

BLOOMINGTON TRANSIT



RESIDENTS ACADEMY
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

GENERAL MANAGER JOHN CONNELL

History & City Connections

Bloomington Transit is operated by the **Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation (BPTC)**. BPTC is a separate municipal corporation (I.C. 36-9-4-12) with independent taxing authority.

Started as a City of Bloomington department in 1973

Became Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation in 1982

BPTC has a five member board of directors which have the authority to oversee the corporation. Two members of the board are appointed by the Mayor and three are appointed by the City Council.

City Council approves budget prepared by Bloomington Transit staff

Contract with City of Bloomington for legal, insurance and ITS support

Shared facility (Downtown Transit Center) with BPD Dispatch



Photo via Dave Askins, The B Square Bulletin

What services does Bloomington Transit provide?

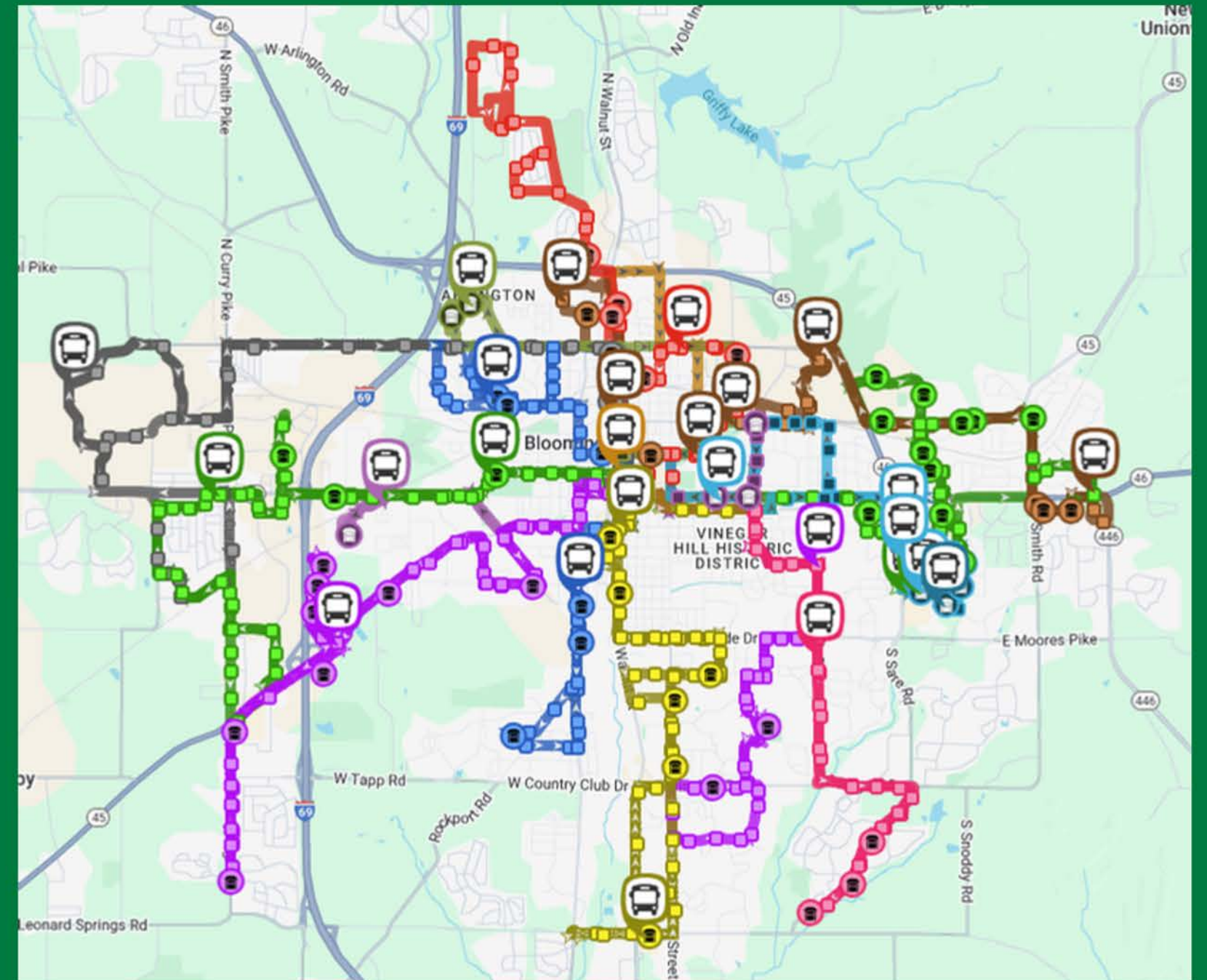
Our mission is to provide our community with safe, reliable, equitable, and innovative mobility options:

