



# CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

## COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

### NOTICE AND AGENDA

**Tuesday, November 12, 2024, 6:00 p.m.**  
**McCloskey Conference Room — City Hall**

*or virtually at*

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/84327085962?pwd=naI8LVmKZSoinPUHbXuw3h7oqMyi5g.1>

Meeting ID: 843 2708 5962 | Passcode: 034238

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Approval of Agenda**
4. **Approval of Minutes: September 10, 2024**
5. **Public Comment** **10 min**  
*up to 3 minutes per person*
6. **Reports from Commissioners** **20 min**
  - A. Chair (Justin Vasel) 5 min
  - B. Waste Management Working Group (Matt Austin) 5 min
  - C. Ad-Hoc Committee: Sustainability Assessment Report (Tara Dunderdale) 5 min
  - D. Council Ex-Officio (Dave Rollo) 5 min
7. **Discussion of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions** **40 min**
  - A. WG Grant Proposal: CanopyBloomington (Andrew Guenther) 10 min
  - B. Sustainable Neighborhoods Grant Proposal: New Pollinator Gardens 10 min
  - C. Proposed changes to BMC 2.12.100 20 min
8. **Resolutions for Second Reading and Discussion** **N/A**
9. **Resolutions for First Reading and Discussion** **N/A**
10. **Report from Staff Liaison (Shawn Miya)** **10 min**
11. **Member Announcements** **5 min**
12. **New Business** **5 min**
13. **Adjournment**

**Next Regular Meeting: December 10, 2024 at 6 pm**

*As a quorum of the Commission or its committees may be present, this gathering constitutes a meeting under the Indiana Open Door Law (I.C. § 5-14-1.5). For that reason, this statement provides notice that this meeting will occur and is open for the public to attend, observe, and record what transpires.*

# Application: 0000000051

Grandview Hills Neighborhood Association  
BCOS Sustainable Neighborhoods Grant

## Summary

ID: 0000000051  
Last submitted: Oct 25 2024 10:18 PM (EDT)

## Fill out a form

Completed - Oct 25 2024

# BCOS Neighborhood Grant - Intake Form

Please fill out all the information necessary to apply for a Bloomington Commission on Sustainability Grant

## Applicant Information

### Organization/Neighborhood Name

Grandview Hills Neighborhood Association

### Organization Type

Registered neighborhood association

## Designated Neighborhood Liaison

Provide the information of the authorized liaison. This person will be responsible for signing any necessary contracts and grant applications on behalf of the interested group.

Critically, this person will also be the designated recipient of the grant funding and therefore will be the one that is set up as a vendor in the City's payment system.

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Name         | Meagan Eller   |
| Email        | <a href="mailto:mmeller75@gmail.com">mmeller75@gmail.com</a> |
| Address      | 514 N Staats Dr  |
| Phone Number | 8126065682   |

## Will the designated liaison also be serving as the project leader?

Project leaders should be neighborhood residents that are coordinating with others to implement the project itself.

Yes

## Participating Residents

In order to participate, the project must be supported by a **minimum of 4 households** of the neighborhood. Please list the contact information of at least 3 others (should all be in from different houses) that will be involved in the project implementation and will benefit from the grant.

|            | Name               | Email  |
|------------|--------------------|--|
| Resident 1 | Barbara Howell     | <a href="mailto:bhowell@homefinder.org">bhowell@homefinder.org</a>       |
| Resident 2 | Linda O'Donnell    | <a href="mailto:lindaod3614@gmail.com">lindaod3614@gmail.com</a>         |
| Resident 3 | Nic Pancini-Wagner | <a href="mailto:ndpancini@gmail.com">ndpancini@gmail.com</a>             |
| Resident 4 | Tara Dunderdale    | <a href="mailto:dunderdaleupton@gmail.com">dunderdaleupton@gmail.com</a> |
| Resident 5 | Keeva Stucker      | <a href="mailto:keeva72@hotmail.com">keeva72@hotmail.com</a>             |

# Project Overview

## Project Title

6 New Pollinator Gardens

## Associated Physical Address

Provide the nearest address of where the project will occur

617 N Grandview Dr, 3411 E Grandview Dr, 514 N Staats Dr, 605 N Staats Dr, 3613 E Post Rd, 3614 E Post Rd

## Upload a map of the targeted location

[GrandviewHillsPollinatorGardenLocations.png](#)

The 6 pins on the map are the 6 addresses where homeowners will install new pollinator gardens.

