



**Spokane Park Board  
Development & Volunteer / Citizen Advisory  
Committee**  
**12:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 11, 2026**  
In-person and Webex virtual meeting  
Fianna Dickson – Marketing & Communications

**Committee members:**

**DVCAC:**

- X Elizabeth Goldsmith – Chair / Comstock Neighborhood Council
- X Laura Ackerman / ~~Jeff Lambert (Alternate)~~ – Friends of the Bluff  
Jennifer Ogden / Cole Taylor (Alternate) – Friends of Riverfront Park (*absent/excused*)
- X Paul Lindholdt – Friends of Palisades
- X Kathryn Kolquist – Friends of Manito Park
- X Delaney Carr – Friends of Coeur d’Alene
- X Sandy Wicht – Community Assembly

**DVC:**

- X Lee Williams – Acting Chair/Park Board
- X Bob Anderson – Park Board  
Gerry Sperling – Park Board (*absent/excused*)
- X Lindsey Shaw – Park Board (*arrived 12:04*)
- X Elizabeth Goldsmith – DVCAC representative

**Park staff**

Fianna Dickson  
Sarah Deatrich  
Nick Hamad  
Garrett Jones

**Guests**

Shawn Terjeson

**Minutes**

1. **Call to order** – The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by DVC Committee chair Lee Williams. See list above for attendance.
  
2. **Public comment:** Elizabeth Goldsmith said she attended a meeting of the Park Board Riverfront Park Committee and thought it was fabulous. She expressed deep appreciation for everything Jon Moog, Riverfront Park Director, has been able to accomplish within the

park.

### 3. **DVCAC standing reports:**

Seeing new faces in the group, Lee called for introductions around the room.

#### A. DVCAC member news – Elizabeth Goldsmith

##### Friends of the Bluff – Laura Ackerman

Laura reported that there will be an appreciation event on March 24 at the Women's Club, and on March 21 there will be a brush planting event with the help of Nick Jeffries, Wildland Resource Planner for the Spokane Fire Department.

##### Friends of Manito – Kathryn Kolquist

Kathryn reported that the Friends of Manito had brunch for their plant sale volunteers this morning. Plant sale dates are set for June 6 and August 15 with possible pop-up sales, dates TBD. An art festival will be held on June 13.

##### Lincoln Park – Guest Shawn Terjeson

A weed pluck is planned for May 30.

##### Friends of Palisades – Paul Lindholdt

Paul brought up several issues that he hopes can be addressed at some point because of the passage of the levy.

- Closing Assembly between Bonnie and Greenwood where there is a lot of illegal dumping, drug use, and illegal camping.
- Improving parking and signage at Greenwood and at Houston in hopes of thwarting scofflaws.
- Identifying future trails to be improved, named, and mapped.
- Preplanning for a bridge to span the railroad track and connect Palisades with the Centennial Trail.

The Friends' annual Spring cleanup will be held on April 25.

##### Friends of Coeur d'Alene Park – Delaney Carr

Delaney summarized events held at the park: Saturday farmer's markets, the Spokane Farmer's Market (starting in May), and summer concert series (mid-June through mid-August). The group has been in contact with Parks Planners to talk about restroom, playground, and accessibility upgrades. Delaney also talked about an upcoming cleanup event at Overlook Park.

##### Friends of Comstock – Elizabeth Goldsmith

The group has been working on their bylaws and are delighted to have received their draft MOU. The Friends also have a new logo.

### 4. **DVCAC discussion items:**

#### A. [Parks Levy/Together Spokane update](#) – Nick Hamad

Parks outreach process can be summed up in four categories. 1) The Parks Master Plan identified top community priorities for park improvement through extensive outreach from 2021-2023; 2) The levy package combined top community requested projects into a funding

package, partnered with SPS for efficiencies from 2023-2025; 3) Prioritizing and planning consists of condition assessments, equity investment zones, needs/level of service, and funding opportunities. Annual work plans to be approved by the Board; 4) Design outreach and engagement will be conducted through neighborhood input throughout the duration of the levy.

Nick clarified the difference between a levy and a bond, informing the group that bond funds are received in full and levy funds are distributed twice per year when property taxes are paid. Parks will receive an estimated \$12 million per year over 20 years. The Park Board chose a model which prioritizes capital projects throughout the first few years to accomplish some visible work. Staff hiring will ramp up over the next three years with Rangers as first priority.

Over the last couple years, planning staff have been evaluating the physical condition of assets within every park. Additionally, they have been evaluating previous investments and equity, needs (what should we build), and opportunities for donations/partnerships/grants. Project priority will be determined using the results of these evaluations. Another prioritization is spreading work out so that each district receives a representative amount of work every year.

