

AGENDA
COMMON COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
7:30 PM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1989
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

I. ROLL CALL

II. AGENDA SUMMATION

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 21, 1989

VI. REPORTS FROM:

1. Councilmembers
2. The Mayor and City Offices
3. Council Committees

V. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

VI. LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING AND RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution 89-22 To Approve Application of the Federal Section 8 Housing Provisions to the Bloomington Housing Authority.

No Committee Recommendation

2. Ordinance 89-21 To Amend Title 2 Entitled "Administration and Personnel" of the Bloomington Municipal Code.

No Committee Recommendation

3. Ordinance 89-22 An Ordinance Creating A Bloomington Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Commission.

No Committee Recommendation

4. Resolution 89-23 To Express Common Council Support for a Proposal Currently Before the Monroe County Board of Health to Enact More Stringent Regulations for Septic Systems in the Watersheds of Lakes Monroe, Griffy and Lemon.

No Committee Recommendation

VII. LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

1. Ordinance 89-23 To Amend Title 20 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled "Zoning."
2. Ordinance 89-24 To Fix the Salaries of all Elected City Officials.
3. Ordinance 89-25 Salary Ordinance for Appointed Officers and Employees.
4. Ordinance 89-26 An Ordinance Fixing the Salaries of Utilities Employees of the City of Bloomington, Indiana for the Year 1990.
5. Ordinance 89-27 Salary Ordinance for Police and Fire Officers.
6. Ordinance 89-28 An Ordinance Reviewing and Modifying the Budget of the Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation.
7. Appropriation Ordinance 89-3 An Ordinance Establishing the 1990 Civil City Budget.
8. Appropriation Ordinance 89-4 An Ordinance Establishing the 1990 Utilities Department Budget.
9. Ordinance 89-29 To Amend the Zoning Maps from BL to BL/PCD and Grant Outline Plan Approval re: Southwest Corner of Winslow and Henderson (All American Family Storage, Petitioner).

VIII. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (This section of the Agenda will be limited to 45 minutes maximum, with each speaker limited to five (5) minutes.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

In the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building held on Wednesday, July 5, 1989, at 7:30 P.M. with Council President Regester presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
JULY 5, 1989

Roll Call: Kiesling, Hogan, Gardner, Olcott, Regester, Young, Service, White, Fernandez.

ROLL CALL

Regester gave the agenda summation.

AGENDA SUMMATION

The minutes were approved by a voice vote with corrections by Kiesling.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kiesling gave the recycling schedule and showed examples of bio-degradeable plastic bags to be used for recycling and paper made from recycled paper. Solid Waste Management Committee met this week and progress is being made.

MESSAGES FROM
COUNCILMEMBERS

Gardner congratulated the Red Barons, under 14 Soccer League which placed 2nd in State Tournament. They also played in an Indianapolis Tournament and placed 2nd in that as well. On Saturday evening Middle Way will have a free fundraiser at Fountain Square Ballroom. Gardner also commented that she has just returned from Florida, visiting her parents and is always appalled at the traffic congestion and problems in that state and how simple the situation seems here in Bloomington.

Young welcomed everyone attending the International Harp Competition.

Service thanked everyone who participated in the July 4th Parade festivities, wished the folks traveling to Nicaragua well and noted that two of the three groups of high school students scheduled to visit the Soviet Union are back safe and sound.

Regester also thanked everyone involved in the 4th July activities.

Mayor Allison warned everyone that budget time is upon us. (Text attached is original minutes)

MESSAGE FROM THE
MAYOR

Fernandez said that the USB did approve their 1990 Salary and Budget Ordinance and will forward it to the Council.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE
REPORT

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 89-22 be introduced and read by title only. Clerk Williams read the resolution.

LEGISLATION FOR
SECOND READING/VOTE

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 89-22 be adopted.

RES. 89-22
TO APPROVE SECTION 8
HOUSING

Gene Stokes said that in 1984 we were selected as one of the 78 communities in the nation to have the Self-Sufficiency Program. This resolution allows us to continue the program, and Housing Authority will use the federal resources to continue the program which provides social services as well as housing. The community along with private individuals in the community formed a task force to work with low income people to counsel for job search, child care. The Mayor chairs the Task Force and takes an active role in the process.

Gardner asked about the wait time. Stokes said it varies according to need (the bedroom size) and is anywhere from 4 months to a year.

