

**SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE/AGENDA OF THE
SPOKANE PLAN COMMISSION**

**THE SPOKANE PLAN COMMISSION WILL BE HOLDING A
COMBINED MEETING WITH THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND
SUSTAINABILITY BOARD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2025,
AT 2:00PM – CITY HALL COUNCIL BRIEFING CENTER**

The Spokane Plan Commission will be holding a Special Meeting with the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, in the City Hall Council Briefing Center, 808 W. Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, WA. The purpose of the meeting is to consider and discuss items on the attached agenda.

The special meeting will be open to the public. The meeting can be attended in-person or virtually via the Teams link on page two of the agenda. Public comment will be accepted at the beginning of the meeting for anything not on the agenda either in-person or via Teams.

SEE ATTACHED AGENDA



Spencer Gardner
Secretary to the Plan Commission

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. 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.

Special Meeting Notice PC 10.29.25

Final Audit Report

2025-10-14

Created:	2025-10-14
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"Special Meeting Notice PC 10.29.25" History

-  Document created by Angela McCall (amccall@spokanecity.org)
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SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE/AGENDA OF THE SPOKANE CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY BOARD

THE SPOKANE PLAN COMMISSION WILL BE HOLDING A COMBINED MEETING WITH THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY BOARD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2025 AT 2:00PM – CITY HALL COUNCIL BRIEFING CENTER

The Spokane Plan Commission will be holding a Special Meeting with the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, in the City Hall Council Briefing Center, 808 W Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA. The purpose of the meeting is to consider and discuss items on the attached agenda.

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SEE ATTACHED AGENDA


Jon Snyder (Oct 15, 2025 08:44:20 PDT)

Jon Snyder

Secretary to the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board

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Special Meeting Notice - CRSB

Final Audit Report

2025-10-15

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"Special Meeting Notice - CRSB" History

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Special Plan Commission/CRSB Agenda

Wednesday, October 29, 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:

3 minutes each

Citizens are invited to address the Plan Commission on any topic not on the agenda.

Commission Briefing Session:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of current agenda

Planning Staff
All

Workshop:

1. [PlanSpokane 2046: Climate Policy Integration/Discussion](#)

Maren Murphy/BERK/Cascadia

Adjournment: The next regularly scheduled PC meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025.

*Items denoted with an asterisk may include final action taken by the Commission. Written public comments will be accepted on these items up to one hour prior to the start of the meeting. Verbal testimony may also be accepted during the meeting.

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Special Plan Commission/CRSB Meeting Information

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Plan Commission 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

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 258 892 765 628 0

Passcode: Zx6Bm6Sq

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

Join with a video conferencing device

cityofspokane@m.webex.com

Video Conference ID: 118 095 962 2

Dial in by phone

[+1 323-618-1887](tel:+13236181887), [135298885#](tel:+135298885) United States, Los Angeles

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 135 298 885#

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: plancommission@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 Plan Commission meetings will be recorded and are available online.

BRIEFING PAPER
City of Spokane
Plan Commission
Workshop
October 29, 2025

Subject

The Plan Commission has responsibility to review and recommend changes to the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan in its entirety. The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board has a responsibility to advise on climate resilience and greenhouse gas emissions reduction policies, which will be integrated into each element of the comprehensive plan. The special meeting will provide an opportunity for the Plan Commission/Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board to have a dialogue about the centrally important Comprehensive Plan land use and transportation elements.

The following attachments are provided for reference:

- Memo providing an overview of the climate planning process and policy development
- Draft PPT slides for policy discussion:
 - Framework goals for land use and transportation

Additional suggested background materials include:

- [PlanSpokane 2046](#)
- [Video Series - City of Spokane, Washington](#)
- [PlanSpokane Community Visioning Engagement Summary](#)
- [PlanSpokane 2046 - Chapter Review Drafts](#)
- [Spokane Climate Planning](#)
- [Commerce Climate Policy Explorer](#)
- [Community Climate Policy Survey Results Summary](#)

Impact

The climate element should result in reductions in overall GHG emissions, must enhance resilience to and avoid the adverse impacts of climate change, and must include efforts to reduce localized emissions and avoid creating or worsening climate impacts to vulnerable populations and overburdened communities. The climate element will be integrated throughout the Comprehensive Plan elements such as housing, transportation, land use, utilities, and natural environment.

Funding

The WA Dept. of Commerce has made available funding for climate planning for the 2023-2025 biennium, with the City of Spokane eligible for \$700,000 in legislative appropriation for climate planning through 2029. The WA Dept. 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 at www.climate.wa.gov.

