

# Planning for Transit Oriented Development in Spokane

Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board

July 10, 2025



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### Impact of the Railroads and Streetcars

111 45





Spokane and Inland Empire Ralroad: Electrified Interurban Railwaywork

#### Impact of the Railroads and Streetcars

 Trent Avenue and Union Station, Spokane, Wash.





#### Streetcar Network



#### Perry Street









#### SPOKANE 1912

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#### Transit Oriented Development

- Dense
- Mixed-Use, Horizontally or Vertically
- Walkable
- Centered on Transit Hubs





### **TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (TOD)**

# What is it?

In a TOD, land use and transportation are integrated with a transit route at its core where:

"A mix of housing, commercial businesses, jobs and services are concentrated along walkable and bikeable streets within ¼ mile of the transit route."







Hi! My name is Amia and this is my daughter Lili. We love that we can get so much done around our neighborhood bus stop every day.







#### **Economic and Land Use** Impacts of the Spokane **Central City Line**



FINAL | JANUARY 2024



#### **Garland Apartments**



- Address: 951 W. Walton Ave
- Type: Mixed-Use
- Estimated Job Value: \$6.2 M
- Square Footage: 8,686 sq. ft.

# **Crosswalk Youth Center**



- Address: 1440 N. Haven Street
- **Type:** Residential / Admin.
- Estimated Job Value: \$7.6 M
- Square Footage: 44,668

### Millenium Monroe



- Address: 2020 N. Monroe St.
- Type: Mixed-Use
- Estimated Job Value: \$16.3 M
- Square Footage: 117,503 sq. ft.

### North Hill Millenium



- Address: 3909 N. Wall Street
- Type: Mixed-Use
- Estimated Job Value: \$7.3 M
- Square Footage: 50,395 sq. ft.

# Parkview West



- Address: 1309 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.
- Type: Mixed-Use
- Estimated Job Value: \$9,750,000
- Square Footage: 56,161

# **Peyton Building**



- Address: 10 N. Post St.
- Type: Apartments
- Estimated Job Value: \$12 M
- Square Footage: 107,549 sq. ft.

### The Warren



- Address: 206 W. Riverside Ave.
- Type: Apartments
- Estimated Job Value: \$9.0 M
- Square Footage: 130,000 sq. ft.

#### **TOD Planning Process**

- **1:** Assessment
- **2:** Development Concepts
- **3:** Regulatory Recommendations





#### **TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (TOD)**

Identify an approach for transit supportive regulatory changes and priority infrastructure investments that:can be:

SPRAGUE LINE

CITY LINE

applied along highfrequency transit corridors

Image Landsat / Copernicus

 implements the City's Centers & Corridors Growth
 Strategy

MONROE-REGAL LINE

#### **HIGH FREQUENCY TRANSIT**



#### **Premium Transit Service:**

- Comfortable & low impact electric vehicle
- Reliable and frequent
- High quality stations
- More than 1 million rides per year



#### **TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT STUDY**



#### **STATION AREA PLANNING FRAMEWORK**



# **GUIDING PRINCIPLES:**

 Establish a multi-modal transportation corridor by linking stations with a continuous biking and walking facility.

#### **STATION AREA PLANNING FRAMEWORK**



### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES:**

- Establish a multi-modal transportation corridor by linking stations with a continuous biking and walking facility.
- Increase potential ridership through development and activity supporting an active station environment and walking and biking improvements providing direct access between transit and destinations.

#### **STATION AREA PLANNING FRAMEWORK**



### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES:**

- Establish a multi-modal transportation corridor by linking stations with a continuous biking and walking facility.
- Increase potential ridership through development and activity supporting an active station environment and walking and biking improvements providing direct access between transit and destinations.
- Enable station areas to achieve their development potential by supporting transit-oriented infill or redevelopment opportunities for people to live and businesses to thrive near transit.

#### **TOD FUNDAMENTALS & BEST PRACTICES**

Integrate land use and transportation to increase transit ridership + enhance quality of life



#### **TOD FUNDAMENTALS & BEST PRACTICES**

#### **TOD FRAMEWORKS**

TOD Vision

Transit Supportive Land Use

> Development Capacity

> > Circulation

Infrastructure

Implementation







#### **TOD STANDARDS**

Uses

**Densities/FAR** 

**Build-to-Lines** 

**Active Edges** 

Parking

**Building Heights** 

Streets

**Station Area Plan** 





**SPEED:** 

**Greene Street** 

**BARRIER:** 

Hit by a vehicle traveling 20 XXXXXXXXX 9 out of 10 pedestrians survive

Hit by a vehicle traveling

30 XXXXX 5 out of 10 pedestrians survive

Hit by a vehicle traveling 40

1 out of 10 pedestrians survive

**Hamilton Street BARRIER:** 

**Mission Street** 

CHALLENGES


## **STATION LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT**



## **STATION LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT**











INDIANA AVE BIKE LANES

CINCINNATI ST GREENWAY (Example)

