

# City of Bloomington Common Council

## Legislative Packet

Containing legislation and materials related to:

Wednesday, 06 January 2021

*Organizational Meeting*

*6:30 PM*

*\*Please see the notes on the [Agenda](#) about addressing public meetings during the public health emergency.*

*For a schedule of upcoming meetings of the Council and the City's boards and commissions, please consult the City's [Calendar](#).*



# CITY OF BLOOMINGTON COMMON COUNCIL

AGENDA AND NOTICE:  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY | 6:30 PM  
06 JANUARY 2021

Per Executive Orders issued by the Governor, this meeting will be conducted electronically.

The public may access the meeting at the following link:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/99849823005?pwd=Z2dzTVVVLV2M5KytITDdLemdaTDRTQT09>

- I. **ROLL CALL**
- II. **AGENDA SUMMATION**
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (*None*)
- IV. **REPORTS** (*A maximum of twenty minutes is set aside for each part of this section.*)
  - A. **Councilmembers**
  - B. **The Mayor and City Offices**
  - C. **Council Committees**
  - D. **Public\***
- V. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**  
(*Once the Council elects its officers and resumes holding meetings in the Council Chambers, the President will assign Councilmembers their seats at the dais.*)
- VI. **LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READINGS AND RESOLUTIONS**
  - A. Resolution 21-01 - To Consolidate Standing Committees of the Common Council
- VII. **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS**  
(*The Council may take this opportunity to appoint Councilmembers to serve on various boards and commissions; and, if any nominations are ready, the Council may also consider the appointment of members of the public to serve on boards and commissions. The President may also, at this time, announce assignments of Councilmembers to Council committees.*)
- VIII. **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT\***  
(*A maximum of twenty-five minutes is set aside for this section.*)
- IX. **COUNCIL SCHEDULE**
- X. **ADJOURNMENT**

\* Members of the public may speak on matters of community concern not listed on the agenda at one of the two public comment opportunities. Citizens may speak at one of these periods, but not both. Speakers are allowed five minutes; this time allotment may be reduced by the presiding officer if numerous people wish to speak.

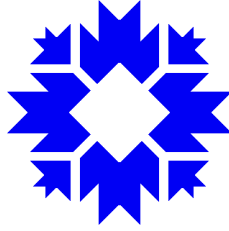
## STATEMENT ON PUBLIC MEETINGS DURING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

As a result of Executive Orders issued by Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb, the Council and its committees may adjust normal meeting procedures to adhere to guidance provided by state officials. These adjustments may include:

- allowing members of the Council or its committees to participate in meetings electronically;
- posting notices and agendas for meetings solely by electronic means;
- using electronic meeting platforms to allow for remote public attendance and participation (when possible);
- encouraging the public to watch meetings via Community Access Television Services broadcast or livestream, and encouraging remote submissions of public comment (via email, to [council@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:council@bloomington.in.gov)).

Please check <https://bloomington.in.gov/council> for the most up-to-date information on how the public can access Council meetings during the public health emergency.

Posted: 31 December 2020



**City of Bloomington  
Office of the Common Council**

# **NOTICE**

**Wednesday, 06 January 2021**  
***Organizational Meeting***  
**at 6:30 pm**

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*The public may access the meeting at the following link:*

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**STATEMENT ON PUBLIC MEETINGS DURING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

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- *allowing members of the Council or its committees to participate in meetings electronically;*
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- *using electronic meeting platforms to allow for remote public attendance and participation (when possible);*
- *encouraging the public to watch meetings via Community Access Television Services broadcast or livestream, and encouraging remote submissions of public comment (via email, to [council@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:council@bloomington.in.gov)).*

*Please check <https://bloomington.in.gov/council> for the most up-to-date information*

As a quorum of the Council or its committees may be present, this gathering constitutes a meeting under the Indiana Open Door Law (I.C. § 5-14-1.5). For that reason, this statement provides notice that this meeting will occur and is open for the public to attend, observe, and record what transpires.

