



# Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Agenda

Regular Meeting  
Thursday, October 9, 2025  
2:00 PM

Hybrid - Council Briefing Center / Microsoft Teams  
808 W Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA 99201

**Virtual Meeting Link - See Below for Information**

**TIMES GIVEN ARE AN ESTIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

## Public Comment Period:

| Board Briefing Session Item Two

## Board Briefing Session:

2:00 – 2:15	1. Roll Call	Planning Staff
	2. Public Comment – Public is invited to comment on related topics other than agenda items scheduled for public hearings (2 minutes max each comment)	
	3. Approve 9/18/2025 meeting minutes	All
	4. Chair Report	Brian Henning
	5. Secretary Report	Jon Snyder
	6. Approval of current agenda	All

## Workshops:

2:15 – 4:00	1. <a href="#">Climate Planning – Policy Development</a>	Maren Murphy
4:00 – 4:15	2. <a href="#">Avista Energy Efficiency Incentives and Clean Building Program</a>	Michele Drake/Tracie Orgel
4:15 – 4:25	3. <a href="#">City Fleet Electrification</a>	Adam Russell
4:25 – 4:50	4. <a href="#">Legislative Agenda</a>	Jon Snyder/Adam McDaniel
4:50 – 4:55	5. SAP Update	Amanda Parrish

**Adjournment: The CRSB will be having a joint meeting with the Plan Commission on October 29, 2025.**

\* Items denoted with an asterisk may include final action taken by the Board. Written public comments will be accepted at [eracrsb@spokanecity.org](mailto:eracrsb@spokanecity.org) on these items up to one hour prior to the start of the meeting. Verbal testimony may also be accepted during the meeting.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) INFORMATION:** The City of Spokane is committed to providing equal access to its facilities, programs and services for persons with disabilities. The Council Briefing Center in the lower level of Spokane City Hall, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., is wheelchair accessible and also is equipped with an infrared assistive listening system for persons with hearing loss. Headsets may be checked out (upon presentation of picture I.D.) through the meeting organizer. Individuals requesting reasonable accommodations or further information may call, write, or email Human Resources at 509.625.6373, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA, 99201; or [ddecorde@spokanecity.org](mailto:ddecorde@spokanecity.org). Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact Human Resources through the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1. Please contact us forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting date.

# Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Meeting Information

Thursday, October 09, 2025

The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board will be held in a hybrid in-person / virtual format. Members of the public are welcome to attend in person at City Hall or online using the following information.

## Microsoft Teams

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 297 827 294 047

Passcode: qhF8iY

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Join with a video conferencing device

[cityofspokane@m.webex.com](mailto:cityofspokane@m.webex.com)

Video Conference ID: 112 012 615 5

[Alternate VTC instructions](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 323-618-1887](tel:+13236181887), 999419515# United States, Los Angeles

Phone Conference ID: 999 419 515#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset dial-in PIN](#)

Meeting ID:  
297 827 294 047

Passcode:  
qhF8iY

Please note that public comments will be taken during the meeting, but the public is encouraged to continue to submit their comments or questions in writing to: [eracrsb@spokanecity.org](mailto:eracrsb@spokanecity.org). Written public comments will be accepted on these items up to one hour prior to the start of the meeting.

**The audio proceedings of the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board meetings will be recorded and are available online.**

# Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board

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## Upcoming Agenda Items (All items are subject to change)

October 29, 2025 Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board (180 minutes available) Hybrid – Special Joint Meeting PC/CRSB		
Workshop		
Time	Item	Presenter
2:00-2:15	Briefing Session	
2:15-3:45	Climate Planning – Policy Development	Maren Murphy

November 13, 2025 Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board (180 minutes available) Hybrid		
Workshop		
Time	Item	Presenter
2:00-2:15	Briefing Session	
2:15-3:45	Climate Planning – Multi-Criteria Prioritization	Maren Murphy

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# Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board - Special Meeting Minutes Draft

Thursday, September 18, 2025

City Council Briefing Center

Meeting called to order at 2:00 PM by Brian Henning

**Public Comment:** Citizens are invited to address the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board on any topic not on the agenda. 3 Minutes each.

- None

## **Attendance:**

- Board Members Present: Brian Henning, Amanda Parrish, Kathryn Alexander, Ryan Arnold, Happy Avery, Kerry Brooks, Claire Cooney, Kevin Fagan, Larry Luton, Bob Lutz, Lea Molina, Kit Parker, Hala Zahalqa
- Board Members Not Present: Elyse Hochstadt
- *Quorum Present:* Yes
- Staff Members Present: Jon Snyder, Emily King, Maren Murphy, Marlene Feist, Tirrell Black, Mark Papich, Raylene Gennett, Nicole White, KayCee Downey, Marcia Davis, Elizabeth Schoedel, Colin Quinn-Hurst, Mayra Marroquin, Kirstin Davis, Tyler Kimbrell, Lorena Croucher, Adam Rhoades, Beryl Frederickson, Colin Naake

**Minutes:** Minutes from 7/10/2025 approved unanimously.

## **Briefing Session:**

- **Chair Report - Brian Henning**
  - Brian had previously mentioned discussing a recommendation that the Spokane Municipal Code be updated; including moving the provisions regarding extreme heat and wildfire smoke thresholds to the general section to apply to everyone. Council and City staff have already made that update. Brian would like to continue to discuss the resourcing of those recommendations and if that could become part of the City's regular budget rather than being recouped later.
  - Brian encouraged everyone to take the Spokane County Climate Survey. They are also going through their own comprehensive planning process.
  - If members of the board have ideas that would be beneficial to workshop with the Sustainability Action Plan Workgroup, Kevin has been organizing that work.
  - Drafts of the city's first extreme heat and wildfire smoke resilience plans have been circulated to members for review. These are structured as recommendations so that organizations can make the recommendations part of their work. They are looking for feedback on these drafts.
  - Brian also provided an update on the EPA Community Change Grant. The lawsuit has been pushed into federal claims court, which means they will not get the relief requested, only financial damages that have been incurred.
- **Secretary Report - Jon Snyder**
  - Jon discussed that on Monday, City Council will vote on an ordinance to add a Community Assembly liaison to the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board. They will be a non-voting member. Sometime in the next few months, we will have that new member joining us.
  - Jon also shared that Mayor Brown and the City of Spokane are a part of the Mayor's Climate Coalition. Recently, there was an opportunity to send in a comment letter regarding a ruling of the EPA's Greenhouse Gas for Vehicles Endangerment Rule, which they are now reconsidering. Jon shared a copy of what the City sent to the EPA. See page 3 of the minutes.

- The director of the Washington State Department of Ecology requested a tour of the Waste to Energy Facility this past week. They had a good discussion about the entirety of the City's waste disposal system.
- The City also had a discussion with the new Solid Waste Director of King County. They are looking at an issue of running out of landfill space and are trying to figure out what to do with their waste disposal once that happens.
- In the first week of October, the Public Lands Commissioner is going to be visiting Spokane with his Environmental Justice team. We are working on setting up a meeting with him and the Mayor.

**Current Agenda:** The current agenda was approved.

**Informational, Discussion and/or Action Items:**

- Climate Planning – Policy Development
  - Presentation provided by: Maren Murphy and BERK Consulting
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.
- Aquifer Protection Area Update
  - Presentation provided by: Marlene Feist and John Porcello
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.
- Water Conservation Master Plan
  - Presentation provided by: Marlene Feist
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.
- SAP Work Group Update/Water Conservation
  - Presentation provided by: Amanda Parrish and Jon Snyder
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.
- State Clean Building Performance Standards
  - Presentation provided by: Jon Snyder
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:59 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Meeting is on Thursday, October 9, 2025.

**[City Letterhead]**

September [XX], 2025

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

**VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION**

**Subject:** Proposed Rule, Reconsideration of 2009 Endangerment Finding and Greenhouse Gas Vehicle Standards,” 90 Fed. Reg. 36,288 (Aug. 1, 2025)

**Docket No.:** EPA–HQ–OAR–2025–0194; FRL–12715–01–OAR

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Spokane, WA is in strong opposition to the EPA’s proposal to reconsider or rescind the Endangerment Finding for greenhouse gases (GHGs) and to eliminate federal GHG standards for motor vehicles. As a Mayor of the City of Spokane charged with protecting the health, safety, and welfare of our residents, I urge EPA to maintain the Endangerment Finding and the vehicle GHG standards that are critical to lessening the impacts of GHG-induced climate change on our community.

Rising temperatures, more intense periods of drought, and more frequent extreme weather events including wildfires brought on by climate change are straining public infrastructure, emergency management, and increasing costs for local governments. Spokane is not immune from these impacts:

- **Extreme Heat:** Higher summer temperatures and longer heat waves increase emergency room visits for heat-related illness, raise utility bills for cooling, increase the risk of electricity service outages, and put vulnerable populations such as seniors and outdoor workers at particular risk. In 2021, Spokane experienced a heat dome that resulted in the deaths of at least 19 residents.
- **Air Quality:** Hotter summers and increased vehicle emissions worsen smog and particulate pollution, exacerbating asthma and other respiratory conditions, especially in children. Spokane has experienced increases in wildfires locally and regionally contributing to more poor air quality days in the last ten years.
- **Wildfire:** Increasing wildfires in the wildland-urban interface threaten the livelihood and economic stability of our residents. Climate change favors conditions that can exacerbate fire danger and behavior.
- **Water Resources and Drought:** Increasing temperatures and changes to seasonal weather patterns are impacting local and regional snowpack and snowmelt that feed our aquifer, raising the likelihood of water insecurity.
- **Emergency Management and Resilience:** The increasing costs associated with mitigating and responding to emergencies caused and exacerbated by climate change are unsustainable.

Rolling back the Endangerment Finding and vehicle GHG standards would undermine our ability to protect residents from these escalating harms.

Rescinding vehicle GHG standards would eliminate any meaningful regulation of transportation emissions. Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, accounting for 28 percent of total emissions in 2022 according to EPA data.<sup>1</sup> In the City of Spokane, transportation accounts for 41 percent of all GHGs emitted within city boundaries.

Despite the outsized role of the transportation sector in national and local GHG emissions, Section 209 of the Clean Air Act<sup>2</sup> preempts states and cities like this one from setting their own motor vehicle GHG standards. If EPA withdraws both the Endangerment Finding and the federal vehicle GHG standards, cities like Spokane will be left without any recourse to address this dominant source of emissions and the resulting impacts as described above. EPA repeal of existing GHG standards for new motor vehicles will not empower local governments; it would leave us powerless to regulate transportation-related emissions, despite bearing the costs of their impacts.

The City of Spokane strongly urges EPA to withdraw this proposal and retain the Endangerment Finding and federal vehicle GHG standards in their current form. Protecting the health and welfare of our residents and the stability and resilience of our community requires continued recognition of the dangers posed by GHG emissions and decisive action to mitigate them.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Lisa Brown**  
**Mayor**  
**City of Spokane, Washington**

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. EPA, *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks* (July 1, 2025), <https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/inventory-us-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-sinks>.

<sup>2</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 7543.

**BRIEFING PAPER: Climate Planning Phase 2 Policy Development**  
**City of Spokane**  
**Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board**  
**10/9/2025**

*Note to presenters: The CRSB is interested in having workshops with about 2/3 presenter time and 1/3 of a workshop reserved for questions and discussion.*

**Subject:**

Climate Planning Phase 2 will develop goals and policies to integrate climate planning into the comprehensive plan as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update. Planning staff and consultants will facilitate an initial discussion session and opportunity for CRSB members to bring ideas for policies that would help the City adapt to a changing climate and mitigate emissions. The workshop will dive into policy discussions with a focus on Water Resources, Ecosystems, Health & Well-being, Emergency Management Buildings & Energy, and Waste Management, as outlined in the attached Memo. It will also provide a high-level overview of the framework for the multi-criteria prioritization analysis. The Community Climate Policy Survey Results and Analysis report is also available on the [Climate Planning website](#), summarizing what we heard and key themes that can be integrated into proposed climate policies to support local resiliency right here in the City of Spokane.

**Background:**

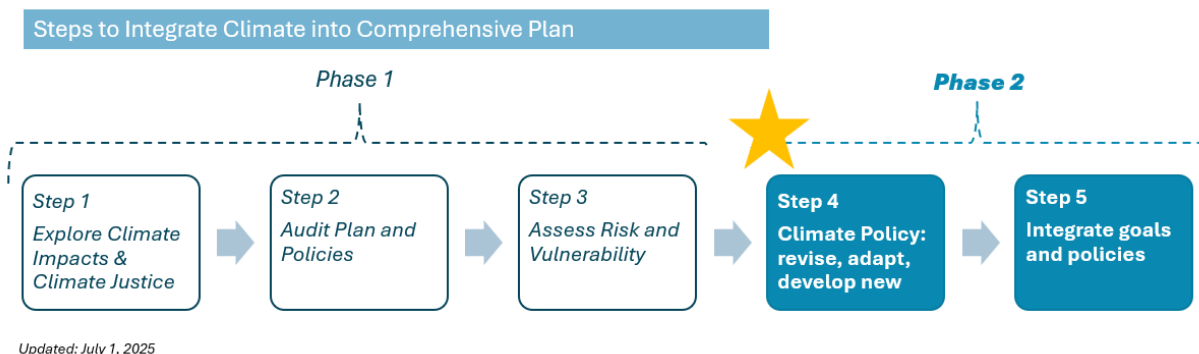
The City of Spokane is developing climate planning under HB 1181 to enhance community resilience, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and prioritize environmental justice to avoid worsening environmental health disparities. Climate planning is part of the City's general periodic update requirement for the Comprehensive Plan, which is due in 2026. This work is supported by WA Dept. of Commerce climate planning grant which is funded from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board is serving as the Climate Policy Advisory Team for climate planning element.

**Relationship to Plans/Actions:**

The City of Spokane is required under the Growth Management Act to have a climate element as part of the Comprehensive Plan. The climate element will be integrated throughout the Comprehensive Plan elements such as housing, transportation, land use, utilities, and natural environment. Integration of climate into the comprehensive plan was also identified in City Council's Sustainability Action Plan.

**Timeline/ Further Action:**

Phase 2 focuses on using the technical reporting and community engagement from Phase 1 to inform climate policy development and integration into Comprehensive Plan updates in 2026.





**BRIEFING PAPER: Climate Planning Phase 2 Policy Development**  
**City of Spokane**  
**Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board**  
**10/9/2025**

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**Relevant Climate Planning Links:**

City of Spokane	
Spokane Climate Planning	<a href="https://my.spokanecity.org/climate-planning/">my.spokanecity.org/climate-planning/</a>
Spokane Climate Vulnerability Index	<a href="https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/f6e4fae1a4eb400bab2c236ce63b75da">https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/f6e4fae1a4eb400bab2c236ce63b75da</a>
Engage Spokane Climate Planning	<a href="https://engage.spokane.gov/hub-page/planning-services">engage.spokane.gov/hub-page/planning-services</a>
PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update	<a href="https://planspokane.org">planspokane.org</a>
Spokane Comprehensive Plan	<a href="https://my.spokanecity.org/shapingspokane/comprehensive-plan/">my.spokanecity.org/shapingspokane/comprehensive-plan/</a>
Spokane GHG Reporting	<a href="https://my.spokanecity.org/publicworks/environmental/">my.spokanecity.org/publicworks/environmental/</a>
Spokane Parks Master Plan	<a href="https://my.spokanecity.org/parksrec/master-plan/">my.spokanecity.org/parksrec/master-plan/</a>

WA Dept. of Commerce	
Commerce Climate Planning	<a href="https://www.commerce.wa.gov/growth-management/climate-planning/">www.commerce.wa.gov/growth-management/climate-planning/</a>
Commerce Guidance for Climate Planning	<a href="https://deptofcommerce.box.com/s/fpg3h0lbwln2ctqjg7jq802h54ie19jx">deptofcommerce.box.com/s/fpg3h0lbwln2ctqjg7jq802h54ie19jx</a>
Commerce Climate Policy Explorer	<a href="https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/dd012fae9fad4a309b0d89e3c13016e5/page/Basic/">https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/dd012fae9fad4a309b0d89e3c13016e5/page/Basic/</a>

# Memo

**Date:** September 25, 2025

**To:** Maren Murphy, Principal Planner, City of Spokane

**cc:** Tirrell Black, Deputy Director Planning, City of Spokane; Maddie Siebert, Senior Associate, and Mary Ann Rozance, PhD, Senior Associate, Cascadia Consulting Group

**From:** Lisa Grueter, AICP, Principal, BERK; Bethany Hoy, Associate, BERK

**RE:** CRSB Policy Review and Multicriteria Prioritization Analysis Framework

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## Purpose

This memo shares two topics for the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board's (CRSBs) October 9, 2025 meeting:

- ▶ A summary of the CRSB input from the September 18, 2025 meeting to support policy development.
- ▶ A summary of a multi-criteria prioritization analysis (MCPA) framework for the City of Spokane's Climate Element.