Joint Meeting: Plan Commission & Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board | October 29, 2025, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Purpose

- The Plan Commission has responsibility to review and recommend changes to the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan in its entirety.
- The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board has a responsibility to advise on climate resilience and greenhouse gas emissions reduction policies, which will be integrated into each element of the comprehensive plan.
- The special meeting will provide an opportunity for the Plan Commission/Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board to have a dialogue about the centrally important Comprehensive Plan land use and transportation elements.

Progression of Topics

Welcome & Introductions (10 minutes) – Jesse Bank, Plan Commission President

PlanSpokane 2046 Overview (20 minutes) – Lisa Grueter (BERK), Tirrell Black

- Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update & EIS Process
- Growth Alternatives Overview

Climate Planning Overview (15 minutes) – Lisa Grueter, Maren Murphy, Logan Callen

- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction
- Climate Resilience

PC/CRSB Integration & Process (15 minutes) – Spencer Gardner

Policy Discussion (50 minutes) – Maddie Seibert (Cascadia Consulting), Lisa Grueter

- Climate Framework for Land Use and Transportation

Next Steps (10 minutes) – Maren Murphy, Spencer Gardner

- Climate Policy Integration
- Proposed Joint Meeting: January 28, 2026

Memo

Date: October 29, 2025

To: Maren Murphy, Principal Planner, City of Spokane

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

From: Lisa Grueter, AICP, Principal, BERK

RE: Joint Plan Commission and Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board – Policy Discussion

Introduction

The Plan Commission has responsibility to review and recommend changes to the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan in its entirety. The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board (CRSB) has a responsibility to advise on climate resilience and greenhouse gas emissions reduction policies, which will be integrated into each element of the comprehensive plan. The special meeting on October 29, 2025 will provide an opportunity for the Plan Commission/Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board to have a dialogue about the centrally important Comprehensive Plan land use and transportation elements.

This memo provides an overview of the Climate Policy Development Approach and Climate Element Requirements. The Attachment includes slides and discussion questions. Slides also include additional information about the overall Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update.

For additional background information, please see the City's PlanSpokane website:
<https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/>.

Climate Policy Development Approach

The City of Spokane intends to 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). This is Phase 2 of the climate planning effort funded by the Washington Department of Commerce. See Exhibit 1.

Exhibit 1: Steps to Integrate Climate into Comprehensive Plan



Updated: July 1, 2025

The [Shaping Spokane Comprehensive Plan](#) includes 14 chapters, and climate goals and policies will be integrated into each chapter. The City has begun a thorough [Chapter Review](#) process with the Plan Commission and community.

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. See Exhibit 2.

Policies would be informed by engagement such as through the community survey that closed on August 31, 2025 and a future series of discussion groups, as well as the ongoing Tribal Engagement Workgroup (TEW), and City advisory and legislative bodies.

The policy development and prioritization work is focused in fall 2025 and winter 2026. Meetings and hearings with legislative bodies is planned for spring and summer 2026.

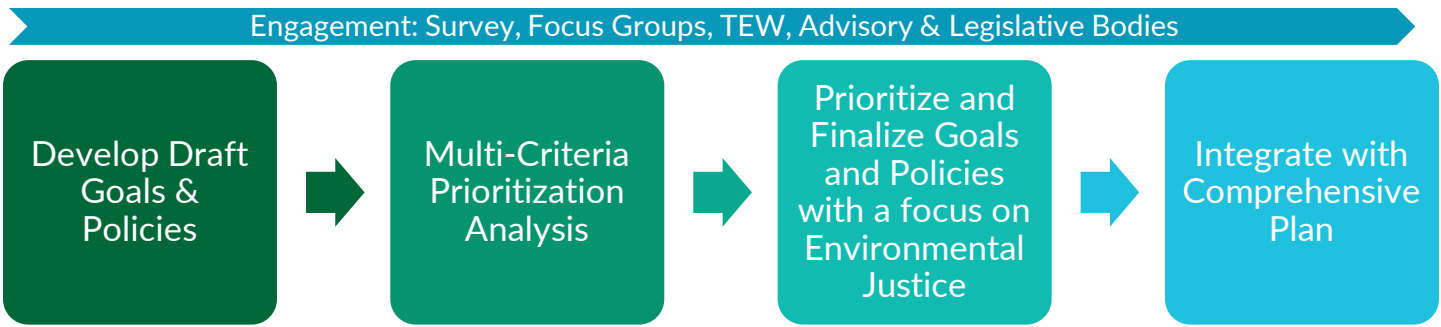
Common definitions of goals and policies

A goal is an aspirational and general statement of the community's vision or desired outcome for the City.