# **Material Related to Elections, Appointments, and Assignments Scheduled for Action at the Common Council Organizational Meeting**

- 1. Document for Reference: Election of Council Officers, Appointments & Assignments For 2020**
  - Election of Officers,
  - Appointments to Boards and Commissions (by the Council), and
  - Assignments (by the President) to Council Committees for 2020
- 2. Document for Action: Election of Council Officers, Appointments & Assignments For 2021 (blank)**
  - Election of Officers,
  - Appointments to Boards and Commissions (by the Council),
  - Assignments (by the President) to Council Committees for 2021
- 3. Document for Action: Council Member Seating History 2015 – 2021 (Assigned by President and blank 2021)**
- 4. Document for Reference: Boards and Commissions - Interview Committee Assignment Grid for 2020**
- 5. Document for Reference: Standing Committee Assignment grid for 2020**
- 6. Document for Action: Standing Committee Assignment grid (blank 2021)**

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS, APPOINTMENTS &  
ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2020**

**ACTION BY MOTIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

<b>President</b>	<u>Volan</u>
<b>Vice President</b>	<u>Sims</u>
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	<u>Piedmont-Smith</u>
<b>Citizens Advisory Committee - Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)</b>	
<b>Social Services</b>	<u>Smith</u>
<b>Physical Improvements</b>	<u>Rosenbarger</u>
<b>Commission for Bloomington Downtown</b>	<u>Sgambelluri</u>
<b>Economic Development Commission (City)</b>	<u>Rosenbarger</u>
<b>Economic Development Commission (County)</b>	<u>Smith</u>
<b>Environmental Resource Advisory Council</b>	<u>Sgambelluri</u>
<b>Metropolitan Planning Organization</b>	<u>Flaherty</u>
<b>Plan Commission</b>	<u>Sandberg</u>
<b>Solid Waste Management District</b>	<u>Piedmont-Smith</u>
<b>Board of the Urban Enterprise Association</b>	<u>Rosenbarger</u>
<b>Utilities Service Board (ex officio)</b>	<u>Sims</u>
<b>Bloomington Economic Development Commission</b>	<u>Rosenbarger</u>
<b>Bloomington Commission on Sustainability</b>	<u>Rollo</u>
<b>Parking Commission</b>	<u>Volan</u>
<b>PS LIT – Allocation Committee (New 2017 – assuming the MC LIT Council members meet in the same manner as 2019)</b>	<u>Piedmont-Smith, Sgambelluri, Sims &amp; Smith</u>
<b>Monroe County Food and Beverage Tax Advisory Commission (New 2019 – IC 6-9-41-16[a][5])</b>	<u>Volan</u>

**ACTION BY PRESIDENT (Assignment to Standing Committees and Appointment of Chairs)**

**Administration Committee**

Sims, Sgambelluri, Rollo, Volan (Chair)

**Climate Action and Resilience Committee**

Flaherty (Chair), Sgambelluri, Rollo, Piedmont-Smith

**Community Affairs Committee**

Sandberg, Sims, Smith (Chair), Rollo

**Housing Committee**

Sandberg, Rosenbarger (Chair), Smith, Volan

**Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee (4 council members)**

Sandberg (Chair), Flaherty, Sgambelluri, Smith

**Land Use Committee**

Flaherty, Rosenbarger, Piedmont-Smith (Chair), Volan

**Public Safety Committee**

Sandberg, Sims (Chair), Sgambelluri, Piedmont-Smith

**Sidewalk Committee**

Sims, Rosenbarger, Smith (Chair), Rollo

**Sustainable Development Committee**

Sandberg, Flaherty, Sgambelluri (Chair), Volan

**Transportation Committee**

Rosenbarger (Chair), Smith, Piedmont-Smith, Volan

**Utilities and Sanitation Committee**

Sims, Flaherty, Rosenbarger, Rollo (Chair)

Please refer to the Interview Committee Assignment Grid for the 2020 memberships of those committees, along with the various boards/commissions each committee was assigned.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS, APPOINTMENTS & ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2021

ACTION BY MOTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

President  
Vice President  
Parliamentarian

Citizens Advisory Committee - Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)  
Social Services  
Physical Improvements

Downtown Bloomington, Inc.

Economic Development Commission (City)  
(nomination to 4-year term) Rosenbarger – appointed in 2020

Economic Development Commission (County)  
(nomination to 4-year term) Smith – appointed in 2020

Environmental Resources Advisory Council

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Plan Commission  
(term of Council appointee is co-extensive with that member’s term of office on Council, unless the Council appoints another to serve as its representative – IC 36-7-4-217) Sandberg

Solid Waste Management District  
(term of Council appointee is co-extensive with that member’s term of office on Council, but serves at the pleasure of the Council – IC 13-21-3-8) Piedmont-Smith

Board of the Urban Enterprise Association  
(4-year term) Rosenbarger – appointed in 2020

Utilities Service Board (ex officio)