PORTUNITIES





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# **STATION LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT**



## ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

**Stations:** ADA accessibility, seating/shelter/fare machines/route schedule & stops map/real time arrival reader

**Destinations:** destinations or transfers at the station

**Intersections:** existing/planned crosswalks, ADA accessible corners, and/or adequate traffic control (signals or signs)

Active uses: presence/lack of buildings with windows and doors oriented to the station and built to the sidewalk

Transit Oriented Development potential: vacant,

underutilized and/or potential redevelopment sites adjacent to the station



### ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

#### Station areas destinations: location of

jobs/population concentrations, anchor uses including public facilities, religious and community services and commercial goods/services/dining.

#### Barriers to destinations and stations: high

traffic, multi-lane streets, lack/presence of traffic control, posted speeds at or above 30 mph, and multiple curb-cuts across sidewalks.

**Station areas walk facilities:** lack or presence of existing/planned sidewalks within ½ mile of the station.

**Station areas bicycle facilities:** lack or presence of existing/planned bike facilities within ½ mile of the station.



### **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**Transit supportive development:** presence of multi-family housing, employment & institutional centers, retail and commercial uses, community facilities and parks/open space.

**Development "gaps":** lack of diverse housing types, density and affordability, daily-needs goods and commercial services, and parks/open spaces.

#### **Transit-Oriented Development potential:**

vacant, underutilized and/or potential redevelopment sites in the station area

# **TRANSIT SUPPORTIVE POLICIES**



## **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

Comprehensive Plan: lack/presence of transit supportive land use and circulation policies. Neighborhood Plan: lack/presence of adopted plans promoting transit supportive land use and circulation. Pedestrian Plan: lack/presence of existing & planned facilities to promote access to destinations and stations. Bicycle Plan: lack/presence of existing & planned facilities to promote access to destinations and stations. North Spokane Corridor & Children of the

**Sun:** viaduct design and future trail planning to impact/ address access to destinations and stations.

**Zoning & Standards:** lack/presence of transitsupportive densities, and pedestrian emphasis building and site design standards.

**Complete Streets:** lack/presence of street standards for promoting complete streets.

**High-Performance Transit Corridors:** Spokane Transit Authority's Plan for future high-performance transit corridors

**Incentives and Programs:** lack/presence of transitoriented development incentives and programs

# **STATION AREA PLANNING FRAMEWORK**





#### STATION ACCESS ROUTES





## ESTABLISH STATION AREA ACCESS ROUTES:

- Address the need for station to station & station to destinations access improvements
- Fill gaps and propose new routes to complete the ped/ bike plan networks
- Inform potential future infrastructure improvements that support transit access

### **STATION AREA ACCESS ROUTES**



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# **STATION AREA PLANNING FRAMEWORK**



## IDENTIFY TOD POTENTIAL:

- Locate vacant, underutilized, & large parking sites.
- Assess station area assets and barriers to transitoriented development
- Address gaps in housing, commercial, employment and public facilities on potential redevelopment sites

# **TOD POTENTIAL**—Initial Review & Analysis

A mix of station and neighborhood streetoriented uses







ATHLETIC CENTER, **NAPA & REGAL STATIONS:** 

Prevalence of vacant/ underutilized and potential redevelopment areas

Good access and visibility from major transportation routes

Adequate resident and employee populations and amenities to support redevelopment



EMPLOYMENT/ CAMPUS & CENTER STATION:

- Supports the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning- Center designation
- Promotes new uses in Centers that stimulate pedestrian activity with mutually reinforcing land use patterns
- Integrates development and transit with improved walk and bike access along key routes



### **Station Area Assets**

- Drive-by-traffic, high visibility, and direct access to downtown & I-90.
- Market supported by GU
   resident and staff population, emerging employment uses, & activity generated from sports facilities
- Aging uses on large sites and predominately single ownership parcels.
- Amenity rich with extensive river frontage and trail network



### **'The Hub' Street-oriented Destination:**

- The right retail configuration (1/4 mile in length), & accessible to high traffic volume street
- Anchored by the GU on the west and the riverfront on the east
- Low traffic street can accommodate a high-quality pedestrian and bike destination
- Edge-to-edge storefronts line the three blocks with anchor uses
- Large floorplate parking structure to serve a variety of district uses



### Anchor'—Grocery: Key to

support retail/entertainment/dining destination and housing.

