

STRATEGIC PRIORITY	4TH QUARTER PROGRESS (OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021)	ANTICIPATED 1ST QUARTER ACTIVITIES (JANUARY-MARCH 2022)	STATUS
COMMUNITY AMENITIES			
Comprehensive funding strategy for capital needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued monthly meetings between Purchasing staff and stakeholders of the 2021 and 2022 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to ensure timely awareness of project issues and costs. Conducted a PIR bond sale to support funding of the annual Pavement Management Program. Presented the draft 2022-2031 CIP to the City Council in October and received approval of the final document at the public hearing in December. Updated the Dashboard Quarterly Report. Continued discussions about funding options for debt-related CIP items with the Executive Leadership Team. Discussed CIP bonding projects and their impact on the tax levy with the City Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue monthly meetings between Purchasing staff and stakeholders of the 2022 and 2023 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects to ensure timely awareness of project issues and costs. 	On track
Community center decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some recreation facilities, including a community health and wellness center, were placed into considered for a Local Option Sales Tax request to the state legislature. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive input from the City Council on potential projects for consideration for a Local Option Sales Tax, including a community health and wellness center that would combine the services of Creekside Community Center and Public Health. Submit a resolution for the projects to the City Council on January 24 and, if approved, forward it to the state legislative tax committees. 	Stalled

Strong support for City-owned amenities and park/recreation facilities

- Completed design work on Fire Station #4, with input from the community and changes made as appropriate.
- Fire Station #4 construction and bid documents were completed and released on November 22, with bids due January 13, 2022; 29 bid packages were released, with 27 received for the project.
- Hosted a tour of the Public Health building for the House Bonding Committee on October 21 to provide an overview of the state bonding requests for a new Public Health facility and Ice Garden improvements.
- Finished phase 1 of the Public Works air condensing unit installation, with final work to be completed in second quarter of 2022.
- Launched discussion on a master agreement with Bloomington Public Schools.
- Completed the Dred Scott replacement lights in the wheel.
- Substantially completed the playgrounds at Normandale and Washburn Elementary Schools in partnership with Bloomington Public Schools.
- Continued discussions on a master agreement with Bloomington Public Schools.
- Completed improvements to the Black Box Theater at the Center for the Arts that provide a more versatile, multipurpose space that can accommodate a variety of uses.
- Fundraising efforts for a veterans' memorial at Civic Plaza were featured in videos by KARE 11 and KSTP during the week of Veterans Day.
- Send bid packages for Fire Station #4 to the City Council for approval on February 7; submit two additional bid packages that were re-bid to the City Council on February 14.
- Submit a resolution to sell general obligation bonds for the Fire Station #4 project to the City Council for adoption on February 28.
- Vacate the current Fire Station #4 by March 14 for demolition of the existing building.
- Increase duty crew staffing at Stations #1 and #6 to cover the Station #4 area during demolition and construction.
- Begin the process of selecting consultants to replace the Civic Plaza roof; this project is moving forward a year ahead of schedule due to available American Rescue Plan funds.
- Await materials for the Civic Plaza door replacement and Public Works roll-up door projects.
- Continue discussions on a master agreement with Bloomington Public Schools.
- Representatives from the Bloomington Remembers Veterans, Inc. board will make a presentation to the City Council about fundraising efforts for a veterans' memorial on April 11.

On track

Strong support for City-owned amenities and park/recreation facilities (continued)

Barriers/obstacles:

- The Civic Plaza door replacement project was postponed due to material delays.
- The replacement of four roll-up doors at Public Works was delayed pending delivery of materials.
- Replacement of the truck wash equipment and doors at Public Works was postponed until spring 2022 as a result of material availability and weather.

On track

COMMUNITY IMAGE

One Bloomington

- Wrote about the City Council’s adoption of the Park System Master Plan in the November Briefing.
- Featured a full page of sustainability articles in the October, November, and December Briefings.
- Highlighted the new resource center for small businesses in the November Briefing.
- Wrote about the Just Deeds project’s progress in the December Briefing.
- Included two full pages of election information in the Briefing including information about ballot questions, how to vote early and where to vote on Election Day.
- Covered the upcoming curbside organics recycling service in the November and December Briefings.
- Offered an online form for organics recycling sign-up.
- Covered the City Council adopting two energy-disclosure ordinances in the December Briefing.
- Provided information about the City’s community-based strategic planning effort – *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* – and how residents could provide input in the October, November and December Briefings as well as online and on social media.
- Continue featuring examples of progress in each of the City Council’s strategic priorities in the Briefing, video and social media.
- Highlight positive examples of residents doing good things in the community.

On track

<p>One Bloomington (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included detailed information about the 2022 preliminary levy and ways residents could share their feedback in the October and November Briefing; created videos promoting the community budget sessions and explaining the City’s 2022 budget process. • Updated information on the website and social media related to new guidelines about COVID-19 and its impact on City meetings and events. • Produced videos on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranked choice voting • I-35 Minnesota River Bridge Project grand opening • Bloomington Collective: Stories of Solidarity featuring Agape African Market and Mhiripiri Gallery • Old Cedar Avenue Bridge celebration 		<p>On track</p>
<p>Positive image of Bloomington 1: Develop comprehensive media strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showcased new public art coming to South Loop in the October Briefing, including new art box designs and an art bench named Kalopsia. • Highlighted community group Tod Pod in the October Briefing, showing young families supporting each other. • Published a front-page photo and feature story on the WE Mural in South Loop in the November Briefing, which featured BIPOC artists. • Included a full page of Bloomington veteran photos in the November Briefing to honor them for their service on Veterans Day. • Wrote about Oasis for Youth receiving the 2021 Omar Bonderud Award, highlighting the organization’s work in the December Briefing. • Promoted <i>Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.</i> opportunities across all social media, email and website, include promoted posts on Facebook. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the <i>Notable Neighbor</i> segment in the Briefing to highlight diverse community members and their contributions to Bloomington. 	<p>On track</p>

