



# Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Agenda

Regular Meeting

Thursday, December 11, 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 <a href="#">10/9/2025</a> and <a href="#">11/13/2025</a> meeting minutes and <a href="#">10/29/2025</a> joint meeting minutes	All
	4. Chair Report	Brian Henning
	5. Secretary Report	Jon Snyder
	6. Approval of current agenda	All

## Workshops:

2:15 – 2:35	1. <a href="#">Water Conservation Master Plan Update</a>	Marlene Feist, Kristen Zimmer
2:35 – 2:50	2. <a href="#">PlanSpokane 2046: Engagement Report Out</a>	KayCee Downey
2:50 – 3:15	3. <a href="#">Climate Policy Review/Refinement</a>	Maren Murphy, BERK, Cascadia
3:15 – 3:45	4. <a href="#">Overview of Tool for Policy Analysis: Multi-Criteria Priority Analysis (MCPA)</a>	BERK, Cascadia
3:45 – 4:15	5. <a href="#">CRSB Policy Gap Discussion</a>	All Members
4:15 – 4:30	6. <a href="#">SAPW Report Out: Biochar Pilot</a>	Kevin Fagan

**Adjournment: The next regularly scheduled CRSB meeting will be held Thursday, January 8, 2026.**

\* 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, December 11, 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#

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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

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

January 8, 2026 Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board (180 minutes available) Hybrid		
Workshop		
Time	Item	Presenter
2:00-2:15	Briefing Session	
2:15-3:15 (?)	MCPA, hold for return to any needed Policy Discussion	Maren Murphy and BERK
	EJ discussion?	Maren
Hearing Items		

**CRSB/PC Joint Meeting on January 28 at 2pm (Regular time for PC, being held for Joint meeting)**

February 12, 2026 Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board (180 minutes available) Hybrid		
Workshop		
Time	Item	Presenter
2:00-2:15	Briefing Session	
2:15-		
Hearing Items		
	Climate Policy recommendations (tentative)	Maren Murphy, BERK

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# Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board - Meeting Minutes Draft

Thursday, October 9, 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.

- *Alan McCoy*

## **Attendance:**

- Board Members Present: Brian Henning, Amanda Parrish, Ryan Arnold, Happy Avery, Kerry Brooks, Claire Cooney, Kevin Fagan, Elyse Hochstadt, Larry Luton, Bob Lutz, Kit Parker, Hala Zahalqa
- Board Members Not Present: Kathryn Alexander, Lea Molina
- *Quorum Present:* Yes
- Staff Members Present: Jon Snyder, Emily King, Maren Murphy, Adam Russell, Rick Giddings, Adam McDaniel, Logan Callen, Mayra Marroquin, Marlene Feist, Kirstin Davis, Sarah Nuss

**Minutes:** Minutes from 9/18/2025 approved unanimously.

## **Briefing Session:**

- **Chair Report** - Brian Henning
  - Brian did not have anything to report, but did express gratitude for everyone to be here volunteering their time on behalf of our communities to try to advance climate action.
- **Secretary Report** - Jon Snyder
  - Jon let the board know that today the City submitted an application to the Department of Commerce for the Clean Energy Siting and Permitting Grant program. It is one of two Commerce fundings opportunities coming up this fall that could potentially take up some of the work that the lost EPA grant was doing.
  - Jon reminded the board that there will be a joint meeting of the Plan Commission and Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.
  - He also let everyone know that the chat feature in Teams has been disabled for board meetings.

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

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

- Climate Planning – Policy Development
  - Presentation provided by: Maren Murphy
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.
- Avista Energy Efficiency Incentives and Clean Building Program
  - Presentation provided by: Michele Drake and Tracie Orgel
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.



- City Fleet Electrification
  - Presentation provided by: Adam Russell
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.
- Legislative Agenda
  - Presentation provided by: Jon Snyder and Adam McDaniel
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.
- SAP Update
  - Presentation provided by: Amanda Parrish
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:59 PM.

The next Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Meeting will be a special joint meeting with the Plan Commission on Wednesday, October 29, 2025.

# Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board - Meeting Minutes Draft

Thursday, November 13, 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, Kathryn Alexander, Bob Lutz, Larry Luton, Happy Avery, Kerry Brooks, Claire Cooney
- Board Members Not Present: Amanda Parrish, Ryan Arnold, Kevin Fagan, Kit Parker, Elyse Hochstadt, Lea Molina, Hala Zahalqa
- *Quorum Present:* No
- Staff Members Present: Jon Snyder, Emily King, Maren Murphy, KayCee Downey, Elizabeth Schoedel, Logan Callen, Tirrell Black, Mayra Marroquin, Kirstin Davis, Marlene Feist, Sarah Sirott, Spencer Gardner

**Minutes:** Minutes from 10/9/2025 were not voted on due to lack of quorum.

## **Briefing Session:**

- **Chair Report** - Brian Henning
  - Brian began by thanking staff and consultants at BERK for the memos that were put out for this meeting.
  - Brian reminded members that the next few meetings are the crunch time for the boards part of the Comprehensive Plan work. We want to make sure we're giving this due consideration and may want to consider not doing anything else over the next few months that can wait until after we finish the policy recommendations.
  - During the joint meeting with the Plan Commission, the Plan Commission president suggested creating liaisons between different boards and the Plan Commission. Currently we are looking for liaisons to Land Use Subcommittee and Transportation Subcommittee. Members should let Brian know if they are interested, and he will appoint liaisons.
- **Secretary Report** - Jon Snyder
  - Jon wanted to leave as much time as possible to go over the Climate Element discussion. One thing we should talk about at the end of the discussion is how the next couple meetings will go, process and format-wise. There will be a second joint meeting with the Plan Commission in January, then the CRSB will make its recommendations at the February meeting.

**Current Agenda:** A 15-minute block was added to the end of the agenda for the good of the order.

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

- Climate Planning – Multi-Criteria Prioritization
  - Presentation provided by: Maren Murphy
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.

- 2026 Work Plan Discussion
  - Presentation provided by: Jon Snyder
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:48 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Meeting is on Thursday, December 11, 2025.

DRAFT

# Spokane Plan Commission Special Meeting - Minutes

**Wednesday, October 29, 2025**

Hybrid Meeting in Council Briefing Center & Microsoft Teams Teleconference

Meeting Minutes: Plan Commission Workshop called to order at 2:02 pm by President Jesse Bank.

**Public Comment:** Citizens are invited to address the Plan Commission on any topic not on the agenda. 3 Minutes each.

- Chris Hansen

## **Attendance for Plan Commission Workshop:**

- Plan Commission Members Present: Jesse Bank, Ryan Patterson, Amber Lenhart, Kyle Madsen, Tim Williams, Jill Yotz
- Plan Commission Members Not Present: Greg Francis, Carole Shook, Tyler Tamoush
- Plan Commission Non-Voting Members Present: Mary Winkes (Community Assembly Liaison),
- Plan Commission Non-Voting Members Not present: CM Kitty Klitzke (Council Member Liaison)
- Plan Commission Quorum Present: Yes
- Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Members Present: Brian Henning, Amanda Parrish, Kathryn Alexander, Bob Lutz, Larry Luton, Happy Avery, Elyse Hochstadt, Kerry Brooks, Kevin Fagan, Hala Zahalqa, Claire Cooney
- Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Members Not Present: Ryan Arnold, Lea Molina, Kit Parker
- *Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Quorum Present: Yes*
- Staff Members Present: Spencer Gardner, Jon Snyder, Angie McCall, Emily King, Tirrell Black, Maren Murphy, KayCee Downey, Colin Quinn-Hurst, Elizabeth Schoedel, Logan Callen, Tyler Kimbrell, Nicole White, Sarah Sirott, Kevin Picanco

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

## **Workshop(s):**

- PlanSpokane 2046: Climate Policy Integration/Discussion
  - Presentation provided by staff member Maren Murphy/BERK Consulting/Cascadia
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.

Workshop Adjourned at 3:56 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Plan Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2025.

**BRIEFING PAPER: Water Conservation  
City of Spokane  
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board  
12/11/2025**

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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:**

Community Water Conservation Survey Results, Updates to the Conservation Master Plan, and an initial look at possible ways to update the City's water consumption charges for commercial customers.

**Background:**

The 2025 community survey and outreach effort is under way to inform an update of the 2020 Water Conservation Master Plan. The survey captures current water use habits, barriers, and program awareness so the revised plan can reflect community needs and support effective, up-to-date conservation strategies.

Meanwhile, one of the policy opportunities for continuing to promote water conservation includes fresh look at the water consumption rate structure for commercial customers. We will introduce the CRSB to a few options that can be considered.

**Relationship to Plans/Actions:**

This work supports key objectives in the Comprehensive Plan, Water System Plan, Sustainability Action Plan, and the City's environmental stewardship commitments. Survey findings help identify priorities for efficient water use, climate resilience, and long-term resource management. Rate changes can help the City reach its goals around water conservation.

**Timeline/ Further Action:**

- January: CRSB review of the draft plan on 1/9 and continued PIES coordination.
- February/March: Council adoption of the updated plan.
- Ongoing: Public input opportunities through surveys, comment periods, and Water Wise outreach.
- Throughout 2026: The Water utility will proceed with rate information and discussions to get to approved rate changes by Council in advance of the 2027-2028 City budget adoption.

**BRIEFING PAPER: PlanSpokane 2046 Public Engagement**  
**City of Spokane**  
**Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board**  
**12/11/2025**

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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.*

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**Subject:**

The City of Spokane has conducted robust community engagement as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan. This workshop will provide an overview of the PlanSpokane 2046 community engagement efforts throughout 2025, including a full summary of the recent future growth and guiding policies community workshops that occurred in November. Key themes will be identified, as well as how existing and future community feedback can help shape the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan.

Review the attached engagement summaries:

- PlanSpokane Future Growth and Guiding Policies Summary
- 2025 PlanSpokane Engagement Summary Booklet

**Background:**

The City of Spokane is commencing a periodic update to the City's Comprehensive Plan as required by the Growth Management Act (GMA). A "Periodic Update" is the state's term for a full review of a Comprehensive Plan to make sure it's in conformance with any legislative changes to state law. Since the last Periodic Update in 2017, state law has added additional considerations especially around Climate Planning and Planning for Housing for all income levels that need to be added to the City's plan.

The most recent information on PlanSpokane 2046 is available at [PlanSpokane.org](https://PlanSpokane.org).

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan, 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. 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.

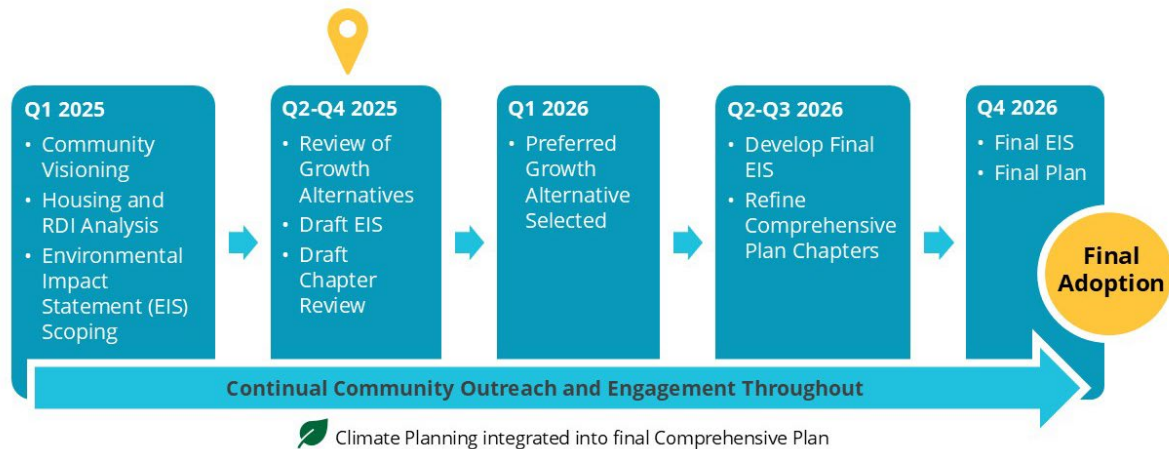
**Relationship to Plans/Actions:**

The City of Spokane is required under the Growth Management Act (GMA) to conduct a periodic update to the Comprehensive Plan, due at the end of 2026. The GMA now also requires the City 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:**

The City of Spokane is required to update the Comprehensive Plan by the end of 2026. Upcoming work includes the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for public comment later this month.

**BRIEFING PAPER: PlanSpokane 2046 Public Engagement**  
**City of Spokane**  
**Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board**  
**12/11/2025**



*Figure 1 PlanSpokane 2046 Project Timeline*

Phase 2 of Climate Planning 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.



Updated: July 1, 2025

*Figure 2 Climate Planning Project Timeline*





# PlanSpokane

## Future Growth and Guiding Policies Engagement Summary

December 2025



PLAN**SPOKANE**

Resilient | Connected | Livable | 2046



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## Background

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to its Comprehensive Plan, the City of Spokane has been seeking public feedback on the City's next twenty years throughout 2025. While regular updates to the Comprehensive Plan have occurred, this will be the **first substantial update since the Comprehensive Plan was first adopted in 2001**. With the significant population growth and changing local factors Spokane has experienced since then, this update provides the community with an opportunity to reevaluate how they want the City to grow. The goals of this update are to meet all state legislative requirements adopted since 2017, incorporate community input around changing needs and wants, and to streamline the Plan to make it more user friendly.

Being the first substantial update since 2001, the City of Spokane has determined that this proposal is likely to have a significant and potentially negative impact on the environment. As such, an **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** is required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c) and will be prepared as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 effort. The first step of the EIS process is known as "scoping". Both before and during the scoping comment period, the City of Spokane Department of Planning and Economic Development provided opportunities for the community to be engaged in the process of identifying the future vision for Spokane's next twenty years. The [Community Visioning Engagement Summary](#) provides a recap of the feedback heard.

Once the overall vision for the future is determined, the next step of the EIS process is to evaluate different ways the City can meet that vision while also accommodating future growth. To that end, the City of Spokane held a community workshop series on future growth and guiding policies in November 2025 for initial feedback on different ways the City of Spokane can grow, as well as the goals and policies to get us there.

### What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan is the community's vision for how the city grows and invests. It is mandated by state law requiring a "road map" for fast-growing cities, known as the Growth Management Act. Spokane must have a Comprehensive Plan to manage population growth, with goals that include reducing sprawl, supporting efficient multimodal transportation, protecting the environment, and many more.

The Comprehensive Plan establishes a vision for the city – looking at a horizon of twenty years. It guides implementation through Capital projects, City programs, and regulations.

More information about the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update can be found at [PlanSpokane.org](http://PlanSpokane.org)

## Community Workshop Series

At the beginning of 2025, community members provided invaluable feedback to create a 20-year vision for the City of Spokane. Since then, there has been ongoing work to identify different ways to reach that vision. To present the community with those options on how the City can grow, and receive feedback on goals and policies, a community workshop series on future growth and guiding policies was held in November 2025. One workshop was held in each City Council District, with one



Figure 1. Community members participate in the District 1 Community Workshop.

community-wide workshop held downtown. **Over 100 individuals attended** one or more of the workshops, providing valuable feedback to help shape the future of the City of Spokane.

These in-person workshops included discussion, mapping exercises, and feedback opportunities related to various aspects of the Comprehensive Plan, including the new element of climate and resiliency. Each station sought reactions and comments on how community members wanted to shape the next twenty years. Kids activities and catered food was also available.

### Station 1: Guiding Policies

After learning more about the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update and Environmental Impact Statement process through informational posters, the first activity station revolved around the policies of the Comprehensive Plan and the current [Chapter Review](#) process. Community members were asked to identify what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the updated Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the currently proposed amendments.

Themes from the four community workshops include:

Accessibility (housing, public spaces, “sittable” neighborhoods)	Address employment and job creation
Incentives to revitalize vacant properties	More “third places” for community connection
Bikeable streets, including protected bike lanes	Levels of service for fire safety
Art districts	Daycare centers and support
Address land speculation	Creating neighborhood identities
Indoor swimming pools	More greenways and trails
Incentives for affordable and mixed-use housing	Greater civic engagement, involvement, and transparency

Conservation/migration corridors and natural playgrounds	Create/support quality and beautiful places to live
Reduced dependency on single occupancy vehicles	Support for unhoused residents, including work programs
Context sensitive design standards	Sidewalk and pedestrian safety
Allow for more mixed uses in neighborhoods to support walkability, create local “hubs”	Coordination of road construction to prevent multiple roadway maintenance in the same direction

## Station 2: Displacement

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Spokane has completed [analysis on racially disparate impacts and displacement risk](#) to meet state legislative requirements (HB 1220). After being presented with the three different types of displacement – physical, economic, and cultural – community members were asked to help brainstorm causes of housing and small business displacement, as well as how the City of Spokane could address those causes.

Causes identified included **high housing costs** and **lack of housing inventory** to keep up with population increases, **mobile home parks being replaced**, businesses leaving and/or not having patrons due to **perception of safety** or **vandalism**, **lack of inclusive and accessible transit and public spaces**, **impact of taxes**, **buildings being demolished** for parking lots or shopping centers, **vacant or underutilized lots**, increase in housing **costs due to surrounding development**, **lack of pedestrian infrastructure**, **high insurance costs/losing property insurance** due to wildfire risk, **corporate rental ownership**, and **climate risks** (heat, lack of trees).

Potential actions to address the causes included **streamlining permit processing**, the **City being involved in public housing development**, **replacing existing housing with affordable multi-family housing**, **create supportive zoning** before development is expected to occur, **wildfire risk mitigation** (to address insurance issues), **rental costs management**, **increase transportation options** (pedestrian friendly streets/bus routes/road access), and **support community resiliency** to climate hazards.

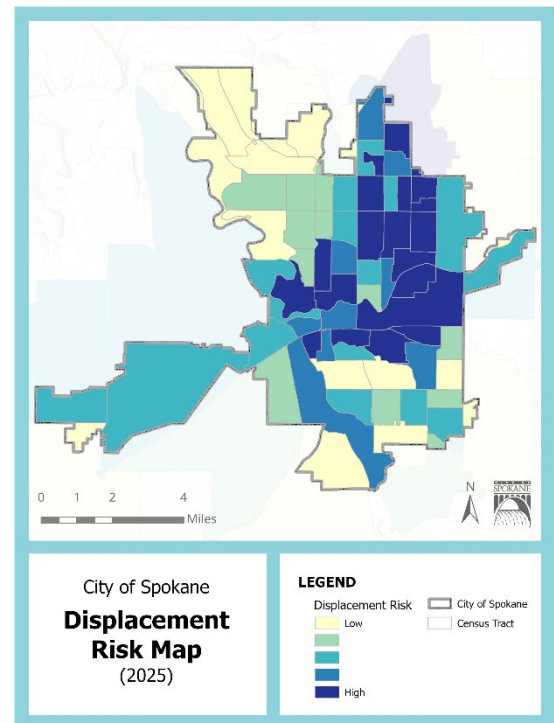


Figure 2. City of Spokane Displacement Risk Map from the Racially Disparate Impacts Analysis Report (2025).

## Station 3: Land Use Schema

One aspect of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update includes updating the land use schema for the City of Spokane, with the goal of reducing the number of land use categories. Land use is essentially what kinds of uses can be built where, and community members were asked to provide feedback on the proposed land use categories: Urban Agriculture, Residential Low, Residential High, Commercial, Centers & Corridors, Institutional, Downtown, Industrial, and Open Space. Community members were asked what uses they would like to see in each proposed land use and where they should be located.

### Urban Agriculture

- Allow flower growers, small vegetable and fruit farmers market-style food production
- Locate to avoid impacts of potential pesticides
- Preserve agriculture in the city by only allowing agricultural uses

### Residential Low

- Ensure there is human-scale and human serving design, walkable third places, a transition between low- and high-density areas, and that the scale of residential and commercial uses match
- Allow parking, community gardens, small mixed uses (cafes, ice cream parlors, bookstores, medical uses like a dentist), indoor community pools, community gathering spaces, and professional offices
- Do not allow gas stations
- Create a process of neighborhood input on project-by-project basis for non-standard uses
- Develop incentives for neighborhood businesses
- Prioritize adaptive reuse over new development
- Locate near centers and corridors and other high intensity uses

### Residential High

- Ensure accessible housing (no stairs)
- Expand into existing lower scale residential, such as near transit or in close proximity to amenities
- Have a minimum density

### Commercial

- Expand mixed uses
- Leverage vacant commercial areas to add business or apartments
- Establish zoning requirements for gas stations/convenience stores related to sober living and other affordable housing services

### Centers & Corridors

- Allow multi-unit housing and trade/live-work makerspaces
- Do not allow drive throughs, gas stations, convenience stores, hostile architecture, or single-unit homes

- Locate throughout Division once NS Corridor is complete and traffic reduces

#### **Downtown**

- Allow taller buildings and larger business spaces

#### **Institutional**

- Incentivize apartments
- Allow community pools

#### **Industrial**

- Encourage adaptive reuse of existing spaces

#### **Open Space**

- Allow undeveloped/natural parks with trails, mountain biking, indoor community pools
- Ensure enough parks/trails for those living in dense areas/apartments to have outdoor access, as well as accessible open spaces
- The full length of the Spokane River should be a public park
- Prioritize passive natural spaces

### **Station 4: Growth Alternatives**

A significant result of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update and Environmental Impact Statement will be the selection of a Preferred Alternative – the desired direction for growth and prioritization



Figure 3. Community members participate in the District 2 Community Workshops.

for the City of Spokane's next twenty years. To identify that Preferred Alternative, the City must study different Growth Alternatives, which are different ways to address population growth, economic goals, and the community vision. More detailed analysis and comparisons will be available during the Draft Environmental Impact Statement public comment period expected to kick off in December 2025. This poster station allowed for an initial reaction to the potential options.

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy.



**Alternative 2 received the most votes** with 25. **Alternative 3 came in second** with 7 votes. One vote selected a middle ground between Alternative 1 and Alternative 2. **Alternative 1 did not receive any votes** (presumably due to community understanding that it does not meet all state legislative requirements).

Rather than voting for a specific Alternative, most community members provided comments on the City of Spokane's future growth. The Preferred Alternative can be a combination of elements of the different Growth Alternatives, with these comments providing direction on what aspects were viewed positively from each alternative.

In general, community members liked the **interconnectedness of Alternative 2**, but also saw the benefit of the **Center City focus of Alternative 3** on businesses, community safety, and more housing. *Full comments can be found in the workshop-specific memos in the appendix of this summary.*

## Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City.



Figure 4. Mixed-use descriptions provided for the Map Your Future Spokane exercise. A higher resolution image can be found in the Workshop Posters appendix.

In general, **MU-TOD** was located along Division/Ruby, Market Street, Mission Avenue, North Monroe, near Shadle Library on Wellesley, in parts of downtown and Cliff-Cannon, Hamilton and the northernmost portion of Nevada Street, and in areas along 29<sup>th</sup>.

**MU-1** was located in Hillyard, Nevada Heights just east of Division, the middle of Cliff-Cannon, north Five Mile Prairie, in parts of Audubon/Downriver and West Central, between Northwest and Balboa/South Indian Trail, North Monroe, near Shadle Library on Wellesley, and downtown.

**MU-2** was located in Nevada Heights, the middle of Bemiss, adjacent to Chief Garry Park within the Chief Garry Park neighborhood, the northwest corner of Manito/Cannon Hill, north of Comstock, Shiloh Hills, Northwest, North Hill, along Indian Trail Road, and in areas along 29<sup>th</sup>.

**MU-3** was located in the middle of Hillyard and Bemiss, multiple locations in Cliff-Cannon, on West Sunset Boulevard, Audubon/Downriver, Northwest, and along the edges of Manito/Cannon Hill.

