

The HAND Update



A newsletter for Bloomington neighborhood residents



Website: bloomington.in.gov/neighborhoods

Phone: 812-349-3420

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



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS:

- Sign up to receive [The HAND Update](#)

Report an issue to the City:
[uReport](#)

Find civic information specific to your address:
[My Bloomington](#)

Explore the City's open databases:
[B-Clear Open Data](#)

Volunteer your time and talent:
[Bloomington Volunteer Network](#)



Please direct questions or concerns to:
Angela Van Rooy
Neighborhood Services Program Manager
Housing and Neighborhood Development (HAND)
City of Bloomington, Indiana
angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov

Fire prevention education available for neighborhood groups



There are many things you can do in and around your own home to reduce your risk of fire. The Bloomington Fire Department is committed to public safety and education. As part of BFD's

outreach to the community, Fire Prevention staff are available to speak at neighborhood group meetings or other events. Please contact Tom Figulah, Fire Prevention Officer, at 812-349-3888 or figolaht@bloomington.in.gov for more information.

MCUM Each One Feed Two food drive

Volunteers are needed to host drop-off sites for the Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) Each One, Feed TWO food drive going on November 7th and 8th across the community. You will be asked to set up a collection space where your friends and neighbors can drop-off food and hygiene items. To ensure everyone's safety during this time, you are encouraged to designate a drop-off location in an open, visible space with easy access. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Madison at msilvers@mcum.org.



1000 boxes of fresh food give-away



Saturday, October 31, 2020
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
City Church for All Nations
1200 N Russell Rd, Bloomington

In partnership with 180 Disaster Relief, City Church will be distributing USDA Farmers to Families Food Boxes to anyone in the Bloomington area who is in need. Pick up will be conducted in a drive-through format.



Monroe County early voting hours extended

The Monroe County Board of Elections has extended the hours for early voting this week.

Early voting at Monroe County Election Central (401 W 7th Street, Suite 100, Bloomington) will now be:

- 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday,
- 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday.

New draft Bloomington Zoning Map released for resident input

The City of Bloomington has published a draft of the proposed new Bloomington Zoning Map, as a step in the last phase of the process of updating the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) and Zoning Map, which began nearly three years ago in February of 2018. Approved in April 2020, the UDO brings the City's land use and development laws into closer alignment with the City's 2018 Comprehensive Plan to support such goals as housing equity, compact urban form, and sustainability.

The [project website](#) contains the [public outreach draft map](#) and amendments to UDO standards, a proposed zoning changes story map, proposed housing diversity story map, an [interactive map](#) where residents may enter their address, and information about opportunities to provide feedback over the next eight weeks. The input collected during this period will help staff prepare for public hearings in early 2021 to consider and adopt the new zoning map for the city, along with text amendments.

The first public engagement session will take place via video conference from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27. (A link to join the meeting will be posted at the project website.) The meeting will feature a presentation of the proposed changes with the largest impact with a short facilitated question-and-answer session after the presentation. There will be at least four meetings over the course of the next month to gather public input. Residents may also provide feedback through online surveys on the project website.

New COVID-19 testing site coming to Bloomington

The City of Bloomington is partnering with the Monroe County Commissioners, Indiana University and IU Health to open a new COVID-19 testing site in downtown Bloomington. The site will be able to serve 200 or more community members per day. Free testing will be on an appointment basis, using an online registration system. This location will help support the need for public COVID-19 testing when the current OptumServe site at the National Guard Armory on South Walnut Street is decommissioned. The new site will be operational until June 30, 2021.

The city and IU will each supply \$100,000 in support of the facility and its operation; IU Health is providing in-kind contributions and physical space valued at around \$100,000; and the county government will contribute \$200,000 in dedicated grant funding from the Indiana State Department of Health as well as cover other operational costs, if required. The county has contracted with Medix to staff and operate the vaccination facility. The new site's location, hours of operation, appointment registration and more will be shared in the coming weeks.

