

Resolution 21-02 that the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability Convene a Multi-Stakeholder Community Meeting for the Consultant Environmental Justice Solutions to Present on their Municipal Racial Equity Impact Assessment & Tool

Co-sponsor(s): Colin Murphy, Jerrett Alexander, Nejla Routsong

Adopted November 9, 2021

WHEREAS, the Bloomington Common Council unanimously authorized a citywide Climate Action Plan (CAP) on 21 April 2021 with the goals of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050; enhancing climate resilience; ensuring a healthy and equitable standard of living for all residents; and protecting the city’s most vulnerable populations, among others;¹ and,

WHEREAS, multiple provisions in Bloomington’s CAP address equity concerns, including EB1-B-4 (expand countywide solar access, especially for low- and moderate-income households), EB2-B-5 (energy efficiency upgrades for multifamily residents), EB2-B-15 (mitigate the heat island effect, with preference for trial in low-income or at-risk communities), TL1-C-3 (identify and implement micro-transit options to improve transit system access for underserved and vulnerable populations), TL1-C-5 (prioritize high-vulnerable population bus routes for time equity/parity improvements), and many more; and,

WHEREAS, the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability is the primary citizen- body that the Common Council and Climate Action Plan have charged with supporting the CAP’s implementation, with the delegated responsibility of coordinating with City staff “in all relevant departments to receive updates on City projects and progress;”² and,

WHEREAS, the Bloomington Climate Action Plan has identified the need to mobilize community members and generate coordination with organizational, jurisdictional, and institutional partners to facilitate climate action plan implementation;³ and,

WHEREAS, the statutory mission of this Commission is “to promote [the] sustainable socio-environmental-economic well-being of Bloomington and all its inhabitants;”⁴ and,

WHEREAS, members of the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability have expressed enthusiasm about inviting Environmental Justice Solutions (hereinafter “Consultant” or “EJS”) to present to a group of community stakeholders on the 90- page Racial Equity Impact Assessment and Tool (REIA) that EJS developed for the City of Oakland’s 2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan, which the City of Oakland adopted bindingly in 2020. BCOS commissioners are interested in sourcing best practices from Oakland’s REIA should they prove useful for application during Bloomington’s CAP implementation; so,

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability commits itself to organizing an inclusive, multi-stakeholder community meeting per the attached REIA Proposal Option #2;

Be It Further Resolved That the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability will decide on the presentation date at a time that works best for the Consultant, BCOS commissioners, and key invitee-stakeholders, with an eye towards holding the presentation sometime in February 2022;

Be It Further Resolved That upon approval, BCOS will transmit this resolution to the Bloomington Common Council, Office of the Mayor, and Monroe County Board of Commissioners, notifying them of BCOS's intention to organize this community meeting.

Resolution Passes 9-1-0

1 Bloomington Climate Action Plan 2021, Executive Summary.

2 Bloomington Climate Action Plan 2021, 123.

3 Ibid.

4 City of Bloomington Municipal Code, Chapter 2.12: Ord. 08-02 § 1, 2008; Ord. 05-15 § 1, 2005.

Proposal for the City of Oakland, California’s Racial Equity Impact Assessment & Tool (REIA) Authors to Present their Findings and Best Practices in Conversation with the Bloomington Community

September 2021

Summary & Rationale

Every city approaches the question of equity and justice differently. Research suggests that there are a wide array of approaches to integrating equity and justice frameworks into climate action plans at all governmental levels. Cross-pollination of ideas when it comes to best practices for integrating equity into climate action plans (CAPs) on the one hand, and implementing said plans on the other, is a worthy endeavor on which this proposal seeks to execute. Since BCOS is charged with assisting the City in its implementation of its CAP, a powerful product from this project could be a set of best practices from Oakland that BCOS could leverage, ad hoc, to assist in helping Bloomington implement its climate action plan.

