

Bloomington Common Council Regular Session Packet Addendum #1

Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street, Bloomington, IN 47404

The meeting may also be accessed [remotely](#)¹.

1. 2026 Fiscal Committee Report - CM Stosberg
2. Resolution 2026-11 Authorizing the Allocation of the Jack Hopkins Social Services Program Funds for the Year 2026 and Related Matters
 - a. Staff Memorandum
 - b. Resolution 2026-11 Authorizing the Allocation of the Jack Hopkins Social Services Program Funds for the Year 2026 and Related Matters
 - c. 2026 Jack Hopkins Committee Report and Recommendations
 - d. Jack Hopkins Social Services Program Press Release and Application Materials
3. Staff Memorandum for Resolution 2026-12 Establishing Rules, Procedures, and Public-Interest Guidelines for City-Influenced Alcoholic Beverage Permits

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

- [Community Access Television Services \(CATS\)](#)²
- [City's YouTube Channel](#)³

[Materials for this meeting](#)⁴ are available on Council's website.

¹ <https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/84187908050?pwd=iR8unTAq48xdfR18lzNOEobb2INBBB.1> Meeting ID: 841 8790 8050 Passcode: 103783

² <https://catstv.net/>

³ <https://www.youtube.com/@citybloomington>

⁴ <https://bloomington.in.gov/council/meetings/2026>



To: Bloomington Common Council
From: Councilmember Stosberg, Fiscal Committee Chair
Date: June 8, 2026
RE: 2026 Fiscal Committee

Colleagues,

I wanted to give a short update regarding the Special Fiscal Committee and what the committee has been focused on during the first part of the year. As a reminder, the initial charge of the committee is to:

1. Work closely with the Controller to:
 - Create a timeline and activity framework for the yearly budgeting calendar
 - Track progress of the yearly budget and report back to the whole council.
 - Track fund balances (esp. TIF, CRED, Bonds, etc.)
 - Recommend scheduling of specific budget related discussions, presentations, and education for the full council.
2. Be responsible for supporting Council Staff with the 2026 Council Budget and presentation of that budget.
3. Continue the work started by the Ad-Hoc Salary Committee to fine-tune the Elected Salary Framework. The Special Fiscal Committee will be responsible for bringing forward the Elected Salary Ordinance for FY 2026.
4. Explore and recommend improvements to the budgeting process.

Meetings

This year the committee decided that more frequent, shorter meetings focusing on either council fiscal business or reports/updates from the controller/administration would allow for better use of meeting time. We have had seven meetings so far this year, with our final meeting before summer recess scheduled for this Friday, June 12. The first meeting after summer recess will be on July 24 and there are currently nine meetings scheduled for the remainder of the year.

Controller/Administration Reports

Meetings with focus on reports from the controller and administration have included information for the close of fiscal year (FY) 2025, quarterly updates for FY2026, financial reports from

Reedy Financial with the impacts of Senate Enrolled Act 1 (SEA1) and the changes to Local Income Taxes (LIT) made by the state, and we have looked at different fund balances and purposes. Controller McKim has been extremely helpful and responsive as both he and the committee work to understand what budget reports are most impactful for helping the committee understand the financial status of the city and what level of detail is needed and wanted. These updates will continue in the second half of the year.

Council Fiscal Business

Meetings focused on council related fiscal business have been focused around the creation of the 2027 council budget priorities and consideration of updating the elected official salary framework. Work is ongoing to update the elected official salary framework and use it as a guide in recommending the elected official salary ordinance to the full council in November.

Budget Scheduling

The committee is keeping track of important budget related dates with the goal of creating a general timeline of budget related goals for each year. This timeline is intended to have both state required dates (ex. Salary and budget ordinance approval deadlines), public meetings (ex. Budget presentation and budget adoption), and internal goals (ex. Council budget priority discussions). This will be a constant work in progress and will be a good way to keep track of future goals related to budget and communication improvements.

Other Business

Currently the Fiscal Committee is a special, as opposed to standing, committee. There is a lot the committee could include or discuss within our meetings related to the financial business of the city, including items not strictly listed in the initial purpose statement. One item that I have discussed with the administration and individual committee members, is having the committee weigh in on fee adjustments that the city may propose. To that end, the meeting this week is focused on the Sanitation department fees and general fund subsidy the department currently receives. In the future, I could imagine conversations related to other fees that are in city code being brought to the attention of the fiscal committee prior to being introduced to the full council. This may become especially pertinent if Ordinance 2026-14, related to councilmember sponsorship of legislation, is approved.

Conclusion

Please let me or another member of the Fiscal Committee know if you have any questions about what the committee is pursuing or are interested in any specific information from the controller, especially as pertains to quarterly reports or specific funds. As individual councilmembers this information can certainly be accessed, but it also may be appropriate to share with other members and the broader community by including that information in quarterly or other reports from the controller at Fiscal Committee meetings. Thank you for your attention.

To: Members of the Common Council
From: Council's Office Staff
Date: June 10, 2026
Re: Resolution 2026-11 - Authorizing the Allocation of the Jack Hopkins Social Services Program for the Year 2026 and Related Matters

Synopsis

This resolution brings forward the recommendations of the 2026 Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee. The principal task of the Committee is to recommend funding for local social services agency proposals that best meet program criteria and best meet the needs of the community. This resolution allocates a total of \$499,994.63 to 35 different agency programs. This resolution also: approves the funding agreements with these agencies; accepts the Report of the Committee; and authorizes the Chair of the Committee to resolve any questions regarding the interpretation of the agreements.

Summary

This is the 34th year of the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Program, named after former Councilmember, Jack Hopkins. The Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Program Committee is a standing committee of the Common Council pursuant to Bloomington Municipal Code 2.04.210 with the principal task of making funding recommendations to the Common Council regarding the use of discretionary grant funding for social service agencies.

Each year, the demand for funding exceeds supply, and each year, the Committee works hard to develop a fair and responsive process, one sensitive to local need, and one to foster responsible fiscal stewardship. This year, the Committee had \$499,994.63 in budgeted funds to distribute.