**Positive image of Bloomington 2:
Develop art and placemaking plan**

- Old Cedar Avenue Bridge Celebration: Planned and promoted pre-registered activities during the week of September 27, and performances and activities for the main celebration on October 2.
- Creative Sparks: Installed one of four sculptures in Bloomington Central Station Park, Kalopsia bench, by Daniela Bianchini.
- Installed The Goldfinch by Donald Lipski at the intersection of Killebrew Drive and Old Shakopee Road.
- Continued participation in the I-494 Visual Quality Manual and Context Sensitive Solutions Framework development team.
- The Creative Placemaking Commission began to conduct outreach, research, and development of scope for “Grand & Colorful Places to Play.”
- Otocast Public Art Tour App: Continued promotion of the app and prize incentive.
- Continued promotion of creative placemaking on monthly e-news blasts, social media, ads/postcards/promotion, and website.

Outcomes:

- Old Cedar Avenue Bridge Celebration:
 - Distributed 200 meal tickets at the October 2 event within the first hour of the event.
 - Instagram event promotion: 19,143 people reached.
 - Twitter event promotion: 16,058 impressions.
 - Facebook – Bridge celebration on Council Minute video: 461 views; event recap video: 1,000 views.

- Promote and provide 20 free workbooks to Bloomington artists and culture bearers – *Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists* curriculum and the *Handbook for Artists Working in Community* by Springboard for the Arts.
- Partner with the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge on the Luminary Walk, February 11-12.
- Participate in the Ice Sculpture Exploration in February to promote South Loop.
- Fire Station #3: Sign an agreement with the adjacent property owner and finalize the call for art/RFP for the site; develop the site for a community garden in 2022.
- Neighborhood focus area and creative projects at 86th Street and Nicollet Avenue: Refine updated scope, develop call for art.
- Otocast Public Art Tour app: Continued promotion.

Barriers/obstacles:

- COVID-19 continues to affect the supply chain and delay fabrication and installation of projects.

On track

**Positive image of Bloomington 2:
Develop art and placemaking plan
(continued)**

Outcomes (continued):

- *The Goldfinch*, by Donald Lipski:
 - Featured in “Bring Me the News.”
 - Lipski’s Facebook post: 656 likes/loves, 135 comments, and 413 shares.
 - Quirky Minnesota Places Facebook post: 1,200 reactions, 72 comments, and 73 shares.
 - Particularly popular with birders, and has been shared internationally in Facebook groups.
- South Loop Public Art Tour on Otocast app: 2,777 location views since June.
- The WE Mural Tapestry was completed by 10 local BIPOC artists; the mural was featured on KARE 11, MPR, La Raza 95.7 FM, Sun Current, Star Tribune, Minnesota Recreation and Parks Association Magazine and Bloomington Convention and Visitors Bureau.
- WE Mural Sunset Block Party:
 - Attendance estimate: 400 - 500 people.
 - Facebook: 1,500 views.
 - Event recap video: 448 views.
 - Instagram event promotion: 13,399 people reached.
 - Twitter event promotion: 18,283 impressions.
- Old Cedar Avenue Bridge Celebration:
 - Maximum capacity at “Painting in Nature workshop.”
 - Good attendance and interest in “Intro to Birding” workshop.
 - Distributed 200 meal tickets at the October 2 event within the first hour of the event.
 - Instagram event promotion: 19,143 people reached.
 - Twitter event promotion: 16,058 impressions.
 - Facebook – Bridge celebration on Council Minute video: 461 views; event recap video: 1,000 views.

- Participate in the I-494 Visual Quality Manual and Context Sensitive Solutions Framework development team.

Barriers/obstacles:

- COVID-19 may continue to affect the supply chain and delay fabrication and installation of projects.

On track

<p>Positive image of Bloomington 2: Develop art and placemaking plan (continued)</p>	<p>Outcomes (continued):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AR Tour on Old Cedar Avenue Bridge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27,426 total views, with 22% growth since July. • Continued to reach a younger audience with this project, with about 63% of views from people ages 13-24. 		
<p>Joint marketing with the School District</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoted Public Health and Bloomington Public Schools partnership to get students vaccinated. • Produced a “For Your Health” segment about the City’s partnership with the School District and Homeland Health specialists to bring pediatric COVID-19 vaccine clinics to Valley View Middle School. • Featured the resident-organized “Tod Pod” group, which includes Bloomington Public Schools’ early childhood and family education teachers, and how members support each other via outdoor social gatherings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue promotion of the School District in the <i>Briefing</i> and through video. 	<p>On track</p>

Enhance natural resources

- Awarded the Penn Lake Hydrology Assessment Project to Houston Engineering as part of the framework designed for the Penn Lake Management Plan update and compliance with total maximum daily loads (TMDLs).
- Park Maintenance and Community Outreach and Engagement staff and the Sustainability Commission hosted a successful buckthorn bust on October 30; more than 50 residents participated, and a significant amount of buckthorn was removed from the Nine Mile Creek trail.
- The Sustainability Commission continues to provide feedback on the draft Natural Resources Management Plan.
- Sustainability Commissioners will review and provide additional feedback on the draft Natural Resources Management Plan.
- Sustainability Commissioners will begin planning a natural resources restoration event scheduled for the spring.
- Continue to explore options for encouraging the removal of buckthorn on private properties.
- Collaborate with Parks and Recreation on the redesign of Bryant Park for restoration of its pond and wetland areas.
- Issue a request for proposals and evaluate submitted proposals for implementation of the Bush Lake Cattail Management Initiative.