Policies are more specific principles that guide how the community will meet goals, while still being general enough to allow for different ways to implement (e.g., both incentives and pilot programs).

See also the [Climate Planning Glossary](#)

Exhibit 2: Key Climate Policy Development Approaches



Climate Element Requirements

The City intends to address climate goals and policies in each of its 14 chapters. Climate goals and policies will address resilience and mitigation of climate impacts, as well as environmental justice, per RCW [36.70A.070](#)(9). See Exhibit 3.

Exhibit 3: Summary Climate Element Requirements (RCW 36.70a.070(9))

RESILIENCE SUB-ELEMENT	GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION SUB-ELEMENT
Identify, protect, and enhance natural areas to foster resiliency to climate impacts, as well as areas of vital habitat for safe passage and species migration;	Result in reductions in overall greenhouse gas emissions generated by transportation and land use within the jurisdiction but without increasing greenhouse gas emissions elsewhere in the state;
Identify, protect, and enhance community resiliency to climate change impacts, including social, economic, and built environment factors, that support adaptation to climate impacts consistent with environmental justice; and	Result in reductions in per capita vehicle miles traveled within the jurisdiction but without increasing greenhouse gas emissions elsewhere in the state; and
Address natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change, including sea level rise, landslides, flooding, drought, heat, smoke, wildfire, and other effects of changes to temperature and precipitation patterns.	Prioritize reductions that benefit overburdened communities in order to maximize the co-benefits of reduced air pollution and environmental justice

Commerce recommends developing 20 to 40 goals and policies addressing 11 sectors important for resilience and key sectors to address in greenhouse gas emissions reductions.

Sectors to address in Resilience Goals and Policies include:

- ▶ Agriculture & Food Systems
- ▶ Buildings & Energy
- ▶ Cultural Resources

- ▶ Economic Development
- ▶ Emergency Management
- ▶ Health & Well-being
- ▶ Ecosystems
- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ Waste Management
- ▶ Water Resources
- ▶ Zoning & Development

Sectors to address in Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions include:

- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ Built Environment
- ▶ Zoning
- ▶ Energy
- ▶ Waste Management

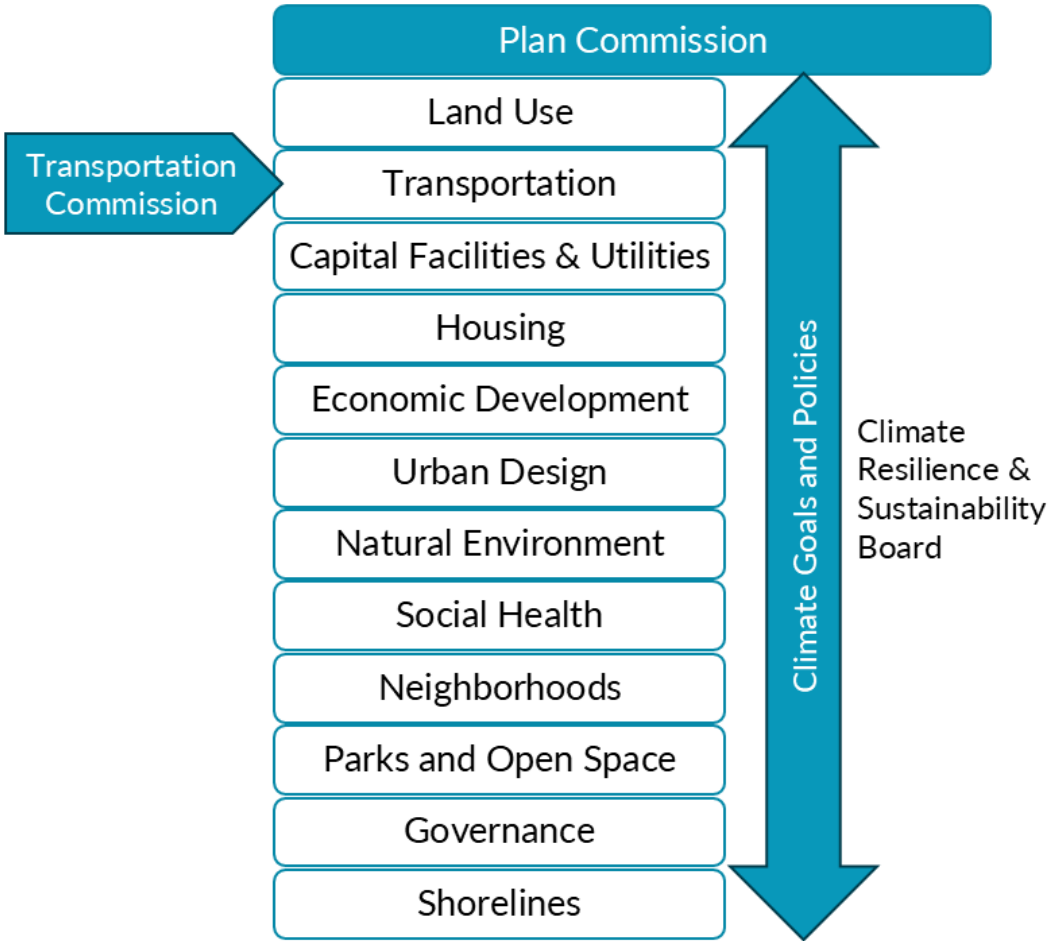
The climate goals policies will help the community identify implementation strategies such as regulations, programs, or activities. This is important for climate planning in particular since the City will be required to report progress toward implementing any actions required to achieve reductions to meet greenhouse gas and vehicle miles traveled requirements within 5 years of plan adoption. (RCW [36.70a.130](#)(9); other requirements related to implementing housing affordability and permitting)