## Summary of Input – 9/18/25 Meeting

At the September 18, 2025 meeting, the CRSB discussed the following questions:

Reviewing the [Climate Policy Explorer](#) for effective goals and policies ...

- ▶ What are the top 3 sectors you have an interest in?
- ▶ What are up to 5 climate goals or policies to integrate into the Comprehensive Plan?
- ▶ Please explain why each are important for Spokane.

- ▶ What other sources of information, strategies, or community feedback inspire you related to resilience, mitigation, or environmental justice (applicable to the City)?

A similar survey also allowed more open-ended comments and the following:

- ▶ What other sources of information, strategies, or community feedback inspire you related to resilience, mitigation, or environmental justice (applicable to the City)?

Ten CRSB members did the survey and all who attended the 9/18 meeting provided similar input. **Attachment A** shows the results of the survey and meeting using a whiteboard to sort and relate comments.

Based on the combined survey and meeting input, key areas of interest include:

- ▶ Water Resources
- ▶ Ecosystems
- ▶ Health and Well-being – particularly as an overarching frame for other policies and reflecting the public survey interest

Other notable areas of interest included:

- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ Zoning & Development – which ties in well with Ecosystems and Buildings and Energy
- ▶ Waste Reduction

These topics and example policies with CRSB comments or ideas are shared below. **Note** that the language is not adjusted for level of detail (goal – ultimate aim, policy – principles/direction); rather it is sharing the ideas. A full list of the policies referenced in the survey or at the meeting are in **Attachment B** listed by sector.

### Exhibit 1: Highlighted Sectors and Areas of Policy Interest

Sector	Commerce Policy Explorer	CRSB Idea / Comments
Water Resources	Protect and preserve water quality and quantity from drought, extreme heat, and other hazards exacerbated by climate change. (Goal -- Y <b>High Priority</b> )	Ensure a percentage of landscaping for new developments is xeriscaping. ( <b>CRSB Idea</b> )
Ecosystems	<p>Increase tree canopy cover to boost carbon sequestration, reduce heat islands, and improve air quality, prioritizing overburdened communities. (Goal -- AB <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Identify and quantify the ecosystem services benefits of natural systems, and include these natural capital assets in cost-benefit assessments</p>	Regarding U.09: This is very important when considering new developments and making sure ecosystem services are being taken into account. (CRSB Comment)

Sector	Commerce Policy Explorer	CRSB Idea / Comments
	for community and development planning. (Policy - U.09 <b>High Priority</b> )	
Health & Well-being	Protect community health and well-being from the impacts of climate-exacerbated hazards — prioritizing focus on overburdened communities — and ensure that the most vulnerable residents do not bear disproportionate health impacts. (Goal T)	A lot of policies will improve health and wellbeing, like transportation. But what I like about it as a framework is that it's a positive way to approach things. (CRSB Comment)
Transportation	Increase multimodal capacity in coordination with the location of higher-density housing and commercial centers. (Policy -- I.04 <b>High Priority</b> )	Expand slow streets and active transport networks that double as cooling corridors and community gathering places. ( <b>CRSB Idea</b> )
Zoning & Development	Prioritize infill development through zoning and permitting process. (Policy -- C.06 <b>High Priority</b> )	Zoning and development is an important one to protect watersheds and ecosystems. (CRSB Comment)

While all sectors covered by the Department of Commerce (e.g. see [Climate Policy Explorer](#) link) will be addressed, understanding areas of interest and intersection allows the team to develop some policy ideas to bring back at the September – November 2025 CRSB meetings in a staggered way. We suggest review and discussion of the policies in groups, such as:

- **October 9:** Water Resources, Ecosystems, Health & Well-being, Emergency Management Buildings & Energy, and Waste Management
- **October 29 (Joint CRSB and Plan Commission Meeting):** Zoning & Development, Economic Development, Cultural Resources & Practices, Transportation
- **November 13:** Multi-criteria prioritization framework

The groupings are subject to change but also reflect the roles and responsibilities and timing of the joint meeting.

For any topic, the policy development process would consider these steps:

- 1) Pull out strong policies and ideas for new policies from studies, engagement, and discussions:
  - a. City of Spokane Phase 1 studies (Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment recommendations, Greenhouse Gas Emissions inventory, Policy Audit, see: <https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/climate-planning/>)
  - b. Commerce [Climate Policy Explorer](#)

- c. Draft Chapters that reflect amended existing policies (see: <https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/chapter-review/>)
  - d. Engagement results in Phase 1 and Phase 2 (e.g., Tribal Engagement Workgroup, surveys), see: <https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/climate-planning/>
  - e. CRSB and Climate Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC) discussions
- 2) Find the gaps in the sectors and generate ideas to fill them.
  - 3) Consolidate redundancies.

The chart below illustrates the process:

## Exhibit 2: Policy Development Steps Matrix

Requirement	Sector	Goal or Policy	Source	Rationale / Effectiveness	Alignment with Spokane Analysis	Co-Benefits	Connection to Engagement	Alternative Ideas
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resilience	11 sectors	Text	e.g., Policy Explorer	e.g., Policy Explorer, other studies	Plans or Studies from Phase 1 or other Sources	Cross-sector benefits	Phase 1 results, Phase 2 survey	Space for Alternative Ideas or filling gaps
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GHG								
<input type="checkbox"/> Environ. Justice								
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:								

## Multi-Criteria Prioritization Analysis (MCPA)

The City will integrate climate goals and policies into each element of the Comprehensive Plan to meet the requirements of [HB 1181](#) and the [Growth Management Act](#) (GMA). Washington State Department of Commerce guidance is to develop 20-40 goals and policies and to address 11 sectors (e.g., water resources, ecosystems, economic development, buildings & energy, transportation, etc.). The approach is to develop the climate goals and policies and identify the most effective ones for the City of Spokane such as through a multi-criteria prioritization tool and environmental justice evaluation.

We anticipate that multi-criteria prioritization tool will have these basic steps: 1) collect and develop policies per the Growth Management Act and Washington State Department of Commerce guidance, 2) consider the City's role (lead, partner) and feasibility (resources), 3) identify criteria needed to analyze, weight, and prioritize policies, and 4) holistically evaluate the top policies to ensure element and sector representation and alignment with legal requirements.

This framework is illustrated in the flow chart below and represents an initial draft of how Spokane can systematically prioritize climate policies. We expect the details, including the

feasibility screen, the criteria definitions, and the weighting approach, will continue to evolve. The analysis process will be following Commerce guidance and State Law. The CRSB would have a role in determining the weight of the scores. The MCPA is anticipated to be a topic for the CRSB's mid-November meeting.

### Exhibit 3: Multi-Criteria Prioritization Analysis Flow Chart



# Attachment A – CRSB Policy Highlights 9/18/25

## Example Policies by Sector

### Climate Policy Explorer (Lettered/Numbered) or **CRSB Idea**

9/18 Rank	Sector	Resilience (Primarily)	GHG Reduction (Primarily)
5	Agriculture & Food Systems <i>This is a good first step in more sustainable agriculture. (Regarding avoiding fossil fuels) (CRSB Comment)</i>	<p>Expand local food security and the food-related economy to address climate impacts and increase access to healthy, affordable, and climate-friendly foods. (Policy -- N.01 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Promote environmentally sustainable water-storage and farming practices that help agricultural producers adapt to changing conditions and reduce production losses while balancing ecosystem needs. (Policy -- N.03 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Incentivize rooftop gardens, community composting, and food forest projects to strengthen local food security. (<b>CRSB Idea</b>)</p>	<p>Promote the sale and use of agricultural supplies, pesticides, fertilizers, and fuels that are not derived from fossil fuels. (Policy -- Z.04 <b>High Priority</b>)</p>
4	Buildings & Energy <i>Buildings/energy is key for GHG emissions reduction. (CRSB Comment)</i>	<p>Ensure that buildings are designed and built sustainably to reduce environmental impacts and remain resilient to extreme weather and other hazards worsened by climate change. (Goal P)</p> <p>Require the design and construction of commercial and residential buildings and their surrounding sites to reduce and treat stormwater runoff and pollution (Policy -- P.01 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Develop or modify design standards to integrate exterior building features that reduce the impacts of climate change and increase resilience. (Policy -- P.06 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Establish a community micro-grant fund for neighborhood-scale adaptation projects, prioritizing overburdened areas. (<b>CRSB Idea</b>)</p>	<p>Ensure that buildings use renewable energy, conservation, and efficiency technologies and practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. (Goal -- E <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Retrofit buildings for energy efficiency. (Policy -- E.03 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Prioritize the preservation and weatherization of housing in overburdened communities, particularly at higher densities, to reduce emissions and increase resilience. (Policy -- F.02 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Offer incentives or rebates for landlords who make energy-efficient upgrades—like insulation, weatherization, or heat pump installations—on the condition that cost savings are shared with tenants (e.g., capping rent hikes or passing on utility savings). This ensures renters benefit directly from emission-reducing improvements and helps lower overall housing energy burdens. (<b>CRSB Idea</b>)</p>

9/18 Rank	Sector	Resilience (Primarily)	GHG Reduction (Primarily)
5	Cultural Resources <i>Use cultural resources and creative storytelling to shift norms, build solidarity, and make climate action visible and compelling. (CRSB Comment)</i>	None in survey. See Climate Policy Explorer, such as: Q, Q.01, Q.02, AA)	Provide emissions-reduction educational workshops, activities, and engagement opportunities, especially those that prioritize equity and underrepresented communities. (Policy -- AA.05)
4	Economic Development <i>Creates living-wage climate jobs for those most impacted, cutting emissions while strengthening Spokane's workforce and advancing equity. (CRSB Comment)</i>	Facilitate a green jobs pipeline for frontline communities. (Policy -- R.04 <b>High Priority</b> )  Launch a climate justice fellowship or apprenticeship program for underrepresented residents to shape policy and gain green skills. ( <b>CRSB Idea</b> )	Promote purchasing from local businesses to support economic development and reduce emissions associated with the transportation, production, and distribution of goods. (Policy -- R.06 <b>High Priority</b> )  Establish a circular economy task force to explore reuse markets, refill systems, and industrial symbiosis for Spokane industries. ( <b>CRSB Idea</b> )
4	Emergency Management	Develop a comprehensive, communitywide wildfire resilience strategy to improve emergency response capabilities, create fire-resilient landscapes, promote fire-adapted communities, protect the economy, and foster short- and long-term recovery. (Policy -- M.02 <b>High Priority</b> )	Not applicable.
3 + 1	Health & Well-being  <i>A lot of policies will improve health and wellbeing, like transportation. But what I like about it as a framework is that it's a positive way to approach things. (CRSB Comment)</i>	Protect community health and well-being from the impacts of climate-exacerbated hazards — prioritizing focus on overburdened communities — and ensure that the most vulnerable residents do not bear disproportionate health impacts. (Goal T)  Promote the use of health impact assessments and other tools to address the potential impacts of health, equity, and climate change on vulnerable communities. (Policy T.10)	None identified in survey. See Climate Policy Explorer: T.12 and T.14.



9/18 Rank	Sector	Resilience (Primarily)	GHG Reduction (Primarily)
2	<p>Ecosystems</p> <p><i>Regarding U.09: This is very important when considering new developments and making sure ecosystem services are being taken into account. (CRSB Comment)</i></p>	<p>Ensure the protection and restoration of streams, riparian zones, estuaries, wetlands, and floodplains to achieve healthy watersheds that are resilient to climate change. (Goal -- L <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Protect and restore riparian vegetation to reduce erosion, provide shade, and support other functions that improve the climate resilience of streams. (Policy -- L.04 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Increase aquatic habitat resilience to low summer flows by increasing water residence time, storing water on the landscape, conserving water, protecting groundwater, keeping waters cool, and protecting water quality. (Policy -- L.06 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Protect and restore wetlands and corridors between wetlands to provide biological and hydrological connectivity that fosters resilience to climate impacts. (Policy -- L.10 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Identify opportunities to expand habitat protection and improve habitat quality and connectivity to foster climate resilience using conservation area designations, buffers, and open space corridors. (Policy -- U.02 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Identify and quantify the ecosystem services benefits of natural systems, and include these natural capital assets in cost-benefit assessments for community and development planning. (Policy -- U.09 <b>High Priority</b>)</p>	<p>Increase tree canopy cover to boost carbon sequestration, reduce heat islands, and improve air quality, prioritizing overburdened communities. (Goal -- AB <b>High Priority</b>)</p>

9/18 Rank	Sector	Resilience (Primarily)	GHG Reduction (Primarily)
3	Transportation <i>Improving frequency and coverage of transit would help reduce VMT (CRSB Comment)</i>	Expand slow streets and active transport networks that double as cooling corridors and community gathering places. (CRSB Idea)	<p>Implement multimodal transportation planning to reduce single-occupancy vehicle dependence and greenhouse gas emissions. (Policy -- I.02 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Increase multimodal capacity in coordination with the location of higher-density housing and commercial centers. (Policy -- I.04 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Create a safe, well-connected, and attractive bicycle and pedestrian transportation network to encourage active transportation. (Policy -- I.14 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Improve transit speed, frequency, coverage, and reliability. (Policy -- AI.03 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Convert all downtown one-way streets to two-way “complete streets” (CRSB Idea; not a policy currently, related are E.06 and I.18)</p>
3	Waste Management <i>need to invest in education on reduction, reuse, and recycling (CRSB Comment)</i>	None in survey. See Climate Policy Explorer: Policy – X and X.01	<p>Develop a program that will enable recycling of all construction and demolition debris by [insert target date]. (Policy -- X.02)</p> <p>Create a citywide zero-waste initiative that expands curbside composting, supports neighborhood repair and reuse hubs, and partners with local businesses for refill systems—reducing landfill waste and emissions while building a circular economy. (CRSB Idea)</p>

9/18 Rank	Sector	Resilience (Primarily)	GHG Reduction (Primarily)
1	Water Resources <i>This is paramount! Water is life! (CRSB Comment)</i>	<p>Protect and preserve water quality and quantity from drought, extreme heat, and other hazards exacerbated by climate change. (Goal -- Y <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Manage water resources sustainably in the face of climate change through smart irrigation, stormwater management, preventative maintenance, water conservation and wastewater reuse, plant selection, and landscape management. (Policy -- Y.04 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Develop and implement a comprehensive drought resilience strategy that factors in projected climate impacts and sets action levels for different drought stages. (Policy -- Y.11 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Ensure a percentage of landscaping for new developments is xeriscaping. (<b>CRSB Idea</b>)</p>	Not applicable.
3	Zoning & Development / Built Environment  <i>Zoning and development is an important one to protect watersheds and ecosystems. (CRSB Comment)</i>	<p>Consider climate change, including sea-level rise, extreme precipitation, increased winter streamflow, and other impacts, in floodplain management planning. (Policy -- A.14 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Identify and protect agricultural and forested lands that provide climate resilience benefits from conversion to more developed land use types. (Policy -- V.09 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Restore and maintain critical areas and open space areas to maximize the climate resilience benefits they provide. (Policy -- V.10 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Protect wetlands and open spaces to absorb floods and cool heat, while using slow streets and shared green areas to strengthen community connections and resilience. (<b>CRSB Idea</b>)</p>	<p>Increase housing diversity and supply within urban growth areas to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support environmental justice. (Goal -- K <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Foster higher-intensity land uses in mixed-use urban villages and transit corridors (Goal -- C <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Adjust single-family home impact fees and system development charges so those homes with larger impacts on utilities pay more. (Policy -- C.04 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Prioritize infill development through zoning and permitting process. (Policy -- C.06 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Allow or encourage micro-housing units. (Policy -- K.05 <b>High Priority</b>)</p> <p>Implement complimentary, mixed land uses versus traditional zoning, such as locating business districts, parks and schools in neighborhoods to promote cycling and walking and reduce driving. (Policy -- V.11 <b>High Priority</b>)</p>

## What other sources of information, strategies, or community feedback inspire you related to resilience, mitigation, or environmental justice (applicable to the City)?