Transit service on 16 fixed bus routes

Paratransit: A seven-day a week, curb-to-curb transportation service for persons with disabilities who, by means of a disability, cannot use the existing Bloomington Transit fixed route bus system.

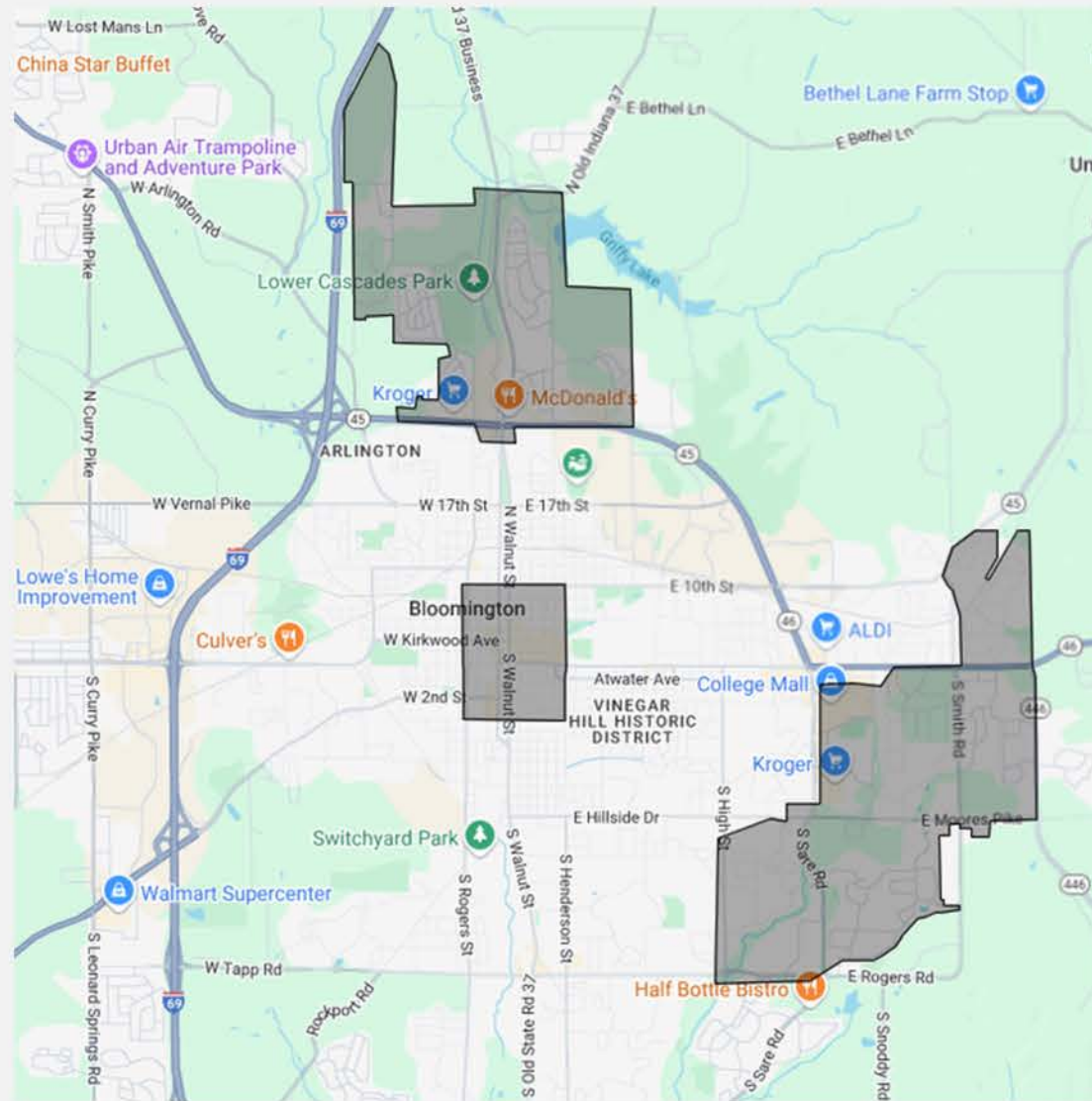
BLink:

- On-demand curb-to-curb service in three established zones (Microtransit)
- BT Late Nite (partnering with Uber and Lyft for rides 9pm-midnight, Monday-Friday)
- Free Downtown Shuttle (pilot program for summer during closure of Kirkwood Ave; will be under consideration for community events)

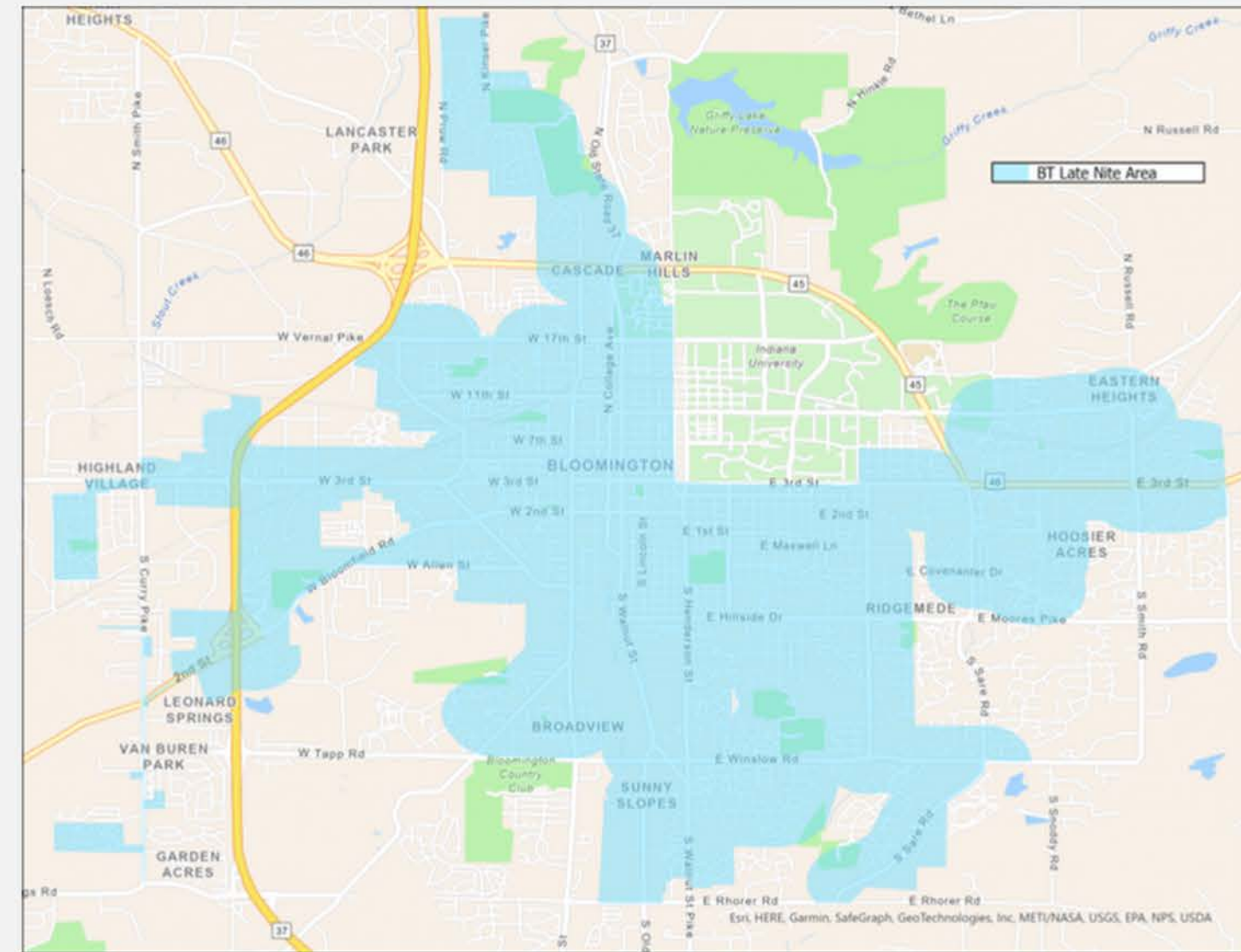


What is BLink?