Needs attention

Reduce citywide carbon footprint

- Met with staff from eight divisions on October 4 to develop a recommendation around a greenhouse gas reduction goal for municipal facilities. Follow-up actions include getting more information about the cost of renewable energy options.
- Submitted a CERTs Seed Grant application on October 8 to support three community energy resource workshops in fall 2022.
 - The purpose of this project is to connect residents, especially those with higher energy burden, to resources that will lower their energy bills, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from residential energy use and improve community health.
 - Many homes in Bloomington are lacking insulation and could benefit from air sealing.
 - Through community energy conversations in 2021, City staff learned many residents are confused or unaware about energy program offerings.
 - The City also learned about the barriers residents face when signing up for the energy assistance program and/or weatherization assistance program; the purpose of these workshops is to address those barriers.
 - Project partners include CenterPoint Energy, Xcel Energy, Sustainable Resources Center, Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County and the Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota.
- Followed up with residents who signed up for the energy listening session that was canceled last summer due to weather.
- Receive approval from the City Council for the 2022 Sustainability Commission work plan.
- Develop an educational insulation video.
- Receive a CERTs Seed Grant award.
- Continue to prepare for 2022 launch of Time of Sale Energy Disclosure.
 - Complete trainings.
 - Develop a Time of Sale Energy Disclosure video.
 - Launch an energy disclosure webpage.
 - Finalize software for energy disclosure report generation for the April 1 launch.
- Continue to prepare for launch of the Large Building Benchmarking Program.
 - Send notifications to qualifying building properties.
 - Schedule trainings and informational sessions.
 - Create a webpage on the City's website.
- Provide an energy and climate presentation to Jefferson High School EarthCorps Club.
- Complete 2022 GreenStep Cities annual metrics reporting.
- Provide onboarding trainings for new City staff on equity, health, and sustainability.
- Research solar opportunities for the Public Works roof.
- Develop a proposal to expediate progress towards the City's greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Needs attention

**Reduce citywide carbon footprint
(continued)**

- Convened staff in early November to share transportation information regarding available data, plans, goals, communication pathways, etc.; this information will inform the process for setting quantitative climate goals for the transportation sector.
- Provided an update on Bloomington’s Energy Action Plan to the City Council on November 15.
- Sustainability Coordinator Emma Struss spoke on a sustainability panel at the American Public Works Association Minnesota Chapter Fall Conference on November 19.
- Continued to prepare for 2022 launch of Time of Sale Energy Disclosure and Large Building Benchmarking.

Barriers/obstacles:

- The City is not on track to meet its goal of 75% reduction in city-wide energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 2035 from the 2016 baseline.

Needs
attention

Improve surface water quality

- Completed the 2021-901 Storm Sewer Maintenance Project.
- Began construction on 2021-902 Oxboro Lake Maintenance Project.
- Performed invasive brush and woody debris removal as part of the Ecosystem Enhancement Project for ecological restoration of the wetland buffer at Bogen Pond.
- Initiated the Richfield-Bloomington Watershed Management Organization Youth Education Program classroom sessions with Richfield schools; the field trip portion of the curriculum will occur in late spring 2022.

Outcomes:

- Fourteen multi-family properties completed irrigation system audits; three have made applications for rebates to complete irrigation improvements.

- Substantially complete the 2021-902 Oxboro Lake Maintenance project.
- Initiate design of the 2022-901 Storm Sewer Maintenance Project.
- Conduct the Richfield-Bloomington Watershed Management Organization's (RBWMO) annual meeting and complete its annual report.
- Initiate the RBWMO Watershed Based Implementation Funding grant strategy and meetings with the Board of Water and Soil Resources.
- Initiate the MS4 NPDES annual report and updating of the City's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program
- Continue the Penn Lake Hydrology Assessment and award the Penn Lake Biotic Assessment Project.
- Prepare for implementation of the RBWMO Youth Education Program's watershed education curriculum for 2022 Bloomington summer school programming.
- Research additional funding sources to continue the irrigation conservation program.

On track

Reduce volumes delivered to landfills/incinerators

- Began a public information campaign to encourage participation in the Curbside Organics Collection Program; approximately 17% of residents in the City's garbage and recycling program have already signed up for organics carts.
- Launched a poster contest to encourage young people to promote organics collection.
- Began implementation of the new Bulky Item Management Program; public information is available on the revised curbside cleanup activity.
- Began work on developing a request for proposals for the collection of reusable and recyclable material.
 - Developed an educational video to encourage City staff participation in organics collection within City facilities.
- Implement the new Sustainable Bulky Item Management Plan.
- Conduct a major public information and community engagement campaign to encourage participation in the new Curbside Organics Collection Program.
- Launch the Curbside Organics Collection program on March 7.
- Continue operation of the organics drop-off sites.
- Continue the organics collection program within City facilities.
- Release a request for proposals for collection of reusable and recyclable materials.

Outcomes:

- Since deployment of a digital contract signing application in the City of Bloomington in March 2020, DocuSign reports that the City has saved 2,811 pounds of wood (8 trees), 8,277 gallons of water, 6,598 pounds of carbon and 457 pounds of waste (8 trash cans).

