In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall, Bloomington, Indiana on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 6:35pm with Council President Susan Sandberg presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
February 15, 2017

Roll Call: Sturbaum (6:38pm), Ruff, Chopra, Granger, Sandberg, Mayer, Piedmont-Smith, Volan, Rollo
Absent: None

ROLL CALL
[6:35pm]

Council President Susan Sandberg gave a summary of the agenda.

AGENDA SUMMATION
[6:36pm]

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from February 1, 2017.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
[6:39pm]

The motion to approve the minutes was approved by voice vote.

February 1, 2017 (Regular Session)

REPORTS

- COUNCIL MEMBERS [6:39pm]

Councilmember Dorothy Granger reminded people that it was Black History Month and said they should take advantage of the activities available.

Councilmember Isabel Piedmont-Smith reminded people not to text and drive.

- The MAYOR AND CITY OFFICES

There were no reports from the Mayor or City offices.

- COUNCIL COMMITTEES [6:40pm]

Nick Kappas, chair of the Environmental Commission, presented[1] the Bloomington Environmental Action Plan, available on the City website, to the Council.

Councilmember Steve Volan asked if the plan was intended for 2020 or for 2050.

Kappas said that the plan was meant for 2020, but the Commission recognized some of the actions were more long-term in nature.

Volan asked how the Commission intended to update the plan.

Kappas said the Commission was looking at a two-year update schedule.

Volan asked how others could use the plan.

Kappas said the Commission intended that the plan could be used by multiple stakeholders, and noted he would be bringing more information to the Council in the future.

Volan thanked Kappas for the report, presentation, and slides.

Piedmont-Smith thanked Kappas for the report and asked if it was available online.

Kappas responded that it was on the City website.

Piedmont-Smith asked what the current tree canopy coverage was in the City.

Kappas said that he did not have the information at hand but would get it to the Council.

[1] Presentation slides attached to the end of these minutes.

Sandberg called for public comment.

- PUBLIC [6:55pm]

Adam Scoten, Bloomington Solidarity Network, spoke about the lack of affordable housing in Bloomington and in opposition to the Tech Park.

Nick Graven, Bloomington Solidarity Network, spoke about the ineffectiveness of reaching out to the City Council.

William Vanderdries, Bloomington Solidarity Network, spoke about changes in the City.

Matthew Gias, Bloomington Solidarity Network, spoke about affordable housing in Bloomington.

Robert Chatlos spoke about leadership and the need for elected officials to minimize the effects of attacks on our democracy.

Mark Haggerty spoke about the need for a downtown recycling center and the need to increase recycling efforts in the community.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS [7:16pm]

It was moved and seconded to appoint Marjorie Hudgins to the Historic Preservation Commission.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

It was moved and seconded to reappoint Susie Hamilton to the Housing Quality Appeals Board.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

It was moved and seconded to reappoint David Walter and Sue Sgambelluri to the Redevelopment Commission.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING AND RESOLUTIONS [7:17pm]

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-05 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Nicole Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Resolution 17-05 – To Approve Recommendations of the Mayor for Distribution of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds for 2017

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-05 be adopted.

Doris Sims, Director of the Housing and Neighborhood Development Department (HAND), presented the resolution. Sims explained the allocation process for the distribution of the Community Development Block Grant funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (as amended). She said Bloomington was an Entitlement City under the block grant program, which meant that if the City applied for the funding each year, it would automatically receive the grant if it followed the procedures of the program. Sims reviewed the guidelines for allocating the funds. She noted citizens were involved in the extensive process of reviewing applications, attending hearings, and making recommendations. She noted and thanked Councilmembers Sandberg and Tim Mayer who sat on the committee. She also thanked the staff of HAND for their assistance.

Resolution 17-05 (cont'd)

Sims reviewed the recommendations of the fund allocations as follows:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FISCAL YEAR 2017 SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS FUNDING

Monroe County United Ministries-Affordable Childcare	$19,750
Hoosier Hills Food Bank	$23,250
Community Kitchen	$23,250
Middle Way House Emergency Services	$19,000
Mother Hubbard's Cupboard	$19,750
Total	**$105,000**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FISCAL YEAR 2017 PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS FUNDING

Bloomington Housing Authority	Crestmont Interior Renovations	$146,000
Middle Way House	Security Lighting/Cameras at South Washington Street property	$15,000
Community Kitchen	Disaster Preparedness	$53,000
Monroe County United Ministries	Structural Improvement at 827 West 14th Street	$27,000
COB Parks and Recreation	Crestmont Park Playground Improvements	$110,000
Life Designs	Facility Rehabilitation at 2727 N. Dunn and 1701 E. Winslow	$34,000
MCCSC	Broadview Pedestrian Imp. At Coolidge Street	$25,000
HAND	Emergency Home Repair-scattered sites	$45,000
Total		**$455,000**

ADMINISTRATION

Administration of Housing and Neighborhood Development Department	$140,000
Total	**$140,000**

TOTAL ALLOCATION

CDBG from Housing and Urban Development	**TOTAL**	**$700,000**

Council Questions:

Volan asked Sims to explain the 65/20/15 percentage split in funding.

Sims said that it was a federal maximum for usage in particular activities. She explained that no more than 15% of the anticipated funding could be used for social service activities, and no more than 20% could be used for administrative costs.

Councilmember Allison Chopra asked why general recreation funds could not be used for Crestmont Park.

Sims said that the grant funding was used to stretch the budget of other City departments to provide maximum benefits to citizens.

Piedmont-Smith asked if Sims still anticipated receiving the funds that year in spite of the recent changes in the federal government.

Sims said that she did.

Piedmont-Smith asked if money was already committed for that fiscal year for the grant program at the federal level.

Sims said they did not have their allocation yet, but the allocation meeting was happening in the next week. She said that it was an ongoing program that she did not see ending, although she noted that there was a reduction in funds.

Sandberg pointed out a typographical error in the presentation slides, and noted how difficult it was to divide $105,000 between the five agencies.

Resolution 17-05 (cont'd)

Piedmont-Smith asked what the administrative costs included.

Sims said the costs included staff salaries, benefits, document recording fees, planning costs, supplies, and other related costs.

Piedmont-Smith asked if that was only for projects funded through CDBG, and if it involved a lot of tracking.

Sims said that was correct, and that hours were broken down on timesheets.

Councilmember Dave Rollo asked for a description of the needs of Centerstone and Shalom Center, which were not funded. He also asked if those organizations were applying for Jack Hopkins funding.

Sims did not know if they applied for Jack Hopkins funding.

Sandberg said that there were nine applicants that had to reach certain criteria for prioritization, and there was enough funding for the top five applicants. She noted that applicants frequently applied for Jack Hopkins funding as well.

Rollo clarified that he did not mean the question to be a criticism, but wanted to make sure that members of the public were aware of groups that still needed funding.

Chopra asked Sandberg if the criteria was different for CDBG funding versus Jack Hopkins funding.

Sandberg responded that the two funding sources were different, because CDBG was strictly for salaries.

Chopra asked if CDBG could only fund personnel.

Sims said that it could fund other administrative costs, but most agencies applied for salaries.

Chopra asked if grant funding was sustainable for agencies that used it for salaries.

Sims explained that was a question that staff posed to the agencies as one of the criteria.

Public Comment:

Alice Corey said that she was disappointed to see the Council give $300,000 to Envisage and then discuss the difficulty of dividing $105,000 between five social service agencies.

Council Comment:

Councilmember Tim Mayer thanked the staff.

Chopra explained that the money in the CDBG fund was restricted to certain purposes, as was the money provided to Envisage. She said that the money was not transferrable in usage.