Olcott asked how many are on list. Stokes said close to 700; Stokes said that 70 units will be awarded statewide and we are applying for 10. "We thought that a reasonable request," Stokes said.

Kiesling asked how child care fits in with self

sufficiency. Stokes said it's up to the task force to determine. We are given specific units and it's up to the group to find ways of implementing the program.

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Fernandez said it's a good program because it is comprehensive and proactive and allows people to help themselves.

The resolution received a roll call vote of Ayes:9,
Nays:0.

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 89-21 be introduced and read by title only. Clerk Williams read the ordinance.

ORDINANCE 89-21
To AMEND TITLE 2

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 89-21 be adopted.

Linda Runkle said that this ordinance reflects a change in Indiana Code that allows us to now collect fines up to the amount of \$50. Prior code restrictions only allowed collection up to \$25.00. This allows our Ordinance Violations Bureau to receive fines for \$50 or less. Kiesling clarified that fines are not raised to \$50.

Runkle said that under the prior law, \$30 fines required us to file in court and in many cases people were willing to pay but we had to file charges in order to collect and thereby incur court costs.

The ordinance received a roll call vote of Ayes:9,
Nays:0.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 89-22 be introduced and read by title only.

RESOLUTION 89-22
BICYCLE COMMISSION

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 89-22 be adopted.

Hogan read the resolution for the record. He urged the Mayor to strongly consider funding for the Commission to facilitate the programs.

Jawn Bauer outlined the history of the task force and how they have worked together over the last few months.

Gardner asked about the skateboarders and the need for a park for the youth of our community.

Some discussion followed about the student recreation organization and it's proper title. White said he thought the title of the group was Student Recreational Sports Association (a member of which would be included in the membership of the commission). Bauer was not sure if he put IUSA down to be part of the commission or the SRSA. White said the broader scope would be the IUSA.

An amendment proposing the deletion of "recreation" from the resolution, thus reading Indiana University Student Association.(Section 2 part (b))

The amendment received a roll call vote of Ayes:9,
Nays:0.

The resolution, as amended received a roll call vote of Ayes:9, Nays:0.

RESOLUTION 89-23
COUNCIL SUPPORT FOR
WATERSHED REGULATIONS

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 89-23 be introduced and read in its entirety by the Clerk. Clerk Williams read the resolution.

Service said that numerous committees have dealt with this issue and historically we have had a difficult problem with water supply; despite the abundance over the last few years, it's a precarious situation. The more development around the lake, the greater opportunity for water contamination. Since this issue affects us very directly, namely the source of water for the City of Bloomington, the Council should endorse the recommendations of the task force and urge the Board of Health to adopt them.

Kiesling said the the legislature appropriated \$1.5 million for clean lake programs and just recently Lake Shipshawana will cost about \$2.4 million to clean up. If it will cost that much to clean up our water in the future the whole question becomes an economic development issue. It was originally called the Monroe Reservoir and several people have suggested that it be called that again.

Fernandez said that of all the agencies currently involved in Lake Monroe none of them deal with it in terms of water for the City of Bloomington or our customers. The Board of Health does view this as a water source issue.

Gardner also encouraged the Board of Health to look into pesticides and fertilizers that are used around the lake. We should also be sure that our industries comply with waste disposal.

Hogan had a problem with the resolution, he was

supportive of the part where we have to protect the water supply, but the purpose is questionable, it's a ten page document that is restrictive and while the urgency is there, he wanted to know more about it.

Kiesling said that the document is advisory and adjustments may be made, but the resolution states support for the consensus that something must be done to protect the watershed.

The resolution is not limited to the Board doing just what is in the document, but provides the necessary flexibility and our support.

Service said that we are basically asking the Board to enact more stringent actions regarding the watershed.

Kiesling said that the original proposals were county-wide because of ground water as well as watershed protection.

White said he agreed with some of Hogan's concerns, and felt that since he only got this document on Monday and this report has some strong implications for folks who are property owners around the lake and normally we don't act on resolutions without some input from our staff.

Regester asked about SPEA working with utilities about a project and Fernandez said it was more of a qualitative study about water quality.

Hogan wanted to talk with some of the task force people.