On track

Home ownership opportunities

- HRA staff continued working with the Minnesota Homeownership Center for foreclosure prevention and homebuyer counseling and education services; funding for foreclosure prevention is approved in the CDBG plan amendment.
- Funded a homebuyer mortgage assistance grant program in the amount of \$250,000 from American Rescue Plan funds; this initiative will provide data based on use and need to support future funding of this program.
- The 2021-22 CDBG budget includes funding for the Homes Within Reach program for two homes in Bloomington to sell to low/moderate income households.
- Staff is working with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Met Council to free Right-of-Way Acquisition Loan Fund (RALF) properties no longer needed for freeway projects to become opportunities for affordable home ownership.
- A City-sponsored down payment assistance program funded through the American Rescue Plan Act, including marketing strategies, was approved by City Council in fourth quarter 2021 and will be open for participation by the end of second quarter 2022.
- A project to review and revise zoning standards for single family dwellings, two-family dwellings and accessory dwelling units is underway, with completion anticipated in the first half of 2022.
- Highlight affordable housing and homeowner programs in Bloomington in the HRA's annual report in the March Briefing.

On track

Diversify local economy

- Continued to review the City Council's direction to:
 - Assess staff/organizational capacity for traditional economic development activity.
 - Research establishment of an Economic Development Authority.
- Met with existing Bloomington management companies currently providing office space on the challenges of securing tenants and methods for how the City can assist.
- Met with new and existing Bloomington businesses to determine expansion possibilities which could lead to new developments
- Brought forth an option for the South Loop water park to be privately funded with additional TIF support and received approval and to proceed from the City Council and Port Authority.
- Identified former fire station 3 as a potential Small Business Development Center for emerging entrepreneurs.
- Adopted a new ordinance that creates and defines a new use designation, Cultural Campus, in the Zoning Code (Chapters 19 and 21 of the City Code) and designates it as a conditional use in the FD-2 zoning district.
- Developed and received City Council and Port Authority approval for a term sheet that helps fund the waterpark and provides land for Expo 2027.
- Explored participation in Expo 2027 to supercharge development in South Loop and add a medical and technology cluster.
- Sought and fielded buyers for the former Thunderbird/Ramada site.
- Meet with new and existing Bloomington businesses to identify expansion possibilities that might lead to new development.
- Create a public relations campaign about what makes Bloomington "cool" to assist with attracting tenants and entrepreneurs.
- Continue to explore funding options, in addition to American Rescue Plan funds, that will provide the following services to Bloomington small business and entrepreneurs: Entrepreneur training, business services and incubator and real estate.
- Further develop and deliver the water park project.
- Bring a water park term sheet to the City Council and Port Authority for consideration based on the private funding model.
- Continue to explore participation in Expo 2027 to supercharge development in South Loop and add a medical and technology cluster.
- Evaluate additional Mall of America/South Loop projects that help with the recovery of the hospitality industry.
- Develop and seek approval for development of the Bloomington Central Station 4 residential project, which includes a grocery component.
- Facilitate the financial closing and development of the Rosa and Ardor developments in South Loop at 34th Avenue and American Boulevard.
- Seek approval from the Port Authority to sell the former Thunderbird/Ramada site for redevelopment.
- Research a citywide Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) strategy.

On track

Neighborhood commercial nodes

- Continued to meet with developers on multiple potential projects.
- Successfully sought and saw the passage of legislation for redevelopment TIF Districts at 700 American Boulevard and 98th Street at Aldrich Avenue.
- Met with a landowner at 90th Street and Penn Avenue to explore partnership opportunities.
- Met with a landowner at Portland and American to explore partnership opportunities.
- Conducted frequent meetings with Clover Center landowners to discuss redevelopment.
- Received funding for an interchange study at 98th Street and I-35W to set the stage for air rights development on the transit station/park and ride site.
- In 2021, City staff met with a property owner at 90th and Penn to discuss redevelopment and potential assistance; grant applications are underway to assist.
- In 2021, Bloomington adopted the Lyndale Suburban Retrofit Strategy which establishes a vision for the Lyndale Avenue Corridor and builds upon the 98th Street Station Area Study previously prepared.
- Development in commercial nodes assisted by the HRA includes:
 - The District Apartments in the Penn American Node, which includes 248 units of housing near the new Orange Line Station, with 50 units affordable at 50% AMI. This project is now open.
- Previous commercial corridors that have been identified include Old Shakopee Road Old Cedar Avenue, Nicollet Avenue and 98th Street, and American Boulevard and Portland Avenue as well as opportunities that exist at 90th Street and Penn Avenue and France Avenue and Old Shakopee Road.
- Undertake initial implementation of resources, including steps to allow for the use of HUD Section 108 funds and project specific funding through the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development's Main Street Economic Revitalization Program.
- Begin steps for an interchange study at 98th Street and I-35W to set the stage for air rights development on the transit station/park and ride site.
- Establish relationships and seek opportunities to partner with private landowners on redevelopment at commercial nodes; the Bloomington HRA has met with property owners at key nodes.
- Form a Commercial Nodes Redevelopment Team, with representatives from multiple divisions and departments to further work with property owners and identify opportunities. Specifically, staff is reaching out to the owners around Old Cedar Avenue and Old Shakopee Road to see if their positions have changed since 2019. Depending on ownership interest, various opportunities will be analyzed.

On track

**Neighborhood commercial nodes
(continued)**

- The Lyndale Flats Apartments at 94th and Lyndale, with 81 units, all affordable, at 60% AMI. This project is now open.
- The 108 Place Apartments in the France and Old Shakopee Node with 42 units, all affordable, at 60% AMI. This project is now open.
- Staff is working with a private developer on redevelopment of 8200 Humboldt Ave. S., a 149 unit apartment building with 9% of the units affordable at 50% AMI. This project is going through the zoning approval stage.
- Begin the redevelopment process on 700 American Boulevard and 98th Street at Aldrich Avenue.

