City of Bloomington, Indiana Common Council

Departmental Budget Hearings Night 1

Monday, August 17, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.
Council Chambers (Room 115), City Hall
401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, IN 47404

The meeting may also be accessed remotely via Zoom.[1]

1. **Opening Remarks from the Office of the Mayor**

2. **Remarks from City Controller Geoff McKim**

3. **Departmental Budget Presentations**

4. **Fire Department**

5. **Police Department & Dispatch**

6. **Community and Family Resources (CFRD)**

7. **Housing and Neighborhood Development (HAND)**

8. **Adjournment**

Bloomington City Council meetings can be watched on the following websites:
- Community Action Television Services (CATS)[2]
- City's YouTube Channel[3]

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

The City is committed to providing equal access to information. If you encounter difficulties accessing material in this packet, please contact the Bloomington Common Council Office at council@bloomington.in.gov or 812-349-3409 and provide your name, contact information, and a link to or description of the document or web page with which you are having problems.

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[1] https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/81796460903?pwd=vZ6b5z5quEa40UHYvLlzD1UNpuEe8j.1 Meeting ID: 817 9646 0903 Passcode: 144631
[2] https://catstv.net/
[3] https://www.youtube.com/@citybloomington
[4] https://bloomington.in.gov/council/meetings/2026

CITY OF
BLOOMINGTON

2027 BUDGET HEARINGS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OVERVIEW

Kerry Thomson, Mayor

AUGUST 17, 2026

THE VISION

- Building a safe, well-maintained city where all can find:
  - A place to call home
  - A good-paying job
  - A community of belonging
- Making fiscal choices that unlock potential
- Making promises we can keep, and keeping our promises

BUDGET FOCUS

- Delivering high-quality, core municipal services
- Protecting and maintaining assets: infrastructure, equipment, technology, people
- Addressing critical, root-cause issues first: housing, homelessness, wage growth, and public safety
- Weighing opportunity costs and prioritizing bad-to-good fixes first

OUTCOMES-BASED BUDGETING UPDATE

- Critical technology gap
- Shared priorities:
    - Asset maintenance & enhancement
    - Homelessness solutions & mitigations
    - Transportation / Safe Streets for All
    - Housing
    - Economic development
    - Climate
    - Public safety, including alternative response

CONCLUSION

Despite funding challenges, we can and will continue advancing our shared goals for Bloomington—

by focusing on core services, visible progress, and partnership.

Thank you for your consideration!

CITY OF
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2027 BUDGET HEARINGS

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER OVERVIEW

Geoff McKim, Controller

AUGUST 17, 2026

OVERVIEW: FY2027 AT A GLANCE

- Balanced operational approach despite significant revenue pressures
- No new City programs or net new FTEs
- Continued investment in employee retention
- Strategic investment in maintaining and enhancing assets through GO bonds
- Strong reserve levels

GENERAL FUND SNAPSHOT

- Budgeted (planned) deficit of $5.5M
- Lean budget - no FTE or programmatic increases
- Movement of some expenses from General to ED-LIT
- Existing reserves cover any timing differences
- Revenue estimates continue to be refined

General Fund	2024 Adopted	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed
Revenue	$51,089,649	$62,425,712	$58,052,011	$59,355,403	$55,627,363	$58,254,230
Expense	$66,511,568	$57,437,987	$70,178,488	$69,840,242	$65,108,729	$63,728,260
TOTAL	**-$15,421,919**	**$4,987,725**	**-$12,126,477**	**-$10,484,839**	**-$9,481,366**	**-$5,474,030**

ED-LIT Fund	2024 Adopted	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2027 Proposed
Revenue	$16,587,406	$16,587,406	$17,234,163	$19,060,778	$18,204,514	$21,639,111
Expense			$16,304,177	$13,938,491	$18,612,885	$20,957,592
TOTAL	**$16,587,406**	**$16,587,406**	**$929,986**	**$5,122,287**	**-$408,371**	**$681,519**