Nick outlined the 2026 levy project goals: 1) widespread minor repair and improvement; 2) prioritize highest rated community desires; 3) significant investment in each council district; 4) leveraging existing grants and partnerships; and 5) beginning construction on the first 'major project'.

10 construction bids have been planned for January through May this year. Four are currently advertised; bids have been received on three; and three are to be advertised.

2027 projects list will go in front of the Park Board for approval in the fall of this year.

#### B. DVC/DVCAC and staff collaboration and support – Garrett Jones

Since the levy passed, several groups and citizens have come forward with their wants and needs. Parks uses the Park Board approved framework as a guide for decisions pertaining to project, timelines, and funding. Garrett expressed need for help with spreading information so that maximum citizens are aware when Parks will be in neighborhoods doing outreach. He also mentioned possible informational QR codes. Additionally, Garrett talked about help with fundraising – determining what projects to fundraise for, and how to proceed. Parks will be establishing a method to track incoming inquiries and will bring it to a future meeting to gather suggestions and comments.

C. Follow up to presentation – due to time constraint, there was no formal follow up to the presentations.

#### 5. **DVCAC action items:**

A. None

#### 6. **DVC action items**

A. None

7. **DVC discussion items**

A. 2025 volunteer report & role of Park Liaison to DVC/DVCAC – Fianna Dickson

Due to lack of time, Fianna's report was tabled until next meeting.

8. **DVC standing reports:**

A. None

9. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

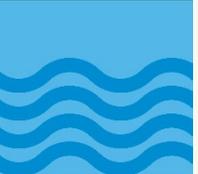
The next regularly scheduled meeting is 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, 2026, in-person in the Finch Arboretum Ponderosa Room, and virtually via Webex.



# **Together Spokane Parks. Schools. Neighborhoods.**

**Park Capital Project Prioritization Framework &  
2026 Park Capital Project List**

**March DVCAC Update**

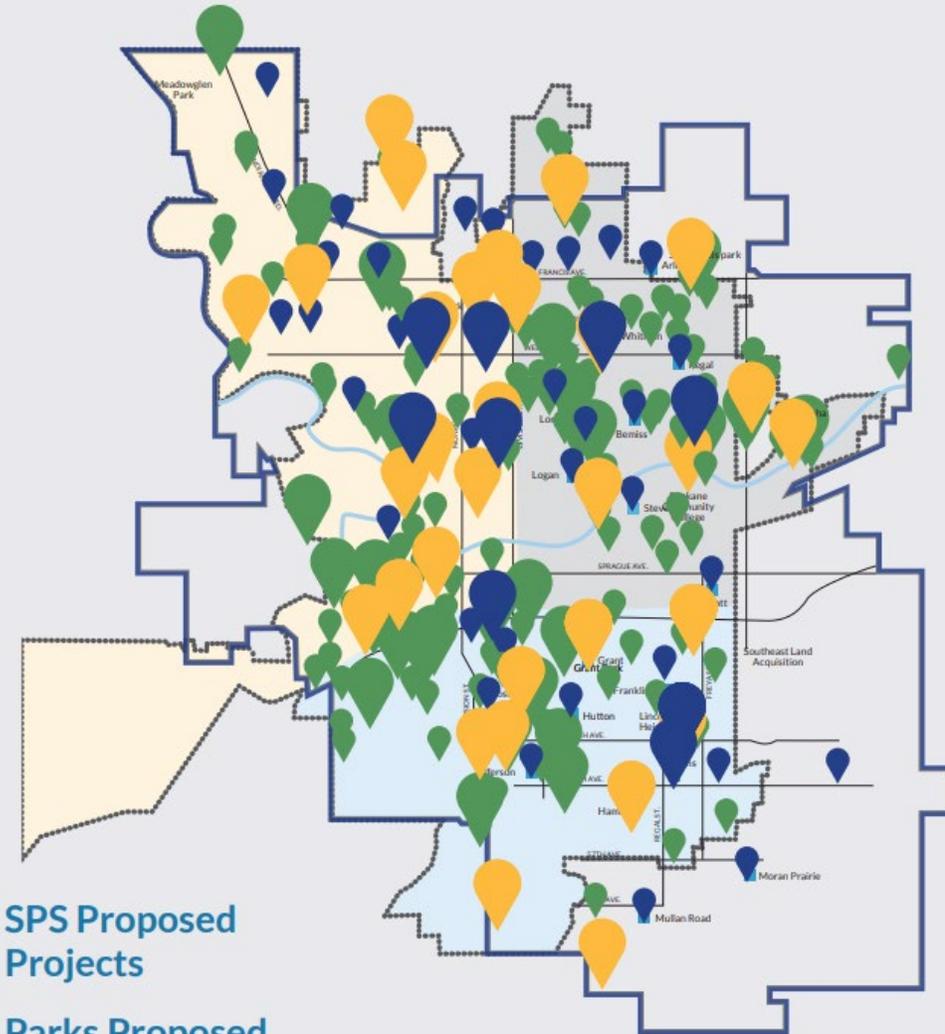


Community Members Expect Action  
Quickly...In their neighborhood.  
*We all want our parks to be better!*