**Filename:** GrandviewHillsPollinatorGardenLocations.png **Size:** 1.2 MB

If necessary, upload documentation from the owners of the property approving the use of the property for this project

## Relevant Bloomington Climate Action Strategy

G 2-B

## Funding Request

Maximum amount that applicants may request is \$1,000. During application review, funding request will be taken into consideration and used to determine a recommended funding amount.

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| Amount | 1000 |
|--------|------|

## Project Details

## Project Narrative

Describe the project, including a general overview of how the grant funds would be used.

We want to increase pollinator habitat in our neighborhood. Cost for the project is \$1142.50. We are requesting \$1000 toward pollinator garden kits from Prairie Moon Nursery for 6 homeowners in the Grandview Hills Neighborhood. Each pollinator garden kit contains between 18 and 50 native pollinator plants along with a suggested layout for planting.

### Cost breakdown

1 Colossal Pollinator Garden kit at \$199 each: \$199  
1 Made in the Shade Garden kit at \$199 each: \$199  
1 Rain Garden for Pollinators kit at \$159 each: \$159  
1 Pollinator Patch kit at \$119 each: \$119  
2 Easy Street Patch kits at \$119 each: \$238

Estimated tax: \$63.98

Estimated shipping: \$164.52

Grandview Hills neighborhood is located in an area identified by the Trust for Public Land's ParkServe mapping tool as a high priority for new parks and a heat risk priority zone. CanopyBloomington has identified our neighborhood as a moderate priority for canopy cover, with a nearly 7% reduction in tree canopy between 2008 and 2018.

Based on these measurable references, our neighborhood leaders understand the need to guide our neighborhood towards growing a sustainable tree canopy and the need to switch our plant base from non-native and invasive to native.

We are currently taking action steps that build on 8 years of working together to remove invasive plants and replace them with native species. However, we know that to make a larger impact we need to involve more neighbors at their current levels of understanding, income level, capabilities, and support them in ways that remove barriers towards taking action.

In order to achieve our goals, we recognize that by creating a project that supports BCOS values, and furthers the needs of our neighborhood, we will be able to reach a larger audience and have an opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations about climate action plans and sustainability.

This opportunity allows us to involve a cross section of neighbors in learning more. For example, our grantees include ages ranging from young families, middle age, to retired people, various income levels and physical abilities. By involving new residents and those who have been previously involved in taking action, this project contributes to our neighborhood efforts to strive towards sustainability and resilience.

Additionally, over the past eight years, our neighborhood has worked together to remove invasive species and plant native shrub seedlings. We have also placed bat houses at several properties in the neighborhood financially supported through the HAND Small and Simple Grant.

Furthermore, we show a track record for working together, receiving grants from the Clean Water Act, Monroe County Master Gardeners, and HAND to improve habitat in our neighborhood.

To underscore our neighborhood's readiness to take on a BCOS grant, we can report that a survey conducted this spring (2024) showed that 65% of respondents are interested in removing invasive plants, planting natives, and landscaping in general.

To this end, GHNA has applied for a CanopyBloomington Neighborhood planting grant October 2024. Upon a successful survey by CanopyBloomington, we aim to install up to 20 native trees using a 1 to 1 ratio of neighborhood participation.

Based on the history of our involvement in learning and taking action, receiving grants, survey results, and seeking more opportunities to increase our tree canopy we believe that our neighbors will partner well with the BCOS project.

## Project Deliverables

Provide a statement describing project deliverables and how results will be measured.