- Regional Tribal Nations' stewardship practices; long-standing knowledge about land, water, and fire management.
- Urban planning examples like Kamikatsu, Japan & Copenhagen, Denmark; models for zero-waste systems and active transport.
- community survey results help show community buy in for things like tree coverage and water protection
- I learned a good amount about Gonzaga's urban heat island effect study, so I am passionate about increasing Spokane's tree cover as we will have more heat domes in the future.
- Working with 350 WA on climate policy legislative input   Working with 350 Spokane on local climate policy.
- Working with Gonzaga Climate Center on heat and smoke preparedness
- "The Washington Habitat Connectivity Action Plan (WAHCAP) builds on Washington's leadership in connectivity science. It brings together decades of research to identify priorities for connectivity projects to protect and reconnect Washington's landscapes for wildlife." (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/habitat-recovery/connectivity/action-plan>). Its final datasets are Best Available Science regarding habitats and corridors. It is being employed by Spokane County in the Comprehensive Plan update and responses to DOC climate element planning requirements (2).
- In meeting: SDG Mapper – [SDG Mapper Intro](#) | [KnowSDGs](#)

## Attachment B – CRSB Results Groupings

*Yellow post-its were identified in the survey - Orange post-its reflect survey comments or discussion at 9/18 meeting*



# #1 Water Resources

Protect and preserve water quality and quantity from drought, extreme heat, and other hazards exacerbated by climate change (Y)

x3

Manage water resources sustainably in the face of climate change through smart irrigation, stormwater management, preventative maintenance, water conservation and wastewater reuse, plant selection, and landscape management. (Y.04)

x2

Ensure the protection and restoration of streams, riparian zones, estuaries, wetlands, and floodplains to achieve healthy watersheds that are resilient to climate change. (L)

x2

Develop and implement a comprehensive drought resilience strategy that factors in projected climate impacts and sets action levels for different drought stages. (Y.11)

Ensure a percentage of landscaping for new developments is xeriscaping (Not currently a goal/policy)

Water and buildings/energy are high priority.

Water resources and energy are also key

# #2 Ecosystems

Increase tree canopy cover to boost carbon sequestration, reduce heat islands, and improve air quality, prioritizing overburdened communities. (AB)

x3

Protect and restore wetlands and corridors between wetlands to provide biological and hydrological connectivity that fosters resilience to climate impacts. (L.10)

Increase aquatic habitat resilience to low summer flows by increasing water residence time, storing water on the landscape, conserving water, protecting groundwater, keeping waters cool, and protecting water quality. (Policy L.06:)

Protect and restore riparian vegetation to reduce erosion, provide shade, and support other junctions that improve the climate resilience of streams. (L.04)

Identify opportunities to expand habitat protection and improve habitat quality and connectivity to foster climate resilience using conservation area designations, buffers, and open space corridors. (U.02)

Identify and quantify the ecosystem services benefits of natural systems, and include these natural capital assets in cost-benefit assessments for community and development planning. (U.09)

Water has cross-cutting impacts

Water is key and aligns with what the community survey said.

Strategically increasing canopy provides so many benefits, and has high community buy in

Ecosystems are key because that feeds into so many different things.

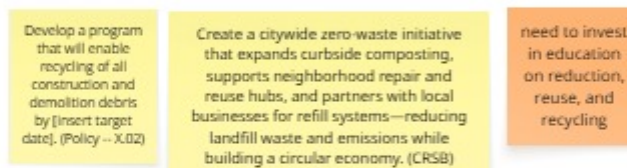
# #3 Tie between...

## Zoning & Development



x2

## Waste & Management



**Based on CRSB discussion Health & Well-being could be a tie with Water Resources / is an organizing framework**

## Transportation



## Health & Well-being



multiple emphasis on policies with co-benefits

interested in intersectionality

Community resilience - education and care. If we don't educate the community, we won't get community support.



#4

# Tie between...

+1 for  
buildings  
& energy

we have the  
tools to push  
ourselves in  
this sector

can be  
a driver

driver

## Buildings & Energy

Ensure that buildings use renewable energy, conservation, and efficiency technologies and practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. (E)

x3

Require the design and construction of commercial and residential buildings and their surrounding sites to reduce and treat stormwater runoff and pollution (P.01)

Retrofit buildings for energy efficiency (E.03)

Ensure that buildings are designed and built sustainably to reduce environmental impacts and remain resilient to extreme weather and other hazards worsened by climate change. (Goal P)

Establish a community micro-grant fund for neighborhood-scale adaptation projects, prioritizing overburdened areas (CRSB)

Prioritize the preservation and weatherization of housing in overburdened communities, particularly at higher densities, to reduce emissions and increase resilience. (F.02)

Offer incentives or rebates for landlords who make energy-efficient upgrades—like insulation, weatherization, or heat pump installations—on the condition that cost savings are shared with tenants (e.g., capping rent hikes or passing on utility savings). This ensures renters benefit directly from emission-reducing improvements and helps lower overall housing energy burdens. (CRSB)

## Economic Development

Facilitate a green jobs pipeline for frontline communities. (R.04)

Establish a circular economy task force to explore reuse markets, refill systems, and industrial symbiosis for Spokane industries. (CRSB)

Launch a climate justice fellowship or apprenticeship program for underrepresented residents to shape policy and gain green skills. (CRSB)

Creates living-wage climate jobs for those most impacted, cutting emissions while strengthening Spokane's workforce and advancing equity.

## Emergency Management

Develop a comprehensive, communitywide wildfire resilience strategy to improve emergency response capabilities, create fire-resilient landscapes, promote fire-adapted communities, protect the economy, and foster short- and long-term recovery. (M.02)

#5

## Agriculture & Food Systems

Promote the sale and use of agricultural supplies, pesticides, fertilizers, and fuels that are not derived from fossil fuels. (Z.04)

Promote environmentally sustainable water-storage and farming practices that help agricultural producers adapt to changing conditions and reduce production losses while balancing ecosystem needs. (N.03)

Incentivize rooftop gardens, community composting, and food forest projects to strengthen local food security. (CRSB)

## Cultural Resources

Provide emissions-reduction educational workshops, activities, and engagement opportunities, especially those that prioritize equity and underrepresented communities. (AA.05)

Use cultural resources and creative storytelling to shift norms, build solidarity, and make climate action visible and compelling.

Cultural resources is important because workshops and education is a core of our work.



# What sectors are most important to address regarding greenhouse gas emission reductions?

## #1 Built Environment

Increase energy codes to lower carbon requirements, reduce loss standards, and improve air quality, prioritizing overburdened communities. (28)

Require the design and construction of commercial and residential buildings and their surrounding areas to reduce and reuse water, purchase green electricity.

## #2 Transportation

Create a safe, accessible, and attractive transit and pedestrian transportation system to encourage active transportation. (14)

Current all-daydowners have way slower, less safe way "complete streets" (not a policy currently, related to 1.06 and 1.10)

Implement multimodal transportation planning to reduce single-occupancy vehicle dependence and greenhouse gas emissions. (33)

Improve transit speed, frequency, coverage, and reliability. (41.03)

Switch from ICE to low-emission transportation. (29)

Improve housing and transportation infrastructure. (29.03)

## #3 Energy

Promote that buildings use renewable energy, conservation, and efficiency technologies and practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. (1)

Retrofit buildings for energy efficiency. (1.03)

Buildings/energy is key for GHG emissions reduction. (24.03)

## #4 Zoning

Review zoning, density, and other rules to make sure urban design and transit-oriented development (TOD) are encouraged. (1.03)

Adopt a zoning strategy that encourages more compact, walkable, and transit-oriented development. (1.03)

Prioritize infill development through zoning and permitting process. (1.03)

Review and update zoning and other rules to make sure urban design and transit-oriented development are encouraged. (1.03)

Encourage community design and conservation, including energy, water, and waste management, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. (1.03)

## #5 Waste Management

Develop a program that will enable recycling of all construction and demolition debris. (1.03)

Ensure that the community is able to reduce, reuse, and recycle waste materials sustainably. (24.03)

# High Priority Goals

*Yellow post-its were identified in the survey*

## Ecosystems

Increase tree canopy cover to boost carbon sequestration, reduce heat islands, and improve air quality, prioritizing overburdened communities. (AB)

Protect and restore coastal ecosystems to increase the resilience of species, habitats, and communities to climate change. (AF)

Protect and enhance the climate resilience of urban forests by implementing climate-smart forest management. (AE)

## Water Resources

Protect and preserve water quality and quantity from drought, extreme heat, and other hazards exacerbated by climate change. (Y)

## Zoning & Development

Increase housing diversity and supply within urban growth areas to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support environmental justice. (L)

Foster higher-intensity land uses in mixed-use urban villages and transit corridors. (C)

Reduce vehicle miles traveled to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals. (K)

Establish land use patterns that increase the resilience of the built environment, ecosystems, and communities to climate change. (V)

## Emergency Management

Enhance emergency preparedness, response, and recovery efforts to mitigate risks and impacts associated with extreme weather and other hazards worsened by climate change. (S)

## Buildings & Energy

Ensure that buildings use renewable energy, conservation, and efficiency technologies and practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. (E)

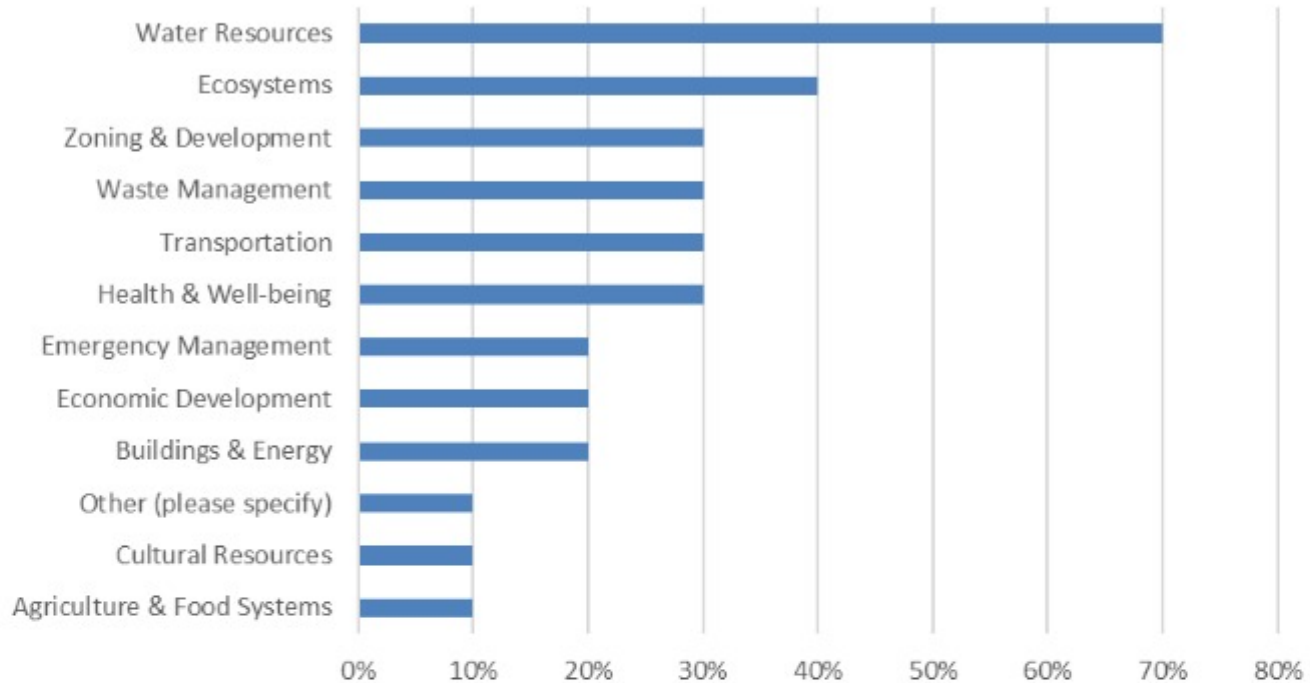
Ensure that buildings use renewable energy, conservation, and efficiency technologies and practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. (F)

## Transportation

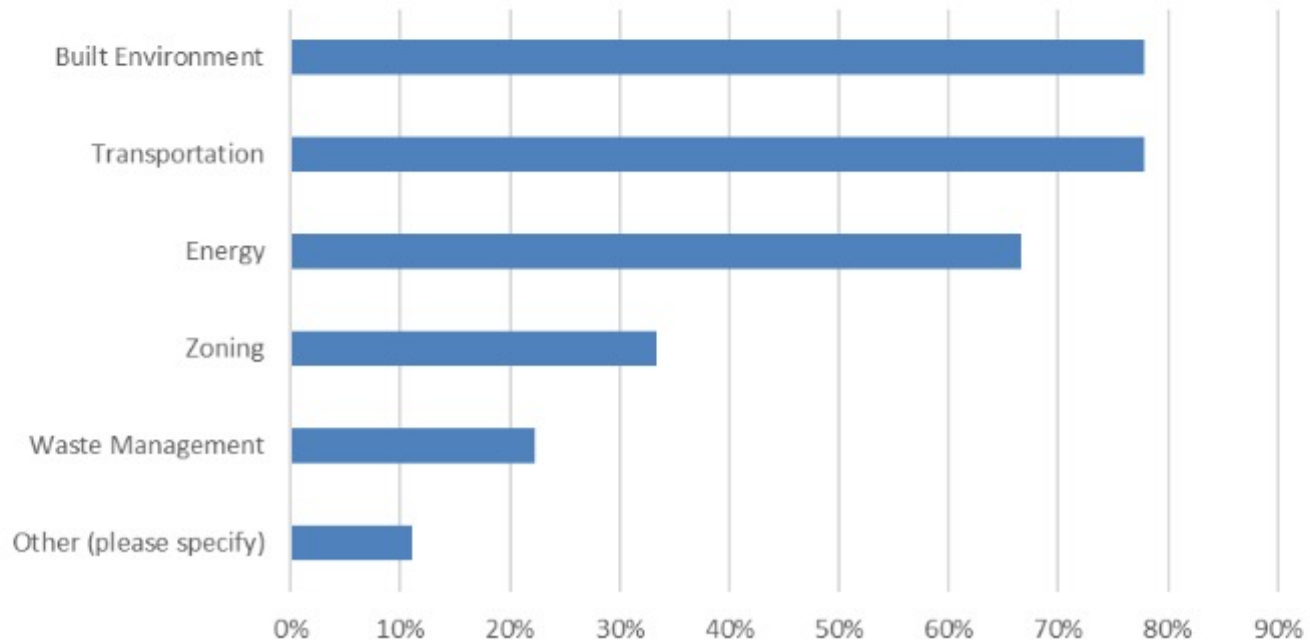
Prioritize the adaptive reuse of buildings, recognizing the emission-reduction benefits of retaining existing buildings. (I)

# Survey Graphs

What are the top 3 resilience sectors you have an interest in?