Objectives

★ *Answer the following question(s):

- What elements of Oakland’s Equitable Climate Action Plan do you think would be more (or less) applicable to a smaller Midwestern city like Bloomington?
- What are some racial justice best practices for BCOS to consider employing as we help implement the CAP?
- What potential exists, if any, to advance the conversation around racial equity in Bloomington’s CAP?

★ Expand upon the community conversation around the equity and justice aspects of Bloomington’s climate mitigation and adaptation plan.

★ Explore tangible action(s) and/or material gain(s) for the community in the spirit of just transition that could result from this project. Report back to BCOS on findings.

*Devise a list of ways we can leverage the REIA conversations to enhance both Bloomington CAP implementation and our oversight work in furtherance of said.

*Asterisked aims are SMART goal-able.

Proposed Budget

For an adequate presentation length, the consultant suggests at least one hour. To ensure the consultant has sufficient time to present and the audience to ask questions, we propose a budget allocation of one and one half to two times the hourly rate for both the Principal and Senior Associate.

Consultant	Rate (\$)	Option 1: 1.5 hours	Option 2: 2 hours
Marybelle Nzegwu Tobi	\$275.00	\$412.50	\$550.00

Colin Miller	\$225.00	\$337.50	\$450.00
TOTAL COST	\$500.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00

Potential Partners

- I. NGOs
 - A. NAACP Monroe County Branch
 - B. Hoosier Environmental Council
 - C. Sunrise Bloomington
 - D. Black Lives Matter Btown
 - E. Neurodiversity Coalition at IU
 - F. The Language Conservancy
 - G. Indiana Recovery Alliance
 - H. National Association on Mental Illness (NAMI), Greater Bloomington Area
 - I. Middle Way House
 - J. Sycamore Land Trust (maybe?)
- II. City of Bloomington
 - A. Common Council - Climate Action Committee
 - B. Department of Economic & Sustainable Development
 - C. Human Rights Commission
 - D. Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs
 - E. Commission on the Status of Black Males
 - F. Environmental Commission
 - G. Council for Community Accessibility
 - H. Commission on Aging
 - I. Community Advisory on Public Safety (CAPS) Commission
- III. County of Monroe
 - A. Environmental Commission
 - B. Monroe County Council
 - C. Monroe County Board of Commissioners
- IV. Business
 - A. Gnarly Tree Sustainability Institute
 - V. IU
 - A. Professor Sanya Carley
 - B. Professor David Konisky
 - C. SPEA Energy Justice team
 - D. SustainIU

Resources

1. Plan to Advance Racial Equity v.2 (City of Bloomington)
2. Monroe County Library - Civic Organizations Database

ADDENDUM TO RESOLUTION 21-02

This addendum supplements Resolution 21-02 that the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability Convene a Multi-Stakeholder Community Meeting for the Consultant Environmental Justice Solutions to Present on their Municipal Racial Equity Impact Assessment & Tool, as follows:

1. Environmental Justice Solutions (Consultant) will facilitate a 90 minute community town hall and 30 minute debrief and next steps sessions session with Commission members and Council members. This community town hall will include a 30 minute presentation about the consultant's experience in Oakland developing the racial equity indicators tool and 60 minutes of a listening session and open forum with community members. The listening session portion of the event will serve to inform City of Bloomington's Climate Action Plan implementation. The event will provide community members with an open forum to discuss community needs and priorities for equitable climate action implementation.
2. The event will be held as a hybrid event in a community location, such as the Monroe County Public Library, using best practices for community engagement and following City of Bloomington covid protocols, as applicable at the time of the event.
3. The event budget will be not to exceed \$1,500, for two consultants participating virtually at the joint billable rate of \$500.00 for a total of three (3) billable hours. The event budget of \$1,500 includes billable time for two consultants to facilitate an event of 90 minutes, an event debrief and next steps meeting, and no more than 1 hour of billable event preparation.
4. Lauren Clemens, Assistant Director of Sustainability and staff liaison for the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability, will serve as the Project Manager for the event and the City of Bloomington Economic and Sustainable Development Department will sponsor the costs of the event.