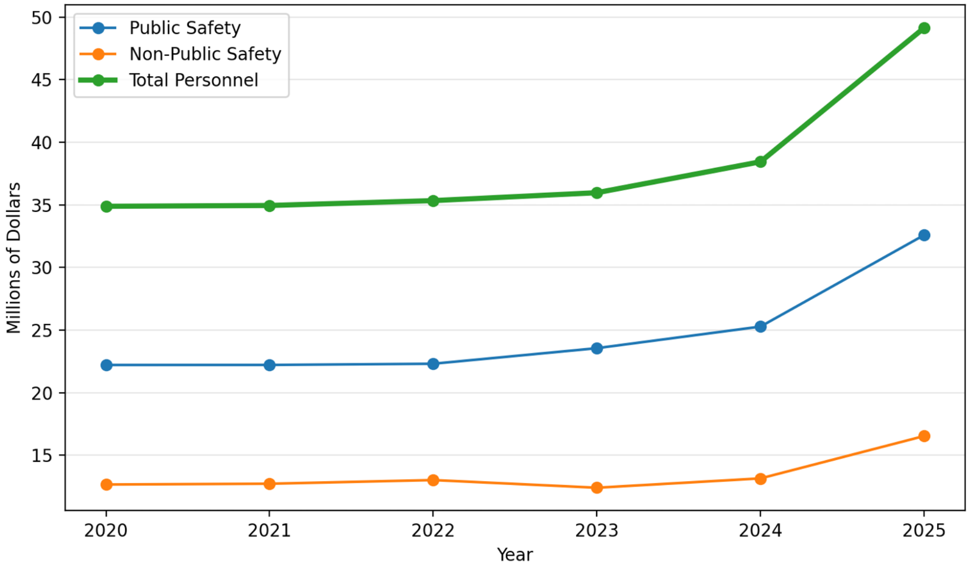
General Fund and ED-LIT 2024-2027 Budgets

WHAT'S NEW IN 2027

- 2.7% COLA (non-union), 3% COLA (union)
- Higher police/fire pension, insurance
- Large expenses (fleet maintenance, municipal election costs)
- Capital projects shifted to bond financing
- Shifting some expenses from General to ED-LIT
- Revenue Issues: Property Tax / SEA 1, Income Tax, Investments

PERSONNEL REMAINS LARGEST DRIVER

- Salary study implemented
- Continued investment needed for retention
- Personnel drives most annual expenditure growth



General Fund Personnel Expenditures 2020-2025

STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION

- Estimated Year-End Reserves
  - General Fund: $48.2M
  - Total Operating Reserves: $67.3M

- Reserves provide:
  - Cash flow before property tax collections
  - Emergency flexibility
  - Bond rating support
  - Stability during revenue uncertainty

LOOKING AHEAD

- SEA 1
  - Decreasing net assessed value (particularly 2% deductions)
  - GO bond restrictions
  - Growing circuit breaker impacts

- Local Income Tax (LIT)
  - Major restructuring beginning in 2029
  - Current legislation makes the county the primary decider
  - Time to prepare, but planning now

MAINTAINING OUR ASSETS: CAPITAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY

- 6-Year GO Bonds: Parks and City
  - Predictable capital investment
  - Ongoing capital improvement planning
- City Projects
  - Fire aerial platform replacement, engineering pedestrian and traffic safety improvements
- Parks
  - Aquatics repair and renovation, sports facility investments, facility and safety systems investments

BUDGET PRIORITIES

- Maintaining City services
- Maintaining and enhancing assets and infrastructure
- Retaining employees
- Preserving financial stability
- Preparing for future revenue changes

Thank you for your consideration!

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2027 BUDGET HEARINGS

BLOOMINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Roger Kerr, Chief

AUGUST 17, 2026

Bloomington Fire Department Personnel

OVERVIEW

- 120 FT staff and 1 permanent PT
- Budget change from 2026: + $634,041
- Key budget needs and issues for 2027:
    - Replace our self-contained breathing apparatus.
    - Replace 100’ aerial platform truck.

