

From: **Kerry Thomson** <kerry.thomson@bloomington.in.gov>

Date: Mon, Apr 15, 2024 at 11:32AM

Subject: Resolution Response

To: City Council <council@bloomington.in.gov>

Council Colleagues,

In light of the two resolutions passed by council in recent weeks, I wanted to reiterate in writing the principles by which I will be governing the city, which I shared with you verbally at the meeting on March 27th.

I was elected Mayor to tackle the problems our community faces, and to build on existing opportunities to create a thriving, safe, and connected Bloomington. This is consuming all of my time and creative energy, as it should.

I will not spend city time on issues well beyond the scope or influence of our city's government. Instead, I will do what I have always done as a committed lifelong Democrat: address such issues with the policy makers who can influence change.

From the lack of attainable housing to the growing number of neighbors living on the streets, from public safety to critical investments in our neighborhoods, infrastructure, economy, and culture, there is much work to be done right here at home – and that's where my focus will remain.

While I respect the council's right to legislate on any topic it chooses, as Mayor, I will not sign any resolution or ordinance that distracts from the mission at hand: creating a better Bloomington for us and future generations of residents.

I encourage my council colleagues to express their positions on state, national or international issues in ways that do not require the time, energy, and resources of city employees, or the Mayor's signature. I have discussed alternatives for such advocacy with several council members, and trust that your legal counsel can assist in creating pathways for advocacy which do not require my participation.

I am, and will remain open to participating in the work and the processes that directly impact the safety, well-being, and future of our city.

Sincerely,
Kerry

Kerry Thomson

Mayor

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