More affordable housing

- Continued implementation of the Opportunity Housing Ordinance, including meeting with developers and presenting to interested parties.
- Continued administering the \$15.2 million Housing Trust Fund as part of the Opportunity Housing Ordinance to support the City's efforts to develop affordable housing.
- Conducted extensive work on homeless housing issues and pandemic response housing including updates to the City Council and HRA.
- Discussed refugee housing approaches.
- Occupancy began at Blooming Meadows Apartments (formerly known as Village Club), with 172 affordable units on site.
- Continued lease up of the Penn American III development ("The District"), with 248 units of rental housing including 50 units affordable at 50% AMI.
- Continued lease of up Hayden Grove Senior Living (formerly known as Portland Commons), 166 senior independent, assisted and memory care unit with 20% of the units affordable at 50% AMI.
- Continued to meet with multiple affordable housing developers on potential future projects; requests for meetings are beginning to slow, in part due to rising construction prices.
- Continued meetings with the Bloomington Housing Action Team and worked on implementing strategies identified to advance preservation and the creation of affordable housing.
- Performed inspections as construction continued on Lyndale Flats, with 81 units affordable at 60% AMI.
- Continued working with developers of the 183-unit Rosa apartment development (SoLo Apartments) on the Park N Fly site, with 37 units affordable at 50% AMI; due to elevated construction costs, the developer delayed construction in 2022.
- Mayor Tim Busse will present on stimulating affordable housing to the Regional Council of Mayors on January 10.
- Continue to implement tools to assist developers in evaluating Opportunity Housing Ordinance incentives (ongoing).
- Continue to expand the web presence for Opportunity Housing resources (ongoing).
- Continue coordination with service providers on addressing the needs of the unhoused; a contract for unhoused street outreach services has been implemented and coordination of efforts for homelessness response are ongoing.
- Continue to pursue TIF and other forms of assistance to advance affordable housing projects (ongoing).
- Continue to meet with affordable housing developers to identify potential sites, projects and applications for public assistance.
- Process entitlement applications for projects with affordable housing components.
- Conduct zoning review, building permit review and/or inspections of the various projects discussed in the previous column.

On track

**More affordable housing
(continued)**

- Continued to meet with the developers of The Ardor (formerly known as American Square Phase I) and The Quinn (formerly known as American Square Phase II). The Ardor will pay a fee in lieu to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, while The Quinn will have 86 units 100% affordable at 60% AMI.
- Continued inspections for the Risor Senior Apartments at 8131 - 34th Avenue S. that would include 146 independent senior units with 9% affordable at 60% AMI.
- Continued inspections of 8012 Old Cedar Avenue South as a four-story, 68-unit apartment building with all units affordable at 30%-60% AMI.
- Awaited permit applications on an approved six-story, 405-unit Bloomington Central Station 4 mixed use building, which includes 36 units affordable at 60% AMI and a new grocer.
- Worked with developers of an approved conversion of a portion of the Crowne Plaza Hotel to The Aire Apartments, with 35 units affordable at 50% AMI and 11 units affordable at 60% AMI.
- Extend the Rosa TIF district one year to address construction delays due to COVID-19 and commodity prices.
- Open new affordable housing developments:
 - Lyndale Flats, 9320 Lyndale Avenue.
 - 8012 Old Cedar, a 68-unit affordable housing development under construction to open second quarter 2022; 62 units are affordable at 60% AMI and 6 units are affordable at 30% AMI.
- Process zoning and TIF applications for 8200 Humboldt, a proposed four-story, 149-unit development with 9% of the units affordable at 50% AMI.

On track

**Renew priority neighborhood
commercial nodes**

- Received City Council direction to spur redevelopment with economic development expansion/diversification ideas.
- Continued to meet with developers on multiple potential projects.
- Produced a video about the SICK opening and worked with partners to increase media attention and promotion.
- Opportunities for commercial redevelopment in additional areas has been identified and are in varying stages of the redevelopment process in 2022.
- The Lyndale Avenue Retrofit, 90th Street and Penn Avenue, Portland Avenue and American Boulevard, Penn American District, 98th Street Station Plan and the small business survey will continue to help direct future economic development support.
- HRA staff will prepare a request for proposals to develop 700 American Boulevard.

On track

Renew priority neighborhood commercial nodes (continued)

- Community Development staff will work on grants to assist redevelopment at 90th and Penn.
- Staff was successful in obtaining Special Legislation TIF approval for future developments at 700 American and 98th and Aldrich developments.
- Previous commercial corridors that have been identified include Old Shakopee and Old Cedar avenues, Nicollet Avenue and 98th Street and American Boulevard and Portland Avenue as well as opportunities that exist at 90th Street and Penn Avenue and France Avenue and Old Shakopee Road.
- The following steps were taken to continue improving public infrastructure around commercial nodes, with the City and HRA involved in these improvements:
 - Sidewalk and landscaping improvements along Portland Avenue near American Boulevard.
 - Construction of the extension of 80-1/2 Street from Morgan Avenue to Knox Avenue in the Penn American District. Improvements include new streets, sidewalks, and public lighting and will result in improved mobility and access to transit.
 - Construction of a new bikepath linking the Old Cedar Bridge with the Old Shakopee and Old Cedar area and points north.