BLink Microtransit: Offers a direct route to and from designated stops for riders in any of the three designated zones for \$2 per person per ride. Unlike Paratransit, no eligibility or application is required to use BLink Microtransit. Download the “BloomingtonLink” app or visit Book.BLink.RideCo.com to book a ride.



BT Late Nite: From 9:00 pm-11:59 pm, Monday-Friday, you can get up to \$12 off rides (limit two per night) using Uber, Lyft or the "BloomingtonLink" app. Each trip must start AND end within the designated area. Users pay the first \$2, we pay the next \$12, then users pay any additional amount after that.



What is BTaccess?

BTaccess is a seven-day a week, curb-to-curb paratransit transportation service for persons with disabilities who, by means of a disability, cannot use the existing Bloomington Transit fixed route bus system.

Anyone may apply for BTaccess paratransit eligibility. Applications are available online. You may call us at 812-336-7433 and request that an application be mailed, emailed or faxed to you.

Passengers must pay the driver \$2 per ride. With advance notice (the day before your trip), a companion may accompany you at the same price. If you have a Personal Care Attendant who assists you in some fashion, that person rides free.

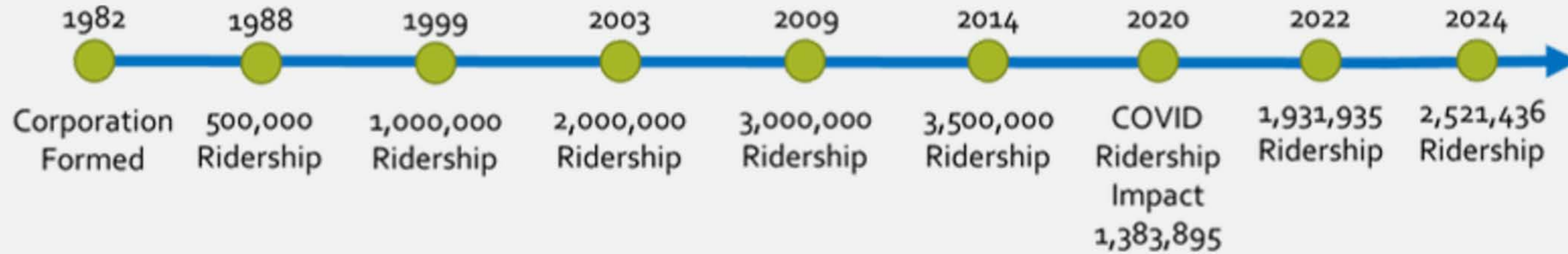
Mon-Fri: 6:00 am-11:59 pm

Saturday: 7:30 am-9:00 pm

Sunday: 9:30 am-9:00 pm



Ridership Growth & Evaluation



2024 Highlights

- Ridership grew 4% from 2023 to 2024
- Averaged over 28 passengers per revenue hour
- Carried over 2.6 passengers per revenue mile
- BTaccess performed over 30,000 trips

Who rides Bloomington Transit?

Riders aren't the only customers.

Our customers are anyone who depends on our services for any reason.

People who rely on Bloomington Transit:

- IU students, faculty and staff
- Other education (Ivy Tech and local schools)
- Local employees and employers alike
- Individuals with limited mobility
- Seniors ("aging in place" and living communities)



2.5 million fixed-route rides (75-80% IU)
30,000 BTaccess/BLink rides

What new technologies have been implemented?



