

# B L O O M I N G T O N BRIEFING



JUNE 2019

PAGE 2



PAGE 3



PAGE 4



## SHOW YOUR PRIDE

Throughout June, the City of Bloomington will recognize pride month with several activities to support the LGBTQIA+ community. During the June 3 council meeting, a proclamation will be read and accepted by students from the Kennedy and Jefferson Gay Straight Alliance Association. The City will participate in the Twin Cities Pride Festival, June 22 and 23, with a booth from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., in Loring Park, between Oak Grove Street and Willow Street, in downtown Minneapolis.

The Pride movement is celebrating a milestone in LGBTQIA+ community awareness. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall event in Greenwich Village, New York, which became a catalyst for the gay rights movement that spread worldwide.

To find the location of the City's booth or for other information, call 952-563-8733, or visit the City's Facebook page at [blm.mn/Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/blm.mn/) or Twitter page at [blm.mn/Twitter](https://twitter.com/blm.mn/).

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## BODY-WORN CAMERAS JOIN POLICE FORCE

The use of body-worn cameras has become more prevalent among law enforcement entities throughout the nation. Bloomington Police started deploying the cameras department-wide in March after field-testing last year. A \$199,500 grant covered a portion of the overall cost of the 129 body-worn cameras that the City purchased.

Now, the City's sworn officers, community service officers and animal control coordinator wear the cameras. The devices are on during calls for service and contacts with residents, while in the performance of official duties. Detectives wear and activate the cameras during search warrants and preplanned apprehension details.

"Casual contacts and community engagement activities will not be recorded. Also certain calls such as medicals will not be recorded unless there is reason to believe the

recording would have evidentiary value," Commander of Special Operations Michael Utecht said.

Each camera is worn on the front of the uniform and set up to record only what the human eye can see. No low-light enhancement or zooming capabilities are available.

"The body-worn cameras work in tandem with squad car cameras to capture a fuller and more complete version of the interactions that police officers and staff have with the public. The body and squad camera program provides a higher level of transparency with the public. The recorded video is also very important in criminal court proceedings as well as in identifying possible training opportunities," Chief Jeff Potts said.

For more information, visit [blm.mn/bodycam](https://www.bloomingtonmn.gov/bodycam) or call 952-563-4900.



# BRIEFING

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The *Briefing*, published monthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed to our residents and businesses. Direct comments and requests for Braille, larger print or computer file to Communications Administrator Janine Hill, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3071; PH 952-563-8819; MN Relay 711; FAX 952-563-8715; Email: [jhill@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:jhill@BloomingtonMN.gov)  
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The City of Bloomington complies with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs, and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. For more information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; 952-563-8733.

Upon request, this information can be available in Braille, large print, audio tape and/or electronic format.

## WELCOME MEALS BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER

The act of eating together builds community and Welcome Meals sponsored by the Bloomington Human Rights Commission do just that. Everyone is welcome to participate in an inclusive menu spiced up with fun. Gain a greater understanding of different cultures as you break bread with your neighbors in a casual setting.

In April, students, faculty and community members enjoyed a taco bar-style Welcome Meal during the Festival of Nations at Metro South, Adult Basic Education. But it's more

than food; it's the opportunity to interact with friends and neighbors that makes Welcome Meals memorable.

There's a place setting waiting for you. Why not host or contribute to a Welcome Meal? Engage with friends and neighbors across the City and make new connections. The Bloomington Human Rights Commission is looking for volunteers to participate in Welcome Meals. For more information, visit [blm.mn/welcomemeal](http://blm.mn/welcomemeal) or call 952-563-8733.

## COUNCIL OUTREACH EVENT COMING TO MARKET

Join in Food for Thought when the Bloomington City Council's engagement event series comes to the Farmers Market in June. At special interactive stations, you can meet City Councilmembers and Sustainability Commissioners in person while learning more about the Council's focus on environmental sustainability. Bring your questions for councilmembers, commissioners and City staff. Gain a deeper understanding of your community and what the City is accomplishing on Saturday, June 15, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Civic Plaza lobby. For information, visit [blm.mn/food-thought](http://blm.mn/food-thought) or call 952-563-8782.

