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

OCTOBER 2025

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2026 LEVY AND  
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THE FALL COLORS WERE ON FULL DISPLAY NEAR NORMANDALE LAKE LAST YEAR. TO PLAN YOUR TOUR OF THE FALL COLORS THIS YEAR VISIT [BLM.MN/HIKEMAP](https://blm.mn/hikemap).





Of the preliminary 2026 levy and budget increase, 53% is dedicated to police and fire services.

# MAYOR’S MEMO

## CITY COUNCIL APPROVED PRELIMINARY 2026 LEVY AND BUDGET

By Mayor Tim Busse

In September, the City Council approved the preliminary 2026 tax levy and general fund budget with an increase of 9.44% over 2025.

According to state law, the preliminary levy is the maximum amount the City can collect through property taxes for the coming year. The Council can lower that number, but can’t raise it for 2026.

The Council first started talking about the 2026 budget as work was wrapping up on the 2025 budget. Bloomington typically looks at budgets on a two-year horizon. That first look at the 2026 budget showed an expected levy increase of 17.92%. The biggest cost driver was the expiration of state and federal grant dollars that were being used to fund our new firefighters. The Council, City staff, and the community were in agreement that a 17.92% levy increase was simply too high.

So right after the first of the year, staff began activating a number of levers to lower the proposed tax levy and budget. Through capital and debt planning, reducing the Normandale Lake district levy, using a portion of the 2024 positive budget variance, lowering personnel costs and health insurance

savings, staff identified \$7.4 million in reductions. That brought the proposed levy increase to 9.44%.

It won’t surprise you that 87% of the proposed budget increase goes to the five core services that cities provide: police, fire, public works, parks and recreation and community development. And to put an even sharper point on that, 53% of the proposed budget increase will go to police and fire.

Keeping Bloomington safe, plowing the streets and providing the best water in Minnesota, maintaining our parks and green spaces, and supporting our business community—Bloomington residents have made it clear that they value these services and have high expectations when it comes to the delivery of these services. The proposed budget reflects those values and expectations.

And it’s one more step in the journey. Just about every Council meeting from now to December will include detailed budget discussions. Please, tune in if you want to better understand the process and hear the thoughtful conversations about the most important work we do as a Council.

### LEARN MORE ABOUT THE 2026 BUDGET

Attend the City’s public hearing about the property tax levy and budget on December 8.

Visit the City’s budget website at [blm.mn/budget](http://blm.mn/budget).

Tune in Monday evenings on BTV 859 HD/BTV 14 SD or the livestream of City Council meetings at [blm.mn/btv-live](http://blm.mn/btv-live) to see budget discussions or watch past meetings on the City’s YouTube channel at [blm.mn/youtube](http://blm.mn/youtube).

Share your thoughts online at [blm.mn/budget](http://blm.mn/budget).

# THINK LOCAL, VOTE LOCAL: GET READY FOR ELECTION DAY

This election season, Bloomington residents will choose candidates for three city council seats and four school board positions. To help voters make informed choices, all candidates have recorded five-minute introductory videos and participated in public forums.

In September, the League of Women Voters Bloomington hosted nonpartisan candidate forums, moderated by League-trained facilitators. These forums offered a valuable opportunity for voters to hear directly from candidates as they addressed key local issues and participated in respectful, civil dialogue. Watch the candidate videos and forum recordings at [blm.mn/elections](http://blm.mn/elections).

Printed copies of the League’s Nonpartisan Voter Guide are available at the Civic Plaza Information Desk, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that never endorses or opposes any candidate or political party. The League actively defends democracy and promotes informed voting.

Read more about voting on Election Day, including a map of all Bloomington polling places, on page 8.



# BRIEFING

Volume 32, Number 10

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) Website: [BloomingtonMN.gov](http://BloomingtonMN.gov)

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Elected officials presented for informational purposes.

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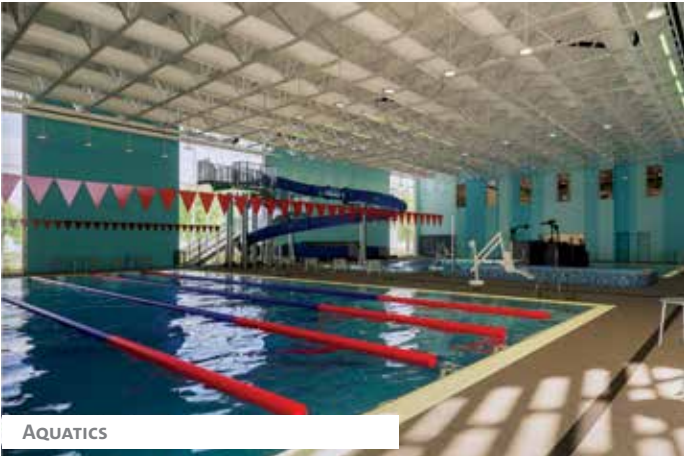
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The City of Bloomington does not discriminate against or deny the benefits of its services, programs, or activities to a qualified person because of a disability. The City will provide a reasonable accommodation or modify its policies and programs to allow people with disabilities to participate in all City services, programs, activities, and employment. The law does not require the City to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden on the City. To make a request for a reasonable accommodation, ask for more information, or to file a complaint, contact the Community Outreach and Engagement Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; 952-563-8733, MN Relay 711.