Bloomington Economic Development Corporation

Bloomington Commission on Sustainability  
(2-year term) Rollo – appointed in 2020

Parking Commission

PS LIT Committee (4 council members, assuming the MC LIT Council members meet in the same manner as 2020)

Monroe County Food and Beverage Tax Advisory Commission (New 2019 – IC 6-9-41-16(a)(5))

**ACTION BY PRESIDENT (Assignment to Standing Committees and Appointment of Chairs)**

**Administration Committee**

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**Climate Action and Resilience Committee**

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**Community Affairs Committee**

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**Housing Committee**

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**Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee (4 council members)**

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**Land Use Committee**

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**Public Safety Committee**

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**Sidewalk Committee (Regarding 2022 Funds)**

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**Sustainable Development Committee**

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**Transportation Committee**

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**Utilities and Sanitation Committee**

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*Note: Should the Council act to create or abolish any standing committees, thereby affecting the list of committees above, the President should adjust the assignments to affected committees accordingly.*



# Council Member Seating 2015 – 2021 (Assigned by President) <sup>1</sup>

## Seating For the Year 2015

Neher	Granger	Mayer	Ruff	Rollo	Sandberg	Sturbaum	Volan	Spechler
			Vice President	President	Parliamentarian			

## Seating For the Year 2016

Granger	Sturbaum	Mayer	Sandberg	Ruff	Volan	Piedmont-Smith	Chopra	Rollo
			Vice President	President	Parliamentarian			

## Seating For the Year 2017 (January – July)

Sturbaum	Ruff	Chopra	Granger	Sandberg	Mayer	Piedmont-Smith	Volan	Rollo
			Vice President	President	Parliamentarian			

## Seating For the Year 2017(August – December)

Sturbaum	Ruff	Chopra	Granger	Sandberg	Volan	Piedmont-Smith	Sims	Rollo
			Vice President	President	Parliamentarian			

## Seating For the Year 2018

Ruff	Sturbaum	Chopra	Piedmont-Smith	Granger	Volan	Sandberg	Sims	Rollo
			Vice President	President	Parliamentarian			

## Seating For the Year 2019

Ruff	Chopra	Piedmont-Smith	Granger	Rollo	Volan	Sims	Sturbaum	Sandberg
			Vice President	President	Parliamentarian			

## Seating For the Year 2020

Rollo	Sgambelluri	Rosenbarger	Sims	Volan	Piedmont-Smith	Flaherty	Smith	Sandberg
			Vice	President	Parliamentarian			

## Seating for the Year 2021

			Vice President	President	Parliamentarian			

<sup>1</sup> Written requests by two Council members to exchange seats will be granted by the President. (per BMC 2.04.110)

<div>BOARD AND COMMISSION -- INTERVIEW COMMITTEE<sup>1</sup></div> <div>ASSIGNMENT GRID 2020</div>			
Committee →	A Sims, Smith & Rosenbarger	B Flaherty, Sgambelluri & Volan	C Piedmont-Smith, Rollo & Sandberg
↓ Boards and Commissions			
Animal Control	X		
Bloomington Community Arts Commission			X
Bike and Ped Commission		X	
Bloomington Digital Underground		X	
Board of Zoning Appeals	X		
Commission on Aging	X		
Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs			X
Commission on the Status of Black Males		X	
Commission on the Status of Women		X	
Commission on Sustainability			X
Commission on the Status of Children and Youth			X
Economic Development Commission	COUNCIL		
Environmental Commission		X	
Historic Preservation	X		
Housing Quality Appeals Board	X		
Housing Trust Fund			X
Human Rights Commission			X
MLK Commission		X	
Parking Commission			X
Public Transportation Corporation	X		
Redevelopment Commission	X		
Telecommunications Council		X	
Traffic Commission		X	
Tree Commission			X
Urban Enterprise Association	X		
Utilities Service Board			X

<sup>1</sup> The three Board and Commission Interview Committees were Standing Committees of the Council enabled by [Res 13-04 To Consolidate the Council Board and Commission Interviewing and Nominating Committees](#). Please note that the Interview Committees were abolished, effective Sept 1, 2020, by the Council through the adoption of [Res 20-01 To Establish Standing Committees and Abolish Other Certain Committees of the Common Council](#).