Roles and Responsibilities

As described earlier in this memo, the Plan Commission has a statutory requirement to make recommendations to the City Council on the formulation of the entire Comprehensive Plan. CRSB is leading climate policy integration into the Comprehensive Plan. In addition, the Transportation Commission will develop the Transportation Element, which includes strategies to reduce vehicle miles travelled.

The relationship between these roles and the plan chapters is shared in Exhibit 4.

Exhibit 4: Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update – Roles and Topics



Additional input and guidance are provided throughout by the Climate Technical Advisory Committee, an internal City committee made up of different departments and divisions; the Tribal Engagement Workgroup facilitated by KAI; and community engagement.

Supporting Materials

Climate Planning

Engagement and studies in Phase 1 as well as state guidelines and tools are sources of policy ideas for City consideration. We recommend using the Washington Department of Commerce Climate Policy Explorer and seeing the example goals and policies along with their effectiveness and implementation considerations.

Exhibit 5: Key Documents

Document	Description	Link
Washington Department of Commerce Climate Policy Explorer	Includes a range resilience and greenhouse gas policies including effectiveness	Climate Policy Explorer
City of Spokane Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment	Identifies vulnerabilities, and adaptation strategies	Executive Summary Spokane Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (see Considerations for the Comprehensive Plan on PDF page 218) Spokane Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment - Appendix A (see Engagement Key Takeaways on PDF page 3 and TEW Recommendations for Phase II on PDF page 33)
City of Spokane Greenhouse Gas Inventory 2022	Describes major sources of emissions in Spokane	Fact Sheet Website with Story Map & Report
Spokane Climate Policy Audit	Analyzes and summarizes existing climate-related policies, and regulations	Spokane Climate Policy Audit

Draft Plan Chapters

The evaluation of existing Comprehensive Plan has been ongoing. The [Plan Commission Chapter Review Subcommittee](#) has discussed several chapters to date. Draft Chapters amend and update existing goals and policies. Some existing, amended, or new policies relate to climate adaptation or mitigation, with amendments based on community feedback during PlanSpokane 2046 efforts, *Through climate policy development – there is room to add to or modify appropriate goals and policies of both the Non-Technical and Technical Draft Chapters.*

Attachment – Policy Discussion Slides

Plan Commission/Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board October 29, 2025 Joint Meeting

Policy Discussion – Draft Slides

Climate goals for land use and transportation

Climate goals for land use and transportation

GMA Climate Element Requirements

GHG Sub-element



- Reduction of GHG emissions generated by transportation and land use
- Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- Prioritize reductions that benefit overburdened communities
 - Maximize the co-benefits of reduced air pollution and environmental justice

Resilience Sub-element



- Moderate or avoid harm, enhance resiliency of natural and human systems, and enhance beneficial opportunities
- Consider natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change
- Address natural areas, vital habitat
- Adapt social, economic, and built environment
 - consistent with environmental justice

Additional Guidance & Parameters

- **Amend or create** 20-40 Goals & Policies across 11 sectors
- **Select goals & policies** from Commerce Climate Policy Explorer
- **Prepare matrix** when policies are integrated across elements

