Amendment Request Form  
City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan  
April 2017 Draft  

Name/Organization of Author: Planning and Transportation Staff  

Contact email/phone number: 812-349-3423  

Brief synopsis/justification for Amendment: List of corrections for spelling, very minor additions of text, and updated values. The table below will list the page number, column, paragraph, current text to replace, and text to replace with. Where “…” is used this is to indicate a continuation of a sentence. When “na” is listed under the Text to Replace column, then the text listed under the Replace with Text column is added.  

Proposed Amendments:  

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Amendment: Replace with Text Carol Steward Gulyas with Carol Stewart Gulyas
Amendment
April 2017 Draft

Name/Organization of Author: Joe Hoffmann
Contact email/phone number:
Plan Commission Sponsor: Hoffmann

Brief synopsis/justification for Amendment: New headings to better organize programs for each chapter. No changes to the programs are proposed and the subsequent reorganization the final programs will be done at the discretion of staff.

Amendment:
Headings for Chapter 1 Programs:
   Municipal Services
   Local Government Partnerships
   Open Government and Transparency
   Annexation
   Economic Development

Headings for Chapter 2 Programs: none

Headings for Chapter 3 Programs:
   Energy
   Built Environment
   Water
   Urban Ecology
   Solid Waste
   Air Quality and Emissions
   Food and Agriculture

Headings for Chapter 4 Programs:
   Downtown Vitality and Sense of Place
   Downtown Design
   Downtown Transportation and Parking

Headings for Chapter 5 Programs:
   Affordable Housing
   Neighborhood Character and Quality of Life

Headings for Chapter 6 Programs:
   General
   Mass Transit
   Motor Vehicles
   Motor Vehicle Parking
   Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation
Amendments to Comprehensive Plan
Carol Gulyas
April 23, 2017

Amendment: New proposed amendment: Page 14, paragraph 1, sentence 1: Delete “but”

Amendment: 2. New proposed amendment: Reword Goal 1.2 as follows: Engage the community by working with regional partners, schools, businesses, and non-profits to create partnerships that provide community services and programs for all age groups.
Amendment Request Form
City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan April 2017 Draft

Name/Organization of Author:  Terry Amsler

Contact email/phone number:     tlamsler@indiana.edu
                                812.339.0012 (home)
                                415.246.6767 (cell)

Brief synopsis/justification for Amendment:
The intent of this proposed amended language to Goal 1.2 is only to remove the word “business” that precedes and modifies the word “partnership” in the original. Perhaps the use of the word “business” in the online draft Comprehensive Plan was an error.

Proposed Amendment
Goal 1.2 (as amended)

Goal 1.2 Engage the community by working with regional partners, schools, and non-profits to create partnerships that provide community services and programs for all age groups.
Name/Organization of Author:   Terry Amsler

Contact email/phone number:    tlamsler@indiana.edu
                                812.339.0012 (home)
                                415.246.6767 (cell)

Brief synopsis/justification for Amendment:

This primary intent of this friendly amendment to Goal 1.5 is simply to replace the words “high quality” (as a descriptor of public engagement) with language that is more actionable and measurable, and therefore more useful as goal language in a planning document. I am also suggesting that the first line includes “and plan for” after the present “Commit to” for the same reasons. I am also proposing the addition of the words “and also to promote more participatory citizenship” to this goal statement because local governments have an important role to play to this purpose generally, and research suggests that resident participation in local issues and policymaking enhances community attachment and helps create more informed and engaged citizens with an often greater trust in local government.

Proposed Amendment (my additions in red):

Goal 1.5 (Amended) Commit to and plan for transparency, open government, and effective, accessible and inclusive public engagement so that exemplary services are provided to our residents, businesses, and visitors, and also to promote more participatory citizenship.
Brief synopsis/justification for Amendment:

My proposed amended language to Policy 1.5.3 is simply to suggest that, in addition to the idea of developing and operating government services in ways that maximize transparency and public engagement, the City should also take these same transparency and engagement considerations into account when they review or assess these services. My only other suggestion here (adding “in ways”) is simply an effort to make the sentence more readable with the proposed added language.