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- Completion of Operations Center September 2026
- E-2 delivered in January 2026
- E-7 delivered in March 2026 (ordered in 2023)
- 72 radios
- 2026 Fire / EMS calls = 3144
    - MIH contacts = 91
    - Inspections = 420

Logistics / Training building

BFD Engine 2

BFD Engine 7

2027 PRIORITY

- Self-contained breathing apparatus
- $1,000,000
- Lifetime warranty

2027 PRIORITY

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus

2027 PRIORITY

- 100’ aerial platform
- $2,542,00
- Possible bond

2027 PRIORITY

100' Mid Mount platform

100' Rear Mount

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KEY 2027 PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

- Operations (911 calls)
- Mobile Integrated Health (quality of life care)
- Inspections / investigations
- Community outreach

CONCLUSION

- Maintain level of service
- Maintenance replacement cycle

Thank you for your consideration!

CITY OF
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2027 BUDGET HEARINGS

BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Michael Diekhoff, Chief

AUGUST 17, 2026

Bloomington Police Patrol Vehicle

BLOOMINGTON POLICE OVERVIEW

- 105 sworn officers and 81 non-sworn employees
- Budget change from 2026: Increase of $2,493,298
- Key budget needs and issues for 2027:
  - Alternative response
  - Continuing equipment replacement cycle and upkeep of capital assets
  - New Police headquarters

BUDGET OVERVIEW

- Category 1: Increases $1,658,148 due to changes in the Collective Bargaining Agreement as well as COLA increases for non-sworn personnel

- Category 2: Increases $178,957 due to fuel costs and inflationary price increases

BUDGET OVERVIEW

- Category 3: Increases $770,362 due to a change where insurance is now paid from Police line rather than Risk Management
- Category 4: Decreases $114,169 due to the completion of a facility maintenance project at the Public Safety Training Complex

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

Decreased Overall Crime Rate

- **Property crime decreased 19.3%**
- **Larceny decreased 21.9%**
- **Vandalism decreased 11.1%**

- **Overall crime rate**
  Down 6.4% from 2024

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2026 HIGHLIGHTS

Decreased Vehicle Accidents

- Personal injury crashes decreased 16%

- Property damage crashes decreased 4%

- Overall vehicle accidents decreased by 6.99%

2027 PRIORITIES & GOALS

- Continued alternative response partnerships
- Design and begin building new Police headquarters
- Enhanced traffic safety and violent crime reduction initiatives

Alternative Response

- Downtown Resource Officers, Police social workers and allied social service providers continue to provide a nontraditional response to certain quality-of-life concerns with a focus on treatment rather than incarceration.

Downtown Resource Officer and Police Social Worker respond to a call for service

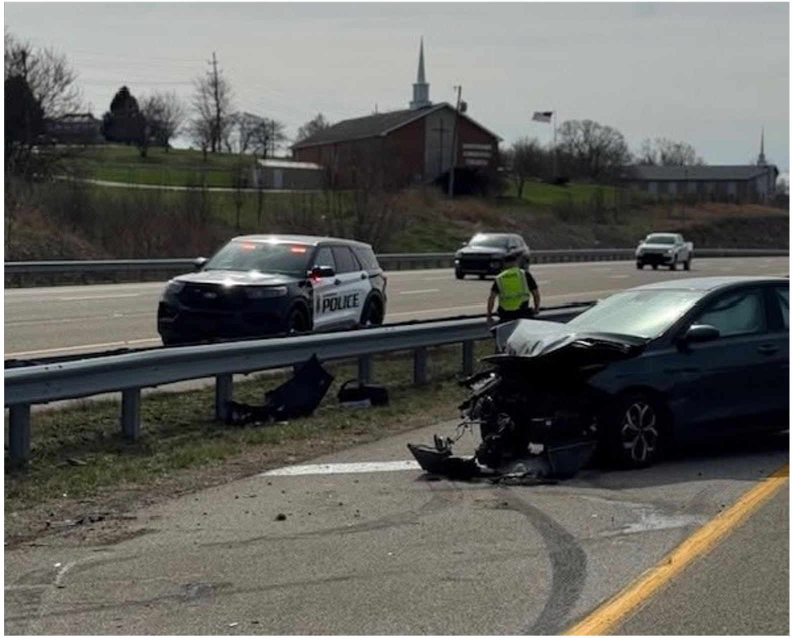
New Police Headquarters

- The proposed new Police headquarters at 714 South Rogers is a major goal for 2027. This facility, once constructed, will provide a reliable facility for decades to come.

