

# BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING



JANUARY 2023

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## BLOOMINGTON.

tomorrow. together.



## BLOOMINGTON. TOMORROW. TOGETHER. STRATEGIC PLAN MOVES FORWARD

Hundreds of community members and City staff were involved in bringing the City's new strategic plan, *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.*, to life. The teams involved in the planning process were made up of more than 50% community members, which exceeded the City's goal. The community-driven plan resulted in the following mission statement: To cultivate an enduring community where people want to be.

The *BTT* planning process started last year with a core planning team, action teams and a measurement team that included City staff and community members. In June, City staff gathered to review the plan those teams created and to start thinking about next steps. Another group of City staff then created a work plan based on the *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* document, which is available on the City's website at [blm.mn/btt](http://blm.mn/btt), that staff will use to guide their work over the next five years.

The work plan has three priorities with desired outcomes:

### PRIORITY: A CONNECTED, WELCOMING COMMUNITY

#### Outcomes

- People are connected to their neighbors.
- People are welcomed by the community.
- People are valued by the community.

### PRIORITY: A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

#### Outcomes

- Improved environmental health.
- Improved human health.
- Increased safety and security.

### PRIORITY: A COMMUNITY WITH EQUITABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH

#### Outcomes

- Economic growth is more equitably distributed.
- Expanded diversity in business ownership.
- Equitable job growth.

For more information about the *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* strategic plan or work plan, visit [blm.mn/btt](http://blm.mn/btt).

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# BRIEFING

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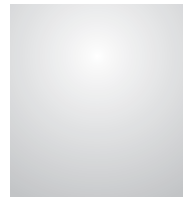
The *Briefing*, published monthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed to residents and businesses. Direct your comments and requests for Braille, larger print or computer file to Communications Administrator Janine Hill, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3071; PH 952-563-8819; MN Relay 711; FAX 952-563-8715; Email: [jhill@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:jhill@BloomingtonMN.gov)  
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Needed investments in public safety services are the primary reason for the 2023 budget increase.

## MAYOR'S MEMO CITY COUNCIL APPROVES 2023 BUDGET

By Mayor Tim Busse

On December 5, the City Council approved the 2023 property tax levy of \$74,545,878 million—a 9.15% increase over 2022. Before this vote, staff was out and about engaging with residents at seven different community events, and the Council discussed the budget during eight different Council meetings. Four of my Council colleagues and I hosted town hall forums in the community where the budget was a big topic of discussion. Information collected as part of the National Community Survey™ also addressed budget topics. Based on all of that feedback, the community engagement and interaction and the thoughtful Council discussion, I'm very confident that our 2023 budget reflects the priorities of this community and sets us on a solid path moving forward.

Time and again, we heard that public safety was of the utmost importance, and this budget reflects that. Eighty-five percent of the tax levy increase is an investment in police and fire services.

The Bloomington Police Department is currently authorized for 123 officers. That is low, based on national benchmarks for peer cities. The 2023 budget adds four police officers. This will decrease the amount of overtime officers are expected to work to meet basic staffing needs. Changes like this will allow officers to get the downtime they need outside of the difficult and stressful work they do. It also adds a dispatch training and quality coordinator position to address challenges with recruitment and retention.

Bloomington firefighters have operated on a volunteer or paid-on-call basis since 1947. The ideal number of active firefighters for Bloomington is 155. The Bloomington Fire Department has only 97 active firefighters. Insufficient staffing has adversely affected response times and the number of firefighters available to respond to calls. In 2021, BFD met its response-time goal only 67% of the time. Bloomington fire trucks frequently arrived on calls with only one or two firefighters. The 2023 budget adds three full-time firefighters in 2023 to address critical staffing issues and begin the transformation from a mainly paid-on-call, part-time department to a hybrid model of full-time and part-time firefighters. The City also recently received a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant that funds 18 additional firefighters for three years. They will be hired in 2023.

To give a more concrete idea of what the cost increase will be, let's take a median-value home as an example. From 2022 to 2023, the median-valued home increased from \$307,200 to \$355,900, a growth of 15.9%. This increase in valuation means that the monthly cost of tax-supported services for the owner of a \$355,900 median-valued home is \$111 for 2023, a \$10 increase from the 2022 monthly cost of \$101.

I have said it before and I will say it again: without question, these annual budget discussions are the most important we have as a City. I know that a 9.15% levy increase is significant. I know inflation is eating up wage increases. I also know Council and City staff take the responsibility we have regarding taxing decisions very seriously.