<p>Renew priority neighborhood commercial nodes (continued)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit Line with stations in the Penn American node and the 98th and Lyndale node. The Orange Line began operation in December of 2021. • Development of the D-Line Bus Rapid Transit Line with stations along American Boulevard near Portland Avenue, Bloomington Avenue and Thunderbird Road. The D-Line is planned to begin operation in late 2022. • The City is working with Hennepin County on plans for reconstructing the Old Shakopee Road and Old Cedar Avenue intersection. 	
<p>Successful neighborhood renewal innovation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided information and assistance to developers interested in innovative housing and commercial development in the Gateway District. • Collaborated with Stantec on approaches under consideration in the Lyndale Avenue Retrofit Strategy. • The Neighborhood Focus Area and Curb Appeal Loan programs were administered, in varying iterations, from 2016 through 2021, yielding 319 loans totaling more than \$7 million. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In fourth quarter 2021, the separate loan programs were revised into a comprehensive Home Improvement Loan Program that includes curb appeal, neighborhood, and health and safety focus components in housing preservation and improvement, offered citywide. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to look at models for creation of a development subsidiary and continue discussions with the Twin Cities LISC and others as potential partners. • Continue to provide information and assistance to developers interested in innovative housing and commercial development in the Gateway District (ongoing). • Work on designing a Small Business Development Center for emerging entrepreneurs. 	<p>On track</p>

Successful neighborhood renewal innovation (continued)

- Offer forgivable loan program options through the Housing and Environmental Loan Program (HELP) and a partnership with Habitat for Humanity.
 - Habitat for Humanity's A Brush With Kindness Program was instituted to provide access to needed funds to help Bloomington owner occupied households living on fixed incomes (who often also have limited physical abilities and sometimes limited cognitive abilities) to make repairs ordered by the City so they can live safely in place with economic stability.

Staff innovation/ boldness

- Submitted the following applications for federal, state and local grant funding to renovate and repurpose the former fire station #3 as a small business development center:
 - Economic Development Administration - American Rescue Plan Act - Economic Adjustment Assistance from the federal government;
 - A state grant from the Department of Employment and Economic Development through their Employment and Training Division and Targeted Community Capital Project Program; and
 - McKnight Foundation’s Vibrant and Equitable Communities Grant Program
- The proposed small business development center is intended to support and uplift small business activity within the community and region, particularly BIPOC and women-led businesses; assuming grant funding is awarded in early 2022, the facility is anticipated to open in late 2023.
- Completed the work of the Earned Sick and Safe Leave Task Force, which recommended an ordinance intended to promote and protect the well-being of the Bloomington workforce and residents, support the City Council’s strategic priority of equity and inclusion, and balance the unique needs and circumstances of employers.
- Presented the recommendations of the Racial Equity Strategic Planning Committee for achieving the City’s racial equity goals to the City Council on November 15.
- Receive notification in February from the McKnight Foundation on the status of the City’s grant request for predevelopment work on a Small Business Development Center.
- Receive notification on the status of the City’s grant application for federal funds to renovate former Fire Station #3 for a Small Business Development Center by January 21; if grant funding is awarded in early 2022, the facility would open in late 2023.
- Enact the City ordinance banning the sale of flavored tobacco products in Bloomington on January 1.
- Enact the conversion therapy ordinance on January 3.
- Seek approval from the City Council to submit a resolution to the state legislature requesting the authority to establish a local option sales tax to fund infrastructure improvements at four facilities with regional significance; if approved by the legislature, each project would stand alone on the ballot for Bloomington voters to vote on, likely at the general election in November.
- Prepare for the launch of Time of Sale Energy Disclosure and Large Building Benchmarking in 2022.

On track

Financial sustainability of all funds

- Attended webinars regarding specifications for spending American Rescue Plan funding.
- Worked with the Executive Leadership Team and City Council to communicate qualifying uses and to prioritize requests for American Rescue Plan funds.
- A committee of employees from multiple departments started to meet monthly to review projects and corresponding expenditures funded by American Rescue Plan funds.
- Drafted the policy and procedures for a new credit card policy that went to Legal for review; submitted the new credit card policy to the City Council.
- A team from Assessing, Finance, and Communications produced a video for Bloomington Today that educated the public on assessing valuations, property taxes, and the impact of assessed values on property tax statements.
- Presented the Capital Improvement Policy update to the City Council for approval on October 11.
- Submitted the Conduit Debt Policy update to the City Council in November for approval.
- Presented the annual Fee Schedule to the City Council in November for approval.
- Advanced ten of the Special Revenue Fund budgets and the Police Contractual Overtime Enterprise Fund budget to the October 11 City Council meeting agenda for approval.
- Presented the four Utility Service Funds and eight Internal Service Funds to the City Council on October 11 for discussion; these funds were presented again in November for formal adoption, along with a public hearing for the associated fee increases.
- Finance and Parks and Recreation will expand the newly-created total and variable cost recovery calculation reports for the Recreation Facility Enterprise Funds to include separate analyses of Dwan and Hyland Greens in the Golf Fund, and Bush Lake Beach and the Bloomington Family Aquatic Center in the Aquatics Fund; a cost recovery analysis report will also be added for Creekside Community Center.
- Continue to stay informed on new guidance regarding spending American Rescue Plan funding.
- File the American Rescue Plan Project and Expenditure Report by January 31, 2022, which covers the period between March 3, 2021, and December 31, 2021.
- Submit the 2022 Summary Budget Report with the Office of the State Auditor.
- Prepare the 2022 Annual Budget Book and submit it to the Government Finance Officers Association by the due date of March 6, 2022 (90 days from adoption of budget.)
- Conduct individual meetings with Councilmembers to obtain feedback on last year's budget process and discuss new ideas for the coming year, including options for community engagement.