What sectors are most important to address regarding greenhouse gas emission reductions?





# What other sources of information, strategies, or community feedback inspire you related to resilience, mitigation, or environmental justice (applicable to the City)?



Europa



## SDG Mapper

KnowSDGs is a web platform that provides tools on policies, indicators, methods and data to support the implementation of the SDGs

community survey results help show community buy in for things like tree coverage and water protection

I learned a good amount about Gonzaga's urban heat island effect study, so I am passionate about increasing Spokane's tree cover as we will have more heat domes in the future.

Working with 350 WA on climate policy legislative input Working with 350 Spokane on local climate policy Working with Gonzaga Climate Center on heat and smoke preparedness



Washington  
Department  
**FISH &  
WILDLIFE**



Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

## Washington Habitat Connectivity Action Plan

Action Plan development is led by the Core Team, which includes staff from WDFW, the Washington Department of Transportation, and Conservat...

"The Washington Habitat Connectivity Action Plan (WAHCAP) builds on Washington's leadership in connectivity science. It brings together decades of research to identify priorities for connectivity projects to protect and reconnect Washington's landscapes for wildlife." (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/habitat-recovery/connectivity/action-plan>) Its final datasets are Best Available Science regarding habitats and corridors. It is being employed by Spokane County in the Comprehensive Plan update and responses to DOC climate element planning requirements (#2).

Regional Tribal Nations' stewardship practices; long-standing knowledge about land, water, and fire management. Urban planning examples like Kamikatsu, Japan & Copenhagen, Denmark; models for zero-waste systems and active transport.



# PlanSpokane Community Climate Policy Survey Results and Analysis

Climate Planning Phase 2 Engagement

September 26, 2025



**PLAN****SPOKANE**  
Resilient | Connected | Livable | 2046

The City of Spokane is embarking on a transformative journey to support community resiliency to growing climate hazards. Mandated by the Washington State Growth Management Act and due in 2026, the City is undertaking a major update to its Comprehensive Plan. This foundational document guides policy for Spokane for twenty years at a time, with the current update looking towards 2046. The [PlanSpokane 2046](#) effort presents a unique opportunity to not only meet climate requirements of [House Bill 1181](#), but also to integrate community resiliency into every aspect of Spokane's future.

An earlier stage of the Climate Planning efforts focused on understanding climate hazards and impacts within the local context of Spokane. Local, state, and national data points identified the relevant science and statistical trends. The lived experience was then captured by the [Community Climate Planning Survey](#), which ran from December 6, 2024 through January 31, 2025.

With an understanding of how Spokane community members are impacted, the next step is identifying policies to support local climate resiliency. To that end, the Community Climate Policy Survey (Policy Survey) was launched July 21, 2025 and ran through August 31, 2025. The survey heard from **1,419 community members** with a 100% completion rate who shared topics of interest, types of policies desired, policy rating, and how they wanted policies to be prioritized.

The Policy Survey built upon prior community feedback by condensing topics and themes heard during earlier engagement efforts. By reporting back what was heard, the intent is to ensure forward momentum that values the time and effort taken by Spokane community members while also benefitting from the localized knowledge and experiences.

The following report discusses results and trends identified through the Policy Survey that will support future work in developing policies that support the local community.



*The WA Department of Commerce climate planning grant is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. [Information about the CCA is available on their website.](#)*



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## Topics of Importance

Survey respondents were asked to identify topics related to climate and resiliency that are important to them. This information will help inform the focus and distribution of future policy recommendations to ensure community priorities are addressed.

### What climate and resiliency topics are important to you?

Community members were asked to rank key climate and resiliency topics in order of importance. While many if not most topics are interrelated, this question forced ranking to identify the aspects of local resiliency that are most significant. Survey respondents were asked to rank topics from 1 to 11 in importance. Those topics were: water; energy; food systems; transportation; human health; natural resources; ecological health; cultural resources; waste management; greenhouse gas emissions; and none (in case none of the topics were important to the respondent). **Water** was collectively ranked the highest, followed by **human health** and **food systems**. When it comes to the topics ranked first in importance, **water** once again the top choice, followed by **human health** and **greenhouse gas reduction**. Of note, Greenhouse Gas Reduction had the third most rankings of 1 while also having the second most 11 rankings. 8.53% of survey respondents ranked “none” of the topics as being of significant importance, while 71.91% ranked the **none** option last; these numbers were left off the below table for graph readability.

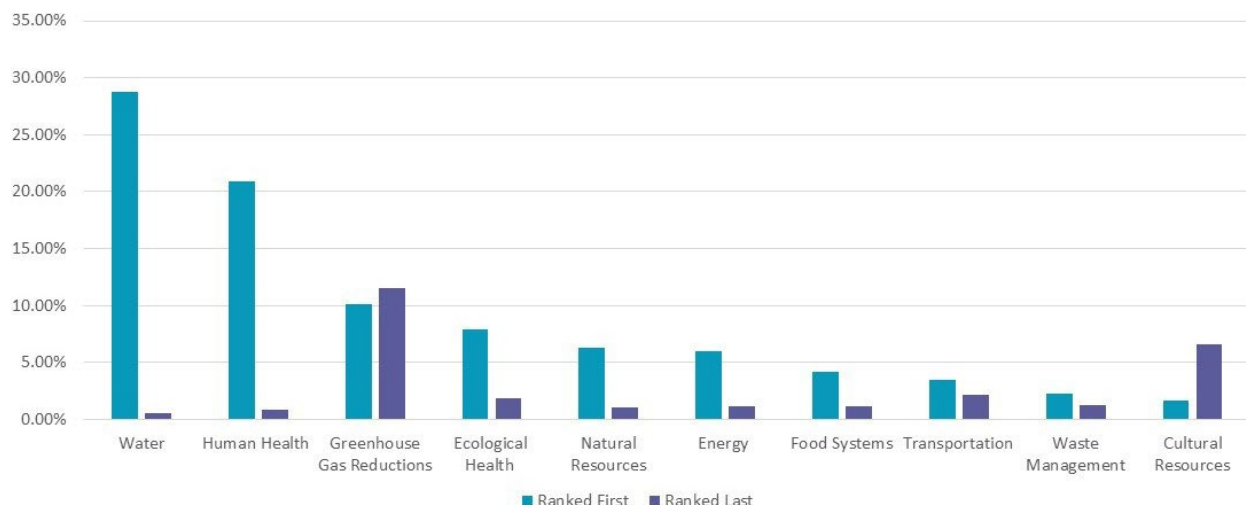


Figure 1 Graph illustrating the number of respondents who ranked topics first and last. Source: 2025 City of Spokane Community Climate Policy Survey.

### Are there any other climate and resiliency topics that are important to you?

To capture any additional ideas not already identified, survey respondents were asked to identify any other climate and resiliency topics of importance. Many responses indicated the interconnection between all of the topics and the difficulty to select. Recurring themes from the

open-ended responses include **economic health** and **costs**; **disaster preparedness**; **air and light pollution**; **wildfire** and **smoke**; **heat island reduction** and **tree coverage**; **community and traffic safety**; **social health**; **education**; **circular economy**; **social equity**, **accessibility**, and **environmental justice**; **housing**, **land use**, and the **reduction of sprawl**; **wildlife** and **biodiversity**; **infrastructure**; **city growth**; **collaboration** between agencies and regions; **government role** within resiliency work; **artificial intelligence**; and **land conservation**.

Some survey respondents had **no topics of concern**, either from the prior ranked list or otherwise.

## Policy Considerations

Policies in the Comprehensive Plan direct City priorities, programs, and regulations that then influence future growth and City actions. Types of policies can vary from incentives to requirements and everything in between.



### Level of support for policies

Survey respondents were asked to indicate their level of support for potential types of policies that could ultimately address their topics of importance. The options included financial or other incentives; regulations; education and outreach; partnerships and collaboration; and public investment and infrastructure. All policy recommendations had a significantly higher percentage of strongly support and somewhat support than strongly oppose or somewhat oppose. **Public investment and infrastructure** had the highest percentage of *strongly support* responses, followed by **financial and other incentives**. **Regulations** had the highest percentage of *strongly oppose* responses, followed by **education and outreach**.

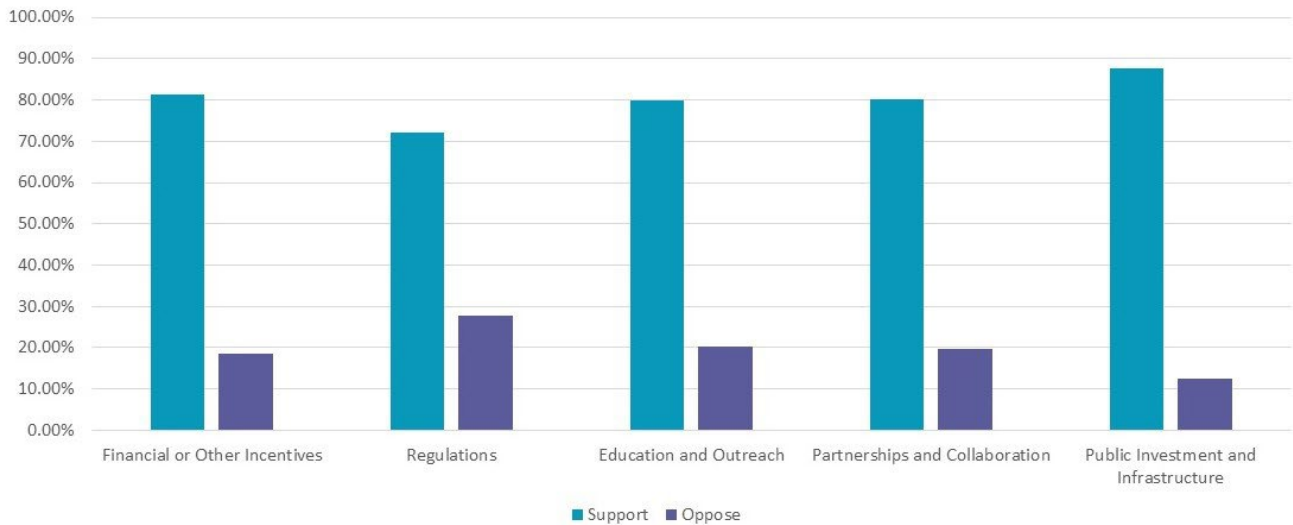


Figure 2 Graph illustrating the number of respondents who selected strongly support/somewhat support and strongly oppose/somewhat oppose. Source: 2025 City of Spokane Community Climate Policy Survey.

## Policy Rating

Planning staff developed draft policies that reflected key discussions heard during earlier community engagement. Survey respondents were presented with the topic or concern the policy was intended to address as well as the policy language and asked to rate from 1 to 5 how well the policy addressed the issue. In general, a rating of 3 or more is considered generally acceptable, with room for improvement. All draft policies received a score of 3.6 or better.

Topic or Concern	Draft Policy Language	Rating
<b>Tree canopy</b>	Identify and implement programs and regulations to increase tree canopy cover, prioritizing overburdened communities.	4.0
<b>Cost of weatherization and other upgrades to support household resiliency</b>	Provide residents with incentives or other resources to offset potential cost increases associated with resilient home upgrades, such as improved weatherization.	3.9
<b>Food and local food production</b>	Promote the development of home and community gardens, farmers' or public markets, and other small-scale collaborative initiatives to provide residents with a diverse choice of locally sourced food products.	3.8

<b>Food waste</b>	Support the reduction of edible food waste by encouraging the donation of foods through food waste pickup programs and community education.	3.7
<b>Water usage of city-owned and private properties</b>	Identify incentives and regulations that decrease municipal, household, commercial, industrial, and agricultural water use.	3.6
<b>Extreme weather and environmental contamination as a threat to cultural traditions and ecological knowledge</b>	Coordinate with Tribal governments and Native community-based organizations to prioritize Native-led strategies that build resiliency for cultural sites and practices, food systems, cultural infrastructure, and wellbeing in climate planning.	3.6

The loss of traditional foods, medicines, and sacred sites due to extreme weather and environmental contamination came directly from the Tribal Engagement Workgroup during earlier engagement. **Of survey respondents who self-identified as Native American, American Indian, or Alaska Native, the average rating for the policy around Tribal and Native community coordination received an average rating of 3.7.**

### Are there any future actions missing that you want the City to consider?

Survey respondents were asked to identify any other future actions they wanted the City to consider that were missing from the provided topics and draft policies. There were a wide range of suggested actions, including the desire for no future actions related to climate and resiliency, which can be summarized in the following themes:

#### Lead by Example

Survey respondents recommended establishing pilot programs and implementing resiliency policies at City-owned and community-focused facilities and properties.

- Reduce water use and install native, drought tolerant landscaping.
- Implement robust composting and recycling at City buildings, libraries, community centers, and schools.
- Create an online portal that shares goals, policies, and ways to increase personal and local resilience, while including monitoring of programs and program transparency.
- Create eco-cleanup teams to monitor and clean up waste and other pollutants near waterways, wildlife corridors, and cultural/historical sites.
- Investigate and prepare for technological innovation (cool pavement programs, energy production, etc.).

## Water Conservation and Waste Management

Water conservation was a key concern, ranging from water use and river and aquifer protection. Waste management and reduction was similarly identified.

- Greater focus on commercial water conservation, rather than residential, as well as excessive or misdirected watering.
- Expand and improve water-wise landscaping programs.
- Remove the cost for the green composting bin.
- Establish a workplace and commercial composting pilot program.
- Incentive water collection and establish a residential rain barrel program.
- Ensure long-term aquifer protection and PFAS monitoring and prevention.
- Ensure public events are climate-friendly, including with waste management.
- Provide access to recycling and composting in public rights-of-way and parks.
- Ensure snow removal processes prevent street pollution from getting into the river and other natural waterways.

## Community Collaboration and Engagement

Community collaboration, engagement, and education was identified as a desired way to support local resiliency.

- Increase collaboration between education institutions, Tribal governments, and local businesses.
- Create an ongoing public information campaign to support local resiliency.
- Support community resources sharing (trading/borrowing).
- Establish volunteer programs for litter and pollution cleanup, local ecological restoration, and disaster-prevention drills.
- Support workforce development for climate and environmental jobs.
- Establish public/private partnerships for solar and other resiliency projects.

## Urban Green Spaces

Expansion and access to green spaces and the natural environment within city limits was identified as a community priority.

- Incorporate community gardens on more publicly owned properties.
- Reduce pavement and amount of parking lots to reduce heat island effect.
- Ensure clean public spaces and access to water and restrooms to support enjoyment of parks and other areas within the city.
- Support planting and maintenance of street trees while providing assistance with dead tree removal.
- Rewild greenspaces and plant edible foods in public spaces.
- Focus on invasive species and dry grasses removal.



- Guide long-term habitat restoration within city limits.

### **Active Transportation**

Improvement of the existing transportation system as well as support to expand access to active transportation was a common theme from survey respondents.

- Improve crosswalks and lighting for greater pedestrian safety.
- Expand electric vehicle (EV) charging station locations.
- Increase traffic and community safety to support different modes of transportation.
- Consider light rail or similar transportation infrastructure.
- Increase access and service for bus routes within all neighborhoods.
- Reduce vehicle idling and single-car occupancy car dependency.
- Expand bike sharing and rentals throughout all neighborhoods.

### **Disaster Preparedness**

A number of survey respondents discussed disaster preparedness and the need to respond to extreme weather events.

- Support fire risk management.
- Language access of alerts and messages during extreme weather events.
- Create wildfire community drill programs.
- Establish resiliency hubs and programs to distribute resources during extreme weather.

### **Equal Access**

Survey respondents wanted all benefits, incentives, and any other improvements created through the climate and resilience policies to be accessible to all Spokane community members.

