



Spokane Park Board Land Committee

3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jun. 1, 2022

WebEx virtual meeting

Call in: 408-418-9388 Access code: 2487 084 0063

Al Vorderbrueggen – Operations Director

Committee Members:

Greta Gilman – Chair

Sally Lodato

Hannah Kitz

Kevin Brownlee

The Land Committee meeting will be held virtually via WebEx teleconferencing at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jun. 1, 2022. The public will be able to listen to the meeting by calling 408-418-9388 and entering the access code 2487 084 0063 when prompted.

Written public comment may be submitted via email or mail. Comments must be received no later than 11:30 a.m. Jun. 1 by email to: spokaneparks@spokanecity.org or mail to: Spokane Park Board, 5th floor City Hall, 808 West Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, Washington 99201. Submitted public comments will be presented to meeting attendees prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

Call to order – Greta Gilman

Public comment – Greta Gilman

Action Items:

1. [McKinstry, Co., LLC on-call plumbing services for Park Operations additional encumbrance of \\$17,800 \(\\$65,800 annually\)](#) – Carl Strong
2. [McKinstry, Co. LLC on-call plumbing services for Park Operation \(\\$75,000.00 annually\)](#) – Carl Strong
3. [Spokane County interlocal agreement/John H. Shields Park \(no cost\)](#) – Nick Hamad / Paul Knowles
4. [Avista Corporation donated conservation easement/Beacon Hill \(no cost\)](#) – Paul Knowles
5. [Resolution adopting Natural Lands master plan \(no cost\)](#) – Nick Hamad

Discussion items:

1. [HAWK pedestrian signals at Franklin Park and Nevada Park Letter of Support](#) – Dan Buller
2. [2244 N. Pettet Drive private sewer easement request/Downriver Park \(~\\$8/square foot revenue\)](#) – Tom Ehrling / Nick Hamad

3. [Spokane River Forum Update/Redband Park and Riverfront Park](#) – Andy Dunau

Standing Report Items:

Adjournment

Agenda Subject to Change

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. 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 509.625.6363, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA, 99201; or erahrclerks@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.

Updated: 10/21/2019 3:23 PM

Bid Response Summary

Bid Number IPWQ 5637-22
Bid Title Parks Plumbing, On Call Services
Due Date Monday, May 2, 2022 9:00:00 AM [(UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)]
Bid Status Closed to Bidding
Company McKinstry
Submitted By Steven Labrenz - Thursday, April 28, 2022 11:11:32 AM [(UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)]
 StevenL@mckinstry.com 5096253139

Comments**Question Responses**

Group	Reference Number	Question	Response
BIDDER ACKNOWLEDGMENTS			
	#1	Bidder Acknowledges receipt of Addenda by entering quantity of Addenda here (enter 0 if none have been issued):	0
	#2	Bidder agrees and acknowledges that is has read Bid IPWQ 5637-22, Plumbing Services, PW On Call Maintenance Services; City of Spokane Parks Department, that is attached in the Documents Tab, and understands the specifications, and confirms it will comply with all instructions, terms, and conditions of this Bid, at the prices stated	I agree and I acknowledge
	#2.1	If you took exception explain in detail	
	#3	By submitting a bid, Contractor acknowledges that they have read and understand the General Conditions Document in the 'Documents' tab.	I agree and I acknowledge
	#4	Provide the name, phone number and email address for point of contact person regarding this Bid.	Steven Labrenz, 907-251-9556, stevenl@mckinstry.com
	#5	Provide the name, phone number, and email address for the person in your Firm that would potentially sign a contract through the DocuSign process used by the City.	Paul Steinheiser, 206-391-1673, PaulSt@mckinstry.com
DOCUMENTS TO UPLOAD:			
	#1	Bidder must complete Bid, Pages 5 and 6, upload here.	McKinstry response form.pdf
	#2	Bidder must complete Subcontractor List, Page 7, upload here.	McKinstry response form.pdf
	#3	Upload Addenda documents if applicable and if not combined with uploaded Bid response.	

#4

Upload any other information required or desired. Combine documents as needed. Only one document can be uploaded in this line item

CITY OF SPOKANE

Bid: IPWQ 5637-22

Parks Plumbing ,on call services

Bid Due 9:00 AM, May 2, 2022

SECTION 1. BID PREPARATION AND EVALUATION

1. **SUBMISSION OF BIDS.** Bids shall be submitted electronically through the City's ProcureWare site by 9:00AM, Pacific Local Time, Monday, May 2, 2022.
2. **CONTRACTOR'S REPRESENTATION.** The Contractor by making its Bid represents that it has read and understands the specification; and has visited the site and familiarized itself with the local conditions under which the Work is to be performed.
3. **QUALIFICATION.** Prior to the award of Contract, the Contractor shall be required to submit evidence of sufficient facilities, equipment, experience and financial ability to insure completion of the Work, unless waived by the City.
4. **AWARD OF CONTRACT.** Award of Contract, when made by the City, will be to lowest responsive responsible bidder based on hourly rate. Unsuccessful Contractors will not automatically be notified of results. The contract is awarded from this Invitation to Bid will be for a two (2) year period with a two (2) (1) one year options for renewal.
5. **EXECUTION OF CONTRACT.** Within ten (10) days of contract award, the Contractor shall sign and return to the City an executed copy of the contract and payment/performance bonds and approved evidence of insurance unless otherwise mutually agreed by the City and Contractor.
6. **INVOICING.** Invoices must be submitted to Parks & Recreation within 30 days of performing the work.
 - Invoices shall include the location and type of services performed, detailed hours and rate per hour, and on site contact that approved services.
 - Invoices shall reference and list OPR #2019-XXXX and approved Intent to Pay Prevailing Wage Number.
 - Payment of invoices shall be contingent upon receipt of sufficient detail to permit identification of the services performed and compliance with contract conditions. Original invoices are required and shall not be approved for payment until all services per request have been satisfactorily performed. Invoices shall be mailed to Parks & Recreation, 5th Floor City Hall, 808 West Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane WA, 99201
7. **PAYMENT.** **Payment will be made via direct deposit/ACH after receipt of the Contractor's application except as provided by law.** If the City objects to all or any portion of the invoice, it shall notify the Contractor and reserves the right to only pay that portion of the invoice not in dispute. In that event, the parties shall immediately make every effort to settle the disputed amount.

8. REJECTION OF BIDS. The City reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, to waive minor deviations from the specifications, to waive minor informalities in Bid process whenever it is in the City's best interest, and to accept or reject all or part of this Invitation To Bid, at the prices shown.

9. CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION. The Contractor shall be a Washington State registered or licensed contractor at the time of Bid submittal.

10. PUBLIC WORK REQUIREMENTS.

The work under this contract is classified as routine maintenance under state law.

- A. A payment/performance bond is NOT required.
- B. Statutory retainage is NOT required.

11. PREVAILING WAGES.

- A. The State prevailing rate of wages to be paid to all workmen, laborers or mechanics employed in the performance of any part of this Contract shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 39.12 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) and the rules and regulations of the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries. (L&I).
- B. The State of Washington prevailing wage rates applicable for this public works project, which is located in Spokane County, may be found at the following website address of the Department of Labor and Industries:
<https://fortress.wa.gov/lni/wagelookup/prvWagelookup.aspx>

Prevailing wages for all work performed pursuant to each work order must be the prevailing wage rates in effect at the beginning date for each contract year. On call contracts must have prevailing wage rates updated annually. Intents and affidavits for prevailing wages paid must be submitted annually for all work completed within the previous twelve-month period of the unit priced contract. (RCW 35.22.620)

Upon the anniversary date of the contract, labor rates may be adjusted according to the revised prevailing wages adopted by the Department of Labor and Industries at that time. In order to calculate the change in prevailing wages due to the Contractor, the Contractor shall provide to the City of Spokane a breakdown of the fully loaded labor rates for each classification of labor including hourly wage rates, fringe benefits, overhead and profit. The City of Spokane shall not pay for any price escalation for overhead, profit, equipment, material, or any other costs except for changes in the prevailing wages. The revised prevailing wages shall be effective for any Work issued after the anniversary date of the contract. The basis of modified prevailing wage rates applicable for the contract shall be calculated and issued in writing by the City of Spokane, but such changes shall not be included in a change order. To the extent that the contract sum changes, a change order will be issued as appropriate.