Kiesling said that sewage is being dumped in the lake

and that septic systems all over the county are failing and that eventually we are going to have to pay for that in terms of water quality and the basic cost of processing water. Industry will not come in here if the cost of water is prohibitive and we have to do something before, not after the problem is created.

On July 11 the Health Board meeting will decide the extent of the restrictions. We are not expert enough to make that decision. This resolution simply supports the health board.

Service said that is why we are not specifying the length of lines and the degree of slope. We are just saying that we, the elected officials of the City, are urging the Health Board to take seriously the decisions of the Task Force and if people would like to debate the recommendations, then the Health Board meeting is the place to do that.

Hogan said the resolution supports the Task Force document; the whereas's are the problem.

Fred Dunn said he remembered Lake Lemon being built and the droughts we suffered. He has attended the Health Board meetings and the idea is cure versus prevention; the discussion on septic systems would leave no doubt in

your mind of the seriousness of the problem. He said that by saying "no" suggests that water quality is not important. There has been expert testimony that septic systems fail. In the next 30-50 years water will become our most valuable commodity.

Dick Martin said that the USB, this afternoon, said that there was no intention of discontinuing the Griffy Plant and water would continue to be pumped. Martin said that even if you are trying your best to place a septic system, the standards that have been set by the state and county set the level of that acceptability. Stricter standards will mean all of us will pay attention to what is done, and when the septic systems fail we will have an alternative site available. All urban areas must eventually be connected to sewer systems because all septic systems eventually fail. The City Administration is already on record as supporting the efforts of the Health Board and the Task Force took it upon itself to add the other bodies of water to the report. He urged councilmembers to attend and support the Health Board meeting on July 11 and that the Board is attempting to deal with this as a health issue, not land use issue.

Bruce Bundy wondered what questions Hogan had about the Task Force. Hogan said we have a Task Force and Health Board that has spent months studying this and we have this resolution before us with many unanswered questions. Why must a septic line be 300 ft or less. We pump sewage for miles, why not an adjacent septic field. Hogan said he did not have the answers to those questions unless it is to restrict development. After all lift stations break down and we don't shut down the entire system.

Service said the resolution has purposely not addressed specifics such as septic lines but simply expressed concern and support of the Health Board's efforts.

White said that last year we were told that Griffy would close down and this alone is a good reason to consult with our own staff about some of these questions and details.

Regester asked about the 200 ft restriction from the lake margin, and does this have anything to do with the 1000 foot moratorium that came about in March? Dick Martin said no, that is a state standard and there is no recommendation set by the Task Force, depending on soil

analysis. Holding tanks are not allowed and will be banned by the state by the end of the year.

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Fernandez said he endorsed the efforts of the Board of Health and that he supports the document because it is restrictive, it's proactive and protects the lake. The Task Force went to extreme pains to avoid the perception as well as the reality of being an anti-development recommendation, that is why distance is eliminated in the document.

The resolution received a roll call vote of Ayes:7, Nays: 2 (Hogan, Young).

It was moved and seconded that the following ordinances be introduced and read by title only by the Clerk for first reading before the Common Council.

LEGISLATION FOR
FIRST READING

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. <u>Ordinance 89-23</u> To Amend Title 20 of the BMC
Entitled "Zoning." | ORD. 89-23 |
| 2. <u>Ordinance 89-24</u> To Fix the Salaries of all Elected
Officials. | ORD. 89-24 |
| 3. <u>Ordinance 89-25</u> Salary Ordinance for Appointed
Officers and Employees. | ORD. 89-25 |
| 4. <u>Ordinance 89-26</u> An Ordinance Fixing the Salaries of
Utilities Employees of the city of Bloomington, Monroe
County, Indiana for the Year 1990. | ORD. 89-26 |
| 5. <u>Ordinance 89-27</u> Salary Ordinance for Police and
Fire Officers. | ORD. 89-27 |
| 6. <u>Ordinance 89-28</u> An Ordinance Reviewing and
Modifying the Budget of the Bloomington PTC. | ORD. 89-28 |
| 7. <u>Appropriation Ordinance 89-3</u> An Ordinance
Establishing the 1990 Civil City Budget. | APP. ORD. 89-3 |
| 8. <u>Appropriation Ordinance 89-4</u> An Ordinance
Establishing the 1990 Utilities Department Budget. | APP. ORD. 89-4 |
| 9. <u>Ordinance 89-29</u> To Amend the Zoning Maps from BL to
BL/PCD and Grant Outline Plan Approval re: SW corner of
Winslow and Henderson (All American Family Storage). | ORD. 89-29 |