Resolution 2026-11 implements the recommendations of the 2026 Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee. Specifically, the legislation:

- Allocates \$499,994.63 in grant funds to 35 agency programs;
- Approves the template of the Funding Agreements with these agencies and delegates the Committee Chair the task of resolving any questions regarding their implementation
- Approves the report of the Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee

**COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA**

**RESOLUTION 2026-11
AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF THE JACK HOPKINS SOCIAL SERVICES
PROGRAM FUNDS FOR THE YEAR 2026 AND RELATED MATTERS**

Recitals

WHEREAS, the Common Council established the Social Services Funding Committee (Committee) in 1993 to make recommendations to the entire Common Council and Mayor regarding the allocation of discretionary social services funds and, in 2002, named the program in the honor of Jack Hopkins, who was instrumental as a Council member in the establishment of this funding program;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 02-16, as amended by Resolution 13-07, Resolution 16-06, Resolution 20-09, and Resolution 21-01, the Committee serves as a standing committee of the Council with four members from the Council assigned by the President of the Council and with three City residents (appointed by the Committee Chair) with experience in social services;

WHEREAS, this year the Committee includes Council members Courtney Daily Chair), Isak Nti Asare, Dave Rollo, and Andy Ruff, along with City residents Camryn Greer, Katherine Ntiamoah, and Eddy Riou;

WHEREAS, this year, the Committee had \$500,000.00 in budgeted funds to distribute;

WHEREAS, the Committee held an Organizational Meeting on February 10, 2026, to establish the program procedures for 2026;

WHEREAS, at that time, the Committee affirmed its policies that set forth and elaborated upon the following criteria for making recommendations:

1. The program should address an identified priority for social services funds (as indicated in the *Service Community Assessment of Needs (SCAN)*, the City of Bloomington Housing and Neighborhood Development Department's *Consolidated Plan*, or any other community-wide survey of social service needs);
2. The funds should provide an investment that, through matching funds or other fiscal leveraging, makes a significant contribution to the program; and
3. This investment in the program should lead to broad and long lasting benefits to the community;

WHEREAS, by the application deadline at 4:00 p.m. on March 10, 2026, the Committee received 39 applications seeking approximately \$700,804.25 in funding;

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2026, the Committee met to discuss the applications, requested additional information from certain applicants and raised questions to be addressed at the presentation hearing, which was held on April 29, 2026;

WHEREAS, after receiving agency responses to the Committee's questions and hearing the presentations, the members of the Committee evaluated proposals and assigned each proposal a recommended allocation;

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2026, the Committee met for a Pre-Allocation Meeting and deliberated funding recommendations, and those deliberations were continued and concluded by the Committee at its Allocation Meeting on May 26, 2026, at which meeting the Committee adopted recommendations to fund 35 applications;

WHEREAS, all the foregoing meetings were open to the public to attend, observe and record what transpired;

WHEREAS, funding agreements will be executed by the agencies recommended to receive funds, and those agencies understand and agree to abide by the terms of those

agreements; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the HAND department will arrange for the disbursement of the grant funds pursuant to the funding agreements, which will be interpreted by the Chair of the Committee.

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

SECTION 1. The Common Council now allocates Four Hundred Ninety-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Four Dollars and Sixty-Three Cents (\$499,994.63) set aside for the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding program to the following agencies for the following amounts and in accordance with the funding agreements approved in Section 2.

SECTION 2. The Common Council approves the funding agreement template, a copy of which is attached hereto as "Attachment A", authorizes Council staff to prepare such Agreements; and authorizes the Council President to execute each Agreement on behalf of the Council. Copies of the executed Agreements shall be kept in the Council Office and HAND department files. Council directs the Office of the Controller to issue checks in the ordinary course of business to the agency once the staff of the Housing and Neighborhood Development Department submit a copy of the signed agreement and the appropriate purchase orders.

| | Organization | Grant | Purpose |
|-----|---|--------------|---|
| 1. | Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana | \$7,000 | Expansion of site-based mentoring for Bloomington youth. |
| 2. | Cancer Support Community South Central Indiana | \$3,650 | Provide immediate, short-term financial relief to cancer patients actively undergoing treatment. |
| 3. | Community Justice and Mediation Center | \$12,998 | Supporting Eviction Prevention Project |
| 4. | Community Kitchen of Monroe County, Inc | \$5,903 | Purchase AEDs, new tires for a vehicle, and a pallet floor jack with scale. |
| 5. | Exodus Refugee Immigration, Inc. | \$18,000 | Support Emergency Assistance Program, which provides direct financial assistance for basic needs and healthcare management services to refugees. |
| 6. | Hoosier Hills Food Bank, Inc | \$40,000 | Purchase food that will supplement privately donated food. |
| 7. | My Sister's Closet of Monroe County | \$30,000 | New facility renovations. |
| 8. | Planned Parenthood Great Northwest, Hawai' i, Alaska, Indiana, Kentucky | \$7,500 | Low-to-no cost sexual and reproductive health services for patients who are uninsured/underinsured and/or living at or below 150% of the federal poverty level. |
| 9. | Sobremesa Foundation, Inc. | \$9,000 | Growing fresh produce and delivering it to 3 Monroe County food pantries. |
| 10. | Summit Hill Community Development Corporation | \$24,980 | Purchase a service vehicle that is used to operate a grocery shuttle for residents of Bloomington Housing Authority RAD housing. |

| | Organization | Grant | Purpose |
|-----|--|--------------|--|
| 11. | Amethyst House, Inc. | \$18,121.67 | Replace damaged flooring, purchase 6 computers, and remove 2 trees. |
| 12. | Avalon Community Land Trust | \$13,667 | Support permanent, public-facing food and community infrastructure. |
| 13. | Beacon, Inc. | \$7,086.81 | Purchase 2 refrigerator/freezer combos, 2 bunk bed sets, and 10 mattresses. |
| 14. | Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington | \$14,026.67 | Require electronic key access for the Lincoln Street Club's lobby elevator. |
| 15. | Courage to Change Sober Living | \$1,603.67 | Courage to Challenge program, men's and women's residencies. |
| 16. | Developmental Services, Inc. | \$2,048.83 | Support a year-long cooking and nutrition education program. |
| 17. | Girls Inc of Monroe County | \$15,751.17 | Personnel expenses, program costs, and participant scholarships. |
| 18. | Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County | \$10,900 | Replacement of Makita tools, a trailer, and 2 ladder racks for trucks. |
| 19. | Hotels for Hope Inc. | \$18,000 | Emergency shelter expenses and case management salary. |
| 20. | Indiana Recovery Alliance | \$18,862.17 | Hiring a full-time outreach worker. |
| 21. | Ivy Tech Community College - Bloomington | \$7,776.67 | Support Hive and Harvest food pantry. |
| 22. | Kesem at Indiana University | \$1,423.33 | Fully fund Monroe County children to attend Camp Kesem free of charge. |
| 23. | Monroe County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) | \$5,326.42 | Training technology and office update. Purchasing conference table and 12 chairs, TV, wall mount, dry erase boards and markers, 2 laptops, and 2 docking stations. |
| 24. | Monroe County Humane Association | \$9,476.33 | Essential pet care services for low-income families. |
| 25. | Mother Hubbard's Cupboard | \$12,730.59 | Replacement of awning, as well as operational (supply and upkeep) support. |
| 26. | New Hope Family Shelter DBA New Hope for Families | \$35,190.50 | Support access to Early Learning Center. |
| 27. | New Leaf New Life | \$8,929.20 | Provide essential employment tools to individuals transitioning from incarceration or substance use treatment. |
| 28. | New Leaf-New Life Inc. (w/ Courage to Change Sober Living) | \$2,365.33 | Support New Leaf mentees who are also Courage to Change residents when they first move into a CTC residence. |
| 29. | Pantry 279, Inc. | \$11,038.83 | Support Children's Summer Food Program and the cost of food deliveries. |
| 30. | Pathways, Inc. | \$43,134 | Operational funding for core programs in the face of federal funding cuts |