Agriculture & Food Systems

Buildings & Energy

Cultural Resources

Economic Development

Emergency Management

Health & Well-being

Ecosystems

Transportation

Waste Management

Water Resources

Zoning & Development

Discussion Structure: Land Use and Transportation

We'll review:

- **Key context**, including legislation and results from GHG emissions and resilience analyses
- **What we've heard** from community and stakeholder engagement

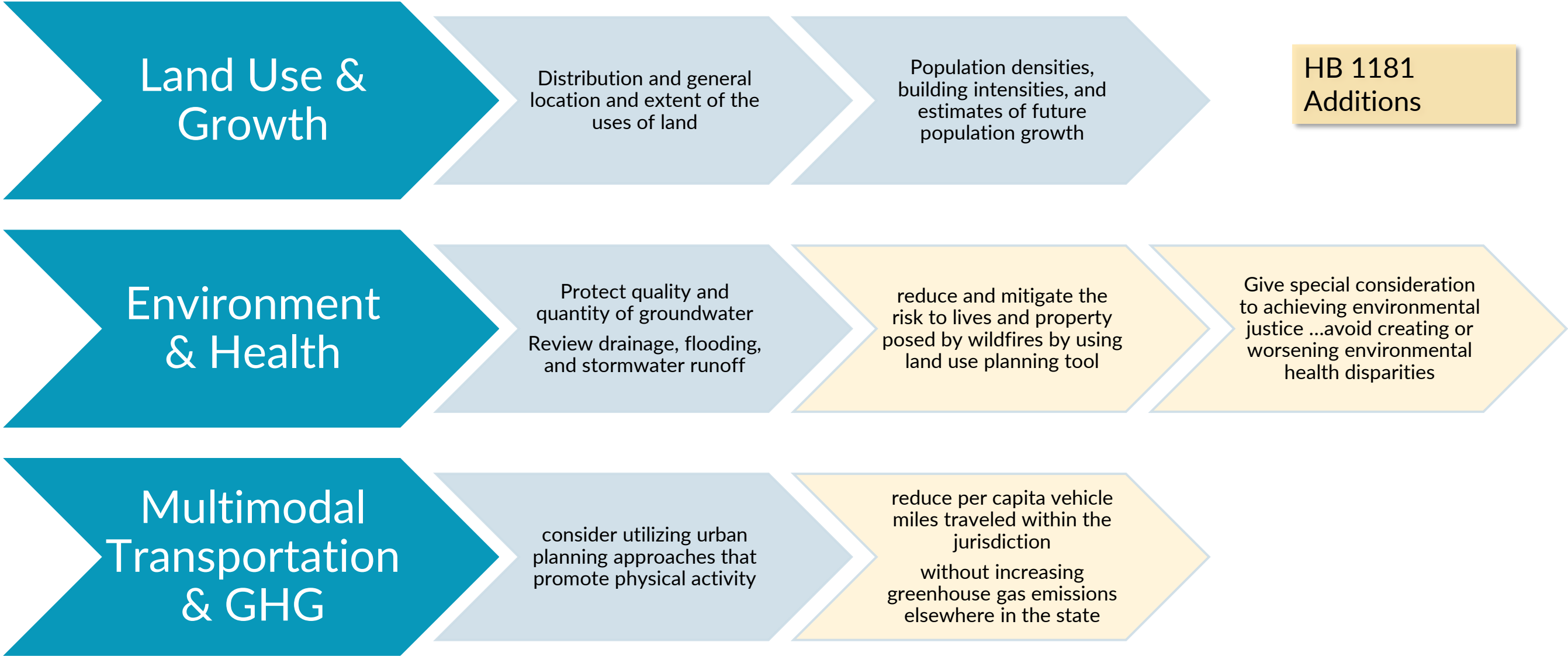
The group will discuss:

- **Draft goal language**
- **Key policy topics**

Questions to consider:

- What **resonates**?
- What would you **change or add**?
- What policy topics are **most important** to include in the Comprehensive Plan?