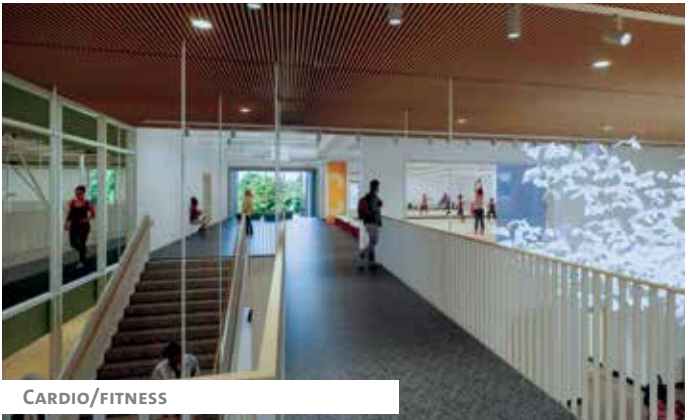




MULTIPURPOSE/EVENTS



AQUATICS



CARDIO/FITNESS



LOBBY AND CHECK-IN DESK

## BLOOMINGTON FORWARD PROJECTS

Bloomington made big strides over the summer on the three Bloomington Forward community projects.

### A NEW COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER IS UNDERWAY

The transformation of the old Creekside Community Center site at 9801 Penn Ave. S. is officially underway. Demolition is scheduled this month, with construction on the new community health and wellness center planned for the site beginning in November through 2026 with an opening tentatively slated for 2027.

Planning wrapped up in August after several community feedback events and City Council and Planning Commission review. The new center will serve residents of all ages and backgrounds with modern, flexible spaces.

Renderings on this page highlight many of the features residents can look forward to, including:

- Spaces for programs, including senior programs.
- Family-friendly pool and locker rooms.
- Fitness studios and exercise spaces.
- Gymnasiums with bleachers.
- Indoor playground and supervised child play area.
- Multi-purpose rooms for events and activities.
- Offices for Public Health and Parks and Recreation.
- Public health program, exam and counseling rooms.
- Walking/jogging track.

Visit [bloomingtonforward.org/chwc](https://bloomingtonforward.org/chwc) for project details.

### BIG IS BACK!

#### BLOOMINGTON ICE GARDEN REOPENS

Get ready to retake the ice! Bloomington Ice Garden is open and looking better than ever.

After a makeover, BIG now shines with new rinks and upgraded plumbing, heating, locker rooms and stadium seating. Whether visiting for open skate, developmental hockey or pro's ice, it's time to lace up and hit the rink. Registration is open for Learn-to-Skate and Learn-to-Play Hockey programs. Watch for information about a grand opening celebration in November.

A new community-inspired mural by Minnesota artist Adam Turman will soon greet visitors in the entryway. There are also exciting sponsorship and naming opportunities for local businesses.

So, mark your calendars for upcoming public skating and special events, and remember BIG is a go-to spot for birthday parties, meetings and more.

Get the full schedule, rental information and program details at [blm.mn/big](https://blm.mn/big). Projects like the BIG improvements show Bloomington's commitment to creating spaces that reflect community needs and bring people together.



### NINE MILE CREEK CORRIDOR UPDATE: RESTORATION, RECREATION AND RENEWAL

Progress has been made on the Nine Mile Creek Corridor Renewal Project, enhancing Moir and Central parks through ecological restoration, upgraded amenities and improved accessibility.

The project is in design development, with construction planned for spring 2026-2027. Tree removal and thinning may begin in early 2026. Community input has aided in shaping the work, from workshops and focus groups to the summer open house showcasing playground, disc golf, shelter concepts and design updates. This strong public engagement effort earned a first-place Savvy Award in the national 3CMA Savvy Awards contest and a second-place Silver Award at the Minnesota Association of Government Communicators Northern Lights Awards.

Work will restore 131 acres of woodland, wetland and creek habitat; and add playgrounds and picnic shelters; and make ADA, infrastructure and trail improvements. A pedestrian bridge north of Queen Avenue that is planned for replacement with the project in 2026 was closed in July 2025 due to significant erosion and structural issues. Visit [bloomingtonforward.org/9mile](https://bloomingtonforward.org/9mile) for project details.