- \* 174 new pollinator plants in approximately 400 square feet of additional pollinator garden in Grandview Hills Neighborhood.
  - \* Documentation of stages using photography: before, site preparation, planting, and finished garden bed after it is planted. These photos will be uploaded to a shared folder.
  - \* PowerPoint or Google Slides presentation about the project to be presented at a neighborhood meeting after completion of the project.
  - \* Results will be measured by checking the survival rate of the 174 plants in fall 2025 and again in the spring/summer 2026.
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## CAP Alignment

Please provide a statement of relevance, describing how your project supports the CAP goal you selected on the previous page and how your overall project supports Bloomington sustainability goals.

Our grantee survey has revealed that 2 people will be using established garden beds, whereas 3 will be removing turf, and 2 are rehabilitating areas where invasive plants were removed to lay out a new native garden. (Note: 1 is partially rehabilitating and partially removing turf.) The total space of both new and established beds will be approximately 400 sq/ft.

This project allows 6 homeowners to collaborate on a joint undertaking that involves education, action, and a future-forward outcome. These values are inline with our ongoing initiative to remove invasive species and plant native. In addition to adding native species into our yards, we are increasing our native seed bank for further seed collections. We are also nurturing relationships, helping each other prepare for on-boarding the native planting kit, learning together, and building community.

Our grantee community spans young families, middle age and retirees. Our sharing of knowledge will build confidence in growing plants and gardening, and will lead to future seed collecting, sharing of seeds, and planting seeds to further our community seed sharing.

National, state, and city parks are too small and too separated to support wildlife. By switching our plant base in our yards from non-native and invasive plant species to native species we can provide a mosaic of habitat that provides host plants for insects and birds.

Birds require caterpillar larvae to feed their offspring, and other animals depend on native species to complete their life cycles. By seeking opportunities to increase native habitat in our own yards we are filling the gaps of a broken landscape and subsequently creating and providing a wildlife corridor of great importance for migrating birds, and insects that rely on native species as their host plants.

These creatures have evolved with native plants for millions of years, so by switching to native species and replacing key plant species in our yards we can work towards wildlife surviving and thriving.

To provide a contiguous landscape, whether that is by increasing tree canopy, shrubs or wildflowers, we are offsetting the encroachment of human development and road ecology. Especially buffering the environmental

stressors (such as noise, heat, too much light, and disturbed areas) that drive edge-dwelling creatures further into deeper forests to compete for resources, nesting cavities, and food sources.

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## Project Timeline

Provide a list of project milestones with an approximate timeline and completion date. Include details necessary to accomplish each milestone.

- \* Preparation of yard space began October 2024. Each homeowner is responsible for preparing the area by removing grass/turf or invasive plants in the selected location. This work will be accomplished by April 2025.
- \* Order plants from Prairie Moon Nursery when they go on sale in late December 2024
- \* Set up a calendar schedule for monthly support meetings in person, virtually, or via email starting in January 2025.
- \* Receive plants between late April and June 2025, based on Prairie Moon's shipping schedule.
- \* Ongoing documentation of stages using photography: before, site preparation, planting, and finished garden bed after it is planted. These photos will be added to a shared folder.
- \* Ongoing seed collection and sharing.

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## Project Cost

Upload a detailed project budget, specifying which aspects of the project are to be funded by the BCOS grant.

[Pollinator Garden Project Budget.pdf](#)

**Filename:** Pollinator Garden Project Budget.pdf **Size:** 47.0 kB

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## Alternative Funding

Describe any other sources of project funding, including a cost-sharing proposal if applicable.

Each homeowner will contribute toward the cost of the kits above the amount of the grant. Each homeowner will also be responsible for:

- \* Cost of site prep, such as the purchase of plastic to smother grass
- \* Cost of mulch (free sources, such as chip drop are encouraged)
- \* Cost of water for watering the plants

# Project Outcomes

## **Expected Benefits**

Describe if and how the project will (1) increase resident engagement with Bloomington's sustainability goals (2) advance diversity, equity, and inclusion within the community (3) provide community-wide benefits.

This opportunity allows us to involve a cross section of neighbors in learning more. For example, our grantees include ages ranging from young families, middle age, to retired people, various income levels and physical abilities. By involving new residents and those who have been previously involved in taking action, this project contributes to our neighborhood efforts to strive towards sustainability and resilience.