Bloomington is the community it is today because for decades City leaders and residents understood the vital importance of investing in this community. The same holds true today. We invest in our priorities and we will continue to do so to make Bloomington an enduring and remarkable community where people want to be.

## COULTER LEAVES COUNCIL FOR STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Bloomington residents have one new state senator and two new state representatives after last November's election. One of those state representatives is a familiar face from the Bloomington City Council. Nathan Coulter, who served at-large, was elected to represent House District 51B by more than 61% of voters, cutting his city council term short. He started in his new role as state representative this month.

"I'm looking forward to serving our community in a different role and being able to advocate for our neighbors on a larger scale, and on issues that I've heard from folks about that are better addressed by the state, while also building on the incredible work we've done in Bloomington on housing, racial equity and support for working families," Coulter said.

The City Council will conduct interviews for an interim councilmember after reviewing applications submitted in December. An appointment is expected by late January 2023. The person appointed to the open seat will fill Coulter's unexpired term until the next regular municipal election on November 7, 2023. The result of the election will determine who will fill the remainder of the term, which expires January 5, 2026.





## AT YOUR SERVICE: BLOOMINGTON'S NEXT CITY ASSESSOR

Out of college with a bachelor of science degree in applied economics and an interest in real estate, Tim Bulger landed a job as an appraisal technician for Scott County and he was hooked.

He quickly advanced to becoming a residential appraiser, first at Scott County and then at the city of Minnetonka. Soon he was a senior commercial appraiser with Hennepin County. For the past four years, he was Scott County deputy county assessor before coming to Bloomington.

"The primary responsibility of an assessor's office is to classify and value property," Bulger said. "It's an important service that impacts the community in so many ways. I'm glad to be a part of it."

Bulger's team reviews 20% of Bloomington properties annually, so each property in Bloomington is reviewed every five years. Each spring, residents get assessment results in their property valuation notices. The City receives more than 700 inquiries about these valuation notices, and Bulger's team is ready to talk.

"We want residents to understand the process, and we're here to help," said Bulger. "There are a lot of different components that go into the assessment, and property owners have a great interest in the results. We want to ensure our values are accurate, fair and equitable."

### CITY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Accurately classify and value all properties for tax purposes.
- Review each property sale that occurs within the city.
- Review permits for new construction.
- Manage appeals in Minnesota Tax Court.
- Assist the public in providing property information and other customer service.
- Provide information and feedback to taxing authorities.
- Present value and property tax trends to interested community partners.



## 4RM+ULA

### CITY SECURES ARCHITECT FOR SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

In early November, the City secured 4RM+ULA to redesign the former Bloomington fire station at 2050 East 86th Street into a small business development center. The center is expected to open by the end of 2024.

The pandemic and the distribution of CARES ACT funding revealed a gap in the City's relationships with small businesses, especially those owned by BIPOC, women and youth, as well as artistic industries. At that time, the Council saw the opportunity to increase support for Bloomington's small business community and launched into action.

Community engagement efforts have been driven by the Small Business Development Center Advisory Committee as well as feedback received from the Racial Equity Strategic Planning Committee and an ongoing survey of local businesses.

For updates about the center or to provide input through a business survey, visit [blm.mn/small-business](http://blm.mn/small-business).



## NEW INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FOR YOUTH IS BUDDING AT THE CITY

The Bloom in Bloomington internship program offers eight weeks of paid internship experience for youth ages 16 – 24 with local employers, including the City of Bloomington. The City's Community Development racial equity action team designed Bloom in Bloomington internships to provide youth who face barriers to employment an opportunity to build skills, learn leadership and gain valuable work experience.

"Bloomington is an economic engine for the region and we wanted to connect local youth with all the opportunities here," Community Development Director Karla Henderson said. "We want this program to help plant the seeds to cultivate a future workforce for Bloomington and help make government accessible."

In the coming years, Minnesota employment statistics confirm a projected workforce shortage. Conversely, nonwhite populations are growing more quickly than the White population in the Twin Cities region, according to Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer Faith Jackson. To meet future workforce needs, Minnesota employers must attract and retain more workers of all races.

"Research shows that internships—specifically, paid internship opportunities—are often filled by White students over interns of color and LGBTQ+ communities," Jackson said. "Higher rates of workplace diversity can help organizations evolve, innovate and be more efficient. By diversifying its workforce, the City works to eliminate disparities in employment and attract the future workforce needed for Bloomington to remain economically competitive and ensure a shared quality of life for all residents."

The new internship program will kick off in summer 2023. For more information or to learn how to become involved as an intern or a business, visit [blm.mn/bloominbloomington](http://blm.mn/bloominbloomington).