## WATER PARK DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT REACHED

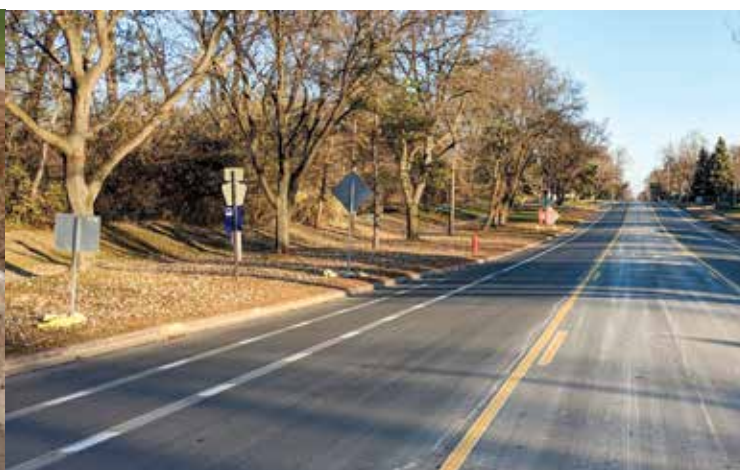
The proposal to build a water park near Mall of America is undergoing further feasibility study, financial analysis and design rendering. A development services agreement for the proposed 335,000-square-foot water park was approved by the City Council and Port Authority in April. The Bloomington Port Authority and an affiliate of MOA-owner Triple 5 would share in the expenses of the \$10.1 million contract.

The City's share of the funding comes from the South Loop Development Fund. Bloomington lodging and liquor taxes make up the this fund, and its use is limited to spending on South Loop District development. The fund

would be paid back at a future time if the project closes financing.

With the approval of the services agreement, the next stage of the water park proposal is moving ahead. A feasibility analysis includes final designs, construction cost estimates, operating revenue studies and expense projections, along with the selection of a nonprofit entity which would borrow \$250 million to complete the water park. Depending on the continued feasibility of the project, construction could start in the spring of 2020, with a projected grand opening two years later.

Visit [blm.mn/waterpark](http://blm.mn/waterpark) for more information.



## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

### BIKE LANES AND BIKE-FRIENDLY ROADS

During last year's town hall forums, residents submitted more than 200 questions for City Councilmembers and staff to answer. While councilmembers and staff gave replies during the events, they would also like to provide written responses for recurring questions. Answers are available in the Briefing and online at [blm.mn/faq](http://blm.mn/faq) or call 952-563-8780 for information.

**Q:** What are we doing to make bike-friendly roads? Are new bike lanes being used?

**A:** For each City road construction project, Engineering evaluates the route and fills out a complete streets checklist. This step evaluates existing conditions, demand for multi-modal facilities, and reviews other plans and policies, including the Alternative Transportation plan. Possible bike and pedestrian connections are explored with other cities, Hennepin County, Three Rivers Park District, the Department of Natural Resources and other jurisdictions.

Engineering monitors new multi-modal facilities and follow-up studies reveal that new bike lanes are being used.



## GROW ECO-FRIENDLY TURF

**H**ow does your lawn grow? Most lawns consist of Kentucky bluegrass and other turf grasses which require about an inch of water per week to stay green through summer.

Sustainable lawns feature mixes of fine-leaved fescue grass or patches of native prairie and wildflower plantings. They offer multiple benefits over traditional turf with less mowing, watering, fertilizing and maintaining than traditional lawns.

The usual mix of five, fine-leaved fescue grasses, sometimes sold as eco-grass or eco-lawn, tolerates shade and drought more than typical lawns. The extensive root systems of prairie grasses and wildflowers collect carbon and help build topsoil.

For more information about sustainable lawns, visit [blm.mn/eco-lawn](http://blm.mn/eco-lawn) or call 612-624-1222.

## BLUFF STANDARDS UPDATE

**T**he Lower Minnesota River Watershed District recently updated its Watershed Management Plan, which adopts standards to protect, preserve and manage surface water and groundwater resources. While many of the standards are consistent with Bloomington's practices, a few amendments to the City Code are needed.

The standard requiring the most attention relates to protecting steep slopes along the Minnesota River Valley from soil erosion. Historically, Bloomington has taken pride in protecting the bluffs with its Bluff Protection Overlay Zoning

Districts, which are delineated based on elevation lines. However, the Watershed District Plan steep slopes district identifies steep areas based on slope percentage. A map comparing the two districts is provided at [blm.mn/bluffupdate](http://blm.mn/bluffupdate).

The Planning Division will be updating the bluff protection overlay districts and related code sections to adjust for the difference. Study meetings and public hearings will be scheduled, mailings will be sent to affected property owners and informational meetings will be held summer 2019. To learn more and stay up-to-date, visit [blm.mn/bluffupdate](http://blm.mn/bluffupdate).

## PAINT A PRETTY PICTURE AT CREEKSIDE

**P**ick up a paintbrush for your pastime pleasure. In partnership with Artistry, Creekside Community Center offers Minnesota inspired painting classes for older adults ages 50 and over.

**Farm Houses** on Friday, July 26, 1 – 3 p.m. Discover how to paint farmhouse landscapes using acrylics. Cost is \$15.

**Birch Landscape** on Tuesday, August 13 and Friday, August 16, 1 – 3 p.m. Begin with a pen and ink drawing of a birch landscape, then add finishing touches to your creation with watercolors. Cost for this two-part class is \$30.