- C. APPRENTICESHIP. If apprentices are to be used, they must be registered with the State Apprenticeship Council; otherwise, they are to be paid State prevailing journeyman wages.

D. STATEMENT OF INTENT.

The Contractor and subcontractors will submit a "Statement of intent to Pay Prevailing Wages" certified by the industrial statistician of the Department of Labor and Industries, prior to any work or payments. The "Statement of Intent to Pay Prevailing Wages" shall include: (1) the Contractor's registration number; and (2) the prevailing wages under RCW

39.12.020 and the number of workers in each classification. Prior to payment of funds held under RCW 39.12.040, the Contractor and subcontractors must submit an "Affidavit of Wages Paid" certified by the industrial statistician annually for all work completed within the previous twelve-month period of the unit priced contract (RCW 35.22.620).

- E. FILING FEES. The fee for the approval of 1) "Statements of Intent to Pay Prevailing Wages" and 2) "Affidavits of Wages Paid" is twenty dollars (\$20) for each form. The Contractor is responsible for payment of these fees and shall make all applications directly to L & I.

12. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH WAGE PAYMENT STATUTES.

Before award of a Public works contract, the bidder under consideration for award of a public works project must submit to the public agency a sworn statement that they have not willfully violated wage payment laws within the past three years in order to be considered a responsible bidder. (See RCW 39.04.350 as modified by SSB 5301, Laws of 2017, ch. 258.). This form is titled "Certification of Compliance with Wage Payment Statutes". This form must be submitted upon request by City.

13. BUSINESS REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT.

Section 8.01.070 of the Spokane Municipal Code states that no person may engage in business with the City without first having obtained and being the holder of a valid annual business registration or temporary business registration as provided in this chapter. The supplier shall be responsible for contacting the State of Washington Business License Services at www.dor.wa.gov or 360-705-6741 to obtain a business registration. If the supplier does not believe it is required to obtain a business registration, it may contact the City's Taxes and Licenses Division at 509-625-6070 to request an exemption status determination.

SECTION II. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

1. PERFORMANCE. Unless otherwise stated, the Contractor will be responsible for the furnishing of all labor, supervision, materials, tool, construction equipment, transportation, and other items of work and costs necessary for the proper performance and completion of the described Work. The apparent silence or omission as to any detail of any Work to be done or materials to be furnished and required for the proper performance of the Work, shall be regarded as meaning that the best general practice is to prevail, and that material and workmanship of the best quality are to be used, and interpretation of the scope of work shall be made upon this basis.
2. SCOPE OF WORK. On call repair and maintenance services for Plumbing for Parks and Recreation, including golf courses and aquatic centers and all associates Parks properties.
3. EQUIPMENT. Maintain adequate equipment to perform all necessary repairs and maintenance, safety equipment, and truck or trailer for all industry standard repairs and maintenance.
4. PRICING. Each individual project will require approval in advance by POC (Point of Contact) that initiated the call. Invoices must be submitted within thirty (30) days to the City, and must include detail pricing, point of contact that initiated the service request and approval for work.
5. RESPONSE TIME. Work must be completed in a reasonable amount of time, contractor cannot leave our work incomplete to go to another job. If repair is delayed due to needed parts, estimated wait time and

shipping tracking information must be provided. If for any reason the contractor is unable to respond in a reasonable amount of time, the City reserves the right to go outside the contract and work with another contractor.

6. PROFESSIONALISM. Successful vendor will fulfill contract in a responsible, professional manner at all times. Representatives shall dress appropriately and use acceptable health and safety practices.

(PAGES 5 AND 6 MUST BE COMPLETED AND UPLOADED)

BID IPWQ 5637-22

PROJECT NAME: Parks: Plumbing on call services**BID OFFER:**

We are using 10 - 2 hour calls for evaluating purposes – 70% are non-emergency calls and 30% emergency calls.

The price(s) listed in this bid proposal is tendered as an offer to furnish all labor, materials, equipment and supervision required to complete the proposed project in strict accordance with the contract documents. The bidder proposes to do the project at the following price:

Emergency	Emergency calls, contractor shall be onsite within 4 hour of notification. On average it is estimated that there is 3 Emergency calls per year that could result in an estimated annual total of 6 hours more or less	
Non-Emergency	Non-emergency repairs, contractor shall be onsite within 24 hours of notification. On average it is estimated that there is 7 calls per year that could result in an estimated annual total of 14 hours more or less.	
Straight Time Rate	\$ <u>120</u>	Hourly Rate
Overtime Rate	\$ <u>180</u>	Hourly Rate
Emergency Work Rate	\$ <u>180</u>	Hourly Rate
Holiday Rate	\$ <u>240</u>	Hourly Rate
Percentage mark up from list price for Parts/Materials	<u>25</u>	%
Applicable Tax	9% (tax rates change 7/1/2021)	

The Firm/Contractor acknowledges receipt of the City's Addendum number 0 and agrees that its requirements have been included in this Bid.

The Firm/Contractor agrees that its Bid will NOT be withdrawn for a minimum of sixty (60) calendar days after the stated submittal date.

CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY.

Washington State Contractor's Registration No. MCKINCL942DW
 U.B.I Number 602-569-922
 Washington Employment Security Department Number 323555-00-0
 Washington Excise Tax Registration Number 602-569-922
 City of Spokane Business Registration Number T11103486BUS

LIQUIDATED DAMAGES.

If the Work is not completed within the stated completion time, the Contractor agrees to pay to the City Liquidated Damages (LD's) in the amount of ZERO (\$0.00) for each and every day the Work remains uncompleted.

The undersigned Bidder hereby certifies that, within the three-year period immediately preceding the bid solicitation date for this Project, the bidder is not a "willful" violator, as defined in RCW 49.48.082, of any provision of chapters 49.46, 49.48, or 49.52 RCW, as determined by a final and binding citation and notice of assessment issued by the Department of Labor and Industries or through a civil judgment entered by a court of limited or general jurisdiction.

As of July 1, 2019, Contractor has fulfilled training requirements or is exempt from L&I's Public Works Training Requirement under RCW 39.04.350 and RCW 39.06.020

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

FIRM/CONTRACTOR NAME: McKinstry Co. LLC

SIGNATURE: Adam Huber

TITLE: Sales Executive PHONE: 907-251-9556

ADDRESS: 850 E. Spokane Falls Blvd., Suite 100
Spokane, WA 99202

(PAGE 6 MUST BE COMPLETED AND UPLOADED)

SUBCONTRACTOR LIST

PROJECT NAME: IPWQ 5637-22

PROPOSED SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS TO BE USED ON THE PROJECT ARE:

(USE ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY)

CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER _____

TYPE OF WORK/BID ITEM _____

AMOUNT \$ _____

CONTRACTOR'S REGISTRATION NO. _____

CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER _____

TYPE OF WORK/BID ITEM _____

AMOUNT \$ _____

CONTRACTOR'S REGISTRATION NO. _____

CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER _____

TYPE OF WORK/BID ITEM _____

AMOUNT \$ _____

CONTRACTOR'S REGISTRATION NO. _____

X NO SUBCONTRACTORS WILL BE USED ON THIS PROJECT



CITY OF SPOKANE
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC WORKS AGREEMENT

Title: ON-CALL PLUMBING SERVICES

This Agreement is made and entered into by and between the **CITY OF SPOKANE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT** as ("City"), a Washington municipal corporation, and **McKINSTRY, CO., LLC**, whose address is 850 East Spokane Falls Boulevard, Suite 100, Spokane, Washington, 99202 as ("Contractor"), individually hereafter referenced as a "party", and together as the "parties".