714 South Rogers: The Proposed New Bloomington Police Department Headquarters

Enhanced Traffic Safety Initiative

- This initiative will prioritize traffic enforcement efforts at high-accident intersections and roadways with the goal of decreasing the instances of traffic collisions.



Bloomington Police Respond to Traffic Accident

Violent Crime Reduction Initiative

- This initiative will prioritize high–violent crime areas for increased officer presence, with the goal of reducing the instances of violent crime, including those committed with a weapon.

Bloomington Police Officers Investigate a Shooting Scene

2027 CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

- Overall call volume continues to rise: 80,450 calls for service (2025), a 5.9% increase from 2024. **Call volume has increased by 48.8% since 2020.**
- Funding has fallen short in some areas, requiring deferment of some equipment replacement, which will increase costs and availability in the future.
- As staffing levels continue to increase, we will be able to enhance the staffing of both the Downtown Resource Officers and the Detective Division.

CONCLUSION

Thank you for your consideration!

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2027 BUDGET HEARINGS

COMMUNITY & FAMILY RESOURCES

Shatoyia Moss, Director

AUGUST 17, 2026

OVERVIEW

- 11 FT staff
- Budget change from 2026: ($225,337) or -10%
- Key budget needs and issues for 2027:
    - Local demand for assistance
    - Changing federal and state funding

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

Resources: Meeting Basic Needs

- Food access investment: $46,000
- Supported 330,000 pounds of food
- 275,000 meals
- 84 partner agencies

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

Partnerships: Leveraging Community Power

- 51,546 volunteer hours
- ≈ $1.75 Million Community Value
- New partnership: Indiana University Volunteer Central

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

Belonging: Bringing Bloomington Together

- 11,000+ attendees at the 2026 Juneteenth Celebration, a record-setting community event
- 40+ community vendors
- Expanded partnerships with:
  - Indiana University
  - Local businesses
  - Community organizations

2027 PRIORITIES & GOALS

Resources: Expanding Access Before Crisis

- After-Hours Ambassador Program
  - Launch de-escalation training opportunities for community members.
  - Expand community-based response capacity.
- Helping Bloomington Monroe
  - Expand resource kiosk access to two additional library locations.
  - Increase resident access to service information.

2027 PRIORITIES & GOALS

Partnerships: Building Community Capacity

- Bloomington Volunteer Network Modernization
  - Begin transition planning for updated platform.
  - Improve volunteer matching and reporting.
  - Better support nonprofits and community organizations.
- Continue:
  - Community grants
  - Advisory commissions
  - Nonprofit partnerships

2027 PRIORITIES & GOALS

Belonging: Creating Connected Communities

- Prioritize quality over quantity by strengthening successful programs.
- Expand collaboration with Parks & Recreation to maximize shared spaces, staff expertise, and resources.
- Build on proven success:
    - Heritage & cultural celebrations
    - Accessibility & inclusion events

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

- Challenges
  - Federal SNAP reductions
  - Changing federal and state funding
  - Increasing need with limited local resources
- Opportunities
  - Technology improvements
  - Local collaboration
  - Grant funding
  - Volunteer engagement
  - Shared City resources

CONCLUSION

We will continue to strengthen our three strategic pillars:

- Resources: Connecting residents to critical services before challenges become crises
- Partnerships: Leveraging community collaboration to maximize every public dollar
- Belonging: Creating welcoming opportunities that strengthen community connection and civic engagement

Thank you for your consideration!