Proposed Amendment (my suggestions in red):

Proposed Amended Policy 1.5.3: Develop, operate and assess government services in ways that maximize transparency and public engagement.
Amendment Request Form  
City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan April 2017 Draft

Name/Organization of Author: Terry Amsler

Contact email/phone number: tlamsler@indiana.edu  
812.339.0012 (home)  
415.246.6767 (cell)

Brief synopsis/justification for Amendment:

In order for the City of Bloomington to improve its capacities to design and deliver effective and inclusive public engagement in support of City planning and services, some attention should be paid to: 1) developing staff capacities for such design and delivery, 2) learning and retaining learning from the experiences gained; and 3) ensuring that such new knowledge building is not isolated within one City Department. This proposed policy amendment (new Policy 1.5.4) is intended to address each of these challenges. (Please also note that in the online draft Plan you apparently have Policies 1.52 and 1.5.3 in incorrect reverse order.)

Proposed Amendment:

# 9  
New Proposed Policy 1.5.4: Promote staff public engagement knowledge and competencies; and support City Departments to assess and document their public engagement experiences and to share their learning across departments.
Amendment Request Form  
City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan April 2017 Draft

Name/Organization of Author: Terry Amsler

Contact email/phone number: tlamsler@indiana.edu  
812.339.0012 (home)  
415.246.6767 (cell)

Brief synopsis/justification for Amendment:

The City of Bloomington’s Boards and Commissions are an important means to ensure and promote local public engagement, open government, and effective local self-governance in general. In order for Bloomington to continue to strengthen its commitments to these purposes and to successfully promote and use public engagement as an important element in local planning and decision-making, the City could take better advantage of the capacities of its boards and commissions. This is the purpose of new proposed Policy 1.5.5.

The City should engage its Board and Commissions, as and when appropriate, in public engagement design discussions, participant recruitment, and delivery of public engagement processes and activities. The results will likely be more inclusive, more broadly participatory, and more effective public engagement. This may also help strengthen the relevance and effectiveness of the City’s Boards and Commissions themselves.

Proposed Amendment (my language in red):

New Proposed Policy 1.5.5: Draw on the roles and capacities of City Boards and Commissions to help ensure more inclusive and effective public engagement.
Amendment Request Form  
City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan April 2017 Draft

Name/Organization of Author: City of Bloomington Environmental Commission

Contact email/phone number: Mike Litwin, Vice Chair: litwin@kiva.net

Brief synopsis/justification for Amendments:

**Amendment:**
Page 8, Plan Framework, Objectives. I think the word “support” is meant to mean the objectives support the 16 concepts in the vision statement, not the way it’s currently worded.

**Amendment:**
This amendment is meant to clarify the intent of the Environmental chapter

**Amendment:**
Chapter 7, Land Use map: There are very few large parcels in Bloomington that are currently being used as agriculture. One such area is about 50 acres north of Acuff Road. This area should be rezoned to agriculture use as Chapter 3 recommends, and not rezoned to residential.

**Amendment:**
Chapter 3, page 38, 1st paragraph: what we are trying to protect with this chapter is not the “built” environment but the “natural” environment.

**Amendment:**
Chapter 3, page 43, Policy 3.7.2: The main point of this policy in the food section is missing. If we do not have a diverse native plant pallet, pollinators will not be able to pollinate our fruits and vegetable gardens, and the production of our produce will be greatly compromised.

**Amendment:**
Chapter 3, page 38: There are many additional examples initiated by the City than what is in here now. Additionally, the three previous public suggestions that are (mostly successfully) being relayed in this paragraph include: City should lead by example; the City must recognize that environmental protection and enhancement are entangled with infrastructure; and the City should, in the future, develop a long-term environmental stewardship plan. Paragraph 3 needs to follow paragraph 2 better, and use examples relating to the initiatives in paragraph 2.

Additionally, the very first paragraph in the document (page 6) states the CMP is the City’s long range plan for… and implementation strategies that state how the City of Bloomington should address development physically, socially, and economically.” Therefore the statement back in
Chapter 3 that says we must create a sustainability plan is not necessary: the CMP is the City’s sustainability plan.

**Amendment:**
Chapter 7, Land Use: This chapter doesn’t seem to support the Environment chapter adequately; there is little direct reference to protecting natural features in land use planning.