Land Use Element Requirements



Land Use Climate Policy Overview

Key goals

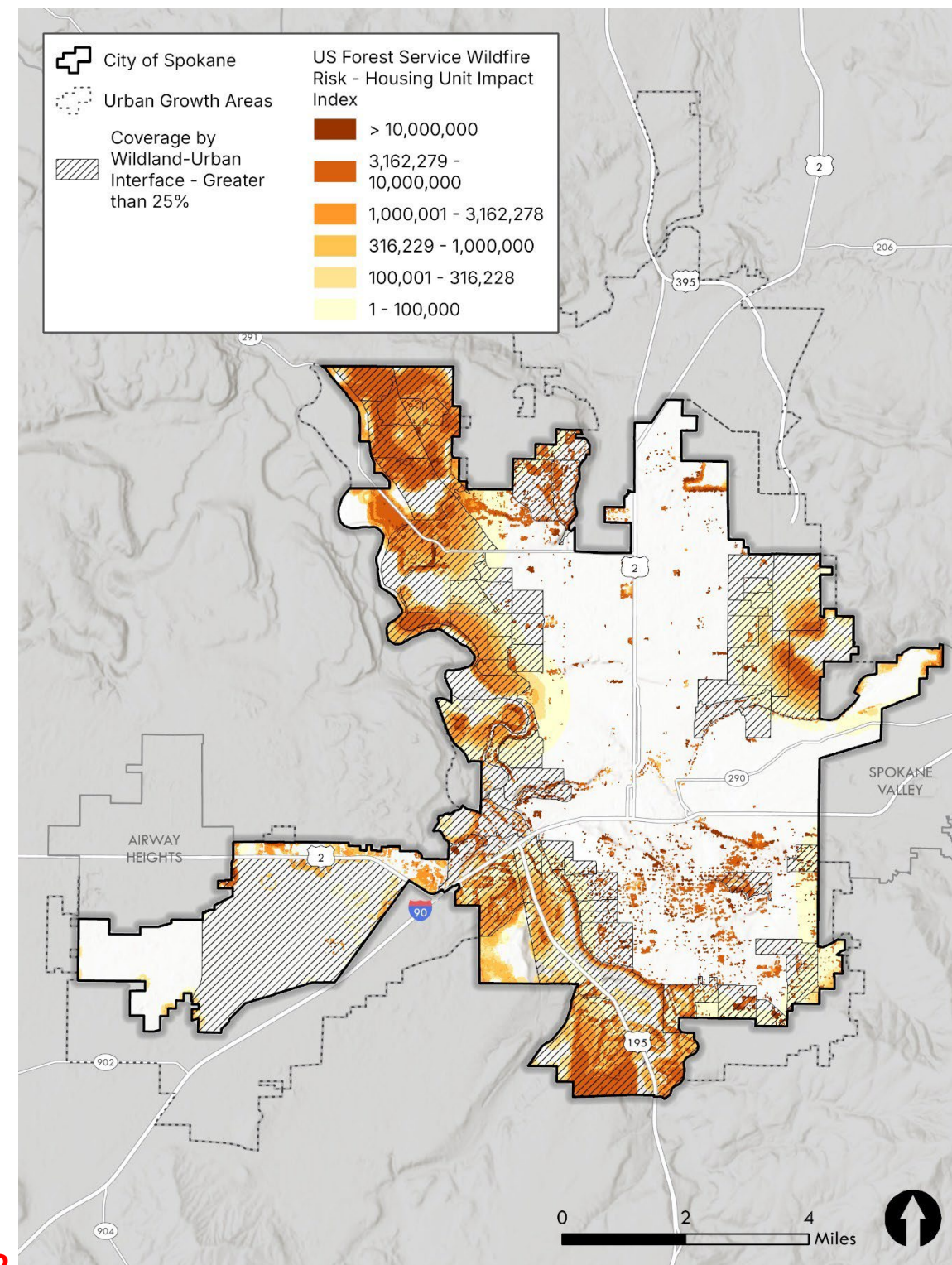
- Increase housing diversity, density, and transit-oriented development to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Ensure that development and land use patterns increase resilience to climate impacts

What We Heard

- Across all engagement strategies in Phase 1 and Phase 2, participants **strongly supported protecting green spaces and improving urban tree canopy** to build climate resilience and reduce GHG.
- Participants also largely supported **infill, mixed-use development, and middle housing types** to reduce sprawl.

Land Use Context

- **HB 1220 requires cities to plan for** a wider range of housing types and affordability levels
- **City of Spokane** will review critical areas regulations under best available science
- **The GHG inventory found that transportation accounts for 41% of community GHG emissions.** TOD and land use decisions that prioritize multimodal transportation can reduce emissions
- **CRVA recommendations:** Increase tree canopy cover, protect/adapt Spokane's parks, open spaces, and shorelines, plan for complete access to destinations within neighborhoods



DRAFT - October 23, 2023

Land Use – GHG Emissions Reduction

Goal	Draft Text
1	Increase housing diversity and supply within urban growth areas to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support environmental justice. [Climate Policy Explorer, K, High Priority]