| | Organization | Grant | Purpose |
|-----|--|--------------|--|
| 31. | People and Animal Learning Services | \$1,581.33 | Support Valiant Strides, an Equine-Assisted Learning program for veterans and first responders. |
| 32. | Stone Belt Arc, Inc. | \$3,196.67 | Facilitate Job-a-Palooza for people of all ages/disabilities during Disability Employment Awareness Month. |
| 33. | Tandem Community Birth Center and Postpartum House, Inc | \$35,416.67 | Essential program costs (paying staff, rent, utilities, software licensing, and diapers) |
| 34. | The Hendricks County Child Advocacy Center, Inc d/b/a Susie's Place Child Advocacy Centers | \$37,196.27 | Operational expenses, including salaries. |
| 35 | Wheeler Mission | \$6,113.50 | Purchase a high-capacity commercial dryer. |

SECTION 3. The Council authorizes the Chair of the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee to resolve any questions regarding the implementation of the 2026 funding agreements.

SECTION 4. The Council also approves the *2026 Report* of this Standing Committee of the Common Council.

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

Isak Asare, 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 _____ day of _____, 2026.

NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this _____ day of _____, 2026.

KERRY THOMSON, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution brings forward the recommendations of the 2026 Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee. The principal task of the Committee is to recommend funding for local social services agency proposals that best meet Program criteria and best meet the needs of the community. This resolution allocates a total of \$499,994.63 to 35 different agency programs. The resolution also approves the funding agreements with these agencies and authorizes the Council President to execute such agreements; accepts the report of the Committee; and authorizes the Chair of the Committee to resolve any questions regarding the interpretation of the agreements.

ATTACHMENT A

FUNDING AGREEMENT CITY OF BLOOMINGTON - JACK HOPKINS SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM

«Organization»

This Agreement entered into in June, 2026, by and between the City of Bloomington, Indiana, (hereinafter referred to as the "City"), and «Organization», (hereinafter referred to as the "Agency"), provides for the following:

Whereas, the Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee (Committee) reviewed Agency applications, heard their presentations, considered additional information provided by agencies in response to Committee questions, and made funding recommendations to the Common Council;

Whereas, the Common Council adopted Resolution 2026-11, which provided funding to this Agency in the amount and for the purposes set forth in Sections I and III of this Agreement;

Whereas, the resolution also delegated the duty of interpreting the Funding Agreement for the City to the Chair of the Committee; and

Whereas, in interpreting the Agreement, the Chair may consider the purposes of the program, the application and comments by Agency representatives, and statements made by decision-makers during deliberations.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. USE OF FUNDS

These funds are intended to serve vulnerable City residents. Agency agrees to use Agreement funds as follows:

«Project_Description__»

2. TIME OF PERFORMANCE

The last claim for expenses under this Agreement must be submitted to the City of Bloomington Housing and Neighborhood Development (HAND) no later than December 3, 2026. Requests for extensions must be submitted in writing to HAND's Director no later than November 13, 2026. If an extension is approved, the Director will provide a

confirmation letter granting the extension for claim submission. The Director may extend the deadline no later than March 19, 2027.

3. PAYMENT PROCEDURES

It is expressly agreed and understood that the total amount to be paid by the City under this Agreement shall not exceed

«Received_»

Claims for the payment of eligible expenses shall be made against the items specified in Section 1, Use of Funds.

The Agency will submit to the City a claim voucher pursuant to City's claim procedures and deadlines for the expenditures corresponding to the agreed upon use of funds outlined above. Along with the claim voucher, the Agency will submit documentation satisfactory to the City, at the City's sole discretion, showing the Agency's expenditures.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

A. Accounting Procedures

The Agency agrees to use generally accepted accounting procedures and to provide for:

- (1) Accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial component of its activities;
- (2) Records which identify adequately the source and application of funds for City supported activities;
- (3) Effective control over and accountability for all funds, property, and other assets;
- (4) Adequate safeguarding of all such assets and assurance that they are used solely for authorized purposes;
- (5) The City to conduct monitoring activities as it deems reasonably necessary to insure compliance with this Agreement; and
- (6) Return of the funds received under this Agreement that the City determines were not expended in compliance with its terms.

B. Access to Records

The Agency agrees that it will give the City, through any authorized representative, access to, and the right to examine, all records, books, papers or documents related to the funding provided by this Agreement, for the purpose of making surveys, audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcripts.

C. Retention of Records

The Agency agrees that it will retain financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to the funding provided to the Agency for a period of three years from the termination of this Agreement pursuant to Section 7 or 8.

D. Reporting Requirement

The Agency agrees to provide a report to HAND with the Agency's last claim submission describing the use of Jack Hopkins Social Services funds. The report should be submitted in Word format and not exceed 500 words. The report should include, but not be limited to:

1. Amount of the agency's grant award
2. General description of the project
3. Results of the project as measured by the project's outcome indicators
4. Population served by the program
5. Community benefits of the project
6. Digital photograph(s) depicting the Jack Hopkins-funded project (if applicable)
7. Copies of any written material for the project giving the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee credit as required by Section 5(G) below.