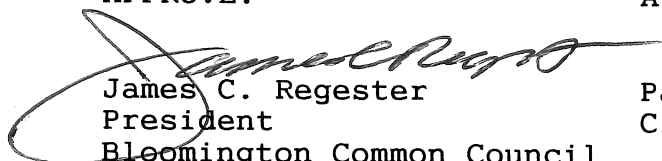
Fernandez requested a change in the Budget Hearing schedule for the Utilities Department and restructuring so that the department shorten and modify their presentation, thereby allowing councilmembers the opportunity to attend the Board of Health meeting. Fernandez said the Utilities Department was willing to reschedule. Olcott and Hogan agreed that a shorter budget presentation was desired.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:


James C. Regester
President
Bloomington Common Council

Patricia Williams, CLERK
City of Bloomington

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS
July 5, 1989

As we submit our first budget of the 1990s it is nice to report that our financial condition is good and improving. It is good, not because we have unlimited resources. To the contrary, it is good because we have wisely managed our severely limited resources. It is good because we have planned ahead and have avoided many of the problems that beset other communities.

We are not suffering from equipment shortages, layoffs, frozen salaries or reduced services--because many years ago we planned ahead. We weathered the storm of the 1980s, the loss of Revenue Sharing and other Federal and State funds.

As we enter the 1990s, we must neither forget the lessons of the '80s nor abandon the fiscal policies that enabled us not only to survive, but to build and progress. We must continue to address both our short-term needs and our long-term problems. And we must continue to hold the line on spending, yet meet the demand for more services and new programs.

It is tempting to leave our perpetual problems to the next generation--such problems as the cost of pensions for police and firefighters. Yet we all know from experience that postponing problems is no solution. Bloomington tomorrow will be better or worse depending on what we do today. We must continue to remind ourselves that the annual budget is not an end in itself but part of a larger, long-term financial plan.

The 1990 proposed budget strikes a balance between short-term and long-term needs. The process was not easy. We had to trim more than \$1 million from initial requests, all of which were worthwhile, well founded, and would have provided valuable

services and programs to the community.

We are recommending a total City budget of \$18,910,400 after excluding internal fund transfers. This is an increase of \$1,217,449 or 6.9% above the 1989 City budget.

We estimate that City Property Taxes, which finance the largest share of the budget - 46%, will increase by no more than 4.1%. Because of reassessment and recent changes in the Property Tax law, we cannot now predict the final tax rates. The State Board of Tax Commissioners will determine those rates later this year.

We have severely limited requests for staffing increases. In most cases where we are recommending a staff increase, we have also identified a new revenue source to finance the increase. The 1990 proposal recommends a total City staffing level of 565 positions. This is an increase of 2 positions, or 0.36% above 1989 staffing levels.

The facts and figures of the budget, however, do not tell the whole story. Included in our proposed budget are several significant program initiatives that address many of our greatest challenges. We have carefully designed and crafted these initiatives to manage the needs of 1990 and of many years to come.

1. Update the City Master Plan

We update our master plan continually. It is time now to integrate the various area plans with the help of consultant services. To buy those services we are budgeting \$40,000 in 1990, and we ask for another \$20,000 for 1989. We propose to finance this initiative through the Westside non-reverting fund.

Through the Bloomington Tomorrow conference we have gathered valuable recommendations from the leadership of the community.

Now we must reach out to all citizens for guidance on the policy framework for our master plan.

Community input is vital to the policy plan framework. The policy plan will guide our continued neighborhood plans. Through the policy plan and traffic forecasts we will update our Year 2000 Staging Program for major street improvements in order to plan for the year 2010.

We propose to develop and install a comprehensive management information system to help our planners do their job. Information is the stock-in-trade of the planning profession. For each planning decision made in our community, we must analyze hundreds of pieces of information about land use patterns, population, traffic, water and sewage. The proposed system will place this information at the fingertips of our planning staff. We also look forward in 1990, to working with Indiana University, Monroe County officials and private utilities to develop plans for a county-wide Geographic Information System. Bloomington Utilities is currently developing the final specifications of the first phase of this planning project, which will involve a comprehensive survey of the needs of each agency. This system will make it easier to plan not only for Bloomington, but all of Monroe County.