Volan agreed with Chopra, and noted that CDBG funds were difficult to allocate. He discussed the size and usage of the Industrial Development Fund (IDF), and said that he welcomed discussion on the issue in the future.

Councilmember Dorothy Granger said that she appreciated the hard work that went into the process. She expressed concern that there would be significantly less funding the next year and counseled caution moving forward.

Rollo agreed with Volan regarding the IDF, but noted that, when it expired, the money would go into the general fund, which would allow for more flexibility in the future. He also said that the CDBG funds had declined over the years and thought that the Council would have to increase the Jack Hopkins fund in order to maintain parity.

Vote to adopt Resolution 17-05 [7:40pm]

The motion to adopt Resolution 17-05 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Motion Regarding Consideration of Annexation Resolutions

It was moved and seconded that the Council consider the package of resolutions related to the proposed annexations in the following manner:

"First, prior to formal introduction of the resolutions, the Administration will be given time to make a presentation regarding the annexation process, rationale, and its estimated effects, and address questions raised but unanswered last week.

Second, Council members may ask general questions of the presenters for an initial period of (40) minutes. The Chair may, with consent of the Council, proceed to public comment before those questions and answers are exhausted.

Third, that members of the public will have more than one opportunity to address the Council this evening. The first opportunity will be after the initial period of questions and answers generated by the Council, where the public is encouraged to raise general questions about the annexation process, rather than questions that apply to one area in particular. The subsequent opportunities will arise when the Council is considering the individual resolutions initiating consideration of the annexation of the seven areas, where the more particular questions are welcome. Those who wish to speak must:

- line up at one podium;
- sign-in on a sheet at the podium and state their name;
- speak no more than once at each opportunity for public comment; and
- hand any written materials to the City Clerk for distribution to the Council.

Please note that speakers are asked to be concise, and that the Council may amend this motion to set a limit on the time each speaker may speak, if it appears necessary in order to hear from all who wish to speak at a reasonable hour this evening.

Fourth, after the public has had their turn, Council members may ask further questions and hear further answers as necessary.

Fifth, each resolution will be introduced and be subject to questions from the Council. At the conclusion of those questions, the public will be given an opportunity to address the Council on that legislation.

Sixth, after public comment on each resolution, Council members may make concluding comments and entertain a suitable motion in regard to the legislation."

Vote on Consideration of Annexation Resolutions [7:44pm]

The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0

Annexation Resolutions Discussion

Philippa Guthrie, Corporation Counsel, introduced the resolutions for consideration by the Council. She said there were seven resolutions, one for each area proposed to be annexed. She said that adoption of the resolutions was not approval of the proposed areas of annexation, but simply started the public consideration of them. She said that the administration had been receiving comments and questions, and would be sharing them with the Council. Approval of the annexations would be by ordinance, one for each area, after several months of discussion. She added that the proposed annexations would not go into effect until January 1, 2020.

Annexation Resolutions Discussion (cont'd)

Guthrie said that annexation was one of the primary means for cities to manage growth and development. She also said that it allowed efficient and consistent services to the community. Guthrie discussed the annexation process, which was dictated by state statute. She gave the Council an overview of the timeline for annexation, and indicated where information about the annexation could be found on the City webpage, which was bloomington.in.gov/annex.

Council Questions:

Volan asked for confirmation that the Council was being asked to approve the beginning of the annexation process, not the annexations themselves.

Guthrie said yes.

Volan asked when the administration planned to bring forward the enabling legislation for the proposed annexations.

Guthrie said the ordinances would be presented to the Council at the end of March, and that the Council would have public hearings on the ordinances in May, as required by state statute.

Volan asked if that was the only hearing that the Council would have before being asked to vote on the annexation ordinances.

Guthrie said yes, and asked Steve Unger to speak to the issues.

Steve Unger, Attorney from Bose, McKinney & Evans, explained that after the public outreach meetings there would be a three meeting process to complete annexation: introduction of the ordinance, a public hearing, and a final hearing 30 to 60 days after the public hearing.

Volan asked when the administration hoped to hold the final hearing.

Unger said June 30, 2017.

Volan asked Guthrie why the public outreach meetings were all in City Hall.

Guthrie said that it eliminated confusion and made it more convenient.

Volan asked if the administration was willing to have meetings in the areas intended for annexation.

Guthrie said that they were looking into doing that.

Granger asked if there would be seven different pieces of legislation.

Guthrie said yes.

Granger asked if they could vote on each ordinance differently.

Guthrie said yes.

Chopra asked if there was any survey taken of residents prior to the annexation plans being put forward. She wondered if it was worth the effort if there would be a large number of people who remonstrate against the annexation.

Guthrie said there had not been an initial survey. She said an area could block the proposed annexation if 65% of the residents in that area signed a petition.

Chopra asked what the reaction to the proposal had been since starting the process.

Guthrie said that the administration had received both positive and negative reactions.

Rollo asked if hiring for public safety would precede the annexation in 2020, or if it would begin in 2020.

Guthrie said that the City would not take over services until 2020, but she imagined there would be some sort of ramp up before 2020.

Jeff Underwood, City Controller, said that services were required to be provided by the end of the first year and capital improvements were required to be provided by the end of the third year.

Annexation Resolutions Discussion (cont'd)

Piedmont-Smith asked about planning projects that would be impacted by the proposed annexations.

Josh Desmond, Planning Department, said that the City would have the opportunity to adopt any existing County zoning or approved projects. He said that the Planning Department would have to go through the areas and consider each project in terms of the comprehensive plan, as well as what the zoning should be, with the goal to match the County's zoning and land use with the City's as closely as possible.

Piedmont-Smith asked Desmond to speak about the Fullerton Pike corridor.

Desmond said that no decision had been made about that project's future.

Piedmont-Smith asked if there had been conversations between City and County Planning about the project.

Desmond said there had not been any yet.

Piedmont-Smith asked if the City was assuming the County would continue its investment in the project.

Desmond said that at least the first part of the project was already awarded for construction.

Piedmont-Smith asked how the City's vision for the I-69 corridor differed from the County's.

Desmond said that there would probably not be a great deal of policy difference.

Piedmont-Smith asked what the benefit would be if there was no difference.

Desmond said that proposed changes would be compatible with the City and that it would make sense to have common jurisdiction for roadway connections.

Chopra asked if people would be able to grandfather in their land-use after the annexation.

Desmond said that any current land-use would be grandfathered in when the zoning became part of the City zoning. He said that would only change if there was a change in use on the property.

Chopra asked if someone could speak to the argument that people who lived on the edges of a community had a negative fiscal impact.

Unger said that there were two proper reasons for annexation under state code. One was for areas that were needed for development. The other was for annexing urbanized territory, which was more consistent with the idea to which Chopra referred.

Public Comment:

Diana Igo spoke in opposition to annexation.

Kevin Brown spoke in opposition to annexation.

Ryan Cobine, Monroe County Councilmember, requested that the Council slow down the annexation process.

Barb Ooley, Washington Township Trustee, spoke about the importance of fire safety and said that extensive studies should be done before annexation was considered.

Rita Barrow, Van Buren Township Trustee, spoke in opposition to annexation because of the impact to fire and EMS budgets.

Annexation Resolutions Discussion (cont'd)

Julie Thomas, County Commissioner, spoke about the lack of communication regarding the annexation process. She asked the Council several questions that she hoped to have addressed in the future, and expressed a desire to work with the City moving forward. She said that the people who lived in the proposed areas of annexation did not have political representation and would not until after 2023. She urged the Council to take its time.

David Lehman spoke in opposition to annexation.

Cheryl Lehman also spoke in opposition to annexation.

Diane Brown, president of the Lanham Ridgeview Estates, spoke in opposition to annexation.

Sarah Ryterband spoke in opposition to annexation.