# Common Council Standing Committees - 2020

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS		AR	AS	AJ	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6
Denotes <i>Chair</i> *		Susan	Jim	Matt	Kate	Sue	Ron	Dave	Isabel	Steve
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES										
Administration		Jim				Sue		Dave		Steve*
Climate Action & Resilience			Matt*			Sue		Dave	Isabel	
Community Affairs	Susan	Jim					Ron*	Dave		
Housing	Susan				Kate*		Ron			Steve
Land Use			Matt	Kate					Isabel*	Steve
Public Safety	Susan	Jim*				Sue			Isabel	
Sustainable Development	Susan		Matt			Sue*				Steve
Transportation					Kate*		Ron		Isabel	Steve
Utilities & Sanitation		Jim	Matt	Kate				Dave*		
FUNDING COMMITTEES										
Jack Hopkins Social Svcs (spring)	Susan*		Matt			Sue	Ron			
PS LIT (summer)		Jim				Sue	Ron		Isabel*	
Sidewalk (fall)		Jim*			Kate		Ron	Dave		

# Common Council Standing Committees - 2021

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS	AR	AS	AJ	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6
denotes <i>chair</i> *	Susan	Jim	Matt	Kate	Sue	Ron	Dave	Isabel	Steve
<b>LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES</b>									
Administration									
Climate Action & Resilience									
Community Affairs									
Housing									
Land Use									
Public Safety									
Sustainable Development									
Transportation									
Utilities & Sanitation									
<b>FUNDING COMMITTEES</b>									
Jack Hopkins Social Svcs (spring)									
PS LIT (summer)									
Sidewalk (fall)									



## MEMO FROM COUNCIL OFFICE ON:

### **Resolution 21-01 – To Consolidate Standing Committees of the Common Council**

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#### **Synopsis**

This resolution is authored by Councilmember Volan and consolidates, redefines, and dissolves various Council standing committees.

#### **Relevant Materials**

- Resolution 21-01
- Memo from Councilmember Volan
- Fiscal Impact Statement forthcoming

#### **Summary**

Pursuant to local code, the Council may by resolution establish standing committees and define the duties and responsibilities of each committee to facilitate the transaction of business.<sup>1</sup> The Council may also create or abolish standing committees by adoption of subsequent resolutions.

On February 19, 2020, the Council adopted [Resolution 20-01](#), which created several new standing committees of the Council and dissolved three Council Interview Committees. A discussion and summary of Resolution 20-01 and standing committees in general, provided by previous Council Administrator/Attorney Dan Sherman, can be found in the legislative packet for the January 8, 2020 Organizational Meeting, available online here:

[https://bloomington.in.gov/onboard/meetingFiles/download?meetingFile\\_id=5286#page=9](https://bloomington.in.gov/onboard/meetingFiles/download?meetingFile_id=5286#page=9)

Please note that staff has only conducted a preliminary review of Resolution 21-01, as the proposal was received by the Council Office on December 30, 2020.

#### **Contact**

Stephen Volan, [volans@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:volans@bloomington.in.gov), 812-349-3409

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<sup>1</sup> [BMC 2.04.210](#)

## **RESOLUTION 21-01**

### **TO CONSOLIDATE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL**

- WHEREAS, the standing committee system established last year has made the legislative process more accessible to city departments, city residents, and the various petitioners that come before the Council, and has provided more opportunities for concerned residents to be heard; and
- WHEREAS, standing committees have allowed Councilmembers to better manage their workload and time while responding to changing community priorities, have provided predictability in meeting scheduling and duration; and
- WHEREAS, despite having extended the default legislative cycle, standing committees have held only a fraction of legislative items for extended deliberation; and
- WHEREAS, the Common Council currently has the following eleven standing committees: Administration, Climate Action and Resilience, Community Affairs, Housing, Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding, Land Use, Public Safety, Sidewalk, Sustainable Development, Transportation, and Utilities and Sanitation, along with a four-member delegation of councilmembers who serve on the Monroe County Public Safety Local Income Tax Council; and
- WHEREAS, the Council wishes to consolidate or adjust some committees after the first year under a committee system, as some committees proved to be of greater value than others; and
- WHEREAS, the 2020 Indiana Elected Municipal Officials Handbook published by Accelerate Indiana Municipalities describes standing committees as “usually set up at the beginning of the term of office, and to which are referred all matters relating to specific subjects”; and
- WHEREAS, the Climate Action and Resilience Committee should be abolished and its functions subsumed by the Sustainable Development Committee; and
- WHEREAS, the Housing Committee should be abolished and its functions subsumed by the Land Use Committee; and
- WHEREAS, after it has completed its review and report regarding 2021 sidewalk funding recommendations, the Sidewalk Committee should be abolished and its functions subsumed by the Transportation Committee; and
- WHEREAS, the Utilities and Sanitation Committee should be abolished and its functions subsumed by the Community Affairs Committee; and
- WHEREAS, the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee should continue without the word “Funding” in its title, and become eligible to have legislation referred to it other than the ordinance that appropriates the annual Hopkins Social Services Fund; and
- WHEREAS, the Administration, Public Safety, and Transportation Committees should continue unchanged;