# So Now What?

## Agenda

- *Outreach Process To Date*
- *Levy funding reminder*
- *How does Parks prioritize projects*
- *2026 Project List & Locations*
- *Bidding Update*
- *Q&A on questions*
- *Design / Project Outreach*



- SPS Proposed Projects
- Parks Proposed Projects
- Partnership Proposed

# Outreach Process & Where We're At



Master Plan: identified top community priorities for park improvements, built through extensive outreach (2021-2023)



Levy Package: combined top community-requested projects into funding package, partnered with Spokane Public Schools for efficiencies (2023-2025)



Prioritization/Planning: condition assessments, equity investment zones, needs/level of service, and funding opportunities. Annual work plan approved by boards. (2025 – ongoing)



Design Outreach & Engagement: Levy projects will be designed through neighborhood input (2026 – 2046)

# Levy Funding - Revenue Allocation

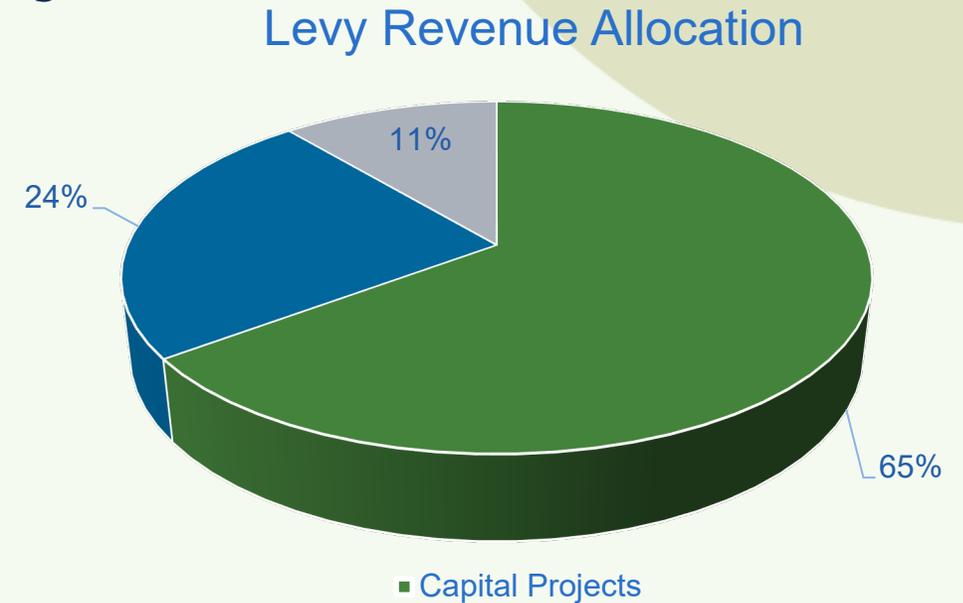
- **\$12M / year avg. revenue** (not \$240M at once)
- **\$9.6M revenue expected in 2026**
  - \$4.8M in May
  - \$4.8M in November

Levy is best for 'Ongoing, steady investments'.