Dustin Dillard, Chief of Perry Clear Creek Fire Protection District, spoke in opposition to annexation.

Josh Alley asked the Council to make the remonstrance process available as soon as possible in order to save time.

Scott Tate spoke about the lack of communication regarding the annexation process.

Cheryl Munson, Monroe County Councilmember, spoke about the fiscal impact of the annexation process and an upcoming community meeting.

Art Oehmich spoke in opposition to annexation.

Jeff Jackson spoke in opposition to annexation, and suggested that the Council not bother trying to annex Area Six.

Council Questions:

Chopra asked for a definition of urbanized.

Unger said urbanized was defined as land that was 60% subdivided, zoned for commercial business or industrial use, or three persons per acre for residential areas.

Chopra asked if the length of time between the start and finish of the annexation process was outlined by state statute.

Unger said that once the public meetings began, statute dictated the time period to complete the annexation process, which provided six months to complete the process after the public meetings.

Volan asked if the reason for choosing to complete the annexation process in June was because pushing it to the time limit would mean that it fell during the budget process.

Unger explained that if the public hearing was held on May 31, the Council would have to wait a minimum of 30 days to vote on the annexation, but no more than 60 days.

Ruff asked for more clarification of the timeline.

Unger explained that first there was a required 30-day notice before the public outreach meetings, then the outreach meetings would occur, and then, within six months of the first public outreach meeting, the City could introduce the annexation ordinance. After the annexation ordinance was introduced, there would be another 30-day notice of public hearing, and then, after that public hearing, there would be a 30-60 day window to adopt the annexation ordinance, or the City would have to start the process over again.

Annexation Resolutions Discussion (cont'd)

Piedmont-Smith asked if the annexation ordinance had to be introduced within six months of the public information meetings.

Unger said yes.

Piedmont-Smith asked if the ordinance could be introduced in September.

Unger said yes, although that raised the concern of intruding into the budget process.

Piedmont-Smith asked if the public information meetings could be held in May, with the ordinances introduced six months later.

Guthrie said the reasons for the timeline were based on the annual schedule and anticipated state action regarding annexation.

Piedmont-Smith asked if it would have been better to talk to the county commissioners prior to the process beginning, considering the bill that was proposed in the state senate that would have allowed for county veto power over annexations.

Guthrie said that the City had followed the normal process and talked to the county as soon as there was a map to show. She said that the resolutions being presented for the Council's consideration that evening were not required by state law, but were intended to be a starting point for the public discussion.

Piedmont-Smith said that the proposed state senate bill was dead.

Guthrie said that it did not make it out of committee, but there were other avenues for it to be approved by the state senate.

Rollo asked if the proposed annexation correlated with the prior Area Intended for Annexation (AIFA).

Underwood said that there was a lot of overlap, although there were some differences.

Desmond said that there were some areas that were part of the AIFA and some that were part of the Two-Mile Fringe, which existed prior to the AIFA. He added that there were a few small areas in the proposed annexation areas that were not in either of those two, and were previously completely under County jurisdiction.

Rollo asked if it was fair to say the map evolved from the AIFA.

Desmond said it was a consideration.

Granger asked for an overlay map of the proposed areas of annexation. It was displayed on the screen and Granger asked if the map was available in their materials. It was affirmed that it was available.

Volan asked how long there had been a Two-Mile Fringe, or when the City began to claim planning authority over any part of the County that was not in the city.

Underwood said that it was prior to 1980, because he had purchased a house in the fringe during that time, and decided to subdivide the parcel. He said he went through City processes at the time, even though he was in the County.

Volan asked if the realtor informed him that the property was within the Two-Mile Fringe.

Underwood said that he did not remember being informed, but that he knew anyway as a lifelong resident of the area.

Volan asked if the realtor or title company had an obligation to inform buyers that the property was in an area intended for annexation or located where the City would have jurisdiction.

Unger said that they did not have an obligation, but that a sewer waiver would show up in a title search.

Volan asked how long cities had had the right to annex land.

Unger said there were cases prior to 1900 in Indiana.

Annexation Resolutions Discussion (cont'd)

Chopra asked if buyers who had waivers attached to their property were aware that they had waived the right to remonstrate.

Guthrie said that such a waiver would be recoded with the title.

Piedmont-Smith asked how owners could remonstrate.

Unger said that after the adoption of annexation, if the Council chose to do so, the City would send notice to all of the property owners outlining the remonstrance process. He said there was a 90-day window when people could sign the petition against annexation. If at least 51% of owners signed the petition, it would trigger a remonstrance trial where a court would review whether the City could proceed with annexation. If 65% of owners or more signed the remonstrance petition, it would stop the annexation.

Piedmont-Smith asked if there was anything residents could do before the annexation ordinances were approved.

Unger said the petitions could only be signed during that 90-day period.

Guthrie, answering an earlier question, said the Two-Mile Fringe went back to 1973.

Volan asked if those who had sewer waivers attached to their property counted for the purpose of the remonstrance petitions.

Unger said those counted as a yes vote for annexation, because the property owners could not remonstrate.

Sandberg asked how the City would ensure that every resident had the opportunity to cast his or her vote or sign the petition.

Unger said that all of the owners would be sent a notice, that petitions would be available at City Hall and the Monroe County Auditor's Office, and that there would be night and weekend opportunities to sign as well. He said that neighborhoods could also gather their own petitions.

Sandberg asked if the neighborhoods that gathered their own signatures would have to have the signatures notarized.

Unger said that he would have to double-check, but the signatures would have to be attested to.

Sandberg said that she was concerned that people would have enough access and opportunity to vote.

Volan asked what the earliest opportunity to begin the remonstrance process was after the ordinances were passed.

Unger said it was from the date the notice was published and the notices sent.

Chopra asked if the process would even started for Area 6 if the Council voted no on Area 6 that evening.

Unger said that would be the case if the Council did not vote to adopt the annexation ordinance. He said that the resolution being considered by the Council that evening was not a required part of the annexation process.

Chopra asked what effect a majority of no votes that evening would have on the process.

Unger said that it would be up to the administration to make that decision.

Chopra asked if the administration could go through the entire annexation process with only the Council vote at the end.

Unger said that was legally true.

Annexation Resolutions Discussion (cont'd)

Mayer asked if voting for the resolutions that evening bound the City to the proposed timetable.

Unger said that it did not.

Mayer asked if the timetable could be reconfigured.

Unger said that the notices of the public information meetings were scheduled to go out already, but the Council could change any of the schedule for the process of adoption after that.

Mayer asked if the Council could push out the public hearings for the annexation ordinance.

Unger said that was true, as long as they held the hearings within six months of the public information meetings.

Ruff asked if the consultants had seen anything atypical in Bloomington's annexation process so far, compared to other cities' annexation efforts.

Unger said that Bloomington's was the most transparent process that he had ever seen. He said that Bloomington was doing more on the front–end of the process than most cities ever did.

Volan asked if the public information meetings scheduled for approximately March 20 and the whole week after triggered the six-month window, and whether postponing those public meetings would have the effect of postponing the annexation.

Unger said that if the ordinances were not introduced within six months of the public meetings, the City would have to hold another round of public meetings before the ordinances could be introduced.

Volan asked whether the ordinances could be introduced as late as September, which would then kick off the process outlined by law.

Unger said that was a fair statement.

Volan asked whether the City could hold the public information sessions, then wait to introduce the legislation until a later date, which would also push back the remonstrance window, possibly to 2018.

Unger said that was correct.

Guthrie said the administration would prefer not to extend the process so long that it would interfere with the annual budget process.

Volan said he understood the concern, but wanted to know what was possible with the timeline and wanted to understand how the administration came up with the timeline it had proposed.