No previous art experience is required. Materials are provided. Classes will be held at Creekside, 9801 Penn Avenue South. For information and registration, call 952-563-4944.

## TACKLING TROUBLESOME TICKS

**T**he Minnesota Department of Health and Bloomington Public Health want you to stay safe during tick season. Minimize your exposure to ticks with these simple tips.

**Use DEET-based repellents up to 30%** on your skin or clothing. Pretreat your clothing and gear with permethrin-based repellents. (Permethrin is a medication and insecticide which kills ticks and other insects.)

**Perform tick checks** after spending time in wooded, brushy or grassy areas and other tick habitats. If you find a tick on yourself, remove it immediately.

**Tame landscaping by keeping your lawn mowed**, and removing leaves and brush. Create a barrier of wood chips or rocks between lawns and wooded areas.

Signs and symptoms to look for if you think you have been bitten by a tick are rash, fever or muscle and joint pain. If you are concerned, contact your healthcare provider. For information, call Public Health at 952-563-8900.

## BREAKING GROUND ON FIRE STATION 3

**T**o better serve the community, the City is building a new Fire Station 3 at 2301 86th Street East. The existing Station 3 is 50 years old and no longer meets the needs of the community or Bloomington Fire. The new station will allow for adequate equipment storage, address health and safety issues for firefighters and be more energy efficient.

"This new fire station with its greater capacity and capabilities will enable firefighters to serve the whole community and the growing South Loop area better," Bloomington Fire Chief Ulie Seal said.

The City is using South Loop funds to build the new Station 3. Firefighters who work out of Station 3 were involved in the design process from the beginning. Stations 2, 4, 5 and 6 also need to be replaced in the future.

Construction on Station 3 is expected to wrap up in spring 2020.



## BOOK 'EM SALE HELPS CRIME PREVENTION

**T**he 27th annual Bloomington Crime Prevention Association's (BCPA) Book 'Em sale supports crime prevention in your neighborhood. Stock up on volumes of new reading material. Where else can you get gently used books at an average cost of \$1 – \$2 each, plus board games, video games, puzzles, DVDs, CDs, records and software? Find must-reads and more, June 1 – 15, Monday – Friday, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m., and Saturday – Sunday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., 7839 Southtown Center. All funds generated go to organizations for local crime prevention activities. For more information, visit [blm.mn/bookem](http://blm.mn/bookem) or call 952-220-2537.



## FARMERS MARKET DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN

**I**n June the days are long, and the Bloomington Farmers Market is going strong. Visit the market on Saturdays, June 8 – October 19, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m., at Bloomington Civic Plaza, east parking lot, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. Also make plans to attend the Midweek Music and Market, Wednesdays, July 10 – August 14, 4 – 8 p.m., at the same location. For more information, visit the market's Facebook page at [blm.mn/fbookfarmers](http://blm.mn/fbookfarmers) or call 952-563-8877.

## HOME IMPROVEMENT SEMINARS

**T**he Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority will host a seminar Tuesday, June 11, on how to use smart home technology and another Tuesday, August 6 about making smart energy investments. Seminars will be held at 7 p.m., at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. Visit [blm.mn/homeseminars](http://blm.mn/homeseminars) for more information.

# arts in the Parks

**M**ake it a summer to remember. Head to your local Bloomington parks for the best in music, dance, food, film and family-friendly entertainment. For more information or in the case of inclement weather, call Parks and Recreation at 952-563-8878 or visit the City's website at blm.mn/aip.

## NORMANDALE LAKE PERFORMANCE SERIES

The sounds of summer echo throughout the Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th Street and Chalet Road, with the Twin Cities' most sought-after musicians and bands. **Shows begin at 7 p.m.** and are free to the public. Bring your appetite! You'll find a variety of food and drink options at events marked with a fork and spoon icon.

### JUNE

#### 11 Minnesota Symphonic Winds

**TUE** Start your summer in style with one of the top concert bands in the state.

#### 13 British Invasion

**THUR** The Sensational Sleepers have the most authentic British Invasion sound in the Twin Cities. Food: Potter's Pasties food truck.

#### 18 Bloomington Chorale

**TUE** Musicians will fill the park with the sound of great choral music.

#### 20 Classic Rock Bash

**THUR** The Rockin' Hollywoods perform the best of the '50s and '60s. Food: The Purple People Feeder food truck serves burgers, fries and other mainstays.

#### 25 Continental Ballet Company

**TUE** The Continental Ballet Company performs excerpts, including Cinderella, a Strauss Waltz and more.

#### 27 Legends of Minnesota Music Series

**THUR** Martin Zellar and The Hardways rock the hill for one big show. Food: Heavy Metal Grill serves a variety of foods.