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Agreement is to provide On-Call Plumbing Services for the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor was selected through IPWQ 5637-22 issued by the City of Spokane.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the terms, conditions, covenants and performance of the Scope of Work contained herein, the City and Contractor mutually agree as follows:

1. TERM OF AGREEMENT.

The term of this Agreement begins on August 1, 2022, and ends on July 31, 2024, unless amended by written agreement or terminated earlier under the provisions. The contract may be renewed for two (2) additional one-year contract periods, subject to mutual agreement.

2. TIME OF BEGINNING AND COMPLETION.

The Contractor shall begin the work outlined in the "Scope of Work" ("Work") on the beginning date, above. The City will acknowledge in writing when the Work is complete. Time limits established under this Agreement shall not be extended because of delays for which the Contractor is responsible, but may be extended by the City, in writing, for the City's convenience or conditions beyond the Contractor's control.

3. SCOPE OF WORK.

The Contractor shall provide On-Call Plumbing Services for the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department as outlined in IPWQ 5637-22.

The Work is subject to City review and approval. The Contractor shall confer with the City periodically, and prepare and present information and materials (e.g. detailed outline of completed Work) requested by the City to determine the adequacy of the Work or Contractor's progress.

4. COMPENSATION / PAYMENT.

Total annual compensation for Contractor's on-call, as needed services under this Agreement shall be a maximum annual amount not to exceed **SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$75,000.00)**, including applicable sales tax. This is the maximum amount to be paid under this Agreement for the work described in Section 3 above, and shall not be exceeded without the prior written authorization of the City in the form of an executed amendment to this Agreement.

The Company shall submit its applications for payment to Parks and Recreation Department, City of Spokane, 808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard, 5th Floor, Spokane, Washington 99201. All invoices should include the City Clerk's File No. "OPR XXXX-XXXX" and an approved L & I Intent to Pay Prevailing Wage Number. The final invoice should include an approved Affidavit of Wages Paid number. Payment will not be made without this documentation included on the invoice. **Payment will be made via direct deposit/ACH** within thirty (30) days after receipt of the Company's application except as provided by state law. If the City objects to all or any portion of the invoice, it shall notify the Company and reserves the right to only pay that portion of the invoice not in dispute. In that event, the parties shall immediately make every effort to settle the disputed amount.

5. TAXES, FEES AND LICENSES.

- A. Contractor shall pay and maintain in current status, all necessary licenses, fees, assessments, permit charges, etc. necessary to conduct the work included under this Agreement. It is the Contractor's sole responsibility to monitor and determine changes or the enactment of any subsequent requirements for said fees, assessments, or changes and to immediately comply.
- B. The cost of any permits, licenses, fees, etc. arising as a result of the projects included in this Agreement shall be included in the project budgets.

6. PREVAILING WAGES.

- A. The State prevailing rate of wages to be paid to all workmen, laborers or mechanics employed in the performance of any part of this Contract shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 39.12 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) and the rules and regulations of the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries. (L&I).
- B. State of Washington prevailing wage rates applicable for this public works project, which is located in Spokane County, may be found at the following website address of the Department of Labor and Industries:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/lni/wagelookup/prvWagelookup.aspx>

Prevailing wages for all work performed pursuant to each work order must be the prevailing wage rates in effect at the beginning date for each contract year. On call contracts must have prevailing wage rates updated annually. Intents and affidavits for prevailing wages paid must be submitted annually for all work completed within the previous twelve-month period of the unit priced contract. (RCW 35.22.620)

Upon the anniversary date of the contract, labor rates may be adjusted according to the revised prevailing wages adopted by the Department of Labor and Industries

at that time. In order to calculate the change in prevailing wages due to the Contractor, the Contractor shall provide to the City of Spokane a breakdown of the fully loaded labor rates for each classification of labor including hourly wage rates, fringe benefits, overhead and profit. The City of Spokane shall not pay for any price escalation for overhead, profit, equipment, material, or any other costs except for changes in the prevailing wages. The revised prevailing wages shall be effective for any Work issued after the anniversary date of the contract. The basis of modified prevailing wage rates applicable for the contract shall be calculated and issued in writing by the City of Spokane, but such changes shall not be included in a change order. To the extent that the contract sum changes, a change order will be issued as appropriate.

7. CITY OF SPOKANE BUSINESS LICENSE.

Section 8.01.070 of the Spokane Municipal Code states that no person may engage in business with the City without first having obtained a valid annual business registration. The Contractor shall be responsible for contacting the State of Washington Business License Services at www.dor.wa.gov or 360-705-6741 to obtain a business registration. If the Contractor does not believe it is required to obtain a business registration, it may contact the City's Taxes and Licenses Division at (509) 625-6070 to request an exemption status determination.

8. SOCIAL EQUITY REQUIREMENTS / NON-DISCRIMINATION.

No individual shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefit of, subjected to discrimination under, or denied employment in the administration of or in connection with this Agreement because of age, sex, race, color, religion, creed, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation including gender expression or gender identity, national origin, honorably discharged veteran or military status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or use of a service animal by a person with disabilities. The Contractor agrees to comply with, and to require that all subcontractors comply with, federal, state and local nondiscrimination laws, including but not limited to: the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the American's With Disabilities Act, to the extent those laws are applicable.

9. INDEMNIFICATION.

The Contractor shall defend, indemnify, and hold the City and its officers and employees harmless from all claims, demands, or suits at law or equity-asserted by third parties for bodily injury (including death) and/or property damage which arise from the Contractor's negligence or willful misconduct under this Agreement, including attorneys' fees and litigation costs; provided that nothing herein shall require a Contractor to indemnify the City against and hold harmless the City from claims, demands or suits based solely upon the negligence of the City, its agents, officers, and employees. If a claim or suit is caused by or results from the concurrent negligence of the Contractor's agents or employees and the City, its agents, officers and employees, this indemnity provision shall be valid and enforceable to the extent of the negligence of the Consultant/Contractor/Company, its agents or employees. The Contractor specifically assumes liability and agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold the City harmless for actions brought by the Contractor's own employees against the City and, solely for the purpose of this indemnification and defense, the Contractor specifically waives any immunity under the Washington State industrial insurance law, or Title 51 RCW. The Contractor recognizes that this waiver was specifically entered

into pursuant to the provisions of RCW 4.24.115 and was the subject of mutual negotiation. The indemnity and agreement to defend and hold the City harmless provided for in this section shall survive any termination or expiration of this agreement.

10. INSURANCE.

During the period of the Agreement, the Contractor shall maintain in force at its own expense, each insurance noted below with companies or through sources approved by the State Insurance Commissioner pursuant to Title 48 RCW:

- A. **Worker's Compensation Insurance** in compliance with RCW 51.12.020, which requires subject employers to provide workers' compensation coverage for all their subject workers and Employer's Liability Insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000;
- B. **General Liability Insurance** on an occurrence basis, with a combined single limit of not less than \$1,000,000 each occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. It shall include contractual liability coverage for the indemnity provided under this agreement. It shall provide that the City, its officers and employees are additional insureds but only with respect to the Contractor's services to be provided under this Agreement;
- C. **Automobile Liability Insurance** with a combined single limit, or the equivalent of not less than \$1,000,000 each accident for bodily injury and property damage, including coverage for owned, hired and non-owned vehicles; and
- D. **Property Insurance** if materials and supplies are furnished by the Contractor. The amount of the insurance coverage shall be the value of the materials and supplies of the completed value of improvement. Hazard or XCU (explosion, collapse, underground) insurance should be provided if any hazard exists.