- Ensure any incentives can also be applied to renters and higher intensity residential development, not just property owners and single-unit homes.
- Complete accessibility audits to ensure all community members benefit from infrastructure investments.
- Provide rebates and grants to support climate resiliency for all incomes.
- Support social needs beyond climate resiliency while implementing climate-related policies.

### **Sustainable Development**

Additional considerations related to growth, future development, and City policies were identified by survey respondents.

- Limit sprawl, focusing on infill development.
- Centralize services within neighborhoods for easier access.
- Deconstruction of all building demolitions.
- Retrofit historic and other existing buildings for climate resilience.

- Support greater access to farmers markets and local regenerative farming practices while preserving existing local agricultural lands.
- Require native and drought tolerant landscaping for all new development and protect mature trees during construction.
- Support affordable housing and climate-friendly housing projects.

## Prioritization

### What factors should be weighted when choosing policies to implement?

Community members were asked to rank different ways to weigh policies to help prioritize implementation. While there may be overlap between some of the factors, many if not most topics are interrelated, this question forced ranking to identify local priorities. Survey respondents were asked to rank factors from 1 to 10 in priority. Those factors were: cost considerations; timeframe to implement; estimated emissions reduction; community health benefits; promotes equity and environmental justice; co-benefits (actions that improve multiple aspects of Spokane's community); feasibility, support, and readiness; action prioritizes overburdened communities; reduction of environmental harm; and none (in case none of the factors were important to the respondent).

**Reduction of environmental harm** was collectively ranked the highest, followed by a tie between **community health benefits, co-benefits, and feasibility, support, and readiness**, and then **cost considerations**. When it comes to the topics ranked first the most, **cost considerations** received the most votes, followed by **reduction of environmental harm** and **co-benefits**. 6.7% of survey respondents ranked "none" of the factors as important to consider, while 70.91% ranked the **none** option last; these numbers were left off the below table for graph readability.

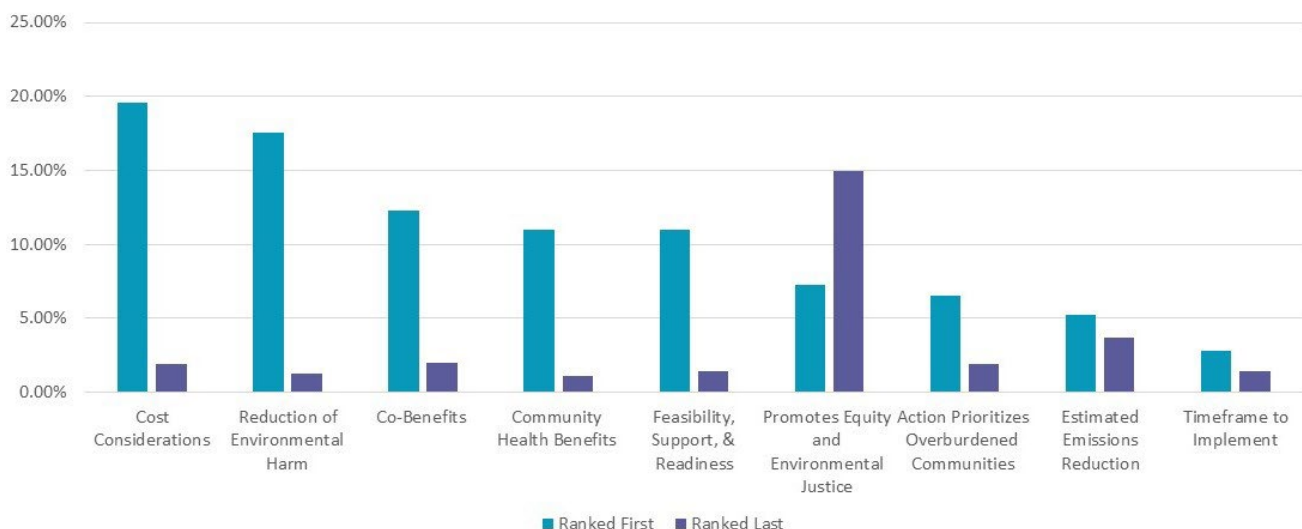


Figure 3 Graph illustrating the number of respondents who ranked prioritization factors first and last. Source: 2025 City of Spokane Community Climate Policy Survey.

## What else should be considered when prioritizing policies?

To capture any additional prioritization elements, survey respondents were asked if there was anything else that should be considered. A number of responses noted that prioritizations were dependent on the type of policy being considered. Recurring themes from the open-ended responses include **community support**; impact on the **economy and property taxes**; **urgency** of need; **measurability** of outcomes; **scale of impact**; **scientific and Tribal support**; **transparency** of action and **ease of public understanding**; **impact on safety, accessibility, and livability**; impact fairness or geographic **distribution of benefits**; and **efficiency**. It was also noted that policies should be **flexible**, being able to respond to evolving needs or technological advancements. The **longevity of the outcome** – rather than focusing on large, short-term changes – was also highlighted.

## Who Responded?

All demographic related questions were optional and not completed by all survey takers. Despite not having information for all respondents, the collected information provides a general understanding of who completed the survey. Knowing who was reached through the survey allows for more accurate analysis and better-informed conclusions by:

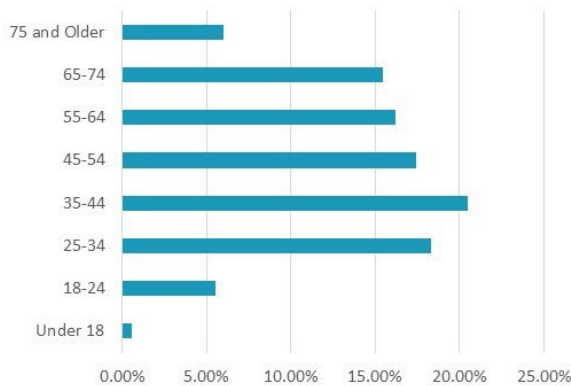
- **Understanding Different Needs:** Identify patterns and trends within specific age, income, or other groups
- **Improving Decision-Making:** Support targeted strategies based on the characteristics of different respondents
- **Ensuring Representation:** Ensure the survey is inclusive and representatives of various segments in the population - who is missing?

It is worth noting that the Policy Survey asked less identifying questions than the Community Climate Planning Survey (Community Survey). This is because the first survey focused on respondents' lived experiences, while this survey focused on future policy. However, policy direction can be dependent on ones' lived experience, with a number of demographic questions found to provide relevant perspective.

## What are your household age groups?

There was a range of age groups who completed the survey, including youth under 18. However, the most responses came from the age groups of 35-44, 25-34, and 45-54. This varies from the Community Survey, where 65-74 went from the third highest response rate to the fifth highest in the Policy Survey. People were also asked if there were children under 18 years of age in their immediate household. 30.54% of survey respondents said "Yes", similar to prior responses.

### What is your age group?



### Do you have children under 18 in your immediate household?

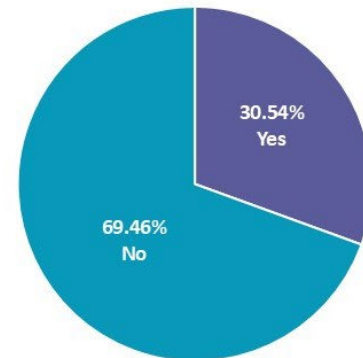


Figure 4 Graphs illustrating household age groups of survey respondents.  
Source: 2025 City of Spokane Community Climate Policy Survey.

### What is your race and ethnicity?

Of those who provided their race and ethnicity, a higher percentage of survey takers are members of vulnerable populations identified in the [Spokane Climate Impacts and Climate Justice Memo](#) than the City of Spokane population as a whole. For instance, 1.9% of the City of Spokane's population is Black or African American, compared to 3.99% of survey respondents. All response rates other than White or Caucasian increased from those of the Community Survey.

	Survey Responses	Spokane Population *
Black or African American	3.99%	1.9%
American Indian, Native American, or Alaska Native	4.80%	1.1%
Asian or Asian American	3.62%	2.2%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	1.63%	0.6%
White or Caucasian	72.65%	84.8%
Other	4.21%	9.4% **
Prefer Not to Say	14.71%	

\* Demographic data is from American Community Survey (ACS), 2023 update

\*\*Data point is a combination of Other and Two or More Races to better reflect the survey question structure

## What is your household size?

There were a range of household sizes indicated by survey responses. Approximately 14% were one-person households, while 40.5% were two-person. Approximately 45.5% of respondents were in households of 3 or more.

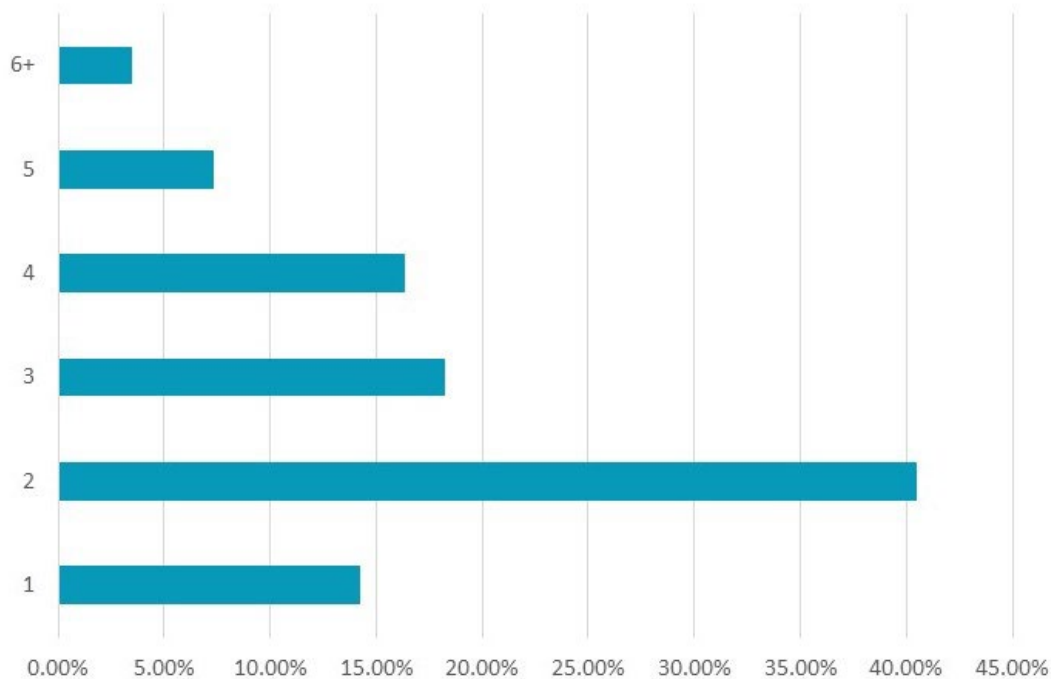


Figure 5 Graph illustrating indicated household size of survey respondents. Source: 2025 City of Spokane Community Climate Policy Survey.

## What is your household income?

To understand the potential ability to respond to or be resilient from climate hazards, or the potential impact of certain policies, survey respondents were asked for their approximate household income. The estimated median household income for the City of Spokane, based on 2024 inflation-adjusted dollars from the United States Census Bureau, is \$78,783, +/- \$5,004 (increased from the estimated 2023 income of \$65,745). Approximately 36.5% of survey respondents indicated a household income less than the estimated median household income.

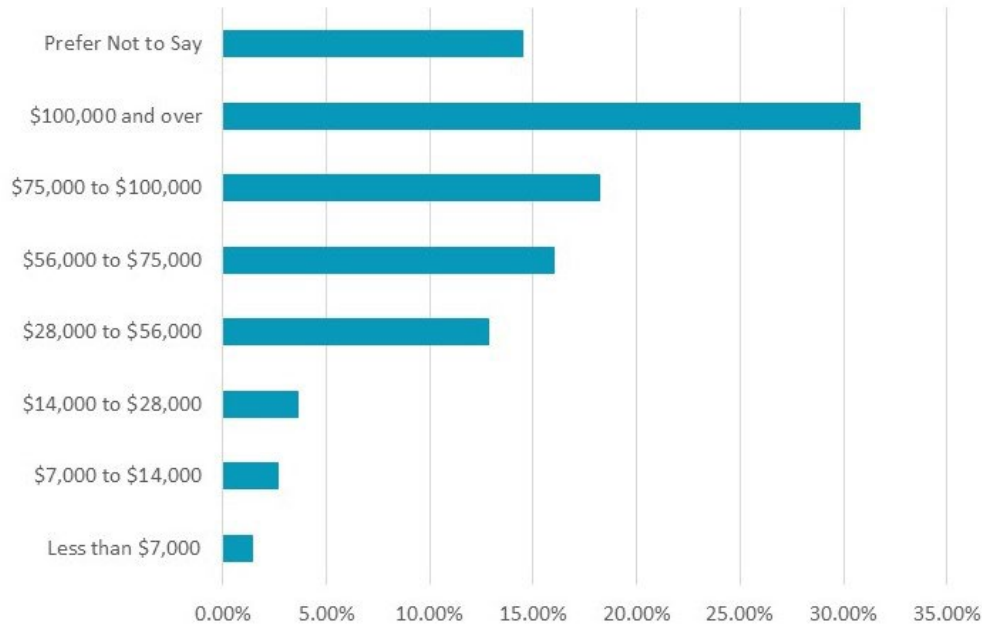


Figure 6 Graph illustrating indicated incomes of survey respondents. Source: 2025 City of Spokane Community Climate Policy Survey.

## Next Steps

The Community Climate Policy Survey kicked off discussion around policy to address the identified climate hazards experienced by the community. The engagement will continue throughout 2025 and 2026 and will be jointly considered along with data and scientific analysis throughout the Climate Planning effort, ultimately resulting in proposed climate and resiliency focused policies to be incorporated into the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan. The public is encouraged to stay engaged and keep an eye out for future opportunities to have their voice heard.



- **Stay Informed:** Follow the City of Spokane on social media and [sign up for email updates](#) to stay up-to-date on the latest developments in our climate planning efforts. You can also find more information on the project webpage at [my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning](https://my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning).
- **Attend Events:** Look out for upcoming community workshops and events to chat, share information, and have your thoughts on climate planning heard.
- **Participate in Engage Spokane:** Community members can weigh in on Spokane's climate and resiliency planning efforts through [Engage Spokane](#), an online community space to offer input and help shape the future of our thriving city.



- **Share Your Voice:** Your input is crucial in shaping our city's response to growing climate hazards. Join us for community workshops, town hall meetings, and online surveys to share your ideas, concerns, and priorities. You can also directly email the Climate Planning project team at [climateplanning@spokanecity.org](mailto:climateplanning@spokanecity.org).

## Appendix A – Survey Analytics

Analytics of survey responses and outreach efforts are documented to provide insight into how the survey was taken and shared.

### SurveyMonkey Analytics

The Community Climate Policy Survey used SurveyMonkey to create and distribute the survey to the community. With a total of **1,419**, the **survey completion rate was 100%**. This means everyone who started the survey submitted their responses. The first full week of August saw the most survey responses in one week, corresponding with the start of larger community distribution.

The survey was provided in **six languages**: English, Spanish, Arabic, Russian, Marshallese, and Vietnamese. One response was submitted through the Spanish survey, and two were submitted through the Russian survey. While not a high rate of responses, translation of the survey provided an opportunity for more community members to learn about the survey and Climate Planning efforts.

### Digital Media Analytics

The City of Spokane leveraged its digital media to promote the Community Climate Planning Survey. A blog post and a news release advertising the survey were published. A total of **seven City newsletters** from various Departments and including the citywide Community Update newsletter reached over **80,000 unique emails** and resulted in **over 700 individual “clicks”** to learn more about the survey. Collectively, through the various City social media channels, the survey was **seen over 50,000 times**. The most popular post had **over 9,000 views** alone, with **149 individual link clicks**.

