as amended by Amendment 01 and Amendment 04, shall be further amended and shall read as follows (additions shown in **bold**):

SECTION 2: Section 15.48.030 of the Bloomington Municipal Code 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 \$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. The storage fee may incorporate an additional fee of not to exceed \$75.00 if pick up is made outside of business hours as defined in the police contract. The cost of a heavy tow for vehicles weighing more than 10,001 pounds shall include an additional fee of \$450.00. **A towing service may charge an administrative fee not to exceed \$25.**

2. Section 3 of the Ordinance 2025-19, as amended by Amendment 01 and Amendment 04, shall be amended and shall read as follows (additions shown in **bold**):

SECTION 3. 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

begin to accrue after 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 as defined in the police contract. The cost of a heavy tow for vehicles weighing more than 10,001 pounds shall include an additional fee of \$450.00. **A towing service may charge an administrative fee not to exceed \$25.**

3. The “Attachment 1” of Ordinance 2025-19 shall be revised based on the changes made in Sections 1 and 2 of this Amendment 05.

Synopsis

This amendment, sponsored by Councilmember Ruff, allows a towing service to charge an administrative fee not to exceed \$25.

12/17/25 Regular Session Action: Pending

****Amendment Form****

Ordinance #: 2025-20
Amendment #: Am. 01 to Am. 03
Submitted by: Cm. Asare
Date: December 17, 2025

Proposed Amendment:

1. Section 2 of Amendment 1 of Ordinance 2025-20 shall be amended and shall read as follows (deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~; additions shown in **bold**):

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

SECTION 2. Section 4.32.110 of the Bloomington Municipal Code entitled “Signs required to be posted at parking lot; exception” is hereby amended as reflected in the amended Section 4.32.110 in “Attachment 1,” such that it reads as follows:

4.32.110 Signs required to be posted at parking lot; exception.

- (a) ~~¶ Before July 1, 2026~~**July 1, 2028**, it shall be unlawful for any tow business or tow truck operator to tow a vehicle unless the parking lot in which the vehicle is parked has signage, posted in plain view and visible to the public at each entrance and exit. The signs must be installed for a minimum of twenty-four hours prior to any vehicle being removed. Such signage shall provide the following information:
 - (1) A statement that the area in the immediate vicinity of the sign is a tow-away zone;
 - (2) The name of the towing company licensed in the City of Bloomington;
 - (3) A twenty-four-hour phone number vehicle owners may call to locate their vehicle; and
 - (4) A description of persons permitted to park in the affected area, if applicable.
- (b) **On or after July 1, 2026**2028**, it shall be unlawful for any tow business or tow truck operator to tow a vehicle unless the parking lot in which the vehicle is parked has signage that meets the following requirements:
 - (1) **MINIMUM SIZE: 12 inches by 18 inches.**
 - (2) **MATERIAL: Weather resistant to ensure durability.**
 - (3) **LEGIBILITY: Reflective material, easily read from at least 6 feet away with high contrast and simple font.**
 - (4) **LOCATION: Prominently displayed at every vehicular access point to the parking lot, including entrances and exits. Signs must have been****

installed for a minimum of twenty-four hours prior to any vehicle being removed.

(5) CONTENTS:

~~(1)~~ **(A)** A statement that the area in the immediate vicinity of the sign is a tow-away zone;

~~(2)~~ **(B)** The name of the towing company licensed in the City of Bloomington;

~~(3)~~ **(C)** A twenty-four-hour phone number vehicle owners may call to locate their vehicle; and

~~(4)~~ **(D)** A description of persons permitted to park in the affected area **and hours of enforcement**, if applicable.

Signs shall comply with the requirements of Bloomington Municipal Code 20.04.100.

- ~~(b)~~ **(c)** Pursuant to Indiana Code § 24-14-4-2 and notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) above, a private property owner may have a motor vehicle towed from the owner's commercial private property without first displaying signage if the vehicle is removed under Indiana Code § 9-22-1-16.

(Ord. No. 20-03, § 1, 2-19-2020)

2. The “Attachment 1” of Ordinance 2025-20 shall be revised based on the changes made in Sections 1 of this Amendment.

Synopsis:

This amendment, sponsored by Councilmember Asare, modifies the signage requirements for parking lots, starting on July 1, 2028.

12/17/2025 Regular Session Action: Pending

****Amendment Form****

- Ordinance #: 2025-20
- Amendment #: Amendment 04
- Submitted by: Councilmember Ruff
- Date: December 17, 2025

Proposed Amendment:

1. Section 4 of the Ordinance 2025-20, as amended by Amendment 03, shall be further amended and shall read as follows (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 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 as defined in the license application described in Section 4.32.060(a)(6).
 - (4) A towing service may charge an administrative fee not to exceed \$25.**
- (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)

2. The "Attachment 1" of Ordinance 2025-20 shall be revised based on the changes made in Sections 1 of this Amendment.

Synopsis

This amendment, sponsored by Councilmember Ruff, allows a towing service to charge an administrative fee not to exceed \$25.

12/17/25 Regular Session Action: Pending