There shall be no cancellation, material change, reduction of limits or intent not to renew the insurance coverage(s) without thirty (30) days written notice from the Contractor or its insurer(s) to the City. As evidence of the insurance coverages required by this Agreement, the Contractor shall furnish acceptable insurance certificates to the City at the time it returns the signed Agreement. The certificate shall specify all of the parties who are additional insureds, and include applicable policy endorsements, the thirty (30) day cancellation clause, and the deduction or retention level. The Contractor shall be financially responsible for all pertinent deductibles, self-insured retentions, and/or self-insurance.

11. SUBCONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY.

The Contractor must verify responsibility criteria for each first tier subcontractor, and a subcontractor of any tier that hires other subcontractors must verify responsibility criteria for each of its subcontractors. Verification shall include that each subcontractor, at the time of subcontract execution, meets the responsibility criteria listed in RCW 39.04.350(1) and possesses an electrical contractor license, if required by chapter 19.28 RCW, or an elevator contractor license, if required by chapter 70.87 RCW.

12. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.

The Contractor is an independent Contractor. This Agreement does not intend the Contractor to act as a City employee. The City has neither direct nor immediate control over the Contractor nor the right to control the manner or means by which the Contractor works. Neither the Contractor nor any Contractor employee shall be an employee of the City.

This Agreement prohibits the Contractor to act as an agent or legal representative of the City. The Contractor is not granted express or implied rights or authority to assume or create any obligation or responsibility for or in the name of the City, or to bind the City. The City is not liable for or obligated to pay sick leave, vacation pay, or any other benefit of employment, nor to pay social security or other tax that may arise from employment. The Contractor shall pay all income and other taxes as due.

13. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTING.

The Contractor shall not assign or subcontract its obligations under this Agreement without the City's written consent, which may be granted or withheld in the City's sole discretion. Any subcontract made by the Contractor shall incorporate by reference this Agreement, except as otherwise provided. The Contractor shall ensure that all subcontractors comply with the obligations and requirements of the subcontract. The City's consent to any assignment or subcontract does not release the Contractor from liability or any obligation within this Agreement, whether before or after City consent, assignment or subcontract.

14. TERMINATION.

Either party may terminate this Agreement, with or without cause, by ten (10) days written notice to the other party. In the event of such termination, the City shall pay the Contractor for all work previously authorized and performed prior to the termination date.

15. STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE.

The standard of performance applicable to Contractor's services will be the degree of skill and diligence normally employed by professional contractors in the region performing the same or similar Contracting services at the time the work under this Agreement are performed.

16. ANTI KICK-BACK.

No officer or employee of the City of Spokane, having the power or duty to perform an official act or action related to this Agreement shall have or acquire any interest in the Agreement, or have solicited, accepted or granted a present or future gift, favor, service or other thing of value from or to any person involved in this Agreement.

17. CONSTRUAL.

The Contractor acknowledges receipt of a copy of the Agreement documents and agrees to comply with them. The silence or omission in the Agreement documents concerning any detail required for the proper execution and completion of the work means that only the best general practice is to prevail and that only material and workmanship of the best quality are to be used. This Contract shall be construed neither in favor of nor against either party.

18. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION.

The Contractor has provided its certification that it is in compliance with and shall not contract with individuals or organizations which are debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible from participation in Federal Assistance Programs under Executive Order 12549 and "Debarment and Suspension", codified at 29 CFR part 98

19. CONTRACTOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND WARRANTY.

The Contractor acknowledges that it has visited the site of the work, has examined it, and is qualified to perform the work required by this Agreement.

The Contractor guarantees and warranties all work, labor and materials under this Agreement for two (2) years following final acceptance. If any unsatisfactory condition or defect develops within that time, the Contractor will immediately place the work in a condition satisfactory to the City and repair all damage caused by the condition or defect. The Contractor will repair or restore to the City's satisfaction, in accordance with the contract documents and at its expense, all property damaged by his performance under this Agreement. This warranty is in addition to any manufacturers' or other warranty in the Agreement documents.

20. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

- A. **Amendments/Modifications:** The City may modify this Agreement and order changes in the work whenever necessary or advisable. The Contractor will accept modifications when ordered in writing by the City, and the Agreement time and compensation will be adjusted accordingly.
- B. The Contractor, at no expense to the City, shall comply with all laws of the United States and Washington, the Charter and ordinances of the City of Spokane; and rules, regulations, orders and directives of their administrative agencies and officers.
- C. This Agreement shall be construed and interpreted under the laws of Washington. The venue of any action brought shall be in a court of competent jurisdiction, located in Spokane County, Washington.
- D. **Captions:** The titles of sections or subsections are for convenience only and do not define or limit the contents.
- E. **Severability:** If any term or provision is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected, and each term and provision shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- F. **Waiver:** No covenant, term or condition or the breach shall be deemed waived, except by written consent of the party against whom the waiver is claimed, and any waiver of the breach of any covenant, term or condition shall not be deemed a waiver of any preceding or succeeding breach of the same or any other covenant, term or condition. Neither the acceptance by the City of any performance by the Contractor after the time the same shall have become due nor payment to the Contractor for any portion of the Work shall constitute a waiver by the City of the breach or default of any covenant, term or condition unless otherwise expressly agreed to by the City in writing.
- G. **Entire Agreement:** This document along with any exhibits and all attachments, and subsequently issued addenda, comprises the entire agreement between the City and the Contractor. If conflict occurs between Agreement documents and applicable laws, codes, ordinances or regulations, the most stringent or legally binding requirement shall govern and be considered a part of this Agreement to afford the City the maximum benefits.
- H. **No personal liability:** No officer, agent or authorized employee of the City shall be personally responsible for any liability arising under this Agreement, whether expressed or implied, nor for any statement or representation made or in any connection with this Agreement.
- I. Under Washington State Law (reference RCW Chapter 42.56, the *Public Records Act* [PRA]) all materials received or created by the City of Spokane are **public records** and are available to the public for viewing via the City Clerk's Records (online) or a valid Public Records Request (PRR).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, in consideration of the terms, conditions and covenants contained, or attached and incorporated and made a part, the parties have executed this Agreement by having legally-binding representatives affix their signatures below.

McKINSTRY CO., LLC

**CITY OF SPOKANE PARKS AND
RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

By _____
Signature Date

By _____
Signature Date

Type or Print Name

Type or Print Name

Title

Title

Attest:

Approved as to form:

City Clerk

Assistant City Attorney

Attachments that are part of this Agreement:

Exhibit A – Debarment Certification
Exhibit B - Certification of Compliance with Wage Payment Statutes

22-104

EXHIBIT A

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION

1. The undersigned (i.e., signatory for the Subrecipient / Contractor / Consultant) certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
 - a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency;
 - b. Have not within a three-year period preceding this contract been convicted or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, receiving stolen property, making false claims, or obstruction of justice;
 - c. Are not presently indicted or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and,
 - d. Have not within a three-year period preceding this contract had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.
2. The undersigned agrees by signing this contract that it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction.
3. The undersigned further agrees by signing this contract that it will include the following clause, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions:

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion – Lower Tier Covered Transactions

1. The lower tier contractor certified, by signing this contract that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency.
 2. Where the lower tier contractor is unable to certify to any of the statements in this contract, such contractor shall attach an explanation to this contract.
4. I understand that a false statement of this certification may be grounds for termination of the contract.