2017-01

To Establish Rules and Procedures for the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability

Whereas, Bloomington Municipal Code Section 2.12.100(8)(F) permits the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability to adopt rules and regulations for the conduct of its business; and

Whereas, the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability has created a set of Bylaws, which are attached to this Resolution as Exhibit 1, for the conduct of its business; and

Whereas, the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability finds the following Bylaws to be appropriate and necessary.

Section 1. The attached Bylaws noted in Exhibit 1 are adopted and shall now govern the operating procedures for the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability.

Section 2. The Bylaws may be amended with the approval of a new resolution passed by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability.

Passed and Adopted by the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this _____ day of _____.

Signature of Chair of Bloomington Commission on Sustainability

Witness

Exhibit 1

City of Bloomington, Indiana Bloomington Commission on Sustainability Bylaws

Article I. Members

Appointment and Residency. BMC § 2.12.100(3) The commission shall consist of fourteen (14) members. Six (6) of the members shall be appointed by the mayor and six (6) shall be appointed by the common council. No more than two of the mayor's appointments and no more than two of the common council appointments may be citizens who live outside the corporate city limits of Bloomington and within Monroe County. One of the six common council appointments shall be a member of the common council. One of the members shall be appointed by the Monroe County Commissioners from Monroe County government. The Director of the Indiana University Office of Sustainability or his/her designee shall serve as the ex-officio member from Indiana University. All members shall have a vote and shall serve without compensation.

Article II. Officers

II.1 Election. BMC § 2.12.100(5) Officers shall be elected by vote of the commission members annually at the Annual Meeting by a majority of the current membership of the Commission. It shall be the right of the Commission to decide annually on the Structure of the Executive Office/s. The Commission will decide by vote at each annual election whether to elect officers as Co-Chair or Chair and Vice Chair.

II.2 Eligibility. All officers shall be members of the Commission and no member shall hold more than one office at a time.

II.3. Term. Officers shall be elected to serve until the next Annual Meeting. Their terms of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which they are elected. Officers may serve more than one term. Officers shall deliver to their successors all accounts, papers, records, and other Commission property within two weeks of their expired term.

III.4. Removal. An Officer of the Commission may be removed from office for cause. Cause shall include, but not be limited to, misuse of office, improper representation of the commission, failure to carry out minimum duties of office, failure to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings in any twelve month period or four regularly scheduled meetings in any twelve month period without just cause as determined by the Commission; provided, that any member may submit in writing to members of the commission any extenuating circumstances. Such written submission shall be made within five business days before the formal decision to remove is reached. A member or members of the commission shall submit a signed statement outlining the charges to

the Commission and, following the proper procedure, cause is established. Proper procedure includes distribution of the statement to all Commission members. Decision as to removal will be made by majority vote at the next scheduled meeting. Removal from office is not a vote for dismissal from the Commission.

II.5. Types of Officers and Duties. BMC § 2.08.020(9) The commission shall elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, treasurer and such other officers as may be necessary.

- 1) **Duties of the Chairperson.** The Chairperson shall prepare the agenda for all meetings, and preside over all meetings (except when she/he designates the Vice-Chairperson). The Chairperson shall distribute the agenda (see Sample Agenda) and related documents no less than 48 hours prior to a scheduled meeting. The Chairperson, in coordination with other members of the Executive Committee, shall be responsible organizing and submitting the Commission's Annual Report, as required by BMC § 2.12.100(8)(D).
- 2) **Duties of Co-Chairs.** In the event that the Commission elects two Co-Chairs, instead of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, then the following shall apply. The newly elected Co-Chairs shall decide how to divide the responsibilities enumerated for the Chair and Vice Chair and shall ensure that all of these responsibilities are explicitly assigned to an individual. This list of responsibilities shall be presented in written format to the Commission by the next regular meeting.
- 3) **Duties of the Vice-Chairperson.** The Vice-Chairperson shall serve as the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson; shall perform all duties that may be delegated by the Chairperson; shall aid the Chairperson on request; shall post notice of vacancies of the Commission's Advisory Committee positions and the requirements thereof; and shall perform such other duties applicable to the office as prescribed by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Commission. In the absence of the Secretary, the Vice-Chairperson shall serve as or appoint a Member to serve as Secretary.
- 4) **Duties of the Secretary.** BMC § 2.08.020(10) The secretary shall keep, for every meeting, written minutes in which the results of any vote are recorded and, when appropriate, specific findings of facts and conclusions are set forth.
- 5) **Duties of the Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall facilitate the preparation of the annual budget as required by BMC § 2.08.020(13). Additionally, the treasurer shall facilitate the efforts of commission members to identify funding sources in order to execute the strategic goals of the commission as authorized by BMC § 2.12.100(8)(A).