**Amendment:**
Chapter 7, Land Use: The West Fork Clear Creek focus area corresponds to one of the large areas proposed for conservation in the EC Biodiversity committee’s Habitat Network Plan. The future land use map designates it as an “Employment Center”. The current zoning designation for most of this area is PUD, but much of if it is currently undeveloped greenspace, including forest, steep slopes and streams. A portion of it was also listed as a “Critical Subarea” in the previous GPP. Over the years the ECPC has reviewed several development proposals in those areas and had extensive recommendations for conservation of natural resources.

**Amendment:**
Chapter 3, Goal 3.5 Solid Waste: The City should implement a Zero Waste to Landfills initiative in the next ~15 years. Austin, TX already has this initiative, one of the first in the country.

**Amendment:**
Chapter 3, Goal 3.7 Food and Agriculture: Many Bloomington residents, mostly low-income, live in food deserts, which are areas of the country without access to fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthy whole foods. The City should make it an explicit policy to eliminate food deserts and ensure all residents have access to fresh and healthy food.

**Amendment:**
Chapter 3: Some neighborhood associations have rules against environmentally beneficial practices such as vegetative alternatives to lawns, outdoor clotheslines, etc. The City should encourage neighborhood associations to permit these practices.

**Amendment:**
Chapter 3: An integral component of reducing the amount of solid waste in landfills is to increase access to recycling services and facilities, especially downtown.
Proposed Amendments:

**# 11**

**Amendment:**
From: Provide the general policy essence and intent of the Plan and are supported by the 16 concepts….

To: *Provide the general policy essence and intent of the Plan and support the 16 concepts from the Vision Statement.*

**# 12**

**Amendment:**
From: The City of Bloomington has a long-held commitment to protecting the environment. This chapter introduces goals, policies, and programs that reflect this long-term commitment along with broader concepts of sustainability. Overall, this chapter supports Objective 3: Protect Environmental Quality.

To: *The City of Bloomington has a long-held commitment to protecting the environment, and this chapter underscores new goals, policies, and programs that reflect this commitment. This chapter introduces forward-thinking, and innovative ways to ensure that the current natural environmental is not only protected, but nurtured and enhanced for the future. We have ways of thinking about what environmental protection is, and how it is accomplished now that are different than years ago, and the philosophy of this chapter reflects that change. Overall, this chapter supports Objective 3: Protect Environmental Quality.*

**# 13**

**Amendment:**
From: Zoned as Residential

To: *Zoned as Agriculture*

**# 14**

**Amendment:**
From: “This chapter is organized around some of the threats and opportunities the build environment has regarding breathable air…”

To: “*This Chapter is organized around some of the threats and opportunities to the natural environment and associated ecological services regarding breathable air, drinkable water…..*”

**# 15**

**Amendment:**
From: “Support native plant restoration…”
To: “Support diverse, native-plant conservation and restoration efforts, to foster the plant-pollinating network of animals, which greatly influences crop production.”

Amendment:
From: paragraph 3 -- “For example, the City has engaged in efforts to reduce energy….”

To: “For example, the City has engaged in efforts to reduce energy use and diversify its sources of energy by passing the Green Building and the Green Development Initiatives ordinances, and planting a robust urban forest; upgrading our sanitation procedures to capture more recyclables; developing a water conservation plan; and prohibiting invasive plant species and incorporating native plant species into our parks, lakes, and urban landscapes.”

Amendment:
Modify Chapter 7 to put more emphasis on protection of natural resources during land use planning.

Amendment:
Modify the discussion of the West Fork Clear Creek focus area to reflect the significant natural resources issues in the area.

Amendment:
Policy 3.5.2: City residents will produce zero waste to landfills by ~2030.

Amendment:
Policy 3.7.3: Work to eliminate food deserts within a certain radius for all residents.

Amendment:
Encourage neighborhood association policies that permit the growth of vegetative alternatives to lawns, clotheslines, and other environmentally beneficial practices.

Amendment:
Install recycling bins and increase access to recycling facilities for all downtown visitors.
Amendment Request Form  
City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan  
April 2017 Draft  

Name/Organization of Author:  Anne Bono, Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce  
Contact email/phone number:  abono@chamberbloomington.org or 812-336-6381  

Brief synopsis/justification for Amendment:  
Policy 4.2.2: Update the UDO to address the provision of ride share, autonomous vehicles, and electric vehicle charging stations in future new developments.  