### Community Distribution

A focused effort to distribute the Community Climate Planning Survey outside of typical platforms was undertaken. A digital media kit with graphics and newsletter and social media copy was sent out to City departments and community partners. These partnerships helped amplify the survey with their audience through newsletters and social media posts.

Non-digital efforts included physically posting flyers at Spokane libraries, throughout City Hall, and general community boards throughout the city. Survey flyers were available at the City Council Legislative Session sign up table and City staff promoted the survey during a tabling event outside City Council Chambers before the August 25, 2025 legislative session. The survey was also

advertised during numerous Plan Commission and Climate Resiliency & Sustainability Board meetings.

### Commute Smart Northwest

Commute Smart Northwest, an employer-based program meeting the Commute Trip Reduction Law, promotes commute options that reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips and associated air pollution by working with area agencies and businesses. Distribution went to their **over 110 participating employers** in Spokane County, followed by their own internal circulation.

**BRIEFING PAPER: Avista Energy Efficiency and Clean Building Program**  
**City of Spokane**  
**Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board**  
**10/9/2025**

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*Note to presenters: The CRSB is interested in having workshops with about 2/3 presenter time and 1/3 of a workshop reserved for questions and discussion.*

**Subject:**

Avista to provide a presentation to CRSB on energy efficiency incentives and its clean building program. Avista will be represented by Michele Drake (Sr. Energy Efficiency Program Manager) and Tracie Orgel (Account Executive) during presentation.

**Background:**

**Energy Efficiency Programs**

Avista's energy efficiency initiatives are designed to help customers reduce energy use and lower costs through incentives, technical support, and conservation programs. These programs are guided by Washington's Energy Independence Act (EIA) and include both electric and natural gas conservation targets.

**Clean Buildings Program**

Avista's Clean Buildings Accelerator is a free, structured support program designed to help building owners comply with Washington's Clean Buildings Performance Standard (HB 1257), which mandates energy-use intensity (EUI) targets for commercial buildings over 20,000 sq. ft. Avista also offers **rebates and incentives** for energy-efficient upgrades like lighting, HVAC, insulation, and building controls, which can help offset compliance cost

**Relationship to Plans/Actions:**

Avista's energy efficiency and clean buildings programs directly support the City of Spokane's goals outlined in its Comprehensive Plan and Sustainability Action Plan (SAP). The City's SAP calls for deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and improved building performance, while the Comprehensive Plan emphasizes sustainable infrastructure and environmental stewardship.

Avista's offerings—such as rebates for energy-efficient upgrades and the Clean Buildings Accelerator—help building owners meet state mandates and reduce energy use, aligning with Spokane's targets for emissions-neutral buildings and climate resilience.

These programs also reinforce Spokane's environmental stewardship policies by promoting responsible energy use, reducing pollution, and supporting community-wide sustainability. Through technical assistance, incentives, and education, Avista enables residents and businesses to participate in the City's climate goals, making it a key partner in Spokane's transition to a cleaner, more efficient energy future.

**Timeline/ Further Action:**

Awareness building presentation to CRSB. No current call to action.

**BRIEFING PAPER: City Fleet Electrification  
City of Spokane  
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board  
1/9/2025**

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*Note to presenters: The CRSB is interested in having workshops with about 2/3 presenter time and 1/3 of a workshop reserved for questions and discussion.*

**Subject:**

Fleet Sustainability and Electrification – City of Spokane Fleet Services.

**Background:**

In 2021, Spokane adopted Municipal Code 07.06.175A, requiring that all replacement vehicles be powered by electricity or clean fuel when available, with a goal of reaching 100% clean fuel vehicles by 2030. Fleet Services is responsible for planning, reporting, and ensuring compliance, while also keeping essential services operating.

Clean fuel vehicles currently include electric, renewable diesel, and renewable natural gas. Electricity and renewable fuels are prioritized. Fleet Services uses lifecycle cost analysis and phased procurement to balance costs, infrastructure needs, and operational readiness to determine vehicle fitment within the City fleet.

**Relationship to Plans/Actions:**

This effort supports the City's:

Comprehensive Plan: Improved air quality and fiscal responsibility.

Sustainability Action Plan: Reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

Environmental Stewardship Policies: Demonstrating leadership in adopting clean technology.

**Timeline/ Further Action:**

Short Term: Increase purchase of electric/clean fuel vehicles, expand charging infrastructure, report annually.

Mid Term: Replace older units with clean fuel models, address specialized fleet needs.

Long Term: Achieve 100% clean fuel fleet goal.

Next Steps:

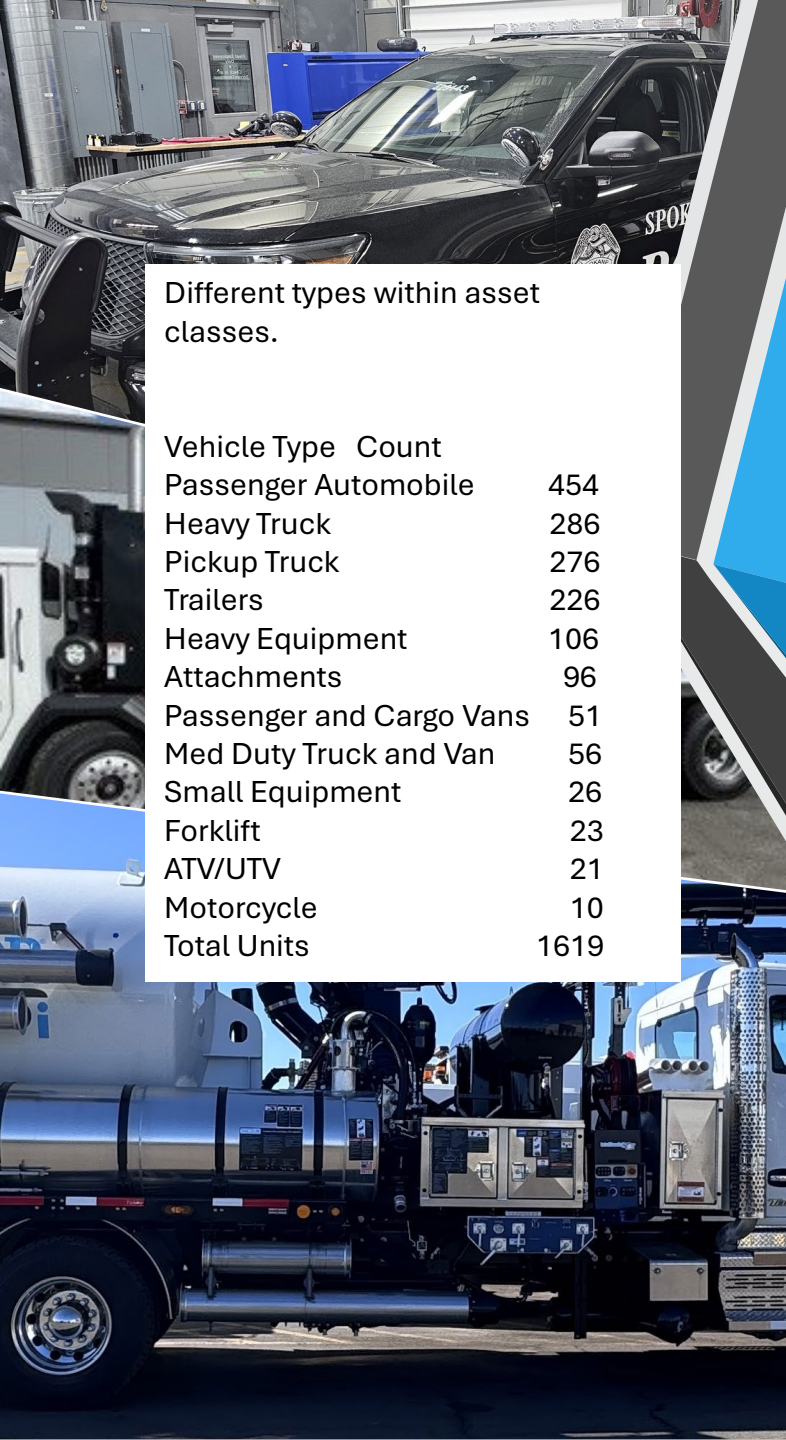
City Council support for vehicle procurement and charging infrastructure.

Opportunities for citizen engagement through sustainability updates, grants, and pilot programs.



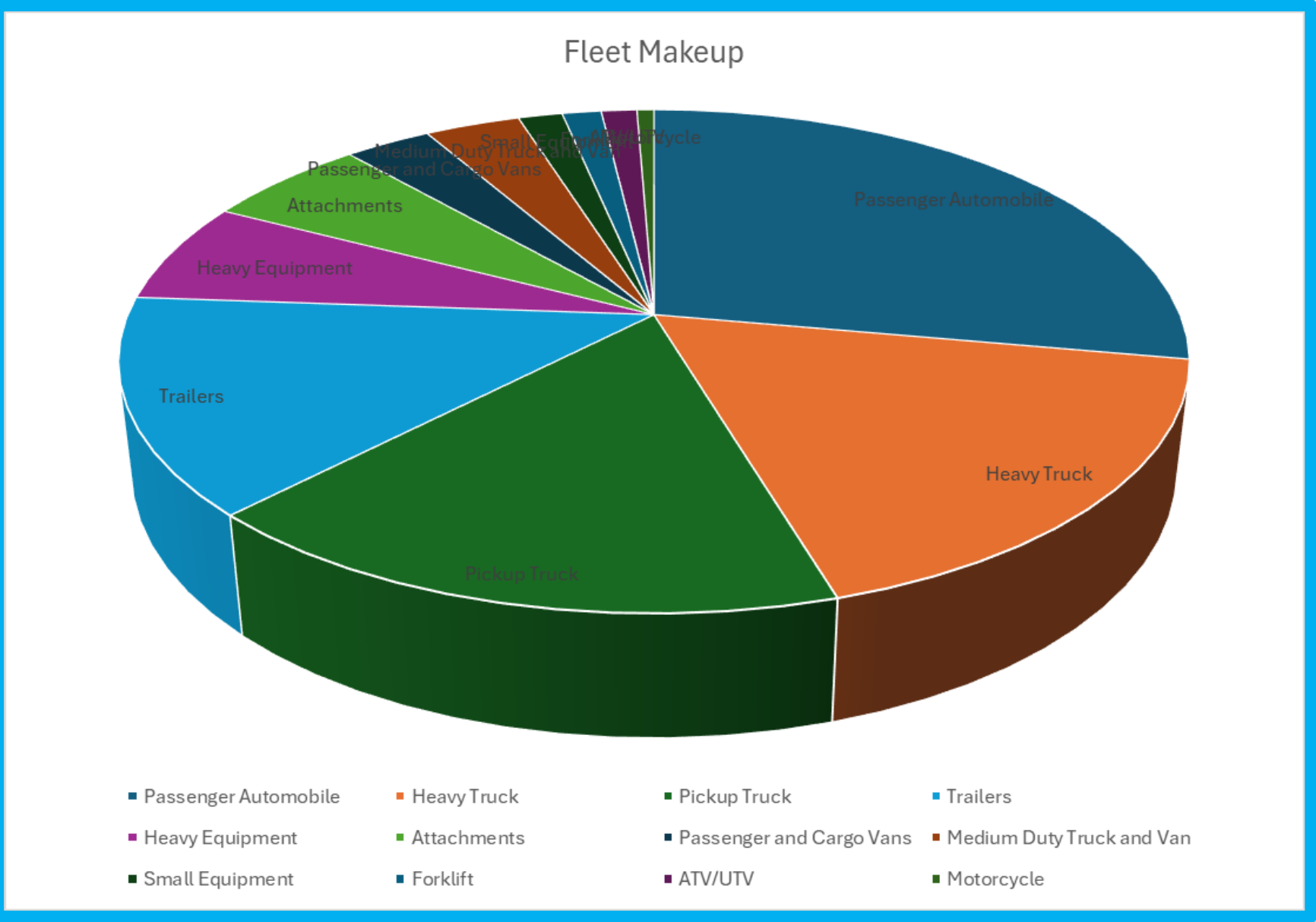
# Fleet Services Snap Shot





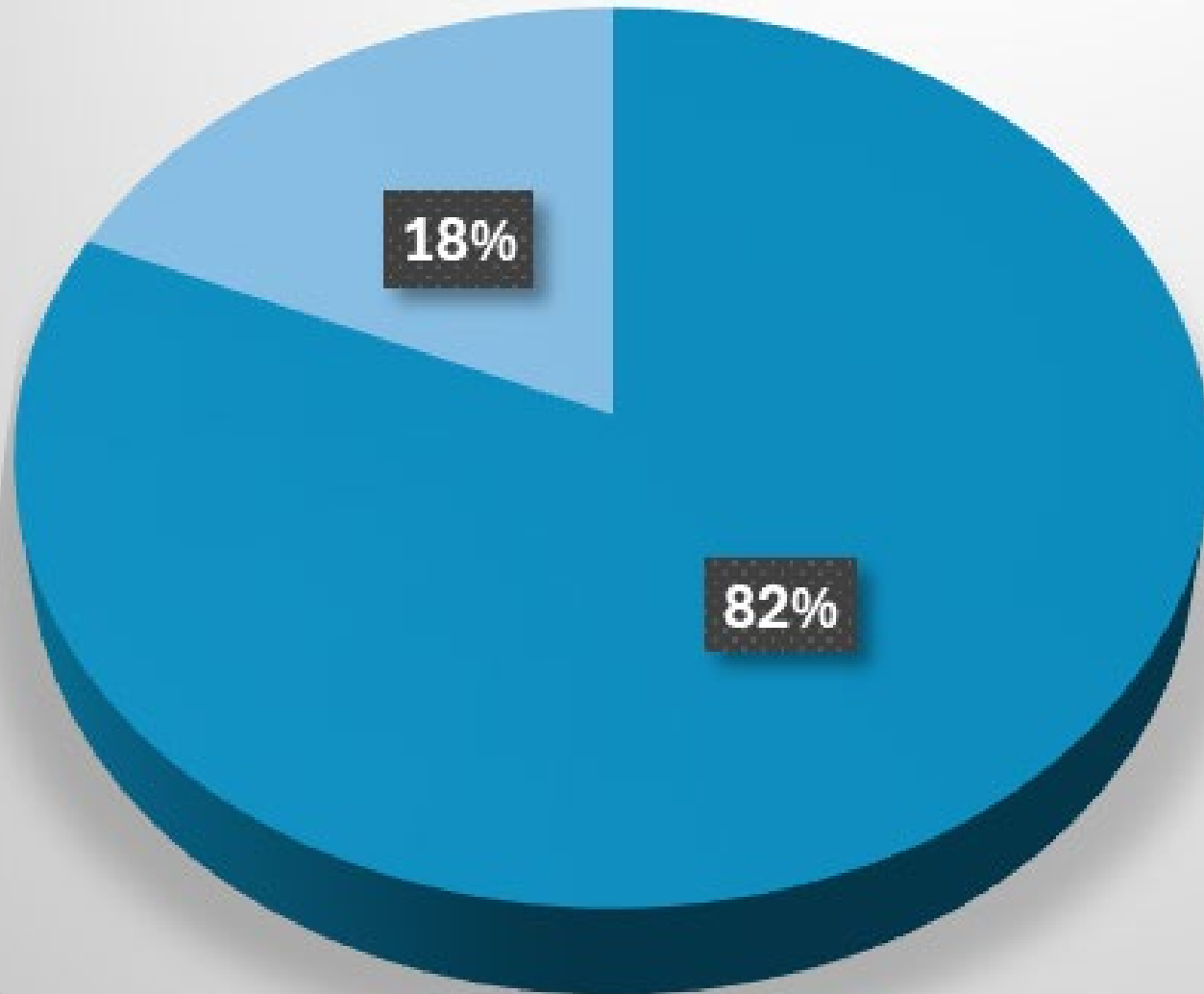
Different types within asset classes.