Additional comments about mixed-uses included:

Provide more uses in proximity to housing to reduce distance/need for transportation	Trade and makerspaces in West Central
There's currently a lack of affordable and larger retail near neighborhoods, not just small	Mobility connectivity for all modes in East Hillyard is a local priority
No more drive throughs	MU-2 should be everywhere
More intensity along arterials, transition to higher commercial, and then allow residential	No mixed-use in neighborhoods, concerned over exploitative development
Need a Latah-Cannon Corridor Plan to address traffic, 195 and I-90 ramp	Need parks and trails in Hillyard
More health and transportation access in West Central	Designated business district/center/corridor down east Broadway of West Central
Encourage trades academy	Support the creation of 24-hour daycare
Increase pedestrian/bike infrastructure along Northwest Boulevard	Create protections against displacement in Chief Garry Park around City Line stops, including increasing resources for community

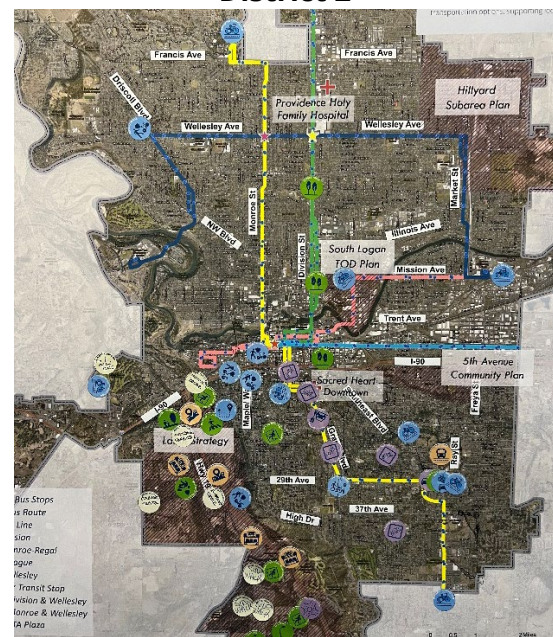
## Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane – Transportation

Through a mapping exercise to indicate preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements they want to see along major transit stops, with street trees and greater connectivity being consistent themes. *Full summaries can be found in the workshop-specific memos in the appendix of this summary.*

**District 1**

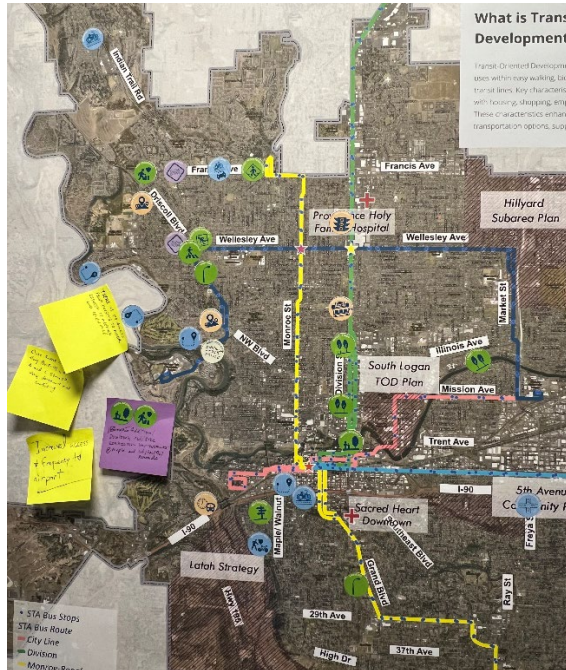


**District 2**

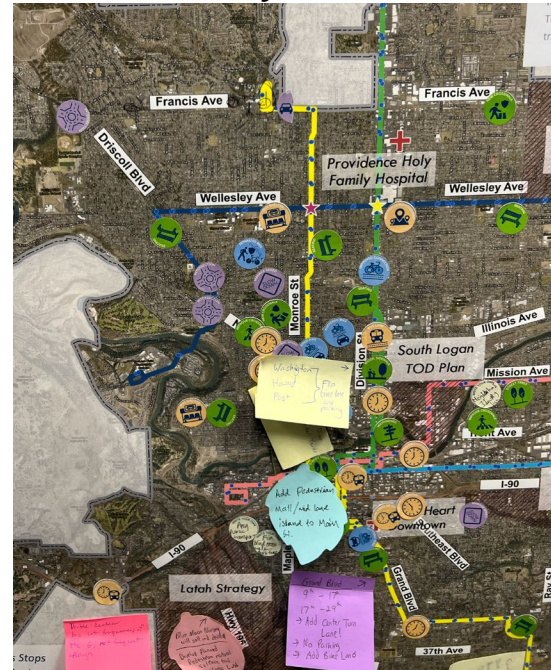




District 3



Citywide



## Station 7: Planning for Climate

Another significant component of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update is the integration of climate and resiliency policies into the Comprehensive Plan to align with recent state legislation. [Climate Planning efforts](#) have been ongoing, with this workshop series providing an opportunity to bring all elements of the update together for community input. Workshop attendees were first asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency.

Key themes from the feedback include **tree canopy** expansion and protection; **resilient and equitable development**; climate resilience **education and community engagement**; **water conservation** and **quality**; **energy efficiency** and **weatherization**; **reducing car reliance**; **air quality** and **pollution reduction**; **fire safety** and **mitigation**; access and preservation to **natural spaces**; and **housing and infrastructure**.

## Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement, including wildfire smoke and extreme heat, water conservation, human health, food systems, tree canopy and green spaces, transportation and infrastructure, education, collaboration, and financial barriers. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance.

Topics identified include:

Address financial barriers	Food security
Do not exclude businesses from SpokaneScape program	Local community solutions to address climate hazards and resiliency
Greater bike infrastructure and connectivity	Impact of Artificial Intelligence
Increased shade	Water conservation
Convert unused city property to green spaces	Walkable neighborhoods
Indoor spaces to escape to during weather extremes	More resources directed to conservation programs
Trees and native landscaping, including potential for fruit trees as street trees	Support creation of more efficient building construction
Balance between infill development and trees	Active role of City in tree planting programs
Green infrastructure/swales	Education programs to support local resiliency
Mental and physical health	Intersection of natural and built environment
Protect mature trees and iconic basalt rocks	Increase accountability, including for businesses
Require parking	Maintenance of street trees
Incentives for tree planting in the north of the city	Weatherization/support new windows for historic homes
Recognition of limits to growth	"Dead internet" greenhouse gas emissions
Restrict wood burning fireplaces to improve air quality	Adjust development requirements to allow more room for trees
Growth numbers should consider possibility of climate refugees	Faster and cheaper transit (including through bus-only lanes and in Latah Valley)

## Station 9: Environmental Justice

Environmental justice, as defined by state law, means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. It includes addressing disproportionate health and environmental impacts. Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan.



Figure 5. Community members participate in the District 3 Community Workshops.

Workshop attendees were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice. Key themes included supporting a **safe and connected transportation**

**system** that does not rely on single-occupancy vehicles, **targeting heat mitigation and resiliency** to vulnerable populations, **expanding green infrastructure** and tree canopy, **neighborhood investment without displacement**, and **City-funded resiliency investments** that support impacted neighborhoods and communities.

## Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process, which will help ensure that selected policies can be implemented



Figure 6. Community members participate in the Citywide Community Workshops

and align with state requirements. Presented with the options of Resilience, Equity, Climate Pollution Reduction, Logistics, and Risk, community members were asked to identify the criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others.

**Resilience** came in first, with 21 votes, followed by **Equity** (16 votes) and **Climate Pollution Reduction** (15 votes). **Logistics** received 8 votes, while **Risk** had a total of 4 votes.

In addition to what was listed, community members were then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

Build equity into each criterion	Legislative control to create solutions
How to reduce homelessness/outdoor sleeping to make people less vulnerable	Prioritize policies with City action rather than informational or “encouraging” resident action
Emphasize natural environment as a component of resilience criteria	Without resilience, we will have a hard time delivering on the other policies
Improvement to tree canopy	Clear out underbrush in fire risk areas
Inequitable impact of policy	Banning of wood burning fireplaces
Balancing costs and benefits to ensure prospective business ventures aren’t impacted	Spreading out of affordable housing, “stop consolidating poverty”
Tighten controls on vehicle emissions	Allowing for shelters near services

## Next Steps

Feedback received during the community workshops on future growth and guiding policies will inform amendments to goals and policies in the Comprehensive Plan, as well as discussion around the chosen growth strategy (or Preferred Alternative) for Spokane’s next twenty years. Community members will have the opportunity to take a deeper dive into the details of and comparisons



between the Growth Alternatives after the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in December 2025, which will include a formal public comment period. More information about the Draft EIS will be available at [PlanSpokane.org](https://PlanSpokane.org) upon release. Final adoption of the PlanSpokane 2046 Comprehensive Plan is expected in the later part of 2026.



Figure 7. PlanSpokane 2046 process timeline

Community feedback will be accepted throughout the entire PlanSpokane 2046 process, from helping select the Preferred Alternative to weighing in on proposed goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

We invite your participation:

- Visit the project webpage at [PlanSpokane.org](https://PlanSpokane.org) to learn more about the planning process
- Learn more about the Climate Planning efforts at [my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning](https://my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning)
- [Subscribe to the PlanSpokane monthly newsletter](#) to receive timely updates
- Attend future meetings and hearings hosted by the City of Spokane
- Provide written comments or ask questions to the Planning team by emailing [PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org](mailto:PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org)

## Appendices –

**District 1 Memo**

**District 2 Memo**

**District 3 Memo**

**Community-Wide Memo**

**Workshop Posters**



# Memo

## Re: District 1 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The District 1 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 12, 2025 at Yasuhara Middle School. **Approximately 22 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

### Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Move civic engagement
- More districts for city council members
- More government transparency
- Incentives for empty properties on Division following BRT implementation
- More third places
- Continue partnerships with housing services and neighborhood councils
- Bikeable streets.

### Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Consider the impacts of housing costs because of Division BRT.
- Get ahead of zoning along the corridor for middle/multi-unit housing.

### Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses

should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Residential Low:
  - Allow professional office
  - Allow MU-3 uses (like The Scoop)
- Residential High:
  - Have minimum density
- Centers and Corridors:
  - Do not allow single-unit homes
- Open Space:
  - Include intentional passive recreation

## Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, Alternative 2 received 5 votes, and Alternative 3 received 1 vote.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selection, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • Evacuation routes need for Latah Valley area/Vinegar Flats                                     | around gathering places (e.g. arena).  |
| • Distribute growth to remove silos between neighborhood and connected the community.            | • Build up, two story buildings waste land potential   |
| • Capitalize on larger roads to connect centers and places people visit                          | • Have services in all areas of the city.  |
| • Address Division BRT fully in Alt. 2 and 3.  | • Lack of ability to make left turns on Division can cause vacant lots/lack of businesses/patrons. |
| • Require parking for large housing developments to be located within garages/parking structure. | • Alternative 2 seems to be a natural approach to what will likely occur naturally.                |
| • Turn parking lots into garages for a better use of land, especially                            | • Vinegar Flats has a potential for job growth (mini Hillyard).                                    |

- Vinegar Flats is separate from Latah Valley area and should be treated as having different potential
- Build up, not out; focus on downtown and where growth already exists.
- Base Latah Strategy on infrastructure findings for connectivity.

## Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, respondents wanted MU-TOD along Division; MU-1 in Hillyard, Nevada Heights just east of Division, and in the middle of Cliff-Cannon; MU-2 in Nevada Heights, the middle of Bemiss, adjacent to Chief Garry Park within the Chief Garry Park neighborhood, the northwest corner of Manito/Cannon Hill, and the north of Comstock; MU-3 in the middle of Hillyard and Bemiss, the southeast corner of Bemiss, multiple locations in Cliff-Cannon, and along the edges of Manito/Cannon Hill.

In addition to pin placement, addition comments included:

- Make transportation less required (most uses in close proximity to households)
- Lack of affordable and larger retail near neighborhoods, highlighting Bemiss
- Mobility connectivity for all modes in East Hillyard is a local priority

## Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting improved crosswalks and wider sidewalks along Northwest Boulevard; street trees, lighting and faster bus times around Vinegar Flats; improved crosswalks Downtown; more street trees on Market Street; separated bike lanes, improved crosswalks, lighting, and bus shelters along Division between the Ruby interchange and Wellesley; lighting and wider sidewalks in the Logan neighborhood, south of Wellesley; and improved bike connections and faster bus times in Hillyard.

In addition to sticker placement, addition comments included:

- Better crosswalks on Wellesley at Driscoll Boulevard
- Better lighting along bus routes including Route 28
- Hays Park needs sidewalks
- Bus shelter at Bridgeport and Glass



- Improve crosswalks at Glass
- Need a bus route on Freya in Wellesley area
- Fix Hairball intersection at Main/Monroe/Spokane Falls
- Pedestrian bridge is needed on Rowan to cross NSC
- Bridgeport near Division, people park half on sidewalk and half on street
- Fire access at Euclid into Minnehaha needs to be improved

## Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- Facilities and accommodations for dogs/pets.
- More shade on sidewalks.
- Reduction of VMTs through denser housing and more walkability.
- Locally fund ore SpoCanopy.
- Increase LOS for active transportation, reduced LOS for cars.
- More shade on trails and bus stops.
- Non-shaded areas and sidewalks are a burn risk for kids (toys, slides, etc.).
- Water conservation should not be focused just on residents.
- More fuel reduction in WUI areas.
- Continue tree canopy program.
- More QR codes around town (like parks) so people can get connected to information.
- Less black asphalt that raises heat, more white concrete.
- More sidewalk connectivity.
- More spending on education on water usage information.
- Removed trees need to be replanted in that area (not elsewhere in the City).
- Areas with lower tree canopy need higher tree requirements.
- More lawn alternative promotion, not just SpokaneScape.
- New Hillyard there are big oil tanks that burp oil smells into homes, cause air quality issues.
- Make the things that have and have not worked known; tell residents about known issues.
- More mail fliers of education, not just online.
- More education on fire wise and fuel reduction programs the City is already doing.
- Install solar panels over parking lots.

## Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- Trees:
  - Require in new development
  - Leave existing trees in new development
  - Active City involvement in tree planting (don't require residents to request trees, ask them if they want trees)
- Oversight of street trees to support maintenance and growth to ensure trees live
- Swales

## Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Connect bicycle network and make e-bike traffic less dangerous.
- Expand the transportation network for bike and pedestrian connectivity.

## Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 1 vote, Equity received 1 vote, Climate Pollution Reduction received 1 vote, Logistics received 1 vote, and Risk received 1 vote.

Community members were then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Prioritize policies with city action rather than informational or “encouraging” resident action.
- Improvement to tree canopy (increase oversight and assistance, reduction of water costs to water trees, tree health support)



# Memo

## Re: District 2 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The District 2 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 5, 2025 at Ferris High School. **Approximately 40 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

### Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Don't use broad terms in Comprehensive Plan
- Levels of service, especially for fire

### Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Affordable Housing
- Address vandalism to support businesses
- Concerned about gangs for both housing and small businesses
- Lack of pedestrian infrastructure and transit
- High insurance for homes in the WUI, mitigate wildfire risk
- Corporate rental ownership
- Tree desert/heat island in certain neighborhoods
- Increase tree canopy
- Codes that require solar cooling
- Control rents
- Increase bus routes
- Create more pedestrian friendly streets
- Build roads before new development
- High housing costs

- Losing property insurance
- City should work with the State on housing costs and insurance loss

## Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Urban Agriculture:
  - Preserve, no other use allowed.
- Residential Low:
  - Allow businesses catered toward people walking
  - Allow neighborhood input on a project-by-project level for other uses
  - Allow coffee shops, gathering spaces, and bookstores
  - Develop incentives for neighborhood businesses
  - Prioritize historic/adaptive reuse over new development (both commercial and residential)
  - Commercial and residential can coexist as long as the scale and auto vs pedestrian uses match each other in intensity.
  - Locate near centers and corridors and other high intensity uses.
- Commercial:
  - Zoning requirements for gas stations and convenience stores related to sober living and other affordable housing services.
- Centers and Corridors:
  - Do not allow drive-thrus, gas stations or any other auto-oriented uses.
- Open Space:
  - Should include parks and natural open space.
  - Preserve open space.
  - Protect trees during development, including on private property.

## Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, one vote was cast for a middle option between Alternative 1 and Alternative 2, Alternative 2 received 6 votes, and Alternative 3 received 2 votes.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selected, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- Direct growth to Garland/Perry/Downtown/areas already with growth and not within neighborhoods with limited parking and emergency access.
- Direct growth away from mature trees and rock formations.
- Distributed housing and transportation needed.
- Alternative 2 & 3 should both focus on TOD and increased affordable housing.
- Large subdivisions should have traffic lights to exit to accommodate surrounding growth.
- Duplexes built and sold as duplexes are not selling/not affordable; concerns over affordable housing in alternatives.
- Parking requirements should be 1 space per unit.
- Need safe crossings to bus stops/park and rides.
- High intensity housing can be isolating, community hubs are needed.
- Increase housing downtown; get more people visiting downtown.
- Locate mix-use along NS Corridor interchanges.
- Address Airway Heights growth impact on access to water.
- Concerns over Division traffic and conflict of businesses, curb cuts.
- Infrastructure needs to be in place before continuing to allow new development (Freya Lower South Hill highlighted).
- More mixed-uses everywhere; less areas with single uses.
- Locate employment and industrial uses on edges of the city.
- Provide/expect commercial uses to pop up around employment.
- Provide more attractions; things for groups/teens to do together.

## Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, participants had few locations they wanted mixed-uses to be located. However, MU-TOD was identified for Market Street, North Monroe, and portions of Ruby. MU-3 was identified on West Sunset Boulevard.

In addition to pin placement, additional comments included:

- MU-2 should be everywhere.
- No neighborhood businesses, there is no parking.

- No Latah-Cannon Corridor plan; all the traffic, no plan.
- No mixed use in neighborhoods, protect neighborhood from exploitive development.
- Want to see more intensity at arterials, then higher commercial, and finally residential.
- Want a transportation plan for Cliff-Cannon; there's no future plan considering 195 and I-90 ramp.

## Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting street trees along Ruby and Division, as well as downtown; improved bike connections north of Francis Avenue in the northwest, in South Logan at Mission and Hamilton, near Spokane Community College, and near Ray Street, Regal, and other areas in South Spokane; separate bike lanes at Wellesley and Driscoll Boulevard, within Latah Valley, and in various locations near downtown and just south of I-90 in the southwest; bus route improvements near Vinegar Flats and within Latah Valley; bus shelters throughout Latah Valley and on Ray Street; speed management along Grand Boulevard; and new and improved crosswalks throughout the southwest. Additional improvements, largely in the southwest, include emergency services, improving bridges, new sidewalks, fixing of roads, lighting, and new intersection.

## Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • Create trails that are more like dog parks                              | • Create urban public garden inside parks   |
| • Support engaged and active citizenry for resiliency                     | • Encourage TOD   |
| • Expand safe bike and walking to grocery stores                          | • Encourage safe streets for bikes and pedestrians; protected bike lanes, more crosswalks |
| • Responsible and equitable development                                   | • Expand bike in infrastructure   |
| • Increase density and make it easier for residents to do that themselves | • More walkable neighborhoods (i.e. 29 <sup>th</sup> and Grand area)                      |
| • More trees and shade along trails                                       | • Canon area lost lots of trees, not replanted by new development                         |
| • Ban wood burning fireplaces   | • People drink PFAS and then it moves through sewer pipes and treatment                   |

- Sewer infrastructure in Canon is old and breaks often
- Lack of parking becomes a safety and resiliency issue
- Incentivize more tree canopy in lower areas but maintain aging tree canopy (especially in aging demographics)
- Water quality of PFAS in mystic falls/garden spring due to development
- More dense development so there is less cross through traffic to sprawling suburbs
- Enable neighborhoods to create more social capital and be able to take action and help issues
- Incentivize responsible development
- Solar on rooftops before green spaces
- Money, investment, and code is very car focuses and needs to be more holistic
- Toolkit for tactical urbanism (empower communities to improve areas themselves)
- Life flight should use major corridors to reduce residential and wildlife noise pollution
- Expand historic preservation, create culture like Canon
- Fix challenging areas for biking (hills make it impossible and dangerous to bike, even with e-bikes)
- NSC will bring more car infrastructure and needs to be more resilient and multimodal
- Development should not be in neighborhoods
- Maintain our strong tree canopies
- Need more protected bike lanes
- Extend existing bike lanes, don't just stop the bike lanes suddenly
- Development should not remove trees, plants, and Spokane's distinct environment
- Rain retention facilities requirements should be stronger
- Bike lanes with multiple lines helps enforce walking
- Ensure social capital is created during development
- Green roofs
- More walking paths
- Stronger codes to maintain tree canopy
- Need to have an acknowledgement of growth/our limits

## Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- Recognize limits to growth.
- Prioritize protection of mature trees and iconic basalt rocks.
- The new infill law is destroying mature trees and neighborhoods.
- No mixed-use growth in the middle of neighborhoods.
- Bike infrastructure
- Walkable neighborhoods
- Public Transportation in Latah Valley
- Protect trees
- Require parking spaces for all units, change setbacks to 5-feet, change lots from 20 to 50 foot minimum.
- Sponsor new windows for historic homes.
- Convert unused city property to public pea patches.
- Growth numbers should consider possibility of climate refugees.

## Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Plant more trees
- More bike lanes in all communities
- Community infrastructure built now to we have it when growth occurs
- Sound walls along freeways to protect housing
- Reducing pollution in low-income areas
- Walkable neighborhoods for everyone

## Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 6 votes, Equity received 3 votes, Climate Pollution Reduction received 4 votes, Logistics received 1 vote, and Risk received 2 votes.



Community members there then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Without resilience, we will have a hard time delivering on the other policies
- Clear out underbrush in fire risk areas.
- Inequitable impact e.g. when you add a historic district, you reduce the value of the homes surrounding the historic district.
- Ban wood burning fireplaces.
- Tighten controls on vehicle emissions.
- Stop consolidating poverty; spread out affordable housing outside of poverty-stricken neighborhoods.
- Balancing costs and benefits to ensure prospective business ventures aren't too impacts.
- Stop allowing shelters in areas with no services.



# Memo

## Re: District 3 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The District 3 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 18, 2025 at Salk Middle School. **Approximately 20 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

## Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Accessibility (housing and public space)
- Mixed-use housing in neighborhoods to make more “hubs” instead of strip malls
- More greenways and trails like Centennial; need north/south connections
- Protected bike lanes, not just painted ones
- Allow for more mixed use in established neighborhoods
- Allow for more walkable neighborhoods
- Sidewalks in existing development, not just new development
- Programs for homeless residents like jobs, including helping clean up neighborhoods
- Third spaces
- For elderly and disabled residents, walkable also means sittable
- Context sensitive design standards, especially in historic centers
- Sidewalk safety (e.g. electric scoots and conflicts with pedestrians)
- Require more design variety within new developments
- Create quality and beautiful places to live
- Less dependence on vehicles
- Allow for or encourage local services, restaurants, or grocery stores in neighborhoods
- Organize road construction planning so that if a main north/south roadway is under construction, you wait on further north/south projects

- Increase pedestrian safety at uncontrolled intersections on large roads, especially one way roads

## Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Lack of low friction transit
- Lack of public spaces free from oppression
- Please always consider small business impact when considering taxes
- Greater options in affordable housing (location, size, etc.)
- Density transition, no high-rise next to single unit homes
- Building getting torn down for parking lots or mall centers
- Mixed use housing can balance both
- Vacant lots/parking lots sitting unused

## Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Residential Low:
  - Consider impacts of less on-site parking
  - Allow small mixed uses (cafes, etc.) and embrace being an urban area
  - Allow mixed-use spaces, community spaces, community gardens, parks, and walkable third spaces.
  - No gas stations
  - Allow for small scale medical uses (e.g. dentist) near hospital district
  - Need transition between low- and high-density areas
- Residential High:
  - Needs to be expanded into existing lower scale residential, such as near transit or in close proximity to amenities
- Commercial:
  - Mixed use needs to be expanded
  - Take advantage of vacant commercial areas to add businesses or apartments
- Centers and Corridors:

- No hostile architecture
  - Locate throughout Division once NSC is complete and traffic reduces
- Downtown:
  - Allow taller buildings and bigger business spaces
- Industrial:
  - Encourage adaptive reuse of existing spaces
- Open Space:
  - Undeveloped parks with trails, not every park needs big grass fields
  - Accessible open space
  - Mountain biking
  - 100% of the river should be public park

## Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, Alternative 2 received 5 votes, and Alternative 3 received 1 vote.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selected, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development is currently happening below bluff, create transitional uses to reinvent the area.</li> <li>• Alternative 2 plus downtown revitalization preferred.</li> <li>• Allow Browne's Additional uses through the city/neighborhoods.</li> <li>• Alternative 2 improves already existing sprawl in city limits, Alternative 3 avoids sprawl.</li> <li>• Neighborhood hubs needed throughout, create economic areas in neighborhoods.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternative 2 has housing more accessible to all parts of the city and spread impacts.</li> <li>• Plan around future light rail.</li> <li>• Balanced alternative allows for areas to grow and revitalize more.</li> <li>• Do not focus on downtown, people do not visit as often as other parts of the city.</li> <li>• To change behavior, give a better alternative; carrot needed first.</li> <li>• Pedestrian only streets or golf cart/scooter only streets needed.</li> <li>• Need easier access to bus routes like Division.</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

- Downtown focus creates opportunity for more housing and revitalization/reuse of existing buildings.
- Alternative 2 preferred, but with preservation of historic buildings, revitalize or reuse buildings.
- The investment downtown of Alternative 3 is a good priority to avoid businesses leaving.
- Like the mixed uses in north Spokane but want downtown focus as well.
- Housing does not fix homeless problems, need other solutions like centralized facilities.
- Take advantage of areas already changing – vacant areas, industries that moved.
- Downtown expansion plus the connectedness along the streets and transit lines.
- Reuse abandoned commercial buildings for housing.
- Increase middle housing everywhere.
- Job growth is important; make sure we are encouraging industries and not just mixed-uses.
- Like a multi-block approach to intensities (like Alt 3 downtown) over less depth along transit lines.
- Downtown as a primary working hub allows for investments to make it a safe and appealing destination.

## Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, respondents wanted MU-TOD along Hamilton, North Monroe, and along the northernmost portion of Nevada Street; MU-1 between Northwest and Balboa/South Indian Trail neighborhoods, on North Monroe, and near the Shadle Library on Wellesley; MU-2 along Indian Trail Road; and MU-3 in the southwest corner of Manito/Cannon Hill, within Audubon/Downriver, and in Northwest.

## Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting more street trees along Ruby and Division, Browne's Addition, and near Illinois Avenue; wider sidewalks on Division in downtown; lighting on Grand and south of Wellesley; bus shelters along Division; increase bus times near Government Way; better connected areas in Northwest and Audubon/Downriver as well as just south of downtown; improved intersection at near Freya and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue; wayfinding near Maple/Walnut; and reduced speeds new Wellesley and Driscoll Boulevard.

In addition to sticker placement, addition comments included:

- There is no access from housing to river between TJ Meenach and Seven Mile.
- Close some intersections along Driscoll at A and C streets, they are dangerous and confusing.
- Increased (bus?) access and frequency to airport.
- Better “barriers” needed for separated bike lanes.
- Browne’s Addition/Downtown need pedestrian and bike connection improvements at Maple and 1<sup>st</sup>/Pacific/Riverside.

## Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- Provide good resilient tree types that don’t cause damage to pipes.
- Help connect homeowners with getting weatherization like insulation (both knowledge and resources).
- Discourage the purchasing of big gas guzzling trucks, SUVs, etc.
- Support the replacement of trees when they need replanted
- Make our neighborhoods more beautiful and bring community pride
- Tree maintenance subsidies
- Fire hazard mitigation for homeowners
- Ensure trees are watered, when people quit watering their yards in the summer, they also don’t water the trees
- Developers need to plant higher age and mature trees
- Equal investment opportunities into neighborhoods
- Work with local areas, including Idaho, to maintain/preserve climate
- Use more fire safe housing material in new developments
- Targeted partnerships to get better air filters for the community
- More signage about issues like heat islands, where/when they are happening
- Take a position as a city to go solar, provide information to connect to contractors or best products
- More coverage of trees throughout Spokane
- Need formal river access for non-car residents between TJ Meenach and 7-Mile
- More trail and native preservation little parks
- Look at housing ages to determine places to target aging tree replacement
- Quit encourage people to remove yards, instead of drought tolerant, most people are landscaping with rock and amplifying the problem.
- Do more than just Avista providing energy efficiency

- Urban re-forestation tree planting subsidies
- Raise subsidy help by a sliding scale
- Window upgrade help to reduce energy cost

## Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- No additional power to AI facilities, it will create more pollution
- More bus only lanes to make public transit faster, cheaper, and quicker
- SpokaneScape: incentive model is helpful, but businesses are exempt
- More improvements to bike infrastructure and consistent connectivity throughout neighborhoods
- Tree and native landscaping
- Better park and transit accessibility for walkable neighborhoods
- Tree canopy
- Promotion of local community solution for addressing climate
- Address financial barriers
- Low/zero friction public transit
- Shade
- Intersection of natural and built environment
- Mental and physical health
- Low-cost improvements to support biking
- Education around benefits of tree canopy
- Incentivize tree planting on the north side of the city
- Hold businesses more accountable
- Trees as physical barriers for bike lanes to improve safety
- Greenhouse gas emissions related to “dead internet”

## Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Support bicycle use and protected bike lanes
- Fruit and nut trees in public spaces, not ornamental fruit trees
- Protected bike lanes and bus only lanes
- Supporting walkable neighborhoods for community development
- Fund solar panel
- Heat mitigation in neighborhoods, especially East Central



- City should provide funding opportunities for climate change mitigation activities
- Supporting pedestrian transportation
- Leaf removal should happen in West Central, equal access to resource
- More advertising for Spokaneopy and SpokaneScape
- 
- Safer roads
- Support equity in neighborhoods impacted by freeways through noise barriers, reinvestment without gentrifying
- More bus rapid transit throughout the city
- Stop watering public spaces that aren't parks

## Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 8 votes, Equity received 5 votes, Climate Pollution Reduction received 7 votes, Logistics received 5 votes, and Risk received 1 vote.

Community members there then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Legislative control to create solutions
- How to reduce homelessness/outdoor sleeping to make people less vulnerable
- Build equity into each criterion



# Memo

## Re: Citywide Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The Citywide Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 19, 2025 at the Central Library. **Approximately 35 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

### Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Art districts
- Neighborhoods being distinct
- Overnight daycares
- Spark House
- Address land speculation
- Shopping District (Monroe, Garland)
- Indoor swimming pools for the winter
- Trails
- Action plan for incentivizing affordable, dense housing
- Daycare centers
- Conservation/migration corridors to connect to County corridors
- Promoting outdoor activities in the winter e.g. park use in the winter, SCC pool
- Addressing employment and job creation
- Ensuring adequate levels of transportation/transit opportunities to reduce single occupancy vehicles
- Aim to make all playgrounds and parks accessible
- Natural playgrounds
- Shoreline master planning

### Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business

displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Faster permit processing
- City should be involved in public housing development
- High housing costs are a concern
- Mobile home park developments being replaced by affordable multi-family housing
- Business displacement due to neighborhood perception of safety
- Lack of housing inventory to keep up with population increases

## Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Urban Agriculture:
  - Allow flower growers, small vegetable and fruit farmers market-type food production
  - Locate to avoid impacts of potential pesticides
- Residential Low:
  - Human-scale and human serving design
  - Allow parking
  - Allow community gardens and indoor community pools
- Residential High:
  - Accessible housing (no stairs)
- Centers and Corridors:
  - Allow multi-family as well as trade/live work makerspaces
  - Do not allow drive throughs
- Institutional:
  - Incentives apartments
  - Community pools
- Open Space:
  - Allow indoor community pools
  - Provide enough parks/trails so those in dense areas/apartments have a place to go outside

## Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, Alternative 2 received 9 votes, and Alternative 3 received 3 votes.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selected, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- North/South and East/West connection in Alternative 2 is a positive
- Diversity of locations is positive for clients/investors; “diversity of options”
- Use land along Government Way/West Hills
- Alt 2 creates bridge between neighborhoods
- Protect agricultural lands; encourage regenerative agricultural practices
- Like NW mixed use proposal
- East/West supported in Alt 2 along Wellesley and Francis
- Alt 3 plus Wellesley, E/W connection
- Like mixed use along NW Boulevard in Alt 2
- Alter 2 favors more positive distribution but also add corner stores
- Neither alternative focus on connecting smaller areas
- Encourage arts through home occupation
- Alternative 2 needs the medical focus and should include better transit for shift work for medical staff
- Watch out for community displacement in West Center/Broadway
- Push heavy industrial outside of city limits
- Health impact to neighborhoods should be analyzed
- Add home occupation for mix of jobs/uses
- Need traffic calming at Broadway in West Central
- Ensure professional buildings are also part of mixed-use areas, not just retail/food
- For industrial areas where residential areas can be allowed, expand the tree canopy
- Need to address transportation
- More mixed-use and corner stores with pedestrian emphasis
- Need code enforcement for parking in Cannon
- Maintain Center and Corridors

## Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, respondents wanted MU-TOD near the Shadle Library on Wellesley, along Market Street in Hillyard, on North Monroe, along Mission, in parts of downtown and Cliff-Cannon, and in areas on 29<sup>th</sup>; MU-1 in north Five Mile Prairie, in parts of Audubon/Downriver and West Central, and downtown; MU-2 in Shiloh Hills, Northwest, and North Hill and in areas along 29<sup>th</sup>; and MU-3 in multiple areas spread out through Comstock, Latah/Hangman, Lincoln Height, East Central, Cliff-Cannon, Manito/Cannon Hill, Chief Garry, Audubon/Downriver, Bemiss, and Whitman.

In addition to pin placement, additional comments included:

- No more drive throughs
- Need parks and trails in Hillyard
- Design for less disruption in displacement
- Cannon's Addition concern over privacy with height differences
- Cannon's Addition needs transportation management
- More health and transportation access in West Central
- Trades academy
- 24-hour day care
- Designated business district/center/corridor down east Broadway of West Central
- Trade and maker spaces in West Central
- "Sparkhouse" at McKinley School, various locations throughout City
- Create protections against displacement in Chief Garry around City Line stops, including increasing resources for community
- Increase Pedestrian/Bike Infrastructure along Northwest Boulevard

## Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting increase bus access in downtown, along Grand Boulevard, out towards the airport, and near Northwest Boulevard; bus shelters on Wellesley in West Central; downtown wayfinding, seating along Wellesley, Northwest Boulevard, Division, Market, Grand Boulevard, and Regal; improved or new crosswalks on Northwest Boulevard and near Monroe Street, as well as near Trent Avenue and on Francis; intersections throughout northwest Spokane; street trees in East Center and downtown; and greater and safer bike connectivity along Division, between Division and Monroe, and on Grand.

In addition to sticker placement, addition comments included:

- On Grand Boulevard from 9<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, add center turn lane, remove parking, and add bike lanes.
- Increase separated protected bike connectivity north/south away from Centennial Trail
- Double decker bus cut frequency of the 6, not frequent enough
- Slow down one-way couplets or remove them
- No in-town highways
- Potential for strong transit connectivity with Valley-BRT or light rail on Sprague Avenue
- Add pedestrian mall/mid lane island to Main Street
- Create school streets and shared streets
- Finish the envisioned boulevard plan for Regal Steet through Southgate District Center
- On Washington, Howard, and Post flip bike lane and parking
- Push Monroe Road Diet down to Kendall Yards
- Recommended bus routes, including to natural areas like Mt. Spokane, Little Spokane River, and Bowl and Pitcher
- Slow default neighborhood speeds to 20 MPH
- Climate town videos like park(ing) day
- Grand should have a different type of arterial status
- Micromobility designated spaces/use for daylighting off sidewalk parking
- Blue Moon Nursery will sell and develop
- Develop planned pedestrian natural surface trail along Latah Creek
- Make a one hour bus loop down to Latah through Cliff-Cannon
- Pedestrian path buried in park development
- Trail easement at 11<sup>th</sup> Ave and bridge

## Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- Climate resilience education
- End wood burning fireplaces
- Real penalties for water use abuse
- Park and ride/multimodal transportation system
- Incentivize public transit use
- Encourage water conservation and restrict water use in dry months
- Extreme weather even shelters
- Adon't rely on air conditioners as they just displace heat, use good design



- Increase accessibility of recycling and composting
- Stop logging forests to make room for development, planting street trees does not replace natural forests
- Address growth at the edge of the UGA
- Stop over building lots and not leaving space for trees
- Park and ride as entry way into public transit use

## Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- Indoor spaces to escape to during weather extremes
- Water conservation
- More resources directed to conservation programs
- Street trees, including maintenance
- Food security
- Allow fruit trees near street/sidewalks
- City should partner with property owners to maintain trees to offset costs
- Support creation of more efficient building construction
- Restrict wood burning fireplaces to improve air quality

## Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Low-income renters and homeowners can't easily afford maintenance of sidewalks/trees/bioswales, but these improve their environment; city needs to support neighborhoods by maintaining these elements
- Reduce light pollution
- Protecting elders from heat impacts through tree canopy and programs to reduce costs for AC units
- Land bridge for wildlife crossing (Thorpe and 195); don't just plan for humans
- Increase public indoor pools for year-round use for social and health benefits for kids and elderly
- Amenities like parks and other public places need to be designed to allow vulnerable populations to access during high temperatures

## Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 6 votes, Equity received 7 votes, Climate Pollution Reduction received 3 votes, Logistics received 1 vote, and Risk received 0 votes.

Community members there then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Emphasize natural environment as a component of resilience criteria

# Welcome!



The City of Spokane is working on a periodic update to the City's Comprehensive Plan as required by the State's Growth Management Act (GMA). This "periodic update" ensures the plan aligns with any changes to state law. The last periodic update was completed in 2017. Since then, the State has added new requirements, especially around climate and housing. Due in June 2026, the periodic update will identify policies and future regulations to guide the next 20 years of our city.

**2024**

- Climate Planning Kickoff
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Scoping - Growth Alternative Identification

- Review of Growth Alternatives
- Draft EIS
- Draft Plan

- Growth Alternative Selection
- Refine Plan

**2026**

- Final EIS
- Final Plan

**FINAL ADOPTION**

**Continual Community Outreach and Engagement Throughout**

## What We're Planning For

### Population

Based on growth forecasts for Spokane County, the City of Spokane is expected to gain at least **23,357 new residents between 2023 and 2046**, bringing the City's total population to just over 256,000.

**23,357**

projected new residents by 2046

### Housing Needs

As part of the periodic update, the City of Spokane is seeking to better understand how to support existing housing while addressing future housing needs.

Per state requirements and County allocations, the City of Spokane is expected to need **22,359 additional permanent housing units** between 2020 and 2046. 13,415 of those units are to accommodate new residents, while the remaining units are intended to meet past housing underproduction needs. In addition to a total number of housing units, the City of Spokane is also required to plan for housing by affordability bracket.

**22,359**

additional permanent housing units  
needed between 2020 and 2046



**Learn more at [PlanSpokane.org](https://PlanSpokane.org)**



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# Environmental Impact Statement

## Background

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 process, the City of Spokane is developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), an informational document that provides the City, public, Tribes, and agencies with environmental information to be considered in the decision-making process.

An EIS is required under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) for larger projects, such as significant updates to Comprehensive Plans. An EIS describes potential environmental impacts, reasonable alternatives, and ways to avoid or minimize negative impacts that could result from implementation of policies, informing the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update.



## Draft EIS

The Draft EIS presents three alternatives to test different growth patterns and policies. The City of Spokane will then create a “preferred alternative” based on public input and the Draft EIS evaluation of the range of the alternatives.

The preferred alternative may include any features of the studied alternatives, including a combination of various elements from all of the alternatives. The preferred alternative will be evaluated in the Final EIS.

## Final EIS

After public feedback and the selection of a preferred alternative, a Final Environmental Impact Statement will be written that analyzes the chosen path forward.

The Final EIS will also respond to comments received on the Draft EIS.

## EIS Topics



Earth, water quality, and water resources



Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions



Plants and animals, including critical areas and habitat



Land use patterns and urban form, including historic and cultural resources



Population, employment, and housing



Relationship to plans, policies, and regulations



Transportation, including multiple modes and city and state facilities



Public services: police, fire and emergency medical services, parks, schools, libraries, solid waste



Utilities: power, water, wastewater, and stormwater



# Growth Alternatives

The City is studying three alternatives in the Draft EIS. Each alternative describes different growth strategies.

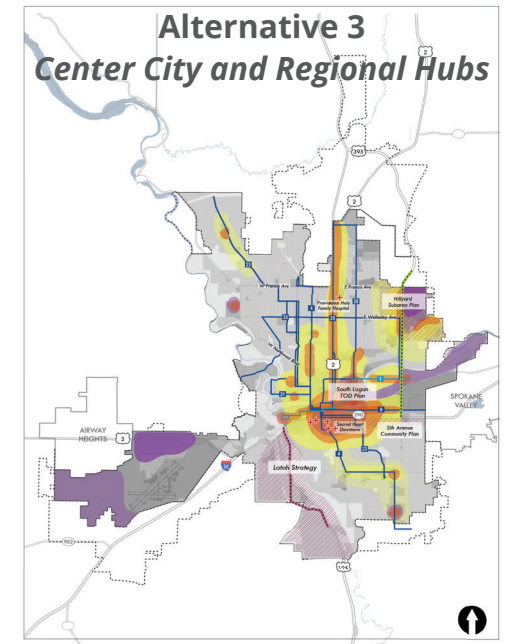
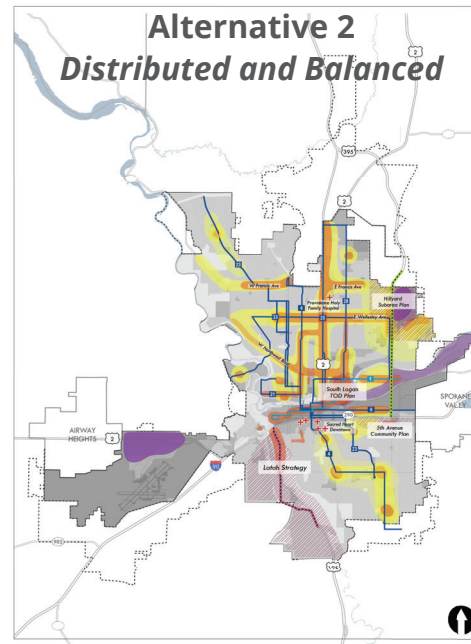
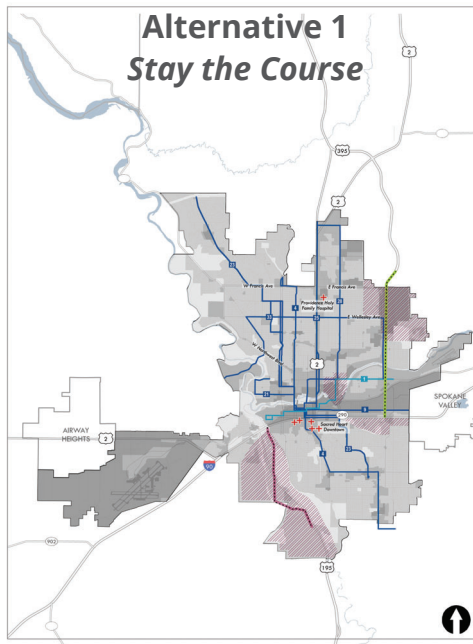
## Legend

### Growth Intensity (Alternative 1)

- Low
- Moderate
- Moderate-High
- High

### Growth Intensity (Alternatives 2 and 3)

- High Density Housing
- Moderate Density Housing
- Mixed Use / Commercial
- Employment/ Industrial Light
- Employment/ Industrial Heavy



## High Density Housing



## Moderate Density Housing



## Mixed Use / Commercial



## Employment/ Industrial Light



## Employment/ Industrial Heavy





# Alternatives Comparison *(Preliminary)*

This board shares preliminary environmental impact evaluation results on the natural and built environment. Each table has a table or “report card” with comparison symbols. Impacts may be greater or lesser, or there can be potential beneficial impacts/mitigation measures. The results may change with the completion of the Draft EIS.

There will be a public comment opportunity to weigh in on the alternatives and the Draft EIS evaluation. That will help the City of Spokane create a Preferred Alternative that mixes and matches alternative features and adds mitigation measures that can reduce impacts on the natural and built environment.

## Objectives

OBJECTIVES	ALT. 1	ALT. 2	ALT. 3
Meet Periodic Update Requirements	x	✓+	✓+
Accommodate Growth: Housing at All Affordability Levels	✓	✓+	✓+
Accommodate Growth: Jobs	✓	✓	✓+
Clarify the Plan	x	✓+	✓+
Simplify the Plan and Codes	x	✓+	✓+
Protect Critical Areas	✓	✓+	✓+
Fast-Track Desired Growth	x	✓+	✓+
Alignment with Vision Statement	x	✓+	✓+

**Ability to Meet Objectives**  
 x Less    ✓ More    ✓+ Most

## Report Card - Natural Environment

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	ALT. 1	ALT. 2	ALT. 3
Earth, water quality, and water resources: Potential for increased pollution and potential for increased rainfall runoff flows based on housing density distribution.	▼▼	▼	▽
Plants and animals: Potential for habitat conversion, or loss of habitat connectivity			
Center City	△	△	▲
Northwest	▼▼	▼	▼
Northeast	▼	▽	▽
South	▼▼	▼▼	▼▼
West Plains	▼	▼	▼
Strength of Mitigation – Plan and Code Updates.	-	▲	▲

**Adverse Impacts**  
 ▽ Less Impacts    ▼ More Impacts    ▼▼ Most Impacts

**Potential Beneficial Impacts/Mitigation**  
 - Neutral Impacts    △ Moderately Positive    ▲ Positive

## Report Card - Built Environment

BUILT ENVIRONMENT	ALT. 1	ALT. 2	ALT. 3
Land Use Patterns and Urban Form			
Land use and Urban Form compatibility: Changes in use type between adjacent areas and potential incompatibility.	▽	▼	▼
Environmental Justice: Increased exposure of overburdened populations to light or noise pollution, environmental hazards, or urban heat island effects	▼	▽	▽
Population, Employment, and Housing			
Capacity for Housing and Population Targets	▲	▲	▲
Housing Variety and Affordability	▼	▲	▲
Implementation of Housing Action Plan	△	▲	▲
Growth in Housing Displacement Risk Areas / Increased Housing Supply that Reduces Economic Displacement Pressure	▽, ▼	▼, △	▼, △
Job types and quantity and ability to advance City and regional economic development strategies	▲	△	▲
Commercial business economic displacement	▼	▽	▼
Relationship to Plans, Policies, and Regulations	▼	△	△
Public Services			
Citywide demand for police, fire/emergency medical services, schools, parks, libraries, and solid waste	▼	▼	▼
Schools – Spokane School District	▽	▼	▼
Schools – Mead School District	▼	▽	▽
Environmental Justice – Growth in Areas with Health and Social Disparities and Greater Service Demand	▽	▼	▼▼
Utilities			
Power, Water, Wastewater Demand	▼	▽	▽
Power, Water, Wastewater Infrastructure Upgrades	▽	▼	▼
Stormwater Generation	▼	▽	▽
Strength of Mitigation Potential – Plan and Code Updates	-	▲	▲

## Your Ideas

What features of the different growth options do you like best? What could be improved?





# Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation!