<hr/>	<hr/>
Name of Subrecipient / Contractor / Consultant (Type or Print)	Program Title (Type or Print)
<hr/>	<hr/>
Name of Certifying Official (Type or Print)	Signature
<hr/>	<hr/>
Title of Certifying Official (Type or Print)	Date (Type or Print)
<hr/>	<hr/>



Certification of Compliance with Wage Payment Statutes and Washington Department of Labor and Industries Training Requirement

The bidder hereby certifies that, within the three-year period immediately preceding the bid solicitation date (_____), the bidder is not a “willful” violator, as defined in RCW 49.48.082, of any provision of chapters 49.46, 49.48, or 49.52 RCW, as determined by a final and binding citation and notice of assessment issued by the Department of Labor and Industries or through a civil judgment entered by a court of limited or general jurisdiction.

As of July 1, 2019, have fulfilled the Department of Labor and Industries’ Public Works and Prevailing Wage Training Requirement before bidding and/or performing work on public works projects under RCW 39.04.350 and RCW 39.06.020 by either of the following:

- 1) Received training on the requirements related to public works and prevailing wage under chapter RCW 39.04.350 and chapter 39.12; or
- 2) Be certified exempt by the Department of Labor and Industries by having completed three or more public work projects and have a had a valid business license in Washington for three or more years.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Bidder’s Business Name

Signature of Authorized Official*

Printed Name

Title

Date

City

State

Check One:

Sole Proprietorship ☐ Partnership ☐ Joint Venture ☐ Corporation ☐

State of Incorporation, or if not a corporation, State where business entity was formed:

If a co-partnership, give firm name under which business is transacted:

** If a corporation, proposal must be executed in the corporate name by the president or vice-president (or any other corporate officer accompanied by evidence of authority to sign). If a co-partnership, proposal must be executed by a partner.*

License Information:

[New search](#) [Back to results](#)

Entity name: MCKINSTRY CO., LLC

Business name: MCKINSTRY CO., LLC

Entity type: [Limited Liability Company](#)

UBI #: 602-569-922

Business ID: 001

Location ID: 0002

Location: Active

Location address: 850 E SPOKANE FALLS BLVD
SPOKANE WA 99202-2167

Mailing address: PO BOX 24567
SEATTLE WA 98124-0567

Excise tax and reseller permit status: [Click here](#)

Secretary of State status: [Click here](#)

Endorsements

Endorsements held at this location	License #	Count	Details	Status	Expiration date	First issuance date
Airway Heights General Business - Non-Resident	2929			Active	Jan-31-2023	Jan-03-2019
East Wenatchee General Business - Non-Resident				Active	Jan-31-2023	Jun-08-2017
Moses Lake General Business - Non-Resident	BUS1998-00872			Active	Jan-31-2023	Jan-23-1998
Spokane General Business	T11103486BUS			Active	Jan-31-2023	Oct-15-2012

Governing People May include governing people not registered with Secretary of State

Governing people	Title
ALLEN, DEAN	
HAGAR, JOSEPH	
PEDERSEN, JAMIE	

Registered Trade Names

Registered trade names	Status	First issued
MCKINSTRY	Active	Jan-09-2006





MCKICO.-01

DREDDY

CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)

1/27/2022

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER Hub International Northwest LLC PO Box 3018 Bothell, WA 98041	CONTACT NAME: PHONE (A/C, No, Ext): (425) 489-4500 FAX (A/C, No): (425) 485-8489 E-MAIL ADDRESS: now.info@hubinternational.com
	INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE INSURER A: The Travelers Indemnity Company INSURER B: Travelers Property Casualty Company of America INSURER C: INSURER D: INSURER E: INSURER F:
INSURED McKinstry Co. LLC PO Box 24567 Seattle, WA 98124-0567	NAIC # 25658 25674

COVERAGES

CERTIFICATE NUMBER:

REVISION NUMBER:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WA Stop Gap GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC OTHER:	X	X	VTC2K-CO-5643B901-IND-22	1/31/2022	1/31/2023	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 2,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$ 300,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$ 10,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 2,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 4,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG \$ 4,000,000
B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO OWNED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY			VTC2J-CAP-5643B913-TIL-22	1/31/2022	1/31/2023	COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$ 2,000,000 BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input type="checkbox"/> EXCESS LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE DED <input type="checkbox"/> RETENTION \$						EACH OCCURRENCE \$ AGGREGATE \$
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) <input type="checkbox"/> Y / N If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below		N / A	VTC2K-CO-5643B901-IND-22	1/31/2022	1/31/2023	PER STATUTE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTH-ER <input type="checkbox"/> E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$ 1,000,000 E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$ 1,000,000 E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$ 1,000,000

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

RE: City of Spokane Parks

City of Spokane Parks and Recreation, its officers and employees are included as Additional Insured, coverage is primary and non-contributory and waiver of subrogation applies per the attached forms/endorsements.

CERTIFICATE HOLDER

CANCELLATION

City of Spokane Parks and Recreation 2304 East Mallon Ave Spokane, WA 99202	SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
---	---

Spokane Park Board

Briefing Paper



Committee	Land Committee		
Committee meeting date	June 1, 2022		
Requester	Nick Hamad	Phone number: 363-5452	
Type of agenda item	<input type="radio"/> Consent <input type="radio"/> Discussion <input type="radio"/> Information <input checked="" type="radio"/> Action		
Type of contract/agreement	<input checked="" type="radio"/> New <input type="radio"/> Renewal/extension <input type="radio"/> Amendment/change order <input type="radio"/> Other		
City Clerks file (OPR or policy #)			
Item title: (Use exact language noted on the agenda)	Spokane County Interlocal Agreement / John H. Shields Park (no cost).		
Begin/end dates	Begins: June 9, 2022	Ends: June 9, 2047	<input type="checkbox"/> Open ended
Background/history: Spokane City and Spokane County desire to enter into an agreement to for the management, operation, maintenance, and enhancement of John H. Shields Park, a city owned park land. The agreement will grant Spokane County permission to maintain and manage the City Parks property for passive non-motorized recreation by the public as consistent with Conservation Futures and Washington State RCO grant requirements. The agreement includes a Future Annexation clause whereby the City would accept ownership of adjacent County owned lands if the City annexes the UGA adjacent these lands. The Term of this agreement is 25 years, with an optional extension for an additional 10 years.			
Motion wording: Move to approve Spokane County Interlocal Agreement for John H. Shields Park (no cost)			
Approvals/signatures outside Parks: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No If so, who/what department, agency or company: Spokane County Name: Mary Kuney Email address: pknowles@spokanecounty.org Phone: 1.509.477.2188			
Distribution: Parks – Accounting Paul Knowles Parks – Pamela Clarke Al Vorderbrueggen Requester: Nick Hamad Grant Management Department/Name:			
Fiscal impact: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Expenditure <input type="radio"/> Revenue Amount: N/A Budget code: no cost			
Vendor: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Existing vendor <input type="radio"/> New vendor Supporting documents: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Quotes/solicitation (RFP, RFQ, RFB) <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor is on the City's A&E Roster - City of Spokane <input type="checkbox"/> UBI: Business license expiration date: </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> W-9 (for new contractors/consultants/vendors) <input type="checkbox"/> ACH Forms (for new contractors/consultants/vendors) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Certificate (min. \$1 million in General Liability) </div> </div>			



Building a constituency for the Spokane River.
Driving impacts through individual stewardship.



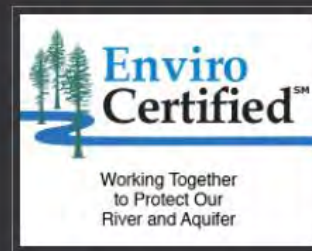
SPOKANE RIVER WATER TRAIL

Explore the Spokane River!



SPOKANE KOOTENAI WASTE & RECYCLE DIRECTORY

Got waste? Put it in the right place.



