



GNARLY TREE
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City of Bloomington Sustainability Action Plan Climate, Energy, and the Built Environment Meeting 4

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SPEA

Lead for the Greater Good





Current Situation in Bloomington

- Very little work on climate adaptation in progress
 - Some study on the positive feedback cycle of increased temperatures and increased energy needs for cooling (BEAP)
- Urban Sprawl
 - Plan for downtown: Downtown Vision and Infill Strategy Plan Map
 - Residential units downtown have more than doubled since 2000
 - Increased housing density
 - Too much student-centric focus



Metrics found in Bloomington Documents

- Outcome: The Downtown business environment is vibrant and sustainable.
- Indicators: Occupancy rates for Downtown commercial spaces, parking turnover and utilization rates
- Outcome: Downtown buildings and sites with blight or disrepair have been identified and remedied.
- Indicators: Map of Downtown properties with known environmental contamination issues, map of Downtown abandoned properties or “shovel ready” clear sites
- Outcome: Residential growth Downtown is inclusive of all ages and abilities
- Indicator: Demographic profile of residential units in the Downtown overlay districts



Community Goals found in Bloomington Documents

- **Climate Change Adaptation**
 - Evaluate regulations for new developments to increase vegetative cover and utilize alternatives such as green roofs in very dense or urban contexts (BCP)
- **Urban Sprawl**
 - In land use decisions, require sufficient density through infill, redevelopment, and reuse of vacant or underutilized parcels to discourage urban sprawl (BCP)
 - Encourage adaptive reuse and rehabilitation as a viable option to demolition of existing facilities (BCP)
 - Recognize the significance of both traditional and compact architecture in supporting community character (BCP)
 - Create opportunities for an enhanced residential, retail, and restaurant presence within Downtown that caters to a diverse range of residents and visitors (BCP)
 - Make “20-Minute Neighborhoods” a core component of the updated Comprehensive Plan (BEAP)