Sandberg asked for clarification as to why the public was not informed of the proposed annexation earlier, and why that night was simply an introduction of the topic, not a binding decision and not an indication of how the Council felt about the proposal.

Guthrie said that the meeting served as a beginning and said the City was open to any and all meetings with other stakeholders, such as various County officials or townships. She noted that such meetings might be more appropriate after the public information sessions had been held, as the City had a lot of work to complete to prepare for those meetings. She explained that the City had already met with several County counselors, commissioners, and trustees, and had offered to form a committee, which would be made up with such stakeholders to meet and discuss issues. She said the City would be happy to meet with neighborhoods and was open to anything.

Annexation Resolutions Discussion (cont'd)

Sandberg asked whether it was possible that some areas or parts of the proposal might not ever get proposed as a result of the public meetings.

Guthrie said yes, anything was possible. The resolutions in front of the Council simply asked the Council to say yes to the process of evaluating the proposed annexations.

Sandberg asked whether that meant that some areas might not be practical, cost effective, or useful, and might get dropped.

Guthrie said yes.

Sandberg said she hoped that members of the public that had come to the meeting with anger and confusion felt reassured after the Council had asked questions about slowing the process down, altering the proposal, and communicating with all stakeholders before anything was finalized.

Rollo asked whether the Council would have the ability to amend the areas to be annexed when it came time to vote, or whether it would be an up or down vote.

Unger said the Council would have the ability to remove areas, but there would be issues with adding areas without providing the proper notice.

Resolution 17-06 – A Resolution Concerning the Initiation of Proceedings to Consider Proposed Annexation by the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana (South-West Bloomington Annexation Area)

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-06 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Resolution 17-06 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 8-0-1.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-06 be adopted.

Sandberg asked whether the administration had any further presentations for the specific annexation areas or whether the Council should proceed to questions.

Underwood said the administration would be available for any questions from Council about the specific areas.

Council Questions:

Volan asked staff to address concerns voiced by some fire departments about how coverage for the areas would be handled.

Mike Rouker, City Attorney, said Fire Chief Jason Moore had indicated another crew would be needed at Station 2, and that he would look at building another station to the southwest in order to service the area.

Volan said there had been discussion about how the various fire departments worked together, and asked whether Chief Moore had considered only Bloomington's needs or the greater need of all the departments. He also asked whether Bloomington was considering absorbing a township fire station.

Rouker said there were not any options available in Area 1 for the City to acquire a township fire station that would be adequate for the City's needs. He said Chief Moore had looked at what would be required within the City's boundaries, or the proposed boundary for Area 1.

Volan said there may be additional conversations needed about fire coverage before he could give his approval to Area 1.

Unger added that the City was required to assume that it would be the only provider of fire coverage for the areas, though the City recognized there might be opportunities to work with the township fire departments. However, in the fiscal planning, Unger noted the City was required to plan to provide service regardless of what the townships did.

Resolution 17-06 (cont'd)

Volan asked whether Unger was saying that the City had to prepare the fiscal plan under the assumption that no one else would cooperate and help provide services, even though that might be negotiable.

Unger said that was correct.

Public Comment:

Rita Barrow commented about fire coverage.

Kevin Brown commented about the timeline for the annexation process, and the remonstrance process.

Barbara Leininger commented about the lack of transparency in the process.

Louise Schlesinger commented about the lack of transparency in the process.

Diana Igo commented about her displeasure with the proposed annexation.

Art Oehmich said he would like to know what 60% subdivided meant.

Scott Tate commented on an alternate approach to the process he thought would be better.

Council Comment:

Sturbaum said he would vote no on the resolution, because he thought the process needed more discussion and more time. He thought it might be appropriate to tackle Areas 3, 4, and 5, as those areas made sense to annex. He suggested that the Council address those areas first, which would allow more time to consider the other areas.

Volan said he had been happy to oppose the current and former administration, and had often been the lone no vote on a variety of issues. But he thought the invective directed at the administration was out of line. He pointed out that the resolutions being considered were not required, that the vote was simply a straw vote, and that the process being followed was the notification process for which people had been asking. Everyone who had said they were not informed or were not told were being told then. He explained the typical resolution process was two weeks long. He said the budget process took two to three months, and added that the Council had taken less time to consider the 2006 Unified Development Ordinance (the City's zoning ordinance) than the administration was giving to consider the proposed annexation. He said there was a 317-page fiscal impact document available on the City website and noted the administration had been responsive in fixing errors. He said he was disappointed that some of his colleagues did not understand the process. He said that the administration had done its due diligence to prepare the information ahead of time to be able to answer the public's questions about how annexation would affect them. That could not have happened if the administration had not done the work ahead of time. He said the confusion might have been due to a misunderstanding of the process, but said the documents provided online by the administration answered many of the concerns people had voiced, and urged people to read the provided information. He said he would support the resolution so that they could have a dialogue.

Resolution 17-06 (cont'd)

Piedmont-Smith said she was not sure how the boundaries for Area 1 were chosen, but she would have time to investigate and get more information. She said that although the process might be the most transparent process Mr. Unger had seen around the state, Bloomington prided itself on transparency and made it a point to be transparent. She thought the City could have done a better job of having conversations with stakeholders ahead of time. She said that some of the information about the fiscal impact to the county had not been complete, and some concerns raised by councilmembers had not been taken seriously. She said transparency had been an issue, even with the councilmembers. She was fine starting the process to consider annexation, and believed parts of Area 1 should be annexed, but thought more time was needed to examine the effects and to reach out to the public and other stakeholders. She noted that the administration had indicated it would proceed with the proposal regardless of how the Council voted, but thought parts of Area 1 did make sense to annex, so she would vote yes.

Ruff said he did not know what the fiscal impact on the county would be, but he had not walked away from the last meeting with the impression that the City had downplayed the fiscal impact to the county. He said he certainly intended to find out what the impact would be and would not support something that would bankrupt the county, but that was something that would be examined during the process that was just starting. He said the meeting that night was not required, nor was the previous week's meeting or the previous public work session. He said the process was just starting, and did not think there was a transparency issue when nothing had begun yet, as the material had just been put out. He saw it as the start of a long process, and said the Council would take it very seriously. He said he would vote yes on the resolution. He emphasized that some of the criticism and accusations directed at the administration were simply wrong and unfair. He understood that people might be concerned or opposed to the proposal, but to claim that they were not included was wrong, as there had not been anything in which they could have been included yet. He said he would be perfectly willing to extend the process, even if it meant encroaching on the budget process, if that is what it took.

Rollo said Area 1 was the most justifiable, as it was highly urbanized and was located near I-69. He said he wanted to see the extension of services, especially transit, to the area. He said the process was just getting started, and saw nothing wrong in exploring the proposal, as the proposed area had been an area intended for annexation for years. But he agreed that a time extension might be required, as people needed a chance to get informed, speak their mind, and contact officials. That said, he did not think all of the proposed areas were justified. He thought there should be more time to thoroughly discuss the proposal with county government to ensure county services would not be impaired. He reminded everyone that it was just the beginning and expected a good public process.

Resolution 17-06 (cont'd)

Chopra concurred with Volan and Ruff, and expressed frustration with the lack of understanding about the process. She said the process had to start at some point, and if the process had started a month ago, people might still have said that they did not have enough notice. Chopra noted there had to be some starting point, which was what the Council was considering that evening. She emphasized that the Council had not received any of the information ahead of time, which was fine, as the Council was merely considering whether to consider the annexation. If the resolutions passed, then the Council would consider the annexation proposal. She noted there were already constituent meetings being scheduled. She said that if the City had talked to all the stakeholders ahead of time, before making the proposal public, it would have made the process less transparent and would have looked like the City was doing things undercover. She suggested that the dialogue should be happening in a public forum instead of private meetings. She appreciated the people that came to the meeting.

