

Memorandum City of Bloomington, Indiana Community Advisory on Public Safety Commission

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Allison Conference Room (#225), Showers Building, 401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, Indiana

The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Commission members present in person: Cale Ulery, Kamala Brown- Sparks, Michael Burton, Sharon Wainshilbaum

Commission members present over Zoom: None

Commission members absent: Karshin Nair, Birgit Newman

City staff and elected officials present: Larry Allen, Courtney Daily, Evan Link

Approval of Agenda and Approval of Memoranda/Minutes

Cm. Ulery moved to approve the agenda and memoranda. Cm. Brown-Sparks seconded. Passed 4-0.

Reports

None

Old Business

Cm. Ulery opened the discussion about LEAP. Council staff will request an update on where the process currently is before the next CAPS meeting.

Council Attorney Larry Allen provided information about the scope of the commission and the role of Council staff in preparing meeting items.

New Business

Flock Cameras and Contracts: Cm. Ulery noted that the Flock contract was not renewed, but that there may be some continued partnerships with Flock. Cm. Burton pointed out that some of the cameras were still used during Little 500 weekend. Allen noted that there are still questions about stationary cameras that may be governed under other contracts or companies. Council will look into existing cameras and legislative updates. Cm. Wainshilbaum inquired about any influence the city has over how IU utilizes cameras.

Review of City of Bloomington Public Safety Report issued on May 27, 2026: Cm. Ulerly relayed concerns about a loss of dispatch staff. Cm. Burton expressed confusion about how the different dispatch units work together when 911 calls come in and called for more transparency. Cm. Brown- Sparks noted that dispatching comes through the police department rather than social work. Allen does not know the current staffing levels but could have someone with additional information come to a future meeting.

The commission considered a response to the report. If individual members send thoughts to council staff, they can be compiled for a future packet. Cm. Burton noted a lack of statistics specifically regarding minorities in this document, though there is more information on the city website.

Resident Health and Safety Issues: Cm. Ulerly will continue to seek information about the death outside of the Bluebird, especially as heat and tornados increase the danger. Cm. Brown-Sparks was concerned about a lack of short-term temporary shelter.

The commission discussed concerns about the use of Child Protective Services. Allen noted that CPS is largely a state function, but the concerns can be passed on to councilmembers.

Drone Use: Cm. Burton discussed the April 6, 2026, barricading incident where a drone was used by Bloomington police. He argued that there should be a post-incident evaluation when drones or chemical weapons are used since it doesn't appear that this currently exists. He would like more information about this specific case and how those decisions were made.

Topic Suggestions for Future Agendas

From Cm. Piedmont-Smith: Strategy and Planning for Common Council Deliberation Sessions on Public Safety

1. Deliberation Session 1: What is Public Safety on September 9 at 6:30 p.m.
2. Deliberation Session 2: How Can the City Advance Public Safety on October 21 at 6:30 p.m.

From Cm. Wainshilbaum: Information on how many calls social workers are taking and how effective they are.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately **5:32** p.m.