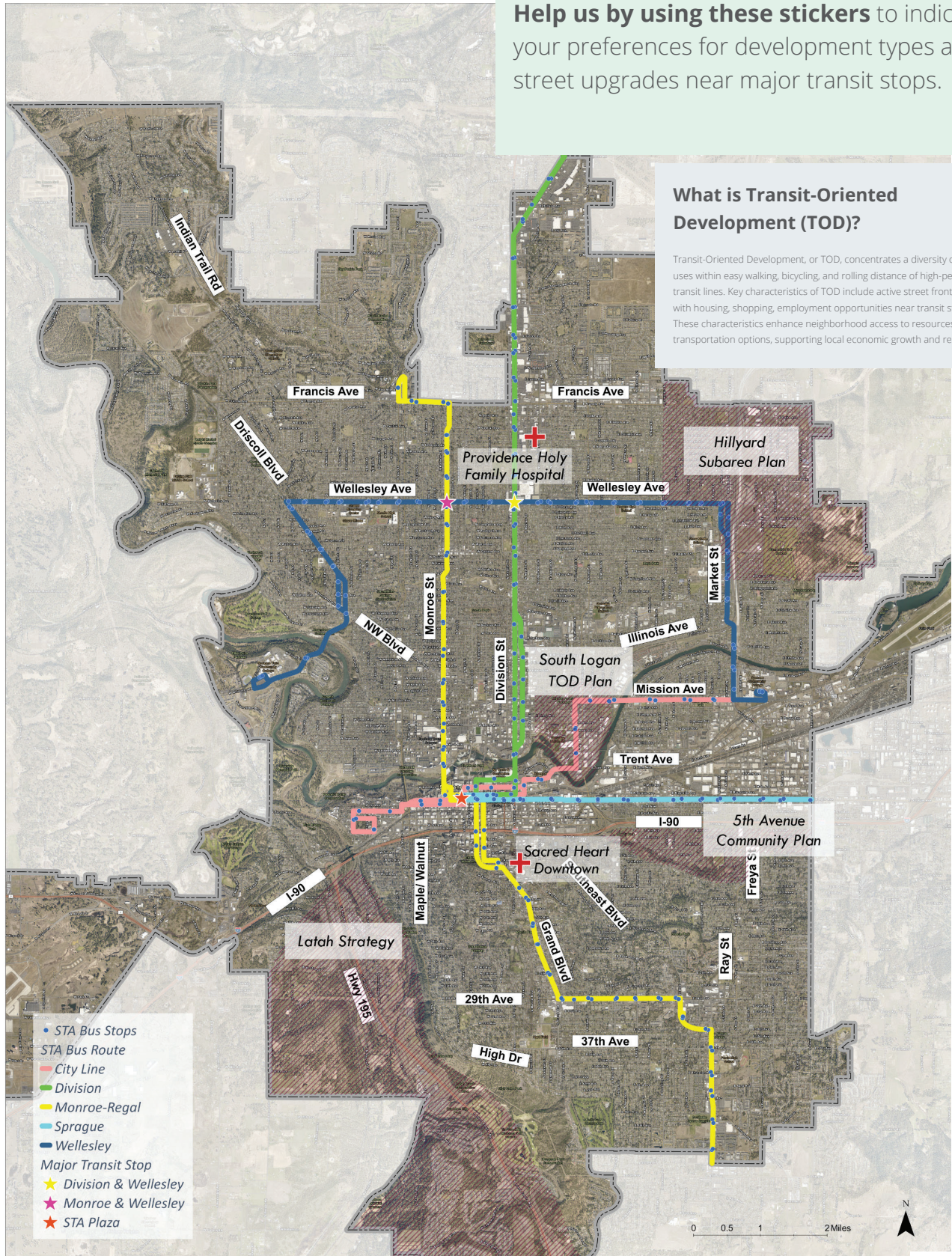


What type of street improvements and destinations do you want to see near transit throughout Spokane?

**Help us by using these stickers** to indicate your preferences for development types and street upgrades near major transit stops.

## What is Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)?

Transit-Oriented Development, or TOD, concentrates a diversity of land uses within easy walking, bicycling, and rolling distance of high-performance transit lines. Key characteristics of TOD include active street frontages with housing, shopping, employment opportunities near transit stations. These characteristics enhance neighborhood access to resources and transportation options, supporting local economic growth and resiliency.





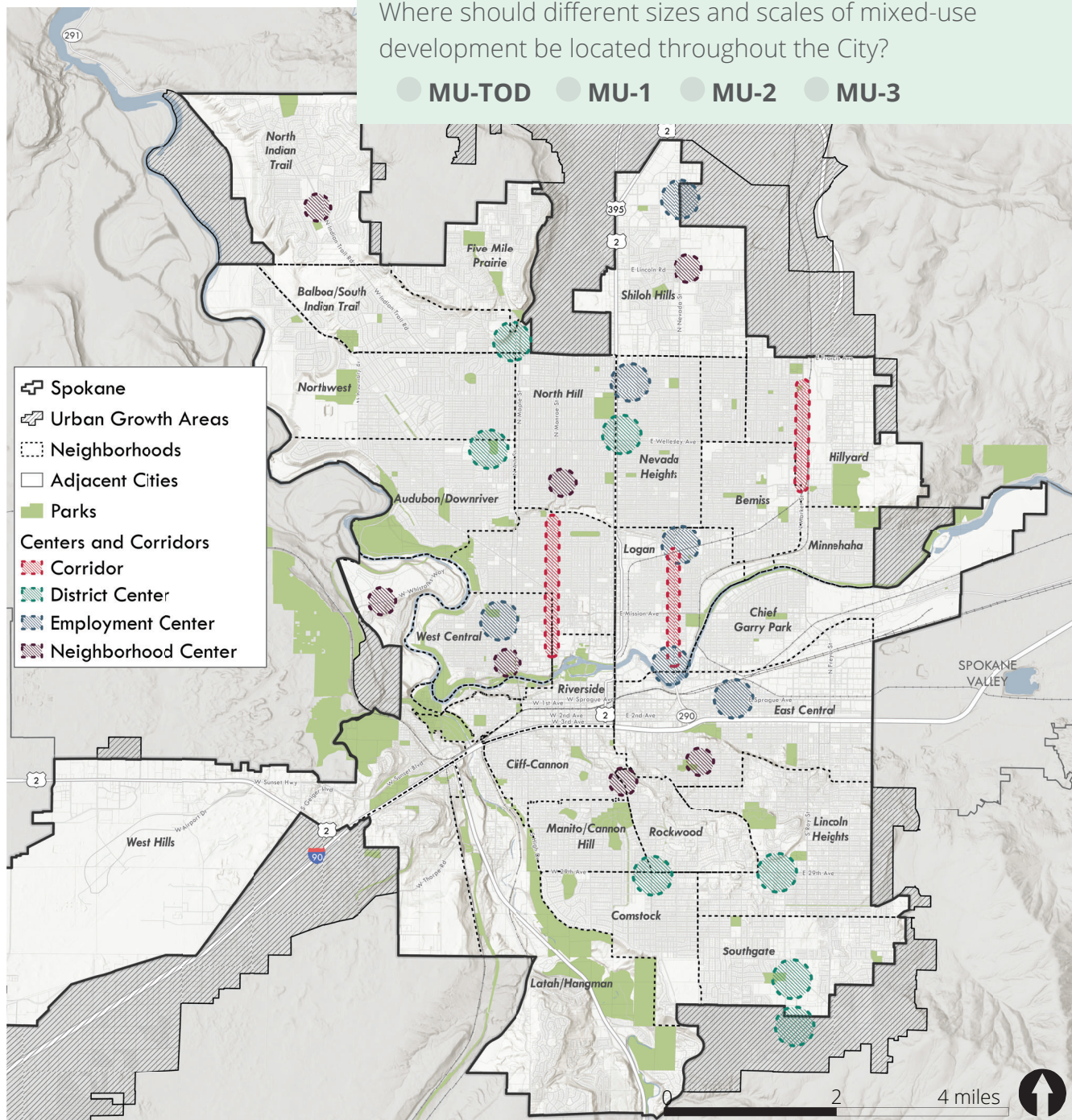
# Map Your Future Spokane!



Earlier community feedback indicated a desire for more mixed-uses throughout Spokane.

Where should different sizes and scales of mixed-use development be located throughout the City?

● MU-TOD ● MU-1 ● MU-2 ● MU-3



## MU-TOD

### Transit-Oriented

- Targeted towards vicinity of major transit stops (within 1/4 mile).
- Tallest heights (150').
- Avoids vehicle-serving uses (no drive-thrus, commercial parking lots, etc.).
- No mini-storage
- Greatest provisions for people walking, bicycling, or rolling with assistive devices to access transit.

## MU-1

### Maximum Flexibility

- "Base" type for Centers and Corridors.
- Maximum amount of land use flexibility.
- Taller heights (90').
- Allow industrial zones where uses are currently industrial.
- Greatest amount of accommodation for people driving (drive-thrus permitted).
- Entirely residential buildings allowed.

## MU-2

### Small Neighborhood Scale

- Smaller scale and lower intensity than MU-1 zone.
- High amount of land use flexibility, but no self storage
- Moderate heights (75').
- Moderate support for people driving, but no drive-thrus on storefront streets
- Replaces some areas currently zoned Neighborhood Retail.

## MU-3

### Residential Mixed-Use

- Smallest scale and intensity, targeted towards neighborhood serving uses.
- Can be placed both inside Centers and in residential neighborhoods (limits on driveway spacing, street access)
- Heights similar to neighborhoods (40').
- Large-scale retail/services allowed but only in structures that also provide residential units.
- Focused on accommodating people walking, bicycling, rolling with assistive devices, and accessing transit.

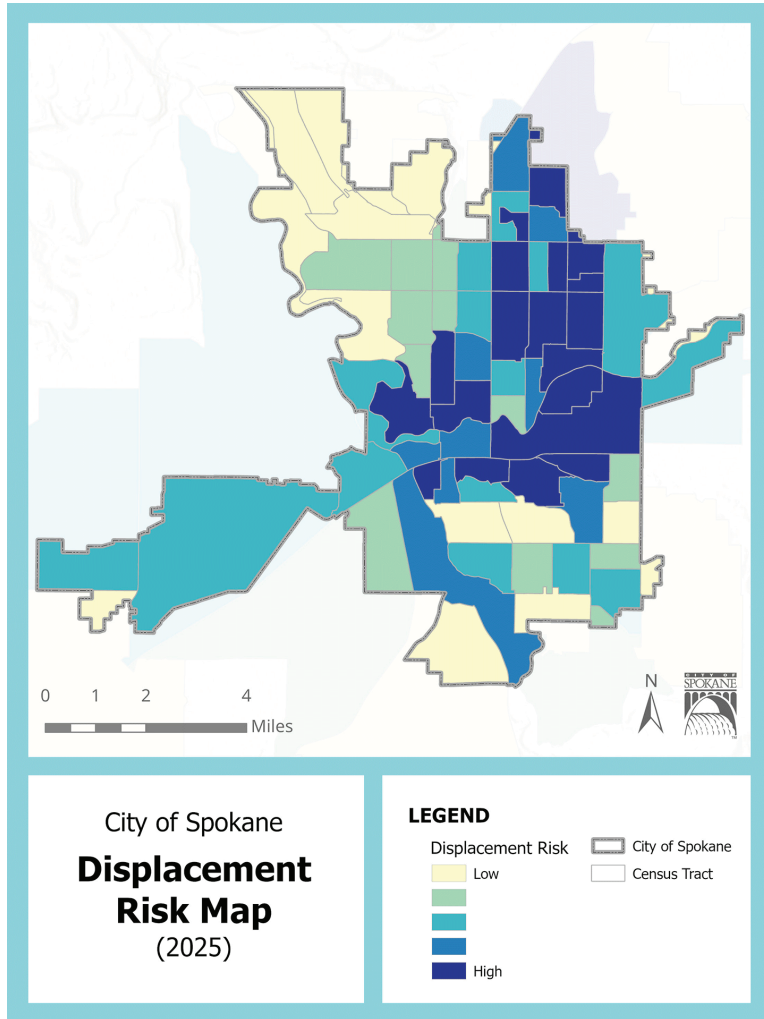


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# Displacement



As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update, the City of Spokane has completed analysis to understand displacement risk as we grow. As directed by recent state legislation (HB 1220), the City is working to establish anti-displacement policies.

Common anti-displacement policies include inclusionary zoning, tenant protections, public/private partnerships, tax incentives, community land banks, and development agreements.

## There are three primary types of displacement:

- **Physical displacement**, which occurs when a project — such as building demolition, renovation, or infrastructure — creates such adverse conditions that a resident can no longer physically stay in their unit.
- **Economic displacement**, which occurs when increasing housing costs create pressure, forcing a household or business to move to a less expensive location.
- **Cultural displacement**, which occurs when changes render a neighborhood quite different, as many cultural institutions leave, creating a sense of isolation for long-term residents.

(Source: MRSC)



## Your Ideas

What causes to housing and small business displacement are you most concerned about? How could the City address them?





# What Can Be Built Where?












Provide feedback on proposed land use designations that will implement the future growth of our city.

What uses should be allowed and where?

## What is Land Use?

Land use is essentially **what kinds of uses can be built where**. It guides which uses are compatible in different parts of the City while ensuring the whole City has the right mix of residential, commercial, and industrial uses needed to support a thriving city and economy. For example, an area designated for “mixed use” can have an office, a restaurant, or living units on the same street, while an industrial land use will allow mostly manufacturing or warehouses. Each land use allows different zoning categories within it. Zoning determines the rules and regulations that apply for uses and development for each property.

Land use type	What uses should or should not be allowed?	Where should the land use be or not be located?
 <b>Urban Agriculture</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low intensity residential with agricultural uses</li> <li>Intended for small portions of the City already with agricultural operations</li> </ul>		
 <b>Residential Low</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-unit homes and middle housing</li> <li>Small scale businesses and other public-serving uses allowed</li> </ul>		
 <b>Residential High</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Middle housing and taller/wider buildings with more units</li> <li>Larger commercial uses than Residential Low</li> </ul>		
 <b>Commercial</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-residential uses for living, working, and shopping</li> <li>Mixed-uses and multi-unit residential in some areas</li> </ul>		
 <b>Centers &amp; Corridors</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Core or “heart” of each Center or Corridor</li> <li>Other designations will likely be mixed in and around the core area</li> </ul>		
 <b>Institutional</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More intense residential and commercial uses to support colleges, medical centers, and other institutions</li> </ul>		
 <b>Downtown</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taller buildings and higher density</li> <li>Range of uses</li> </ul>		
 <b>Industrial</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range of industrial uses including light industrial like maker spaces and rapid prototyping</li> </ul>		
 <b>Open Space</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active parks and open space protection in some areas</li> </ul>		



# Chapter Review

## Non-Technical Chapters Available for Public Comment

While there are many studies and projects in progress that will inform Comprehensive Plan updates through PlanSpokane 2046, a big part of any periodic update is a review and assessment of the many existing goals and policies. To this end, the City is undertaking a review of the current Comprehensive Plan, known as the Chapter Review process. Edits to the Community, Environment, and How We Grow Chapters have been made based on legislative requirements, direction from the Spokane Plan Commission, and community engagement.



**All comments and recommendations on the non-technical chapters can be sent to [PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org](mailto:PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org).**

We encourage the public to include the Chapter name and Goal/Policy number(s) as applicable.

NON-TECHNICAL CHAPTERS

### Community Chapters

+ Climate



Neighborhoods



Governance & Participation



Community Health

### Environment Chapters

+ Climate



Natural Environment



Parks and Recreation



Shorelines  
\*

### "How We Grow" Chapters

+ Climate



Urban Design



Historic Preservation



Economic Prosperity

### Technical Chapters

+ Climate



Land Use



Transportation



Housing



Capital Facilities & Utilities

**Climate will be addressed throughout the update.**

*\*Per state regulations, Shorelines is not due to be updated until 2031.*



**Learn more at the Chapter Review webpage**



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# Guiding Policies

As part of the Chapter Review process, seven non-technical chapters have been reviewed and updated to meet state legislative requirements, recent plans and studies, direction from the Spokane Plan Commission, and ongoing community engagement. These chapters are now out for public comment, with additional changes to each chapter are likely to occur as public feedback is collected, additional analysis is conducted, and a preferred alternative is selected for the final Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).



## Your Ideas

As the chapters of the draft Comprehensive Plan continue to evolve based on community feedback, what topics do you want to make sure are addressed?

Report cards summarizing the current edits to the non-technical chapters indicate how many new, removed, or changed policies are in each chapter.

**Learn more at [PlanSpokane.org](http://PlanSpokane.org).**

### Urban Design and Historic Preservation REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	8
Removed Goals & Policies	3
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	8

### Community Health REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	7
Removed Goals & Policies	2
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5

### Economic Prosperity REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	9
Removed Goals & Policies	8
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5

### Local Governance REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	4
Removed Goals & Policies	0
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	2

### Natural Environment REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	5
Removed Goals & Policies	3
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	6

### Neighborhoods REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	1
Removed Goals & Policies	4
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5

### Parks REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	4
Removed Goals & Policies	2
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5







# Planning for Climate Change in the City of Spokane



The City of Spokane is embarking on a transformative journey to support community resiliency to growing climate hazards. As part of this effort, we're undertaking a major update to our Comprehensive Plan, a foundational document guiding the city's growth. This update, mandated by law and due in 2026, presents a unique opportunity to integrate climate considerations into every aspect of our city's future.

## What will the City of Spokane's climate planning do?

The City of Spokane's climate planning effort focuses on two main areas:  
reducing climate pollution and building local resilience to climate impacts.



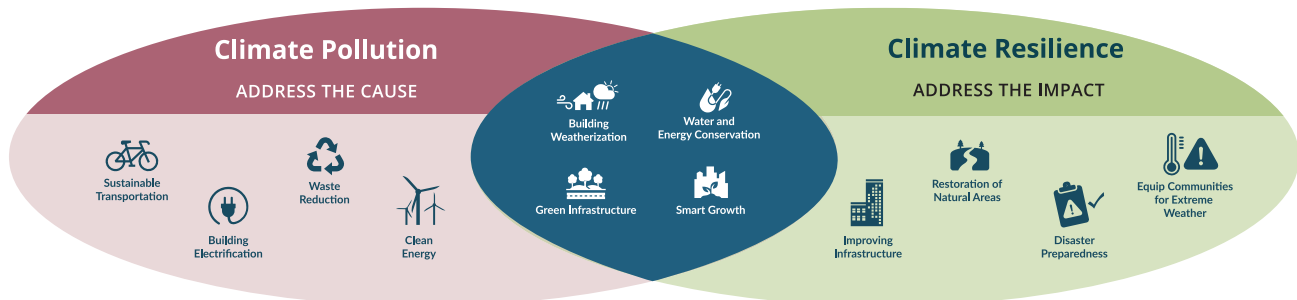
### Reduce Climate Pollution

- 1 Cut pollution from transportation, buildings, and other sources without shifting pollution elsewhere.
- 2 Expand walkable neighborhoods, bike infrastructure, and reliable public transit to reduce the need for driving.
- 3 Focus on pollution reductions that prioritize and benefit overburdened communities most impacted.



### Build Climate Resilience

- 1 Prepare for climate hazards like flooding, extreme heat, drought, and wildfire smoke.
- 2 Protect and enhance green spaces and natural areas.
- 3 Help everyone prepare and stay safe from the impacts of climate hazards, especially those who are most vulnerable and will feel the effects first and worst.



## What actions do you want the City to take to support local climate resiliency?

Write your ideas on a sticky note and place it below.



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City of Spokane climate planning 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](http://www.climate.wa.gov).



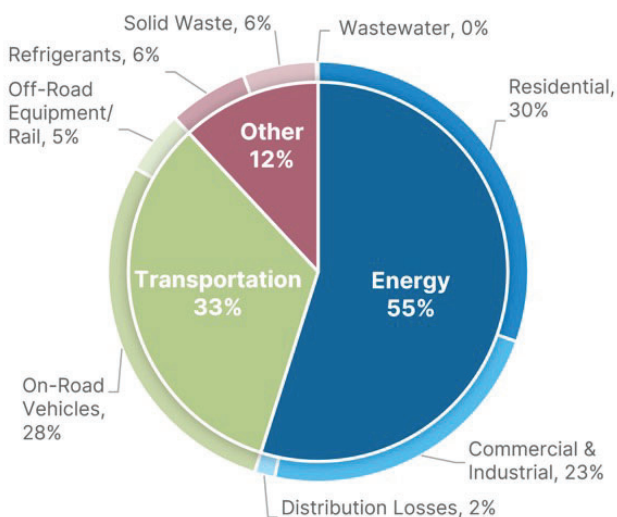
# Climate Pollution in Spokane



## What is Climate Pollution?

Climate pollution refers to the release of greenhouse gases and other pollutants that can affect the climate. It can cause serious effects on the environment, human health, farming, water supplies, and economies.

## Climate Pollution Here in Spokane



In 2022, the City of Spokane community emitted about 2.28 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>e), a measure of climate pollution. This is equivalent to the smoke emissions released from 240 square miles of Washington forest burned! The pie chart below shows where this pollution comes from.

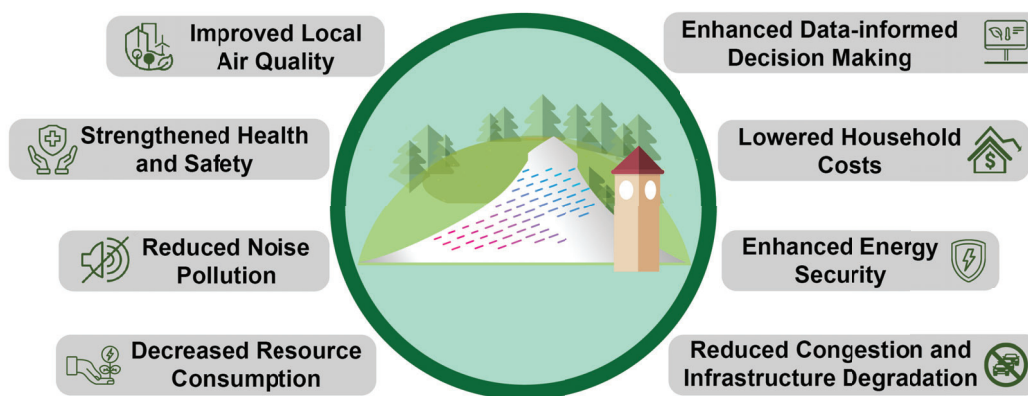
This information and your feedback will help Spokane set goals and create plans to reduce pollution from the biggest sources.



Scan the QR Code for more information about the City of Spokane's greenhouse gas emissions.

<https://my.spokanecity.org/publicworks/environmental/>

## Benefits of Reducing Climate Pollution



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# Spokane's Climate Vulnerability

The City of Spokane created a Climate Vulnerability Index mapping tool to better understand which areas, people, and resources are most at risk from climate impacts like extreme heat and wildfire smoke. The tool looked at over 30 factors, such as exposure to climate hazards and the ability to adapt.

The map shows that some parts of Spokane, like in Northeast Spokane and along the I-90 corridor, have higher overall climate vulnerability relative to other parts of the City. Meanwhile, some areas south of I-90 and on the north end of Spokane have lower vulnerability compared to other parts of the city. This can help inform the City about how to prioritize its resilience actions.

## City of Spokane's Climate Vulnerability Index

- Spokane
- Urban Growth Areas
- Neighborhoods
- Block Groups
- Adjacent Cities

### Climate Vulnerability Index

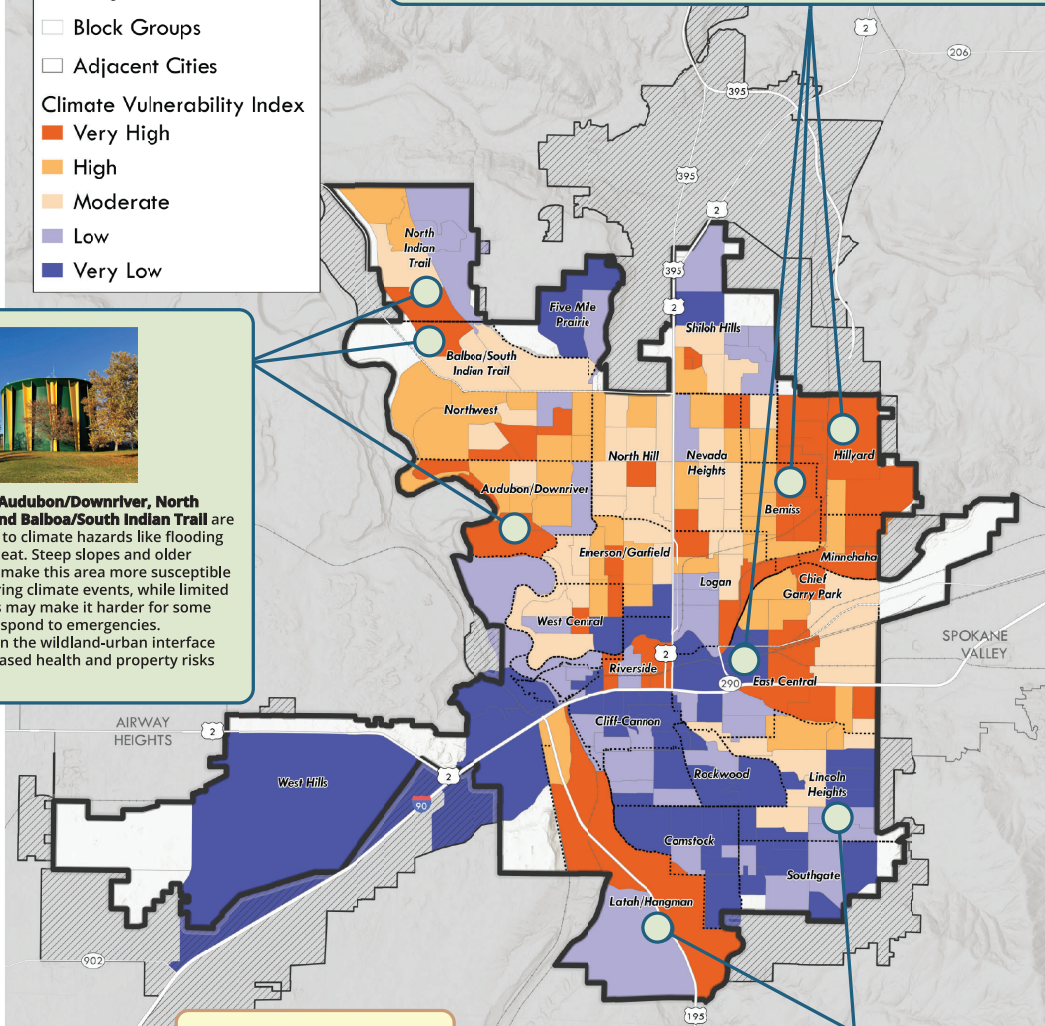
- Very High
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Very Low



Neighborhoods like **Hillyard, Bemiss, and East Central** face higher exposure to multiple climate hazards, including extreme heat, flooding, wildfire and poor air quality from traffic and wildfire smoke. This area has high urban density and lower tree canopy coverage, along with a greater proportion of vulnerable populations and overburdened communities compared to the City average. These conditions make this area more sensitive to climate impacts relative to other regions.