In the works / givens

- Building Opportunity and Choices for All
- HB 1110 (middle housing ordinance requirement)

Key Policy Topics

- ◆ Strategically increase density
- ↑ Allow middle housing types and micro-housing and other forms of efficient and affordable housing types
- ↑ Prioritize infill development and maintain a stable UGA
- ◆ ↑ Encourage mixed-use and transit-oriented development
- Prohibit expansion of polluting industries in overburdened communities

- ◆ Spokane Analysis
- ↑ Engagement Theme
- ❖ Draft Chapter
- ✕ CTAC Input
- ★ CRSB Idea

Land Use - Resilience

Goal	Draft Text
2	Establish land use patterns that increase the resilience of the built environment, ecosystems, and communities to climate change. [Climate Policy Explorer, V, High Priority]

In the works / givens

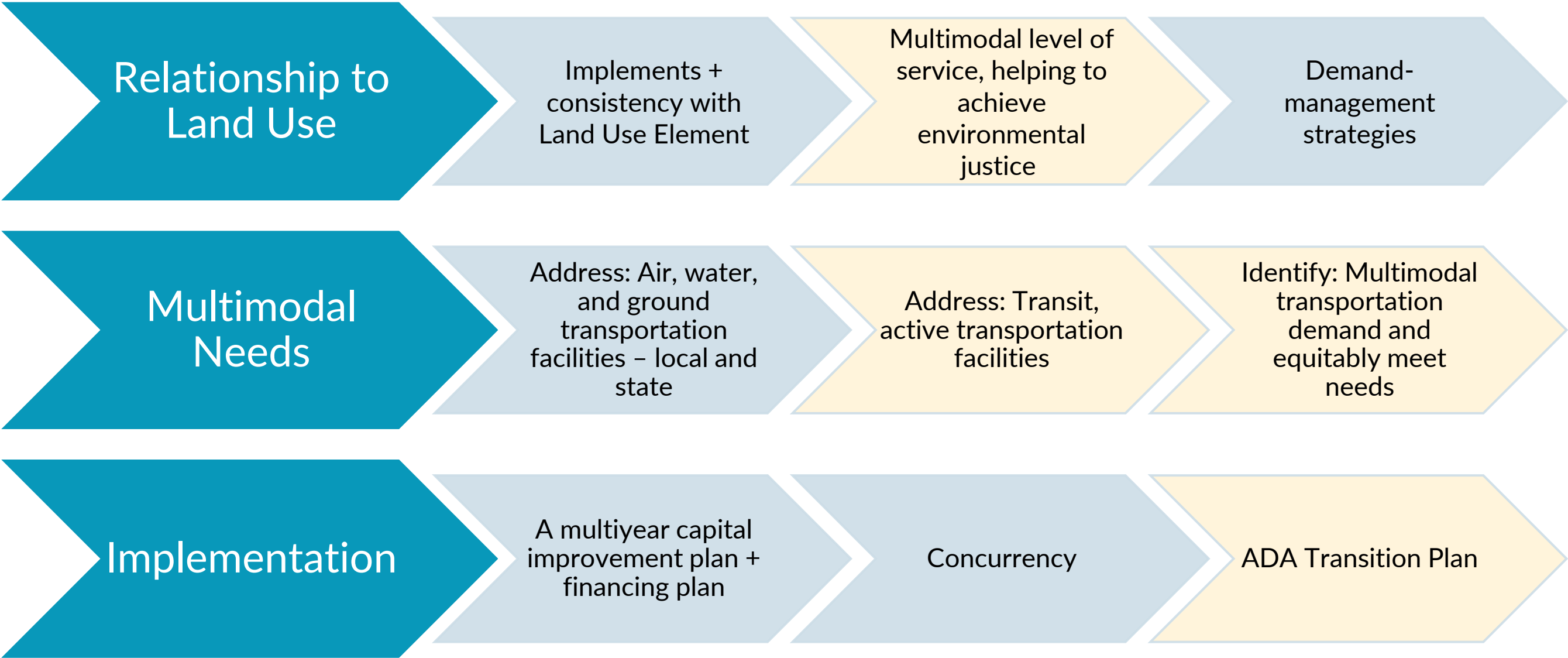
- Critical areas ordinances

Key Policy Topics	
✦ ↑ ★ ✕	✕ Include environmental justice considerations and criteria in decision making, such as prior to rezoning or a capital decision
	Direct new development into areas where exposure to climate hazards is low; reduce residential development pressure in the WUI
	Maintain and enhance critical areas, open space areas, and tree canopy, especially areas vulnerable to climate hazards
	Protect agricultural and forested lands that provide climate resilience benefits from conversion
	↑ Establish development regulations that reduce the risk of climate hazards
	Plan for climate impacts to community assets, capital facilities, and hazardous industries – including planning for relocation away from the floodplain if necessary