Agencies are asked to report the results of their projects clearly, concisely and honestly and to include both successes and challenges. The report shall be submitted no later than December 3, 2026 unless the Agency was granted an extension by the HAND Director, pursuant to Section II of this agreement.

Agencies who receive **operational funding** under this Agreement shall submit an additional report providing an update on the project's outcome indicators, as outlined in the agency's application for funding, due March 19, 2027. Operational expenses are those that are recurring and include outlays for personnel, rent, utilities, maintenance, supplies, client services, and other like ongoing budget items.

5. GENERAL CONDITIONS

A. General Compliance

Agency agrees to comply with all applicable federal, State, and local laws, regulations, and policies governing the funds provided under this Agreement.

B. Independent Contractor

Nothing contained in this Agreement is intended to, or shall be construed in any manner, as creating or establishing the relationship of employer/employee between the parties. The Agency shall at all times remain an "independent contractor" with respect to the services to be performed under this Agreement. None of the benefits provided by an employer to an employee, including but not limited to minimum wage and overtime compensation, workers' compensation insurance and unemployment insurance, shall be available from or through the City to the Agency.

C. Hold Harmless

The Agency shall hold harmless, defend and indemnify the City from any and all claims, actions, suits, charges and judgments whatsoever that arise out of a subrecipient's performance or nonperformance of the services or subject matter called for in this Agreement.

D. Nondiscrimination

Agencies receiving grants shall be subject to Section 2.23.110 *et seq.* of the Bloomington Municipal Code. Unless specific exemptions apply, the Agency will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity. The Agency will take affirmative action to ensure that all employment practices are free from such discrimination. Such employment practices include but are not limited to the following: hiring, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff, termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship.

E. Living Wage Requirements

(1) This agreement is subject to the City of Bloomington Living Wage Ordinance, Chapter 2.28 of the Bloomington Municipal Code and any implementing regulations. The Living Wage Ordinance requires among other things, that unless specific exemptions apply, all beneficiaries of City subsidies, as defined, shall provide payment of a minimum level of compensation to employees which may include the cost of health benefits. Such rate shall be adjusted annually pursuant to the terms of the Bloomington Living Wage Ordinance.

(2) Under the provisions of the Bloomington Living Wage Ordinance, the City shall have the authority, under appropriate circumstances, to terminate this contract and to seek other remedies as set forth therein, for violations of the Ordinance.

F. Compliance with Ind. Code 22-5-1.7 – E-Verify Program

The Agency shall sign a sworn affidavit, attached as Exhibit A, affirming that the Agency has enrolled and is participating in the E-Verify Program and affirming that the Agency does not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien. The Agency must provide documentation to the City that the Agency has enrolled and is participating in the E-Verify program.

G. Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee Recognition

The Agency agrees to provide a credit line for the City of Bloomington Common Council Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee in all written materials about the program and program activities funded pursuant to this Agreement.

6. NOTICES

Communication and details concerning this Agreement shall be directed to the following representatives:

| | |
|--|--|
| City: Cody Toothman, Program Manager Bloomington Housing and Neighborhood Development Department P.O. Box 100 Bloomington, IN 47402 Tel: (812) 349-3512 Fax: (812) 349-3582 E-mail: cody.toothman@bloomington.in.gov | Agency: «Director_of_Agency__» «Organization» «Mailing_Address» «City_State_Zip_Code» Tel: «Home_Phone» E-mail: «Agency_Email» |
|--|--|

7. TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

The Agency agrees that this Agreement is subject to the availability of funds and that if funds become unavailable for the performance of this Agreement, the City may terminate the Agreement. If funds become unavailable, the City shall promptly notify the Agency in writing of the termination and the effective date thereof.

It is further agreed that the City may terminate this Agreement in whole or in part if it determines that the Agency has failed to comply with the Agreement or with other conditions imposed by applicable laws, rules and regulations. The City shall promptly

notify the Agency in writing of the determination and the reasons for the determination, together with the effective date. The Agency agrees that if the City terminates the Agreement for cause it will refund to the City that portion of the funds that the City determines was not expended in compliance with the Agreement. The Agency shall be responsible for paying any costs incurred by the City to collect the refund, including court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.

If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid, the remainder of the Agreement shall not be affected thereby, and all other parts of this Agreement shall nevertheless be in full force and effect.

8. TERM OF AGREEMENT

Unless terminated as provided in Section 7 herein, this Agreement shall be effective as of the last date written below and terminate upon the City's determination that the provisions of this Agreement regarding use of the Agreement funds have been met by the Agency.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

«Organization»

By: _____
Isak Asare
President, Common Council

By: _____
«Pres_BoD»
President, Board of Directors

Date

Date

By: _____
Anna Killion-Hanson, Director
Housing and Neighborhood Development

By: _____
«Director_of_Agency__»
Executive Director

Date

Date

By: _____
Kerry Thomson, Mayor

Date

City of Bloomington Common Council

Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee

Report and Recommendation on Resolution 2026-11 - Authorizing the Allocation of the Jack Hopkins Social Services Program Funds for the Year 2026 and Related Matters

Prologue: The following description of the 2026 Jack Hopkins Social Services Program, along with the supporting documentation attached, constitutes the Report of the 2026 Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee pursuant to Bloomington Municipal Code 2.04.230. The Report of the Committee is advisory in nature.

This is the 34th year of the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Program, named after former Councilmember Jack Hopkins. Since its inception in 1993 through 2025, the City has awarded nearly \$7 million under this program to serve the needs of our community's most vulnerable residents. Indeed, since the inception of this program, annual funding has increased dramatically: from \$90,000 in 1993 to \$500,000 available in 2026. Each year the demand for funds exceeds supply, and each year the Committee works hard to develop a fair and responsive process, one sensitive to local need and one intended to foster responsible fiscal stewardship. This year, the committee received 39 applications for funding and recommends awarding grant funds to 35 agency programs.