### NEW MURAL BRIGHTENS SOUTH LOOP

A new mural by visual artist and muralist Mariela Ajras, pictured above, is now complete at the Fenley apartments, 8051 33rd Ave. S., next to Backstory Coffee in Bloomington's South Loop District.

Commissioned by the City's Creative Placemaking team, the mural supports efforts to create a more vibrant, walkable and welcoming neighborhood.

Ajras is an Argentine muralist whose work explores themes such as femininity, memory and identity. Her design in Bloomington was inspired by the evening primrose flower.

"I like the idea that anything can blossom and bloom even at night," Ajras said.

The mural's colors unintentionally match passing trains nearby, adding a unique connection to the area's visual landscape.

Learn more about creative placemaking at [blm.mn/placemaking](https://blm.mn/placemaking).

### CELEBRATE NATIVE HERITAGE AND LEARNING

As part of Minnesota's American Indian Month, Bloomington Parks and Recreation and Bloomington Public Schools American Indian Education Program hosted an Indigenous Arts & Crafts Fair in May at Civic Plaza. The event highlighted the importance of learning about Native cultures, past and present.

More than 30 Indigenous artists showcased traditional and contemporary work, ranging from beadwork and jewelry to clothing and photography. Visitors experienced Native flute performances, Hoop Dancing, and interactive activities such as beading, nettle bracelet making, and learning Dakota place names.

Indigenous food trucks and resource tables added to the experience, offering insights into Native history, culture and community programs.

This free, family-friendly event celebrated Native creativity while encouraging deeper understanding and respect for Indigenous heritage. Watch for next year's event in May.





### USE THESE HOME ENERGY TAX CREDITS BEFORE THEY'RE GONE

Recent changes to federal policy are ending several popular home energy tax credits earlier than expected.

The good news is credit amounts remain the same if you install before the new deadlines and state rebates are still available.

Whether you're upgrading insulation, switching to electric appliances or installing a heat pump, these incentives can make your home safer, healthier and more affordable to run.

So, here's your friendly reminder: act now, tell your neighbors and don't let these savings slip away. Visit [homes.rewiringamerica.org/save](https://homes.rewiringamerica.org/save) for details.

### GOT YARD WASTE? WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

Cleaning up the yard? The City has two easy options available mid-April through November for residents with City garbage and recycling service.

#### Weekly pickup

Get a yard waste cart plus weekly collection of up to 20 paper bags. Sign up at 952-563-8726 or [UtilityBilling@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:UtilityBilling@BloomingtonMN.gov).

#### On-call pickup

Only need it now and then? Buy stickers, schedule a pickup and pay per bag. Call 952-563-8757 for stickers, then book your pickup 48 hours in advance.

The last week of yard waste collection for 2025 is the week of November 24. Find more details about yard waste service and dos and don'ts at [blm.mn/yardwaste](https://blm.mn/yardwaste).

[BLOOMINGTONMN.GOV](https://BloomingtonMN.gov)



A variety of cart sizes are available for Bloomington residents. A small cart could mean a smaller bill in new proposed rate structure.

### BIG SAVINGS FOR SMALL CARTS GARBAGE RATE CHANGES COULD BE COMING IN 2026

Bloomington's garbage rates may change in 2026. The pay-as-you-throw system will remain, but price gaps will widen so smaller carts cost less. A new, lower-priced every-other-week pickup will also be available for households with the smallest cart and minimal trash.

These updates, based on a rate study and resident feedback, aim to keep service affordable and reduce waste.

What you can do:

- Downsize carts if they're rarely full.
- Choose every-other-week service if weekly pickup isn't needed.
- Recycle and compost more to shrink trash.
- Sign up for organics recycling at no extra cost to keep food scraps and other compostable materials out of the garbage.

Preliminary rates were presented to the City Council on July 28. Final adoption is expected after the October budget review and November 17 public hearing. Watch for more details this fall to select your cart size and service level if the proposed changes are adopted. Learn more at [blm.mn/garbage](https://blm.mn/garbage) or call 952-563-8726.

### PROTECT OUR LAKES: KEEP LEAVES OFF THE STREET

Fallen leaves may seem harmless but when left on streets, they can do serious damage to our water. In fact, leaves and other organic debris cause more harm to surface water than fertilizers, pesticides or even motor oil.

"Leaf litter is packed with nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen, the same ingredients found in fertilizer," said Water Resource Specialist Jack Distel. "When leaves collect on streets and wash into storm drains, they end up in lakes and ponds. That fuels algae blooms and hurts water quality."

This fall, do your part to protect Bloomington's waterways:

- Keep streets clear. Don't sweep or blow leaves into the road. It's against City Code.
- Bag it up. Collect leaves in compostable bags for yard waste pick-up.
- Compost or mulch. Shred leaves with a mower and use them around trees and gardens as natural mulch.

