

Bloomington Planning Commission

2024 Work Plan

The Planning Commission is a seven-member advisory commission, appointed by the City Council and charged with the following duties (City Code Section 2.85.02):

- (a) Hold hearings, review applications, make recommendations, and, where applicable, act upon applications as set forth in the city code;
- (b) Review and make recommendations on variance and appeal applications where such review is required of the Planning Commission by the city code;
- (c) Review and make recommendations on proposed amendments to zoning, subdivision, and transportation provisions of the city code;
- (d) Review and make recommendations on proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and district plans;
- (e) Review and make recommendations on transportation issues including transportation planning, street extensions and modifications, street layout, on street parking, neighborhood traffic plans, transportation grant applications, transit systems, pedestrian ways, and bicycle traffic; and
- (f) Other duties as may be assigned by the City Council or by state law.

In 2024, in addition to continued training and review of land use and development applications, the Planning Commission will focus on the following special projects:

1. **Code Amendments:** Review and make recommendations on proposed City Code amendments under consideration. Potential Code amendments are listed below in rough priority order recognizing that not all may be completed in 2024 dependent on staffing levels and development activity.
 - a. Sign Ordinance Update (Planning Division);
 - b. Single Room Occupancy (SRO) standards (Planning & HRA);
 - c. Recreational/Medical Cannabis Amendments (City Clerk lead; Planning support);
 - d. Native Landscaping Amendments (Public Works lead; Planning support);
 - e. Missing Middle Housing Study (Planning Division);
 - f. Environmental Standards Review (applicable to low density residential areas) (Planning Division);
 - g. RS-1 Zoning District Amendment(s) (Planning Division);
 - h. Short-Term Rental Regulations (Planning lead; multiple departments);
 - i. Zoning Code Reorganization (Ch. 19 to 21) (Planning Division);
 - j. Park Dedication Standards Review (Legal lead; Planning support); and
 - k. Annual Miscellaneous Issues Ordinance (Planning Division);
 - l. Admin/Streamlined Development Approvals Study (Planning Division);
 - m. Small Business Codes and Processes (Planning Division lead; multiple departments);
 - n. Refined Parking Flexibility Process (Planning lead; Engineering support); and
 - o. Development Application Fee Study (Planning Division).

2. **Plans & Special Projects:** Review and make recommendations on the Comprehensive Plan, District Plans, Small Area Plans and other studies or special projects. Potential plans and specific project in 2023 include:
 - a. South Loop District Plan Update (Planning lead; multiple departments);
 - b. Office Conversion Study (Planning lead; multiple departments);
 - c. Sanitary Sewer Funding Project (Special Projects lead; Planning support); and
 - d. Equity Review of the Zoning Code (Planning and OREIB);
3. **Rezoning & Reguiding:** Reviewing and making recommendations on privately or City initiated rezoning and reguiding. City-initiated rezoning stemming from the Lyndale Avenue Suburban Retrofit Plan identified in 2023 include the following:
 - a. Lyndale B-4 Rezoning Part II (Planning Division);
4. **Ongoing Initiatives:** Reviewing and making recommendations on long range planning, equity initiatives, housing initiatives, redevelopment initiatives, sustainability initiatives, community engagement initiatives, public health initiatives and other issues as they arise. Also involves participation in workgroups and/or coordination of multi-agency projects. 2023 projects include:
 - a. Toolkit for Aging Commercial Nodes (Planning lead; multiple departments); and
 - b. Port Authority Initiatives (Port Authority lead; Planning support).
5. **Transportation and Transit:** Participate or support various transportation and transit studies led by Public Works/Engineering staff. Possible 2023 projects include:
 - a. Transportation:
 - i. Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan
 - ii. Other Transportation/Corridor Studies
 - b. Bikes and Peds:
 - c. Transit:
 - i. American Blvd Transitway Study
 - d. Street Layout:
 - i. Livability of Local Streets Project
 - e. Regional Issues:
 - i. Riverview Corridor Planning Support