### WHAT ARE BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT?

Examples of barriers to employment include being eligible for free or reduced lunch at school, being the first in your family to receive a high school diploma, and others. Visit [blm.mn/bloominbloomington](http://blm.mn/bloominbloomington) for a full list of qualifying barriers to employment.

### FUNDING TO DATE FOR SMALL BUSINESS CENTER

The center is supported primarily by grants.

- \$500,000 American Rescue Plan Act.
- \$400,000 Community Investment Initiative.
- \$300,000 Creative Placemaking Commission.
- \$250,000 McKnight Foundation.
- \$50,000 Business District Initiative.



## CURBSIDE ORGANICS REACHES FIRST YEAR GOAL

The curbside organics collection program began in March 2022 to help Bloomington residents divert organic materials from the City's waste stream. Since its launch, more than 25% of eligible households have signed up. This is comparable with other communities' first-year sign up for curbside organics collection.

Taking organic materials out of the waste stream turns these materials into a nutrient-rich compost for many uses. It also aids the efficient operation of the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center, where the rest of Bloomington's garbage is taken and burned for energy.

Though the first-year participation goal was reached, all eligible households are encouraged to participate. For more information, or to sign-up and arrange a cart, visit [blm.mn/organics](http://blm.mn/organics).

## DO NOT INCLUDE PLASTIC BAGS IN RECYCLING CART

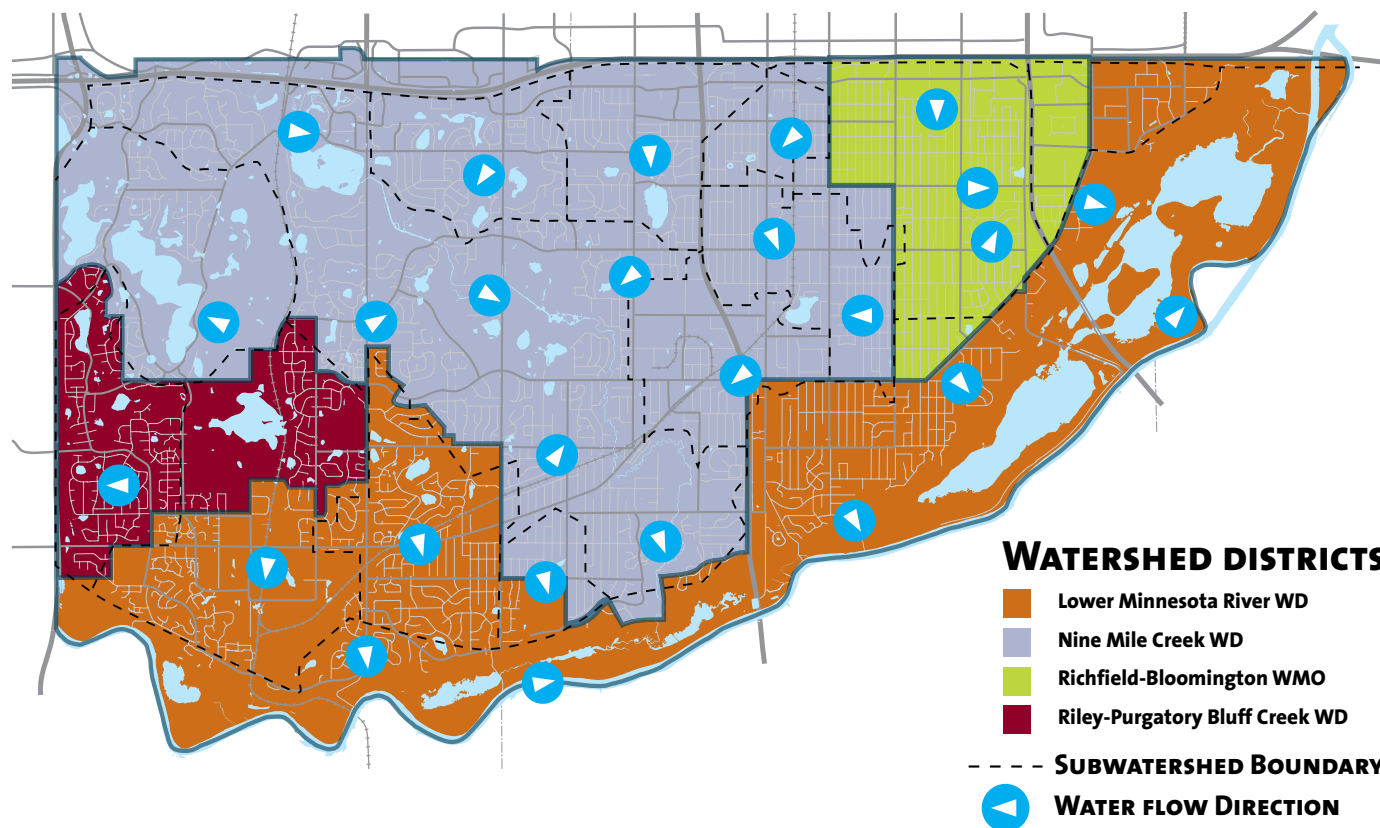
While plastic bags are marked with a recycling symbol, they are not recyclable at your curbside.