# Levy Funding - Expense Allocation

## Board Direction

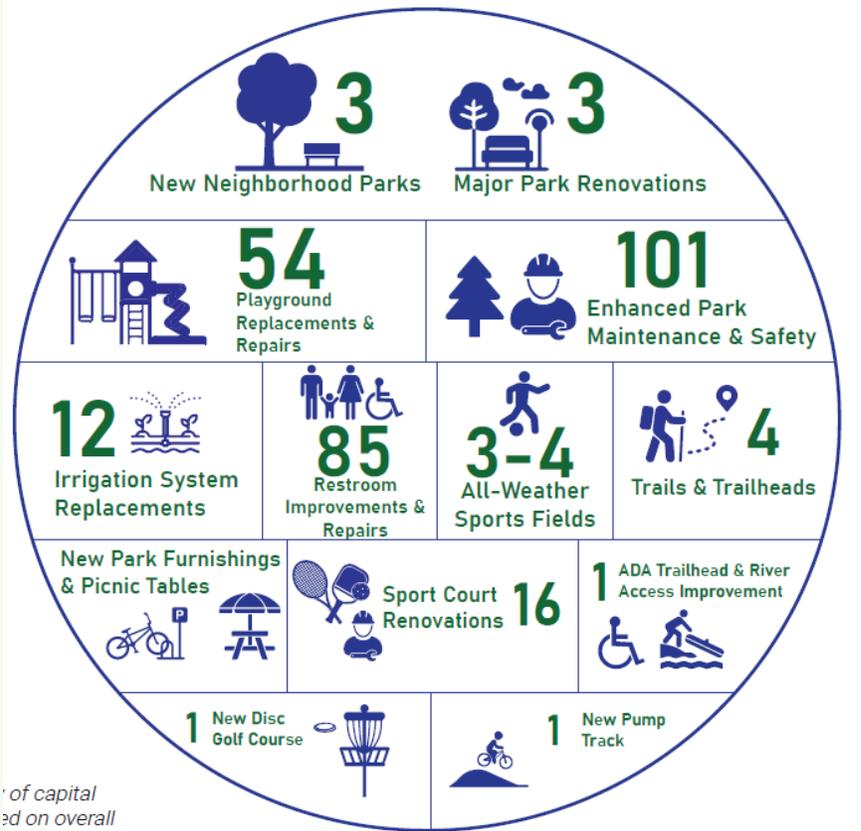
- *Prioritize Projects early in levy*
- *3 year operational 'ramp-up'*
  
- *\$7.0M Capital projects*
- *\$1.3M operations*
- *\$1.3M fund balance*



Levy is best for 'Ongoing, steady investments.'

# How do We Prioritize Projects?

- Program Manual Outlines:
  - Approved types of expenses
  - Allocation to projects / operations



of capital  
ed on overall



**HEALTHY PARKS,  
HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS**  
Citywide Park Renovation & Improvement

A Part of Together Spokane  
Parks. Schools. Neighborhoods.

Initial program adopted by Park Board in October 2023.  
Updated program (this document) adopted in April 2025.



# Project Prioritization Framework



- **Park Condition**
  - Maintenance need
  - Physical condition
  - performance
- **Needs & LOS**
  - Previous community input
  - System analysis
  - System Gaps
- **Equity Investment**
  - Geographical spread
  - Previous investment
- **Opportunity**
  - Donations / Partnerships / Grants
  - Community initiatives & funding

# Detailed Project Prioritization

 <b>Park Capital Project Prioritization</b>					
Rating Criteria	Description	Scale	Weighting	Weighted Scale	
<b>PARK CONDITIONS</b>				<b>25 pts possible</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Risk to Health, Safety, Environment</b>	Physical safety hazard present. Use of asset of facility may cause failure resulting in harm to user.	0-5	2	0-10	
<b>Asset condition, annual repair costs</b>	Improvement in parks and facilities that are in failing to poor condition. Investment required to retain asset or restore asset for continued use.	0-5	2	0-10	
<b>Historical Capital Investment</b>	Level of historical park/facility investment	0-5	1	0-5	
<b>NEEDS &amp; LEVEL OF SERVICE</b>				<b>35 pts possible</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>Community Identified Need</b>	Asset or amenity identified as community desire by public input & survey. Improvement is a Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 community desire.	0-5	2	0-10	
<b>Technical Assessment Identified Need</b>	Asset or amenity identified in technical system review as needed. Improvement enhances maintenance & operation service delivery or recreational program service delivery, yielding cost savings or revenue increase.	0-5	1	0-5	
<b>O&amp;M or Programming Service Improvement</b>	Improves level of park service by adding new recreation or park amenity on existing City land.	0-5	2	0-10	
<b>Service Level Increase Using Ex. Land</b>	Improves level of park service by adding new recreation or park amenity on existing City land.	0-5	2	0-10	
<b>EQUITY INVESTMENT</b>				<b>15 pts possible</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Social &amp; Environmental Equity Zone</b>	Improvement is within established social & environmental equity zones (N/A, low, med, high).	0-5	1	0-5	
<b>Geographic Park Gap</b>	Improvement enhances neighborhood park access and is within identified park gap	0-5	2	0-10	
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>				<b>25 pts possible</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Master Plan Strategic Project</b>	Identified as strategic project is most recent park master plan update.	0-5	2	0-10	
<b>Unique Partnership Opportunity</b>	Grant, partnership or sponsorship opportunity available to improve public park service.	0-5	1	0-5	
<b>Unique Environmental Benefit</b>	Environmentally unique, valuable, or sensitive opportunity.	0-5	1	0-5	
<b>Unique Cultural Benefit</b>	Provides historic or artistic benefit to community.	0-5	1	0-5	
<b>total points possible</b>				<b>100</b>	