Climate Adaptation & Urban Sprawl

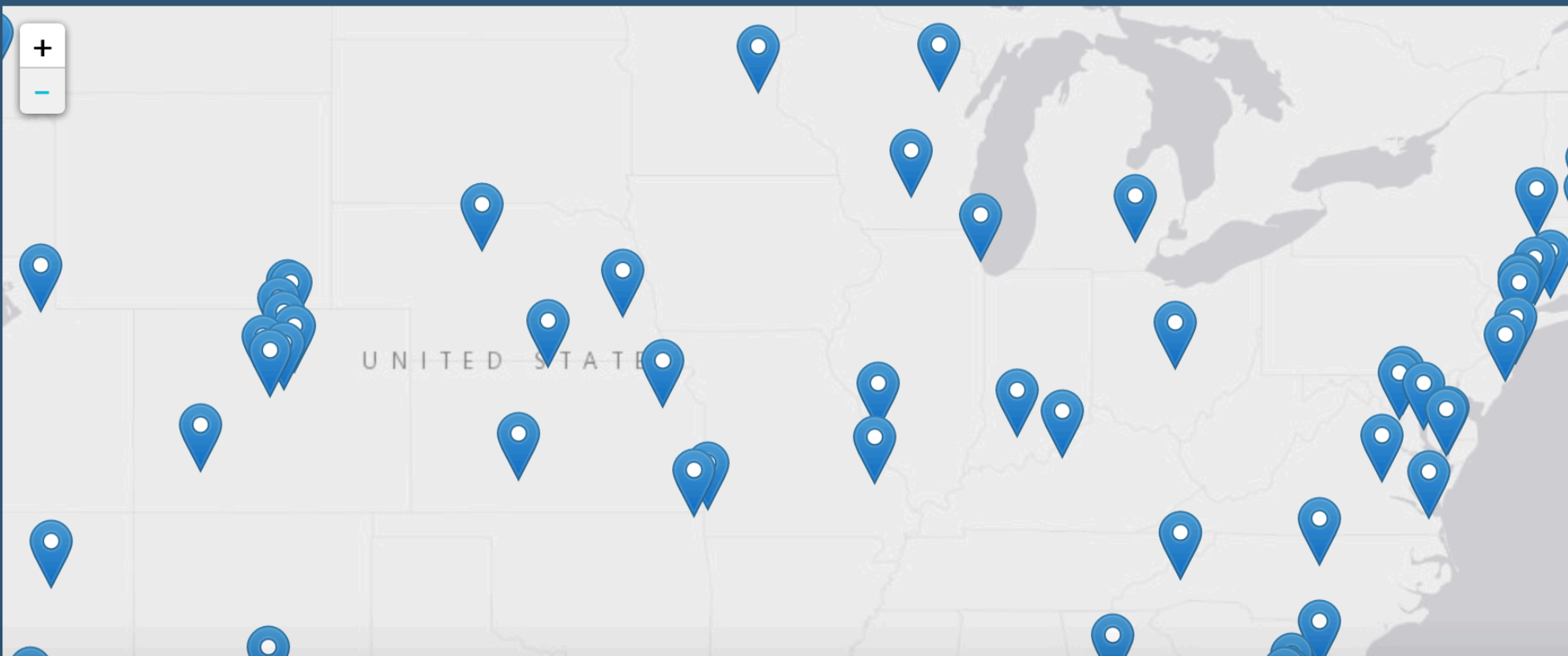
Metrics Recommended in STAR

- **Climate Adaptation: Climate and Energy -1**
 - Reduce vulnerability ratings for core topics
 - 4 core areas:
 - Built Environment - homes threatened by fire or flooding, evacuation routes, stormwater infrastructure, transportation infrastructure
 - Economic Environment – agriculture, community development, energy supply and demand, tourism
 - Natural Environment – biodiversity, coastal zone threats, forestry, water resources
 - Social Environment – emergency management, recreational facilities, public health, sensitive/vulnerable populations
- **Sprawl**
 - % of new development in designated infill and redevelopment areas (Infill and Development – BE-5)
 - Establishment of Complete and Compact Communities (BE-3), walkable center with nearby amenities

[MORE](#)

CASE STUDIES

Explore case studies to see how people are building resilience for their businesses and in their communities. Click dots on the map below to preview case studies, or browse all case studies by clicking the button below the map.





Motivating the Agricultural Community to Build Climate Resilience

Climate change adaptation isn't always welcome as a topic of conversation, even among those who could benefit from it. A recent study hints at a possible path forward.

[Case Studies](#) › [Motivating the Agricultural Community to Build Climate Resilience](#) ›

Stressors and impacts



SHARE



TWEET



PRINT

Over the last decade, Purdue Extension educator Hans Schmitz has watched farmers across the U.S. Corn Belt struggle to cope with the consequences of extreme climate conditions. For instance, heavy spring rainfall in 2011 reduced farmers' ability to get into their fields and delayed their planting. Episodes of extreme heat and dry spells during summers have also had a negative effect on farmers' bottom lines by reducing corn pollination and yields. Schmitz recognizes

Steps to Resilience

This content supports the highlighted step.

- 1 Explore Hazards
- 2 Assess Vulnerability & Risks
- 3 Investigate Options
- 4 Prioritize & Plan
- 5 Take Action



Actions Used in Other Cities

- Philadelphia, PA
 - Created the Philadelphia LandCare Program
 - Clean up and landscape properties, hire residents to do work
- Spokane, WA
 - Created a self-guided tour of infill examples in the city to show design strategies compatible with the surrounding neighborhood



Actions Recommended in STAR

- **Urban Sprawl**
 - Develop an inventory of infill, redevelopment, brownfield, or greyfield sites
 - Incentivize/encourage infill and redevelopment with regulatory and design strategies
 - Develop a policy committed to limited or no expansion of physical jurisdiction boundaries
 - Educate the public about the importance of infill and redevelopment
 - Collaborate with state and federal government to advance brownfields remediation
 - Demonstrate that the comprehensive plan supports compact development
 - Identify areas appropriate for compact development
 - Adopt regulations that support mixed-use development
 - Require walkability standards for new developments
 - Adopt advanced parking strategies in areas identified for compact development
 - Subsidize, incentivize, or require affordability housing in areas identified for compact development



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Climate Adaptation & Urban Sprawl

Actions Recommended in STAR

- **Climate Adaptation**
 - Adopt a climate change adaptation plan
 - Require local government to monitor/consider climate change impacts in policies
 - Collaborate with other regional, state, and federal actors
 - Education and outreach campaign to engage citizens with vulnerability reduction efforts



Recommendations from Transportation Meeting 2

Complete and Compact Communities

Possible Actions

- Pursue adjustments needed to establish Complete and Compact Communities in those neighborhoods close to meeting criteria – Renwick, Downtown neighborhoods (Elm Heights, Near Westside, Prospect Hill, McDoel Gardens, Maple Heights, Bryan Park), College Mall area (Spicewood, Windemere Woods, Hyde Park), Park Ridge, Walnut and Winslow area (Broadview, Sherwood Oaks, Moss Creek)
- Require new development to have certain level of amenities
- Encourage infill development
- Incentivize landlords to transition from town-homes and multiple apartment houses to single-family (in old neighborhoods, also affordable housing issue)
- Decide which areas can withstand dense development
- Set aside more designated park space to prevent conversion to development
- Vary permit fees by building/lot size to encourage compact development
- Collaborate with County to encourage joint planning efforts (CNU Transect)
- Encourage employers to give incentives not to drive



Recommendations from Transportation Meeting 2

Possible Actions (continued)

- Raise parking rates/adjust to free first half-hour then incremental rate structure and variable rates for parking meters vs. garages and educate public
- Encourage Zipcar usage to increase numbers (need 40% utilization to get more cars)
- Place more cars at destination locations
- Determine possibility for more one-way Zipcars
- Review neighborhood parking permits
- Introduce a neighborhood with shared streets
- Make more parking enclosed with landscaping or behind building
- Encourage use of commuter bus between IUB and IUPUI
- Promote Miller Bus services between Louisville and Chicago and consider subsidization
- Brand long distance buses to make more fun

Potential Metrics

Miles of bike lanes, Mode share, Ridership, Walkability index

Potential Partners

IU, Monroe County, INDOT, Landlords, Developers, Neighborhood Associations



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Thank You

Questions and Answers