

The HAND Update



An informational newsletter for Bloomington neighborhood residents



Website: bloomington.in.gov/neighborhoods

Phone: 812-349-3420

 [City of Bloomington, IN-Neighborhood Services](#)



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Please direct questions or concerns to:
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National Good Neighbor Day to be a Celebration of Bloomington Neighborhoods

Throughout these challenging times our neighborhoods have been the source of our strength as a community. Neighbors have stepped up to support one another in new and creative ways, and HAND wants to celebrate **you!** September 28 is National Good Neighbor Day, and this year it will also mark a special celebration and recognition of Bloomington's Neighborhood Associations, through a commemorative video and a logo contest.

• Blooming Neighborhoods Celebration Video

The Blooming Neighborhoods celebration has been an annual Bloomington tradition for over 20 years. Unfortunately, this year we are unable to celebrate in person, so HAND is planning a special commemoration of Bloomington neighborhoods and ***we need your help to make it a success.***

We are compiling information about each of Bloomington's 64 neighborhood associations, including maps, amenities, historical context, and, perhaps most important, *stories from the neighbors who live there.* We want to know why you love your neighborhood; what makes it special? What was it like in the "good old days"? How has it changed over the years? If you're new to your neighborhood, why did you choose it?

Please visit this [link](#) to learn how to contribute your stories.

• Neighborhood Association Logo Contest

Put your thinking caps on, get your creative juices flowing. HAND is challenging each neighborhood association in Bloomington to create a logo that represents your unique corner of the city. This is a great opportunity for you and your neighbors to work together (virtually, of course) to think about why you love your neighborhood, and how you can best represent it in a logo. We can't wait to see what you come up with!

Please visit this [link](#) for more information and contest rules.

City Hall to Re-open to Public

Beginning Tuesday, May 26, 2020. City Hall will reopen to the public in a limited fashion. However, for the safety of all, if you are able to conduct your business by phone or email, please continue to do so.



New Public Health Order in Effect

The Monroe County Health Department has issued a new public health order, effective May 16 at 12:00 a.m. to May 31 at 11:59 p.m. While this allows for restaurants and other businesses to begin to re-open to the public, the public health crisis is by no means over. It is now more important than ever to continue interacting safely.

For the safety of your loved ones, friends, neighbors, and co-workers consider taking the Monroe County Health Department COVID-19 Pledge.

- **I will maintain 6 feet of social distance.**
- **I will wash my hands often for at least 20 seconds.**
- **I will wear a face covering or mask when in public.**
- **I will stay home when I am sick.**
- **I will get tested immediately if I have symptoms.**

MoCOAD Launches Face Covering Awareness Campaign

In an effort to protect our community against the spread of the coronavirus, Monroe County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (MoCOAD) is launching "#WearItBtown", a promotional campaign aimed at encouraging people to wear face coverings in public. To participate in the kick-off event, on Memorial Day, May 25, 2020, between 9am and 9pm, post a photo of yourself wearing your face covering on your favorite social media site with the hashtag #WearItBtown. More information about this initiative can be found [here](#).



#WearItBtown 

Public Engagement Sought in Hospital Site Redevelopment Process

The City invites residents to participate in and learn more about the process of redeveloping the current site of IU Health Bloomington Hospital. A new website will be launched June 1 (accessible from this [link](#)) to host project updates and welcome residents to engage in the site planning process throughout the master planning period this year. IU Health Bloomington Hospital, an anchor in downtown Bloomington for over a century, will vacate the property when the new IU Health Regional Academic Health Center opens on the city's east side in 2021.

Community members may choose among numerous ways to participate in the master planning process including the project website feedback form, town hall meetings, small focus groups, newsletters, and email updates. A first stage of the master planning process will include facilitated small focus group sessions and individual discussions with stakeholders identified with assistance from the Hospital Reuse Committee, conducted virtually by SOM beginning in late May.

Public engagement will continue with a virtual town hall to be held on June 16 at 6 p.m., during which community members can share ideas about uses the site should serve and how the plan should embody community values, such as affordability, walkability, placemaking, innovation, and sustainability. Residential and commercial water customers will receive information in their June utility bill about the project and how to participate in these public engagement opportunities.

For more information, please contact: Mick Renneisen, Deputy Mayor, renneism@bloomington.in.gov, (812) 349-3569.