### BE AN EARTH ACTION HERO FOCUS YOUR SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

Cooler weather makes fall the perfect time to connect with nature and take action for the environment. Here are a few simple ways to be an Earth Action Hero:

#### Live sustainably at home

Compost food scraps, reduce waste, and winterize your home to save energy. Small changes can make a big difference.

#### Choose sustainable transportation

Walk, bike, carpool or take public transit to reduce emissions.

#### Support native plant restoration

Fall is ideal for planting. Volunteer or donate to efforts that restore native landscapes and support pollinators. Or plant some of your own native plants to enjoy next year.

#### Volunteer for conservation

Join a clean-up or tree planting, or organize your own. Removing litter before winter helps protect parks, trails and waterways.

Let's protect the places we love. Take action this fall and help keep Minnesota beautiful. If you know an Earth Action Hero we should feature in the Briefing, contact us at [communications@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:communications@BloomingtonMN.gov).







2025 Bloomington Leadership participants pose in front of Civic Plaza at 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road.

## APPLY FOR THE BLOOMINGTON LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

**R**eady to learn, lead and connect? The Bloomington Leadership Program is a free, hands-on opportunity for residents to build leadership skills, explore how local government works and connect with City staff, elected officials and nonprofit leaders.

Open to Bloomington residents 18 and older who can attend at least eight of the 10 sessions. The 2026 program runs February 5-March 26 and includes eight Thursday evening and two Saturday morning sessions.

Apply by November 21 at [blm.mn/leadership](https://blm.mn/leadership) or call 952-563-8733 (MN Relay 711) to request a paper application.

Past participants say:

“I know I have a bigger voice than I previously thought. We’re such a great city.”

“This program has challenged me to be more proactive...to talk with my neighbors more.”

“I want to be more involved and continue to find ways for leadership in the city.”

## VETERANS’ APPRECIATION EVENT: HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

**J**oin us in paying tribute to the service and sacrifice of our veterans at the Veterans Appreciation event on Thursday, November 6, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., in the Bloomington Civic Plaza lobby, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road.

Hosted by the City’s Community Outreach and Engagement Division in partnership with American Legion Post #550, this special gathering will feature a brief program, light refreshments and resources for veterans and their families. Space is limited. Priority will be given to veterans and active duty service members.

Registration is encouraged but not required. Register by October 24 at [blm.mn/veterans2025](https://blm.mn/veterans2025) or contact Community Outreach and Engagement at 952-563-8733, MN RELAY 711 or [outreach@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:outreach@BloomingtonMN.gov).



## BOOKMOTHER WINS 2025 HATCH BLOOMINGTON

**B**ookMother took home the top prize in the 2025 Hatch Bloomington competition, earning \$100,000 in business assistance to launch a new bookstore.

BookMother is an independent bookstore designed as a welcoming community space for adults.

Learn more about BookMother and watch the pitch event recording at [hatchbloomington.com/2025](https://hatchbloomington.com/2025).



Bike lanes are one example of a change that could come to Nicollet Avenue as part of the project.

## HENNEPIN COUNTY HOSTING THIRD NICOLLET AVENUE OPEN HOUSE

**H**ennepin County will host another open house for the Nicollet Avenue reconstruction project on October 14, 4:30-6:30 p.m., at Bloomington Fire Station 1, 10 W. 95th St. At this event, the project team will present design options for the corridor and share how community feedback from earlier phases shaped these concepts.

A Spanish interpreter will be available at the event.

You can view design concepts, share your feedback, sign up for email updates and learn more about the project online: [hennepin.us/nicollet-bloomington](https://hennepin.us/nicollet-bloomington).

For more information, contact Project Manager Emily Bowen Goodell at [emily.goodell@hennepin.us](mailto:emily.goodell@hennepin.us) or 612-596-0402.



The 2026 Bloom in Bloomington interns celebrate their graduation in August.

## BLOOM IN BLOOMINGTON GROWS CAREERS, BUILDS CONNECTIONS

**I**n its third year, Bloom in Bloomington continued to connect youth ages 16-24 with paid summer opportunities at local employers. Designed to help Bloomington youth kickstart their careers, the program offered real-world experience, career exploration and professional development through mentorship. Learn more at [blm.mn/bloom](https://blm.mn/bloom).





### NEW ADULT CLASSES OFFERED AT SKATE SCHOOL

Skate School is adding more options for adult skaters starting in October. New classes are available Tuesday mornings from 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. and Wednesday evenings from 6-6:45 p.m., at Bloomington Ice Garden, 3600 W. 98th St., when adults will have the full rink to themselves. Saturday morning classes will continue as usual.

Anyone in any level who would like extra group lesson time is encouraged to sign up for classes on multiple days. Advanced skaters can also prepare routines for competition or explore testing opportunities through U.S. Figure Skating. To learn more or register, visit [blm.mn/big](http://blm.mn/big).



### HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY RETURNS TO BLOOMINGTON ICE GARDEN

After renovations earlier this year, the Bloomington Ice Garden, at 3600 W. 98th St., is open just in time for the high school hockey season. Bloomington teams play mostly on Tuesday and Thursday evenings with junior varsity games at 5 p.m. and varsity at 7 p.m. Saturday games start at 1 p.m. for junior varsity and 3 p.m. for varsity. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors, plus processing fees. Find details at [blm.mn/big](http://blm.mn/big) under the tickets tab.



An aerial view of the new Bryant Park.

## GRAND OPENINGS SET FOR BRYANT AND TRETBAUGH PARKS

Join the City for grand opening ceremonies this October as we celebrate two reimagined community spaces. Bryant Park, 1001 W. 85th St., will feature Bloomington’s first fully inclusive playground, a new from-the-ground-up park shelter, skatepark, baseball field, cricket pitch, hockey rink and new courts for tennis and basketball among many other amenities. Tretbaugh Park, 3701 W. 90th St., will offer the City’s first dedicated bike skills course with a paved track and a gravel mountain bike path. The Bryant Park ceremony is Monday, Oct. 6, 4:30-6 p.m., and the Tretbaugh Park ceremony is Tuesday, Oct. 7, 4:30-6 p.m.

### ENJOY THE ANNUAL TRICK OR TREAT TRAIL

Gather your children preschool age through fifth grade and join Parks and Recreation for its annual Halloween Trick or Treat Trail on Sunday, October 26, 2-5 p.m., at Normandale Lake Park, 5901 W. 84th St. This free outdoor event is sure to scare up a lot of non-scary fun with more than a dozen community organizations stationed along the trail, music, food and more. Put on your favorite costume and plan for a good time. No registration required. For more information, visit [blm.mn/halloweenparty](http://blm.mn/halloweenparty).



### NOTABLE NEIGHBOR: JODI CARUFEL, CHAMPION FOR STUDENTS

For 30 years, Jodi Carufel has been a guiding force at Olson Middle School, teaching eighth grade Language Arts and inspiring generations of students. A Jefferson High School graduate and longtime Bloomington resident, Jodi returned to teach in the same schools that shaped her. She originally focused on academics but quickly realized teaching was also about offering support and encouragement. “I want to give them hope,” she said. “They can do anything.” Former students praise her warmth, creativity and ability to connect. One credited Jodi’s mock trial project with sparking a passion for law and choosing a career in justice. Jodi’s commitment stems from her own life-changing experiences with teachers who helped her during tough times. She never forgets the power of a caring adult. “I know this is my calling,” she said. “And when you’re doing what you’re meant to do, there’s a lot of joy in that.” If you want to recommend a Bloomington resident for this Notable Neighbor service, please email [communications@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:communications@BloomingtonMN.gov) or call 952-563-8819.







## SOUND THE ALARM FOR FUN: FIRE STATION OPEN HOUSES ON OCTOBER 11

**R**ound up the family for Bloomington Fire’s annual Fire Prevention Week Open House on Saturday, October 11, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at all six fire stations.

This year’s theme is “Flame Free Zone, Make it Your Own! Keep Three Feet Clear of All Campfires.” Firefighters will share tips on home safety, grill safety, recreational fire safety, vehicle safety and more.

Enjoy truck tours, meet Sparky the fire dog, take photos and join in kid-friendly activities like coloring sheets and water spraying (weather permitting). Check out safety demonstrations, chat with firefighters, and grab free refreshments and giveaways, including youth T-shirts, bags, fire helmets, magnets and stickers.

It’s a fun, hands-on way to learn how to be fire safe, while getting an up-close look at Bloomington’s fire stations. Find details and fire station locations at [blm.mn/fire](http://blm.mn/fire).

### MEET CAPTAIN CODY MITTELSTAEDT: SERVING WITH SKILL AND HEART

**C**aptain Cody Mittelstaedt is a shining example of the dedication and excellence found in Bloomington’s Fire Department. He began fire service in 2016 as a paid-on-call firefighter, joined the department full-time in 2023 and was promoted to captain in 2024.

A U.S. Army veteran, Cody brings leadership, discipline and a strong commitment to learning. He holds an associate degree in fire science and certifications in rope, trench and confined space rescue. Currently, he serves on the department’s technical rescue team and leads maintenance and testing for critical equipment.

Known for his positive attitude and love of training, Cody values the mentorship he has received and encourages others to consider a fire service career that is “fun, rewarding and full of amazing people.”

Off duty, Cody enjoys time with family, board games and sunny days in a hammock.