Areas such as **Audubon/Downriver, North Indian Trail, and Balboa/South Indian Trail** are more exposed to climate hazards like flooding and extreme heat. Steep slopes and older infrastructure make this area more susceptible to damage during climate events, while limited transit options may make it harder for some residents to respond to emergencies. Communities in the wildland-urban interface also face increased health and property risks from wildfires.



Scan the QR code to explore the Climate Vulnerability Index on your own device or visit:  
[bit.ly/Spokane-Climate-Vulnerability-Index](http://bit.ly/Spokane-Climate-Vulnerability-Index)



Neighborhoods including **Latah/Hangman, Lincoln Heights, and areas along East 29th Avenue** may be more sensitive to climate hazards due to populations with health conditions that can worsen during heat or poor air quality events. Older housing in this area can be unsafe during heat and smoke events, while buildings located in flood- and wildfire-prone areas face higher risks of physical damage. Communities in the wildland-urban interface also face increased health and property risks from wildfires.



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**CLIMATE COMMITMENT ACT**

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# Developing Climate Policies with Community Input

The City of Spokane is integrating climate considerations into its Comprehensive Plan—the guiding document for how the city grows and develops. The first phase of this work focused on listening to community experiences, assessing how climate change may affect Spokane, reviewing existing plans and policies, and evaluating the city's climate risks and vulnerabilities. The current phase builds on that foundation by revising, adapting, and developing new climate policies to include in the Comprehensive Plan. Your input today will help shape these policies!

## Steps to Integrate Climate into the Comprehensive Plan

### Phase 1: June 2024–June 2025

#### Step 1

Cut pollution from transportation, buildings, and other sources without shifting pollution elsewhere.

#### Step 2

Audit Plan and Policies.

#### Step 3

Assess Risk and Vulnerability.

**Public Engagement:** Survey, focus groups, public workshop, tabling at events, meetings with community-based organizations, online Climate Vulnerability Index tool.

### Phase 2: June 2025–June 2026

#### Step 4

Revise, adapt, and develop new Climate Policy.

**We Are Here!**

#### Step 5

Integrate goals and policies.

**Public Engagement:** Survey, focus groups, public workshops, tabling at events, meetings with community-based organizations.

## What We've Heard from the Spokane Community So Far

To date the City has heard from community members about how climate change is affecting Spokane and what actions they want the City to take in response. Here's a summary of what we've heard so far:

- **Wildfire smoke and extreme heat** are the most immediate and concerning climate impacts for the Spokane community.
- **Some community members are especially vulnerable** to climate hazards, including low-income residents, unhoused individuals, elders, youth, people with disabilities and chronic health conditions, renters, outdoor workers, Urban Native American and Tribal communities, communities of color, and those with language barriers.
- **Financial barriers** limit residents' ability to prepare for and respond to climate impacts. Community members strongly support incentives, assistance, and equitable access to resilience programs.
- **Water conservation, human health, and food systems** are top community priorities.
- **Green spaces, urban tree canopy, and City-led pilot programs** are valued by community members as important public investments that model climate resilience.
- **Public transit, bike infrastructure, and active transportation options** are supported by community members as ways to reduce emissions and improve access.
- **Community collaboration, education, engagement, and disaster preparedness** are emphasized by community members as key to building local resilience.



### What other topics are important to you?

Tell us on a sticky note and leave it below.



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# Environmental Justice

The City of Spokane will conduct an environmental justice assessment of draft land use and transportation policies being considered for the Comprehensive Plan update. This assessment will focus on avoiding the creation or worsening of environmental health disparities.

## What is Environmental Justice?

As defined by state law, environmental justice means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Environmental justice includes addressing disproportionate environmental and health impacts in all laws, rules, and policies with environmental impacts by prioritizing vulnerable populations and overburdened communities and the equitable distribution of resources and benefits. (RCW 36.70A.030)



## Why Assess Environmental Justice?

A changing climate impacts everyone, but some people face greater risks. These risks are influenced by where they live, their health, income, language barriers, and limited access to resources—factors often shaped by inequality. Environmental justice is a key part of efforts to ensure a clean and healthy environment for all, especially for communities of color and low-income households who are more likely to live near sources of pollution and other environmental burdens.

**The City is required by law to address environmental justice in the Comprehensive Plan by:**



Identifying, protecting, and enhancing community resiliency to climate impacts, including social, economic, and built environment factors, in ways consistent with **environmental justice**.



Prioritizing reductions that benefit overburdened communities, maximizing co-benefits such as reduced air pollution and **environmental justice**.



Giving special consideration to achieving **environmental justice** in Land Use goals and policies, including efforts to prevent creating or worsening environmental health disparities.



Using transportation and active transportation system standards as a gauge to measure system performance and success in supporting **environmental justice** goals.

## What can the City do to support environmental justice? ?

Write your thoughts on a sticky note and place it below.





# Prioritizing Climate Policies

The City is using a prioritization process to select key climate policies. This will help ensure that policies can be implemented and align with state requirements.

## Prioritizing Climate Policies

1

### Pre-screening

Does the City have a **clear role?** (*lead, partner, communicator, or regulator*)

2

### Scoring

- **Resilience**
- **GHG Reduction**
- **Equity**
- **Logistics** (*including cost, co-benefits, and feasibility*)
- **Degree of Certainty** (*including unintended impacts, public support, and momentum*)

3

### Review

- Remove **redundancies**
- Ensure the list meets **State requirements**, addresses **key hazards**, and includes a **variety of topics, time frames, and responsible groups**.

After policies are prescreened, the City will score and rank policies using a set of evaluation criteria.

**The criteria may include:**



#### Resilience

- Reduces risks from climate hazards
- Prepares communities and infrastructure to withstand and adapt to climate hazards
- Enhances natural environments

*Place stickers here.*



#### Equity

- Builds community power
- Improves community health and well-being
- Holds institutions accountable for inequitable impacts
- Prioritize benefits for overburdened populations

*Place stickers here.*



#### Climate Pollution Reduction

- Reduces climate pollution (greenhouse gas emissions)
- Conserves resources
- Improves air quality

*Place stickers here.*



#### Logistics

- Considers cost and cost-savings
- Provides additional social, economic, or environmental benefits
- Level of administrative and staff capacity

*Place stickers here.*



#### Risk

- Avoids unintended impacts
- Addresses level of community support

*Place stickers here.*



#### Which criteria are most important to you?

Place a sticker next to the **top 3** criteria you think should be weighted more heavily.



**Are there other criteria we should consider?** Write your ideas on a sticky note and place it below.

PLAN SPOKANE 2046

# 2025 Community Engagement

S U M M A R Y



PLAN **SPOKANE**

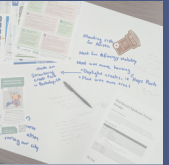
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## 1 Community Visioning

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## 2 Climate Focus Groups

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## 3 Surveying for Climate Resiliency

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## 4 Earth Day Workshop

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## 5 Tribal Engagement

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## 6 Future Growth and Guiding Policies

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## 7 Conclusion

PAGE 09

The City of Spokane is conducting a periodic update to the City's Comprehensive Plan, dubbed PlanSpokane 2046. A "periodic update" is the state's term for a full review of a Comprehensive Plan to make sure it's in conformance with any legislative changes to state law. Due at the end of 2026, the Periodic Update will identify policies and future regulations to guide the next 20 years of our city.

2025 was a busy year for community feedback on Spokane's future vision, climate resiliency, future growth, and guiding policies, with **over 3,400 total community responses**. This document provides a summary of most of the feedback heard so far, with more engagement to occur throughout 2026.

# ← CONTENT

# COMMUNITY VISIONING

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Spokane conducted an early visioning process to understand what the community wants for the next twenty years. **Over 300 community members participated** in the various visioning activities, providing insights into how the City should grow. Ultimately the feedback will identify the different ways the City can meet these goals for growth or put differently, how to meet Spokane's envisioned future.

Based on community feedback, a draft vision statement for the Comprehensive Plan has been identified:

**"Spokane aims to foster a vibrant, resilient, and inclusive city by supporting economic growth, environmental stewardship, and the diverse needs of the whole community. The City is dedicated to ensuring access to attainable housing, safe streets, and thriving neighborhoods while inspiring innovation, cultural vitality, and connection for all Spokane residents."**

Launched in early January and running through April, the PlanSpokane 2046 visioning process resulted in key themes to inform the future growth and policies for the City of Spokane. The collective themes are to the right, with each activity bringing its own insights.

The vision board highlighted a desire for nature and environmental stewardship, community connection, opportunities for housing and jobs, and improved access to public spaces. The Community Visioning Workshop Series and corresponding survey received feedback pointing towards a welcoming and livable City with a mix of uses that support thriving and connected neighborhoods. The final Spring Market pop-up reinforced these ideas, while highlighting that the City should be walkable/bikeable, healthy, equitable, and safe.



Read the full PlanSpokane Community Visioning Engagement Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/PlanSpokane-Visioning>



## VISIONING THEMES

- Access to nature
- Sustainability and environmental stewardship
- Healthy and clean



### NATURE

- Welcoming and diverse
- Accessible
- Family-friendly
- Connected
- Human-centered
- Safe



### COMMUNITY

- Good jobs
- Culture and arts economy
- Cutting-edge
- New industries
- Reuse



### INNOVATION

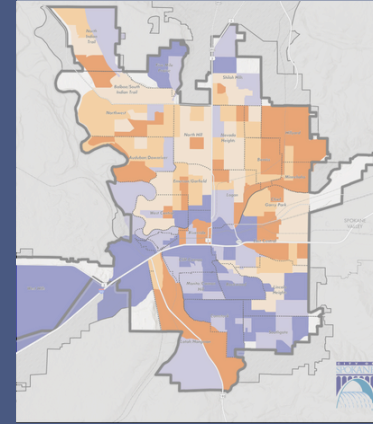
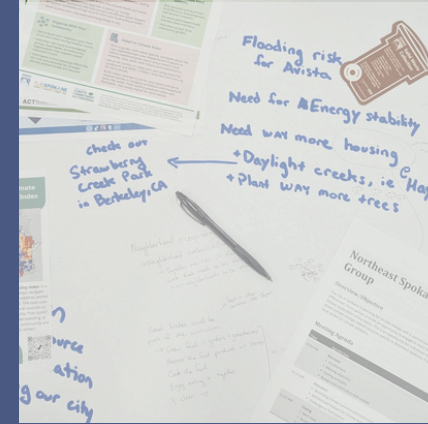
- Affordable
- Walkable and bike-friendly
- Access to neighborhood services
- Attractive



### LIVABLE

# CLIMATE FOCUS GROUPS

As part of PlanSpokane 2046 effort to incorporate climate and resiliency policies into the Comprehensive Plan in alignment with HB 1181, the City of Spokane held focus groups to hear from communities impacted by climate hazards. Their feedback informed the Climate Vulnerability and Risk Assessment to bring together data and lived experiences to identify climate risks and vulnerability in Spokane.



Learn more at  
[my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning](https://my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning)

## YOUTH FOCUS

The Youth focus group had 11 participants aged 14 to 18, providing insight from a vulnerable population still in development and who may still be dependent on adults for their safety and well-being.

### Key takeaways from the focus group include:

- Empowerment through knowledge is key.
- Air quality and wildfire smoke are more immediate and disruptive climate concerns.
- Heat is isolating youth from activities and social connection.
- Strong connection between nature access and mental health.
- Growing anxiety about long-term ecological shifts and disconnection from natural world.
- Public transit and bike infrastructure are critical services for youth.
- Desire for systemic change to provide stability and not worsen social inequities.

## CLIMATE JUSTICE FOCUS

The Climate Justice focus group had 8 participants from local community-based organizations representing houseless, Muslim, Asian, BIPOC, immigrant, refugee, and environmental justice communities.

### Key takeaways from the focus group include:

- Unhoused individuals, elders, renters, disabled people, and non-English speakers are among the most vulnerable.
- Language access and communication gaps are major barriers.
- Housing quality and income contribute to climate vulnerability.
- Partner with local nonprofits to support community trust and cultural relevance.
- People often prioritize survival needs over long-term climate issues.
- Increase accountability.

## NORTHEAST SPOKANE FOCUS

The Northeast Spokane focus group had 17 participants who all lived in Northeast Spokane, an area of the City underrepresented in public engagement while being highly impacted by climate hazards.

### Key takeaways from the focus group include:

- Community connection and shared solutions can increase community resiliency.
- Poor air quality is a major concern.
- Lack of shade and extreme heat reduce access to services.
- Practical, community-based climate education is needed.
- Stigma and infrastructure gaps reduce public transit use.
- Need to align development with environmental goals.
- Center equity and accessibility.

# SURVEYING FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCY



**“Biggest obstacle is feeling isolated in these attempts at conservation.  
Like my efforts don’t matter.”**

- Community Climate Planning Survey Respondent

Local, state, and national data and community lived experiences are all integral in understanding how to best support local resiliency in Spokane. During key times of the climate and resiliency planning effort, two community-wide surveys were created to learn from those who live, work, and visit in Spokane.

The **Community Climate Planning Survey** asked community members to identify climate hazards and impacts in Spokane as well as future desires.



Read the full Community Climate Planning Survey Summary at  
<https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Climate-Survey>



Read the full Community Climate Policy Survey Summary at  
<https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Climate-Policy-Survey>





# COMMUNITY CLIMATE SURVEY

✓ 1,573 RESPONSES

✓ DECEMBER 6, 2024 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2025

## ✓ KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Wildfires, extreme heat, and intense storms** identified as top three hazards of concern now, with **extreme heat, wildfire, and smoke from wildfires** as top concerns for the next 20 years.
- Only 14.91% of respondents indicated having not been personally impacted by any of the identified climate hazards.
- **Rising costs of living and basic needs** and **changes to recreational activities** were the top felt impacts within the past five years.
- **Agriculture and food systems** were ranked as most at risk from extreme weather and climate impacts in Spokane.
- **Costs** and **time** were identified as primary obstacles in reducing household environmental impacts.
- Potential solutions to increase Spokane's resiliency included **water and waste reduction, incentives for more sustainable upgrades, tree management, and more trees and greenspace.**

# CLIMATE POLICY SURVEY

✓ 1,419 RESPONSES

✓ JULY 21 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2025

## ✓ KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Water, human health, and food systems** were collectively ranked as the most important climate and resiliency topics.
- **Public investment and infrastructure** was the top ranked type of policy, with **regulations** ranked the lowest.
- Themes for future actions the City should consider include:
  - **Lead by Example**
  - **Water Conservation and Waste Management**
  - **Community Collaboration and Engagement**
  - **Urban Green Spaces**
  - **Active Transportation**
  - **Disaster Preparedness**
  - **Equal Access**
  - **Sustainable Development**
- Future policies should be prioritized based on **reduction of environment harm, community health benefits, co-benefits, feasibility, and cost considerations.**

# EARTH DAY WORKSHOP



On April 22, 2025, the City of Spokane hosted an Earth Day Community Workshop to learn from and share with Spokane's community. Twenty-one community members shared their experiences with climate hazards and how we can support a more resilient Spokane.

The workshop was a drop-in style event with posters at 4 stations, where attendees engaged in activities, interacted with the Climate Vulnerability Index online mapping tool, and were able to have in-depth conversations with staff members. Feedback received during the workshop informed the Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment and will support the development of future policies for a resilient and adaptive Spokane.

Key takeaways from the drop-in workshop include:

- **Alternative transportation options** and **green space/tree protection** were ranked as the top climate pollution reduction actions.
- **Preserve, restore, and expand nature** was ranked as the top climate resilience action.
- **Supporting local, sustainable food systems** and **organizing community** received the most support as individual actions to support climate resiliency.
- Support for **increased and improved bike and pedestrian infrastructure**.
- Attendees wanted to **expand public transportation** and **promote connectivity**.
- Support for **infill and mixed-use development**.
- Promote **water conservation** throughout the City.



Read the full Earth Day Workshop Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Earth-Day>





Read the full Tribal Engagement Workgroup Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Tribal-Workgroup>



In early 2025, the City of Spokane launched a **Tribal Engagement Workgroup (TEW)** to ensure that Indigenous voices and knowledge systems shape its climate planning and inform the City's 2026 Comprehensive Plan. The TEW brought together regional Tribes and urban Native organizations in a culturally grounded process led by Kauffman & Associates, Inc. (KAI), a Native-owned consulting firm.

Over the course of four sessions and intervening conversations, TEW participants identified climate vulnerabilities rooted in the lived experiences of Native communities, including **loss of cultural access, urban invisibility, health disparities, water insecurity, and gaps in emergency planning**. They called for a broader definition of vulnerability that includes spiritual, cultural, and intergenerational dimensions and stressed the need for Indigenous co-governance and investment in Native-led solutions.

#### Recommendations for policy development:

- Prioritize funding for **Native-led** resilience hubs, food systems, and youth programs.
- **Embed cultural infrastructure** - gardens, sweat lodges, community gathering spaces - into neighborhood planning.
- Establish an **Indigenous advisory council** with co-governance authority in climate planning.
- Reframe climate indicators to include **cultural, spiritual, and relational measures of wellbeing**.
- **Expand data collection** to include Indigenous-defined metrics, oral histories, and story maps.
- Develop **tailored emergency management strategies** for Native families across Spokane.

# TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT





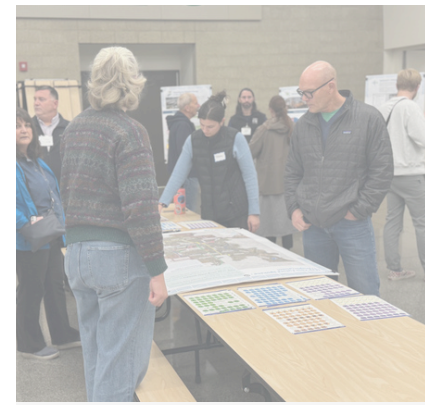
# FUTURE GROWTH AND GUIDING POLICIES

The City of Spokane held a community workshop series on future growth and guiding policies in November 2025. These in-person workshops included discussion, mapping exercises, and feedback opportunities related to various aspects of the Comprehensive Plan. **Over 100 community members participated** in the workshop series, which included one meeting in each City Council District, as well as a citywide meeting downtown.

In addition to informational posters, the workshops included station activities to gather feedback from attendees. Stations included questions on guiding policies, displacement, a proposed land use schema, and the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Mapping exercises on mixed-use zoning and transportation amenities created spatial information to inform on-the-ground proposals. Climate and resiliency feedback was also received, including on City actions, important topics, environmental justice, and the prioritization of future policies.

When asked about topics of importance to be integrated into the City of Spokane's next twenty years, key themes from the community included:

- **Accessibility**
- **Employment and job creation**
- **Revitalization**
- More **third places** and **community connection**
- **Parks and access to nature**
- **Bikeable/walkable neighborhoods**
- **Affordable housing**



A full summary will be available at **PlanSpokane.org** once finalized



# CONCLUSION



## There's even more work ahead in 2026 . . .

In addition to the larger engagement efforts mentioned above, the City of Spokane has been busy popping up at community events, presenting before Neighborhood Councils, and meeting with organizations and partner agencies to hear from the community. Staff have also presented before City Council, Spokane Plan Commission, Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board, Transportation Commission, Housing Action Subcommittee, and numerous other City commissions and boards.

Have a group that may be interested in hearing a presentation? Does your organization want a tailored discussion about PlanSpokane 2046? Have an event where staff can attend? Reach out to the Planning Team at [PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org](mailto:PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org) to inquire about availability.



Opportunities for public feedback in early 2026 include the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Chapter Review processes. Feedback from these components will then result in the selection of Preferred Alternative and Final Environmental Impact Statement, as well as final goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

Final adoption of the updated Comprehensive Plan is tentatively slated for the end of 2026.



### Draft Environmental Impact Statement

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement with different ways the City can grow in order to meet state requirements and the community vision will be issued in December 2025, with a 60 day public comment period. This document compares potential ways the City can grow, allowing community members to provide feedback on Spokane's future. Community input will help decisionmakers select the Preferred Alternative, which is the growth strategy for Spokane's next twenty years, in early 2026.



### Chapter Review

The City's Comprehensive Plan is being updated with revised and new goals and policies to support community needs. Draft versions of chapters are available for public feedback at [PlanSpokane.org](https://PlanSpokane.org) under "Chapter Review". Comments can help direct language and identify potential gaps in future policy direction. New chapters and language revised based on community feedback will periodically be available throughout early 2026.

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# PLAN**SPOKANE**

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**Resilient | Connected | Livable | 2046**



Learn more at [PlanSpokane.org](http://PlanSpokane.org)

Questions or comments? Email the Planning Team at  
[PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org](mailto:PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org)

**BRIEFING PAPER: Climate Planning Phase 2 Policy Review & MCPA Overview**  
**City of Spokane**  
**Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board**  
**12/11/2025**

*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 is developing goals and policies to integrate climate planning into the comprehensive plan as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update. The workshop will provide an update on draft climate policies and refinement, and continue to discuss sectors for policy development. The workshop will also present a high level overview on the policy analysis tool, Multi-Criteria Prioritization Analysis, and response to initial feedback from the November 2025 CRSB meeting.

Attached memos for consideration:

- **Memo 1: Draft Climate Policy Revisions**
  - Review new sectors, and revisions and refinements of previous sectors
- **Memo 2: Multi Criteria Prioritization Overview**
  - Review overview, responses to feedback, and discussion question

**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. The CRSB will review final policy drafts in January 2026, with expected board action in February 2026.