ENVIROCERTIFIED

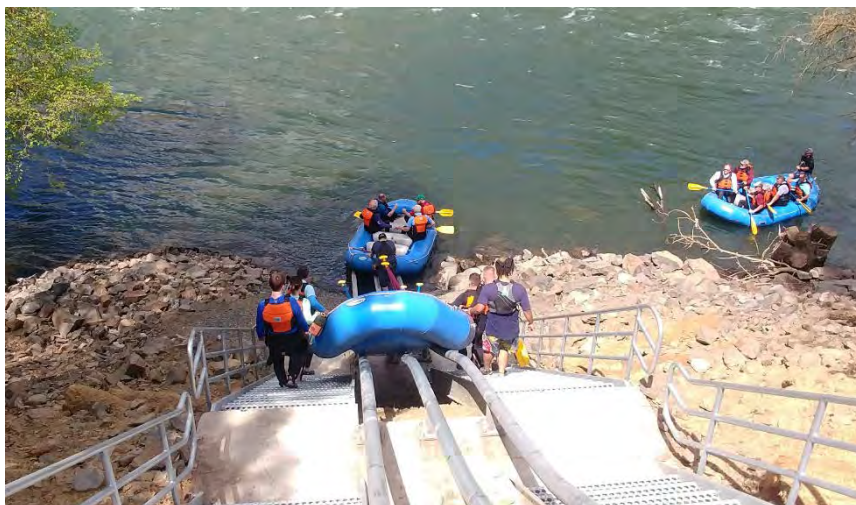
Apply for certification today!



STEWARDSHIP

Volunteer Opportunities

Redband Park Water Trail Access, 2018



Redband Park Plaza, 2019

**2022:
Redband Life
Cycle and
Historical
Significance
Interpretive
Signs with
Spokane Tribe**



Major Funders

Spokane River Forum

Department of Commerce	\$380,000
TC Energy	<u>\$ 80,000</u>
Subtotal	\$460,000

Spokane Conservation District

Initial Slide Engineering

City RCO

Parking, etc.

Spokane Indians Baseball & Extreme Team

Ballfield & Building Rehab

People's Park Water Trail Access, 2020



Spokane River Water Trail and Centennial Trail Wayfinding



People's Park, 2021



Redband Park, 2021

Additional Wayfinding & Interpretation



**TJ Meenach 2022-23
Wayfinding and
Stormwater Interpretive**



**Division Street
Bridge/Centennial Trail?**



Thank you! - Questions?



**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN SPOKANE COUNTY
AND THE CITY OF SPOKANE PARKS & RECREATION OVER THE MANAGEMENT
AND OPERATION OF JOHN H. SHIELDS PARK**

THIS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT (“Agreement”), made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 2022, by and between SPOKANE COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Washington, through its Parks, Recreation & Golf Department, having offices for the transaction of business at 1116 West Broadway Avenue, Spokane, Washington, 99260, hereinafter referred to as the "County", and SPOKANE PARKS AND RECREATION, having offices for the transaction of business at 808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard, Floor 5, Spokane, WA, 99201, hereinafter referred to as the "City Parks", jointly hereinafter referred to individually as a “Party” or collectively as the "Parties".

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington (“RCW”) Chapter 39.34 (Interlocal Cooperation Act) the Parties may contract with each other to perform certain functions which each may legally perform; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.32.120(6), has the care of Spokane County property and the management of Spokane County funds and business; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, the County acquired 13.47 acres, Assessor’s Tax Parcel No. 35024.9036 (“County Parks Parcel”), to preserve public access to a popular climbing area known as “Minnehaha Rocks”; and

WHEREAS, City Parks owns 16.48 acres east and adjacent to the County Parks Parcel, Tax Parcel Nos. 35024.0001 and the westernmost five acres of 35013.0201, referenced in the City park land inventory as ‘Upriver Park’ (“City Parks Property”), which is more particularly described herein and attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and

WHEREAS, together, the County Parks Parcel and City Parks Property are known as John H. Shields Park (“Shields Park”), located at 5625 E. Upriver Drive, which is depicted herein and attached hereto as Exhibit “B”; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have jointly adopted the 2016 Beacon Hill Trail System Preservation Plan (“Beacon Hill Plan”), prepared by Evergreen East Mountain Bike Alliance, as an advisory guide towards the future preservation, maintenance, acquisitions, and expansion of park facilities in the Beacon Hill area, including Shields Park; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Beacon Hill Plan, several parcels adjacent to Shields Park were purchased by Spokane County via Spokane County’s Conservation Futures Program in 2021 with sole access to these parcels provided by Shields Park, increasing the size of said park by 70 acres; and

WHEREAS, the County constructed and has maintained at its sole expense for decades a parking lot and associated visitor improvements on the City Parks Property as part of Shields Park; and

WHEREAS, the Parties' staff have determined that no written agreement exists for conveying the management and maintenance responsibilities of the City Parks Property, and improvements thereon, to the County; and

WHEREAS, the Parties are desirous of formalizing the County's role in maintaining and managing the City Parks Property as part of Shields Park and to allow certain future improvements thereof for the benefit of Spokane County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Parties are therefore desirous of entering into an interlocal agreement for the long-term care and operations of the City Parks Property as part of Shields Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual promises set forth hereinafter, the Parties hereto do agree as follows:

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

This Agreement is entered into between the Parties for the purpose of use, management, operation, and enhancement of the City Parks Property, for the benefit of Spokane County residents. The City Parks Property is further described in Exhibit "A" and depicted in Exhibit "B", which are attached hereto and are herein incorporated by reference.

SECTION 2: TERM

The County shall be responsible for the management and operations of the City Parks Property for a 25-year period, commencing May 1, 2022 and ending April 30, 2047, unless terminated earlier as provided in this Agreement. The County may request an additional 10-year term no less than 60 days prior to April 30, 2047, approval of which shall not be unreasonably withheld by City Parks.

SECTION 3: USE OF CITY PARKS PROPERTY

The County shall use and manage the City Parks Property for passive non-motorized recreation by the public, consistent with RCW 84.34 ("Conservation Futures") and the Make Beacon Hill Public Phase 2 project as outlined in Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office grant #22-1473; and, in such manner as to preserve and / or enhance the natural resources of and recreational opportunities on the property. The County may make improvements to the City Parks Property to enhance public access and recreational opportunities, including parking lot improvement and expansion, electrical improvements, signage, restrooms, landscaping, bouldering playground and other potential improvements associated with creating a welcoming, safe, and attractive Shields Park and access to the Beacon Hill Trail System. Any proposed interpretive display, murals, sculpture, logos, or art shall be subject to the requirements and procedures set forth in City of

Spokane Administrative Policy Titled Artwork in Parks and Recreation Areas, ADMIN 1400-14-05 LGL 2007-0026 (“Art Policy”) and shall be presented to the Park Board for review and approval prior to fabrication / installation.

Permission of the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Director (“City Parks Director”) shall be required for any new construction or other new physical improvement valued over \$20,000.00 on the City Parks Property, which permission shall not be unreasonably withheld. Any new physical improvement valued over \$50,000.00 on the City Parks Property shall be subject to the approval of the City of Spokane Park Board. Ownership of all improvements to the City Parks Property shall be transferred or deeded to City Parks upon termination of this Agreement.

In order to facilitate the public’s safe enjoyment of the City Parks Property, the site shall be maintained in good condition and repair by the County. City Parks permission shall not be required for routine maintenance of the City Parks Property, including but not necessarily limited to noxious weed control and forest management work.

SECTION 4: MAKE BEACON HILL PUBLIC

The County shall manage the City Parks Property consistent with future agreements between the Parties related specifically to the Make Beacon Hill Public project and management practices established (or as may be established) by County for Conservation Futures properties. This may include items such as the development, installation and replacement of signage to create a consistent “look” or appearance at the various public access points to the Beacon Hill Trail System, of which the City Parks Property currently provides.