2. Develop Police & Fire Pension Trust

One of our most serious long-range problems is the escalating cost of police and fire pensions together with an unfunded pension liability estimated at more than \$29 million. Our recent long-range actuarial analysis reveals a serious problem. Pension costs are projected to increase much faster than revenues. This means that we will be constantly forced to cut other services and programs in order to pay these state

mandated-costs.

Benefit payments under the Pre-1977 plan are projected to double by the year 2001, and triple by 2011. Contributions to the 1977 plan are expected to double by 1995 and triple by 1999. When we compare the costs with the projected state pension relief distributions, we see a gap that local revenues must fill. This year alone the local cost is more than \$800,000. It will double by 1997. Because a funding mechanism was never established for the Pre-1977 Plan, one generation of taxpayers must pay for two generations of service.

The good news is that the gap would be even bigger but for the pension relief approved this year by Governor Bayh and the General Assembly after a concerted lobbying effort by IACT and its legislative committee. We must continue the fight in Indianapolis for a permanent solution, but we must also devise a more effective local funding mechanism.

Our actuaries recommend, and we now propose an "advance funding" plan to smooth pension costs over the next 10 to 20 years. We would establish a pension trust fund and annually deposit monies there for a number of years. The plan would be structured so that our total costs (pre-1977 benefits + 1977 plan contributions + trust fund payments) in any year would not exceed our growth in revenues for that year. In future years, monies would be withdrawn from the trust so that total costs in those years did not exceed our growth in revenue. We propose to finance the programs with CDIT revenues.

3. Initiate Risk Management Program

Risk management has become an increasingly important and costly function of city government. More than \$717,620 of the proposed 1990 budget is earmarked for risk management. As

Insurance costs continue to increase, we must constantly review our options.

Several years ago, we chose to self-insure our unemployment compensation program. More recently, we established a self-funded employee health care program. Both programs have saved thousands of tax dollars.

This year our risk management committee reviewed our workers compensation program. In recent years the costs of this program have skyrocketed, from \$56,406 in 1985 to more than \$255,320 this year, a 352.65% increase. The committee analyzed several years of loss data, evaluated programs in other cities and interviewed risk managers around the country. As a result, we propose to self-insure our workers compensation program. We also propose a separate risk management division within the legal department to administer this program.

First the staff will develop a workers safety and training program, and process workers compensation claims. They will also study and make recommendations for managing and financing other areas of risk.

The proposed risk management budget of \$260,000, which includes administration, equipment and fully-funded claim reserves, will stabilize our worker compensation costs for 1990. Over the next five years, we are projecting a savings of between \$300,000 and \$500,000 by initiating this program.

4. Management Efficiencies

To get more use of our limited resources, we must improve both our workers and their equipment.

We therefore propose greater allocations for education and training. We will continue to work with our excellent local institutions, such as I.U. and Ivy Tech. We also intend to expand

Our in-house training capacity in several areas, such as office automation. In the Fire Department, a new training officer will provide cheaper in-house training on hazardous materials. We propose our most unique training initiative for the Police Department, where we seek to join a nationwide cable TV network that provides continuous law enforcement training programs via satellite.

We are also proposing significant enhancements to our office automation and management information systems. In the past few years, the technology revolution has provided the City with a cost-effective means of providing managers with more control over the automation of their own operations. As we convert from the more costly main-frame computer system to the inexpensive personal computer, we have incorporated networking technologies that provide main-frame benefits at a low cost.

We are taking advantage of the technology revolution by bringing office automation to all of our departments. We have installed a computer network that will allow City staff to type and correct documents with word processing programs, to keep track of records with database programs, to perform complex analysis with spreadsheet programs and to communicate more effectively with electronic mail.

In 1990, major computer systems are proposed for Police, Fire, Engineering and Planning. . Departmental systems are scheduled for Animal Shelter, Controller, Human Resources, Parks and Recreation, Personnel, Redevelopment and Rosehill.

But we must never forget that our most important resource is our fine and dedicated staff, who make all the systems work and who continue to provide more service to the public. In 1989, we inaugurated a new pay plan for many City workers to complement

the pay plans already in place for police and fire personnel. These plans are meant to encourage and reward service to the City. The City plan provides for raises due to longevity or reclassifications; the base salary increases for 1990 will average 4.6%.