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

SECTION 1. Land Use and Housing Committee. The Council hereby renames and redefines the Land Use Committee as follows:

The Land Use and Housing Committee shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Council on matters certified to the Council by the Plan Commission. It shall also research and take input on other land use matters of community concern, with a focus on implementing the city's Comprehensive Plan and Unified Development Ordinance, as well as on more specific issues relating to land use within the city's planning jurisdiction, both by the city itself and other public or private developers. The Committee shall also focus on the various facets of housing in the city, including support for low-income housing and historic preservation, and to research and take input on other housing issues of community concern. The Land Use Committee shall act as liaison to and be responsible for oversight of the following city departments; and shall act as liaison to, be responsible for oversight of, and if the Council has appointments to be made, make appointment recommendations to the Council for the following boards and commissions:

City Departments/Divisions

Housing and Neighborhood Development  
Parks and Recreation  
Planning and Transportation: planning matters

Boards and Commissions

Historic Preservation Commission  
Housing Authority Board  
Housing Quality Appeals Board  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Plan Commission  
Plat Committee  
Tree Commission  
Board of Zoning Appeals

SECTION 2. Sustainability, Climate Action and Resilience Committee. The Council hereby renames and redefines the Sustainable Development Committee as follows:

The Sustainability, Climate Action and Resilience Committee shall focus on the city's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase community resilience in the face of climate change, and implement sustainability as a guiding principle. All three facets of sustainability will fall under this committee purview: economy, environment, and social equity. The Sustainability, Climate Action and Resilience Committee shall also act as liaison to and be responsible for oversight of the following boards, commissions, and city departments:

City Departments

Economic and Sustainable Development

Boards and Commissions

Bloomington Urban Enterprise Association  
Redevelopment Commission  
Environmental Commission  
Farmers 'Market Advisory Council  
Human Rights Commission  
Bloomington Commission on Sustainability  
Economic Development Commission  
Bloomington Industrial Development Advisory Commission

The Sustainability, Climate Action and Resilience Committee shall be responsible for making appointment recommendations to the Council for the following boards and commissions:

Bloomington Urban Enterprise Association  
Redevelopment Commission  
Environmental Commission  
Bloomington Arts Commission  
Bloomington Commission on Sustainability

SECTION 3. Community Affairs Committee. The Council hereby redefines the Community Affairs Committee as follows:

The Community Affairs Committee shall focus on basic public services by such as water and wastewater treatment, stormwater infrastructure, and sanitation, as well as the outreach and community support functions carried out mainly by, or with staff support from, the Community and Family Resources Department, but also by other citizen boards or commissions, and shall research and take input on other community affairs and matters that do not otherwise fall within the purview of another standing committee. The Community Affairs Committee shall act as liaison to and be responsible for oversight of the following city departments; and shall act as liaison to, be responsible for oversight of, and if the Council has appointments to be made, make appointment recommendations to the Council for the following boards and commissions:

City Departments/Divisions

Community and Family Resources  
City of Bloomington Utilities  
Sanitation Division of Public Works Department

Boards and Commissions

Commission on Aging  
Arts Commission  
Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs  
Commission on the Status of Black Males  
Commission on the Status of Children and Youth  
Commission on the Status of Women  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Commission  
Utilities Service Board

SECTION 4. Dissolution of Some Committees. The following committees shall be dissolved:

- (a) Housing;
- (b) Climate Action and Resilience;
- (c) Utilities and Sanitation; and
- (d) Sidewalk (after the existing Sidewalk Committee has completed its review and report regarding 2021 sidewalk funding recommendations).

SECTION 5. Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee. The Council hereby renames and redefines the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee as follows:

The Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee shall focus on the provision of social services, whether by public or private entities, particularly social services rendered in an emergency context. The committee, along with three City residents with experience in social services appointed by the Committee Chair, shall continue to recommend to the Council the annual allocation of monies in the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Program.