All recycling needs to be loose in your recycling cart. Why? Let's count the reasons. Plastic bags get tangled in recycling sorting equipment, create safety hazards and increase the costs to recycle all materials. Additionally, bagged recyclables will likely not be recycled because processes are automated and workers cannot open the bags.

## WHERE TO RECYCLE PLASTIC BAGS

Plastic bags can be reused or dropped off at participating retail stores like Cub Foods and Target, or at Hennepin County Recycling facility at 1400 West 96th Street. Plastic food wrap is not accepted.

For more information, visit [bagandfilmrecycling.org/](http://bagandfilmrecycling.org/).



## BLOOMINGTON'S SURFACE WATER FLOW

Bloomington is home to 15 subwatersheds that flow into four larger watersheds, all of which end up in the Minnesota River. Do you know where the water around you ends up?

Knowing where water flows is important in understanding how the land and people impact water health. In developed areas like Bloomington, pollution from all the hard surfaces, like streets and parking lots, impacts the stormwater in the city and ultimately surrounding waters and beyond.

To understand the flow of the water in Bloomington, see *graphic above*.

For more information on Bloomington's water resources, stay tuned for future *Briefing* articles that will explore the city's subwatersheds in more detail.

## STORMWATER BASICS

**Stormwater**—water runoff from rain and snowmelt that flows over land or hard surfaces.

**Clean Water Act**—establishes basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants and regulating quality standards for surface waters.

**Hydrology**—science concerned with properties of the earth's water, especially its movement in relation to land.

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System**—permit program that addresses water pollution by regulating point source discharging pollutants into waters (regulated in Minnesota by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency).

**Watershed**—an area of land that drains or sheds water into a specific waterbody.



## EARTH ACTION HERO: WATER HEALTH TAKES TEAMS OF HEROES

In water-rich Minnesota, the management of stormwater is vital. But managing something as free-flowing as water while keeping water as pollution-free as possible takes teams of professionals.

One such Earth Action Hero is John Bilotta, *at right*, senior research and extension coordinator for the Minnesota Stormwater Research Council (MSRC). Established in 2016, the goals of the MSRC include:

- Facilitate needed research that enables more informed decisions about the use, management and protection of water resources in urbanized areas.
- Assess the status of research, identify research priorities and communicate these to Minnesota's public and private research agencies and organizations.
- Promote coordination of research goals, objectives and funding among the research agencies and organizations.

"The work John does with the MSRC helps the City better understand stormwater and ultimately address it at a local level," said Jack Distel, Bloomington's water resources specialist and MSRC advisory board member.

Credit for these collaborative efforts flows both ways.

"Bloomington is a city in tune with applying the best stormwater management practices informed by research," said Bilotta. "Not only do they manage all of the stormwater in Bloomington, but they also embrace new science and methods by supporting the Minnesota Stormwater Research Council projects that advance our understanding of runoff."

For more information about Bloomington's water resources, visit [blm.mn/water-resources](http://blm.mn/water-resources).





## SANTA COP PROGRAM SPREADS HOLIDAY CHEER

The Bloomington Police Department made the holidays a bit merrier for more than 100 children in the community last month. Officers delivered toys and gifts—not in a sleigh, but in a squad car—for BPD’s third annual Santa Cop event.

This event was made possible due to generous donations from the community. The BPD received gifts, toys and tech accessories from community members and businesses. Children were nominated by BPD staff, social workers, schools and organizations in Bloomington.

Recipients included children who may have lost a parent, children under the guardianship of someone other than their parent and families experiencing financial hardship. The gifts for each child or youth were hand-selected and wrapped before being delivered.

“To see the excitement and joy on a child’s face and to bring some love to the community—this is what the holiday season is all about,” said Crime Prevention Specialist Katie Zerull. “The department is thankful for all who donate to make this program possible each year.”



