

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall, Bloomington, Indiana on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 6:30pm, Council President Isabel Piedmont-Smith presided over a Consensus Building Activity (CBA) of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
CONSENSUS BUILDING ACTIVITY
11 September 2024

Councilmembers present: Courtney Daily, Isak Nti Asare, Isabel Piedmont-Smith, Dave Rollo, Andrew (Andy) Ruff, Hopi Stosberg, Sydney Zulich

ROLL CALL [6:30pm]

Councilmembers present via Zoom: none

Councilmembers absent: Matt Flaherty, Kate Rosenbarger

Council President Isabel Piedmont-Smith gave a land and labor acknowledgment and summarized the agenda.

AGENDA SUMMATION [6:31pm]

Piedmont-Smith reviewed the August 14, 2024 consensus building activity that covered the question of "What actions should the City Council take to address street homelessness and support the work of others addressing street homelessness?"

RECAP OF AUGUST 14, 2024 CBA
SESSION ON STREET
HOMELESSNESS [6:35pm]

PRESENTATION: PROPOSALS FOR
CITY ACTION

Short-term: Greater availability of public restrooms for unhoused individuals.

Short-term Action Plan

Daily gave a presentation on the need for more access to restrooms in the community, and gave an overview of what was available in parks and parking garages. She discussed options which included extended security hours and additional portalets around the different park locations. Daily said these were part of ongoing talks and said the mayor was open to discussing the issue as well. Daily said the options were not under the control of the council, but the council could track progress.

Long-term: Revisions to the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) to allow for more affordable housing options.

Long-term Action Plan

Zulich introduced two specific long-term actions, both in terms of amending the UDO. The first long-term action plan involved discussion around Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) buildings. The other long-term action plan involved revising the definition of "family" to address the housing distribution problem. Zulich gave some options to consider during the breakout groups, and discussed the potential benefits and drawbacks of taking action.

Focused discussion of two proposed areas for UDO revisions.

BREAKOUT GROUPS

Joelene Bergonzi gave an overview of the process for the evening, and discussed the difference between dialogue and deliberation. She introduced the other CJAM members who would be in each of the breakout groups: Vanessa Roberts, John VanderZee, Amy Roush, Wilson Mosley, and Susan Klein. Bergonzi explained the placement of the groups and the timing of discussions. Bergonzi reviewed the group agreements.

Participants discussed their observations from the session.

LARGE GROUP DEBRIEFING

Piedmont-Smith thanked the members of CJAM for their support and thanked the members of the public for their participation. She said council should move forward on one or both of the topics from the discussion. Piedmont-Smith encouraged people to provide feedback and then adjourned the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT [8:15pm]

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this ____ day of _____, 2024.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Isabel Piedmont-Smith, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council

Nicole Bolden, CLERK
City of Bloomington

FOR APPROVAL