Granger said she had heard from many residents, some county government officials, colleagues, and staff, and said most of the comments received had not been positive about the process. She had even been asked not to move the process forward, but said she would be voting yes on the resolutions because she wanted to move the process forward and consider the issue. She had not had a chance to review the fiscal plan in its entirety. She said some changes had already been taking place, and noted there would be more chances for people to show up to meetings, which she liked. She encouraged those who did not like the proposal to figure out why they did not like it and then to tell the Council. She said the City needed to talk to the county officials, and the process needed to be collaborative. She also encouraged those opposed to the proposal to continue showing up and voicing their opinion.

Mayer thanked those who attended and gave their comments, concerns, and opinions. He understood it was a heated issue, but said it was important to note that it was a process. He had learned a lot about citizens' concerns, but also learned that the Council could amend the timeline, if needed. He also thought it was important that the Council could amend the areas in the future. He said the Council needed time to learn what was going on in each area, and having the meetings would help the Council make a decision that would benefit the overall community.

Sandberg said she agreed with much that had already been said. She said her recent experience with working with the county and townships on the LIT gave her confidence that that cooperation would continue with the annexation process. She said the councilmembers were not interested in a power grab, but were public servants interested in doing the best job they could. They respected the public and tried to do what was best. When citizens had concerns or opinions, Sandberg asked that they voice those concerns respectfully. She said she would be voting yes for all of the resolutions that evening.

Vote to adopt Resolution 17-06 [10:13:pm]

The motion to adopt Resolution 17-06 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 1 (Sturbaum), Abstain: 0.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-07 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Resolution 17-07 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 8-0-1.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-07 be adopted.

Resolution 17-07 – A Resolution Concerning the Initiation of Proceedings to Consider Proposed Annexation by the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana (South-East Bloomington Annexation Area)

Council Questions:

Volan asked to display the map of Area 2, asked for the name of a neighborhood included in the area, and wondered why that neighborhood was included but a nearby neighborhood was not.

Underwood said the neighborhood included in the proposed Area 2 was called Sterling Woods. He said when the neighborhood was developed, there was a request to extend water and sewer service to that area, and as part of that, waivers were signed. He said the neighborhood to the west was an older area, and though it was served by City water, it had a rural water company that was owned by residents in that area. He said the neighborhood did not have sewer service, and because it had a rural water company, that neighborhood was not included.

Volan noted that the administration had claimed City water service was not the only benefit of annexation. He asked why the fact that the area was a rural water company would mean the City did not want to annex the area.

Unger said there were lots of areas that could be discussed, but did not have an answer more specific than Underwood's.

Volan asked whether all areas with a rural water company would be exempt from annexation.

Unger said no, it would not exempt them, but it was one factor one would consider when developing an annexation area.

Public Comment:

Dustin Dillard, Fire Chief of Perry Clear Creek Fire Protection District, clarified the County's frustration with the process and how it impacted the County offices. He explained some issues he saw with the fire districts and how those might be impacted by the proposed annexation.

Kevin Brown commented on the responsiveness of Council to the comments that had been made, and on how he believed annexation could and should have been part of the mayoral campaign. He also encouraged the Council to see the issue from the point of view of property owners.

Council Comment:

Sturbaum said things in government often moved slowly, and the annexation process was moving too fast. He said there was no need for a self-imposed timeline when some areas warranted additional consideration, especially when it could have unexpected effects. He said he would vote no.

Volan said he was the representative for the center of the City, which would not come in contact with any of the areas proposed to be annexed, and, as such, was indifferent. He said the fiscal plan could use work, but noted such a large document was bound to have mistakes. He said it would take time to edit, complete, perfect, and explain fully. He said the administration had to start somewhere, but cautioned that, by the time the annexation ordinance got proposed, the administration needed to have the necessary information about how other taxing districts, existing services, and individuals' taxes would be affected. He said the proposed process was as long as any process he had seen during his time on the Council, and noted he had never been part of an annexation.

Volan explained that the previous administration did not do annexations, so some of the proposal was a buildup of areas that might otherwise have been annexed. He said he could not blame the administration for proposing the areas all at once, as it was a lot of trouble to complete an annexation. He noted that dialogue was a two-way street, and encouraged people to coordinate. He said he shared some of Chief Dillard's concern with the fire areas, and said he had some questions he still wanted to ask, but said the Council did not have to decide everything that night. He suggested that the Council needed to figure out a timeline, and even then it would take some work to earn his vote on all the proposed annexations.

Resolution 17-07 (cont'd)

The motion to adopt Resolution 17-07 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 8, Nays: 1 (Sturbaum), Abstain: 0.

Vote to adopt Resolution 17-07 [10:29pm]

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-08 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Resolution 17-08 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 9-0-0.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-08 be adopted.

Resolution 17-08 – A Resolution Concerning the Initiation of Proceedings to Consider Proposed Annexation by the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana (North Island Bloomington Annexation Area)

Chopra said she hoped people would remain at the meeting for the area with which they were concerned.

Council Comment:

The motion to adopt Resolution 17-08 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to adopt Resolution 17-08 [10:32pm]

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-09 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Resolution 17-09 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 9-0-0.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-09 be adopted.

Resolution 17-09 – A Resolution Concerning the Initiation of Proceedings to Consider Proposed Annexation by the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana (Central Island Bloomington Annexation Area)

Sturbaum said he was supporting the resolutions regarding Areas 3, 4, and 5. He said when he walked those areas he could not tell when he was in the City or in the county and doubted the fire departments could tell either.

Council Comment:

The motion to adopt Resolution 17-09 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to adopt Resolution 17-09 [10:35pm]

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-10 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Resolution 17-10 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 9-0-0.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-10 be adopted.

Resolution 17-10 – A Resolution Concerning the Initiation of Proceedings to Consider Proposed Annexation by the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana (South Island Bloomington Annexation Area)

Volan asked why Areas 3,4 and 5 had not been annexed earlier.

Underwood said these areas were being considered years ago, and there were some issues with public works.

Volan asked when that was.

Underwood said it would have been 1999 or 2000.

Council Questions:

The motion to adopt Resolution 17-10 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote to adopt Resolution 17-10 [10:38pm]

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-11 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Resolution 17-11 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 7-0-2.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-11 be adopted.

Resolution 17-11 – A Resolution Concerning the Initiation of Proceedings to Consider Proposed Annexation by the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana (Northeast Bloomington Annexation Area)

Council Questions:

Chopra asked how many properties were in Area 6.

Unger said he thought the area included 120 or 150 properties, including tax-exempt parcels.

Chopra asked how many properties would be able to file a remonstrance.

Unger said only non-tax-exempt properties would be able to file a remonstrance, and said he could find out exactly how many properties there were.

Chopra asked whether there were farm animals in Area 6.

Guthrie said she knew there was a horse farm.

Chopra asked whether there was any zoning in Area 6 that was agricultural.

Guthrie said she did not know.

Underwood said the fiscal plan included a breakdown of zoning by acreage, and said Area 6 had zero acres zoned agriculture, 46.19 acres zoned recreation, 42.43 acres zoned commercial business/industrial, and 468.37 acres zoned residential, which totaled just under 557 acres.

Chopra asked whether they had determined how many non-tax-exempt properties there were in the area yet.

Underwood said not yet, but they would.

Volan referred to a map of the areas proposed to be annexed and reviewed the relative densities of each area. He asked what the thought process was for Area 6, which was much less dense than other areas.

Guthrie said the area met the definition of urbanized under the statute, was close to where the hospital would be built, had houses all around it, and though it looked more rural, the area was technically not rural.

