



Spokane Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Agenda

Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 09, 2026
2:00 PM

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

Virtual Meeting Link - See page two for Information

TIMES GIVEN ARE AN ESTIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Briefing Session – 2:00-2:15

1. Roll Call – 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 [3/12/2026](#) meeting minutes - All
4. Chair Report – Brian Henning
5. Secretary Report – Tirrell Black
6. Approval of current agenda – All

Hearings: (All times below are approximate)

1. 2:15 – 2:45 *[Renters Right to Cooling](#) (Councilmember Paul Dillon)

Workshops: (All times below are approximate)

1. 2:45 – 3:10 [Recap of 2416: Waste to Energy Bill](#) (Marlene Feist)
2. 3:10 – 3:30 [West Plains PFAS Update, Interim Actions](#) (Marlene Feist)
3. 3:30 – 3:35 [Septic to Sewer Conversion](#) (Marlene Feist)
4. 3:35 – 3:55 [Code Modernization/Zoning Code Update](#) (Tim Thompson)
5. 3:55 – 4:15 [Legislative Update/Wrap Up](#) (Nicole White)
6. 4:15 – 4:25 SAPW Update (Amanda Parrish)

Adjournment: The next regularly scheduled CRSB meeting will be Thursday, May 14, 2026.

*Items denoted with an asterisk may include final action taken by the board. Written public comments will be accepted at 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. 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 Teams Meeting Information

Thursday, April 09, 2026

The CRSB 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: qhF8i

Dial in by phone

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

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 999 419 515#

Join on a video conferencing device

Tenant key: cityofspokane@m.webex.com

Video ID: 112 012 615 5

[More info](#)

How to participate in virtual public testimony:

[SIGN UP](#)

Sign up to give testimony by clicking on the button below. This will take you to an online form where you can select the hearing item on which you wish to give testimony.

The form will be **open from 8:00am on 4/2/2026, until 1:00 p.m. on 4/9/2026**. The hearing will begin at 2:15 p.m. When it is your turn to testify, CRSB Chair will call your name, and you can begin your testimony. You will have 3 minutes to speak.

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. 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 CRSB meetings will be recorded and are available online.

Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board

Upcoming Agenda Items

(All items are subject to change)

May 14, 2026 Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board (180 minutes available) Hybrid	
Workshop	
Item	
Briefing Session	
Master Water Conservation Plan – Marlene Feist	
Neighborhood Composting – Marlene Feist/Chris Averyt	
SAP review update – Jon Snyder/Nicole White	
State Legislative agenda discussion – Jon Snyder	

Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board – Meeting Minutes Draft

Thursday, March 12, 2026

City Council Briefing Center

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

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

- *None*

Attendance:

- Board Members Present: Brian Henning, Amanda Parrish, Kathryn Alexander, Kerry Brooks, Kevin Fagan, Elyse Hochstadt, Larry Luton, Bob Lutz, Lea Molina, Kit Parker, Hala Zahalqa
- Board Members Not Present: Ryan Arnold, Happy Avery, Claire Cooney
- *Quorum Present: Yes*
- Non-Voting Members Present: Community Assembly Liaison Santiago Rodriguez-Anderson
- Non-Voting Members Not Present:
- Staff Members Present: Jon Snyder, Emily King, Nicole White, Kyle Arrington, CM Paul Dillon, Virginia Ramos, Raylene Gennett, Elizabeth Schoedel, Sarah Sirott, Mayra Marroquin, Chris Averyt, Marlene Feist, Colin Quinn-Hurst

Minutes: Minutes from 2/12/2026 approved unanimously.