On track

**Financial sustainability of all funds
(continued)**

- Discussed the tax-supported funds and property tax levy at a special meeting of the City Council on November 22.
- Conducted the annual Truth in Taxation public hearing on the proposed property tax levy at the December 6 City Council meeting.
- Presented the tax-supported funds to the City Council for approval on December 6.
- Conducted community budget sessions featuring Mayor Busse on Zoom on October 20 and an in-person event on October 27 with Fire Chief Ulie Seal in the Council Chambers.

On track

Meet customer expectations

- Hired and started three full-time battalion chiefs in the Fire Department to increase command staff response capabilities and continue to support short-staffed crews.
- Launched a search for a new Police Chief in December.
- Conducted interviews for multiple police officer candidates.
- Initiated the cadet hiring process in the Police Department.
- Conducted interviews to fill the Joint Community Police Partnership liaison position.
- Interviewed Police dispatcher candidates.
- Completed the five-year Information Technology strategic plan
- Completed data inventories for the most used software applications in the City.
- Finished compiling data dictionaries to help the City move toward data-driven decision-making.
- Completed adoption of project management best practices for the management of all City technology projects in October.
- Trained City staff in phishing and technology security in October and November.
- Held a department-wide Healthy Family presentation in Police on December 14 and 16.
- Received a donation in the Police Department for the purchase of an additional K9 and the training required for its certification; BPD has six K9s, with one that is recently retired.
- Contracted with Homeland Health Specialist, Inc., for community COVID vaccine clinics.
- Offered flu and COVID-19 vaccinations at community clinics sponsored by Public Health.
- Solicit applications, conduct candidate interviews, and appoint a new Police Chief.
- Apply for a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant before the application deadline of February 4, to add 18 additional full-time firefighters.
- Continue to evaluate response deficiencies in the Fire Department and explore options to address them.
- Prepare for a recruiting effort for additional paid on-call firefighters, with changes to the current system.
- Onboard the new Joint Community Police Partnership liaison in January.
- Develop the new Information Technology strategic plan for 2022-2026.
- Launch the “Take Care and Be Prepared” campaign to encourage residents to prepare for the fast spread of the omicron variant.
- Distribute 5,500 test kits from the Minnesota Department of Health to community partners serving families who lack financial resources.
- Deliver 75,000 high-filtration masks from the Minnesota Department of Health to community members in Bloomington, Edina and Richfield who cannot afford to buy them.

On track

**Meet customer expectations
(continued)**

Outcomes:

- As of mid-December, Public Health had administered 20,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, a reminder of how Public Health, Fire and other partners stepped up throughout 2021 to ensure effective vaccines got into the arms of community members.
- Completed a record-breaking season on November 10 at Dwan Golf Course with more than 50,500 rounds played, the highest volume in a single season since 2005.

On track

Improved customer service

- Continued participation in the “Lights On” program, with police officers handing out coupons, rather than citations, to replace, for free, burned-out vehicle bulbs by participating shops.
- Conducted a Core Planning Team retreat on December 2 – 4 to develop a draft strategic plan for the City.
- Continued to conduct public information and education activities for ranked choice voting ahead of the general election on November 2.
- Launched signup for the curbside organics recycling program on November 8, with more than 1,000 households registering in the first week; provided detailed information about curbside organics on the City’s website, with information translated into Spanish, Somali and Hmong.
- Launched the new Sustainable Bulky Item Management Plan.
- Restarted the HRA’s Home Improvement Loan Program to provide owner-occupied households the ability to access loans of up to \$40,000 to maintain, repair and improve their homes.
- Reviewed the public participation component of the 2022 budget process at the City Council meeting on November 8, and considered ways to improve engagement and transparency in the process.
- Launch the work of the *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* Measurement and Action Teams in January; the Action Team will construct a plan of action for putting the strategic plan in motion and the Measurement Team will develop metrics for measuring progress on the plan.
- Finalize the reporting mechanism for the conversion therapy ordinance that will go into effect on January 3.
- Launch the HRA customer experience survey to collect feedback from participants about the HRA’s programs and their experience working with staff; the results will be used to assess programs and modify as needed.
- Receive City Council approval to hire a community health worker to implement community-driven physical activity and nutrition strategy, with a focus on advancing health equity, with funding from the State Physical Activity and Nutrition Moving Health Equity Data to Action Project.
- Submit a proposal to the City Council to operate the Time of Sale inspection process internally, with a pool of qualified selected private inspectors to augment the program; the changes would increase efficiency, decrease potential hazards currently missed, and provide a higher level of customer service.

On track

INCLUSION AND EQUITY

<p>More diverse advisory boards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened the application process for five City boards and commissions, utilizing recruitment methods and resources to diversify the applicant pool; residents were invited to a virtual information session on December 7. • Used an inclusive recruitment process to advertise board and commission positions. • Completed the Bloomington Leadership Program on October 28 with the 20 applicants selected to participate in the 2021 cohort; the purpose of the program is to promote civic engagement, develop local leaders, break down barriers and advance understanding of local government. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct online interviews with all applicants for five City boards and commissions on January 22 and submit recommendations for appointments to the City Council; the Council will appoint board and commission members on February 14. • Conduct a survey of all applicants about the board and commission application and interview process. • Share demographic data regarding the board and commission applicants. • Present a policy for the City board and commission recruitment, application, selection, and orientation process to the City Council in second quarter 2022. • Roll out training of all City boards and commissions by NEXUS Community Partners in 2022. 	<p>On track</p>
<p>More diverse workforce 1: Marketing to underrepresented populations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of March 7, 2022, the race and gender demographic breakdown of the City’s full-time staff was unchanged from fourth quarter 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender: 35% female, 65% male. • Race: 89% White, 11% BIPOC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise Human Resources’ external website. • Roll out inclusive hiring supervisor training. 	<p>Needs attention</p>
<p>More diverse workforce 2: Pathways and internship programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Racial Equity Action Teams continued to partner with Bloomington Public Schools to host career day events and introduce students to career opportunities. • Began developing “Bloom in Bloomington,” an internship program for college and graduate students. • Launch planning for the National Day of Racial Healing event on January 18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host the National Day of Racial Healing event on January 18, with an online community conversation with the Healing Justice Foundation’s President and CEO Dr. Joi Lewis; the event is a collaboration with the cities of Edina and Golden Valley. 	<p>On track</p>