The future of transportation is evolving and the Chamber feels it's important to first have the demand before making updates to the UDO requiring things like electric vehicle charging stations. Installing one station costs several thousand dollars.  

Proposed Amendment:  
Policy 4.2.2: Consider an update to the UDO to address the provision of ride share, autonomous vehicles, and electric vehicle charging stations in future new developments if there is demand.
Amendment Request Form
City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan
April 2017 Draft

Name/Organization of Author: Anne Bono, Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce

Contact email/phone number: abono@chamberbloomington.org or 812-336-6381

Brief synopsis/justification for Amendment:
Chapter 5 program: To the extent permitted by law, develop and implement laws that require and/or incentivize affordable housing within new developments, with rezones, and with changes to development standards through land development activities.

If new development is required to include affordable housing, then the cost of the affordable units will be passed on to other residents and further drive up the cost of market-rate rents. Public incentives are necessary to make affordable housing projects financially feasible.

Proposed Amendment:
Chapter 5 program: To the extent permitted by law, develop policies that incentivize affordable housing within new developments, with rezones, and with changes to development standards through land development activities.
SSNREs: Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships and Environments and how this concept applies to the CMP.

Safe Relationships and Environments: Safety occurs from the presence of people, not simply through laws or police. Social isolation increases risk. For example, research shows that older adults who experience social isolation have more health issues; loneliness increases the risk of hunger, addictions, and domestic violence.

Stable Relationships and Environments: This gets at the question of sustainable infrastructures, or in other words, services created with sufficient connections and funding to continue into the future. For example, we require investment in infrastructure to support reliable transit, public schools, roads, sidewalks.

Nurturing Relationships and Environments: This focuses attention on welcoming spaces that foster social connection, that contribute to our ability to be available to others in the community and respond to their needs on an individual and collective basis. For example, we can look to the effort that the Monroe County Public Library makes to ensure that specific groups know that they are welcome.

We want and need built environments that address SSNREs, such as sidewalks, parks, stroller and wheelchair accessible buildings and spaces as well as affordable housing, childcare, and consistent food access. When SSNREs are promoted and institutionalized, we can see where the good choice is more likely to be the easy choice. (To take a simple example, when sidewalks are in place, people are less likely to walk or run in the street.)

Proposed Amendment: for Chapter 6 Transportation

- Create safe ways for pedestrians and bicyclists to cross I-69 at Vernal Pike, 3rd Street, 2nd Street, Tapp Road and other overpasses.
- Address accessibility for all modes of transportation post-I-69 construction, especially walkers and bike riders
- Identify ways to reduce congestion on major traffic routes during peak hours if not increasing the numbers of roads. West Second and West Third Street get very backed up between 5:00 - 6:30 pm.
- Consider transportation as a basic need. Being able to access others and needed services is a vitally important element of life.

1 Information on SSNREs can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childmaltreatment/essentials.html
Amendment Request Form
City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan
April 2017 Draft

Name/Organization of Author: BTCC/ACHIEVE
Contact email/phone number: btccbloomington@gmail.com

Brief synopsis/justification for Amendment:
As a community, we rely on nonprofits to address downstream effects of poverty and inequity. When we do so, we are in effect asking non-profits to solve problems created by deficiencies in the system, off-loading the responsibility for addressing the root causes of these problems. Food pantries, homeless shelters, VIM, all of these and more cannot solve the root cause problem – food pantries cannot end hunger; homeless shelters cannot solve the housing crisis; VIM cannot make sure everyone has the medical care that they need. We need to actively consider low-income families and individuals in the CMP.

Proposed Amendment for Chapter 7 Land Use

- Given the impact of gentrification on housing prices, focus attention on how to mitigate the pressure to gentrify areas like Near West Side, West Side, 17th St Corridor.
- Publicly address how annexation will adversely affect lower income and/or long time residents living in those neighborhoods.
- Develop a plan to preserve neighborhoods that are culturally and economically friendly to lower and middle socioeconomic populations.
- Prioritize helping start-ups, non-profits, and lower income entrepreneurs through our land use design and policies.
- Connect and integrate socioeconomic classes so school districts and township resources are more fairly distributed.
- Invest in, rather than gentrify, low income neighborhoods. We agreed that this yields steadier economic and social rewards.