Briefing Session:

- **Chair Report - Amanda Parrish**
 - Amanda expressed her excitement that House Bill 2416 is awaiting the governor's signature. This bill relates to Spokane's Waste to Energy Facility. A lot of Spokane based environmental groups have worked with the City of Spokane, Department of Ecology, and state-wide environmental groups on this. Everyone has worked very hard on this for over a year, and very intensively over the last few months during the legislative session. This is groundbreaking legislation for Spokane. This bill keeps the Waste to Energy facility under the regulatory framework under the Climate Commitment Act, so we can uphold that, while also finding a good pathway toward greenhouse gas reduction of this facility while also protecting low-income rate payers. As part of the legislation, there is a waste reduction plan that needs to be reviewed and consulted on. This will be an ongoing project for our city and Amanda looks forward to continuing to work on this.
- **Secretary Report - Jon Snyder**
 - Jon had Marlene Feist speak about House Bill 2416. Marlene estimates that this bill will save City rate payers about 14 million dollars over four years based on current credit prices. This will be presented to the board more formally, likely at the next meeting.
 - Jon will be missing the meeting next month. Tirrell Black will act as secretary during that meeting. We anticipate possibly having a hearing on the Renter's Right to Cool Ordinance during that meeting.

Current Agenda: The current agenda was approved.

Informational, Discussion and/or Action Items:

- Bio-solids Update
 - Presentation provided by: Kyle Arrington
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.

- Public Transit as a GHG Reduction Strategy
 - Presentation provided by: Emily Poole, STA
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.

- Renter's Right to Cool Ordinance
 - Presentation provided by: CM Paul Dillon
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.

- SAPW Update
 - Presentation provided by: Amanda Parrish
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.

- SAP 5-year Review Update
 - Presentation provided by: Jon Snyder & Nicole White
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:02 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Meeting is on Thursday, April 9, 2026.

BRIEFING PAPER: Renters Right to Cooling
City of Spokane
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board
4/9/2026

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:

Updated Ordinance based on suggestions discussed during 3/12/26 Meeting.

Renters right to cooling. This ordinance places a duty on landlords to provide cooling for indoor units to prevent the temperature in each bedroom to exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Agencies interested, and assisted in the drafting, including the Gonzaga Institute for Climate, Water, and the Environment and the Gonzaga Environmental & Climate Law Clinic.

Background:

In June, 2024, the Spokane City Council passed an ordinance relating to portable cooling devices. This ordinance updates that portion of code, and expands it to include a landlord duty to provide cooling by 2031 for existing units, and cooling for new construction to happen upon completion.

Relationship to Plans/Actions:

Heat related deaths are rising, average temperatures in Spokane have increased over the years, projections suggest temperatures will continue to increase, extreme heat is the number one weather-related cause of death in the U.S., habitability is an interest of municipal governments.

Timeline/ Further Action:

Current timeline:

- 3/26 Introduce ordinance to the CRSB
- 4/26 Amended version: CRSB to give recommendations to council
- 5/11 Placed on City Council PIES committee for placement on legislative agenda

ORDINANCE NO _____

An Ordinance creating a condition of habitability for residential tenants and requiring that cooling be provided by January 1, 2031; amending section 10.57.140, enacting a new section 10.57.175 of Chapter 10.57 and repealing Section 10.57.170 of the Spokane Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, according to the memorandum “Spokane Climate Impacts and Climate Justice,” average annual temperatures in Spokane have increased by 2°F since 1950 and peak August temperatures have risen 3.5°F since 1979; and

WHEREAS, according to the same memorandum, summer temperatures are projected to increase by another 3.6°F by 2049; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2023 report “In the Hot Seat” by the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group, Washington state is expected to see an increase in extreme heat days, a projected average of 20-30 extreme heat days annually by the 2050s compared to the average of three extreme heat days per year between 1971 and 2021; and

WHEREAS, extreme heat can cause illness and death; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Northwest Heat Dome resulted in at least 19 heat-related deaths and over 300 people seeking medical treatment for heat related illness in Spokane County; and

WHEREAS, extreme heat is the number one weather-related cause of death in the U.S., killing more people most years than hurricanes, floods, and tornadoes combined; and