**CODY’S FIRE SAFETY ADVICE:**  
Be sure not to overload power strips or outlets.



**NAME:**  
CODY MITTELSTAEDT  
**STATION:**  
FIRE STATION 1

### MEET SERGEANT BRANT RICHARDSON: RETIRING AFTER 22 YEARS OF SERVICE

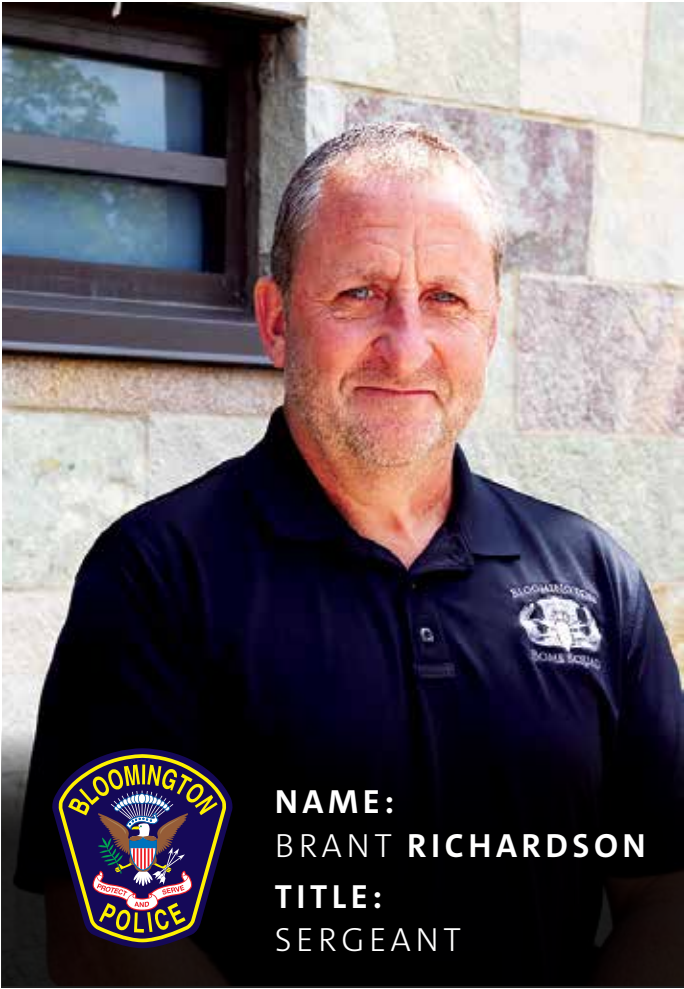
**S**ergeant Brant Richardson will retire in February after more than two decades with the Bloomington Police Department. He started in November 2003, and has served as sergeant since 2017, most recently supervising Investigations and the Bomb Unit.

Over his career, Brant served as a field training officer, crime scene technician, explosive detection canine handler, and officer in the Mall of America Police Unit. He joined the Bomb Unit in 2011 and became a certified Bomb Technician in 2012. He’s also supervised patrol and the Mall of America unit.

Brant’s path to policing began after his military service, inspired by a ride-along with his cousin. He believes good officers know how to talk to people and emphasizes the importance of community involvement: “If you see something out of place, report it.”

He credits his wife Kelly’s, unwavering support as key to his success. Off-duty, Brant enjoys deer and turkey hunting, fishing, woodworking, riding his side-by-side and tackling projects around the house.

“When I started at the police department, I wasn’t thinking about retirement,” Brant said. “But the years flew by. I’ve appreciated the job and, even more, the people I’ve worked with along the way.”



**NAME:**  
BRANT RICHARDSON  
**TITLE:**  
SERGEANT



### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: CELEBRATING COMMUNITY SPIRIT

**E**very August, Bloomington’s neighborhoods light up with laughter, conversation and connection during National Night Out, and this year was no exception. More than 300 neighborhood gatherings brought residents together to share food, games and stories while building stronger, safer communities.

From kids playing tag in the closed streets to neighbors meeting for the first time, the evening was filled with the energy and warmth that make Bloomington special. Mayor Tim Busse, council members and more than 100 Bloomington Police, Fire and City staff joined the celebrations, connecting with residents and enjoying the sense of unity that comes from spending time together.

As the Bloomington Police Department shared: “National Night Out isn’t just an event, it’s a celebration of the community.”

Watch for next year’s National Night Out and celebrate your neighborhood. For more information, visit [blm.mn/nno](http://blm.mn/nno).

### PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS FROM THE FLU

**C**old and flu season is approaching. The best way to protect yourself and others from severe flu and hospitalization is to get an annual flu shot.

If you have private health insurance, check with your primary care provider or local pharmacy for flu shot options. Bloomington Public Health will host several community flu shot clinics for individuals with limited access to flu shots.

Schedule your flu shot today at one of our community clinics at [blm.mn/clinics](http://blm.mn/clinics). If you need help making an appointment, please call 952-563-8900 and select the option for flu vaccinations.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
The 2024-2025 flu season was the most severe season since 2017-2018 in the U.S. It also had the highest number of people in the past decade who were sick, had seen a health care provider for, been hospitalized with, or died because of flu. The flu vaccine is estimated to have prevented 240,000 hospitalizations last year.





