

# The HAND Update



An informational newsletter for Bloomington neighborhood residents



Website: [bloomington.in.gov/neighborhoods](http://bloomington.in.gov/neighborhoods)

Phone: 812-349-3420

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

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS:

- Sign up to receive [The HAND Update](#)
- Apply for [Citizen's Academy](#)
- **Contribute to the [Blooming Neighborhoods commemorative video](#)**
- **Enter the [Neighborhood Association Logo Contest](#)**

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](#)

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Please direct questions or concerns to:  
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## Apply for the City of Bloomington Citizens' Academy!



The City of Bloomington Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development (HAND) invites residents to apply for the 2020 Citizens' Academy, to be held Thursday evenings from August 27 to October 29, from 6 to 8 p.m. This year's Academy will include a mix of in-person and virtual sessions as well as

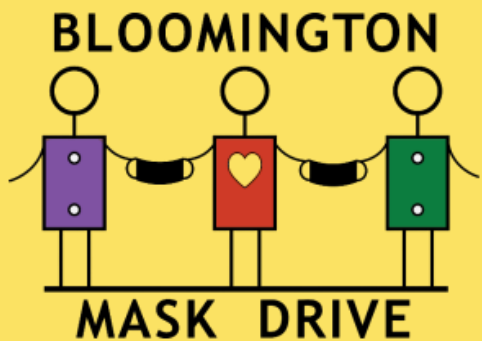
tours of City departments and facilities. In-person sessions will adhere to CDC guidelines, including physical distancing, use of face coverings and hand sanitizer, and other best practices to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The City developed Citizens' Academy in 1999 to encourage civic engagement and to educate residents about City government. Participants will learn about the challenges faced by City government as it balances budget limitations with community goals and service needs. Sessions will also cover topics such as day-to-day operations, the structure and function of City departments, the role of City Council, resident involvement in boards and commissions, innovative approaches to problem solving, and goals for the future.

To participate, City residents must submit an application for consideration by Wednesday, July 29, 2020. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance into the program by Monday, August 3, 2020. You may apply online [here](#). To request a paper application, please call (812) 349-3420.



## Bloomington Mask Drive Opens at College Mall on July 27



Beginning July 27th, the Bloomington Mask Drive will resume work at their new location inside College Mall at the Endwright East Senior Center. Volunteers are needed to assist with materials distribution, mask making, mask collection, and sorting/quality check/bagging. Volunteer training sessions will be held on July 27th, 29th, and 31st. Please sign up for volunteer training [here](#).

Residents of Bloomington and Monroe County in need of fabric masks may pick them up, without need of an appointment, phone call, or pre-existing mask request, at the Monroe County Public Library in Bloomington, Little Free Pantry locations, and Patient PT clinic (2620 North Walnut Street). The Bloomington Mask Drive will be adding additional pick up locations, so please visit their [website](#) for more information.

## Indiana COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program Now Available

Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb announced on June 24, 2020 the Indiana COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program. This program is designed to help Indiana renters, whose income has been adversely affected by COVID-19, avoid eviction by providing up to \$2,000 in assistance to help cover monthly rent payments or late fees. The application is available [here](#).



[IndianaHousingNow.org](https://www.IndianaHousingNow.org)

## Update on City Infrastructure Improvements

**Fourth Street Garage:** Preparation of the site and construction of the foundation piers and elevators is scheduled to commence in early to mid July. During construction, the westernmost lane of Walnut between 3rd and 4th Streets will be closed to traffic. More information is available [here](#).

**Trades District Garage:** Ongoing concrete work will entail frequent concrete deliveries, requiring occasional closures of W. 10th St. between Rogers and Morton. Drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians are advised to find alternate routes, and to exercise caution when entering the area. More information is available [here](#).



**Milling/Paving and Concrete Repair:** Repairs are taking place throughout the City. Follow these links to view the 2020 paving [schedule](#) and [map](#).

**Adams Street Sidewalk and Intersection Improvements Project:** This project on S. Adams St. from Patterson to Kirkwood is designed to improve the safety of the intersection for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists. Drivers should be attentive to lane changes and ongoing construction at and near the intersection. More information is available [here](#).

**East Third Street Resurfacing/Reconfiguration Project:** INDOT's resurfacing and reconfiguration project on E. 3rd St. between College Mall Rd. and State Road 446 is scheduled to be completed by August 2020. More information is available through INDOT at [in.gov/indot](http://in.gov/indot) or 1-855-463-6848.