## DID YOU KNOW THE CITY HAS A SAFE SWAP SPOT?

Whether you’re buying or selling items online, deciding on a safe place to do your transaction can be a challenge. The Bloomington Police Department has a safe swap spot in the Civic Plaza parking lot, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road.

It’s a labeled parking spot where residents can conduct transactions in a public place that is under video surveillance. The swap spot is near the Police entrance by the sign pictured above. You can also conduct an exchange in the BPD lobby during office hours, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

For more information, contact BPD at 952-563-4900 or visit [blm.mn/safeswap](http://blm.mn/safeswap).

## BPD DEBUTS NEW ONLINE TOOL FOR NONEMERGENCY CRIME REPORTING

The Bloomington Police Department recently designed Citizen Reporting, a simple way to report certain nonemergency crimes that occur in Bloomington online.

“There are so many benefits to being able to report certain nonemergency crimes online,” Bloomington Police Information Assistant Monica Williams said. “Residents can file a report without having to wait in the lobby. This program also allows residents to print a copy of their police report at the time of the filing, which can be a time saver. It also frees up officers to focus on other crimes and proactive policing.”

Visit [blm.mn/citizenreport](http://blm.mn/citizenreport) to see the new system or report a nonemergency crime. For more information, visit [blm.mn/bpd](http://blm.mn/bpd) or call 952-563-4900.

### CRIMES YOU CAN REPORT ONLINE

- Abandoned bicycles.
- Internet or phone scams.
- Lost or missing property.
- Theft.
- Theft from a vehicle.
- Property damage.
- Vandalism to a vehicle.



## USE SPACE HEATERS SAFELY

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, space heaters are the cause of more than 25,000 residential fires every year. An estimated 6,000 people receive hospital emergency room care for burn injuries associated with contacting the hot surfaces of space heaters, mostly in non-fire situations. Stay warm, cozy and safe with these tips:

- Keep space heaters at least three feet away from flammable items and objects, such as papers and curtains.
- Make sure your heater has an auto shut-off to turn the heater off if it tips over.
- Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet. Never use an extension cord.
- Avoid leaving a space heater unattended.
- Never use a space heater to dry clothing.
- Unplug space heaters when not in use.

For more information, contact the Bloomington Fire Department at 952-563-4801.



## SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS

Bloomington’s Citizen Alert system sends time-sensitive emergency notifications directly to your home or cell phone via voice and text alerts, and email. These notifications could include alerts about natural disasters, flooding, gas leaks, police activities and more. To sign up for Citizen Alert, visit [blm.mn/citizen-alert](http://blm.mn/citizen-alert), then follow the prompts.



## CREEKSIDE GROUPS WORK TO KEEP COMMUNITY WARM

The Creekside Community Center quilting and needlework groups socialize and craft to help keep people warm.

“It’s a good feeling to know that what we are making is going to someone in need and will help keep them warm,” Barb Even, Creekside Needleworkers senior volunteer leader.

Meeting Thursday mornings, the Creekside Needleworkers make and donate mittens, hats, scarves and other items to local charities, including Bloomington Public Schools and Sharing and Caring Hands. So far this year, the group has donated more than 4,000 items.

Meeting Tuesday and Friday mornings, the Creekside Quilters make and donate more than 400 quilts annually to local organizations including Cornerstone and the VA Hospital.

Yarn and quilting fabric donations are welcomed at the Creekside office at 9801 Penn Avenue South.

## PLAN YOUR SUMMER: BOOK A PARK SHELTER

It may be winter, but warmer weather isn’t too far away. Book a park shelter for your summer gathering now. Shelters are available to rent for picnics, meetings, receptions and reunions.

Registration opened January 3, 9 a.m. for shelter use April 15 – October 15. Shelters amenities vary by location. They may include electricity, grills, restrooms and drinking fountains. City parks offer nearby playgrounds, volleyball and bag toss, trails, softball fields and other amenities.

- Moir Park, 104th Street at Morgan Avenue, Shelter 1: Accommodates 200+. Shelter 2: Accommodates 50.

- East Bush Lake Park, 9140 East Bush Lake Road, Shelter 3: Accommodates 200.

- West Bush Lake Park, 94th Street at West Bush Lake Road, Shelter 1: Accommodates 200. Shelter 2: Accommodates 100.

Online reservations now available. Call 952-563-8877 or visit [blm.mn/rentals](http://blm.mn/rentals) for more information. Smaller shelters at other City parks may be available to reserve upon request.



