

Bloomington Planning Commission

2019 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 and striping, 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 2019, 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:** Reviewing and making recommendations on proposed City Code amendments. In 2019, potential Code amendments are listed below in rough priority order recognizing that not all may be completed in 2019 dependent on staffing levels and development activity.
 - a. Review Opportunity Housing Ordinance (Planning Division);
 - b. Update standards related to stormwater management and bluff protection to align with new Lower Minnesota River Watershed District standards (Planning Division, Public Works - Water Resources);
 - c. Create standards for dockless bikes and scooters (Public Works lead);
 - d. Create standards for electric vehicle charging stations (Planning Division);
 - e. Create and adopt standards for restaurants and food trucks (Planning Division);
 - f. Update standards for small cell antennas and towers in the public right-of-way (Legal and Planning Division);
 - g. Update standards related to keeping chickens (Planning Division, Environmental Health);
 - h. Consider modifications to standards related to auto dealerships (Planning Division); and
 - i. Annual miscellaneous issues ordinance (Planning Division).
2. **Plans & Special Projects:** Reviewing and making recommendations on the Comprehensive Plan, District Plans, Small Area Plans and other special projects. 2019 projects included:
 - a. Housing initiatives to address affordability, choice, and preservation (Planning Division, HRA, Legal, EH);

- b. Research issues and impacts related to in-home transient lodging and other in-home sharing economy uses, and review standards used by other cities (Planning Division).
 - c. Parks and Recreation Master Plan update (Parks Division lead, Planning Division);
 - d. Commercial Node Redevelopment (HRA lead, Planning Division);
 - e. Creation of redevelopment implementation tools (Planning Division, HRA, Port, Legal); and
 - f. Strategic initiatives regarding amenities and redevelopment (multiple departments);
3. **Rezoning & Reguiding:** Reviewing and making recommendations on privately or City initiated rezoning and reguiding. Planned 2019 projects include:
 - a. Rezoning of properties around Lyndale and 98th Street to implement recommendations in 98th St. Station Area Plan (Planning Division);
 - b. Rezoning of auto dealer sites from I-3 to C-1; and
 - c. Innovation & Technology (IT) Rezoning, focused on properties initially proposed to be zoned Innovation and Technology (IT) (Planning Division).
4. **Ongoing Initiatives:** Reviewing and making recommendations on long range planning, sustainability initiatives, community engagement initiatives, and alternative transportation issues as they arise. Also involves participation in and coordination of multi-agency projects (e.g., Mn Valley State Trail).