WHEREAS, poor outdoor air quality due to wildfire smoke often prevents residents from safely opening windows for cooling, making indoor cooling essential to maintaining the health and safety of Spokane residents; and

WHEREAS, establishing performance-based cooling requirements ensures that all landlords operate under fair and consistent habitability standards; and

WHEREAS, according to Spokane’s “Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment” the elderly and youth are particularly vulnerable to health impacts resulting from extreme heat; and

WHEREAS, RCW 59.18.060 requires a residential landlord to “keep the premises fit for human habitation”; and

WHEREAS, RCW 59.18.060 also requires that a residential landlord “provide facilities adequate to supply heat and water and hot water as reasonably required by the tenant”; and

WHEREAS, just as heating is an essential service to maintain habitability in the winter months, our changing climate now requires that cooling similarly be treated as an essential service to maintain habitability in the summer months.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Spokane does ordain:

Section 1. Chapter 10.57.140 is amended to read as follows:

Section 10.57.140 Private Right of Action

- A. Any person or class of persons who claim to have been injured by a violation of sections 10.57.020(H), 10.57.110, 10.57.120, 10.57.130, 10.57.160, 10.57.175, or 10.57.180 may commence a civil action in Superior Court, not later than three (3) years after the occurrence of the alleged violation to obtain relief with respect to such violation. Upon prevailing, such aggrieved person may be awarded reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs, and such other legal and equitable relief as appropriate to remedy the violation including, without limitation, the payment of compensatory damages, a penalty of up to \$500, and injunctive relief.
- B. If a landlord fails to comply with the requirements of sections 10.57.020(H), 10.57.110, 10.57.120, 10.57.130, 10.57.160, 10.57.175, or 10.57.180. and such failure was not caused by the tenant, the tenant may terminate the rental agreement by written notice pursuant to law.

Section 2. Chapter 10.57.170 entitled “Portable Cooling Devices” is repealed.

Section 3. There is enacted a new section 10.57.175 of the Spokane Municipal Code to read as follows:

Section 10.57.175 Cooling and Tenancy Habitability

- A. The definitions in section 10.57.005 apply to the terms in this section unless a different meaning is provided. In addition, for purposes of this section, the following terms are defined:
 - 1. “Cooling” means the use of passive cooling or mechanical cooling to maintain an indoor temperature in each bedroom of the dwelling that does not exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

2. "Indoor temperature" means the ambient temperature of indoor bedroom spaces as measured at a point three feet from above the floor and two feet from exterior walls.
 3. "Passive cooling" means the use of building design or nature-based solutions that prevent heat from entering a building and remove existing heat through methods such as shading, ventilation, insulation, building orientation, and material reflectivity.
 4. "Mechanical cooling" means the use of devices such as central air conditioning, an air-source or ground-source heat pump, or a portable air conditioning device.
 5. "Portable cooling device" means an air conditioner or evaporative cooler, including a device mounted in a window or that is designed to sit on the floor, but not including a device whose installation or use requires alteration to the dwelling unit.
- B. A landlord may not prohibit or restrict a tenant from installing or using a portable cooling device of the tenant's choosing, unless:
1. The dwelling already has a permanently installed and fully operational heat pump that can maintain adequate cooling in each bedroom of the dwelling unit, or
 2. The installation or use of the device would:
 - a. Violate building codes or state or federal law; or
 - b. Violate the device manufacturer's written safety guidelines for the device; or
 - c. Significantly damage the premises beyond the normal wear and tear or render the premises uninhabitable; or
 - d. If the device would be installed in a window, and:
 - i. The window is a necessary egress from the dwelling unit; or
 - ii. The device would interfere with the tenant's ability to lock a window that is accessible from outside; or
 - iii. The device requires the use of brackets or other hardware that would damage or void the warranty of the window or frame, puncture the envelope of the building or otherwise cause significant damages; or
 - iv. The restrictions require that the device be adequately drained to prevent damage to the dwelling unit or building; or
 - v. The restrictions require that the device be installed in a manner that prevents risk of falling; or