<p>More diverse workforce 1: Train staff on diversity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued a monthly racial equity speaker series, inviting staff to experience and learn from individuals from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds who are working to eliminate racial disparities and advance social justice; fourth quarter speakers included Ashley Steele, President and Founder of Twin Cities Professionals of Color Network and Cheniqua Johnson, Community Impact Relationship Manager, Saint Paul and Minnesota Foundation. Facilitated racial equity and procedural justice training for new police officers. Provided implicit bias training to City staff. Received approval from the Executive Leadership Team for the 2022 quarterly training schedule. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch the 2022 quarterly training schedule for City staff. Partner with Impact at Work to facilitate staff equity webinars. 	<p>On track</p>
<p>More diverse program participation 2: Equity toolkit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented the Racial Equity Strategic Planning Committee's prototypes to the City Council on November 15. Applied for several grants that will provide funding for new Business Resource Center, a Racial Equity Strategic Planning Committee disparity reduction strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate a Racial Equity Impact Assessment in City Council memos. Sponsor the Bloomington Pioneers and Changemakers Profile Series in the Bloomington Briefing and recognize honorees at the City Council meeting on February 28. Host the first-ever ¡VIVA! Festival Latino! to celebrate Minnesota's vibrant Latin and Caribbean cultures through music, arts and culture over four days at the Bloomington Center for the Arts on March 2 - 5. 	<p>On track</p>

- Received more than 150 applications from residents interested in helping to shape Bloomington’s future by serving on a *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* strategic planning team.
- Conducted nine community cafes for *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* to gather public input on the City’s community-based strategic planning process.
- Approximately 250 people provided feedback in online surveys about potential areas of focus for the *Bloomington. Tomorrow. Together.* strategic plan.
- Held open houses on October 9 as part of National Fire Prevention Week, with good attendance at all six stations.
- Celebrated the renovation of the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge and trailhead improvements on October 2.
- Participated in an Electric Vehicle Expo on October 9 at Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, with Public Works staff giving presentations about how the City is preparing for the future of electric vehicles and displaying one of the City’s Nissan Leaf EVs.
- Conducted in-person and online sessions on the proposed 2022 budget on October 20 and 27.
- Completed the 2021 cohort of the Bloomington Leadership Program on October 23 with the initial cohort of 20 residents who were selected to participate in the program.
- Teamed up with 54 community volunteers to clear buckthorn from Nine Mile Creek on October 30.
- Conduct a virtual community conversation with community partners to help shape messaging for the “Take Care and Be Prepared” campaign regarding the omicron variant.
- Create a web page on the proposed Bloomington Sales Tax featuring frequently updated questions and educational materials on the facility proposals that might be funded by the revenues.
- To gain more engagement on proposed ordinance changes to the Time of Sale inspection program, create a page and surveys on Let’s Talk Bloomington and host four virtual information sessions in February for evaluators, Realtors, and residents.
- Initiate a customer experience survey on Let’s Talk Bloomington to solicit feedback from participants about the HRA’s programs and their experience working with staff; the survey is available in English, Spanish and Somali.
- Launch the 2022 “Q&A with BPD” video services with a segment on swatting.
- Partner with the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge on a luminary hike at the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge on February 11-12.
- Host the VIVA! Festival Latino to celebrate Minnesota’s Latin and Caribbean cultures at Bloomington Center for the Arts March 2 - 5.

On track

- Distributed goody bags to 400 military veterans in Bloomington in collaboration with Northwestern Health Sciences University and American Legion Post 550 on November 9 - 10.
- Conducted the annual Citywide Halloween event in collaboration with the Bloomington Optimist Club in a new format and new location at Normandale Lake Bandshell on October 31, attracting 2,000 guests.
- Produced “Q&A with BPD – The Multicultural Advisory Committee.”
- The Police Department participated in Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, raising donations for the cause and participating in a YouTube video entitled, “Pink Patch Project.”
- Police took part in the Movember Beard or Goatee Project to raise awareness about three of the biggest health risks affecting men (prostate cancer, testicular cancer, and mental health issues.)
- Held a Prescription Drug Take Back event at the Police Department in October, collecting 34 boxes of drugs weighing 643.68 pounds that were safely disposed.
- Held Coffee with a Cop at IHOP on November 16.
- Partnered with the Minnesota Vikings and United Healthcare to deliver 50 full Thanksgiving meals to needy families in Bloomington.
- Assisted the Latino Peace Officers Association with a Shop With a Cop event at Walmart in Bloomington on December 18.

On track

- Coordinated the Santa Cop Program, with the Police Department delivering toys and gifts on December 22 to 122 children in the community who needed extra cheer during the holidays.

Outcomes:

- The City's online engagement platform, Let's Talk Bloomington, was a finalist for a 2021 Golden GOVIT Award in the service category; the award recognizes government agencies that have advanced government technology through collaboration, innovation and service.

On track