CITY OF
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2027 BUDGET HEARINGS

HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Anna Killion-Hanson, Director

AUGUST 17, 2026

OVERVIEW

- 21 FT staff and 1 permanent PT
- Budget change from 2026: +$1,748,038
- Mission:
  - Expanding housing opportunities
  - Protecting & supporting neighborhoods
  - Helping residents remain safely housed
  - Building community
  - Supporting community needs

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- 1631 citations for trash, grass, weeds, snow (Title 6 BMC)
- 9 continuous abatements for troubled properties (Title 6 BMC)
- 20+ unsafe properties addressed (Title 17 BMC)

Abatement occurs after multiple warnings

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 neighborhood clean-ups
  - Removed 27.9 tons of trash
  - Diverted 10.38 tons from landfill
- Supportive grants to 8 neighborhoods

Staff and neighbors gathered for a clean-up

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- 550 complaint inspections
- 2,984 rental inspections
- 1107 rental permits issued

HAND intervenes to keep rentals safe

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- 37 community trailer events
- 45 Residents Academy applicants
- Vinegar Hill walking tour

Community engagement with historic neighborhoods

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- Housing stability assistance to 25 at-risk households
- Eviction prevention assistance to 31 households
- Provided 2 emergency home repairs, with 9 applications underway

Supporting people at risk of losing housing

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- Helped 19 homebuyers secure housing
- Helped 40 renters secure housing
- Provided housing counseling to over 100
- Homebuyer education to 78 first time homebuyers

Housing is economic development

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- Provided social service funding & facility improvement support to homeless shelters
- Provided social service funding to food banks
- Supported early learning & childcare center facilities
- Supported facilities serving mental health, special needs housing and self sufficiency

Partnering to meet community needs

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- Preserved 48 affordable housing units
- Supported the creation of 10 affordable cooperative housing units
- Funding support of Habitat for Humanity builds

Habitat neighborhood

2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- Helped advance Hopewell's first residential neighborhood, which will create 98 homes
- Supported the creation of Bloomington's first Residential TIF
- Helped remove barriers to unit creation in the Summit PUD

A vision of housing

2027 PRIORITIES & GOALS

The 2027 budget gives us an opportunity to address Bloomington's complex housing challenges through strategic investments.

- Expand housing supply to improve affordability.
- Prevent and reduce homelessness.
- Invest in neighborhood infrastructure.
- Strengthen Bloomington's long-term economy.

- **Improving affordability at scale requires a market-wide strategy that increases housing supply, not just project-by-project affordability.**

IMPROVE ACCESS TO HOUSING & SUPPLY

- Increase housing supply to expand housing choice to improve affordability.
- Reduce upward pressure on housing costs and help retain Bloomington’s workforce.
- Invest in housing as essential infrastructure for long-term economic growth and community vitality.

- **Homelessness is a problem with no single root cause or universal solution.**

IMPROVE HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE

- Invest in flexible, targeted interventions to address the diverse causes of homelessness.
- Prevent homelessness through eviction prevention, housing stabilization, rehabilitation, and landlord partnerships.
- Support rapid transitions to housing by funding nimble, community-responsive solutions.

REPAIR SIDEWALKS

- **Leverage existing resources to partner with HAND to establish a CDBG-funded Sidewalk Repair Program.**

- Invest in safer, more accessible neighborhoods through targeted sidewalk repairs.
- Use federal CDBG funds to improve infrastructure in low- and moderate-income areas.
- Strengthen neighborhood infrastructure and quality of life.

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

- Housing projects increasingly have significant funding gaps to move from concept to construction as rising costs outpace what the market can support.
- 21st Century Rd to Housing bill may help eliminate regulatory barriers and incentivize housing production.
- SEA 1 has increased pressure to address workforce displacement.

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

- The most recent Point-in-time count shows 305 individuals in Monroe County are experiencing homelessness with ~160 unsheltered.
- SB 285 increases the pressure to find more solutions.
- Changes to federal funding shift model away from “housing first” prioritizing transitional, mandatory recovery & treatment services.
- ARPA funding support ends December 31, 2026.

CONCLUSION

- HAND’s 2027 budget is focused on solving Bloomington’s most pressing housing challenges.
- Strategic investments in housing, homelessness response, and neighborhood infrastructure strengthen Bloomington’s economy, quality of life, and long-term fiscal sustainability.
- Together, these investments help ensure Bloomington remains a community where residents can live, work, and thrive.

Thank you for your consideration!