- vi. An electrical supply/source would be necessary to power the device that cannot be accommodated by the existing power service to the building, dwelling unit, or circuit.
 - e. In addition to the requirements in subsection (B)(2) of this section, the landlord may also require that the portable cooling device be:
 - I. Installed or removed by the landlord or landlord's agent; or
 - II. Subject to inspection or servicing by the landlord or landlord's agent. A landlord must provide at least 48 hours' notice prior to any inspection
 - f. A landlord is not liable for any interruption in electrical service resulting from the installation of a portable cooling device installed by a tenant, including interruptions caused by an electrical supply's inability to accommodate use of a portable cooling device
- C. Effective January 1, 2031, every dwelling unit governed by this chapter shall have adequate cooling in each bedroom of the dwelling unit. A dwelling unit without adequate cooling shall be deemed uninhabitable.
- D. Effective January 1, 2031, if, a dwelling or bedroom is inhabitable under this section, a tenant may provide a written notice of the defect given to the landlord pursuant to RCW 59.18.070. For purposes of this section, a lack of adequate cooling shall constitute a defective condition that is imminently hazardous to life under RCW 59.18.070(1). If, after receipt of written notice and expiration of the applicable period of time set forth in RCW 59.18.070(1), the landlord fails to remedy the defective condition, the tenant may
1. Terminate the rental agreement and quit the premises upon written notice to the landlord without further obligation under the rental agreement, in which case the tenant shall be (a) discharged from payment of rent for any period following the termination date, and (b) entitled to a pro rata refund of any prepaid rent, and (c) shall receive a full and specific statement of the basis for retaining any of the deposit together with any refund due in accordance with RCW 59.18.280; and
 2. May pursue any other remedies set forth in this chapter or state law; and
 3. May install a cooling device(s) and deduct the cost from their normal rent through the process outlined in RCW 59.18.100.
- E. After the effective date of this ordinance, and notwithstanding the provisions of subsection B(2)(a)–(e), a tenant may install and deduct the cost of portable cooling devices from normal rent if their dwelling unit reaches an ambient indoor temperature at or exceeding 80 degrees Fahrenheit, and the tenant provides 24 hours of notice.

- F. A landlord of any dwelling for which building permits for its construction were issued on or after January 1, 2027, shall provide cooling via adequate cooling methods or facilities that:
1. Provide cooling in each bedroom of the dwelling unit;
 2. Conform to applicable law at the time of installation and are maintained in good working order; and
 3. May include central air conditioning, an air-source or ground-source heat pump, passive cooling design and techniques, a portable air conditioning device capable of filtering PM2.5 smoke particles that is provided by the landlord or other devices or methods that can maintain a temperature that does not exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit.
- I. A landlord is immune from liability for any claim for damages, injury or death caused by a portable cooling device installed by the tenant.
- J. A landlord who must limit or restrict the installation of portable cooling devices for a building shall prioritize allowing the use of devices for individuals who require a device to accommodate a disability.
- K. All new leases, or any renewal of an existing lease, signed after the effective date of this ordinance shall be accompanied by a separate and prominent notice to tenants of their rights, responsibilities, and restrictions related to installation and operation of a portable cooling device.
- L. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to limit the responsibilities of landlords to provide reasonable accommodations under existing state and federal law.
- M. Inspections of residential rental property will include inspection to ensure adequate cooling is provided. A landlord that fails to comply with the provision of cooling consistent with this chapter may be denied licensure consistent with SMC 10.57.020.
- N. The City of Spokane may partner with energy providers, other regional partners, and state regulators to offer incentives or rebates for property owners who make energy-efficient improvements such as insulation, ventilating, air conditioning, weatherization, or heat pump installations, operations, and maintenance, on the condition that cost savings are shared with tenants.
- O. The City of Spokane may encourage the development of heat mitigating roofs and other passive cooling site and building features by exploring code updates and incentives in Downtown and other high intensity areas of the city to reduce energy use and improve resilience.