REGISTER TO VOTE

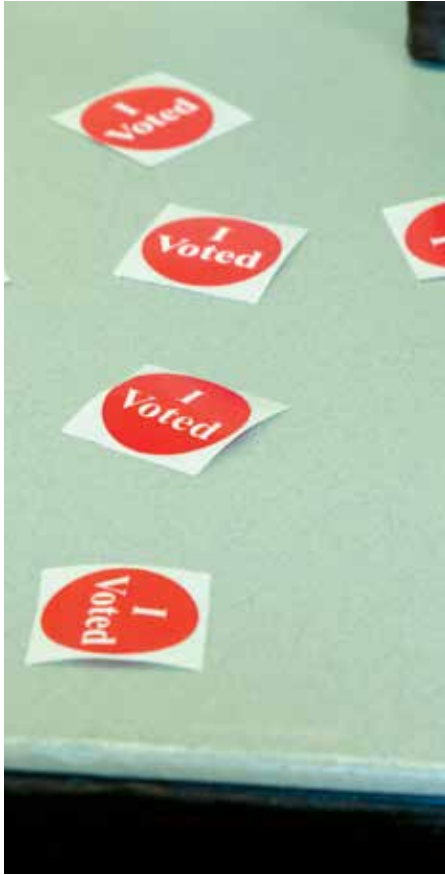
Moved recently or changed your name? You'll need to update your voter registration.

Register online by October 14 at [mnvotes.org](https://mnvotes.org).

Register in person at your polling place on Election Day, Tuesday, November 4.

Or register while voting absentee.

Bring proof of residence if registering in person. Learn more at [blm.mn/vote](https://blm.mn/vote).



VOTE EARLY OR BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

Avoid the crowds on Election Day and vote early or by absentee ballot at Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. Voting days and hours are September 19-October 31, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturday, November 1, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; and Monday, November 3, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Direct balloting (ballot inserted directly into the ballot counter) begins Friday, October 17.

Voters can also have a ballot mailed to them by Hennepin County Elections. To request a mailed absentee ballot, visit [blm.mn/absentee-ballot](https://blm.mn/absentee-ballot). Questions or special circumstances? Contact the City Clerk's Office at 952-563-8653.

