

The HAND Update

A newsletter for Bloomington residents



Phone: 812-349-3420

Website: bloomington.in.gov/neighborhoods

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

.....

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS:

- Apply for a [HAND Small & Simple Grant](#)
- Apply for a [HAND SSCIPS Grant to control invasive plants](#)
- Subscribe to the [HAND Update](#)
- Sign up to [Adopt-A-Drain](#)

Keep up with your local law makers:
[City Council](#)

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

Check for road closures:
[inRoads](#)

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

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

Assistance for flood damaged homes & businesses

Have you been financially impacted by the flooding event on June 18 and June 19, 2021?

The Small Business Administration (SBA), continues to offer low interest loans to homeowners, businesses, and non-profit organizations via its online application at sba.gov/disaster. For assistance call 800-659-2955, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. seven days per week.

The application deadline for physical property damage is September 7, 2021. The application deadline for economic injury is April 7, 2022.

For more information, please refer to the SBA website at sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance.

Please use caution in the SCHOOL ZONE

School will be back in session on Wednesday, August 4th. That means lots of kiddos crossing busy city streets. The City of Bloomington would like to remind residents and visitors to exercise extra caution when traveling around schools in the interest of our children's safety.

Last year the City completed a \$386,536.50 construction project (including \$359,624.25 in federal funding assistance) to enhance all school speed zones in the city by installing flashing beacons to clearly indicate the times of day when reduced speeds are required. In addition, the length of these school speed zones was reduced to specifically target the areas where pedestrians and motor vehicles interact.



Please look out for the new beacons and familiarize yourself with the school zones in areas in which you frequently drive. We can all help to get our littlest B-town residents to and from school safely.

It's that time of year again!

Welcome your new neighbors with a welcome packet from HAND! We provide a wealth of information to set residents up to be successful community members. From trash pick up to parking permits, we've got it covered.

Neighborhoods and landlords may order welcome packets by calling 812-349-3505 or emailing angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov.



Just launched: Bloomington Green Home Improvement Program (BGHIP) for homeowners



The City's Department of Economic and Sustainable Development has partnered with CDFI Friendly Bloomington and Clean Energy Credit Union to launch a new program for Bloomington homeowners: the Bloomington Green Home Improvement Program (BGHIP) helps finance solar, geothermal, and energy efficiency home improvements. The program makes available reduced-rate loans from Clean Energy Credit Union and \$1,000 rebates for income-eligible homeowners who undertake projects to improve the energy efficiency of their home.

All homeowners in the Bloomington city limits are eligible to participate in the BGHIP program and receive a 0.50%-discount off of the Clean Energy Credit Union's regular loan interest rates. Homeowners with a 2020 income under \$100,000 are eligible for a \$1,000 rebate in addition to the reduced interest rate. For homeowners who complete solar panel installations, the federal tax credit and net metering rates are additional financial incentives. A list of eligible projects is available [here](#).

The BGHIP program goals are to reduce utility costs for homeowners, reduce the overall environmental impact of our community, and make it more economically feasible for Bloomington homeowners to make green home improvements. It is a companion program to the non-profit oriented Solar and Energy Efficient Loan (SEEL) Program that the City launched earlier this year.

For more information visit [BGHIP webpage](#) or email sustain@bloomington.in.gov.

Public comment period for 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan Substantial Amendment

The City of Bloomington is in the process of awarding COVID-19 Community Development Block Grant dollars from the 2020 CARES Act in the amount of \$660,602.20. In order to complete that process, the City Housing and Neighborhood Development Department (HAND) must complete a substantial amendment to its 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. This amendment contains additional citizen participation information, as well as the projects intended for funding. The substantial amendment is contained within the entire Consolidated Plan, and is open for public comment from July 22 to July 27. Comments may be e-mailed to John Zody, HAND Director, at john.zody@bloomington.in.gov. Thank you for your input.

Everything is open at MCPL



**Monroe County
Public Library**

Main Library
303 E. Kirkwood Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47408
812-349-3050

Ellettsville Branch
600 W. Temperance St.
Ellettsville, IN 47429
812-876-1272

mcpl.info



HAND welcomes new Historic Preservation Program Manager

Gloria Colom joined the HAND staff on July 12. In addition to serving as the City's new Historic Preservation Program Manager, Gloria is completing her doctorate in folklore at Indiana University Bloomington.

She has worked in historic preservation with the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture and later on as an architect with the urbanism department of her hometown of Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. WELCOME Gloria!

