

RESOLUTION 2025-04

**TO DISSOLVE ONE STANDING COMMITTEE AND
ESTABLISH ONE STANDING COMMITTEE
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL**

- WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington Common Council (“Council”) has an interest in the efficient governance of the City; and
- WHEREAS, BMC 2.04.210 provides that the Council may, by resolution, create or abolish standing committees; and
- WHEREAS, the Council currently has the following standing committees: Climate Action & Resilience Committee, Sidewalk Committee, Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee, three Board and Commission Interview Committees responsible for recommending the appointment of residents to serve on the City’s boards and commissions; along with a Special Fiscal Committee and a four-member delegation of councilmembers who serve on the Monroe County Public Safety Local Income Tax Council; and
- WHEREAS, the Council wishes to dissolve the Climate Action & Resilience Committee in favor of utilizing several other recently developed forums to collaborate on and implement climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, policies, and actions in the City, including but not limited to the City’s Climate Action Team, the Project 46 regional climate alliance, and the newly formed Transportation Commission; and
- WHEREAS, the Council created a Special Committee on Council Processes by action of the council president in 2023, in order to make recommendations to the Council on matters affecting its own processes, and its existence has been reaffirmed by the ensuing council president each year thereafter; and
- WHEREAS, the Council recognizes the work done by the special committee in 2023 and 2024 was valuable, including board and commission reform and review of municipal code governing the City’s boards and commissions resulting in the creation and passage of Ordinance 2025-05; and
- WHEREAS, special committees are temporary governing bodies that disband once their work is complete, and the Council recognizes that more work in this domain remains to be done that would best be served by the creation of a more permanent standing committee with ongoing responsibilities; and
- WHEREAS, the committees not dissolved or otherwise affected herein should continue unchanged; and
- WHEREAS, Resolution 22-02 and Ordinance 13-05 allowed work sessions to be held without the presence of a quorum, or majority of members in attendance, but state code does not define “work session” and only defines the term “meeting”; and
- WHEREAS, the Indiana Open Door Law defines “meeting” as “a gathering of a majority of the governing body of a public agency for purpose of taking official action upon public business” (I.C. 5-15-1.5-2); and
- WHEREAS, the Council wishes any “work session” to also fulfill the requirements of a “meeting”, such that a quorum of members in conformity with the Council’s electronic meetings policy, as amended by Resolution 2024-24, is required for the meeting to proceed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

SECTION 1. Dissolution of the Climate Action & Resilience Committee. The Climate Action & Resilience Committee shall be dissolved upon passage of this resolution.

SECTION 2. Establishment of the Committee on Council Processes as a Standing Committee of the Council. The Committee on Council Processes shall be established as a standing committee of the Council upon passage of this resolution. It shall consist of four Councilmembers whose purpose is to make recommendations to the full Council on the following matters:

- a. The internal processes and procedures of the Council and how the work of the Council can be more accessible, equitable, efficient, and transparent;
- b. Ways to optimize interactions between resident boards and commissions and the Council, in collaboration with the City Clerk and/or their designee; and
- c. Specific questions related to Council processes that are brought to the committee by the full Council.

SECTION 3. Council Work Sessions. All Council work sessions are considered meetings of the full Council. Section 5 of Resolution 22-02 and Section 9 of Ordinance 13-05 are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. Severability. If any section, sentence or provision of this resolution, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be declared invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any of the other sections, sentences, provisions or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this resolution are declared to be severable.

PASSED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this 05 day of March, 2025.



Hopi Stosberg, President
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:



NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk
City of Bloomington

PRESENTED by me to the Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 07 day of March, 2025.



NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this 7 day of March, 2025.



KERRY THOMSON, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution is sponsored by Councilmember Flaherty and Councilmember Piedmont-Smith, and it dissolves the Climate Action & Resilience Committee and establishes the Committee on Council Processes as a standing committee of the Council. It also repeals Section 5 of Resolution 22-02 and Section 9 of Ordinance 13-05 and states that Council work sessions are considered meetings of the full Council.

Note: This resolution was changed before its introduction at the March 5, 2025 Regular Session to change the language of subsection b of Section 2 to account for the preexisting duties of the Deputy Clerk of Communications and Outreach, as well as change the word "citizens" to "residents" in the third Whereas clause.

Distributed to: Clerk, Council Attorney, Legal, and Mayor.