### JULY

#### 9 Eden Prairie Community Band

**TUE** An annual favorite at Arts in the Parks, the Eden Prairie Community Band features players from across the metro area.

#### 11 Country Night



**THUR** The Saddle Sores play a variety of country favorites. Food: B3 food truck serves brats, burgers and barbecue.

#### 16 Good News Big Band

**TUE** Listen to big band swing classics.

#### 18 Blues and Bar-B-Q

**THUR** Kick back and enjoy the Lamont Cranston Band. Food: Market Barbecue.

#### 23 Westwind Swing Band

**TUE** This Hopkins-based band plays jazz and big band classics.

#### 25 Latin Music Night

**THUR** Enjoy the sultry sounds of Brazilian samba and bossa nova from Ticket to Brasil. Food: West Indies Soul Food.

#### 30 Heroes End Band

**TUE** This band specializes in alternative 1990s and 2000s cover songs.

### AUGUST

#### 1 80's Explosion



**THUR** Groove to Time Machine's highly energized party songs, sure to pack the dance floor. Food: Heavy Metal Grill.

#### 6 Blue Groove Bluegrass

**TUE** Listen to authentic bluegrass music performed by some of the most talented bluegrass artists in the region.

#### 8 Bloomington Symphony Orchestra

**THUR** Enjoy one of Minnesota's premier community orchestras. Food: Reverie food truck sells plant-based cuisine.

## MIDWEEK MUSIC AND MARKET SERIES

HELD 4 - 8 P.M. AT CIVIC PLAZA, 1800 WEST OLD SHAKOPEE ROAD. MUSIC FROM 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.

#### 10 The Tuxedo Band

**JULY** This local group features energetic performances of classic and contemporary rock, country and pop music.

#### 17 Paul Holland Band

**JULY** Blues Rock is at its best with amazing guitar and vocals.

#### 24 Middle Spunk Creek Boys

**JULY** Revel in bluegrass music performed by local legends.

#### 31 The Riddle Brothers

**JULY** Experience an eclectic acoustic blend of pure Americana, folk and original songs.

#### 7 Steve Clarke and the Working Stiffs

**AUGUST** Classic big band and crooner sounds are the specialty of this group, headlined by the six-time Minnesota Music Award horn player of the year.

#### 14 Salsa del Soul

**AUGUST** Experience the swinging sounds from all over the Caribbean!

## SUMMER FETE IS BACK!



Ring in Independence Day at Summer Fete 2019, **Wednesday, July 3,** 5 p.m., at Normandale Lake Park, 84th and Normandale Boulevard.

This year the main stage entertainment features Power of 10 and the Medalist Concert Band. An area geared for children and families features special performers, a carnival and an array of Bloomington displays. Cap off your holiday with a breathtaking fireworks display just after dusk. To find out more, visit blm.mn/summer-fete or call 952-563-8877.



## MONDAY MORNING KIDS' SERIES

Start your Mondays right! Bring your families and friends to Moir Park, 10320 Morgan Avenue South, on Monday mornings at 10:30 a.m. throughout the summer to enjoy music, dancing and fun.

**June 10**—Mike Monson

**June 17**—Jolly Pops

**June 24**—Minnesota Zoomobile

**July 1**—Wiggle, Jiggle and Jam

**July 8**—Acme Magic Factory

**July 15**—Rachel Kroog

**July 22**—Wonder Weavers Storytellers

**July 29**—Kids Dance

**August 5**—Alpha Bits

## MOVIES IN THE PARK

The Moonlight Movies Series kicks off at Normandale Lake Park, 5901 West 84th Street, June 7. Shows start at 9 p.m. Popcorn and beverages will be available for purchase.

**June 7**—Ralph Breaks the Internet

**June 14**—Aquaman

**June 21**—Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom

**June 28**—Avengers: Infinity War

**July 5**—Mary Poppins Returns

**July 12**—Solo: A Star Wars Story

**July 19**—Incredibles 2

**July 26**—Mission: Impossible—Fallout

**August 2**—Ocean's 8

**August 9**—Captain Underpants

**August 16**—Captain Marvel



## SANDCASTLES

Be a beachgoer. The annual Sandcastles competition returns to Bush Lake Beach, 9140 East Bush Lake Road, **Sunday, June 30,** 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. This friendly competition will feature a sandcastle and sand sculpture building contest, games and other family fun.

## JOHN PHILIP SOUSA BAND

The John Phillip Sousa Band will perform patriotic classics, **Sunday, June 16,** 7 p.m., at the Gideon Pond House, Pond-Dakota Mission Park, 401 East 104th Street.