5. Financial Support for Bloomington Foundation

Another area of long-range planning for our community is social service programs. As Federal and State monies diminish, local governments must do all they can to encourage private contributions to social services.

To stabilize funding for local projects, we are working with citizens to establish an independent Bloomington Community Foundation. This nonprofit foundation will build an endowment to improve the quality of life in Bloomington and Monroe County. The focus must shift to funding for the future, away from a "pay-as-you-go approach". The planning committee is designing a general purpose foundation to ensure resources for the arts, beautification, and social and health concerns.

We propose to support the foundation with an annual budgeted contribution equal to 15% of cable franchise revenues. It is our sincere hope that other units of government, private groups and individuals will quickly follow our lead. Through the coordinated efforts of government and citizens, the Bloomington Community Foundation can help our community reach its fullest potential.

6. Increase and Stabilize funding for Telecom and Access TV/Radio

We recognize the importance of community access television and radio and the significant role of the Telecommunications Council. We accept their recommendation to commit 75% of franchise revenues to these functions. Bloomington access television has developed a long-range plan to upgrade equipment

and expand programming, but needs stable funding to implement this plan. Our annual budget allocation, in addition to the yearly \$35,000 TCI contributes under the City's franchise agreement, will ensure continued service from community access TV/radio.

7. Basic City Services

With the number of significant new initiatives included in our 1990 budget, it might be easy to overlook our strong commitment to improvement of basic city services. We propose several budget items to improve public safety. As I mentioned earlier, we propose to install a Cable TV training system in the Police Department, to buy six new squad cars, and to develop an expanded management information system. We will continue to work with other law enforcement agencies to design a cost effective, area-wide system and finalize plans for a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system. We will continue to budget for the holiday buy-back plan, under the collective bargaining agreement, which has already resulted in a cost effective increase in staffing levels.

For the Fire Department we propose one additional firefighter, a new rescue unit, and a professional pay classification for our hazardous materials training officer. In 1990 we will install information systems for equipment inventory, personnel management, payroll and building inspections.

For Sanitation and Environmental Protection, we will expand our recycling program. Although we have been recycling within City offices for more than a year, only last week we received our first shipment of recycled paper for use in daily operations. We will continue to recycle and conserve our natural resources and urge others to do so. In 1990, we will also expand curbside collection city-wide.

The purchase of an additional packer in 1990 will enable us to maintain our excellent solid waste collection program. The responsibilities of our environmental coordinator will expand, we will continue to work with area officials toward a long range solid waste plan for Monroe County, and we will continue to pursue state legislation for solid waste.

We have made significant progress this year towards several important capital improvement projects. Improvements to our parks continue to enhance Bloomington's reputation as a major recreational center. Expansion of our water utility means we will be able to ensure water capacity for the community. Still, one of our continuing challenges is to identify sufficient resources to maintain our infrastructure and equipment. With the anticipated approval of the Streets Improvement Bond, we can make more than \$7 million of thoroughfare improvements during the next two years. With the help of the City Council in approving an advance of Westside Industries Funds, one of these projects is already under construction. Plans for a new downtown fire station and municipal office building are also progressing quickly, and we are optimistic that construction will begin during the 1990s.

For 1990, we propose that our regular street improvement and maintenance program be maintained at current levels, and expanded if increased highway funding becomes available. The addition of three new dump trucks and a new backhoe will further enhance this service. But we must continue to advocate a long-term funding mechanism for this service. With decreasing federal highway funding a reality, we must continue to ask the General Assembly to give Bloomington "Home Rule" authority to create a thoroughfare district.

This year Bloomington Transit will complete its Transportation Development Plan, a long-range guide for public transportation in Bloomington. BT is proposing the establishment of a new non-reverting capital fund, which was authorized by the General Assembly this year. The establishment of this fund will provide a funding mechanism for long-range capital improvements and will also reduce reliance on uncertain federal grants.

We are also proposing that a new capital improvement fund be created in the City budget. While the creation of this fund does not generate additional revenue, it will facilitate planning and budgeting for long-range equipment replacement.

As we move into the 1990s we must constantly consider and plan for cost-saving mechanisms to improve the quality of services to our citizens. I look forward to working with the Common Council over the next few weeks to finalize the budget. The 1990s will be a challenge to us all.