SECTION 6. The newly-approved Community Advisory on Public Safety (CAPS) Commission shall be overseen by the Council's Public Safety Committee, which shall also make appointment recommendations to the Council.

SECTION 7. Severability. If any section, sentence or provision of this resolution, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be declared invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any of the other sections, sentences, provisions or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this resolution are declared to be severable.



PASSED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_, President  
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk  
City of Bloomington

PRESENTED by me to the Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk  
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN HAMILTON, Mayor  
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution is authored by Councilmember Volan and consolidates, redefines, and dissolves various Council standing committees.

**To:** Council

**From:** Steve Volan, Councilmember, District VI

**Date:** December 30, 2020

**Re: Resolution 21-01, consolidating some committees**

Based on our December 21 discussion and our first year's experience, Resolution 21-01 proposes a practical and pragmatic consolidation of standing committees, for consideration on Organization Day, January 6. It consolidates the eleven existing committees into eight.

Res. 21-01 should be thought of as a buffet of options, though. Each is designed to be easily stricken by amendment if Council prefers to see certain committees remain. The resolution is consistent with our ongoing re-evaluation of the legislative process through the committee system.

**Section 1: Merge Housing into Land Use**

No legislation was referred to the Housing Committee in 2020. Because a primary value of a standing committee is as a vehicle for evaluating legislation, housing issues could be taken up by a more active committee with a related portfolio. Section 1 merges it into the Land Use Committee; Section 4, paragraph (a) dissolves Housing.

**Section 2: Merge Climate Action & Resilience back into Sustainable Development**

This reflects the original proposal of Res 20-01, which was split by amendment into the two existing committees. Section 2 restores the original name; Section 4, paragraph (b) dissolves Climate Action and Resilience.

**Section 3: Merge Utilities & Sanitation into Community Affairs**

Each committee held only one meeting in 2020 to consider referred legislation. Community Affairs was intended to be the catch-all committee for all other topics not specific enough to merit a more specific committee, Section 3 merges Utilities & Sanitation into it, and Section 4, paragraph (c) eliminates Utilities & Sanitation.

**Section 4, paragraph (d): Dissolve the Sidewalk Committee**

Planning & Transportation staff and several Councilmembers believe that the Sidewalk Fund should be allocated by staff instead of the Council Sidewalk Committee process. While I take no position on the merit of this idea, I have included it in the resolution for the sake of discussion.

**Section 5: Elevate Jack Hopkins Social Services to a “full” committee**

Up until now, it has been the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee, its limited purpose to advise on the allocation of funds. But emergency social services are one of the important topics of our time, and Hopkins, like Sidewalk, is and has been a

standing committee for decades. Council should use this committee to take up matters that are increasingly weighing on us.

Rather than burden Community Affairs with that portfolio, Section 5 simply proposes eliminating the word “Funding” from the committee’s title and giving its members the ability to think about these issues. (It also notes that the committee is made up of four Councilmembers, and that three members of the public with expertise in social services join it for allocating Hopkins dollars.) This is a modest and useful upgrade to the committee’s original function.

#### **Section 6: Have Public Safety oversee the CAPS Commission**

This is a simple administrative fix that houses the new CAPS Commission in the Public Safety Committee’s portfolio.

#### **Conclusions**

If this resolution is adopted, Council may have as few as seven standing committees, with 28 total seats, enough for each member to get three assignments (and a leftover bonus assignment for some member who’s been really good):

- Administration
- Community Affairs
- Jack Hopkins Social Services
- Land Use
- Public Safety
- Sustainability, Climate Action & Resilience; and
- Transportation.

Members should look at this as an opportunity to make changes, which without a resolution would not be possible, but also think of it as a buffet. I have structured this resolution to make it relatively easy to strip out consolidations that the Council does not wish to make at this time.

*Postscript:* There is one other “committee” to deal with: since 2016, Council has named members to the “Public Safety Local Income Tax (PS LIT) Committee.” This is not a City Council committee. It’s the seven-member committee of the 24-member Monroe County LIT Council<sup>1</sup>, to which we appoint four members. Three of the four members in 2020 were also members of the City Council’s Public Safety Committee. It’s my recommendation that we simply designate that members of our Public Safety Committee automatically serve as our delegation to the countywide PS LIT Council.

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<sup>1</sup> As a reminder, the MC LIT Council membership is entirely ex-officio, made up of the nine members of the City Council, the seven of the County Council, the five of the Ellettsville Council, and the three of the Stinesville Council.