Resolution 2026-11 implements the recommendations of the 2026 Jack Hopkins Committee. The legislation:

- Allocates \$499,994.63 in grant funds to 35 agency programs;
- Approves the form of the *Funding Agreement* with these agencies;
- Delegates questions regarding the interpretation of the *Funding Agreements* to the Chair of the Committee (Councilmember Daily)
- Approves the Report of the Jack Hopkins Committee

Committee Members

The Committee is a Standing Committee of the Council, pursuant to BMC 2.04.210. The 2026 Committee included four Council Members and three members of the public with experience in social services. The non-Council members are appointed by the Committee Chair:

- Courtney Daily (Chair)
- Isak Nti Asare

- Dave Rollo
- Any Ruff
- Camryn Greer
- Katherine Ntiamoah
- Eddy Riou

Housing and Neighborhood Development Department Staff

While Council staff coordinate the program prior to Council Action, Anna Kilion-Hanson and Cody Toothman of HAND provide critical insight and assistance throughout the process. Once Council approves the recommended allocations, Mr. Toothman executes reimbursement of funds to agencies, monitors the grants, and otherwise advises agencies post-award.

The 2026 Hopkins Process

The following is a brief summary of the 2026 Committee process:

- **Organizational Meeting – 10 February, 2026**

The committee met to establish policies and procedures for the 2026 program.

At this meeting the Committee:

- Reviewed and made changes to the elaboration of criteria for evaluating and awarding grants;
- Incorporated a detailed scoring rubric to aid in assessing the merits of applications;
- Approved solicitation materials; and
- Established a schedule for 2026

- **Request for Applications Issues – 17 February, 2026**

The Common Council's Office released a press release announcing the availability of the application.

- **Technical Assistance Meeting – 26 February, 2026**

A voluntary Technical Assistance meeting was held on 26 February to explain the program and answer questions from agency representatives. Agencies were encouraged to contact the Council's office with remaining questions.

- **Deadline for Applications – 10 March, 2026**

A total of 39 applications were submitted to the Council's Office by the deadline, requesting a total of \$700,804.25.

- **Initial Review of Applications by the Committee – 6 April, 2026**

The Committee met for an initial review of the applications. The Committee first announced any conflicts of interest before reviewing the applications. During its initial review, the Committee developed questions to be answered by agencies, which were shared with the agencies via email.

- **Agency Presentations – 29 April, 2026**

Agencies were invited to conduct presentations and further elaborate on their applications. Agencies were then able to answer any remaining questions posed by committee members.

- **Pre-Allocation Hearing – 11 May, 2026**

The Committee made preliminary recommendations for funding amounts for certain applicants and requested additional information from others.

- **Allocation Hearing – 26 May, 2026**

The Committee recommended funding for **35** agency applications for a total of **\$499,994.63**. The committee invited public comment during this meeting.

- **De-Briefing Meeting – 2 June, 2026**

The Committee met to reflect on the 2026 funding cycle and to identify lessons learned to improve future processes. Several key takeaways emerged from this year's experiences:

1. **Priority Setting Within Broader Categories:** The Committee discussed the potential value of setting more specific funding priorities to be announced on a year to year basis within the program's broad eligibility criteria, allowing a more targeted and transparent response to emerging or urgent community needs while still maintaining flexibility.
2. **Purpose of Follow Up Interview:** The Committee discussed the role of the follow up interviews, questioning their necessity due to a failure within the application, applicants, or process and its ability to express their funding needs. They also discussed a potential bias towards those who were invited for follow up interviews.
3. **Changes to Eligibility Requirements:** The Committee discussed the role of the committee in funding local organizations after noticing the same organizations requesting funding for the same thing each year. They cautioned organizations becoming reliant on the committee's funding when it isn't guaranteed.
4. **Changes to the Scoring Rubric:** The Committee discussed adjusting the scoring rubric to streamline the process and reduce errors. The rubric has improved from previous years, however there are still some adjustments to be made regarding how points are allocated. There was also discussion on limiting the applications committee members' score to allow them to conduct more research into each organization over briefly reviewing the organization and scoring them off of that.
5. **Promote Collaboration Among Applicants:** The committee discussed the role of collaboration between applicants, stating that they would like to see more in future years and allowing some organizations to do more with less.

6. **Adjusting the schedule:** The Committee discussed adjusting the schedule to start the application process earlier to give organizations more time to flush out their applications and promote collaboration on projects.

Council Action – 10 June 2026

The Common Council will Consider the Resolution approving recommendations and taking related actions regarding the program

Technical Assistance Meeting for Grantees – TBD

The HAND department will schedule a Technical Assistance meeting to inform funded agencies how to obtain reimbursements under the grant.

[Signature page follows]

The 2026 Report of the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee is signed by the following majority of its membership:

Council Members:

Courtney Daily, Chair
Council Member, District 5

Date:_____

Isak Nti Asare
Council Member, At-Large

Date:_____

Dave Rollo
Council Member, District 4

Date:_____

Andy Ruff
Council Member, At-Large

Date:_____

Residents with Experience in Social Services:

Camryn Greer

Date:_____

Katherine Ntiamoah

Date:_____

Eddy Riou

Date:_____



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 17, 2026

For more information, please contact:

Lisa Lehner, Office of the Common Council
812-349-3409 or council@bloomington.in.gov

Applications Open for Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding for Bloomington Agencies

Bloomington, Ind. – The City of Bloomington Common Council’s Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee is now accepting applications for the 2026 funding cycle. This year, the Committee will distribute \$500,000 to support local agencies addressing urgent social service needs in the community.

[Applications are available](#) on the Jack Hopkins Committee webpage. The application deadline is Tuesday, March 10, 2026, by 4 p.m.

The Jack Hopkins Social Services Fund, established in 1993, has allocated nearly \$7 million to organizations providing essential services to Bloomington residents. The program reflects the Council’s long-standing commitment to ensure that funding reaches the people and organizations directly meeting the city’s most pressing needs.

“For more than thirty years, the Jack Hopkins Fund has stood as a powerful example of Bloomington’s commitment to meeting the needs of our most vulnerable residents through thoughtful, community-centered investment,” said Committee Chair Councilmember Courtney Daily. “Since its founding in 1993, this program has directed nearly \$7 million to local agencies that provide essential services and create meaningful opportunities for our neighbors in need. This year’s funding cycle reflects both our respect for that legacy and our vision for the future, as we work to support established partners while also welcoming newer organizations and innovative initiatives. By helping emerging agencies get off the ground and encouraging new approaches to longstanding challenges, we are strengthening the entire social services network in our community. We encourage eligible organizations to apply and take advantage of this opportunity to expand their impact and help build a stronger, more resilient Bloomington.”