SECTION 5: FUTURE ANNEXATION

Unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing by the Parties, at such time, in the event of the City of Spokane annexing that portion of the Urban Growth Area lying north of Frederick Avenue and including the County Parks Parcel and the “Combs Property,” owned by County, which includes Tax Parcel Nos. 35026.9071 and 35023.9038, City Parks hereby agrees to:

- (a) Accept ownership and sole management responsibility of the County Parks Parcel, the “Combs Property,” the “Banta Property” (Tax Parcel Nos. 35024.9028 and 35024.9027) as well as accept assignment of a future conservation easement, to be held by County, on Tax Parcel No. 35021.9001. At the time of these events, all Make Beacon Hill Public County-owned parcels shall convert to City Parks ownership; and
- (b) This Agreement shall consistent with Section 6 herein.

SECTION 6: TERMINATION

City Parks may provide written notice to the County in the event of the County’s breach or failure to comply with any of the terms, conditions, or covenants of this Agreement. Unless otherwise mutually agreed to or extended in writing, County shall have sixty (60) days to cure the breach or non-compliance. If the County fails to cure the breach or non-compliance within such time (or as

otherwise agreed to or extended), City Parks may terminate this Agreement. Upon termination, City Parks shall have the right to: (a) to re-enter and take possession of the City Parks Property and improvements; (2) eject the County and those claiming through it or under it; and (3) remove the County's property.

County may provide written notice to City Parks in the event of City Parks' breach or failure to comply with any of the terms, conditions, or covenants of this Agreement. Unless otherwise mutually agreed to or extended in writing, City Parks shall have sixty (60) days to cure the breach or non-compliance. If City Parks fails to cure the breach or non-compliance within such time (or as otherwise agreed to or extended), County may terminate this Agreement. Upon termination, County shall have the right to remove any County property or equipment from the City Parks Property.

The Parties may mutually agree to terminate this Agreement to facilitate "Future Annexation" described in Section 5 herein and establish terms and conditions for such termination outside of this Agreement.

SECTION 7: INDEMNIFICATION

City Parks shall protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County, its officers, officials, employees, and agents while acting within the scope of their employment as such, from any and all costs, claims, judgments, and/or awards of damages (both to persons and/or property) arising from City Parks' use, occupancy, management, and maintenance of the City Parks Property or from any activity, work or thing done, permitted or suffered by City Parks in or about the City Parks Property. The City Parks will not be required to indemnify, defend, or save harmless the County if the claim, suit, or action for injuries, death, or damages (both to persons and/or property) is caused by the negligence of the County, and its officers, officials, employees, and agents. Where such claims, suits, or actions result from the concurrent negligence of both Parties, the indemnity provisions provided herein shall be valid and enforceable only to the extent of each Party's own negligence.

To the extent allowed by law, the County agrees to protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless City Parks, its officers, officials, employees, and agents while acting within the scope of their employment as such, from any and all costs, claims, judgments and/or awards of damages (both to persons and/or property) arising from the County's use, occupancy, management, and maintenance of the City Parks Property or from any activity, work or thing done, permitted or suffered by the County in or about the City Parks Property. The County will not be required to indemnify, defend, or save harmless City Parks if the claim, suit, or action for injuries, death, or damages (both to persons and/or property) is caused by the negligence of City Parks, and its officers, officials, employees, and agents. Where such claims, suits, or actions result from the concurrent negligence of both Parties, the indemnity provisions provided herein shall be valid and enforceable only to the extent of each Party's own negligence.

The Parties agree that their respective obligations under this section extend to any claim, demand, and/or cause of action brought by, or on behalf of, any of the Parties' employees or agents while performing work authorized under this Agreement. For this purpose, the Parties, by mutual negotiation, hereby waive with respect to the Parties only, any immunity that would otherwise be

available to the Parties against such claims under the Industrial Insurance provisions of Chapter 51.12 RCW.

These indemnifications and waiver shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

No officers, officials, employees, and agents of City Parks or the County shall be personally liable for any act, or failure to act, in connection with this Agreement, while acting within the scope of their authority.

SECTION 8: INSURANCE

During the term of the Agreement, the CITY and COUNTY shall each maintain in effect, at its sole expense, each insurance coverage with minimum limit noted below:

- (1) Workers' Compensation Insurance in compliance with Title 51 RCW, which requires subject employers to provide workers' compensation coverage for all their subject workers and Employer's Liability Insurance in the statutory amount.;
- (2) General Liability Insurance on an occurrence basis, with a combined single limit of not less than \$5,000,000 each occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. It shall include contractual liability coverage for the indemnity provided under this Agreement;
- (3) Automobile Liability Insurance with a combined single limit, or the equivalent of not less than \$5,000,000 each accident for bodily injury and property damage, including coverage for owned, hired and non-owned vehicles; and
- (4) Professional Liability Insurance with a combined single limit of not less than \$5,000,000 each claim, incident or occurrence. This is to cover damages caused by the error, omission, or negligent acts related to the professional services to be provided under this Agreement. The coverage must remain in effect for at least two years after the Agreement is completed.

Each policy shall be endorsed and the certificate shall reflect that the insurance afforded therein shall be primary insurance and any insurance or self-insurance carried by the other entity shall be excess and not contributory insurance to that provided by the other entity

There shall be no cancellation, material change, reduction of limits or intent not to renew the insurance coverage(s) without 30 days written notice from either entity or their insurer(s) to the other entity.

As evidence of the insurance coverage required by this Agreement, each entity shall furnish written evidence of acceptable insurance or Risk Pool liability coverage to the other entity within 30 days of the Agreement becoming effective. If requested, complete copies of commercial insurance policies or Risk Pool liability coverage documents shall be provided to either entity. The CITY and COUNTY shall be financially responsible for all pertinent deductibles, self-insured retentions, and/or self-insurance. For purposes of foregoing requirements, the Parties acknowledge that the City of Spokane

is self-insured with excess coverage for claims exceeding the City's self-insured retention.

SECTION 9: INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

The Parties intend that an independent contractor relationship will be created by this Agreement. No agent, employee, servant, or otherwise of the County shall be or shall be deemed to be an employee, agent, servant, or otherwise of City Parks for any purpose, and the employees of the County are not entitled to any of the benefits that City Parks provides for its employees. The County will be solely and entirely responsible for its acts and for the acts of its agents, employees, servants, subcontractors, or otherwise during the performance of this contract. In the performance of the services herein contemplated the County is an independent contractor with the authority to control and direct the performance and details of the work, City Parks being interested only in the results obtained; however, the work contemplated herein shall meet the approval of City Parks pursuant to the provisions of the Agreement.

No agent, employee, servant, or otherwise of City Parks shall be or shall be deemed to be an employee, agent, servant, or otherwise of the County for any purpose, and the employees of City Parks are not entitled to any of the benefits that the County provides for its employees. The City Parks will be solely and entirely responsible for its acts and for the acts of its agents, employees, servants, subcontractors, or otherwise during the performance of this contract.

SECTION 10: DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

Any dispute or controversy arising out of or relating to this Agreement, or breach thereof, shall be settled by the following procedure:

Level 1: Before entering into Level 2 or Level 3 of this Dispute Resolution Procedure (DRP), designated representatives of each party shall enter into a series of meetings for the purpose of resolving the dispute or controversy. The Level 1 period shall begin when one party gives notice to the other by certified mail. Such notice shall identify the dispute or controversy with particularity and state that the party is commencing this Level 1 procedure to resolve the dispute. Should the dispute not be resolved within thirty (30) calendar days of the commencement of the Level 1 period, the dispute shall be advanced to Level 2.