-Fare collection (Umo)

Fare capping, Ticket Vending Machines (TVMs)

-Microtransit booking platform (RideCo)

Optimized scheduling, improved user interface

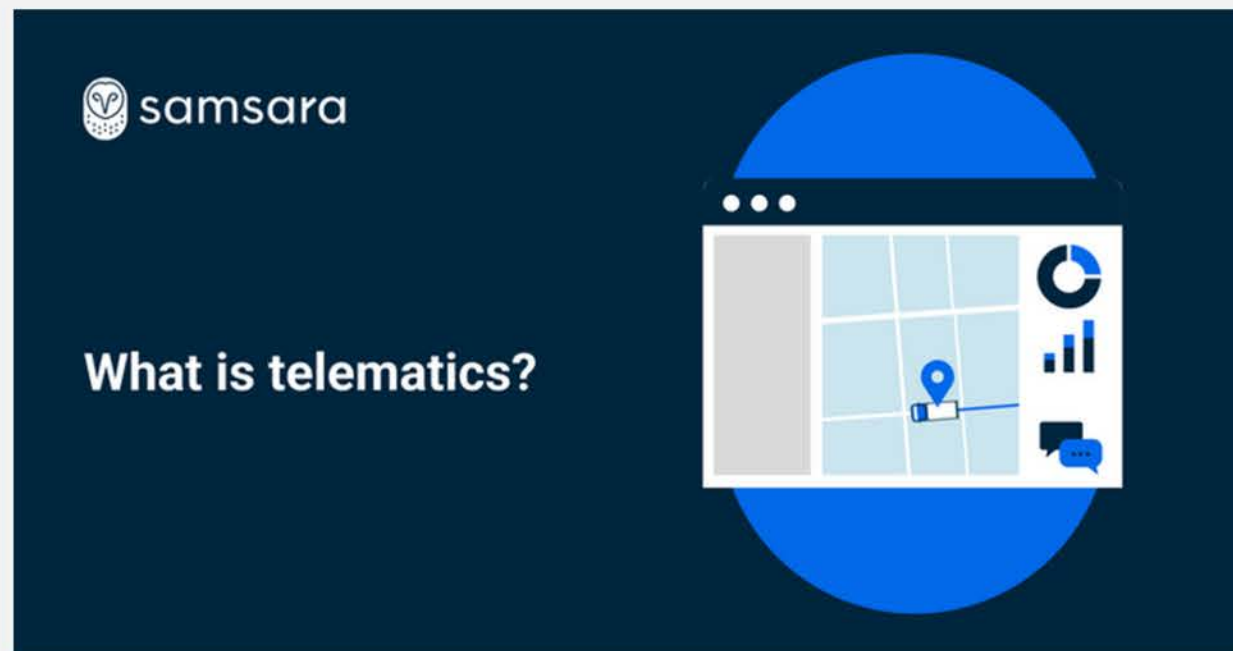
-CAD/AVL

(Computer-Aided Dispatch/Automatic Vehicle Location)

Passenger alert notifications, ETA Spot bus tracking

-Driver telematics (Samsara)

Promotes safer driving, live look-ins for emergencies



Our 10-Year Strategic Plan



*In January 2023, we established **Transform BT** – a roadmap to cement BPTC as an innovative, dynamic agency responsible for providing transportation solutions to the greater Bloomington community.*

Expanding service: Meeting our customers' travel needs means having the ability to serve destinations outside the City limits, both in the short and long term. In January 2025, Route 13 began service to the West side (Park 48 and Ivy Tech).