Section 4. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality thereof shall not affect the

validity or constitutionality of any other section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this ordinance.

Section 5. Clerical Errors. Upon approval by the city attorney, the city clerk is authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including scrivener's errors or clerical mistakes; references to other local, state, or federal laws, rules, or regulations; or numbering or referencing of ordinances or their sections and subsections.

PASSED by the City Council on _____

Council President

Attest:

Approved as to form:

City Clerk

City Attorney

Mayor

Date

Effective Date

CITY OF SPOKANE CLIMATE RESILIENCE & SUSTANABILITY BOARD
RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING SUPPORT OF THE RENTER’S RIGHT TO COOLING
ORDINANCE

Resolution to the Spokane City Council recommending support for the Renter’s Right to Cooling Ordinance.

WHEREAS, The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board shall provide advice and recommendations to the Mayor, City Council, and community on the actions necessary to achieve the community’s sustainability and climate goals consistent with the City’s Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Action Plan, environmental stewardship policies of the City as adopted by the City Council, and within the requirements and parameters set forth in state law, and;

WHEREAS, the CRSB, by a vote of ___ Ayes ___ Nays recommends the following:

NOW, THEREFORE --- it is hereby resolved by the Spokane Climate Resilience & Sustainability Board to

1. Recommend the Spokane City Council support the Renter’s Right to Cooling Ordinance as presented to the board on April 9th, 2026.

ADOPTED by the Spokane Climate Resilience & Sustainability Board by a vote of ___ Ayes & ___ Nays on this 9th day of April, 2026.

Brian G. Henning, CRSB Chair

CRSB

Public Comment

Received

On Renters Right to

Cooling

From: [Jered Sweeney-Demezas](#)
To: [Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board](#)
Subject: In support of the Renters' Right to Cooling Ordinance
Date: Thursday, March 26, 2026 5:52:56 PM

[CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Verify Sender]

Hello,

I am writing in strong support of the Renters' Right to Cooling Ordinance under consideration. Given the increase in extreme heat experienced in Spokane, this is a critical step in protecting our most vulnerable neighbors.

Thank you for considering this ordinance.

Sincerely,
Jered Sweeney-Demezas

From: [Kara Odegard](#)
To: [Snyder, Jon](#); [Parrish, Amanda](#); [Henning, Brian](#)
Cc: [BDS Admin](#)
Subject: Right to Cooling Ordinance
Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026 8:46:49 AM

[CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Verify Sender]

Hello Brian, Amanda, & Jon,

Please consider this email written testimony in support of the Right to Cooling Ordinance that is currently being considered by the CRSB and the City.

This ordinance offers desperately needed protection for some of the people most at-risk to climate change in our community. As you likely know, at least 19 people in the Spokane area lost their lives because of the 2021 heat dome. Prior to this heat event, the term “heat dome” was a little know weather phenomenon. Since then, the term has been used nearly every year by meteorologists across the country. There is a temperature range for human survival with an upper threshold and a lower threshold. With increasing heat waves, it is now clear that our housing policies must establish an upper temperature limit on dwellings just as we have established that lower limit.

Please do what you can to ensure this legislation is passed.

Thank you,
kara

Kara Odegard (she/her)
MEASURE MEANT
founding partner & climate planner
509.939.8665
www.measurepnw.com
kara@measurepnw.com

BRIEFING PAPER: WTE 2026 Legislation Update
City of Spokane
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board
4/9/2026

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:

The state Legislature passed and the Governor signed HB 2416, which supports the City's Waste to Energy Facility. The law will reduce costs associated with Climate Commitment Act compliance for the [Waste to Energy](#) facility by about \$14 million over the next four years. While some compliance costs remain, the avoided costs will assist the City's ratepayers as we work to explore ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the plant. In addition, the law requires the City to develop both a greenhouse gas emission reduction plan and a waste reduction and materials recovery plan as part of that work.