Volan asked whether the possibility of future development was a factor, and whether future development could occur in Area 6.

Guthrie said that was not part of the consideration. She said the administration was really looking at urbanization most of all. She said the theory behind Area 7 was primarily I-69 and the fact that the area served as a gateway to Bloomington, as one of the first things a person would see when coming into town. She noted there were different considerations for each area.

Volan asked whether the area would benefit from any further services beyond those which it was already receiving.

Guthrie said that was why they were having the discussion.

Volan said that was what he would be asking in the future.

Underwood referred to a map being displayed, and pointed out that part of the area being discussed had been identified by the county as an urbanized area.

Volan asked why the area north of the area identified by the county was included.

Underwood said it was likely due to contiguity and to not cut off any roads. He said that area was different than the rest of Area 6, as it was served by a gravel road and in a conversation zone.

Volan asked where the conservation zone had come from.

Underwood said it was the county's zone.

Resolution 17-11 (cont'd)

Rollo asked for more detail about density, average lot size, and units per acre.

Underwood said the administration had that specific information, but said generally the lots were larger estate lots.

Rollo asked whether it was the equivalent to estate zoning.

Underwood said yes, and said that zoning usually went with lots of 2.5 acres or larger, whereas many of the lots in Area 6 were five acres or larger.

Rollo asked whether the area was on the verge of rural in terms of its density.

Underwood said yes.

Chopra asked to display the map of all of the areas proposed to be annexed. She asked whether there was a reason why a gap between Areas 2 and 6 was not up for annexation.

Underwood said that the area was undeveloped, and would likely not qualify under any of the relevant tests for annexation.

Ruff asked to display Area 6. Ruff asked Josh Desmond, Assistant Director of Planning, what terminology he would use to describe Area 6's pattern of development.

Desmond said he would describe it as suburban, in comparison to downtown.

Ruff asked if he would not describe it as rural.

Desmond said the area had been subdivided and broken down from the original, large lots, even though many of the lots were still large.

Mayer asked whether the City used to have a zoning term called residential estate.

Desmond said the City still had the residential estate zoning district, but explained how some of the zoning had changed over time.

Ruff clarified that he had been asking more generally about how planners might describe the area, regardless of what Bloomington had in its local code.

Underwood answered Chopra's earlier question, and said there were 143 total parcels in area 6, 3 of which were exempt. He said there were 140 non-tax-exempt parcels.

Chopra said part of annexation was providing service, and part of it was land use control. She asked what the future plans were for Area 6 that the City would want to oversee, noting that no further development was anticipated or possible.

Underwood said sewer service could be extended to that area or beyond.

Chopra asked other than extending services, what was the City's interest in controlling land use in the area.

Underwood said the same interest that always went along with annexations, which was ensuring those properties could continue to develop. He clarified that he referred not to the already-developed properties, but to the developable properties, which he anticipated would continue to develop, as they were near a major transportation corridor.

Chopra and Underwood clarified the area being discussed.

Resolution 17-11 (cont'd)

Volan asked when the area was developed.

Underwood said in the 80s and 90s.

Volan asked what the current county restrictions were on development.

Desmond said he thought a lot of the area was under a conservation residential zone, which would restrict the area from being used for much more than what it was then. He said no one was looking to change that.

Public Comment

Joshua Alley commented that he had no notice that the area might be annexed and voiced his concern about the cost of work done in the area.

Pam Ferris commented about the difficulty in extending sewer services, and asked whether the City would complete an environmental impact study before doing any work.

Diane Brown commented on the topography, her concern for any environmental impact to the area, and her opposition to the annexation.

Arthur Oehmich commented on previous zoning for the area, and explained why he disagreed that the area was urbanized.

Jeff Jackson commented on the topography of the area, the burden of connecting to the City sewer system, and the lack of urbanization in the area.

Scott Tate commented on the septic system and the water service that the area had, and the age of homes in the area.

Angie Tate commented about the topography and wildlife in the area.

Terri Vicenzi commented her opposition to the proposed annexation.

Kevin Brown commented on the costs and benefits of the proposed annexation and his opposition to it.

Harley Crouch commented on his opposition to the proposed annexation and the lack of urbanization of the area.

Council Comment:

Granger said she appreciated everyone coming out and voicing their opinions, and said people would have influence over the process even if not in the City.

Rollo said he appreciated people coming out and giving their points of view. He said Area 6 was on the boundary of being rural. He said he was not convinced the area was rural just because it had deer, but noted he was skeptical about the area, as well as parts of Area 2. But he said he wanted there to be an analysis, which was what his vote would accomplish. He urged the members of the public to not take it as a sign that he was convinced the area should be annexed, and said he was, in fact, highly skeptical.

Resolution 17-11 (cont'd)

Sturbaum asked which fire department served the area.

Rouker said the area was served by the Northern Monroe Fire Protection Territory.

Sturbuam said Area 6 was clearly about taxes, and residents did not want their taxes to go up. He said some people might be able to afford that, but many would not. He said he still wanted more time to consider the issue, so he would vote no.

Chopra asked how many members of the public in attendance were from Area 6, and counted 12. She said that was a large percentage of the area, and more had been present earlier in the meeting. She said she had received a number of emails from people that lived in Area 6. She pointed out that the residents just had to get 65% of people in the area to vote no, and was confident they would do so, due to the large number of people already voicing their opinions. She said Area 6 was clearly about money, and she saw no other reason to go forward with it. She said there did not need to be a dialogue for Area 6 and said it was a waste of time. She said she would vote no, and urged Council colleagues to do the same.

Volan said the area met the state standard for annexation. He said the administration had made the area in good faith. He suggested it could not be the fault of the administration, or the Council, or any resident of the City, that realtors or title companies did not notify residents that an area was intended for annexation. He said cities had the right to annex by state law, and residents should have known it was a possibility, except for the one member of the public that had lived in the area his whole life. He said none of the residents were paying him to be there, nor did they vote for him. He said only city residents paid the salaries of the councilmembers, and noted which councilmembers could be voted out by residents of Area 6. He said he was not really sympathetic to anyone that had moved outside of the City in order to pay lower taxes, which was something Walmart had done. He said the vote on the resolution did not matter, because it was just an indication to the administration as to whether or not the Council wanted to move forward with Area 6. He reminded residents that they did have a vote, through the remonstrance process, and encouraged residents to get organized and voice their opinion that way. He said he did not have enough information to fully understand the proposal yet, but if the information he did have held up, he would vote no. He said he understood why the administration chose the area, but also understood why residents were upset. He said the resolution did not matter, and what really mattered was the remonstrances from the people in the area.

Piedmont-Smith said the resolution did matter, because people were worried and upset, and that mattered. She said she disagreed with Volan that there were good reasons to include the area, because she saw no good reason to include it, even if it legally met the definition of being urbanized. She said that was a technicality, and she did not think the area was urbanized. She would vote against it, to save everyone the time and grief, as she believed the citizens would get enough votes through remonstrance to defeat it. She clarified that the City would not automatically put in sewer or street lights, even if it did get annexed, but she would be voting no.

Granger said she loved that the residents had come out, but many had not, and she was voting yes to continue the process to hear from them.

Resolution 17-11 (cont'd)

Ruff said many parts of Area 6 were classic examples of living as close to a City as possible without actually being in the City in order to take advantage of the benefits of living in the City. He said it rubbed him the wrong way to hear people saying they already had what they needed without the City, because those people were part of the community. He said that although many people had nice places, as well as nice, three-minute access to everything they needed in Bloomington, they were against actually being part of the City. But he agreed with Chopra's analysis, and thought the area would get voted down, so he saw no reason to go forward with it.

Mayer said people should ask where they go for necessities, and the answer would likely be Bloomington.