Updated: December 3, 2025

**BRIEFING PAPER: Climate Planning Phase 2 Policy Review & MCPA Overview**  
**City of Spokane**  
**Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board**  
**12/11/2025**

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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>
PlanSpokane 2046 Draft Chapters	<a href="https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/chapter-review/">https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/chapter-review/</a>
PlanSpokane 2046 Video Series	<a href="https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/video-series/">https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/video-series/</a>
Spokane Greenhouse Gas 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/fpg3h0lbwln2ctqjg7jg802h54ie19jx">deptofcommerce.box.com/s/fpg3h0lbwln2ctqjg7jg802h54ie19jx</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:** December 11, 2025

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

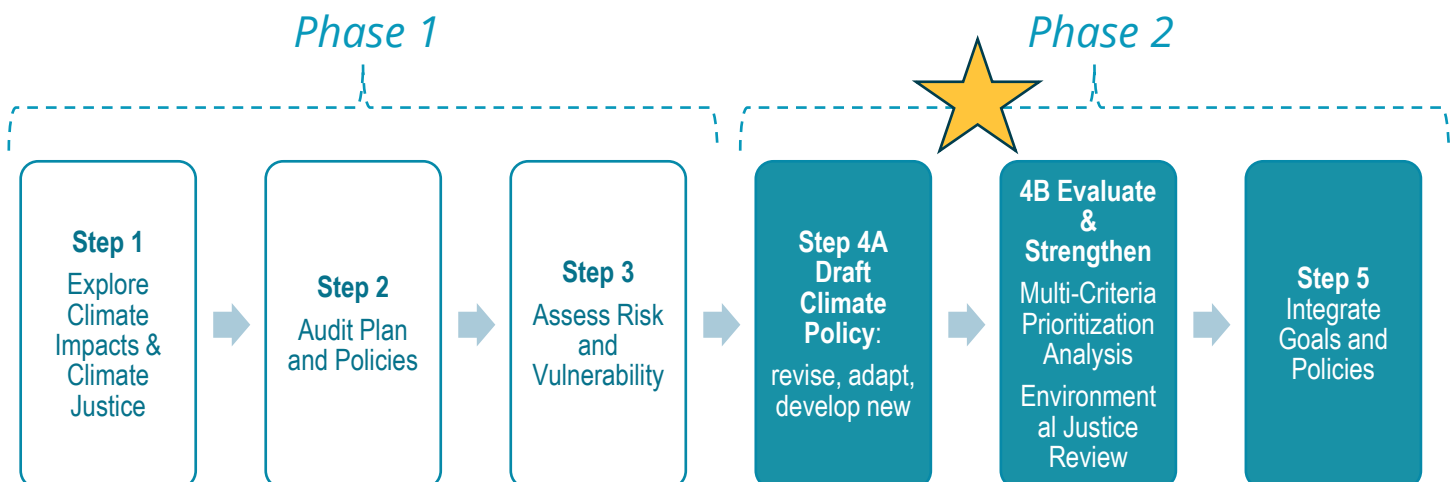
**cc:** Tirrell Black, Assistant Planning Director, Department of Planning Services;  
Logan Callen, Senior Environmental Analyst, Integrated Capital Management;  
KayCee Downey, Planner II, Department of Planning Services

**From:** Lisa Grueter, AICP, Principal, Stefanie Hindmarch, Senior Associate; Maddie Siebert, Senior Associate, Cascadia Consulting Group

**RE:** Climate Policy Development and Multi-Criteria Prioritization Analysis Revisions

The City of Spokane is integrating climate resilience and mitigation into its Comprehensive Plan per state Growth Management Act (GMA) requirements (HB 1181) and state Climate Planning Guidance. The key phases and steps that are part of the City's grant agreements with the Washington State Department of Commerce are illustrated below:

## Exhibit 1: Commerce Grant Climate Planning Phases (HB 1181)



As shown in Exhibit 2 below, the CRSB is mid-process in developing policy ideas. This memo is provided for the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board's (CRSB) December 11, 2025 meeting. This memo captures edits to draft policies following the November 13, 2025, CRSB meeting. It also integrates Tribal Engagement Workgroup (TEW) input from their October and November meetings, which were noted as pending in the November 13 materials.

More policy ideas are expected through the CRSB meeting on December 13. Additionally, based on a November Climate Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC) meeting, and public engagement workshops and focus groups in November and December, we expect that there will be policy refinements and suggestions that can be addressed in the January 8, 2026 CRSB meeting materials.

After the January 8<sup>th</sup> CRSB meeting, the project team will draft policies for review at the joint CRSB/Plan Commission meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Given its responsibilities, Transportation Commission is working on Transportation Element policies in tandem with the Plan Commission. The CRSB's input to date is being shared with the Transportation Commission / Plan Commission.

Based on its mission, the CRSB will deliberate and make recommendations on climate policies to the Mayor and City Council, scheduled in mid-February. The Plan Commission has authority over the entire Comprehensive Plan and will also weigh in on the policies.



## Exhibit 2: CRSB Meeting Topics and Engagement Inputs



Draft policies are included in this memo for all 11 sectors described in climate planning guidance from the Washington Department of Commerce:

### **New Topics**

- ▶ Agriculture & Food Systems
- ▶ Cultural & Historic Resources

### **Prior Topics**

- ▶ Buildings & Energy
- ▶ Economic Development
- ▶ Ecosystems
- ▶ Emergency Management
- ▶ Health & Well-being
- ▶ Land Use / Zoning & Development
- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ Waste Management
- ▶ Water Resources

### **Key Terms and Policy Writing Approach**

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).

#### **Rules/Approach**

- ▶ Use active verbs
- ▶ Generally single sentences (even if longer)
- ▶ Policies inform decision making
- ▶ Avoid single-action implementation items
- ▶ Avoid repeating policies
- ▶ Avoid restating state law/regulations

# Agriculture & Food Systems (new topic)

Preliminary goals and policies are included in Exhibit 1 for CRSB review.

## Policy Audit Findings

While current policies related to food systems are limited in the adopted Spokane Comprehensive Plan, they are generally high quality in relation to climate resiliency and emissions reduction. The policy audit recommended adding a policy specifically about the resilience of the food system, as well as more specificity generally and clarification of the City's role in urban agriculture.

## Draft Plan Chapters

Draft [Community Health](#) Chapter policies related to food systems are shared below:

**Goal:** CH-9, Food Access and Security

*Ensure that all residents have affordable and convenient access to nutritious and safe foods.*

**Policy:** CH-9.1, Urban Agriculture and Local Food Production

*Recognize urban agriculture and local food production as a strategic asset for community and economic development, local resiliency, and public health.*

**Policy:** CH-9.2, Local Food Access

*Promote the development of farmers' or public markets, food production services, and other small-scale collaborative initiatives to provide all residents with a diverse choice of locally sourced food products, prioritizing access in overburdened communities.*

**Policy:** CH-9.3, Community Gardens

*Partner with local organizations to establish and maintain community gardens on city property, as appropriate, to increase access to local food for all residents, including within overburdened communities.*

**Policy:** CH-9.4, Eliminating Food Deserts

*Incentivize and enable uses that provide fresh food to neighborhoods by amending zoning and code requirements to ensure food access for parts of the city where affordable, healthy food is not currently available.*

**Policy:** CH-9.5 Prevention of Food Waste

*Support the reduction of edible food waste by encouraging the donation of foods through food waste pickup programs and community education.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

Access to food is critical for health and well-being. Urban agriculture in community and private gardens can have health benefits from exercise, socializing, and connection with nature. Food and culture are also deeply tied, and cultural wellbeing is an important part of individual and community wellbeing.

## Engagement Notes


The August 2025 community survey results showed agriculture and food systems were ranked as most at risk from extreme weather and climate impacts in Spokane. In mid-November the City held a Food Security focus group about gaps in the food system, and in early December held a workshop with under-resourced communities.

## Draft Agriculture & Food Systems Goals and Policies

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Goal 1 (Resilience)	<b>Goal:</b> CH-9, Food Access and Security <a href="#">Support and expand local food security and a resilient food-related economy to ensure that all residents have affordable and convenient access to nutritious, safe, and locally produced foods.</a>	Amended Draft Goal CH-9  Similar intent to Climate Policy Explorer, N.01	Reflects Food Systems focus group input
Policy 2 (GHG)	Support the use of alternative and emerging agricultural tools and practices that support regional resiliency to climate change while reducing fuel use and GHG emissions, such as hydroponics and regenerative farming.	Supportive of ideas in Climate Policy Explorer, Z.05	
Policy 3 (Resilience)	Incentivize rooftop gardens, community composting, and food forest projects <a href="#">within new development</a> to strengthen local food security <a href="#">and access to nature.</a> ★↑	CRSB Idea	Modifications reflect food systems focus group input.
Policy 4 (Resilience and GHG)	<del>Promote the development of</del> <a href="#">Support</a> farmers' or public markets, <a href="#">fruit and vegetable stands</a> , food production services, <a href="#">small-scale farms</a> , and other	Based on Draft PlanSpokane 2046	Reflects CTAC feedback and food systems focus group input.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
	<a href="#">avenues for local food production</a> and access <del>small-scale collaborative initiatives such as with simpler permitting processes or financial incentives, to provide all residents with a diverse choice of locally sourced food products, prioritizing access in overburdened communities as a means of local food security and diversity in business opportunities.</del> ❖✱	Chapter, CH 9.2 with Amendments	Could be moved to Economic Development.
Policy 5 (Resilience)	<del>Partner with local organizations to establish and maintain community gardens on city property, as appropriate, to increase access to local food for all residents, including within overburdened communities.</del>  <a href="#">Establish and maintain publicly accessible community gardens on city property, as appropriate, in partnership with local organizations to support traditional Indigenous food gardens and culturally specific growing practices as well as to increase access to local and culturally diverse food for all residents.</a> ❖📈🟡	Modification of Draft PlanSpokane 2046 Chapter, CH 9.3  TEW Review	This policy was reviewed as part of Cultural Resources policies with the TEW and it also serves as a Food System policy.  Based on feedback from the TEW and community engagement with food systems focus group.
Policy 6 (Resilience)	Incentivize and enable uses, <a href="#">including by amending zoning and code requirements</a> , that provide <a href="#">healthy fresh affordable, and locally produced</a> food <del>to the neighborhood by amending zoning and code requirements for in</del> parts of the city <del>where affordable, healthy food is not currently available with limited food access.</del> ❖ ✱ 📈	Draft PlanSpokane 2046 Chapter, CH-9.3, with modifications	Reflects CTAC feedback and food systems focus group input.
Policy 7 (Resilience)	Recognize urban agriculture as a strategic asset for community and economic development, <a href="#">food security</a> , local resiliency, and public health. ❖	Draft PlanSpokane 2046 Chapter, Goal CH 9.1	Minor adaptation
Policy 8 (Resilience)	Support programs and partnerships that offer community members educational resources related to healthy cooking and community gardening, mental and physical health, and other skills related to community health and resiliency. 📈	Proposed	Addresses community education
Policy 9	Partner with food banks, farmers' markets, and other community assets to provide resources,	Proposed	Addresses resident involvement



Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
(Resilience and GHG)	services, and city information to support resident access. 		

◆ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ◆ Draft Chapter ✱ CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

## Cultural & Historic Resources (new topic)

### Policy Audit Findings

Few Spokane Comprehensive Plan policies address cultural resources from a resilience or equity perspective. It is a gap area that could be addressed in the policy development phase.

Some policies in Ecosystems provide cross-sector support for protecting critical areas and enhancing cultural resources.

### Draft Plan Chapters

Relevant policies in [draft chapters](#) include:

**Goal:** DP-2, Historic Preservation

*Preserve and protect Spokane's historic districts, sites, structures, and features by recognizing Spokane's diverse cultures and communities and their contributions to the City.*

**Policy:** DP-2.6, Reflecting Spokane's Diverse History

*Encourage awareness, recognition, and preservation of the many diverse cultures and communities that are important and integral aspects of Spokane's past through listing properties and districts important to underrepresented communities and groups on the Spokane Register of Historic Places.*

**Policy:** DP-2.7, Equitable Communities

*Harness the economic and cultural benefits of preservation to intentionally respond to historic and current inequities to ensure historic preservation resources benefit the entire community and avoid exclusionary impacts.*

**Policy:** DP-2.9, Preservation Through Tribal Coordination

*Collaborate with local Tribal governments to identify, preserve, and protect significant cultural resources through the development of planning and permitting processes, as well as development regulations.*




**Policy:** DP-2.13, Incentives Towards Reuse, Renovation, and Preservation

*Provide a range of financial and regulatory incentives to encourage the reuse, renovation, and preservation of historic structures while disincentivizing demolition.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

Cultural and historic resources address needs to protect buildings that are historic but also have ongoing uses for living and working, important for daily needs. They also recognize the interrelationship of natural systems and need to provide traditional foods as well as provide for greenspace, important for health and well-being.

## Draft Cultural & Historic Resources Goals and Policies

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Goal 1	Ensure that cultural resources and practices — including significant historic sites and culturally important traditional foods and natural resources — are resilient to the impacts of extreme weather and other natural hazards worsened by climate change.	Goal Q	
Policy 1 (Resilience)	Protect and enhance nature views, natural aesthetics, sacred areas, and <del>historic</del> <u>cultural</u> sites within the growing urban setting through collaboration with local Tribes, historians, organizations, and <del>citizens</del> <u>residents</u> to identify features to be protected.	Draft Plan Policy: NE-15.1, Protection of Natural Aesthetics	This policy has been included under Ecosystems but also supports Cultural Resources. It was reviewed by the TEW as well.
Policy 2 (Resilience)	Establish and maintain a green belt of parks that supports connectivity and non-motorized travel between destinations across the city, working with Tribal partners to develop traditional ecological management strategies for wildlands.   	~AB.02  CRVA, Exhibit 80, under consideration with ecosystems policies.	This policy has been included under Ecosystems, but also supports Cultural Resources. It was reviewed by the TEW as well.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Policy 3 (Resilience)	Protect, enhance, and restore ecosystems in order to support Tribal rights and conserve culturally important consumptive and non-consumptive resources including foods, medicinal plants, and materials that could be adversely impacted by climate change. ●	Climate Policy Explorer, Q.01 TEW Review	The TEW supported this policy with clarification of Tribal rights
Policy 4 (Resilience)	Protect significant historic and cultural sites prone to floods or other hazards worsened by climate change.	Adjusted Policy -- Q.04	

◆ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ◆ Draft Chapter \* CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

## Buildings & Energy

### Policy Audit Findings

The Policy Audit found that the Spokane Comprehensive Plan addresses energy conservation for utilities and housing, cost/benefits for capital facilities, and undergrounding utilities. There are limited Comprehensive Plan goals and policies around buildings and energy, but there are goals, policies, or strategies in other plans that could bolster the Comprehensive Plan policies.

### Draft Plan Chapters

Relevant policies in [draft chapters](#) include:

**Policy:** DP-2.13, Incentives Towards Reuse, Renovation, and Preservation

*Provide a range of financial and regulatory incentives to encourage the reuse, renovation, and preservation of historic structures while disincentivizing demolition.*

**Policy:** DP-2.14, Reuse of Historic Materials and Features

*Require the deconstruction and reuse of historic materials and features when historic buildings are demolished, preserving those materials and features for reuse in other historic renovations and reuse projects in the City and region.*

**Policy:** DP-2.15, Community Resiliency

*Conserve, reuse, and retrofit older buildings to reduce carbon emissions, conserve resources, reduce waste, and improve local resiliency of the built environment throughout the community.*

**Goal:** NE-17, Energy Conservation

*Promote the conservation of energy in the location and design of residential, service, and workplaces.*

**Policy:** NE-17.1, Innovative Development Techniques

*Encourage innovative residential development techniques that produce low energy consumption per housing unit, including development of middle housing types, solar-enhancing site orientation, earth sheltering, and the use of renewable energy sources.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

Providing new and retrofitting existing buildings to be energy efficient and “green” can improve comfort, indoor air quality, and reduce costs for vulnerable and overburdened communities.

## Draft Buildings & Energy Goals and Policies

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Goal 1 (Resilience and GHG)	Transform buildings and energy systems to substantially reduce their contributions to climate pollution. ♦	Climate Policy Explorer, Goal E	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.
Policy 1 (Resilience and GHG)	Implement and support building and energy codes and policies that reduce energy use and fossil fuel use among existing and new buildings in a manner that equitably considers energy transition cost and benefits for overburdened communities. ♦*	Climate Policy Explorer, E.01 & E.03	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.
Policy 2 (Resilience and GHG)	Partner with energy providers and other partners to 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). ↑★	CRSB Idea	No change since prior memos.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Policy 3 (Resilience)	Implement renewable energy sources and reduce energy use, refrigerant emissions, and potable water consumption in City buildings and operations. ↑	Climate Policy Explorer, ~E.05	No change since prior memos.

◆ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ✦ Draft Chapter ✕ CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

### In the works / givens

- ▶ **CETA** requires the state's electric utilities to fully transition to clean, renewable and non-emitting resources by 2045.
- ▶ **Ballot initiative I-2066**, passed last year, aimed to restrict language around phasing out natural gas. It was struck down by a state judge in March 2025 but will be reviewed by the state Supreme Court next year.

### Bike rack/ future actions

- ▶ Adaptive reuse of buildings (DP-2.15 includes this topic) ✕ ✦
- ▶ Neighborhood-scale microgrids & battery storage ◆
- ▶ Energy grid resilience policies
- ▶ Embodied carbon reduction policies

## Economic Development

### Policy Audit Findings

The Policy Audit suggested amendments to existing policies to address or emphasize resilience, equity, or emissions reduction. Some of that has occurred with the Draft Plan Chapter. Specific policy suggestions included:

- ▶ Adding a policy about green jobs, while considering the City's role as a partner in workforce development rather than an initiator (see Idea 3, below)
- ▶ Adding a policy related to land use planning for more services in neighborhoods to serve teleworking employees and home businesses (see Land Use section for concepts related to mixed uses)
- ▶ Adding language about resource conservation (see Idea 2, below and Policy: EP-3.7).

### Draft Plan Chapters

Relevant policies in the [Draft Economic Prosperity Chapter](#) include:



**Policy: EP-2.2, Reuse and Revitalization Opportunities**

*Provide targeted redevelopment incentives and other support for historic, abandoned, or underutilized sites in parts of the city where infrastructure and service capacity already exist.*

**Policy: EP-3.3, Co-Locating Related Businesses**

*Incentivize and approve related and supportive economic sectors or industries to locate near each other, creating productivity advantages from their mutual proximity and relationships.*

**Policy: EP-3.7, Sustainable Economic Strategies**

*Develop and implement programs assisting and supporting businesses that minimize physical, social, and environmental impacts, including any businesses that specialize in environmental protection and remediation.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

Economic opportunities that are resilient to climate impacts provide dependable incomes for households to thrive. Businesses that minimize environmental impacts lessen communities' exposure to poor air quality and other hazards.

## Draft Economic Development Goals and Policies

The next draft of Economic Development Goals and Policies will incorporate feedback from the CTAC and public engagement. Anticipated revisions include:

- ▶ Additional policies relating to partnerships with businesses, increasing access to services in underserved areas, and driving equitable economic and workforce development
- ▶ Minor wording edits for clarity
- ▶ Consolidation of climate and other policies that have the same intent

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Goal 1 (Resilience and GHG)	Ensure that the local economy is resilient to climate disruptions and fosters business opportunities associated with climate mitigation and adaptation. ♦	Climate Policy Explorer, R	
Policy 1 (Resilience and GHG)	Promote local industrial development through regulations and collaboration in order to support a circular economy that increases demand for reused and recycled materials, reduces demand for new raw materials and their	Climate Policy Explorer, R.03, also relates to a CRSB idea on circular economy	

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
	embodied carbon emissions, and fosters community education and participation. ★		
Policy 2 (Resilience and GHG)	Work with schools, universities, and local organizations to support <a href="#">and recruit</a> jobs and industries that enhance local resilience and <a href="#">sustainability</a> , <a href="#">regeneration</a> , such as sustainable construction, alternative energy, and urban forestry, with a focus on building partnerships to train and hire from overburdened communities. ♦★	Climate Policy Explorer, R.04, also relates to a CRSB previous idea on green jobs pipeline	CRSB requested to add “and recruit”.  CRSB requested to replace “sustainability” with “regeneration” or whichever word is more encompassing. “Regeneration” implies going beyond “sustainability” by restoring and revitalizing. This term would need to be defined in the glossary.
Policy 3 (GHG)	Support, incentivize, and promote purchasing from businesses that primarily employ local people, use local materials, and produce and sell their products and/or services locally to preserve existing businesses and reduce Vehicle Miles Travelled and Greenhouse Gases. ♦♦	~Climate Policy Explorer, R.04, , also relates to a CRSB previous idea on green jobs pipeline	
Policy 4 (Resilience and GHG)	Incentivize brownfield redevelopment projects that incorporate resilient and sustainable features through City investments and technical assistance, particularly in overburdened communities. ♦	Staff input	

♦ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ❖ Draft Chapter ✱ CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

### In the works / givens

- ▶ Ensuring the Emergency Management Plan responds to economic recovery after a climate disaster
- ▶ Supporting local business efforts to bolster climate preparedness

# Ecosystems

## Policy Audit Findings

The Policy Audit Findings concluded that the topic is generally strong in the current plans but there are opportunities to address climate hazards and equity especially more explicitly, especially regarding green infrastructure.

## Draft Plan Chapters

The Draft Plan [Chapters](#) includes these relevant policies – some input from CRSB is shown in track changes:

**Policy:** NE-2.2, Landscaping Requirements and Incentives

*Expand the use of incentives like SpokaneScape and other programs that encourage use of drought-tolerant plants and the placement of native trees and vegetation, including incentives like water bill credits and discounts.*

**Policy:** NE-2.3, Native Tree and Plant Protection and Preservation

*Preserve [and restore](#) existing native vegetation in parks and other public lands, incorporating the placement of new native, drought-tolerant species when constructing new facilities.*

**Policy:** NE-6.3, Habitat Network

*Identify, purchase, preserve, [restore](#), and maintain existing and potential links between wildlife habitats, seeking to form a network of wildlife habitats while partnering with regional and state agencies and programs.*

**Policy:** NE-6.4, Fish and Wildlife Protection

*Continue to identify and protect those fish and wildlife and their habitats which are identified as a priority by citizens and scientific experts.*

**Policy:** NE-6.5, Protection of Adjacent Wildlife Habitats

*Coordinate with adjacent jurisdictions and agencies to designate, protect, and acquire wildlife habitats that abut or straddle the city limits or the urban growth area boundary.*

**Policy:** NE-15.1, Protection of Natural Aesthetics

*Protect and enhance nature views, natural aesthetics, sacred areas, and historic sites within the growing urban setting through collaboration with local Tribes, historians, organizations, and citizens to identify features to be protected.*

**Policy:** SH-9.2, Community Gardens

*Enable the establishment and maintenance of community gardens on city property, as appropriate, to be maintained and operated by partnerships with local organizations.*

**Policy:** DP-1.17, Urban Trees and Landscaping in All Development

*Maintain, improve, and increase the number of street trees and planted areas in the urban environment by requiring that new development incorporate natural elements where appropriate, while providing incentives towards increased landscaping and trees.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

Ecosystem health supports clean air and water, essential for human health.

The Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment identified an adaptive capacity measure to address a “one health” approach to habitat management:

*Consider a “One Health” approach to habitat management. The concept of One Health is to optimize the health of people, animals, and the environment. Collaboration between environmental experts and human health experts is central to this approach and the City could create opportunities for that collaboration internally and with external partners.*

## Draft Ecosystems Goals and Policies

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Goal 1	Preserve and increase tree canopy cover to ensure trees can adequately sequester carbon, equitably meet and maintain tree canopy cover goal of 30%, reduce heat islands, improve stormwater infiltration, and improve air quality, prioritizing overburdened communities. ♦ ★	~AB High Priority	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.
Policy 1-1	Establish and maintain a green belt of parks that supports connectivity and non-motorized travel between destinations across the city, working with Tribal partners to develop traditional ecological management strategies for wildlands. ♦ ↑ ○	~AB.02 CRVA, Exhibit 80, under consideration with ecosystems policies.	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.  It was reviewed by the TEW as well as part of Cultural Resources policies.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Goal 2	Ensure the protection and restoration of streams, riparian zones, pollinator habitat, estuaries, wetlands, and floodplains to achieve healthy watersheds that are resilient to climate change. ♦ ★	L High Priority	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.
Policy 2-1	Increase aquatic habitat resilience to low summer flows by increasing water residence time in streams to address water quality, storing water on the landscape, implementing natural landscaping to slow and filter stormwater, conserving water, protecting groundwater, keeping waters cool, and protecting water quality. <sup>1</sup> ♦ ✕ ★	L.06 High Priority	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.

♦ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ✦ Draft Chapter ✕ CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

### In the works / givens

- ▶ Critical Areas Ordinance Review.
- ▶ Shoreline Master Program Periodic Update.
- ▶ Riparian management and fuels reduction policy.

### Bike rack/ future actions

- ▶ Maximize tree canopy [or solar canopy] coverage in surface parking lots. [~AB.04]
- ▶ Increase community understanding of complex sources of changes in low stream flow and snowpack, including measurements and reporting. *(could be a specific action that falls under Health and Well-being idea 5 as well)*

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<sup>1</sup> Climate Policy Explorer explanation: Actions to restore aquatic habitat include creating deep-water habitat features, increasing off-channel habitat and protecting refugia in channels fed by wetlands, protecting wetland-fed streams, restoring wetlands and upland vegetation, promoting water efficiency and reuse, and managing stormwater.