- ✦ Spokane Analysis
- ↑ Engagement Theme
- ❖ Draft Chapter
- ✕ CTAC Input
- ★ CRSB Idea

Transportation Element Requirements

HB 1181
Additions



Transportation Climate Policy Overview

Key goals

- Reduce VMT
- Ensure climate resilience of transportation systems to climate hazards
- Expand EV infrastructure

What We Heard

- Across all engagement strategies, participants **strongly supported improving public transit, bike infrastructure, and active transportation options** to reduce emissions and improve access.
- **EVs were ranked as lower priority among Earth Day workshop participants**, although some called for incentives or lower taxes on EVs

Transportation Context

- **The WA Clean Vehicles Program rule increases zero emission vehicle sales** of passenger cars, light-duty trucks, and medium-duty vehicles to 100% starting in 2035.
- **The WA Clean Fuel Standard law requires fuel suppliers to gradually reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels** to 45% below 2017 levels by 2038.
- **Spokane Transit Authority is working to achieve a 100% zero-emission bus fleet by 2045.**
- **Transportation accounts for 41% of community GHG emissions.**
- **CRVA recommendations:** plan for complete access to destinations within neighborhoods, enhance parallel walking, biking, rolling, and transit networks to ensure equitable access, consider necessary changes to transit service during weather events

Figure 24. Annual Transportation Emissions by Vehicle Type



High Priority Department of Commerce VMT Policies

- Foster high-intensity land uses in mixed use urban villages, along transit
- Prioritize in-fill development, missing middle housing, and increase density near transit
- Implement complimentary, mixed use land uses
- Reduce / eliminate parking requirements
- Improve transit frequency, coverage, speed and reliability
- Implement travel demand management (TDM) programs
- Increase multimodal capacity
- Address multimodal concurrency

Transportation – VMT Reduction

Goal	Draft Text
1	Reduce vehicle miles traveled to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals. [Climate Policy Explorer, I, High Priority] ❖

In the works / givens

- Citywide VMT analysis currently underway
- Transportation Element is in progress, slightly behind Climate Element
- TDM

Key Policy Topics	
❖	Implement travel demand management (TDM) programs and strategies
◆ ↑ ❖ ✕ ★	Implement multimodal transportation planning and complete streets
❖ ◆ ↑	Prioritize and promote public transit expansion
❖ ◆ ↑ ★	Create a safe, well-connected bicycle and pedestrian transportation network and expand slow streets
	Prioritize, develop, and maintain mobility hubs in transportation-efficient locations

- ◆ Spokane Analysis
- ↑ Engagement Theme
- ❖ Draft Chapter
- ✕ CTAC Input
- ★ CRSB Idea

Transportation – Resilience

Goal	Draft Text
2	Ensure that the local transportation system — including infrastructure, routes, and travel modes — is able to withstand and recover quickly from the impacts of extreme weather events and other hazards exacerbated by climate change. [Climate Policy Explorer, W]

Key Policy Topics	
◆	Design and site new/expanded roads & railroads to have minimal environmental impact and account for climate impacts
↑	Improve street connectivity and walkability to serve as potential evacuation routes.
	Incorporate hydrologic climate impacts into the design of bridges
❖	Reduce stormwater impacts from transportation and development
◆ ↑	Enhance resilience of parks/recreational trails by assessing and addressing climate hazards

In the works / givens

- Transportation Element under development
- Spokane Transit Authority and City working on transit corridor – will improve access
- Parks Element/Parks Plan with trail networks
- Bond measure in progress for schools and parks – Together Spokane

- ◆ Spokane Analysis
- ↑ Engagement Theme
- ❖ Draft Chapter
- ✕ CTAC Input
- ★ CRSB Idea

Transportation – Electric Vehicles

Goal	Draft Text
3	Expand electric vehicle infrastructure. [Climate Policy Explorer, AD]

In the works / givens

- WA Clean Vehicles Program rule

Key Policy Topics
Electric vehicle charging infrastructure on public and private land
Zero-emissions public fleets
 Subsidies for low-income residents to purchase or lease electric vehicles

- ◆ Spokane Analysis
- ↑ Engagement Theme
- ❖ Draft Chapter
- ✕ CTAC Input
- ★ CRSB Idea