Volan clarified that he did not mean to say the issue did not matter, but that the people had the power to defeat the proposal. He thanked Copra for getting Council meetings moved to 6:30pm. He asked those who were planning to leave to do so quietly.

Sandberg said she would vote yes, to continue the process, though acknowledged it was destined to fail, by the will of the residents. But she still wanted to examine it.

Vote to adopt Resolution 17-11 [11:34pm]

The motion to adopt Resolution 17-11 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 5, Nays: 4 (Sturbaum, Ruff, Chopra, Piedmont-Smith), Abstain: 0.

Resolution 17-12 – A Resolution Concerning the Initiation of Proceedings to Consider Proposed Annexation by the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana (North Bloomington Annexation Area)

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-12 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. Clerk Bolden read Resolution 17-12 by title and synopsis, giving the committee Do Pass recommendation of 8-0-1.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17-12 be adopted.

Council Questions:

Volan asked whether the only reason the area was included was so the City would have influence over the I-69 corridor.

Underwood said that was the primary reason.

Volan asked what the City was worried would happen there, and asked what the City wanted to happen there.

Desmond said the City was concerned with development to the west of I-69.

Volan and Underwood discussed the location of the area in question.

Ruff asked whether a large portion of the area was flood plain.

Desmond said some of the area was in a flood plain.

Ruff asked whether a Par 3 golf course was in the area.

Underwood said yes. He said the area included some flood plain, but that some construction was there, and he noted some businesses that were located in the area.

Ruff asked whether the main concern was development from I-69.

Underwood said yes, as the area would be a main gateway into town once I-69 developed.

Ruff asked about a gorge that was near the area.

Underwood clarified the area being proposed.

Resolution 17-12 (cont'd)

Council Comment:

Volan said he was ambivalent about the area, though including it for some sort of minimal urban growth boundary made sense. He said it was by far the least dense. He reviewed some of the history of I-69, and how it was forced on Bloomington. He said he did not mind controlling the land around I-69. He thanked the administration and everyone who attended the meeting. He said it was difficult, even though it did not need to be. He urged the administration to be sensitive when proposing big things, and suggested they might need to do more outreach if they were going to collect the majority they needed to approve the annexation.

Piedmont-Smith thanked staff for the hours of work that went into the proposal.

Vote to adopt Resolution 17-12 [11:44pm]

The motion to adopt Resolution 17-12 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

Ordinance 17-04 – To Amend the Zoning Maps from Planned Unit Development (PUD) to Commercial General (CG) – Re: 4021-4025 West 3rd Street (GMS-Pavilion Properties, Petitioner)

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 17-04 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. Clerk Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Ordinance 17-05 – To Amend Title 8 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, Entitled "Historic Preservation and Protection" To Establish a Historic District – Re: 1033 S. Ballantine Road Historic District (Nathan Silverstein House)

It was moved and seconded that Ordinance 17-05 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. Clerk Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandberg called for additional public comment.

COUNCIL SCHEDULE [11:47pm]

Sherman reminded the Council of the upcoming schedule.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48pm.

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this 8th day of March, 2017.

APPROVE:

Susan Sandberg, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:

Nicole Bolden, CLERK
City of Bloomington

Bloomington Environmental Action Plan

City of Bloomington Environmental Commission

Introduction

Goals

- To reduce Bloomington's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that contribute to climate change
- To make the community more resilient in the face of an already changing climate
- To preserve the quality of Bloomington's environment

Purpose of the BEAP

- To present policies and initiatives that will reduce GHG emissions 17% from a 2014 baseline by 2020 while enhancing the environment

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

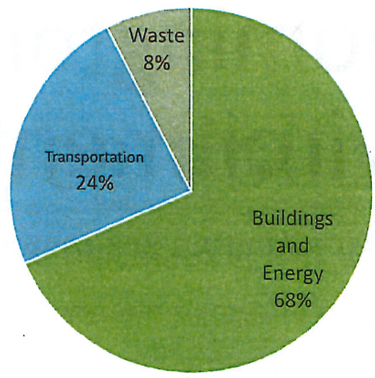
Bloomington released 1.95 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (Co2-e) emissions in 2014.

Reduction targets will reduce CO2-e to 1.62 million metric tons.

2020 Reduction Targets

- Buildings and energy: ↓20%
- Waste: ↓15%
- Transportation: ↓10%

CO2-Equivalent Emissions (2014)



Buildings and Energy

Reduce energy consumption in all of Bloomington's buildings by 20%

Promote informed energy retrofit and consumption decision-making

Build a renewable energy portfolio in Bloomington

Transportation

Reduce vehicle-miles traveled in Bloomington by 10%

Ensure that all Bloomington residents have safe access to transit and can walk or bicycle to meet all non-work needs

Air Quality

Conduct air sampling tests in Bloomington

Urban Ecology

Measure current tree canopy coverage in Bloomington, and work to reach 40% coverage

Promote biodiversity by protecting, enhancing, and expanding natural wildlife habitat areas

Reduce energy consumption and nonpoint source pollution by implementing green infrastructure best management practices

Water

Provide Bloomington residents with educational resources about why they should conserve water

Fix or replace 20 miles of clay drinking water transmission piping

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Bloomington's water treatment plants

Food and Agriculture

Build a resilient system of local food production and consumption

Waste

Reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill by 15%

Summary

Proposed actions will reduce GHG emissions 17% from a 2014 baseline and improve the quality of Bloomington's environment.

- Energy conservation, efficiency, and renewables
- Public transportation, biking, walking
- Air quality
- Natural environment and green infrastructure
- Water conservation
- Local food systems
- Waste reduction

What can you do to help?

Submit suggestions by emailing environment@bloomington.in.gov

Support the Environmental Commission and the BEAP by ____

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Appendix A

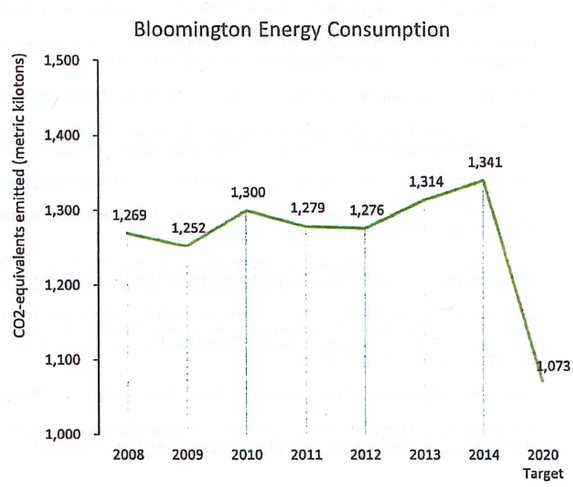
Buildings and Energy

Buildings and Energy

Buildings and energy are the largest contributors to Bloomington's GHG emissions.

The goal is to reduce energy consumption by 20% from 2014 levels by 2020.

Improving energy efficiency, encouraging conservation, and developing renewable energy infrastructure will reduce GHG emissions from buildings and energy.