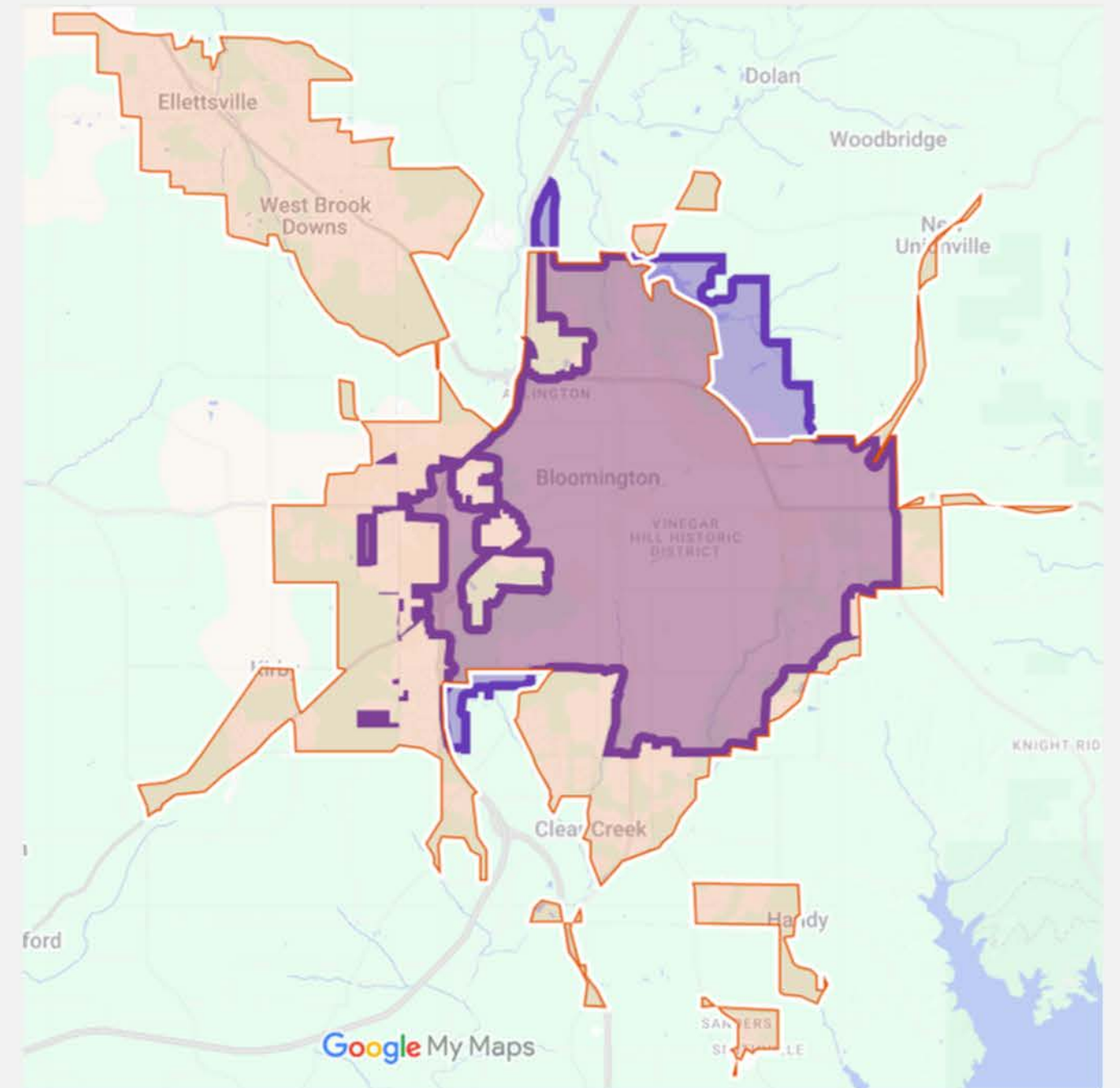
Facility upgrade: We have begun to experience challenges related to our operations and maintenance facility. Three decades of increasing ridership were accomplished without an expansion of the facility on W Grimes Ln, which we share with Campus Bus – IU's campus bus system.

Zero-emissions fleet: We began our move toward a zero-emission fleet in 2022 when we adopted a resolution committing to a 100 percent zero-emission fleet by 2050. We then allocated funds for the purchase of our first four Battery-Electric Buses and now have 18 total in the fleet.



What is in Bloomington Transit's future?

- Continue expansion to provide service throughout Bloomington's entire urbanized area**
- Expanding the fleet in alignment with service expansion**
- Transition to a Zero-Emissions fleet
(60% BEBs by 2035, 100% BEBs by 2050)**
- New administration, operations and maintenance facility**
- New bus shelters with improved accessibility and protection**



What are Bloomington Transit's challenges moving forward?



- Establishing a dedicated source of local revenue (LIT – 2028)**
- Stagnant level of state funding (PMTF)**
- Expanding the fleet and facility in alignment with service expansion**
- Employee recruitment for maintenance and operations positions**
- How can we make Bloomington Transit work for you?**

Where do I find information about Bloomington Transit?



- www.BloomingtonTransit.com** has route-by-route schedules and maps available to download
- Social media updates: Facebook, Bluesky and LinkedIn**
- Bus tracking and service changes/notifications: ETA Spot**
- Bus payment: Umo App or Card (we do still accept cash)**
- Contact us: 812-336-7433 or customer@bloomingtontransit.com**

THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?



RESIDENTS ACADEMY
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

GENERAL MANAGER JOHN CONNELL