# 2026 Projects - Goals

1. Widespread minor repair & improvement
2. Prioritize highest rated community desires
  - Playgrounds – Restrooms – Sport Courts
3. Significant investment in each council district
4. Leverage existing grants & partnerships
5. Begin construction on the 1<sup>st</sup> ‘major project’

*Establish the  
‘new normal’*

*Minor Repairs*

–

*Design*

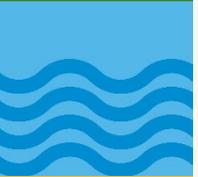
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*Construction*

# Widespread Minor Improvement

## Minor Park Repairs – (2026)

- Citywide New Playground Chips



# 2026 minor repairs

- Citywide Broken Playground Component Replacement



# 2026 minor repairs

- 2 new wide area mowers



# 2026 minor repairs

- 3 Aquatic Center Deck Repairs +
- 3 Aquatic Center Pump & Control System Repairs



# 2026 minor repairs

- Japanese Garden Roof Replacement



- *Also:*  
Corbin Art Center  
Veranda Repair



# 2026 minor repairs

- Misc Concrete & Wood Repairs



# Capital Improvement

*play | restroom | sport court*

## Park Capital Projects

- 2-3 sport court replacements
  - Whittier Park
  - Riverfront



# 2026 Projects

- 3-4 playground & restroom replace (design)
  - CDA Park
  - Harmon Park
  - Lincoln Park
- +1-3 restroom or playground reno's *neighbor preference*
  - *Friendship*
  - *Westgate*



# 2026 Projects

- 3 new parking lots / trailheads
  - Beacon Hill
  - Riverfront



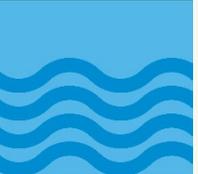
# 2026 Projects

- 1 new park pathway
  - Franklin



# 2026 Projects

- 1 irrigation replacement  
Cannon Hill
- + 1 irrigation design

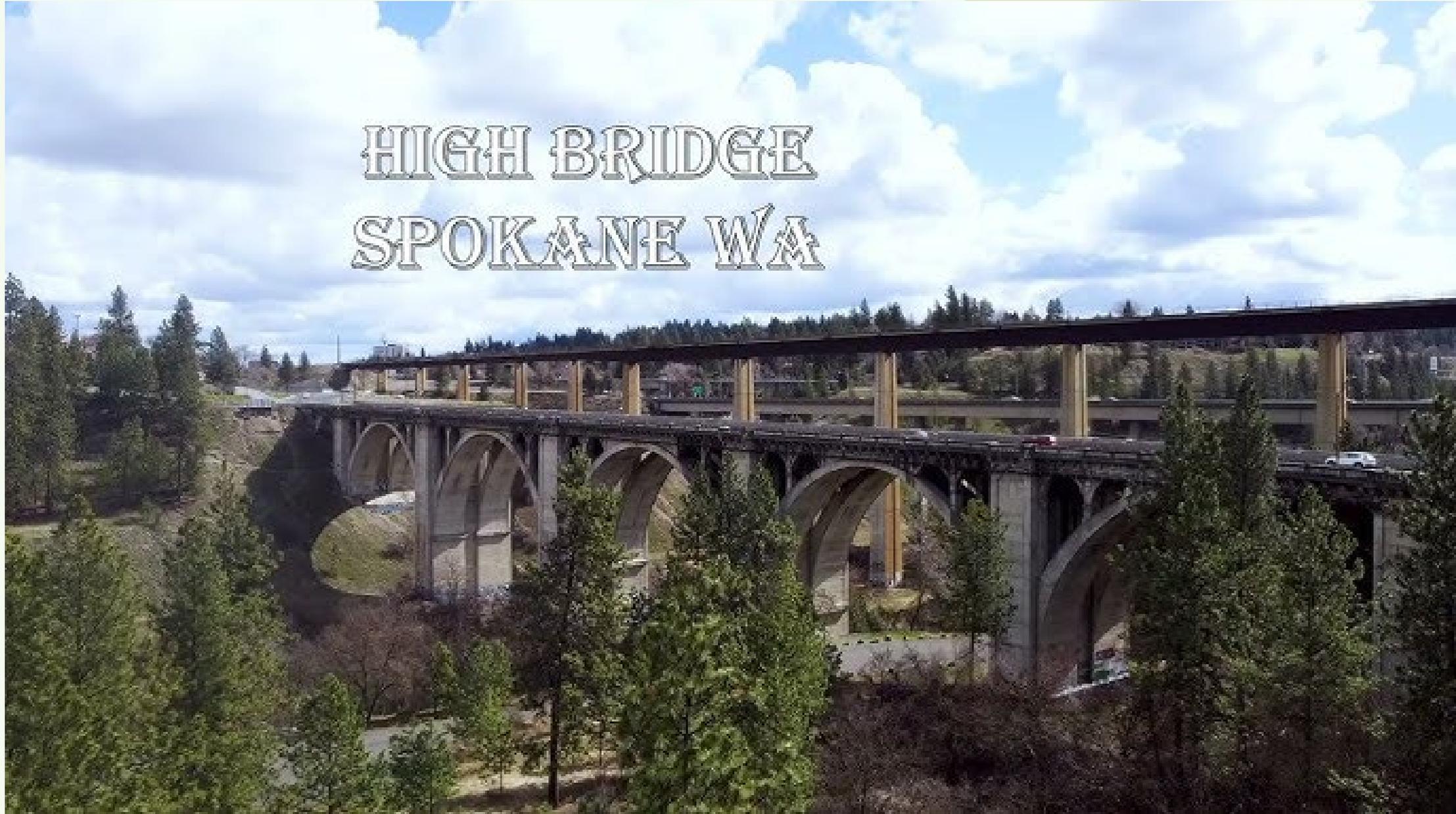
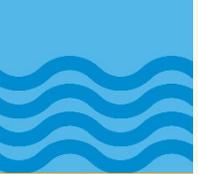


