

REVISED LETTER

June 3, 2026

Redevelopment Commission (RDC)  
City of Bloomington  
c/o Housing and Neighborhood Development  
401 N. Morton St.  
Bloomington, IN 47404

Dear Members of the Redevelopment Commission:

We, the undersigned members of the Bloomington Common Council, are writing to clarify our position regarding the disposition of the College Square site, currently owned by the RDC and identified by the Capital Improvement Board (CIB) as the ideal location for a new convention center hotel. In a May 6, 2024 letter to you signed by 8 of 9 council members, and a Dec. 15, 2025 letter to you signed by 4 council members, members of the council communicated to you that the College Square property should only be used for the convention center project (including a new hotel) if the RDC recouped the monies it spent acquiring the site, which came to a total of \$6,895,000.

We wish to state clearly that we are not opposed to the RDC's disposition of the site for an amount less than the purchase price if significant public benefit can be gained, such as the preservation and/or provision of low-income housing. As the Dec. 15 letter indicated:

There are **multiple ways to leverage this property to advance affordable housing and enable downtown residency for those who otherwise could not afford it**. These options include: (1) developing affordable housing on the site; (2) exchanging the property for nearby land owned by the Monroe County government [now the CIB] and then developing (or even preserving existing) affordable housing there; or (3) selling the property at market rate and reinvesting the proceeds in affordable housing.

In regards to option (2) above, we recommend that the May 18 proposal by Bloomington Homes For All (BH4A) and the Bloomington Democratic Socialists of America (BDSA) Housing Working Group be considered, which would entail an exchange of property with the CIB to allow a hotel on the College Square site. Creative solutions should be considered to maximize public benefit and also facilitate the best location for a convention center hotel.

Sincerely,