This presentation will go over the details of the adopted legislation and what it means.

Background:

In the 2026 Washington Legislative session, the City of Spokane pursued legislation action for the fair and equitable treatment of the Waste to Energy Facility as it pertains to compliance under the Climate Commitment Act compared to landfills. The approved House Bill 2416 was the result of these efforts. Thanks to Rep. Natasha Hill, Sen. Marcus Riccelli, Local 270 leadership, local environmental leadership and others for their work on this issue.

Relationship to Plans/Actions:

The Waste to Energy Facility is a key part of managing the community's solid waste in an environmentally and financially responsible way. The values and components of our solid waste approach are addressed in the City's Comprehensive Plan, the Sustainability Action Plan, and the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan. Solid Waste Management requirements for local communities are also codified in RCW.

Timeline/ Further Action:

Under the new legislation, the CRSB is intended to serve as an advisory board for the development of two required plans that will cover:

- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction
- Waste Reduction and Materials Recovery

These plans are due by 2030 and will help to define a path forward for long-term compliance with the Climate Commitment Act. Continued engagement between City staff and the CRSB will proceed.

**BRIEFING PAPER: Emergency Interim Actions required to address PFAS at airport
City of Spokane
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board
4/9/2026**

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:

Spokane International Airport (SIA), the City of Spokane, and Spokane County have submitted a plan to the Department of Ecology that details work to provide access to clean drinking water and initiate additional testing of private wells for forever chemicals on the West Plains. CRSB members likely are interested in understanding what is expected of the City and its partners as investigation into PFAS contamination on the West Plains continues.

Background:

The Plan submitted by SIA, the City and County responds to a requirement by the Washington State Department of Ecology to implement “emergency interim actions” in an Ecology-defined area primarily to the north and east of the airport. Ecology will need to approve the plan before implementation begins.

The three partners have proposed a response plan that focuses first on the need for clean water. The Plan will facilitate immediate access to clean drinking water for all property owners and tenants in the defined area.

Ecology listed a PFAS contamination site at SIA in mid-2023. Since that time, SIA has proceeded with a variety of work – assessment, field work, initial PFAS investigation.

In the summer of 2025, the City and County were identified as Potentially Liable Parties (PLPs) at that site because the two local governments own the property at the airport. The City and County signed an agreed order with Ecology related to the cleanup in January 2026. In February, Ecology sent notice that emergency interim actions would be required.

By requirement of the AO, we note that this briefing is not sponsored or endorsed by the Department of Ecology.

Relationship to Plans/Actions:

This plan responds to the emergency interim actions required by Ecology under the Agreed Order between the City and County and Ecology and the Enforcement order between SIA and Ecology. The actions under both orders are governed by the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA).

Timeline/ Further Action:

Work under the proposed plan would begin shortly after the plan is approved by Ecology. An additional long-term plan under the emergency order is due in early May. The Long-Term Interim Action Work Plan is intended to focus on “permanent” clean water solutions for private well owners including installation of “Point of Entry” Treatment Systems and connection to Municipal water.

To achieve a coordinated response by the parties requires ongoing communication with elected officials and appointed members of various boards and commissions in the community.

BRIEFING PAPER: Septic to Sewer Conversion
City of Spokane
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board
4/9/2026

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:

This briefing will provide an introduction to the topic of eliminating septic tanks within the City of Spokane that are within 200 feet of municipal sewer service.

Background:

The City of Spokane strives to protect and enhance the quality of our most precious resource, our aquifer, which was designated as sole source aquifer by the Environmental Protection Agency in 1978. Failing septic systems are a potential source of pollution to our drinking water resources, and homes and businesses within the City are required by Spokane Municipal Code to connect to public sewer service if the sewer is located within 200 feet from the premises ([SMC 13.03.0304](#)). The City has identified approximately 180 infill, already developed properties that meet these criteria.