# 2026 Projects

- 1 new dog park



# 2026 Projects • 1 new disc golf course



# 2026 Projects

- 1 landscape renovation



**UPPER CLIFF PARK  
CLOSED FOR REPAIR**



Spokane Public Schools



# 2026 Projects

- 1 new park! + 1 major reno design



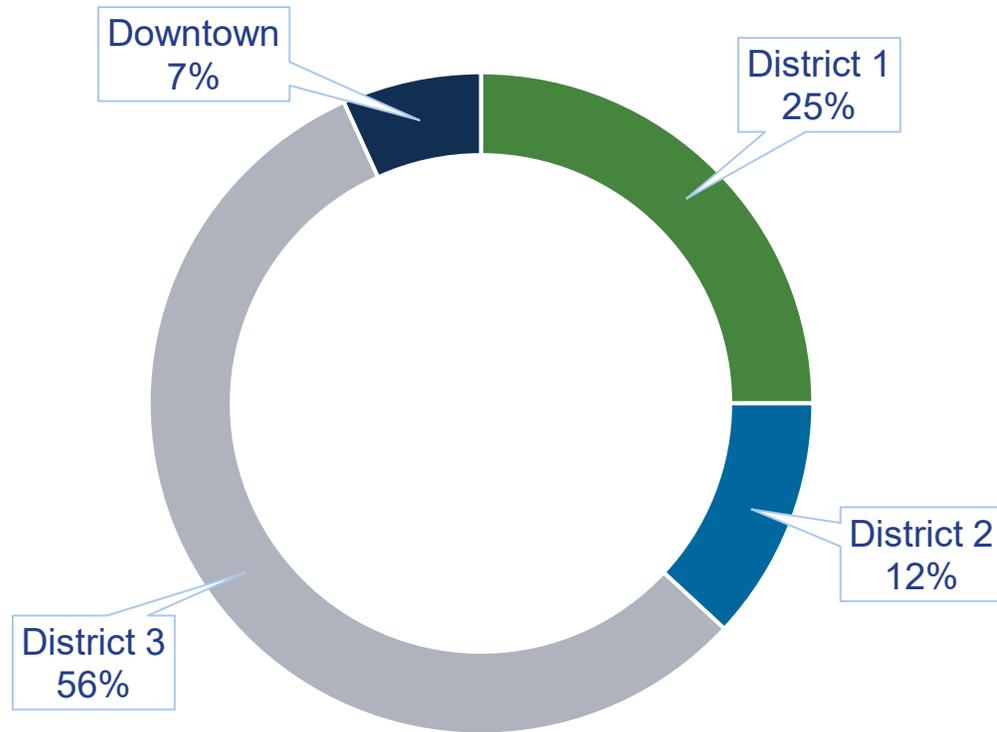




# District Investment

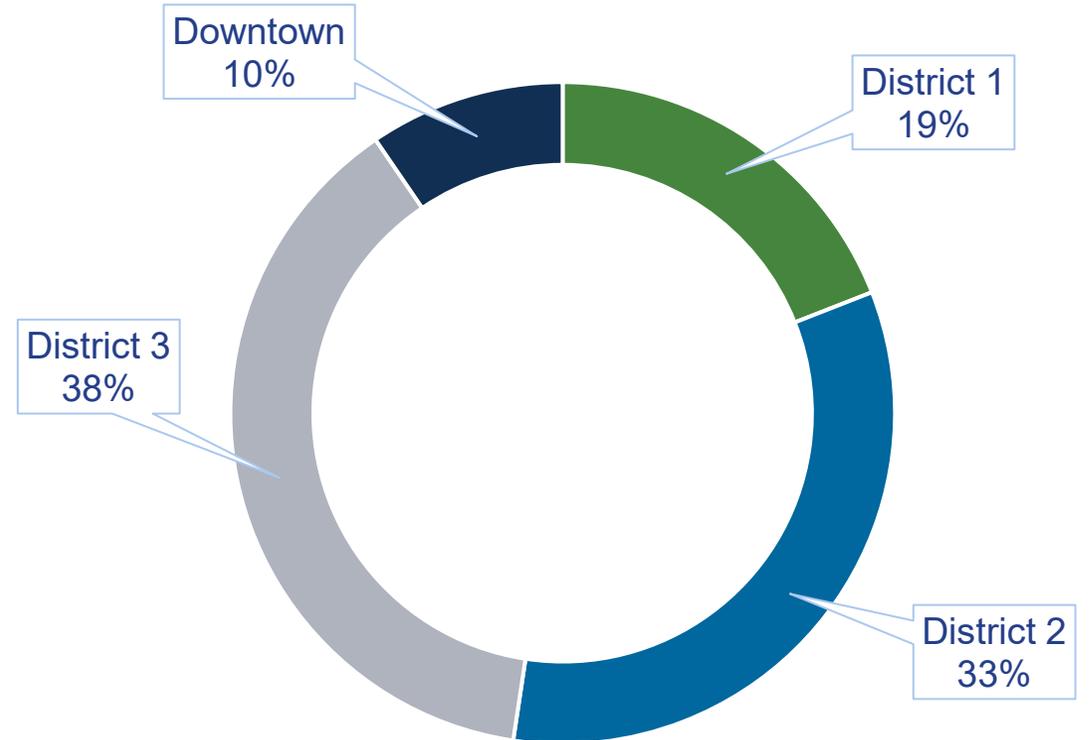
**+/- \$12M in 2026 investment**  
\$7.0M+ levy + \$3.5M grants + \$1.5M local

