



# TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD

## OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

800 Bloomfield Avenue;  
Bloomfield, Connecticut 06002  
[www.bloomfieldct.gov](http://www.bloomfieldct.gov)

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Town of Bloomfield**

Brian Wolff  
Community Engagement & Public Relations Coordinator  
[bwolff@bloomfieldct.gov](mailto:bwolff@bloomfieldct.gov)  
860-769-3570

#### **Goman + York**

Denise Robidoux  
EVP/COO  
[drobidoux@gomanyork.com](mailto:drobidoux@gomanyork.com)  
860-798-2804



### **Town of Bloomfield, CT Invites Community Members to Take Part in the Bloomfield Centered and Strong Town Center Plan with Community Kick-off September 24, 2024 at 6 pm**

*Funded through a Community Investment Fund 2030 (CIF) Grant, the Plan will be developed by  
East Hartford-based Goman + York*

**BLOOMFIELD, CT** – Town of Bloomfield Mayor Danielle C. Wong and James Michel, Town Center Economic Development Commission (TCEDC) Chairperson are pleased to announce that East Hartford-based, Goman York Property Advisers LLC (Goman+York) has been selected to lead the Town through the process of developing the Bloomfield Centered and Strong Town Center Plan. This development plan was made possible through a Community Investment Fund 2030 (CIF) Grant award by Governor Ned Lamont, the CIF Board, and the State Bond Commission. The plan will identify a broad range of projects and strategies with the goal of creating a cohesive plan that will serve as a roadmap to the future for Bloomfield's Town Center.

"We were honored that Bloomfield was awarded this CIF grant which allows us to plan for a vibrant community center for our future generations. The kick-off will be the first of many opportunities for our community members to engage in shaping Bloomfield's future," said Mayor Wong. "I also encourage our residents to take part in the community survey that runs through October 15 which you can access through the Town's website. This gives everyone in our community a voice to make our Town Center a place to be proud of."

Link: <https://www.bloomfieldct.gov/1011/Bloomfield-Centered-Strong>

"The plan will involve developing systematic tactics to identify short- and long-term projects that will benefit our community, residents, businesses, and visitors," James Michel stated. "The projects identified through this plan will build upon each other and the excitement already taking place to make Bloomfield Town Center a stronger community hub for all."

The elements of the Bloomfield Centered and Strong Town Center Plan will include:

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- Public Engagement Community Kick-Off Event to be held Tuesday, September 24th at 6:00 PM at 330 Park Ave in Bloomfield.
- Community Survey to account for residents' & stakeholders' insight in the planning process is accepting responses from Monday, September 9th – Tuesday, October 15th.
- Creating a sense of community through the process of developing the plan.
- Engaging the Town, area stakeholders, and the community to create a revitalized and exciting place that enhances the quality of life while adding and creating value to our community
- Identifying opportunities for growth and development within the Town Center area and throughout the community of Bloomfield
- Developing actionable strategies that support purposeful steps to actively support the current businesses and attract future opportunities
- Creating a plan that has the ability to adapt to change and react to opportunities

Goman+York's team will be led by Mike Goman, Don Poland, PhD., AICP, and Justin LaFountain, AICP. "Together we will work closely with the Town Center Economic Development Commission, Town officials, community stakeholders, and the Bloomfield community to identify opportunities for community and economic growth," said Mike Goman, principal of Goman+York.

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**About the Connecticut CIF Grant Program** – Administered through the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), CIF Grants are available for: Capital improvement programs, such as brownfield remediation, affordable housing, infrastructure, clean energy development, and home or public facility rehabilitation; Small business capital programs, including revolving or microloan programs, gap financing, and start-up funds to establish small businesses; and, Planning for capital projects including activities such as community engagement processes, feasibility studies, development of project plan and construction budget.

**About Bloomfield, CT** – Bloomfield is a picturesque Connecticut village, graced with rural beauty, abundant land, quality schools, dynamic commercial building projects, and a highly educated workforce. Homeowners value Bloomfield as a quiet, friendly haven from the big cities. Bloomfield also offers an unmatched opportunity for businesses seeking a strategic location in New England, with the largest tract of undeveloped industrial land in the Capitol Region, making Bloomfield the perfect place to build a dream home or an international headquarters. Originally part of Windsor, the town of Bloomfield is rooted in a 1640 settlement known as Messenger Farms, located at the eastern end of what is now Park Avenue. By the time it was formally incorporated in 1835, the settlement had grown to over 900 residents. Traditionally an agricultural community, Bloomfield began to diversify its economic base following its incorporation. Tobacco was added to the agricultural list, as were numerous cider mills and a brandy distillery. The Prosser Inn on Simsbury Road housed the headquarters of the Hartford to Westfield stage line, and the Hartford to Tariffville stage line passed through the Town Center. Within thirty years of its incorporation, Bloomfield's new rail service included eight trains traveling roundtrip to Hartford daily and was serviced by four stations in town. In 1891, The Hartford Electric Light Company brought Bloomfield into the 20th century, and by 1920 the town's population had grown to over 2,000. Bloomfield is located in Central Connecticut, just 10 minutes west of the state capitol, Hartford. It is

easily accessible to Bradley International Airport and interstates 84 and 91. The Town encompasses 26.4 square miles and has a population of 20,000 residents.

**About Goman+York** – Goman+York works at the leading edge of real estate and economic development. Our team of experienced, proven industry experts, led by principals R. Michael Goman and Tom York, formulates real-world market-driven solutions for public, nonprofit, and private organizations. Our consultants and real estate agents deliver expert advice and high-value services to provide customized and cost-effective solutions in the delivery of real property engagements. New England-based in East Hartford, CT, with regional offices in Greenville, SC; Dallas, TX; and Phoenix, AZ. Goman+York's reach is nationwide.