



MEMO FROM COUNCIL OFFICE:

To: Members of the Common Council

From: Stephen Lucas, Council Administrator/Attorney

Date: November 9, 2023

Re: Resolution 23-20 - To Approve an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between The City of Bloomington and Monroe County, Indiana – Re: Building Code Authority

Synopsis

The Interlocal Cooperation Agreement extends through January 1, 2025 the long-term arrangement between the City of Bloomington and Monroe County to combine and coordinate the provision of certain building code services. This interlocal cooperation is authorized by Indiana Code § 36-1-7-1.

Relevant Materials

- Resolution 23-20
- Exhibit A - Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between the City of Bloomington and Monroe County, Indiana Regarding Building Code Authority

Summary

Resolution 23-20 approves an Interlocal Agreement with the County that would extend the County's authority over the administration of building codes for one year, through January 1, 2025. Since 1996, when the County adopted a comprehensive plan and was able to exercise zoning authority over unincorporated areas outside of the City of Bloomington, also known as the former 2-mile fringe, the City and County have had agreements over building codes and, for most of that time, the planning and zoning jurisdictions.

The principal benefit of the agreement is to provide a convenient and efficient mechanism for citizens of Monroe County and the City of Bloomington to obtain building permits, which the County processes on behalf of the City. A few portions of the agreement have been updated since last year to reflect current practices between the City and County. The more substantive changes include:

Part 2.D. was updated to reflect the ability of both the City and the County to process Certificates of Zoning Compliance applications and building permits through online management systems, which eliminates the need to have someone physically go pick up building permit applications;

Part 2.E. was updated to reflect how the City and County prefer to communicate about occupancy inspections, in particular for single-family residential projects, which are subject to frequent cancellation or rescheduling; and



City of Bloomington Indiana

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Part 2.H. was updated to state that the City would share GIS data and maintain close communications with the County to help correct any GIS data errors.

Finally, the proposed agreement extends the term by one year from January 1, 2024 through January 1, 2025.

Interlocal agreements are authorized and governed by I.C. 36-1-7-1 (and following statutes) and must include the:

- duration;
 - purpose;
 - manner of financing, budgeting, staffing and supplying the joint undertaking;
 - method(s) for partially or completely terminating the agreement and for disposing of property in the event of a partial or complete termination;
 - administration either through a separate entity or a joint board with powers as delegated by the agreement; and
 - manner of acquiring, holding, and disposing of property used in the joint undertaking (when a joint board is created).
- In addition, these agreements may include any other appropriate matters.

Contact

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