## Project Value



■ District 1 ■ District 2 ■ District 3 ■ Downtown

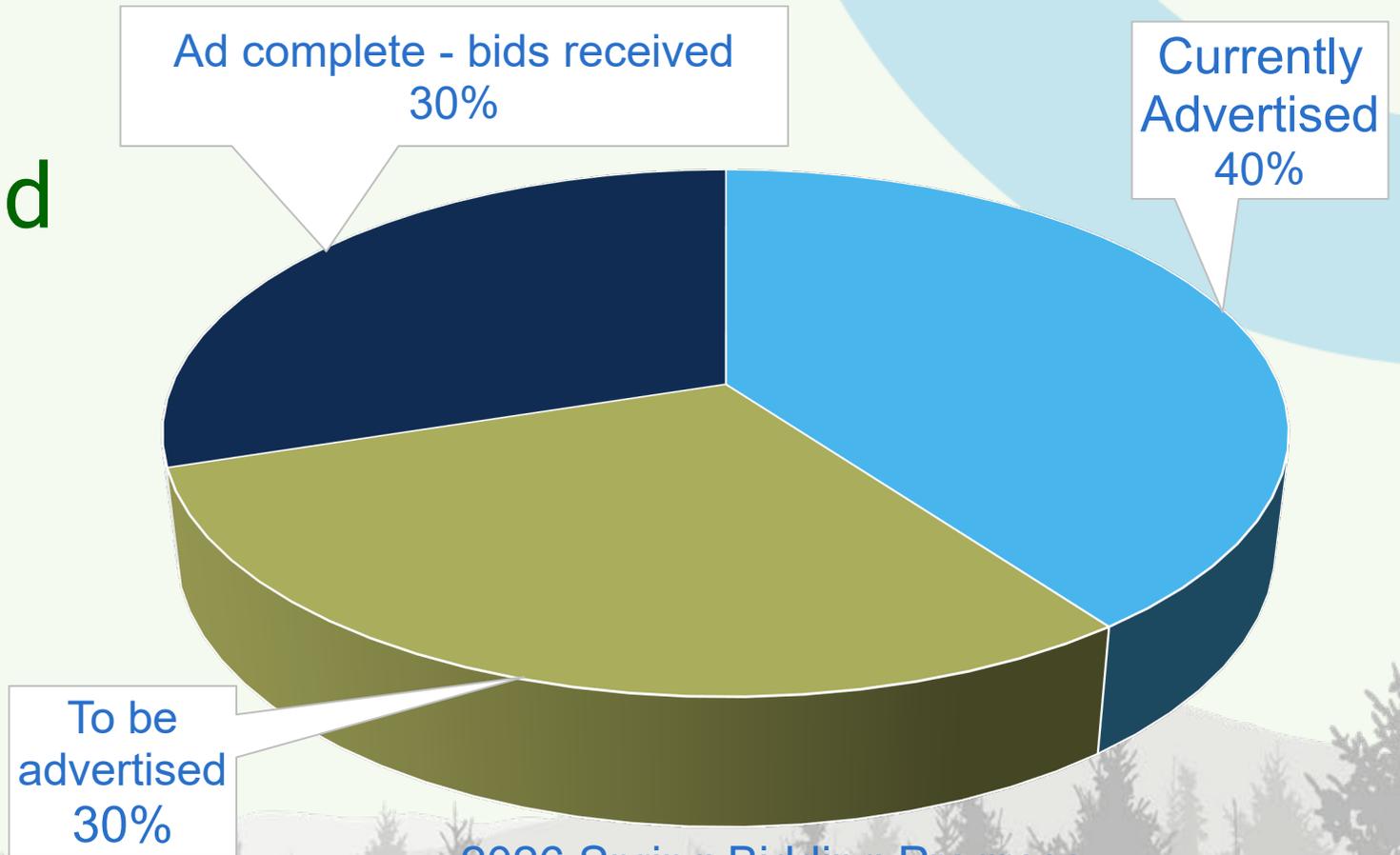
## Project Quantity



■ District 1 ■ District 2 ■ District 3 ■ Downtown

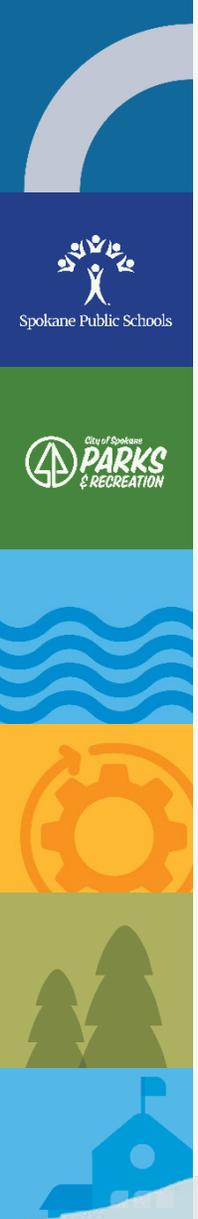
# Spring Construction Bidding

- 10 Construction Bids planned (Jan-May)
- 4 current 'on ad'
- 3 remaining to ad
- 3 bid received



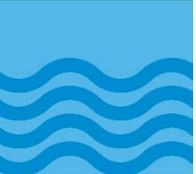
2026 Spring Bidding Progress

■ Currently Advertised ■ To be advertised ■ Ad complete - bids received ■



# 2026 Work Progress & Next Steps

- **December 2025**
  - Park Board Adopted 2026 Project List
- **January 2026 - April 2026:**
  - Bid & contract 'shovel ready' work
  - Hire A&E, begin design for additional projects
  - Begin hiring recruitment
- **May 2026**
  - First Levy funding arrives, begin implementation
- **Fall 2026**
  - 2027 Projects adopted by Park Board



# Lot's of these signs coming soon!

## **RENOVATED RESTROOM AT SHARPLEY HARMON PARK**



**start date – end date**

**Your voter-approved City of Spokane  
Parks & Recreation levy dollars at work!**



For more information, visit:  
[TogetherSpokane.org/restroom-replacements-renovations](https://www.togetherspokane.org/restroom-replacements-renovations)



**Questions on Projects?**

**Future Outreach Process' Next...**



# Design Outreach & Engagement

- Before we design anything – additional neighborhood outreach
  - Share concepts to spur discussion
  - In-person: dot exercises and comment cards
  - Online: survey and voting options
- TogetherSpokane.org updates, “follow” button to receive notices and input opportunities on specific projects
- Reach audiences multiple times in various ways
- Tiered communications approach
  - Irrigation vs. playground vs. full park renovation
- Volunteers are key to helping amplify, share