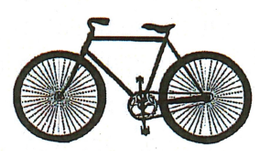


Buildings and Energy

Some actions to achieve reductions in building emissions include

- Change building ordinances to increase energy efficient building practices
- Encourage homeowners to insulate attics and take other efficiency measures
- Create a database of utility information on rental units
- Require sub-metering for individual units in multi-unit buildings
- Study feasibility of renewable energy in Bloomington
- Develop an energy master plan for the City of Bloomington
- Install solar panels on City Hall

Appendix B



Transportation

Transportation

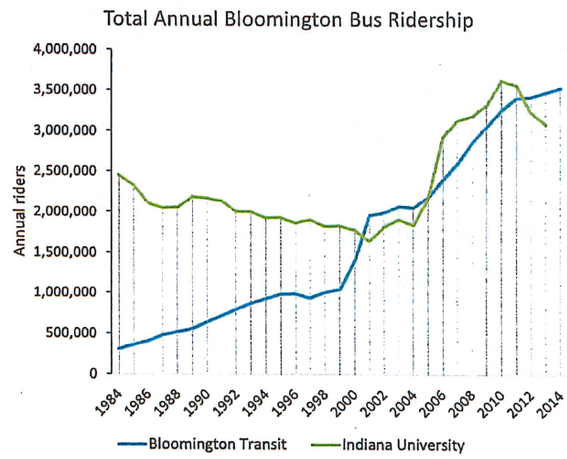
Transportation is the second largest contributor to Bloomington's GHG emissions.

The goal is to reduce transportation emissions by 10%.

Bicycle lane and path miles have increased 80% since 2010.

Annual bus ridership for Bloomington Transit continues to increase, while IU bus ridership has decreased slightly since 2010.

Developing infrastructure for biking, walking, and public transit will reduce the use of personal automobiles, a major contributor to transportation emissions.



Transportation

Some actions to achieve reductions in transportation emissions include

- Promote telework for City Hall employees
- Lobby Indiana legislators for a local tax to increase Bloomington Transit funding
- Increase the amount of covered bicycle structures
- Make "20-Minute-Neighborhoods" a core component of the Comprehensive Master Plan
- Improve pedestrian sidewalks and crosswalks
- Increase the frequency of bicycle courses offered at city facilities

Appendix C

Air Quality

Air Quality

Air quality affects public health, the environment, and property. Some sources of air pollution include: vehicles, industry, power plants, agriculture, and natural sources.

The only air pollution monitor currently operating in Monroe County is for fine particulate matter.

- Fine particulate matter levels have generally been within the national standards since monitoring began in 2009.
- IDEM does not monitor for some other pollutants in Monroe County, because they are generally low in Indiana or they are source-specific.
- Ozone is a pollutant of concern for IDEM. The nearest ozone monitor is in Greene County.

Air Quality

Some actions to improve air quality include

- Install air monitors
- Develop fugitive dust containment guidelines for construction sites
- Determine and monitor how many asthmatics are in the Bloomington community

Appendix D

Urban Ecology

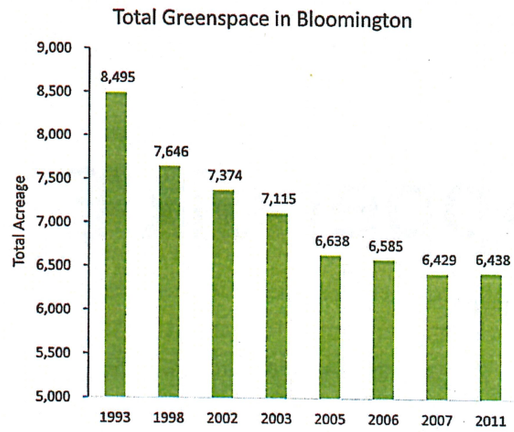
Urban Ecology

Urban forests provide a variety of environmental benefits, including providing wildlife habitat, improving water and air quality, and sequestering carbon dioxide.

Plant and wildlife populations are threatened by land use changes, habitat degradation, invasive species, and climate change.

- Bloomington lost 24% of its greenspace between 1993 and 2011.

Green infrastructure incorporates natural processes to manage stormwater and provide other environmental services.



Urban Ecology

Some actions to improve urban ecology include

- Update codes to maximize tree preservation
- Expand programs promoting the benefits of urban forests
- Develop a policy outlining tree protection for contractors
- Create pocket parks to encourage wildlife mobility
- Join the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge
- Hire additional Parks and Recreation employees to control invasive species
- Provide educational resources about invasive species management
- Implement green infrastructure techniques at city facilities
- Adopt a green infrastructure policy to manage stormwater

Appendix E

Water

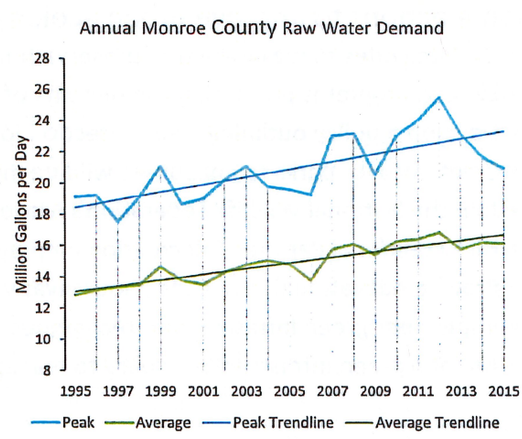
Water

In 2013, water treatment and pumping accounted for 24% of energy use and 31% of total city government GHG emissions.

A drought in the summer of 2012 led the city to put a restriction on water use due to limited treatment capacity.

Water extraction from Lake Monroe has increased by an average of 1.7% per year.

Water conservation efforts will help ensure there is an adequate water supply and reduce GHG emissions from water treatment and pumping.

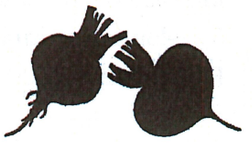


Water

Some actions to conserve water include

- Expand educational campaigns to conserve water
- Require all new multi-unit buildings to sub-meter their water use
- Implement conservation billing and conservation pricing for water use
- Perform an audit of non-revenue water
- Create a water pipe leakage management plan
- Study the feasibility of anaerobic wastewater treatment

Appendix F



Food and Agriculture

Food and Agriculture

Less than 5% of the food consumed in Bloomington comes from Indiana, and less than 2% comes from within city limits or the surrounding counties.

An estimated 17% of American energy use is taken up by our food system due to traveling long distances and other industrial agriculture practices.

Supporting local food systems will reduce GHG emissions from industrial food production and transportation and it will improve community resilience.

Food and Agriculture

Some actions to improve food systems include

- Support the creation of a local food hub
- Increase the number of community gardens
- Develop an educational campaign about the impacts of food systems
- Revise the city's urban agriculture regulations

Appendix G

Waste

Waste

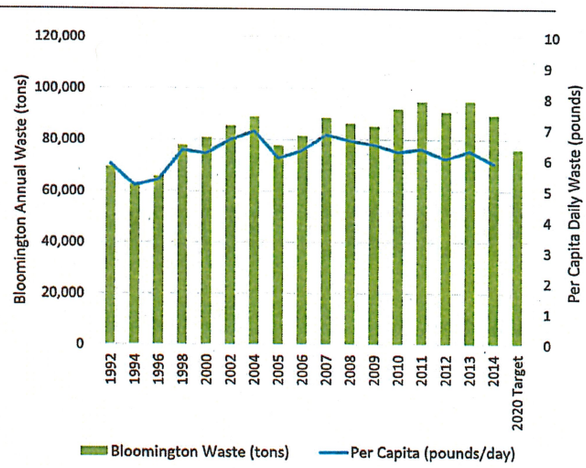
Landfilled waste accounts for approximately 8% of Bloomington's GHG emissions.

Bloomington's annual estimated 90,000 metric tons of solid waste travels 55 miles to a landfill.

Bloomington's recycling rate is 36%, compared to a national average of about 34%.

About 96% of the food waste we throw away could be composted.

Reducing the amount of waste going to the landfill will reduce GHG emissions from transportation and the methane created in the landfill.



Waste

Some actions to reduce waste include

- Support the creation of a compost facility
- Educate the public about composting
- Expand curbside recycling pickup
- Require all multi-unit buildings to have adequate recycling facilities
- Promote using deconstruction services for demolition projects