# Emergency Management

## Policy Audit Findings

Most City policies addressing natural hazards are in the Natural Environment Element, Shoreline Master Program, and Spokane Parks Master Plan. The City could bolster policies on climate hazards (e.g., wildfire, flooding) and emergency management.

## Draft Plan Chapters

Relevant policies in [draft chapters](#) include:

**Policy:** NE-8.2, Unstable Slope Protection

*Continue to map and designation areas of unstable slopes as unsuitable for development, including standards and code that prohibit development in these areas.*

**Goal:** NE-18, Flood Hazards Management

*Protect life and property from flooding and erosion by directing development away from flood hazard areas.*

**Policy:** NE-18.2, 100-Year Flood Plain Reassessment

*Coordinate with federal and state agencies in the reassessment of the 100-year flood plain and adopt standards and mitigation that provides for adequate protection in areas where flooding is more likely.*

**Policy:** NE-18.3, Land Acquisition & Home Relocation Program

*Consider and analyze a program for the purchasing and/or relocation of homes in the 100-year floodplain, establishing those areas long-term for natural area conservation and potential movement corridors.*

**Policy:** NE-18.4, Discourage Development in the 100-Year Flood Plain

*Discourage development and redevelopment of habitable structures that are within the 100-year floodplain.*

**Policy:** NE-18.5, Public Awareness and Education

*Develop a public awareness and education program for residents living within flood plains, highlighting the risks involved and ways they might mitigate some of their risk.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

Emergency preparedness is directed towards most vulnerable communities. Incentives would be prioritized for lower-income households/organizations.

## Draft Emergency Management Goals and Policies

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Former Policy 1	<del>Policy: Identify evacuation routes for wildfire, flood, and other extreme events, reduce transportation barriers, and provide outreach materials, accessible digitally and non-digitally in multiple languages, to help residents plan and practice actions that make evacuation quicker and safer with tailored strategies developed with Tribes, Native organizations, and community-based organizations.</del> ◆ ↑ ✖	Climate Policy Explorer, ~M.01	Replaced by goal and policies below to break down topics – identify evacuation routes, tailor plans for community and Tribes, address outreach materials, engage community members, and transportation modes.
Goal 1 (Resilience)	<u>Identify, update, and maintain emergency evacuation routes, locations, and strategies.</u> ↑ ✖	Climate Policy Explorer, ~M.01 TEW Review	New, replaces/breaks down <i>former</i> policy 1  The TEW was in general agreement with the emergency evacuation goals and policies
Policy 1-1 (Resilience)	<u>Work with community-based organizations to identify evacuation routes for wildfire, flood, and other extreme events, focusing on community-level plans tailored to the meet the needs of the most vulnerable residents.</u> ◆ ↑ ✖	Climate Policy Explorer, ~M.01 TEW Review	New, replaces/breaks down <i>former</i> policy 1  The TEW was in general agreement with the emergency evacuation goals and policies.  Could consider identifying that community-level is meant to get at smaller geographies than citywide or even neighborhood.
Policy 1-2 (Resilience)	<u>Work with Tribes and Native organizations to identify evacuation routes and tailored emergency management strategies addressing wildfire,</u>	Climate Policy Explorer, ~M.01 TEW Review	New, replaces/breaks down <i>former</i> policy 1  The TEW was in general agreement with the emergency evacuation goals and policies

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
	<u>flood, and other extreme events.</u> ♦ ↑ ✖ ○		
Policy 1-3 (Resilience)	<u>Ensure timely emergency notifications for wildfire, flooding, and other extreme events that provide outreach materials that are accessible digitally and non-digitally in multiple languages.</u> ♦ ↑ ✖ ○	Climate Policy Explorer, ~M.01  TEW Review	New, replaces/breaks down <i>former</i> policy 1  The TEW was in general agreement with the emergency evacuation goals and policies
Policy 1-4 (Resilience)	<u>Provide resources and engagement opportunities to help community members plan and practice actions that make evacuation quicker and safer.</u> ♦ ↑ ✖ ○	Climate Policy Explorer, ~M.01  TEW Review	New, replaces/breaks down <i>former</i> policy 1  The TEW was in general agreement with the emergency evacuation goals and policies
Policy 1-5 (Resilience)	<u>Provide for redundancy in emergency routes accessible by multiple modes including vehicular, non-motorized routes, and transit services, and reduce transportation barriers to effective evacuation under different climate hazard scenarios.</u> ♦ ↑ ✖ ○	Climate Policy Explorer, ~W.02  TEW Review	New, replaces/breaks down <i>former</i> policy 1  The TEW was in general agreement with the emergency evacuation goals and policies
Goal 2 (Resilience) <i>Former Goal 0</i>	Enhance emergency preparedness, response, and recovery efforts to mitigate risks and impacts associated with extreme weather and other hazards worsened by climate change. ♦ ↑	Climate Policy Explorer, S	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.
Policy 2-1 (Resilience)	Develop a comprehensive, communitywide wildfire resilience strategy, and build awareness in most affected neighborhoods, to improve emergency response capabilities, create fire-resilient landscapes, promote fire-adapted communities, protect the	Climate Policy Explorer, M.02 High Priority	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
	economy, and foster short- and long-term recovery.		
Policy 2-2 (Resilience)	Provide residents living in Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) areas information about fire prevention (e.g., Firewise) practices, and apply WUI practices and ventilation standards via building code and landscaping provisions to new development. ♦ ↑ *	Climate Policy Explorer, ~M.03	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.
Policy 2-3 (Resilience)	Develop resilience hubs — community-serving facilities that are designed to support residents, coordinate communication, distribute resources, and reduce carbon pollution while enhancing quality of life — prioritizing investments in areas with vulnerable and overburdened communities, <del>and promoting Native-led resilience hubs, food systems, and youth programs.</del>	Climate Policy Explorer, ~S.07	Base language shared with CRSB in a follow up memo dated October 16, 2025  The TEW identified Policy 2-4 below as a preferred policy focusing on Tribal and Indigenous people, and not conflating with overburdened communities in Policy 2-3.
Policy 2-4 (Resilience)	<u>Through Tribal consultation and emergency planning efforts, facilitate and identify places that serve as clean air and cooling centers, charging stations, and evacuation centers, where Tribal members and Indigenous people can interact before, during, and after emergencies.</u> ●	Climate Policy Explorer, ~S.07  TEW Review	The TEW identified Policy 2-4 below as a preferred policy focusing on Tribal and Indigenous people, and not conflating with overburdened communities in Policy 2-3.
Policy 2-5 (Resilience)	Provide support <del>and incentives</del> for <u>infrastructure or services that allow</u> low-income residents to remain in their residences during extreme climate events, such as extreme heat or wildfire smoke, such as through the installation of cooling devices or high-quality	Supports Recommendation 4.2: Improve accessibility of residential air filtration infrastructure in the Spokane Wildfire Smoke Resilience	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.  CRSB suggested revisions to focus on incentives for infrastructure that would support residents staying home.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
	portable air cleaners, utility bill assistance, or community and Tribal partner collaborations <a href="#">and education opportunities</a> .*	Plan: Spokane Wildfire Smoke Resilience Plan v1.0.pdf.	

◆ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ❖ Draft Chapter ✱ CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

### In the works / givens

- ▶ Integrate Community Wildfire Protection Plan into regional hazard management plan and Comprehensive Plan
- ▶ [Spokane Extreme Heat Resilience Plan](#)
- ▶ [Spokane Wildfire Smoke Resilience Plan](#)
- ▶ [City of Spokane Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan](#)

### Bike rack/ future actions

- ▶ None identified.

## Health & Well-being

### Policy Audit Findings

Many policies were reviewed addressing community involvement, access to services including health, provision of public and human services. Amendments were suggested such as addressing priorities for persons most affected (vulnerable and overburdened communities).

### Draft Plan Chapters

Draft Social Health Chapter policies are shared below, *which are modified slightly from public drafts to address community feedback*.

**Policy:** SH-1.2, Commitment to Youth

*Allocate resources at a consistent and meaningful level for programs and events focused on Spokane's youth (18 and under) and their specific needs for social and emotional health, and cultural belonging.*

\* This policy could address feedback from the Youth Focus Group during phase 1.

**Policy:** SH-1.6, Community Involvement



*Ensure that programs in the City of Spokane allow for and foster greater opportunities for the public to get involved and participate in services that support their neighbors' social health and build a sense of community and belonging.*

Other relevant policies in other [draft chapters](#) include:

**Goal:** NE-4, Clean Air

*Work consistently for cleaner air that nurtures the health of current residents, children and future generations.*

**Policy:** NE-4.1, Clean Heating Sources

*Encourage the use of heating sources that do not negatively affect Spokane's air quality, including through continued membership and support of the Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency (SRCAA) and other similar bodies.*

**Policy:** NE-4.2, Facility Review

*Review and determine public benefits in comparison to the environmental impacts of new and existing public or private facilities that negatively impact the region's air quality and health of its citizens.*

**Policy:** NE-4.4, Vegetation that Improves Air Quality

*Plant, preserve, and encourage the use of vegetation known to benefit local air quality, concerning both urban trees and landscaping incorporated into facilities and development.*

**Policy:** PR-1.2, River Corridors

*Recognize, enhance, and preserve access to the Spokane River and various waterways for the recreational enjoyment and use of the public, recognizing the health and social benefits access to the waters of Spokane provides, while maintaining consistency with preservation and protection standards.*

**Policy:** PR-2.2, Access to Open Space and Park Amenities

*Provide equitable public access to linkages and connected open space and park amenities, including features such as sidewalks, trails, bicycle paths, and mass transit.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

This set of policies is meant to address reducing adverse impacts of climate hazards on health and improve access to resources and amenities for vulnerable and overburdened communities.

## Draft Health & Well-being Goals and Policies

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Goal 1 (Resilience)	Protect community health and well-being from the impacts of climate-exacerbated hazards and extreme weather, ensuring overburdened communities and the most vulnerable residents do not bear disproportionate health impacts.	Climate Policy Explorer, Goal T	
Policy 1 (Resilience)	Implement an urban heat resilience strategy that includes land use, urban design, urban greening, and waste heat reduction actions (repurposing of heat generated by industrial processes, cooling systems, other).	Climate Policy Explorer, T.08 High Priority	
Policy 2 (Resilience)	Develop and implement a notification process within the community to reduce the risk of exposure to wildfire smoke and particulate matter	Climate Policy Explorer, ~T.05	
Policy 3 (Resilience)	Foster stronger community connectedness and social and economic vitality to help improve economic prosperity and community resilience to climate impacts, such as through equitable investments in libraries, parks, recreation programs, urban green space and ventilation corridors, multimodal connections, economic development and other, prioritizing overburdened and vulnerable communities.	See Spokane Extreme Heat Resilience Plan, 2025-2030 Recommendations 4.5 and 4.6	
Policy 4 (Resilience)	Support Tribes and Native organizations in strengthening community connectedness and social and economic vitality to help communities improve their economic prosperity and resilience to climate impacts, such as by	TEW Review	The TEW desired to have a tailored policy that focuses on Tribes and Native organizations and avoids conflating with the overburdened and vulnerable communities.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
	prioritizing funding for Native-led centers that host multi-generational knowledge sharing, recreation, and health and wellness services. ●		
Policy 5 (Resilience)	Allocate resources at a consistent and meaningful level for programs and events focused on Spokane's youth (18 and under) and their specific needs for social and emotional health, and cultural belonging.	Draft Plan Policy: SH-1.2, Commitment to Youth	
Policy 6 (Resilience)	Promote environmental justice and support physical and mental health and well-being by providing all residents with an equitable opportunity to learn about climate impacts, influence policy decisions, and take actions to enhance community resilience.	Climate Policy Explorer, ~Goal AA	

◆ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ✦ Draft Chapter ✱ CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

### In the works / givens

- ▶ State labor & industries rules address outdoor workers. [City could review and advocate for changes in state rules where appropriate.](#) ★
- ▶ Spokane Extreme Heat Resilience Plan
- ▶ [Spokane Wildfire Smoke Resilience Plan](#)

### Bike rack/ future actions

- ▶ Develop a grant program to support low-income residents remain cool while staying in their residences during extreme climate events, such as extreme heat or wildfire smoke, instead of seeking external shelters, such as cooling devices, air cleaners, or utility bill support.
  - ✱ *(Broadened and included under Emergency Management)*

# Land Use / Zoning & Development

## Policy Audit Findings

The Policy Audit Findings concluded that the zoning and development sector is adequately addressed, but there are opportunities to explicitly incorporate climate resilience, equity, and GHG emission reduction. Furthermore, policies could be updated to address climate hazards, such as ensuring codes reflect best available science on wildfire resistant construction and strengthening critical areas regulations by considering development restraints within the 500-year floodplain.

## Draft Plan Chapters

Relevant policies in [draft chapters](#) include:

### Policy: N-6.1

*Protect and steward the natural environment within neighborhoods when introducing new projects to support community health, safety, and livability.*

### Policy N-6.2

*Consider and implement connections between and among neighborhoods and designated open spaces/nature corridors when planning, designating, and maintaining such areas.*

### Policy N-6.3

*Coordinate and partner with neighborhoods in the maintenance and operation of City property, with the intent of ensuring proper maintenance and operation of facilities for neighborhood use like greenways, paths, street features, and parks.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

Compact, mixed-use development can reduce vehicle emissions and improve air quality. Preserving and expanding green spaces and tree canopy will help cool neighborhoods and reduce heat-related illnesses. Zoning that limits development in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) can also lower wildfire risk and protect residents from smoke exposure and property loss.

## Draft Land Use / Zoning & Development Goals and Policies

Base language is from the 11/13 meeting memo that the CRSB reviewed; tracked changes reflect edits since the 11/13 meeting.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Goal 1 (GHG)	Increase mixed use and housing diversity and supply <del>within the city</del> to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support environmental justice.	Climate Policy Explorer, K, High Priority	Removed “within the city” to make policy more flexible (could include urban growth areas).
Policy 1 (GHG)	<u>Plan for and</u> accommodate diverse, affordable, and attainable housing types <del>within the city</del> to meet demand while avoiding sprawl in order to decrease emissions and infrastructure costs and preserve open space.	Climate Policy Explorer, ~K, High Priority	Updated to “plan for and accommodate” to make stronger based on CRSB feedback that “accommodate” is weak language.
Policy 2 (GHG)	Prioritize infill development, while <u>retaining</u> <del>expanding, protecting, and maintaining</del> the City’s tree canopy, through zoning regulations and permitting processes.	Climate Policy Explorer High Priority	CRSB suggested expanding the commitment to tree canopy here. This policy is primarily about infill development (and recognizing the tension between infill development and tree retention); we suggest language to de-emphasize tree canopy here. Tree canopy is more broadly supported in other policies.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Policy 3 (GHG)	Foster transit-oriented development and accessible neighborhoods by increasing density and supporting multimodal transportation in areas that are well-served by transit.	Climate Policy Explorer, ~C	<p>This policy is similar to existing (old) policy LU4.6. There may be overlap with current draft Land Use policy.</p> <p>Transportation GHG policy 2 (below) is intended to help fill transit gaps: <i>"Support public transit expansion and use through coordinated of land use and transportation planning that prioritizes service for lower-income and overburdened neighborhoods."</i></p>
Goal 2 (Resilience)	Establish land use and development patterns that increase the climate resilience of Spokane's built environment, ecosystems, and communities.	Climate Policy Explorer, V, High Priority;	CTAC supported this goal and policies
Policy 1 (Resilience)	Incorporate climate-hazard risk criteria into land use and infrastructure planning when siting, replacing, or relocating community assets, such as transportation, civic facilities, and parks.		No CRSB or CTAC feedback
Policy 2 (Resilience)	<u>Apply resilience-focused development standards</u> <del>Identify and implement strategies for reducing residential development pressure</del> in high-risk zones, including the wildland-urban interface (WUI) and flood-prone areas.	Climate Policy Explorer High Priority; A.02	Suggested edits based on CTAC feedback to clarify goal of policy is not to reduce density and density is beneficial for fighting wildfire.
Policy 3 (Resilience)	Embed environmental justice into land use decisions by evaluating climate and environmental burdens before major <u>land use plan changes</u> <del>rezonings</del> , capital investments, or new policy adoption.	Climate Policy Explorer, ~V.07	CRSB suggested removing the word "major." We have kept it for now but are open to additional discussion.



Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Policy 4 (Resilience)	Protect, restore, and maintain urban agricultural lands, urban forests, critical areas, <a href="#">shorelines</a> , and open spaces as interconnected natural systems that provide flood protection, heat reduction, and carbon sequestration benefits.	Climate Policy Explorer High Priority; adapted to include V.10;	Related to draft plan policies NE6.3 and NE6.5 (see pg. 16 of this memo).

◆ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ◆ Draft Chapter ✱ CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

### In the works / givens

- ▶ The Land Use Element revisions are underway as part of the Draft Chapters development with the Plan Commission.

### Bike rack/ future actions

- ▶ The Land Use Element relies on developing a preferred alternative following the Draft EIS comment period in early 2026.

## Transportation

### Policy Audit Findings

The Policy Audit Findings concluded that the transportation sector is adequately addressed, but there are opportunities to bolster climate, equity, and environmental justice. Key changes focus on emphasizing sustainable modes such as walking, bicycling, and transit over private vehicles, and integrating policies to prioritize VMT reduction and increase the adoption rate of Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs) through updating City code for charging infrastructure in new development and the public right-of-way.

### Draft Plan Chapters

Relevant policies in [draft chapters](#) include:

#### **Policy TR-5.1**, Interconnected multi-modal networks

*Enhance first-mile and last-mile connectivity from local walking, bicycling and rolling networks to local and regional public transit service.*

#### **Policy TR-5.2**, Continuous transportation routes

*Ensure continuous connectivity for multiple transportation options between neighborhoods, activity centers and areas with high concentrations of businesses and services.*

**Policy TR-6.2, Eliminate Serious and Fatal Injuries**

*Achieve zero fatalities by the year 2036 in accordance with the Spokane Vision Zero Safety Action Plan and Vision Zero Resolution.*

**Policy TR-6.3, Transportation Options for Vulnerable Road Users**

*Ensure the roadway network prioritizes the safety of the most vulnerable road users traveling by foot, bicycle and other adaptive or assistive devices.*

**Goal TR-8**

*Carry out programs, plans and investments that support achieving the targeted reductions in vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and associated reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.*

**Policy TR-8.3, Set and Monitor Targets for Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)**

*In alignment with regional and state goals and policies, establish functional performance measures for monitoring Vehicle Miles Traveled and carry out regular monitoring to ensure progress toward established goals.*

**Policy TR-8.4, Enact programs and carry out investments to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and associated Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions**

*Seek out new programs and projects with high potential to make meaningful reductions in Vehicle Miles Traveled to achieve VMT and GHG targets.*

**Goal TR-9, Achieve Context-Sensitive Design**

*Adopt and strengthen policies, guidance and typologies that align infrastructure investments in the public right-of-way with land use designations [in key locations](#), development code designations, and economic development initiatives.*

**Goal TR-10**

*Undertake strategic planning and seek out innovative funding initiatives to support infrastructure investments that align with Transportation element goals while supporting corresponding increases in operations and maintenance staff, equipment and resources.*

**Policy TR-10.3, Funding sources**

*Balance increases in capacity and capital infrastructure with corresponding increases in maintenance and operational funding. Fund maintenance of what is already built. Fund systemic maintenance programs.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

Climate hazards can damage roads, bridges, and rail infrastructure, and make walking, biking, and driving unsafe. This can disrupt travel and limit people's ability to evacuate safely during emergencies. At the same time, reducing emissions from vehicle travel improves air quality, reduces noise, and supports healthier communities. Community impacts from traffic and pollution are not evenly distributed.

## Draft Transportation Goals and Policies

Base language is from the 11/13 meeting memo that the CRSB reviewed; tracked changes reflect edits since the 11/13 meeting.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Goal 1 (GHG)	<del>Facilitate</del> <del>Support</del> connected, equitable transportation options, including public transit, active transportation, and zero-emission vehicles to <u>improve community health and</u> achieve goals related to vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas reduction.	Climate Policy Explorer High Priority; CRSB High Priority;	CRSB questioned the use of the word "support." We want to recognize the wide array of roles the City may play so have suggested a broad word here but one that suggests more ownership.
Policy 1 (GHG)	Develop a citywide connected multi-modal network that follows 'Complete Streets' principles, aligns with higher-density housing and commercial centers, and ensures equitable distribution of safe, accessible, and affordable transportation options.	Climate Policy Explorer High Priority; CRSB High Priority; integrates I.04 & I.14, incorporates CRSB idea of 'complete streets'	
Policy 2 (GHG)	Support public transit expansion, <u>frequency, and reliability</u> , <del>and use</del> through coordinated <del>of</del> land use and transportation planning that prioritizes service for lower-income and overburdened neighborhoods.	Climate Policy Explorer, ~I.05	We will be sure to define "overburdened" in the glossary based on Growth Management Act definitions, in response to CRSB feedback.  Added more specific language in response to CTAC feedback.
Policy 3 (GHG)	Develop zero-emission vehicle infrastructure and incentives, <u>with particular support for</u>	Climate Policy Explorer, AD.01	Specified renters and workplace charging in

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
	<a href="#">prioritizing workplaces</a> , lower-income residents, <a href="#">and renters</a> .		response to CRSB and CTAC feedback.
Goal 2 (Resilience)	Ensure that the local transportation system — including infrastructure, routes, and travel modes — is resilient to climate hazards and remains safe and accessible during and after extreme weather events and other hazards.	Climate Policy Explorer, W	N/A
Policy 1 (Resilience)	Install updated stormwater controls on roadways when capital improvements are implemented and where development is less likely to contribute stormwater improvements.	Climate Policy Explorer, ~W.04	N/A
Policy 2 (Resilience)	Design and site new and expanded roads, railroads <del>roads</del> <a href="#">infrastructure</a> , and water-crossing structures to minimize environmental impacts, protect public access, and incorporate climate-resilient features such as fish-friendly <del>culverts and bridges</del> <a href="#">passage</a> .	Climate Policy Explorer High Priority; incorporated/merged with W.03	CTAC suggested changing “railroads” to a broader term.
Policy 3 (Resilience)	Improve street connectivity and walkability, including sidewalks and street crossings, to <a href="#">support everyday mobility and</a> <del>serve as</del> <a href="#">access to</a> potential evacuation routes.	W.02	CTAC recommended expanding reasoning for improving connectivity
Policy 4 (Resilience)	Promote natural tree cover and built shade and cooling infrastructure along sidewalks, transit stops, and public spaces to enhance resilience to extreme heat, prioritizing urban heat islands and locations where populations susceptible to health impacts gather.	Address Plan Commission/CRSB discussion about shade and the built environment.	N/A

◆ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ✦ Draft Chapter ✕ CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

## In the works / givens



## Bike rack/ future actions



# Waste Management

## Policy Audit Findings

There are few Waste Management policies in the Spokane Comprehensive Plan, and other plans or strategies provide some opportunities to integrate more detailed approaches such as composting and food waste.

## Draft Plan Chapters

Relevant policies in [draft chapters](#) include:

**Policy:** DP-2.15, Community Resiliency

*Conserve, reuse, and retrofit older buildings to reduce carbon emissions, conserve resources, reduce waste, and improve local resiliency of the built environment throughout the community.*

**Policy:** NE-10.5, Profit from Waste

*Recruit industries that can make use of and profit from Spokane's solid waste in a manner that minimizes or mitigates environmental impacts while maximizing reuse of materials.*

**Policy:** NE-10.6, Packaging Reduction

*Create and advocate legislation, education, and other means that reduce product packaging, so that waste disposal is decreased.*

**Policy:** SH-9.5 Prevention of Food Waste

*Support the reduction of edible food waste by encouraging the donation of foods through food waste pickup programs and community education.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

Proper waste management supports clean air and water, and reduction of disease vectors.