Vehicle Type	Count
Passenger Automobile	454
Heavy Truck	286
Pickup Truck	276
Trailers	226
Heavy Equipment	106
Attachments	96
Passenger and Cargo Vans	51
Med Duty Truck and Van	56
Small Equipment	26
Forklift	23
ATV/UTV	21
Motorcycle	10
Total Units	1619

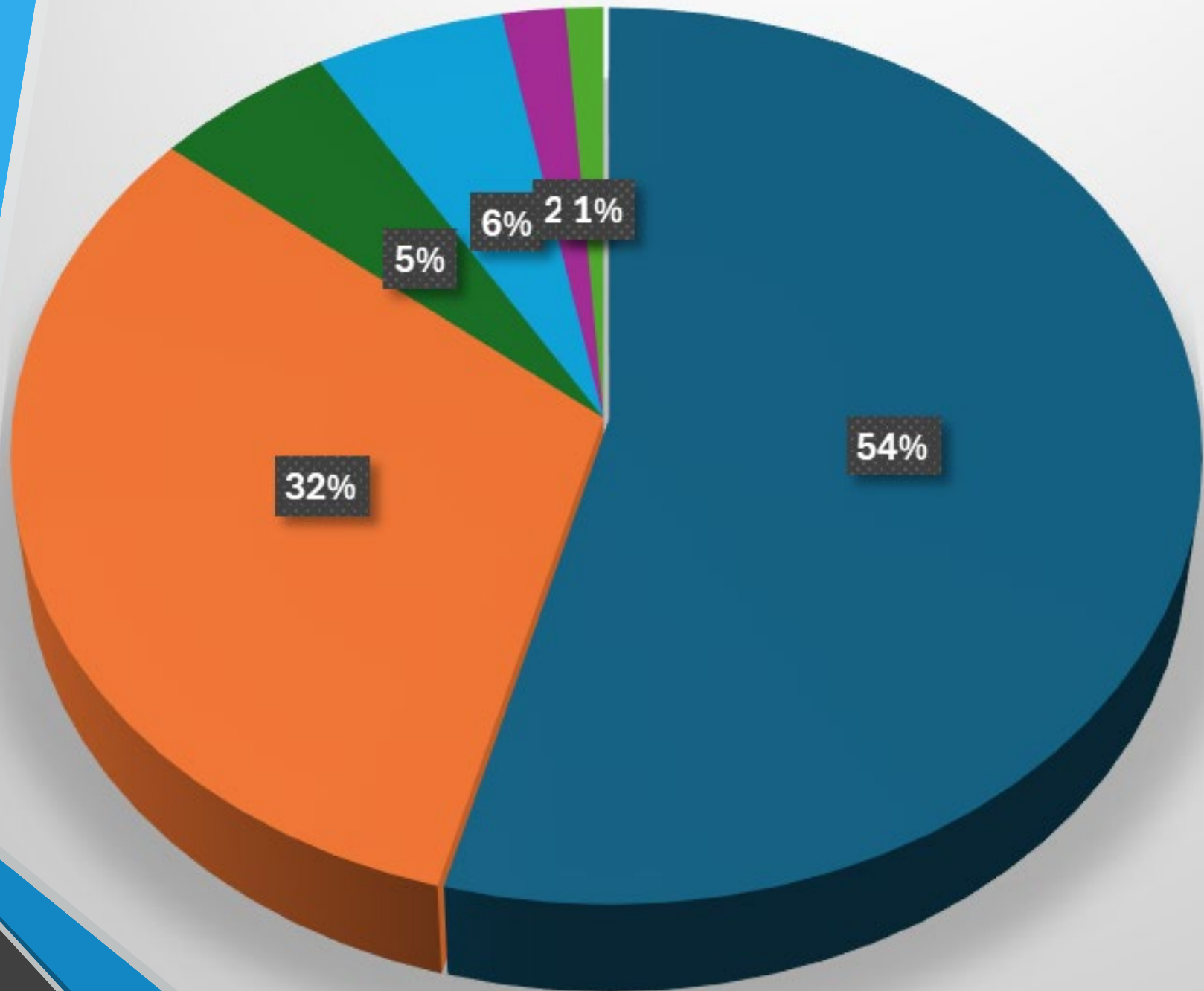




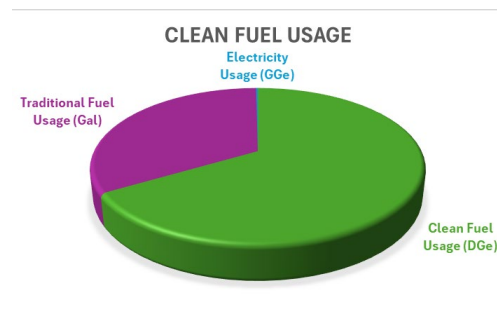
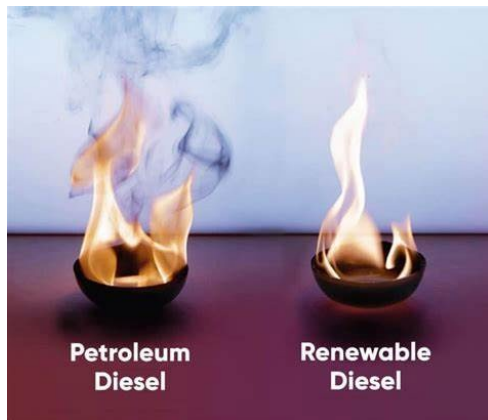
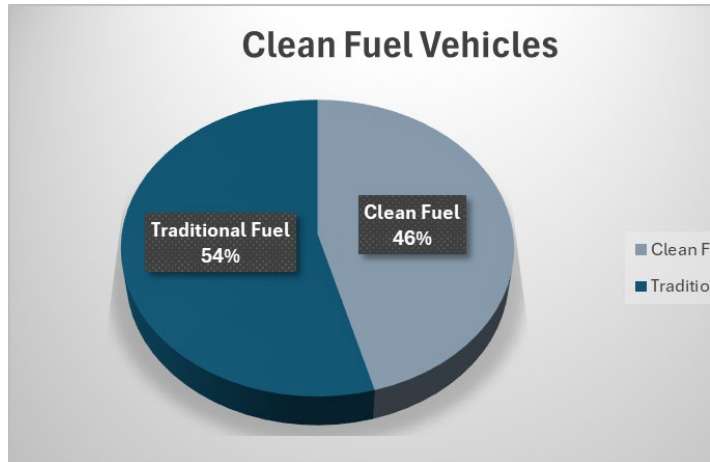
# Motorized vs Non-Motorized



- Motorized Units
- Non Motorized Units



- Gasoline
- Renewable Diesel
- Renewable Natural Gas
- Electric
- Hybrid Electric
- Propane



#### Clean Fuel Vehicles

Clean Fuel 610

Traditional Fuel 724

#### Clean Fuel Usage

Clean Fuel Usage (DGe) 784078

Traditional Fuel Usage (Gal) 392205

Electricity Usage (GGe) 2266

#### What is Clean Fuel?

Battery Electric

Renewable Diesel

Renewable Natural Gas

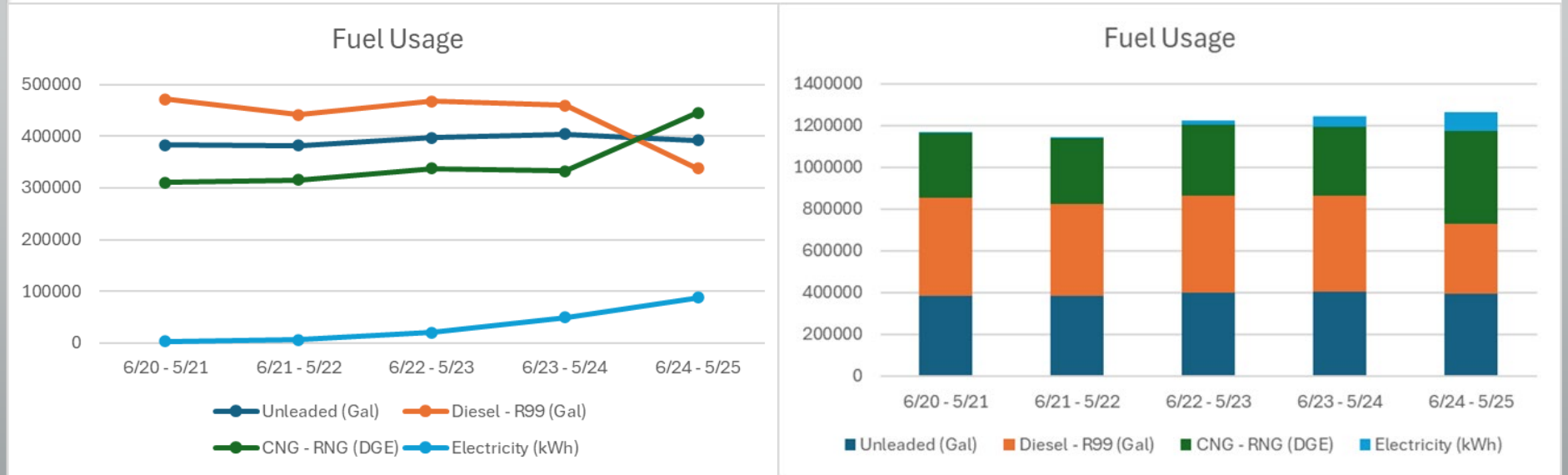
Propane

\*\*\*Hybrid being a cleaner option was purchased as a stop gap to actual clean fuels. One step at a time approach.

1/3 of our fleet is diesel vehicles, but they make up about 2/3 of our fuel consumption, allowing for easy adoption of cleaner fuels.

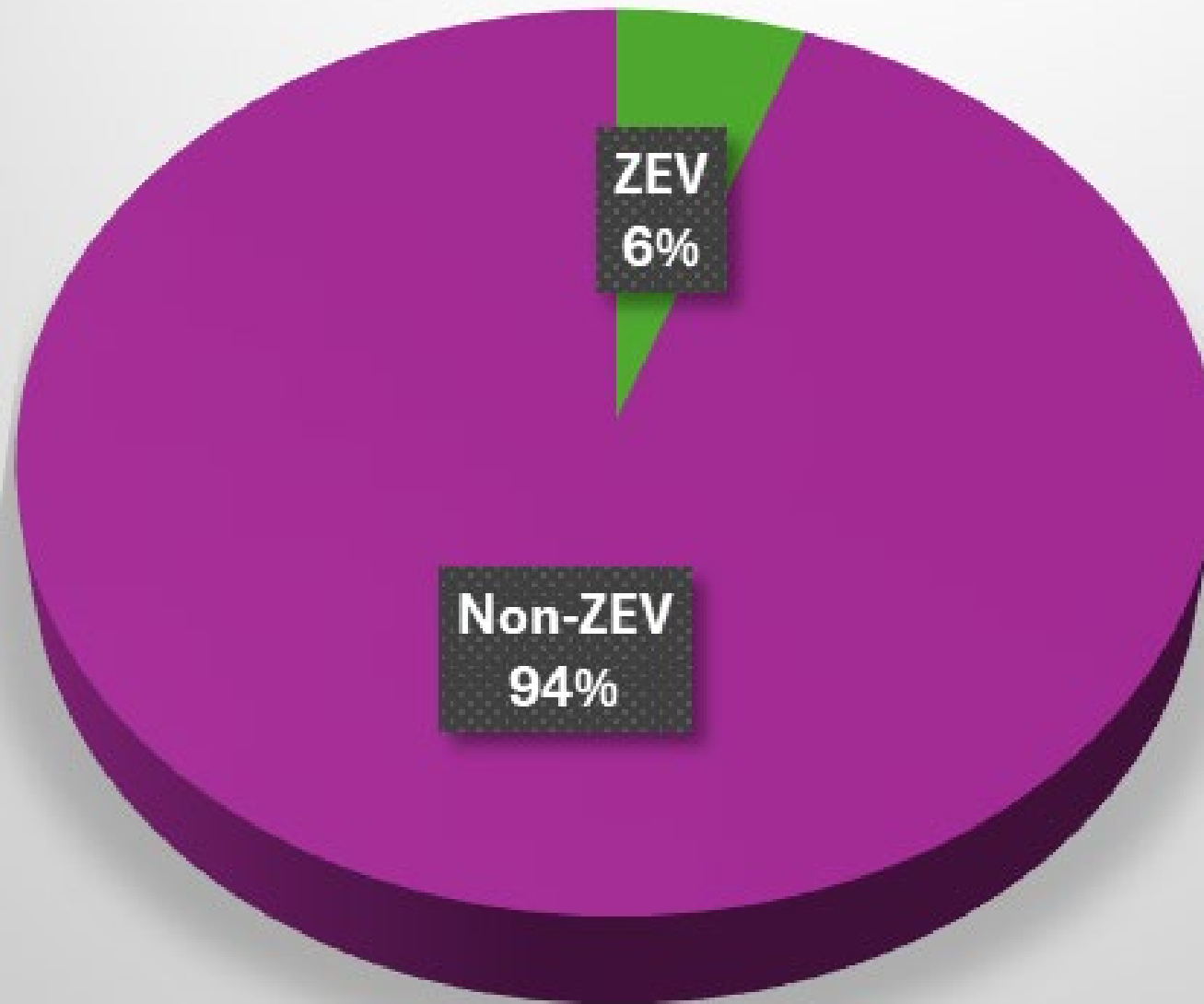
Note: We are experiencing supply issues on RD due to lack of feed stock.

Why, most of the supply is going to California due to state subsidies.