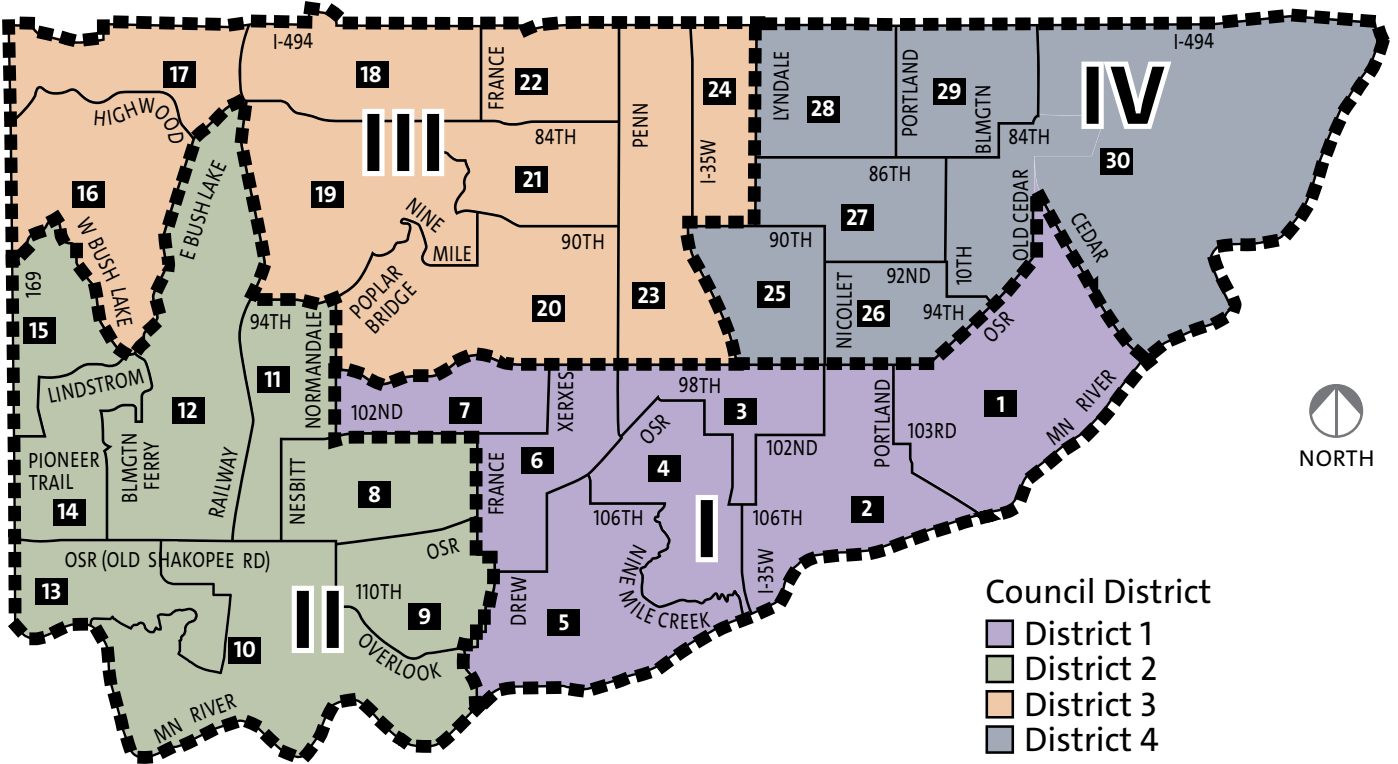
VOTE ON ELECTION DAY  
SHAPE BLOOMINGTON'S FUTURE

Your voice matters, and this fall, you have the chance to help shape the future of our community. On Tuesday, November 4, Bloomington voters will elect City Council members who make decisions about the parks we enjoy, the neighborhoods we live in, and the services that keep us safe and thriving.

Three City Council seats are on the ballot:

- At Large (citywide)
- District I
- District II

Check your polling place, view a sample ballot and find your district at [blm.mn/vote](https://blm.mn/vote).



Precinct/Polling location		Entrance/Parking	Precinct/Polling location		Entrance/Parking
1	Atonement Lutheran Church entrance 601 E. Old Shakopee Road	Southwest South lot	17	Westwood Community Church 6301 Cecilia Circle	Main entrance (W) Main lot (W)
2	Grace Covenant Church entrance 10201 Nicollet Ave. S.	Southeast East lot	18	St. Stephen Lutheran Church 8400 France Ave. S.	Main entrance (W) West lot
3	St. Luke's Lutheran Church entrance 1701 W. Old Shakopee Road	Northeast North lot	19	The Church of St. Edward's 9401 Nesbitt Ave. S.	Southwest entrance, upper lot Southwest lot
4	Oak Grove Presbyterian Church 2200 W. Old Shakopee Road	Main entrance Northeast lot	20	St. Michael's Lutheran Church 9201 Normandale Blvd.	Main entrance (E) East lot
5	Minnesota Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 10715 Zenith Ave. S.	Main entrance North lot	21	Penn Lake Library 8800 Penn Ave. S.	Main entrance
6	Mount Hope Lutheran Church 3601 W. Old Shakopee Road	Main entrance (S) South lot	22	Southtown Baptist Church 2600 W. 82nd St.	Main entrance (W) Northwest lot
7	Crosspoint Church 9801 France Ave. S.	Main entrance (E) East lot	23	Bloomington City Hall 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road	West entrance West lot
8	Bloomington Covenant Church 10150 Xerxes Ave. S.	Main entrance (E) East and North lots	24	Christ the King Lutheran Church 8600 Fremont Ave. S.	Southwest entrance Southwest lot
9	Transfiguration Lutheran Church 11000 France Ave. S.	Main entrance (W) West lot	25	Oxboro Evangelical Free Church 9431 Nicollet Ave. S.	North entrance North lot
10	MN Masonic Heritage Center 11411 Masonic Home Drive	Main entrance (W) West lot	26	Bloomington Lutheran Church 9350 Portland Ave. S.	Main entrance North lot
11	Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church 9920 Normandale Blvd. S.	Northeast entrance (left doors) North lot	27	St. Bonaventure Catholic Church 901 E. 90th St. (Social Hall)	Main entrance East lot
12	Community of the Cross Lutheran Church 10701 Bloomington Ferry Road	Main entrance (N) North lot	28	Unity South Church 7950 1st Ave. S.	Main entrance South lot
13	Founders Ridge 6600 Auto Club Road	Main entrance	29	Portland Avenue United Methodist Church 8000 Portland Ave. S.	Main entrance West lot
14	Bloomington Lutheran School 10600 Bloomington Ferry Road	Main entrance (S) South lot ADA: East side	30	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center 3815 American Blvd. E.	West entrance Visitor lot (W)
15	Hyland Vistors Center 10145 Bush Lake Road	West entrance West lot	<i>The City of Bloomington does not discriminate against or deny the benefits of its services, programs, or activities to a qualified person because of a disability. To make a request for a reasonable accommodation, ask for more information, or to file a complaint, contact the Community Outreach and Engagement Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; 952-563-8733, MN Relay 711.</i>		
16	Peace Lutheran Church 8600 E. Bush Lake Road	Main entrance North lot			