Katherine Ntiamoah, one of the three resident appointments to the committee, added “As a new member of the Jack Hopkins Committee, I see this fund as a strategic tool for strengthening Bloomington’s civic infrastructure. When we invest in innovative new and established organizations and innovative approaches, we are not only addressing immediate needs, we are

building long-term resilience. I'm particularly focused on ensuring that all nonprofits have equitable access to resources so they can scale their impact and deliver measurable results for the communities they serve. Strong communities do not happen by accident. They are built through intentional investment, clear accountability, and sustained partnership. Our responsibility is not just to fund programs, but to help shape a durable ecosystem that can meet Bloomington's evolving needs."

Eligibility and Funding Criteria

Nonprofit organizations serving Bloomington residents may apply for funding. To be considered, proposals must:

- Address an Identified Community Need – The proposal should align with established social service priorities for the City of Bloomington.
- Provide Long-Lasting Community Benefits – Proposals should focus on sustainable, impactful solutions rather than short-term assistance.
- Leverage Matching Funds or Other Fiscal Support – Agencies are encouraged to demonstrate financial leveraging through matching funds, partnerships, or in-kind contributions.

For a full list of funding criteria, agencies are encouraged to review the [2026 Program Eligibility Guidelines and Instructions](#).

Important Dates:

Technical Assistance Meeting for Applicants: Thursday, February 26th, 2026 at 3 p.m.

Application Deadline: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 4 p.m.

Agency Presentations (if requested by the Committee): Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Committee Recommendations for Funding: Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Common Council Approval of Funding: Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

###

City of Bloomington Common Council

Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee

2026 Program Eligibility Guidelines and Instructions

The City of Bloomington Common Council's Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee invites Bloomington area social service agencies to apply for 2026 grant funding to support critical services for Bloomington residents. This year, the Committee has \$500,000 available to distribute. Since its founding in 1993, the Jack Hopkins Fund has awarded nearly \$7 million to social service agencies working to improve the lives of our community's most vulnerable residents.

Please review the information below to ensure your project aligns with our funding priorities and guidelines.

Applications will be accepted until 4:00 Eastern Standard Time on ____, _____, 2026. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

NEW in 2026

Program Funding Conditions

On January 7, 2026, the Bloomington Common Council [adopted a resolution](#) to update the Jack Hopkins program funding conditions. The resolution states:

The Committee shall prioritize funding for programs and projects that serve City of Bloomington residents and are delivered within the city limits. Programs or services delivered outside the city limits may also be considered when the Committee finds that they provide a direct, measurable, and substantial benefit to City residents. Capital improvements however, may only be funded when the real property to be improved is located within the city limits of Bloomington.

In previous years, projects involving capital improvements to real property locations outside of city limits were given low priority. This year, those projects will not be funded.

New Online Application Process

This year's application will be completed online using CiviForm, which is a platform that allows application materials to be accessible. Furthermore, we have streamlined the application process to eliminate submission of documentation, such as IRS determination letters and financial statements, which may be challenging to make accessible.

Posted: January 23, 2026

Project Focus

Your project should address an identified priority for social services funds, as indicated in the City of Bloomington Housing and Neighborhood Development Department's [Consolidated Plan](#), the City of Bloomington's [Homelessness Response & Housing Investment Report](#), or other recent and relevant community-wide surveys or assessments of social service needs.

This investment in the program should lead to broad and long lasting benefits to the community. In the words of Jack Hopkins, "priority should be given to projects or programs where investments now will have a positive, long-term spillover-effects (such as reduced susceptibility to...diseases, decreased absences from school, reducing lost time (from work) ... etc.)"

Eligibility and Conditions

- This grant is restricted to organizations that are classified as Section 501(c)(3) under the Internal Revenue Code. This policy is intended to assure that grant funds go to organizations with boards that are legally accountable for implementing the funding agreements and with the capability of raising matching funds which is an indicator of the long-term viability of the agency. Given its mission, the presence of a board, and its general viability, an exception has historically been made for the Bloomington Housing Authority.
- Each agency can submit one application, except for collaborative projects, which allow for an additional application.
- The minimum funding request is \$1,000.
- The funding request should be proportional to the number of clients served by the project.
- Funding will not be approved for capital improvements to properties outside Bloomington city limits.
- Jack Hopkins funds may never be used for inherently religious activity. Any religious activity must be separate in time or place from Hopkins-funded activity. Religious instruction cannot be a condition for the receipt of services. Any Hopkins program must be open to all without a faith test.
- Agencies must enter into a funding agreement with the City of Bloomington, with funds provided on a reimbursement basis.

- Grant funds must be expended and verified by December of the award year, unless an extension is granted.
- Any agency receiving Jack Hopkins funds must participate in the federal E-Verify program and must comply with Bloomington's Living Wage Ordinance, if applicable.

Priorities

The Common Council prioritizes the following types of projects for funding:

- Projects that provide food, housing, healthcare, or other services to City of Bloomington residents.
- Projects primarily serving low-income populations.
- Projects primarily providing emergency services (e.g. food, housing, and mental and physical medical services).
- Projects providing services to historically marginalized populations or groups.

Scope of Funding

The following requests are in-scope:

One-time investment: Applications requesting funds for projects that address changing circumstances in the community are encouraged. Requests should provide a one-time investment that, through matching funds or other fiscal leveraging, make a significant contribution to the project. Examples include capital improvements, community health initiatives, seed funding for new programs, etc.

Operational expenses: Applications requesting operational expenses will also be considered. These expenses are recurring rather than non-recurring and examples typically include outlays for personnel, rent, utilities, maintenance, supplies, client services, and other ongoing budget items. Agencies seeking funding for operational expenses should be aware that future funding may be unavailable or inadequate to cover their needs and therefore they should not rely solely on Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding for their operational expenses. Any request for operational funding should be accompanied by a well-developed plan for future funding.

Fiscal leveraging: In the words of Jack Hopkins, who originally proposed these criteria, investments "should be leveraged wherever possible by matching funds from other sources." Agencies may demonstrate such leveraging by using matching funds, working in partnership with other agencies, or through other means.

Posted: January 23, 2026

Collaborative projects: The Committee encourages social service agencies to collaborate to address local social service needs. Agencies may submit a collaborative project application in addition to a standard application.

The following requests are out-of-scope:

Paid time off and bonuses: Paid time off and bonuses shall not be considered eligible for Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding.

Funding of events and celebrations: Historically the Council has not funded applications that promote or implement events or celebrations. This policy is based upon the conclusion that these occasions do not engender the broad and long-lasting effects required above.