II.6. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

- 1) The executive committee shall be responsible for organizing the creation of the Commission's annual report, as required by BMC §2.12.100 (8) (D).

Article III. Meetings

III.1 Meetings. BMC § 2.12.100(6) The Commission shall meet one time each month, every month of the year, unless it decides to cancel the meeting.

III.2 Annual Meeting. At the Commission's monthly meeting in July of each year, the following activities shall occur:

- 1) Annual selection of officers
- 2) Annual review of bylaws
- 3) To provide, in cooperation with other city boards and commissions, an annual "sustainability assessment" based on said indicators. The assessment shall be included in an annual report and provided to the common council, mayor and the public.

III.3 Majority Vote. BMC § 2.08.020(6) A "majority vote" means a majority of the Commission who are present and voting.

III.4 Quorum. BMC § 2.08.020(7) Unless otherwise specified, a majority of the members serving, excepting the nonvoting ex officio members, constitute a quorum for purpose of conducting the official business of the commission.

III.5 Parliamentary Procedure. BMC § 2.08.020(8) Meetings shall be conducted according to procedures set forth in Roberts Rules of Order. All members of the commission are to be provided with a set of rules that will be used during the monthly meetings.

III.6 Conduct of Meetings. The order of business of all meetings shall be as follows:

- 1) Call to Order;
- 2) Roll Call;
- 3) Approval of Agenda;
- 4) Approval of Minutes;
- 5) Reports from the Public;
- 6) Reports from Commissioners;
- 7) Discussions of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions;
- 8) Resolutions for Second Reading and Discussion;
- 9) Resolutions for First Reading and Discussion;
- 10) Report from Staff Liaison;
- 11) Member Announcements;
- 12) New Business;
- 13) Adjournment.

Members of the public will be allowed to speak only once within a maximum

timeframe of 5 minutes

III.7. Votes. Each voting Member shall be entitled to one vote. Routine business may be conducted by voice vote. The outcome of a vote shall be determined by the majority of the serving Members present and eligible to vote and voting. A member who wishes not to vote may remain silent during a voice vote or roll call vote, or may submit a blank ballot during a ballot vote. No member may be forced to vote.

III.8. Special Meetings. BMC § 2.08.020(11) A special meeting of the commission may be called by the chairperson, the mayor, or by a majority of the members then serving on the commission requesting such meeting in writing. Upon receiving such request, the chairperson shall thereafter call a special meeting to be held within twenty days.

Article IV. RESOLUTIONS

IV.1. Resolutions. The Commission shall have the authority to adopt resolutions. Resolutions shall be given two readings before a vote may be taken on its passage and no resolution shall be adopted on the same day or at the same meeting as it is introduced except by unanimous consent of the Members present, at least two-thirds of the serving Members being present and voting. Resolutions will be designated by year and by order of introduction in that year (e.g., Resolution 2017-01).

IV.2. Recommendations. Published recommendations of the Commission and the Annual Report shall be adopted and approved by Resolution.

IV.3. Recorded Votes. For Resolutions considered by Commission, the Secretary shall record the total votes, the results which shall be published in the minutes of the Commission's meeting.

V. Amendment of Bylaws

V.1. Amendment. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Commission may vote to amend these by-laws only after discussing proposed amendments during at least two regularly scheduled Commission meetings that have been called with the notice required by Indiana's Open Door Law (Indiana Code 5-1.5) then in effect.