- Grocery stores add 30% yearly additional sales for adjacent inline shops
- 20,000 to 40,000 SF full service and specialty grocery with housing above.
- Incorporate local models- Yokes, Rosauers, or Fresh Basket
- Site provides excellent access, visibility and strategically located to the PM commute from downtown.



### "Anchor"—River Walk

**Marketplace:** Expand on the River Walk building(s) and uses as a unique local destination

- Showcase local brewers, chefs and local cuisine
- Showcase local boutiques, made in Spokane goods, clothing and accessories.
- Integrate co-working, flex-office
   & makerspaces
- Establish outdoor gathering in front and rear of building with access to the river
- Local example- North Bank's
   Wonder Building



### Waterfront Destination:

Unique attractions and river access to extend the time period spent in the district.

- Strategically locate public access and non-motorized water-craft landings to support "The Hub" at Springfield Street and greater utilization of the riverfront
- Complete the riverfront trail network and connect to the Centennial Trail and river crossings—Iron Bridge and Kardong Bridge



### **Neighborhood Housing District:**

- Range of multi-story **apartments**, condominiums and townhomes
- Opportunities for **affordable**, market rate and mixed income development
- Podium parking or 'wrapped' parking garages reduce parking requirements .5 to 1-per unit.
- Multiple blocks create a **distinct** housing neighborhood
- **Riverfront, enhanced park/trail** and park blocks are amenities to attract higher density and highquality development

Amenities attract high quality development and extend daily use of the district NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING DISTRICT 'Park Block Amenity'





TOD illustration and concept for discussion purposes only and does not represent an adopted plan or funded infrastructure project





### **Sport & Fitness Facility:**

- Warehouse offers an opportunity to expand and serve as an amenity for high density housing
- Expansion to the south could include additional fitness classes and physical training rooms.
- Incorporate a climbing tower and walls to attract student and resident population.
- Add 2nd floor restaurant facility with closed-circuit TV access to Warehouse tournaments and events
- Building could engage and access the Centennial Trail crossing



### **Employment Cluster:**

- Trent Avenue and Spokane Falls provides a 'signature address' for the Health Peninsula with high tech, co-work, education, research and development uses.
- Springfield Avenue parking structure serves the District's retail, commercial, employment and education uses.

# **REGULATORY APPROACH**



### **Issues To Address**

1. Areas of **Transit Supportive Zoning** with regulations potentially **limiting TOD** 



### Encourage Transit Oriented Development

- Reduce parking requirements to allow area for increased housing density and commercial uses
- Increase building height and FAR to support street level commercial with housing



Parking dominates street level

STANDARDS	ZONE	RECOMMENDATION
	FBC-CA-1	
	FBC-CA-2	Increase maximum building height to 70' or 55' abutting RSF zone
	FBC-CA-3	
	FBC-CA-4	Increase maximum building height to <b>55'</b>
BUILDING HEIGHT	CC1	Increase maximum building height to <b>70'- District Centers and</b> <b>Corridors, and 55'- Neighborhood Centers</b> Modify transitional standard within <b>150' of RSF to allow for one</b>
	CC2	additional foot of height per one foot of horizontal distance
	CC4	Increase maximum building height to <b>55'- Neighborhood Centers,</b> <b>District Centers, and Corridors</b> Consider modifying transitional standard for areas within <b>150' of RSF</b> <b>to allow for one additional foot of height per one foot of horizontal</b> <b>distance</b>
	NR	Increase maximum building height to <b>55'</b>
	NMU	
	RMF	Increase maximum building height to <b>55', except where higher limit</b> is allowed
	RHD	Increase maximum building height to <b>70', except where higher limit</b> is allowed



#### Assessment:

 Current height standards limit density, land efficiency and may serve as a barrier to vertical mixed-use development and some middle housing types

#### **Recommendation:**

- Increase maximum building height
- Allow for 1 foot of height for every 1 foot of horizontal distance within 150' of RSF zone