## Draft Waste Management Goals and Policies

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Policy 1 (GHG)	Set and achieve zero waste goals and continue to periodically measure waste via waste characterization studies, in partnership with the Department of Ecology. ♦	Climate Policy Explorer, ~X.04	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.
Policy 2 (GHG)	Provide equitable outreach and engagement around waste reduction (including reuse and repair), recycling, and composting among homes and businesses in partnership with neighboring jurisdictions, local and regional organizations, and the City's waste collection service provider to ensure that messaging is clear and consistent. ↑	Climate Policy Explorer, Goal X	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.
Policy 3 (GHG)	Develop a program that will enable reuse and recycling of all construction, deconstruction, and demolition waste.	Climate Policy Explorer, X.02	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.
Policy 4 (GHG)	Support and expand home and commercial composting to reduce the generation and disposal of organic waste <a href="#">and to increase soil health</a> .	Climate Policy Explorer, ~X	Base language per 11/13/25 memo. Response to CRSB comment on increasing soil health.

♦ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ❖ Draft Chapter ✖ CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

### In the works / givens

- ▶ Spokane County Comprehensive Solid Waste and Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan governs regional waste management
- ▶ WA Organics Management Law (2025) requires WA cities to provide organics collection service to all single-family homes and many businesses. City staff will research WA Organics Management Law provisions regarding opting out; [part of the issue is that there is no infrastructure in place to receive the compost material to date](#).



## Bike rack/ future actions

- ▶ Support extended producer responsibility (EPR) related policies
- ▶ Collaborate with partners on food waste reduction efforts

# Water Resources

## Policy Audit Findings

The Policy Audit suggested updating and consolidating capital facilities and natural environment policies and strategies, especially regarding groundwater and considering climate hazards in stormwater management. Some of that has occurred with the Draft Plan Chapter (e.g. Natural Environment). Specific policy suggestions included:

- ▶ Adding policies regarding drought, snowpack and stream base flow. (See Water Resources Idea 1 and Ecosystems Idea 4.)
- ▶ Regarding watershed planning, consider addressing climate trends and need to revisit water allocation and monitoring over time. (See Draft Plan Chapter policies NE 1.4 and NE 3.1.)
- ▶ Ensuring there are regular studies of aquifer related issues. (See Draft Plan Chapter Policy NE-1.4.)
- ▶ Encouraging permeable pavement rather than reducing the rate of impervious pavement. (See Idea 2, covered broadly.)
- ▶ Address new stormwater design standards considering extreme precipitation events (sizing) and vegetation (extreme precipitation and drought). (See Idea 2, covered broadly.)

## Draft Plan Chapters

Relevant policies in [draft chapters](#) include:

Relevant policies in the [Draft Natural Environment Chapter](#) include:

**Policy:** NE-1.2, Stormwater Techniques and Innovation

*Encourage the use of innovative stormwater techniques, including solutions like rain gardens, Wastewater Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) tanks, and other low-impact mitigation tools that protect ground and surface water from contamination and pollution.*

**Policy:** NE-1.4, Regional Water Board and Stewardship Groups

*Continue to support regional watershed groups and boards, including the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board, in their efforts to conduct aquifer planning as well as allocating, monitoring, and studying responsibilities for the entire watershed.*

**Policy:** NE-1.6, Natural Water Drainage

*Identify and preserve areas that provide natural water drainage to accommodate future stormwater runoff while protecting surface and ground water.*

**Policy:** NE-1.7, Wellhead Protection

*Allow only non-polluting land uses to be developed and operated within the water recharge zones of the public water wells, as guided by development regulations and land use limitations within critical areas.*

**Policy:** NE-2.1, Water Conservation – see in Idea 4

**Goal:** NE-3, Surface Waters

*Provide for clean rivers that support native fish and aquatic life and are healthy for recreational uses.*

**Policy:** NE-3.1, Watershed Plan

*Continue to support and develop regional watershed plans in partnership with regional and local partners, concerning all watersheds that are associated with the geographic boundaries of the city and the City's service areas.*

## Relationship to Health & Well-being

Clean, available water supports community health and well-being.

## Draft Water Resources Goals and Policies

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Goal 1 (Resilience)	Protect and preserve water quality and quantity from drought, extreme heat, and other hazards exacerbated by climate change. ♦ ✕ ★	Climate Policy Explorer, Y High Priority, CRVA Exhibit 80	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.
Policy 1 (Resilience)	Manage water resources for all users sustainably through smart irrigation, stormwater management, preventative maintenance, water conservation, infiltration and groundwater recharge, plant selection, landscape management, and other methods as feasible under water rights regulations. ♦ ↑ ✕ ★	Climate Policy Explorer, ~Y.04 High Priority	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.

Idea	Draft Text & Revisions	Original Source	Discussion
Policy 2 (Resilience)	Develop a <del>policy</del> <u>program</u> to allow municipal reclaimed water systems and allow onsite non-potable water systems to reduce water demand in private-sector commercial and residential buildings. ♦ ✕	Climate Policy Explorer, ~Y.05	Minor edit since prior memos (program instead of policy as this is a policy).
Policy 3 (Resilience)	Develop and implement a water conservation strategy that can reasonably be expected to decrease household, commercial, industrial, and agricultural use citywide, commensurate with the true available capacity of the City's water supply, including incentives for drought-tolerant, native plantings and the use of innovative incentive, communication, and education programs. ♦	Draft PlanSpokane Chapter, NE-2.1, Water Conservation.	Base language per 11/13/25 memo.

♦ Spokane Analysis ↑ Engagement Theme ● TEW Input ♦ Draft Chapter ✕ CTAC Input ★ CRSB Idea

### In the works / givens

- ▶ Water Conservation Master Plan Update ([2020 plan](#))

### Bike rack/ future actions

- ▶ Adding a policy around tiered rates of water (anticipate this is addressed in coordination with Water System Plan)

## Next Steps

As described on pages 1-3, the CRSB will meet on January 8, 2026, and additional refinements to early draft goals and policies would be made to reflect new CRSB policy ideas as well as public engagement efforts in November and December.

# Memo

**Date:** December 11, 2025

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

**cc:** Tirrell Black, Assistant Planning Director, Department of Planning Services; Logan Callen, Senior Environmental Analyst, Integrated Capital Management; KayCee Downey, Planner II, Department of Planning Services

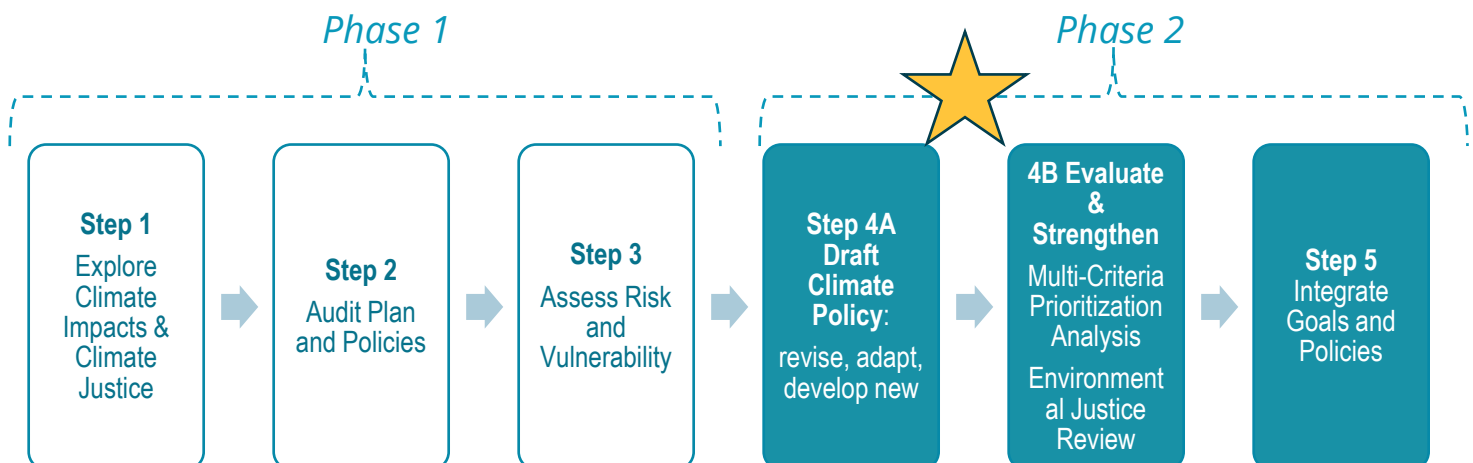
**From:** Lisa Grueter, AICP, Principal; Bethany Hoy, PhD, Associate, BERK Consulting, Inc.

**RE:** Revisions to Policy Evaluation Tool – Multi-criteria Prioritization Analysis

## Background and Purpose

The City of Spokane is integrating climate resilience and mitigation into its Comprehensive Plan per state Growth Management Act (GMA) requirements (HB 1181) and state Climate Planning Guidance. The key phases and steps that are part of the City's grant agreements with the Washington State Department of Commerce are illustrated below:

### Exhibit 1: Commerce Grant Climate Planning Phases (HB 1181)



The climate element must prioritize measures that align with the City’s vision and goals, and expressly prioritize overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, who will suffer disproportionately from compounding environmental impacts and will be most impacted by natural hazards due to climate change. The Multi-Criteria Prioritization Analysis (MCPA) is the tool recommended to be developed locally in the State’s [Climate Planning Guidance](#) in order to complete that prioritization. The Department of Commerce developed the MCPA to evaluate and score policies in the Climate Policy Explorer as a starting point for conversation and encourages jurisdictions to adapt the prioritization framework by including additional local criteria to better align their climate element policies.

The MCPA tool is aligned with both HB 1181 as well as the state guidance and will provide evaluation and scoring of climate policies for the City of Spokane. A numeric scoring tool, when approached with care, can provide a transparent, structured method for comparing policy options while incorporating the full breadth of guidance and input shaping this project. The MCPA tool also supports the process to identify policy priorities for integration into the City’s comprehensive plan—informed by community input and staff feedback to understand local considerations—and provides direction for implementation once adopted.

This tool will not result in a definitive ranking of policies. Rather, it is meant to result in a set of improved policies. The tool is meant to provide:

- ▶ **Clarity.** Show the strengths and weaknesses of each policy.
- ▶ **Consistency.** Evaluate policies with uniform standards and criteria.
- ▶ **Transparency.** Enable users to dynamically discuss values and prioritize policies in alignment with State requirements.

While no scoring approach can capture every perspective or nuance, this tool creates a shared, visible framework for how each policy is evaluated. We plan to create transparency through thorough documentation of the process, from tool creation to scoring, weighting, ranking, and deliberation.

In this sense, the scoring tool is not about eliminating policies early, but about supporting thoughtful, equitable, and well-informed conversations in alignment with HB 1181 and State Climate Planning Guidance as we move from a long list of ideas to a focused set of actionable policies.

Below we summarize the MCPA Steps and changes made to date in response to CRSB input.

## MCPA Steps

The MCPA includes three main steps: 1) Determine relevance and that the City has a clear role in the policy; 2) Score and rank the policies based on criteria addressing resilience, GHG reduction, overburdened communities prioritization, logistics, and degree of certainty including public

support; and 3) Conduct an holistic evaluation of the top policies to reduce redundancies and ensure coverage across requirements, topics, timeframes, and other factors.

## Exhibit 2: Multi-Criteria Prioritization Analysis (MCPA) Steps

The City is using a prioritization process to select key climate policies. This will help ensure that policies are effective at improving resiliency and reducing emissions, can realistically be implemented, and align with state requirements.

# Evaluating Climate Policies

## 1 Relevance Filter

Does the City have a **clear role?** (*lead, partner, communicator, or regulator*)

## 2 Scoring & Ranking

- **Resilience**
- **GHG Reduction**
- **Overburdened Communities Prioritization**
- **Logistics** (*including cost, cobenefits, and feasibility*)
- **Degree of Certainty** (*including unintended impacts, public support, and organizational momentum*)

## 3 Holistic Evaluation

- Remove **redundancies**
- Ensure the list meets **State requirements, addresses key hazards**, and includes a **variety of topics, time frames, responsible groups, and city roles**.

Each step in the MCPA is described below, together with changes made in response to CRSB feedback and follow-up comments.



## Step 1: Relevance Filter

The first phase is a relevance filter, where proposed policies are reviewed to confirm that the city has the jurisdictional authority to implement the policy (Exhibit 2). Jurisdictional authority or role could include:

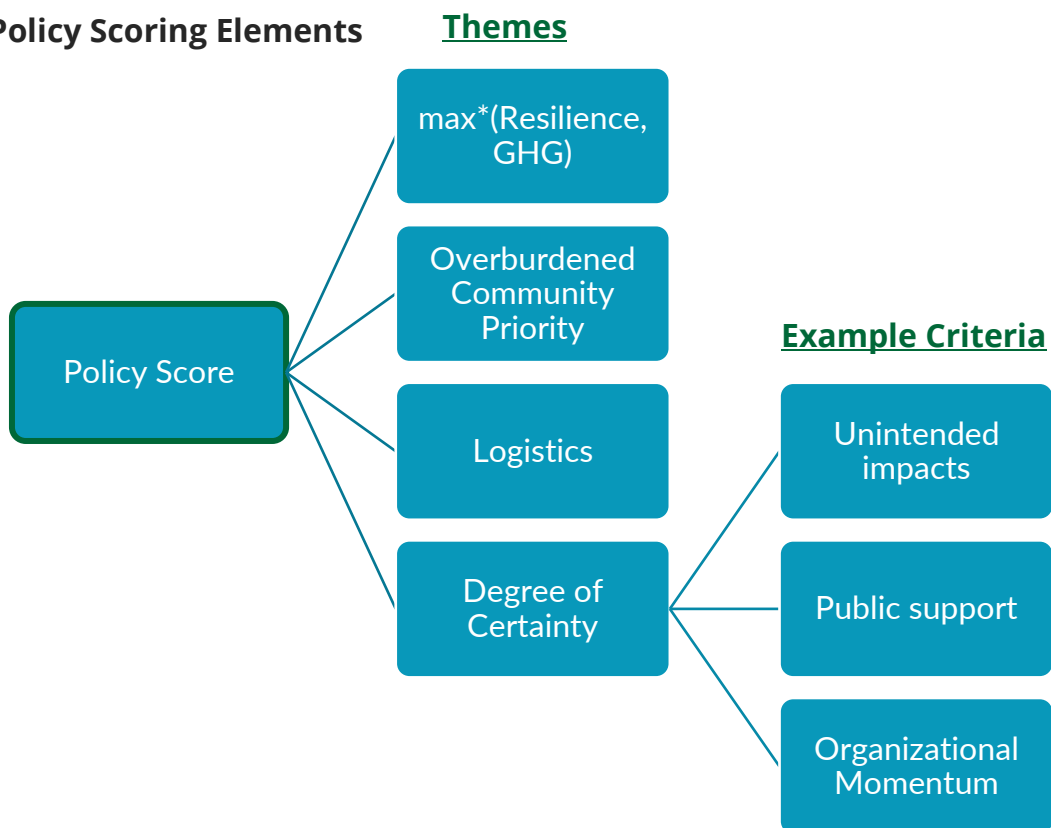
- ▶ Communicate/educate
- ▶ Partner/collaborate
- ▶ Incentivize
- ▶ City-led project

Phase 1 filters help ensure that staff and stakeholders do not spend time evaluating options that the City of Spokane cannot realistically implement.

## Step 2: Multi-Factor Scoring and Ranking

In Step 2, policies would be scored using criteria developed for several themes as shown in Exhibit 3. Each policy score is made up of theme scores. Each theme score is made up of criteria scores. The scores will be normalized.

**Exhibit 3: Policy Scoring Elements**



\*Max of Resilience or GHG Score: Because some policies are designed to focus on resilience or GHG reduction, the greater of the two sub-scores would be added to the other theme scores.

### Step 3: Holistic Evaluation of Top Policies

The third step is a holistic evaluation of the top policies, which goes beyond the numerical rankings to confirm balance and representation (Exhibit 10). This step examines whether the final set of policies meets requirements, provides a mix of near-term and long-term actions, covers the major sectors of the Climate Element, complies with relevant legal requirements, includes a variety of roles and responsibilities, and reflects cumulative benefits and potential tradeoffs.

### Additional Model Information

#### Scoring Approach

Each criterion under a theme will be scored by the consultant team, who would assign a score within a 0–4-point range using a detailed scoring rubric with examples and assumptions. The scoring range for the theme of “Resilience” is shared below as an example. While the scoring approach could be more complex (e.g. 10-point score) the policies are not detailed or at an implementation scale, making a more detailed/expanded score set less meaningful.

For each criterion, the scoring rubric will include the guiding question, any relevant definitions, locations of the relevant data, assumptions that should be used in the absence of necessary information, and examples. The full scoring rubric will be available when it is complete.

#### Exhibit 4: Example Rubric: Resilience Theme

Criteria	Guiding Question	Scoring
Hazard Preparedness & Risk Reduction	To what extent does this policy reduce risks from climate-exacerbated natural hazards (e.g., flooding, wildfire, heat, drought, or landslides)?	0 = Worsens risk 1 = No reduction 2 = Moderate reduction 3 = Strong reduction 4 = Strong reduction, equitably distributed
Ecosystem-Based Resilience	To what extent does this policy protect, restore, or enhance natural areas to foster climate resilience, as well as areas of vital habitat for safe species migration?	0 = Worsens 1 = No effect 2 = Identifies 3 = Protects 4 = Enhances

Criteria	Guiding Question	Scoring
Community & Social Resilience	Does this policy strengthen the ability of communities, especially frontline and overburdened groups, to prepare for, respond to, and recover from climate impacts?	0 = Worsens 1 = No effect 2 = Identifies 3 = Protects 4 = Enhances
Economic Resilience	To what extent does this policy strengthen the economic conditions that help communities adapt to and recover from climate impacts?	0 = Worsens 1 = No effect 2 = Identifies 3 = Protects 4 = Enhances
Built Environment Adaptation	To what extent does this policy address the capacity of buildings, infrastructure, and public spaces to withstand and adapt to climate stresses?	0 = Worsens 1 = No effect 2 = Identifies 3 = Protects 4 = Enhances

## Weighting Approach

Weighting is the process of emphasizing certain themes and criteria to reflect their relative importance. The prioritization analysis will weight themes and criteria based on the Commerce guidance (e.g., expressly prioritizing overburdened communities and vulnerable populations) and the community survey, which had almost 1500 responses.

In this weighting structure, each theme (resilience, GHG reduction, prioritization of overburdened communities, logistics, and degree of certainty) and criteria within those themes will be assigned a weight representing its contribution to the overall goals of the analysis.

## Discussion Question for CRSB

Prioritization of policies is integrated into the Washington Department of Commerce Climate Planning Guidance and Commerce rules and is a best practice. The State's Climate Policy Explorer prioritization process was based on multiple state agencies' participation and intensive work with frontline communities.

The CRSB is welcome to share ideas for weighting now based on your expertise and lived experience.

Of the themes in Step 2 (see Exhibit 2) which one should be of greater weight?

- ▶ Resilience
- ▶ GHG Reduction
- ▶ Overburdened Community Prioritization
- ▶ Logistics
- ▶ Degree of Certainty

The final MCPA workbook will be dynamic, and weights can be adjusted and may be useful to change "live" at a future CRSB meeting.

## Next Steps

We will provide the full results and all accompanying documentation to you upon completion.

# Appendix A

## Changes in Response to CRSB Input

Based on the meeting discussion and post-meeting comments, CRSB members have an interest in:

- ▶ understanding how community values shape the tool
- ▶ ensuring clarity around scoring, definitions, and examples
- ▶ seeing your input reflected in criteria and weighting
- ▶ knowing when and how to provide input

Thank you for your thoughtful feedback. We appreciate the care and detail you brought to your review. Highlights of changes and responses to questions are below:

### Criteria Adjustments

- ▶ **Suggest adding an Opportunity Cost Criterion.** Based on your feedback, we are adding Opportunity Cost as a separate criterion from Cost and revisiting the scoring approach to ensure it is meaningful and implementable.
- ▶ **Address “Political Support.”** We have changed the “Momentum” criterion title to “Organizational Momentum” for greater clarity. It is meant to be similar to “Political Support” in the Commerce guidance – but the “Organizational Momentum” phrasing better fits the stage of the policy development process prior to City Council deliberations.
- ▶ **Avoid double-barreled criteria.** We have streamlined criteria language to address your concerns about “double-barreled” criteria. Please note that our current scoring system already allocates more points when a criterion addresses both components.

### Clarifications

- ▶ **How are criteria aligned with Commerce Guidance?** We mirror Commerce guidance, for example, embedding co-benefits under the Logistics theme and aligning the “to what extent” phrasing with Commerce’s Effectiveness framing. Commerce allows for locally-defined criteria.

- ▶ **Suggest using the Commerce four equity sub-criteria (Co-governance, Targeted Benefits<sup>1</sup>, Accountability, Community Wealth Building).** We really appreciate you recognizing this and it's a point of ongoing discussion with our team. In early testing, we found that these criteria are very implementation-focused and would require us to make erroneous assumptions that affect the internal validity of scores. Bethany completed her doctoral work in the area and sourced the current four equity criteria (Distributive Benefits, Distributive Costs, Procedural, Recognition) from the literature to better match the level of policy specificity. We agree that the Commerce concepts remain important, and we are still exploring how to integrate them effectively in the Step 3 Holistic Evaluation or in a later Environmental Justice review. In the meantime, within Step 2, we have replaced "Equity" with Overburdened Community Benefit criteria to reflect CRSB input and Commerce guidance.
- ▶ **Where is the Timeframe of Benefit criterion?** Timeframe is included in Step 3 (holistic analysis), reflecting our earlier testing and the need to evaluate timeframe across a portfolio rather than individual policies.
- ▶ **Please share scoring methodology. Should it follow a 10-point example in Commerce?** We propose a 0–4-point scoring system rather than a 10-point scoring system. The 10-point scoring system was one of several examples in the Commerce guidance (was a University Capstone example). A simpler scoring approach reflects that the policies to be scored are not detailed and granular.

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<sup>1</sup> Do the goals and targets recognize our fundamental rights to healthy environments and communities? Do the strategies prioritize those most facing highest cumulative impacts/risk?



BRIEFING PAPER: Climate Policy Gap Discussion  
City of Spokane  
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board  
12/11/2025

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**Subject:**

Last opportunity to discuss potential missing policies for the Climate Element of the Comp Plan update.

**Background:**

For the past year the CRSB has been acting in a technical advisory role for the Climate Element of the Comp Plan update. Board members have given feedback, made suggestions for additions, and helped wordsmith. With the process close to wrapping up this will be an opportunity to suggest policies that may still be missing before we proceed to analyzing and finalizing recommendations.

The Department of Commerce Policy Explorer offers a good starting point for policy articulation:

[Climate Data and Policy Tools – Washington State Department of Commerce](#)

**Relationship to Plans/Actions:**

This effort is a part of the state-required update to the Comprehensive Plan.

**Timeline/ Further Action:**

- December CRSB meeting: This is the time to give feedback on substantial changes or to present any new policies not already included.
- January CRSB meeting: The draft final policy document that the CRSB will vote on in February will be presented in the packet for review and discussion, wordsmithing and tweaks, and perhaps amendments.
- January CRSB/Planning Commission meeting: CRSB will present the results of their January meeting to the PC for joint discussion. Changes based on these discussions will be made to the draft final policy document.
- February CSRb meeting: CRSB will vote on final policy recommendation document (which will be in their packet) that is reflective of any changes/concerns that came from the joint meeting with the PC. Once the PC has the CRSB recommendations they can just adopt them or make their own changes before forwarding to the City Council.

BRIEFING PAPER: SAPW Report Out: Biochar Pilot  
City of Spokane  
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board  
12/11/2025

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**Subject:**

A brief report out from a recent meeting with Spokane Parks and Recreation Operations Staff about the potential for doing a pilot project to test biochar.

**Background:**

The board convened the Sustainability Action Plan Working Group in the Spring to be a subset of the board that could explore areas in the adopted Sustainability Action Plan that could be subjects for policy and improvement or implementation steps. Doing a pilot project to test biochar was one area that emerged from those discussions.

The Sustainability Action Plan can be found here (see strategy NE 9.1):

[Sustainability Action Plan - City of Spokane, Washington](#)

**Relationship to Plans/Actions:**

This work supports the Sustainability Action Plan.

**Timeline/ Further Action:**

Dependent on meeting results and other factors.