

**Dave Askins <dave@bsquarebeacon.com> Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 11:47 AM**  
**To: Mike Rouker <roukerm@bloomington.in.gov>**  
**Cc: Yael Ksander <ksandery@bloomington.in.gov>**

Hi Mike,

Standard disclaimer: I totally get that there are some questions or issues you can't comment on because of attorney-client issues, but I'll take a shot anyway in case you can.

In the 2021 budget, there's a proposed use of \$250,000 in parking meter funds by CFRD for "support to area nonprofit agencies by providing low- or no-cost training opportunities, outreach and case management resources for people experiencing homelessness and substance use disorders."

Bloomington's local code on the allowable disbursements from the parking meter fund lists out a bunch of possible uses for parking meter fund, which mirror the state statute:

[https://library.municode.com/in/bloomington/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=TIT15VETR\\_C H15.40MUPALOGAREMEPA\\_15.40.015PAMEFUPUEX](https://library.municode.com/in/bloomington/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT15VETR_C H15.40MUPALOGAREMEPA_15.40.015PAMEFUPUEX)

I didn't see anything on the list that fits the planned use by CFRD. But local code uses "include" language, so I figured maybe state code has more. It turns out it does. In 2018 the state statute was updated.

You can see the difference in the list between

2020: <http://iga.in.gov/legislative/laws/2020/ic/titles/36/#36-9-12-4>

and

2017: <http://iga.in.gov/legislative/laws/2017/ic/titles/36/#36-9-12-4>

What's added in the statute is this:

(10) the cost of maintenance and operation of a municipally owned park where parking meters are located.

That seems like it might be consistent with the sort of parks maintenance jobs program that the city is looking to expand, as far as I understand that program.

Question: Is (10) the possible use that Bloomington is relying on for the CFRD use of the parking meter fund? If so, which park(s) get(s) analyzed as "where parking meters are located"? Seminary Park, for example, doesn't have parking meters on the same block but there are parking meters a half block north. Is that close enough to satisfy the statute? Or is there some different reason Bloomington is using to justify the CFRD use of parking meter funds?

Thanks!

--Dave

Dave Askins  
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**Mike Rouker <roukerm@bloomington.in.gov> Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 4:51 PM**  
**To: Dave Askins <dave@bsquarebeacon.com>**  
**Cc: Yael Ksander <ksandery@bloomington.in.gov>**

Dave:

Thanks for the question. The City has been utilizing a portion of its parking meter revenue to help assist those experiencing homelessness for several years. State law permits the use of parking meter revenue to assist with maintaining public ways and to assist with the maintenance of a municipally owned park. Homelessness creates a myriad of challenges within Bloomington's right-of-way and parks, and we have utilized meter revenue to address those concerns so that these public spaces may be safely used by all members of our community.

Previously, the Police Department was responsible for utilizing and expending these funds to help maintain Bloomington's right-of-way, but the Community and Family Resources Department (CFRD) actually has more expertise to administer and grant these funds to address homelessness within our public spaces. So for 2021, the administration has proposed that CFRD take over this responsibility.

I hope this helps provide some clarity.

[Quoted text hidden]

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Michael Rouker  
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**Dave Askins <dave@bsquarebeacon.com> Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 5:08 PM**  
**To: Mike Rouker <roukerm@bloomington.in.gov>**  
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Thanks for this.

--Dave

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