Many residents in our neighborhood grow vegetable gardens or have fruit and nut trees planted on their property. Increasing pollinator habitat in the neighborhood will increase the number of pollinators, which will in turn improve the pollination of fruit, nut, and vegetable trees and plants.

As part of this project, we plan to create a presentation to share with the neighborhood. This will allow us to educate more neighbors about the advantages of native plants and the need for pollinator plants, especially among neighbors who prefer more traditional flower beds. Informational materials have previously been produced based on neighborhood projects, such as our partnership with MC-IRIS and IU Professor Reynolds' BioDiverCity Service Learning Class. The service learning took place in Grandview Hills and included a video produced by the students (<https://youtu.be/Vx2X9DEeS7M?si=F5LhZP3LqSS78dVp>).

Our neighborhood has an eight year history of working together to remove invasive plants, increase native plants, and generally improve the biodiversity of our area. With our neighborhood's history, it is easy to include information about the Climate Action Plan in the information we share about this project. We have already had discussions in our neighborhood association board meetings about the Climate Action Plan and which goals we can contribute to. We have already started gathering resiliency resources to share with the neighborhood.

## Expected Challenges

Describe any expected challenges and how you anticipate overcoming these, using previous experiences to help if applicable.

The biggest challenges are weather and nature.

Deer, rabbits, groundhogs and other animals may browse, eating some plants. We have experience protecting shrubs with cages. We have material for some cages available from our prior shrub plantings.

Too much or too little rain, excessive heat, or late frost (if plants come early) could all impact this project. Adverse weather may delay planting, which can also affect plant survival. Too little rain can be offset with increased watering and mulching. Choosing native pollinators should reduce the impact of weather.

Additional challenges will be keeping up with weeding, especially for the first year as the plants get established, and personal health and fitness levels that may make it difficult for all participants to get all their plants planted and maintain the new gardens. Our neighborhood has a history of working as a community to remove invasive plants and plant native shrubs. We anticipate having a similar community effort for the pollinator plants.

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## Project Maintenance

Describe if and how the project will be maintained beyond the life of this grant. If these efforts were not included in the project timeline, please also detail how they fit into the timeline.

Homeowners will be responsible for weeding, watering, and mulching as needed once the gardens are planted. Our neighborhood has a history of helping each other with maintenance, which will ensure the gardens become established. Since we are planting native plants, maintenance needs are expected to decrease after three to five years.

Community References

Optional

If you would like to include any community references to strengthen your application, please list them here.

|             | Name | Phone | Email |
|-------------|------|-------|-------|
| Reference 1 |      |       |       |
| Reference 2 |      |       |       |

Letters of Support

If you would like to include any letters of support for your project, please include them here.

Application Review

Additional Attachments

Upload any additional attachments.

Application Signature

I have read and understood the information regarding my application for a Bloomington Commission on Sustainability Grant and I understand that the grant money is not a prize for personal profit or gain and is strictly for the project described. I further understand that the City of Bloomington has the right to allocate and supervise the spending of the grant money and when projects do not proceed within the stated timetable, the City of Bloomington reserves the right to request that the grant be refunded. I understand that recipients of these grants may be invited by the City of Bloomington to participate in promotion and publicity of the project. Please type your name below to electronically sign and signal your agreement to these terms and conditions listed in the Grant Application and Agreement.

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## 6 New Pollinator Garden Project Budget

| Kit                         | Cost              |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Easy Street Patch           | \$119.00          |
| Easy Street Patch           | \$119.00          |
| Colossal Pollinator Garden  | \$199.00          |
| Pollinator Patch            | \$119.00          |
| Rain Garden for Pollinators | \$159.00          |
| Made in the Shade           | \$199.00          |
| <b>Kit subtotal</b>         | <b>\$914.00</b>   |
| Estimated tax               | \$63.98           |
| Estimated shipping          | \$164.52          |
| <b>Kit total</b>            | <b>\$1,142.50</b> |

| Funding source          | Amount     |
|-------------------------|------------|
| BCOS Grant              | \$1,000.00 |
| Homeowner contributions | \$142.50   |