- Increased consumption of electricity
- Decrease in diesel usage with the increase of natural gas

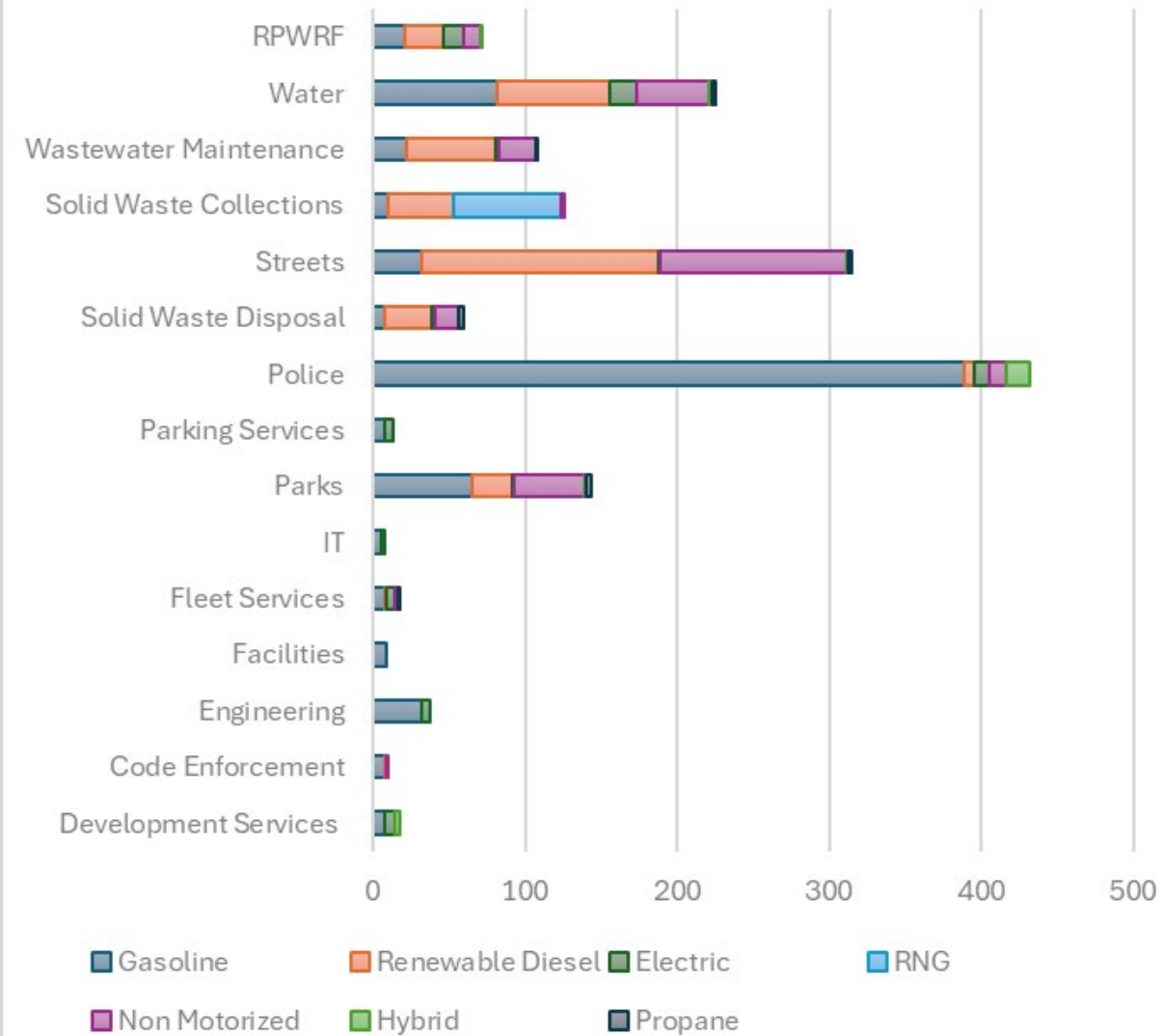
# Zero Emission Vehicles



■ ZEV  
■ Non-ZEV

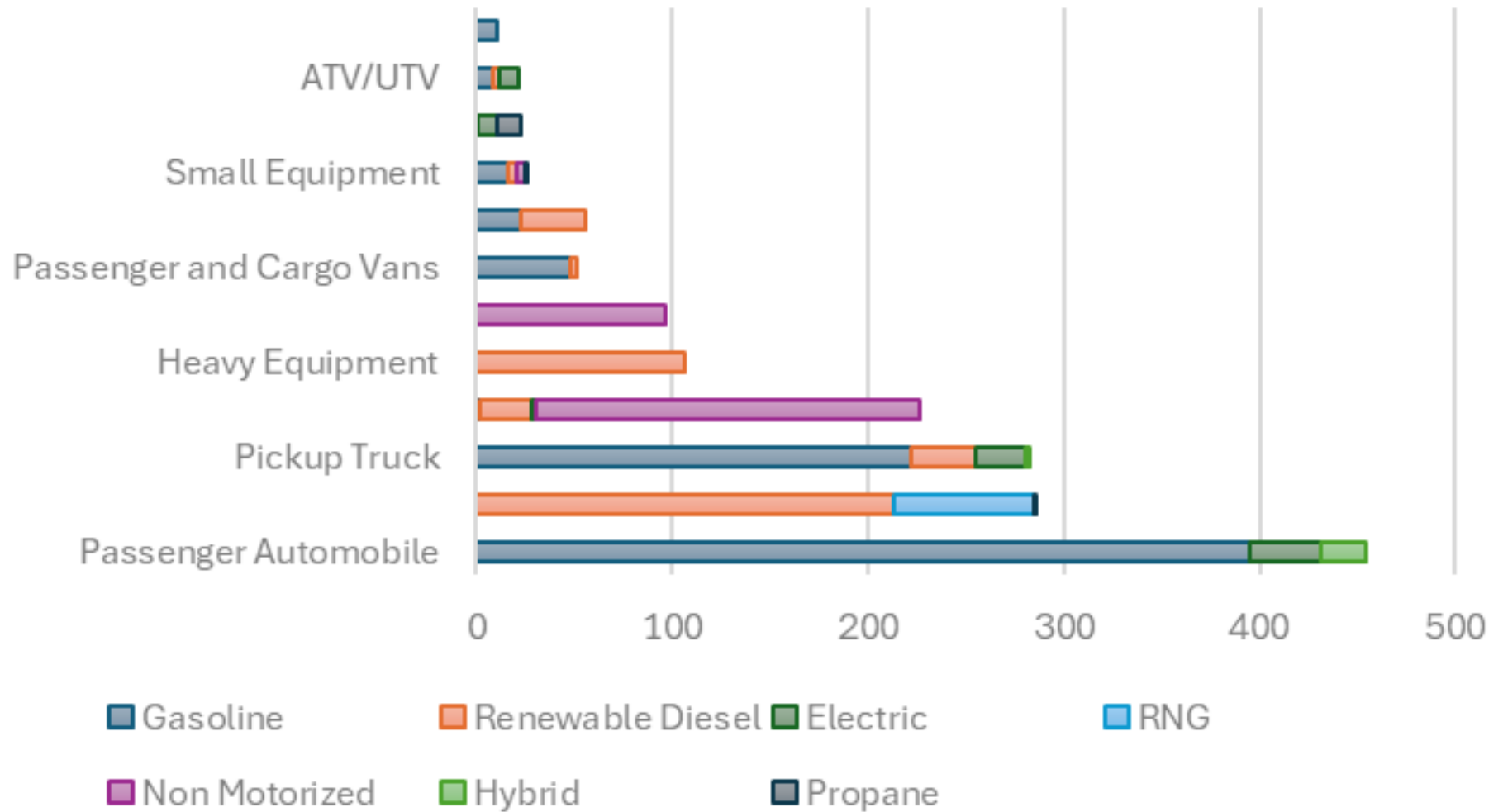
ZEV 75  
Non-ZEV 1260

Fuel Type By Department



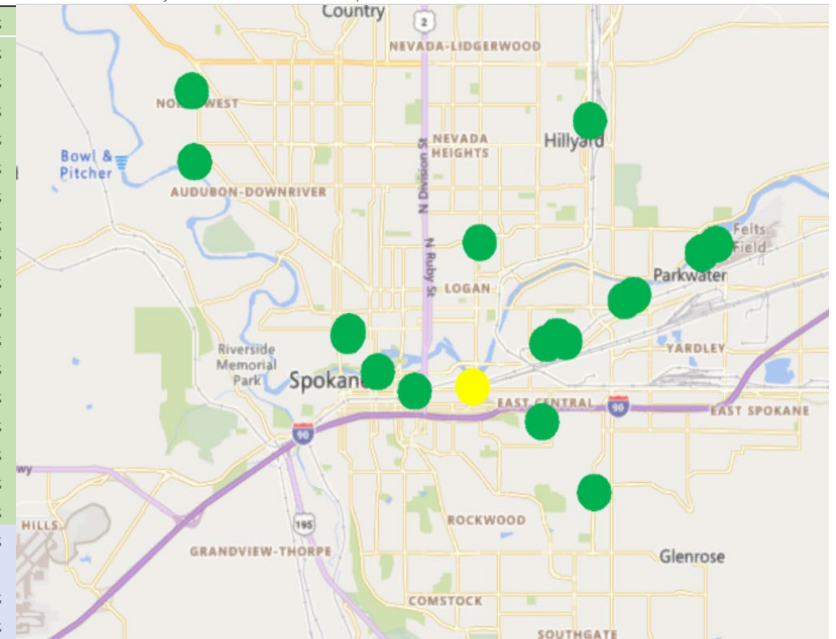


## Fuel Type by Vehicle Class



76 Charge Ports  
Completed  
18 Charge Ports in  
Progress  
DCFC held up  
awaiting grant  
confirmation

Department	Location	Charge Level	Number of chargers
Police	1414 W. Gardner (Parking lot)	DCFC/Lvl 2	8 ports
Streets	901 N. Nelson	Level 2	6 ports
Water	914 N. Foothills	Level 2	8 ports
Fleet	915 N Nelson St (Fleet Ops)	Level 2	4 ports
RPWRF	4401 W Aubrey White Parkway	Level 2	4 ports
Police	1427 W. Gardner (Detective Building)	Level 2	2 ports
Fleet	915 N Nelson St (Employee parking lot)	Level 2	6 ports
Parking Enforcement	201 W. Sprague	Level 2	6 ports
Police	2302 N Waterworks	Level 2	2 ports
Fire Training	1618 N Rebecca St	level 2	6 ports
South Precinct	500 S Stone St	Level 2	2 ports
City Hall	808 W Spokane Falls Blvd	Level 2	2 ports
Fire Station 8	1608 N Rebecca St	Level 2	6 ports
Dam	2701 N Waterworks	Level 2	2 ports
North Precinct	5124 N Market St.	Level 2	2 ports
Fire Station 14	1807 S. Perry St	Level 2	2 ports
Merkel Park Ops	5701 N Assembly St	Level 2	2 ports
Park Ops	2304 E Mallon Ave	Level 2	6 ports
Sewer Maint.	901 E. Sprague	Level 2	4 ports
Fleet	2616 E Broadway	DCFC/Lvl 2	
Finch Arboretum	3404 W Woodland Blvd	Level 2	2 ports
Manito Ops		Level 2	2 ports



# Charging Infrastructure

BRIEFING PAPER: State and Federal Legislative and Budget review  
City of Spokane  
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board  
10/9/2025

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**Subject:**

A discussion of potential City of Spokane climate and sustainability related legislative priorities going in 2026 state legislative session.

**Background:**

The 2026 legislative session will be the short 60-day supplemental session. The capital budget will be much smaller (around \$300M) and bills will need to leave committee quickly in order to have a chance of moving. Many of the City's legislative priorities will likely be similar to last year.

See below for a list of the 2025 legislative priorities as approved by the Council.

**Relationship to Plans/Actions:**

State policy and budget items can have a significant impact on the goal articulated in the City's Comprehensive Plan, the Sustainability Action Plan, and/or environmental stewardship policies of the City.

**Timeline/ Further Action:**

The CRSB can consider future resolutions and recommendations based on the direction of state policy.

## **City of Spokane 2025 Legislative Priorities**

### **Priority Issues**

#### **1. Championing Waste-to-Energy Initiatives**

Spokane is currently the only city in Washington facing financial repercussions under the Climate Commitment Act (CCA) concerning our solid waste disposal system. With projected penalties amounting to \$8 million annually by 2027, we must take action now. By advocating for the extension of landfill exemptions to waste-to-energy systems – proven through recent studies to generate fewer greenhouse gases than landfills – we can protect our environment and save residents from punitive costs, promoting equity in waste management.

#### **2. Addressing 911 Emergency Communications Tax Inequities**

Keeping Spokane residents safe is job one for the City. That's why correcting the inequity over how 911 dispatch services are funded is so important. Spokane residents pay a tax on their phone bills for emergency communications that is collected by Spokane County, then distributed to Spokane Regional Emergency Communications (SREC) for fire dispatch services. However, none of these funds go toward police dispatch services operated by the City of Spokane. Passing House Bill 1258 will ensure taxpayer fairness and fortify Spokane's police and fire departments' ability to respond quickly and effectively when it matters most.

BRIEFING PAPER: State and Federal Legislative and Budget review  
City of Spokane  
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board  
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### 3. Advocating for the Growth Management Act Extensions

To create a sustainable future, Spokane seeks an extension of the comprehensive plan review deadline under the Growth Management Act. Moving this deadline from June 30, 2026, to December 31, 2026, will afford us the time necessary to incorporate vital climate and housing data, ensuring that our planning processes benefit from thorough public input and legislative scrutiny.

### 4. Introducing a Land Value Tax Pilot Program

Spokane has the opportunity to lead with progressive taxation by piloting a local land value tax (LVT). Such a tax would stimulate the development of vacant properties, deter land speculation, and create a fairer tax structure that rewards property owners for investment rather than penalizes them for improvements. This proven approach has revitalized communities in states like Pennsylvania and can significantly improve our urban landscape.

### 5. Strategic City Capital Budget Requests

Our Capital Budget requests are designed to fiscally empower our community:

- \$3.5 million for a groundbreaking workforce housing and childcare facility.
- \$500,000 for crucial upgrades to the Spokane Police Academy, enhancing public safety training.
- \$500,000 to kickstart the development of Meadow Glen Neighborhood Park, benefiting residents of all ages.
- \$500,000 for essential upgrades to the Coeur d'Alene Park playground.

These investments reflect our commitment to improving local infrastructure and strengthening the services that define our community.

## Significant Issues

In addition to our primary goals, we are prepared to tackle other significant issues that impact our residents, including:

1. **Increased Funding for Extreme Weather Responses:** We need additional state resources to enhance our local governments' abilities to respond to extreme weather events that threaten public health.
2. **Boosting Housing Supply:** We are advocating for standardized tax incentives to streamline the conversion of commercial properties into affordable housing, which is essential in our rapidly evolving downtown area.
3. **Enabling Sidewalk Utilities:** Spokane is exploring the potential benefits of a sidewalk utility to help create people friendly streets that prioritize health, safety and accessibility for all. The utility can fund missing sidewalks, critical repairs, and ongoing maintenance which are currently property owners' responsibility. The City seeks state assistance with fiscal analysis and authorization to pilot a Spokane sidewalk utility.
4. **Use of Force Prosecutions:** The City continues to support legislation from last session that creates an Office of Independent Prosecution (OIP) within the state Attorney General's Office to help investigate and prosecute criminal conduct arising from police use of force.
5. **Indigent Defense:** The State Supreme Court is considering new reduced caseload standards for indigent defense. The City joins AWC in supporting a separate and more

detailed analysis of the current state of indigent defense for misdemeanor cases to determine what changes in the standard are warranted. Cities also seek enhanced state funding for indigent defense.

6. **Document Recording Fee Administrative Charge:** Counties that distribute a portion of document recording fees to cities within their jurisdiction for housing and homelessness programs may assess a 10 percent administrative charge. The City of Spokane and Spokane Valley support legislation to clarify this percentage is the total amount that can be retained from all cities receiving funds, not from each individual city, to maximize funding for these critical programs.
7. **Cryptocurrency Consumer Protection:** Spokane Police Department has been working with the state Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) to stem the tide of digital-currency fraud including new regulations on digital kiosks (ATMs). The City supports DFI-request legislation that imposes daily transaction limits and caps fees charged by operators.
8. **Product Stewardship for Packaging (WRAP Act):** The City is a longstanding supporter of proposals to establish a product stewardship framework for packaging to reduce the impact on local solid waste programs.
9. **Increase Availability of Affordable and Accessible Childcare:** The City supports efforts to increase affordable childcare access statewide, including reducing barriers for providers, construction of new facilities, increasing workforce development, and improved access for state subsidized childcare slots.
10. **Community Partner Capital Budget Request:** The City supports a \$3 million for Excelsior Wellness Infrastructure Expansion project (behavioral health primary care, youth mental health & substance abuse recovery).

## Results from the 2025 Legislative Session:

Notable funding highlights include:

- North Spokane Corridor (NSC): An addition of \$51.7 million to the transportation budget
- Spokane River Centennial Trail renovation, Phase 2: \$2.271 million
- Spokane Police Department BLEA training center expansion: \$750,000
- Northeast Public Development Authority housing and childcare: \$350,000
- East-Central NSC noise mitigation: \$300,000
- Fish Lake Trail connection: \$1.0 million
- Coeur d'Alene Park playground and restroom replacement: \$480,000
- 

The Council and City administration celebrated several legislative victories with the passage of House Bill 1258, which ensures fair sharing of the 911 excise tax revenue collected from Spokane residents for emergency dispatch services. This bill is significant as Spokane Regional Emergency Communications (SREC) has set a deadline of January 1, 2026, for the City to establish its own 911 service. It promotes taxpayer fairness and strengthens the capabilities of Spokane's police and fire departments. Additionally, Senate Bill 5558, supported by bipartisan sponsors, extends

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the deadline for comprehensive plan reviews under the Growth Management Act by six months. This extension allows the City to incorporate critical climate and housing data better, ensuring thorough public input and legislative scrutiny.