## BLOOMINGTON NOTABLES HIGHLIGHTS LOCALS WHO MADE AN IMPACT

When Don Heinzman, *above left*, a retired journalist, put out a request on Facebook for nominations of notable Bloomington residents for a project he was working on, he expected he would receive about 10. Instead, 70 nominations rolled in and he knew his project, Bloomington Notables, would be notable itself.

Jean Bellefeuille, *above right*, curator of the Bloomington Historical Society, saw the Facebook post where Heinzman was asking for nominations and she noticed that people were mostly mentioning local athletes. She thought she would add some variety to the mix and nominate her previous neighbor, Mary GrandePre’, who illustrated the U.S. editions of the Harry Potter books.

After that, the two of them started working together. Heinzman conducted the research on nominees, performed interviews and wrote biographies. Bellefeuille wrote some biographies as well. She also edited them, found photos and put the biographies into a layout.

There are 100 residents honored in the three-volume Bloomington Notables project. The collection features biographies of residents who have achievements in categories such as, arts, politics, community leadership, professional and Olympic athletes and war casualties. Those featured range from famous baseball players, like Tony Oliva, to names that have local significance like former mayor Jim Lindau.

“What’s interesting about it is this project provides a personal connection to history,” Bellefeuille said. “The other day there was a high school student in [the Bloomington Historical Society] with his brother. I asked them what they were into. They said band and I showed them the biography we have of Dr. Earl Benson. Suddenly, history wasn’t boring anymore because it connected to their interests.”

You can find the Bloomington Notables books at the Bloomington Historical Society. Visit [bloomingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://bloomingtonhistoricalsociety.org) to see their days and hours of operation. Bellefeuille and Heinzman plan for the Bloomington Notables to be a living document. They will continue to accept nominations via email at [bloomitarian@gmail.com](mailto:bloomitarian@gmail.com).

## FARMERS MARKET OFFERS WARMTH AND LOCAL GOODS

Winter doesn’t mean the end of fresh produce and local goods in a community setting. Come in from the cold to shop for root vegetables, cheeses, baked goods, canned goods, handcrafted apparel, jewelry, gifts and more. Visitors can also meet other Bloomingtonites and get to know local vendors.

Visit one of the remaining Indoor Farmers Markets on Saturdays, February 11 and March 11, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road.

For more information and details on vendors, visit [blm.mn/market](http://blm.mn/market) or call 952-563-8877.