Relationship to Plans/Actions:

Protecting the health of the aquifer is consistent with the Water Resources chapter of the Sustainability Action Plan, which includes multiple goals around protecting the Spokane River and Aquifer. It is also consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan and Water System Plan that encourage protection and stewardship of the Aquifer.

Additionally, it will support the overall work of the City's Water Utility. As a purveyor of drinking water, we remain committed to protecting the aquifer. Annually, we collect and test more than 2000 water samples to ensure we are meeting all drinking water standards. We deliver up to 150 million gallons of water in our community daily and are the third largest water purveyor in the state of Washington.

Timeline/ Further Action:

A more detailed briefing of a Sewer Connection Incentive Program is anticipated for May's CRSB meeting as well as approval through City Council in the coming weeks.

BRIEFING PAPER: Development Code Modernization
City of Spokane
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board
4/9/2026

Subject:

The City of Spokane is modernizing its development regulations (Title 17) through a project called BuildSpokane. This effort is aligned with the 2026 Comprehensive Plan update and is intended to create a clearer, more effective regulatory framework that supports housing, economic development, and implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

Background:

Title 17 governs zoning, land use, and development standards. Over time, it has become complex, inconsistent, and difficult to use. Many provisions are outdated or do not reflect current policy direction or changes in state law.

BuildSpokane is a full rewrite and reorganization of Title 17 focused on:

- Simplifying and clarifying code language and structure
- Aligning regulations with the Comprehensive Plan
- Removing barriers to housing and investment
- Improving clarity and consistency to support investment
- Streamlining permitting processes

An Issues Assessment has been completed based on stakeholder input and national best practices and will be available to the public as the assessment becomes finalized.

Relationship to Plans/Actions:

Development regulations are the primary tool for implementing the Comprehensive Plan. The BuildSpokane effort focuses on aligning the development code with the PlanSpokane periodic update.

While the code does not establish policy, it determines how those policies are carried out in practice, including elements related to land use, transportation, and infrastructure.

Timeline/ Further Action:

The project is on a compressed schedule with adoption following on the heels of the Comprehensive Plan periodic update by the end of 2026.

Next steps:

- Release of the Issues Assessment
- Draft code development in 2026
- Public review, workshops, and Plan Commission hearings
- City Council adoption by end of 2026

BRIEFING PAPER: Washington Legislative Update/Wrap Up
City of Spokane
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board
4/9/2026

Subject:

The 2026 Washington State Legislative session ended in March. Staff will provide a high-level recap of selected relevant bills that passed and those that did not.

Background:

Recaps on the legislative session are available from selected external organizations below:

- [A wrap on Washington's 2026 legislative session | Climate Solutions](#)
- [Legislative Recap 2026 - Futurewise](#)
- [How the 2026 Washington State Legislative Session Went for Climate and Environmental Justice - Front and Centered](#)
- [2026 Legislative Recap: Disappointment - WA Surfrider](#)
- [Not for Nothing: A recap of the 2026 legislative session - RE Sources](#)
- [Legislative Work - Zero Waste Washington](#)
- [2026 Legislative Session Recap: Fast and Furious - Wildlife Recreation and Coalition](#)
- [Challenges and big wins for conservation during a busy 2026 Washington legislative session - Nature Conservancy](#)
- [2026 Legislative Priorities: Protecting Washington's Rivers, Communities, and Environment — Spokane Riverkeeper](#)
- [Wins, Losses, and What's Ahead: Reflecting on the 2026 Legislative Session - Transportation Choices Coalition](#)

Relationship to Plans/Actions:

The CSRBS may recommend policy considerations to the City Council for potential inclusion in the City's state legislative agenda.

Timeline/ Further Action:

The City Council starts to develop their legislative agenda in late summer and early fall for adoption by December or earlier. The workshop discussion should begin to develop items that the CSRBS could recommend to the Council this summer.