Applications from city agencies and for profit entities: Over the years the Council has not funded applications submitted by city departments. This is based on the theory that the departments have other, more appropriate avenues for requesting funds and should not compete against other agencies, which do not have the benefit of city resources at their disposal. Except on rare occasions, the Council has not directly or indirectly funded agencies that have the power to levy property taxes or whose primary revenues derive from property taxes.

Expenses incurred prior to the allocation of Jack Hopkins Funds: Expenses incurred prior to the allocation of Jack Hopkins Funds will not be considered. Agencies may only submit claims for expenses incurred after the adoption of the resolution authorizing the grant allocations for that particular funding cycle.

Collaborative Projects

The Committee encourages social service agencies to collaborate in order to solve common problems and better address local social service needs. To serve these ends, the Committee will allow agencies to submit an application for funding as a collaborative project. An agency may submit a collaborative project application in addition to submitting a standard application.

Applicants pursuing such funding should:

- Describe each agency's mission, operations, and services, and how they do or will complement one another.
- Describe the existing relationships between the agencies and how the level of communication and coordination will change as a result of the project.

2026 Jack Hopkins Social Services Grant

Applications are due March 10th at 4:00 p.m. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

How to apply

501(c)(3) tax exempt: Social services agencies that have 501(c)(3) tax exempt status are invited to apply for a Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Grant. Please read the program eligibility guidelines and instructions before starting this application.

Create an account: While not required, we encourage you to create an account to complete this online application because it will allow you to save your work and edit your application.

Text Responses: You may type responses in a word processing document and then copy the text into the relevant area of the application. The text will copy as plain text with no special formatting or hyperlinks.

In previous applications, we set a word limit for narrative responses. This on-line application sets a character limit that includes punctuation and spaces. Once you have reached the character limit, you will not be able to type additional text.

Questions or Issues : If you have questions or experience any challenges with your application, please reach out to Common Council staff at council@bloomington.in.gov or 812-349-3409.

Applicant

Organization Name: Please provide the full legal name of the entity receiving funding.

Address

Phone Number

Email Address

Link to organization website

President/Chair of Board of Directors

Executive Director

- Phone Number
- Email Address

Grant Writer

- Phone Number
- Email Address

Project Summary

Project Name

Amount Requested (\$1,000 minimum)

Number of Bloomington residents to be served by this project in 2025

Total number of clients to be served by the project in 2025

Project Description (Brief overview, one or two sentences)

Collaborative Project? Yes/No

Needs Addressed by Project (Check all that apply)

- Food
- Shelter
- Health Care
- Youth Services
- Low Income Services
- Elderly Services
- Disability Services
- Other (Please Specify)

Partners: List the name(s) of the agency partner(s)

Agency Information

Mission Statement: 1,000 characters limit (approximately 150 words)

Note to faith-based applicants: If your organization is a faith-based agency, please provide the mission statement of your proposed project, not your agency. Please further note:

- Hopkins funds may never be used for inherently religious activity
- Any religious activity must be separate in time or place from Hopkins-funded activity
- Religious instruction cannot be a condition for the receipt of services
- Any Hopkins program must be open to all without a faith test.

Is your organization a 501(c)(3)? Yes/No

What is the Lead Agency's Employer Identification Number?

What date was the Lead Agency's IRS 503(c)(3) Determination Letter issued?

Does the Lead Agency participate in the E-Verify program? Yes/No

What date did the Lead Agency enroll in the E-Verify program?

Number of full-time employees of the Lead Agency

Number of part-time employees of the Lead Agency

Number of volunteers of the Lead Agency

Project Information

Project Synopsis: 1,500 characters limit (approximately 200 words)

Describe the project to be funded. Begin your synopsis with the amount you are requesting and a concrete description of your proposed project.

Example - "We are requesting \$7,000 for an energy-efficient freezer to expand our emergency food service program."

Address where the project will be located if different from agency address

Type of Project: Check all that apply

- Capital
- Operational

Does your project involve a capital improvement? Yes/No

Types of capital improvements include:

- acquisition of land
- site improvements
- infrastructure improvements
- construction of buildings or structures
- rehabilitation, renovation, or enlargement of buildings or structures
- acquisition or improvement of fixed machinery, equipment, furnishings, or facilities

Capital Improvement

Do you own the property at which the project is to take place? Yes/No

If you are seeking funds for capital improvements to real estate and if you do not own the property at which the project will take place, please explain your long-term interest in the property.

For example, how long has the project been housed at the site? Do you have a contract/option to purchase? If you rent, how long have you rented this property and what is the length of the lease?

Is the property zoned for your intended use? Yes/No

If no, please explain.

If permits, variances, or other forms of approval are required for your project, please indicate whether the approval has been received. If it has not been received, please indicate the entity from which the permitting or approval is sought and the length of time it takes to secure the permit or approval.

Note: Funds will not be disbursed until all requisite variances or approvals are obtained.

Operational Project

What is the nature of the operational request?

- Pilot
- Bridge
- Collaborative
- None of the above. If none of the above, please explain.

What is your plan for future funding?

Collaborative Projects

Provide a description of how project responsibilities will be allocated among the participating agencies.

Describe how funding the project will be allocated between the participating agencies.

How do your missions, operations and services complement each other?

What is the existing relationship between the agencies?

How will communication and coordination change as a result of the project?

Explain any challenges and steps you plan to take to address those challenges.

Project Budget

Please use the Jack Hopkins 2026 Application Spreadsheets:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mMxsWw3ePTMSMUEx0DKZzVKMn6f8IH0zahyhSLq_IQw/edit?usp=sharing) to complete your Project Budget, Ranked Funding Priorities, and Cost Estimates.

There are three tabs, one for each table:

- **Project Budget:** Include an accounting of each source of project funds well as each project expense. Each source and expense should be described. Add rows as needed for completeness.
- **Ranked Funding Priorities:** Rank each project each according to your priority for funding. This priority ranking will be used by the Committee should it be unable to meet your full funding request.
- **Cost Estimates:** For each capital project expense (whether a capital improvement or otherwise), provide at least one estimate you have received. The Committee encourages applicants to seek more than one estimate and to seek estimates from local businesses.

Once you have completed the tables, use the "Share" button in the top right part of the screen, make sure the General Access is set to "Anyone with the link," and copy the link. Then paste the link into the field below.