STANDARDS	ZONE	RECOMMENDATION
	FBC-CA-1	Consider reducing required parking spaces to a minimum of <b>one space per 1,000</b> square feet of floor area for nonresidential uses; and
	FBC-CA-2	for residential uses within 500' of the transit line consider a <b>graduated range such as 0 for 1 to 30 units; 0.2 per unit for 31-40 units; 0.25 per unit for 41-50 units; and 0.33</b>
	FBC-CA-3	per unit for 51+ units.
VEHICLE PARKING	FBC-CA-4	Consider offering incentives such as FAR or minimum lot area bonuses for voluntary reduction in parking spaces
	CC1	Consider reducing non-residential minimums and a graduated range of reduced
	CC2	parking for residential uses
	CC4	
	GC	Consider reducing non-residential minimums and a graduated range of reduced parking for residential uses
	NR	Consider reducing non-residential minimums and a graduated range of reduced
	NMU	parking for residential uses
	RMF	Consider establishing a maximum number of spaces
		Consider offering incentives such as FAR or minimum lot area bonuses for voluntary reduction in parking spaces
		Consider a graduated range of reduced parking for residential uses as above.



#### Assessment:

 Current parking requirements may increase development costs; and development may result in barriers to pedestrian circulation and walkability

#### **Recommendation:**

- Reduce required number of parking spaces
- Offer incentives such as FAR or minimum lot area bonuses for voluntary reduction in parking spaces

# **TRACK ONE: MODIFY BASE ZONE**

STANDARDS	ZONE	RECOMMENDATION
	FBC-CA-1	
	FBC-CA-2 FBC-CA-3	No changes recommended
	FBC-CA-3 FBC-CA-4	
	CC1	
	CC2	Consider required percentage of <b>building frontage to 70%</b>
BUILDING	CC4	
ORIENTATION	NR	Same as above.
	NMU	
	RMF	Consider establishing a consistent minimum 50% building frontage





#### Assessment:

 Current standards may result in gaps in building frontage

#### **Recommendation:**

 Increase minimum required building frontage to 70% for non-residential and 50% for residential

# **REGULATORY APPROACH**



### **Issues To Address**

- Areas of Transit Supportive Zoning with regulations potentially limiting TOD
- 2. Areas of **Non-Transit Supportive** Zoning



### **Rezone Non-Transit Supportive Areas**

- Consider rezone at McCarthey Athletic Center Station from General Commercial to C-C-1
- Consider rezone at Regal Station from Community Business and Industrial to NMU zone designation

# **CAPITAL FACILITIES INVESTMENT**



### Reduce Barriers & Challenges to Transit Access

 Identify and fund enhanced crossing improvements along
 Mission, Greene, Hamilton & Spokane Falls/Trent to address speed and ped/bike conflicts.





Figure 33. Summary map of plan recommendations including changes to zoning and public investments.

#### Land Use Framework

The zoning categories mapped below and described in the following pages help structure assumptions about allowed and likely development outcomes through the 2047 growth planning horizon. These categories are simplifications of existing zones and/or future zones that will be developed following plan adoption.



Figure 40. The proposed land use/zoning strategy recommends changes to zoning in the district, including long-term modifications of the Hamilton Form-Based Code and Center and Corridor zones.

#### **Zoning Categories**

Mixed-Use – 150': Based on Centers and Corridors (CC) zoning for Employment Centers (CC1-EC), this category would allow residential, commercial, or mixed-use development with a height limit of 150 ft.



Figure 41. Mixed Use – 150 expected building type examples include midrise (5-7 stories) mixeduse and residential buildings, and office, biotech or academic buildings.

**Mixed-Use – 75'**: Based on the Hamilton Form-Based Code's Context Area 1 (CA-1), this category would allow residential, commercial, or mixed-use development with a height limit of 75 ft. Existing similar zones in Spokane have height limits of 55 ft or 150 ft.



Figure 42. Mixed Use – 75 expected building type examples include midrise mixed-use and residential buildings.

**Residential High – 55'**: This category primarily allows residential uses with a height limit of 55 feet and is based on the existing Residential High Density (RHD) zone. Residential zones (including RHD) include special provisions and design standards for educational institutions.



*Figure 43. Residential High - 55 expected building type examples include midrise and low-rise residential buildings.* 

### Division Transit-Oriented Development Study FTA TOD Pilot Program

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# DIVISION STREET TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT





# engage.spokane.gov/division-tod









### **Project Purpose**

"Enable the City, County, and STA to support future development that achieves transit-supportive conditions around major **Bus Rapid Transit** stations."



#### The Division Street TOD project will:





Develop a Corridor-Wide Vision

Conduct Node-Specific Economic Analysis



Provide Transit-Oriented Land Use Recommendations



Enhance Connectivity and Multimodal Infrastructure



Establish a Development Policy Framework



Integrate Environmental Justice Principles



Provide a Roadmap



### **Project** area









# engage.spokane.gov/division-tod





**Questions and Discussion**