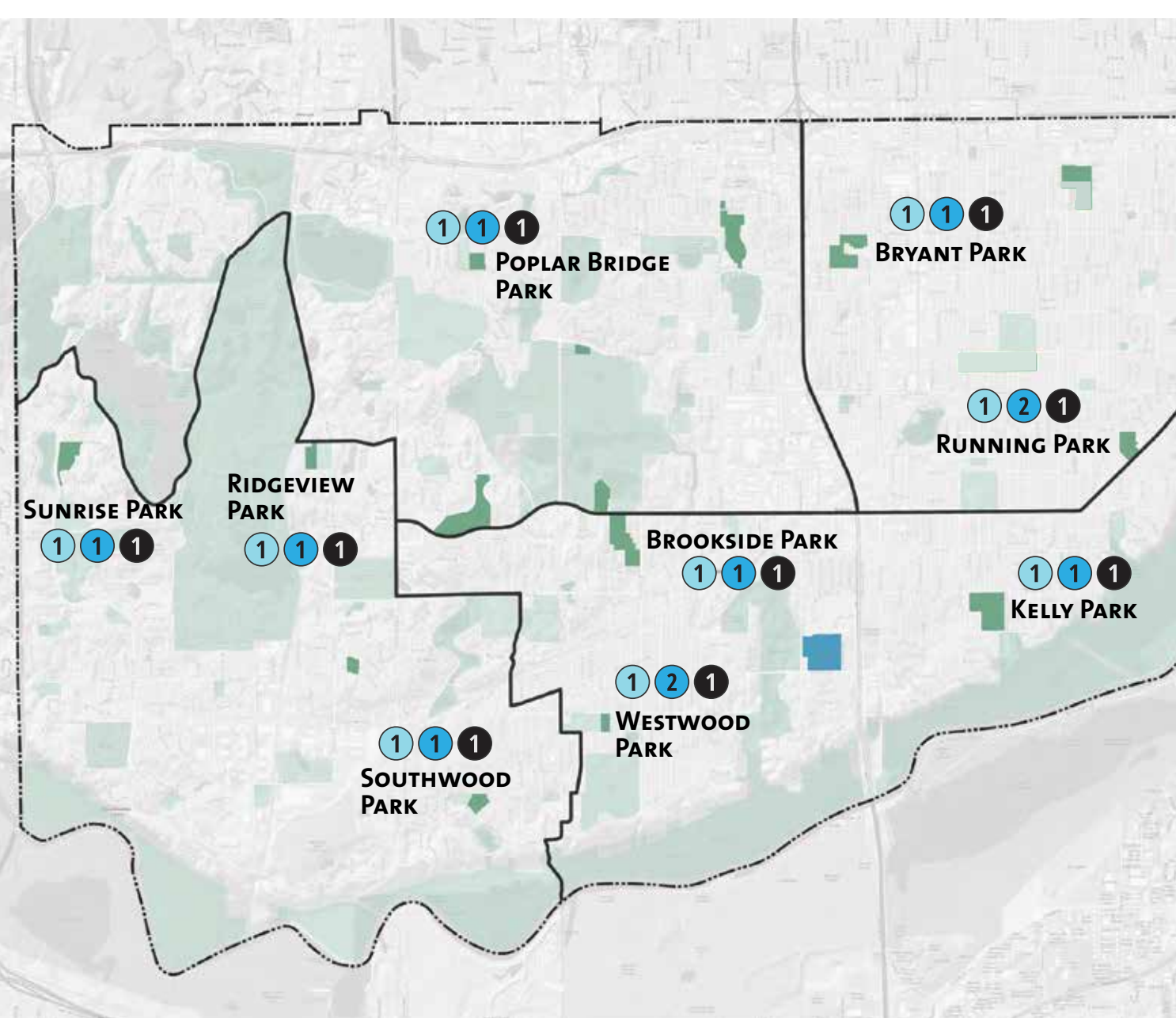


## GET PAID TO PLAY: WORK FOR PARKS AND RECREATION THIS SUMMER

Parks and Recreation has many fun employment opportunities that provide staff a way to develop real work skills that boost your resume. Opportunities range from park program instructor to lifeguard.

“I’ve found that jobs in Parks and Recreation provide the kind of leadership that’s not taught in books,” Recreation Supervisor David Benson said. “You’ll gain real, hands-on experience that you can only learn by being responsible for a group of children or participants. That type of leadership experience will elevate your game for the rest of your life—at home, school and work.”

To apply, visit [blm.mn/jobs](http://blm.mn/jobs) or call 952-563-8877.



# General skating    2 Outdoor hockey    # Warming house

## ICE RINKS AND WARMING HOUSES

### BLOOMINGTON PARKS WITH GENERAL SKATING, OUTDOOR HOCKEY AND WARMING HOUSES

## 2023 OUTDOOR SKATING RINKS AND WARMING HOUSES

Enjoy one of Minnesota’s favorite winter past times—skating—on one of Bloomington’s nine outdoor skating rinks. The outdoor skating season is scheduled to run until February 17, depending on weather and ice conditions. Rink lighting will operate 4:30 – 10 p.m. daily.

Warming houses are scheduled to be open during the following times during the week, pending staff availability:

- Monday – Thursday, 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- Friday, 4 – 9 p.m.
- Saturday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
- Sunday, 12 – 8 p.m.

Lights will still be on and people may skate during posted park hours.

For park addresses, up-to-date rink conditions, closings and schedules, visit the City’s website at [blm.mn/rinks](http://blm.mn/rinks) or call 952-563- 8878 and select option 3.

## GARBAGE DAY MAKES FOR MUTUAL APPRECIATION

Wednesday mornings have been special at the Moua household since monster-truck lovers, two-year-old Frederick and four-year-old Theodore, started watching for the weekly garbage truck.

Last spring, Theodore, who once dressed as a trash collector for Halloween, wanted to express his appreciation.

With markers and crayons, both Theodore and Frederick spent a Saturday afternoon drawing and writing. The following Wednesday, they waved down the driver to deliver their thank-you artwork. Paul Borgert, a Republic Services driver and trainer, was touched and invited his young fans to check out the truck.

Since then, Mr. Paul, as he is called by the brothers, continues to wave every Wednesday.

“It is so nice to have customers who let you know they appreciate the service,” Borgert said.

“Our trash collector not only provides great service, but he is also a stellar community member,” added Shauna Moua, Bloomington resident and parent to Theodore and Frederick.



## WINTER FETE OFFERS MANY WAYS TO ENJOY THE SEASON

Each year, Bloomington Parks and Recreation embraces the snowy season with activities and events that draw people outdoors. This year the City, along with community partners such as Three Rivers Park District, will host Winter Fete January 8 – March 5.