Other Funds: Describe the source of other project funds (grants and other sources), including whether they are confirmed or pending, and if pending, when you anticipate funding will be received.

Describe when you plan to submit your claims for reimbursement and what steps precede a complete draw down of funds.

Partial Funding: If the Committee is unable to meet your full request, will you be able to proceed with partial funding? Yes/No

Funding Criteria

Need: 1,500 characters limit (approximately 200 words)

Explain how your project addresses a previously-identified priority for social services funding as documented in Bloomington Housing and Neighborhood Development

Department's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan or 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, or any other community-wide survey of social service needs.

One-Time Investment: 750 characters limit (approximately 100 words)

Jack Hopkins Funds are intended to be a one-time investment. Explain how your project fits this criterion. If you are requesting operational funds (e.g., salaries, rent, vouchers, etc), you must detail your plan for future funding.

Long-Term Benefits: 1,500 characters limit (approximately 200 words)

How will your project have broad and long-lasting benefits for our community?

Outcome Indicators: 750 characters limit (approximately 100 words)

Describe the outcome indicators to be used to measure the success of your project. The ultimate outcome of a project (e.g., reduced hunger, homelessness or addiction rates) is often not readily observable within the Jack Hopkins funding period. For that reason, we are asking agencies to provide us with outcome indicators. In contrast to program activities (what you bought or did with grant funds) and the long-term impacts of a program (the lasting social change effected by your initiative), the data we seek are the short-term, preferably quantitative indicators used to measure the change your program has created during the period of your funding agreement. Example: an agency providing a service might cite to the number of persons with new or improved access to a service.

Other Comments: 3,500 characters limit (approximately 500 words)

Use this space to provide other information you think the Committee would find useful. Any additional comments should supplement, not restate, information provided in the foregoing.

Confirmation, Certification and Submission

Application Signature

I understand that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I consent to the disclosure of such information for purposes of verification related to this application. I understand that any willful misstatement of material fact will be grounds for disqualification.



**City of Bloomington
Common Council**

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Common Council
From: CM Asare
Date: June 8, 2026
Re: Resolution 2026-12 Establishing Rules, Procedures, and Public-Interest Guidelines for City-Influenced Alcoholic Beverage Permits

Synopsis

Resolution 2026-12 establishes a general framework for how the City of Bloomington may interact with the alcoholic beverage permitting process where the City has a role under Indiana law. It is intended to provide clear local guidance before the City establishes any eligible district authorized by Indiana Code, such as a municipal riverfront development project, and before the issuance of new permits authorized for Bloomington under Ind. Code § 7.1-3-20-16.8(q).

Background

Indiana regulates alcoholic beverage permits through the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission. Under the state's ordinary quota system, the number of available permits is tied to population. For some communities, including Bloomington, that population-based system does not fully reflect local demand, especially where the local market is affected by visitors, tourism, downtown activity, and Indiana University.

As a result, three-way permits can become scarce and expensive private-market assets. Recent reporting on Bloomington's liquor-license market noted a median transfer price of \$235,000 for Bloomington three-way permits, with the highest listed transfer at \$305,000. By contrast, the two new Bloomington permits authorized by SEA 89 would have an initial cost of \$40,000.

Indiana law also contains several mechanisms for permits outside ordinary quota limits or tied to specific districts. These include municipal riverfront development project permits under Indiana Code § 7.1-3-20-16(d) and § 7.1-3-20-16.1, historic district or other qualifying permits under Indiana Code § 7.1-3-20-16, and two previously mentioned new Bloomington permits authorized under Indiana Code § 7.1-3-20-16.8(q).

Resolution 2026-12 is being introduced in this context. The immediate trigger is the state's authorization of two additional three-way permits for Bloomington. But the resolution is broader than those two permits. It also establishes a framework that would apply to possible future historic-district permits, municipal riverfront permits, or other permits where Indiana law gives the City a role, should the city decide to establish such districts.

Why the Resolution Is Being Brought Forward

The resolution is being brought forward to provide public guardrails for future City-influenced alcoholic beverage permits. This is especially important before the City considers or establishes any future district, such as a municipal riverfront development project.

The goal is to avoid confusion between district creation and permit approval. Establishing an eligible district would create a legal framework for possible permit applications, but it would not automatically approve any permit, applicant, location, business model, chain establishment, bar, tavern, or late-night alcohol-focused use.

The resolution also responds to common public concerns about special alcohol permits, including concerns about speculative permits, loss of local input, concentration of bars, student-oriented late-night uses, and permits going to businesses that do not advance local economic development goals.

Main Provisions

Because alcoholic beverage permits are issued by the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the resolution does not issue permits or determine final permit approvals. Instead, it establishes guidance for how the City may interact with the state permitting process where Indiana Code gives the City a role, such as through recommendations, support, written agreements, formal written commitments, public input, compliance monitoring, or objections to renewal or transfer. The resolution makes clear that establishing an eligible district does not, by itself, approve any applicant or permit. It suggests that, when the City does participate in the process, it should prioritize restaurant-oriented uses, local ownership, independent and locally rooted businesses, district vitality, compatibility with nearby uses, responsible alcohol service, public safety, workforce practices, compliance history, and consistency with adopted City plans or permit-cycle preferences. It also allows for a low-burden administrative framework to be created by ESD so that the process remains accessible while preserving public-interest guardrails.

What the Resolution Does Not Do

Resolution 2026-12 does not establish a municipal riverfront development project.

It does not create an eligible district.

It does not issue an alcoholic beverage permit.

It does not approve any specific applicant, business, location, or permit.

It does not replace the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission's authority over permit issuance, renewal, transfer, suspension, or revocation.

It does not require Council to support every available permit, or any permit at all.

It does not guarantee that any applicant will receive City support, a Council recommendation, a written agreement, or a permit.

Policy Effect

The practical effect of Resolution 2026-12 is to create a predictable local framework before individual permit decisions arise. It gives applicants clearer expectations, gives the public a defined process for input, and gives Council a policy basis for deciding whether to support, condition, object to, or monitor City-influenced alcoholic beverage permits.

The resolution also makes clear that special district permits are intended to serve public economic development purposes. They are not automatic entitlements, and the creation of an eligible district should not be understood as approval of any particular permit or business model.

Fiscal Impact

This legislation is not expected to have a major impact on existing City finances including, but not limited to, revenues, expenditures, and any new debt obligations.