

Community Advisory on Public Safety Commission

AGENDA

Thursday, 4:00 p.m., October 15, 2026

Allison Conference Room (#225), Showers Building

401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, IN 47404

The meeting may also be accessed at the following [link](#)¹

1. Roll Call

2. Approval Of Agenda And Approval Of Memoranda/Minutes

3. Reports (If Any)

- A. Co-Chairs
- B. Individual Members
- C. Staff
 - 1. Introduction to new Common Council Attorney, Jacob Rossman
- D. Public / Public Comment

4. Old Business

5. New Business

- A. Review and Discussion of the September 9, 2026 Common Council Deliberation Session on Public Safety – Councilmember Piedmont-Smith
- B. Strategy and Planning for Common Council Deliberation Sessions on Public Safety – Councilmember Piedmont-Smith
 - Deliberation Session 2: How Can the City Advance Public Safety on October 21 at 6:30 p.m
- C. Review and Discussion on Proposed Police Station

6. Topic Suggestions For Future Agendas

7. Adjournment

¹<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/82433252101?pwd=B3a4BFrgNYUmQ8DC0CpJSbhk6EtmC.1>

Meeting ID: 824 3325 2101 Passcode: 829142

CAPS Commission Goals and Purpose

- Perform research and gather data on the perceptions and preferences about public safety from community members, with specific focus on perceptions and preference data gathered from minority community members, individuals who are disabled, and other often marginalized community members
- Research evidence-based alternatives to traditional policing
- Identify best practices in public safety globally and evaluate the efficacy of such practices for implementation in Bloomington.
- Make recommendations to the Common Council, the Board of Public Safety, and/or the Mayor or the Mayor's designee on policies and programs that enhance public safety for all community members.

Bloomington City Committee on Council Processes meetings can be watched on the following websites:

- [Community Action Television Services \(CATS\)](https://catstv.net/)²
- [City's YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/@citybloomington)³

[Materials for this meeting](https://bloomington.in.gov/council/public-safety-advisory/meetings?year=2026)⁴ are available on Council's website.

² <https://catstv.net/>

³ <https://www.youtube.com/@citybloomington>

⁴ <https://bloomington.in.gov/council/public-safety-advisory/meetings?year=2026>

Pursuant to Indiana Code 5-14-9-6, the following details are provided regarding the officers serving on this committee:

Committee Member	Appointed By	Appointment Date	Term
Kamala Brown-Sparks (Co-Chair)	Common Council	2/1/2025	2/1/2025 - 1/31/2027
Cale Ulery (Co-chair)	Common Council	4/2/2025	2/1/2025 - 1/31/2027
Michael Burton	Common Council	2/4/2026	2/1/2024 - 1/31/2028
Karshin Nair	Common Council	2/1/2026	2/1/2026 - 1/31/2028
Birgit Newman	Common Council	4/2/2025	2/1/2025 - 1/31/2027
Sharon Wainshilbaum	Common Council	2/1/2026	2/1/2026 - 1/31/2028
Vacant - Seat C-1	Common Council		2/1/2026 - 1/31/2028
Vacant - Seat C-4	Common Council		2/1/2026 - 1/31/2028
Vacant - Seat C-9	Common Council		2/1/2025 - 1/31/2027

The City is committed to providing equal access to information. If you encounter difficulties accessing material in this packet, please contact the Office of the Common Council at council.bloomington.in.gov or 812-349-3409 and provide your name, contact information, and a link to or description of the document or web page you are having problems with.

Posted: October 5, 2026

City Council Deliberation Sessions on Public Safety

Overview of Session 1

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Purpose

The purpose of the first deliberation session is to better understand how Bloomington residents experience and think about public safety. Rather than focusing on potential solutions or policy recommendations, this session is designed to create space for participants to share their lived experiences. This session is intended to prioritize understanding before problem-solving. At our second session on October 21, we will move toward a definition of public safety, an understanding of what our community already does to address it, and what the City, in particular, can do to make people feel and actually be more safe.