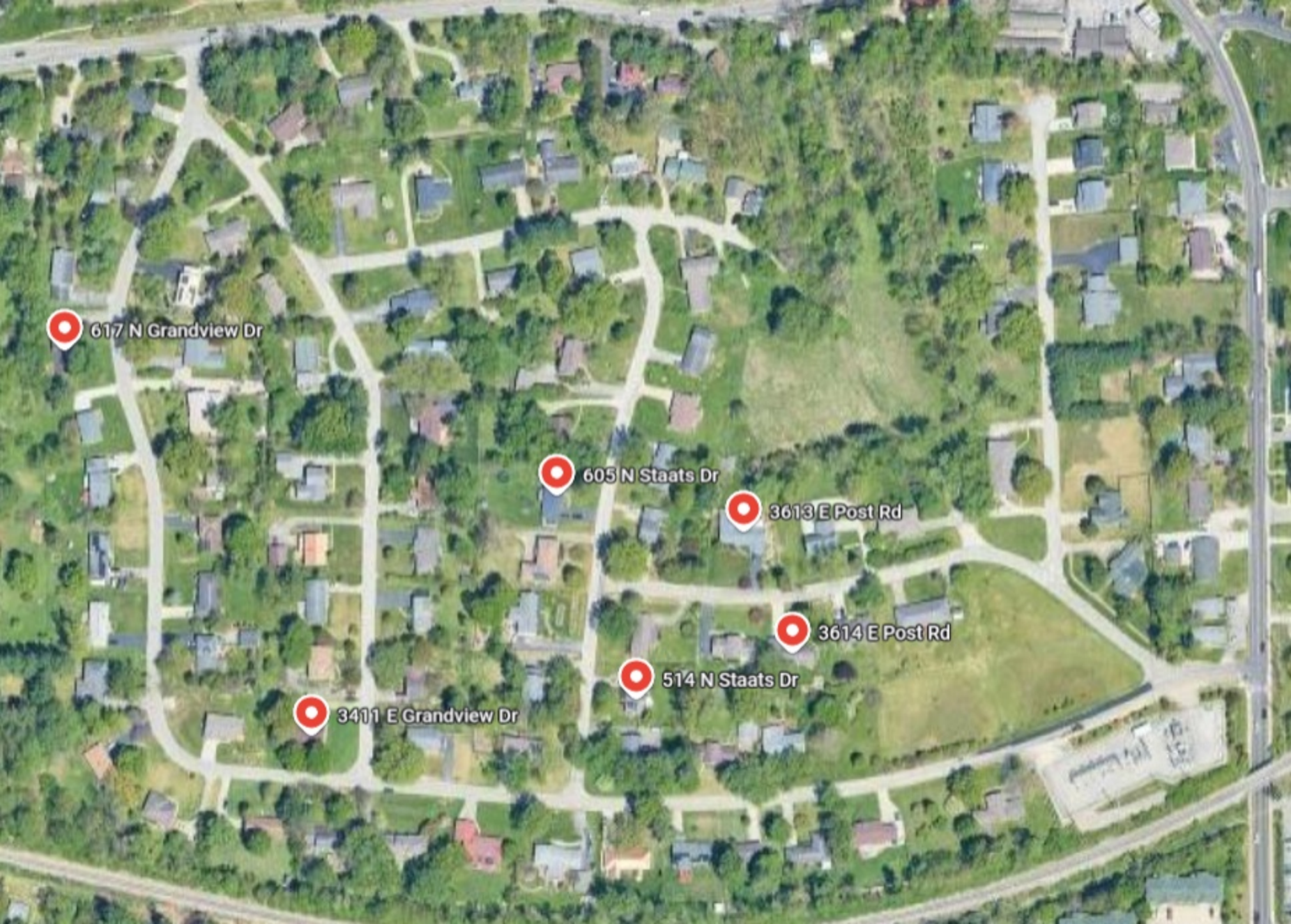
### Additional expenses not listed above

Mulch: varies. Homeowners will provide their own mulch.

Water: varies. Homeowners will water plants.

Site preparation: varies. Homeowners will prepare their site.





617 N Grandview Dr

605 N Staats Dr

3613 E Post Rd

3614 E Post Rd

514 N Staats Dr

3411 E Grandview Dr