“Each year we hope people will take advantage of all the activities we put on during Winter Fete and get outside and enjoy the season,” Recreation Supervisor David Benson said.

This year, activities include an introduction to ice fishing, fat-tire bike riding, open skating, an international ski competition, an ice harvest, a luminary lantern walk around Girard Lake, 8401 France Avenue South and more. For more details visit [blm.mn/winterfete](http://blm.mn/winterfete).



## READY, SET, GO! MEDALLION HUNT BEGINS JANUARY 17

Residents are encouraged to wander Bloomington’s 97 parks during the Park and Recreation Department’s fourth annual Medallion Hunt.

Clues for the hunt begin to drop on the City’s Winter Fete webpage and Facebook page on January 17, and will continue to be posted every Monday and Thursday until the commemorative medallion is found, or through February 13, whichever comes first.

Along with the possibility of great adventure and bragging rights, the winner gets some sweet prizes. Last year’s prize package included a tablet computer, smores kit, plush heated blanket and more.

For more information and clues, visit [blm.mn/winterfete](http://blm.mn/winterfete).

# BLOOMINGTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS

## 2023 PERFORMANCE SERIES

The Bloomington Center for the Arts Performance Series includes awe-inspiring theater, band, chorale and jazz concerts. Performances are held in the Schneider or Black Box theaters, located in the Bloomington Center for the Arts at the corner of 98th Street and West Old Shakopee Road. Free parking is available on site.

### CHECK OUT THIS AMAZING LINEUP OF SHOWS



#### ANGELICA CANTANTI YOUTH CHOIRS SONGS OF THE DECADES!

Join us for an afternoon of choral pop tunes and a silent auction event to support our singer scholarship fund in honor of longtime Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs Director Rita Docter.

*Sunday, February 26, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.*  
Tickets \$40



#### MEDALIST CONCERT BAND AT THE POPS!

Break the winter blues with this program of showtunes, movie themes, popular hits and more, featuring the Medalist Concert Band.

*Sunday, March 5, 4 p.m.*  
Tickets: Adults \$19, Seniors and students \$17



#### CONTINENTAL BALLET COMPANY THE BALLET CINDERELLA

Based on the beloved fairy tale, Cinderella tells the story of a young girl who finds that dreams do come true.

*March 18, 7:30 p.m. and March 19, 3 p.m.*  
*March 25, 7:30 p.m. and March 26, 3 p.m.*  
Adults \$25, seniors and students \$19,  
Children under age 13 \$13



#### THE PAJAMA GAME

The Pajama Game lives up to its three Tony awards, including Best Musical and Best Revival in 2006.

*April 21 – May 14*  
Tickets: \$18 – \$48



#### BLOOMINGTON CHORALE COME ALIVE! IT'S SHOWTIME

Join us for this upbeat, fun, spring concert with all your favorite music from Broadway and Movies—Phantom of the Opera, Hamilton, Mama Mia and, yes, even Bohemian Rhapsody!

*Friday, May 19, 7:30 p.m.*  
*Saturday, May 20, 4 p.m.*  
Tickets: Adults \$17, seniors and students \$13



#### MEDALIST CONCERT BAND VIVA LA MUSICA!

Savor the sounds and colors of Latin American music in this international program by the Medalist Concert Band.

*Sunday, May 21, 4 p.m.*  
Tickets: Adults \$17, seniors and students \$13



#### NOTEABLE SINGERS GIRL GROUPS: THEN AND NOW

Join us as we explore how “girl groups” have evolved and continue to influence the music industry with songs that are fun, thoughtful, empowering and inspiring.

*Saturday, June 3, 5 p.m.*  
Tickets: Adults \$20, seniors \$17



#### BCA PERFORMANCE SERIES: DISCOVER DANCE FESTIVAL

Join us for a weekend of dance performances by multiple local professional dance companies representing a wide range of styles aimed for an all-ages audience to discover and experience the joy and power of the art of dance!

*Friday – Saturday, June 15 – 17*  
Tickets: \$20 – \$25



#### BOBBY VAN DEUSSEN IN CONCERT

Bobby Van Deussen and Steve Pikal, past members of the Barbary Coast Dixieland Band, along with drummer Danny Coots will be appearing at the Schneider Theater with an exciting concert.

*Friday, June 23*  
Tickets \$25

### BOX OFFICE

**Online:** Go to [blm.mn/bcatix](http://blm.mn/bcatix). **In person:** Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. Box Office hours vary. Programs, artists and prices subject to change. Orders received less than seven days prior to the performance will be held for pick up at the box office. All ticket sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.