Session Objectives

By the conclusion of this session, you should have had an opportunity to:

- Share what motivated you to participate
- Reflect on your personal experiences related to public safety in Bloomington
- Describe situations, places, or experiences that contribute to feeling safe
- Describe situations, places, or experiences that contribute to feeling less safe
- Explore how different experiences shape different understandings of public safety
- Start to identify common themes that may define public safety in Bloomington

Agenda

1. City Council roll call and welcome
2. Opening presentation (Councilmembers Piedmont-Smith and Stosberg)
3. Community agreements and process overview (Wyatt Lawson, CJAM)
4. Facilitated group discussions (50 minutes)
5. Reports from each group
6. Completion of survey
7. Final public feedback from individuals
8. Closing remarks (Councilmember Zulich)

Group Discussion Questions

1. Introductions: What is your name and what brought you to this conversation about public safety in Bloomington?
2. Tell us about a situation when you have felt safe in Bloomington. What contributed to that feeling?
3. Tell us about a situation when you have felt less safe in Bloomington. What contributed to that feeling?
4. As you listen to the experiences shared here, what seems to contribute to people feeling safe, or make it harder for people to feel safe?
5. Based on the experiences we've discussed, what should the Common Council understand about what public safety means to people in Bloomington?

The report from each group should summarize 2-3 themes that came out of the discussion.

Many thanks to the Community Justice and Mediation Center (CJAM) for their collaboration!

Sesiones de deliberación del Concejo Municipal sobre seguridad pública

Resumen de la Sesión 1

Miércoles, 9 de septiembre de 2026

Propósito

El propósito de la primera sesión de deliberación es comprender mejor cómo los residentes de Bloomington perciben y piensan sobre la seguridad pública. En lugar de centrarse en posibles soluciones o recomendaciones de políticas, esta sesión está diseñada para crear un espacio donde los participantes puedan compartir sus experiencias personales. El objetivo es priorizar la comprensión antes de abordar la búsqueda de soluciones. En nuestra segunda sesión, el 21 de octubre, avanzaremos hacia una definición de seguridad pública, comprenderemos qué se hace ya en nuestra comunidad para abordarla y analizaremos qué puede hacer la Ciudad, en particular, para que las personas se sientan —y estén realmente— más seguras.

Objetivos de la sesión

Al finalizar esta sesión, usted habrá tenido la oportunidad de:

- Compartir qué le motivó a participar
- Reflexionar sobre sus experiencias personales relacionadas con la seguridad pública en Bloomington
- Describir situaciones, lugares o experiencias que contribuyen a sentirse seguro
- Describir situaciones, lugares o experiencias que contribuyen a sentirse menos seguro
- Explorar cómo diferentes experiencias moldean distintas percepciones de la seguridad pública
- Comenzar a identificar temas comunes que puedan definir la seguridad pública en Bloomington

Agenda

1. Pasar lista y bienvenida del Concejo Municipal
2. Presentación inicial (Concejales Piedmont-Smith y Stosberg)
3. Acuerdos comunitarios y resumen del proceso (Wyatt Lawson, CJAM)
4. Debates grupales facilitados (50 minutos)
5. Informes de cada grupo
6. Complimentación de la encuesta
7. Comentarios finales del público
8. Palabras de cierre (Concejal Zulich)

Preguntas para el debate grupal

1. Presentaciones: ¿Cuál es su nombre y qué le trajo a esta conversación sobre la seguridad pública en Bloomington?
2. Cuéntenos sobre alguna situación en la que se haya sentido seguro en Bloomington. ¿Qué contribuyó a esa sensación?
3. Cuéntenos sobre alguna situación en la que se haya sentido menos seguro en Bloomington. ¿Qué contribuyó a esa sensación?
4. Al escuchar las experiencias compartidas aquí, ¿qué parece contribuir a que las personas se sientan seguras o qué dificulta esa sensación de seguridad?
5. Basándose en las experiencias que hemos comentado, ¿qué debería entender el Concejo Municipal sobre lo que significa la seguridad pública para los habitantes de Bloomington?

El informe de cada grupo debe resumir dos o tres temas que surgieron de la discusión.

¡Muchas gracias al Community Justice and Mediation Center (CJAM) por su colaboración!