Level 2: Only after the Parties have completed Level 1 of the DRP without resolving the dispute or controversy and before entering into Level 3 of the DRP, the Parties shall enter into a mediation process. Each party shall bear its own costs in preparing for and conducting mediation, except that the joint costs, if any, of the actual mediation proceeding shall be shared equally by the Parties. The Parties shall select a mutually agreeable mediator to aid the Parties in resolving the dispute or controversy. The mediator shall not be an employee or former employee of either Party. The mediation shall be held at a mutually agreeable date, time, and location.

Level 3: Only after the completion of both Levels 1 and 2 above without a satisfactory resolution of the dispute or controversy, either party may bring suit in in the courts of competent jurisdiction within Spokane County, Washington. Each party shall bear its own attorneys' fees and costs of any such litigation.

SECTION 11: ASSIGNMENT

This Agreement shall not be assigned, sublet, pledged, conveyed, sold, sublicensed, transferred, or otherwise disposed of for any reason whatsoever in whole or part without the express written consent of the Parties.

SECTION 12: MODIFICATION

No modification or amendment to this Agreement shall be valid until the same is reduced to writing and executed with the same formalities as this present Agreement.

SECTION 13: VENUE STIPULATION

This Agreement has been and shall be construed as having been made and delivered within the State of Washington and it is mutually understood and agreed by each party that this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Washington both as to interpretation and performance. Any action at law, suit in equity, or other judicial proceeding for the enforcement of this Agreement, or any provision hereto, shall be instituted only in courts of competent jurisdiction within Spokane County, Washington.

SECTION 14: WAIVER

No officer, employee, agent or otherwise of the County or City Parks has the power, right, or authority to waive any of the conditions or provisions to this Agreement. No waiver of any breach of this Agreement shall be held to be a waiver of any other or subsequent breach. All remedies afforded in this Agreement or at law shall be taken and constructed as cumulative, that is, in addition to every other remedy provided herein or by law. Failure of either party to enforce at any time any of the provisions of this Agreement or to require at any time full and complete performance by the other of any provision hereof, shall in no way be construed to be a waiver of such provisions, nor in any way affect the validity of this Agreement or any part hereof, or the right of either party to hereafter enforce each and every such provision.

SECTION 15: NOTICES

All notices required or permitted under this Agreement shall be in writing and served upon the Parties in person, by certified U.S. mail (return receipt requested) directed to the mailing addresses set forth below or the mailing addresses designated by a party pursuant to written notice, or by electronic mail to the email address set forth below or the email address designated by a party pursuant to written notice. Any notice so mailed shall be effective three (3) days after mailing. Any notice in person or by electronic mail shall be effective immediately. All changes of address

shall be effective upon written notice in the fashion provided by this section. The Parties hereby designate the following individuals to receive notice.

For the County:

Spokane County Parks, Recreation & Golf Department
C/O Director
404 North Havana St.
Spokane, WA 99202
dchase@spokanecounty.org

For City Parks:

Spokane Parks & Recreation Department
C/O Director
808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Floor 5
Spokane, WA 99201
gjones@spokanecounty.org

SECTION 16: ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement, including the exhibits, contains all the promises, agreements, conditions, inducements and understandings between the parties relative to the City Parks Parcel; and there are no promises, agreements, conditions, inducements, understandings, warranties or representations, oral or written, expressed or implied, between them other than as set forth herein.

SECTION 17: SEVERABILITY

If any portion of this Agreement should become invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 18: ALL WRITINGS CONTAINED HEREIN

This Agreement contains all the terms and conditions agreed upon by the Parties. No other understandings, oral or otherwise, regarding the subject matter of this Agreement shall be deemed to exist or to bind any of the Parties hereto. The County has read and understands this entire Agreement, and now states that no representation, promise, or agreement not expressed in this Agreement has been made to induce him to execute the same.

SECTION 19: HEADINGS

The article headings in this Agreement have been inserted solely for the purpose of convenience and ready reference. In no way do they purport to, and shall not be deemed to, define, limit, or extend the scope or intent of the sections to which they appertain.

SECTION 20: COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which, when so executed and delivered, shall be an original, but such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same.

SECTION 21: NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Parties, their employees, and agents shall not discriminate against any person based on race; religion; color; sex; gender identity and expression; pregnancy; childbirth; breastfeeding; medical conditions related to pregnancy, childbirth, or breastfeeding; sexual orientation; marital status; age; national origin; ancestry; genetic information; disability; veteran status; or any class protected by local, state, or federal law.

SECTION 22: FORCE MAJEURE

Neither Party shall not be considered in breach or non-compliance by reason of any failure in performance if such failure arises out of causes reasonably beyond that Party's control and without its fault or negligence. Neither Party will be held responsible for delay of failure to perform herein when such delay or failure is due to fire, flood, riot, epidemic, pandemic, acts of God or the public enemy, acts of terrorism, acts of war, unusually severe weather, legal acts of public authorities, public carries, labor disputes, or other circumstances which cannot be forecast or provided against.

SECTION 23: SPECIAL PROVISION

A Party's failure to insist upon the strict performance of any provision of this Agreement or to exercise any right based upon breach thereof or the acceptance of any performance during such breach, shall not constitute a waiver of any right under this Agreement.

SECTION 24: REMEDIES

No remedy herein conferred upon any Party is intended to be exclusive of any other remedy, and each and every such remedy shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to every other remedy given hereunder or now or hereafter existing at law or in equity or by statute or otherwise. No single or partial exercise by any Party of any right, power, or remedy hereunder shall preclude any other or further exercise thereof.

SECTION 25: ANTI-KICKBACK

No officer or employee of either Party, having the power or duty to perform an official act or action related to this Agreement, shall have or acquire any interest in this Agreement, or have solicited, accepted, or granted a present or future gift, favor, service, or other thing of value from or to any person involved in this Agreement.

SECTION 26: TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

Time is of the essence with respect to each and every provision of this Agreement and attached exhibits.

SECTION 27: RECORDS

All public records repaired, owned, used or retained by either Party in conjunction with meeting its responsibilities under this Agreement shall be made available to the other Party upon written request subject to the attorney-client and attorney work product privileges set forth in statute, court rule, or case law.

SECTION 28: NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES

Nothing in this Agreement is intended to give, or shall give, whether directly or indirectly any benefit or right, greater than that enjoyed by the general public, to third persons.

SECTION 29: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

The Parties shall observe all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and regulations, to the extent that they may be applicable to the terms of this Agreement.

SECTION 30: EXECUTION AND APPROVAL

The Parties warrant that the officers/individuals executing below have been duly authorized to act for and on behalf of the Party for purposes of confirming this Agreement.

SECTION 31: RCW 39.34 REQUIRED CLAUSES

- A. **PURPOSE:** See Section No. 1 above.
- B. **DURATION:** See Section No. 2 above.
- C. **ORGANIZATION OF SEPARATE ENTITY AND ITS POWERS:** No new or separate legal or administrative entity is created to administer the provisions of this Agreement.
- D. **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES:** See provisions above.
- E. **AGREEMENT TO BE FILED:** City Parks shall file this Agreement with its City Clerk. The County shall file this Agreement with its County Auditor or place it on its web site or other electronically retrievable public source.
- F. **FINANCING:** Each party shall be responsible for the financing of its contractual obligations under its normal budgetary process.
- G. **TERMINATION:** See Section No. 5 above.

H. **PROPERTY UPON TERMINATION:** Title to all property acquired by any party in the performance of this Agreement shall remain with the acquiring party upon termination of the Agreement. Jointly acquired property shall be divided in proportion to the percentage share of each party contributing to its acquisition.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed on the day and year first set forth above.

COUNTY:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON

MARY L. KUNEY, CHAIR

ATTEST:

Ginna Vasquez
Clerk of the Board

CITY PARKS:

CITY OF SPOKANE PARKS & RECREATION

GARRETT JONES, DIRECTOR

JENNIFER OGDEN, PARK BOARD PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

Approved as to form:

Clerk

Assistant City Attorney

EXHIBIT A

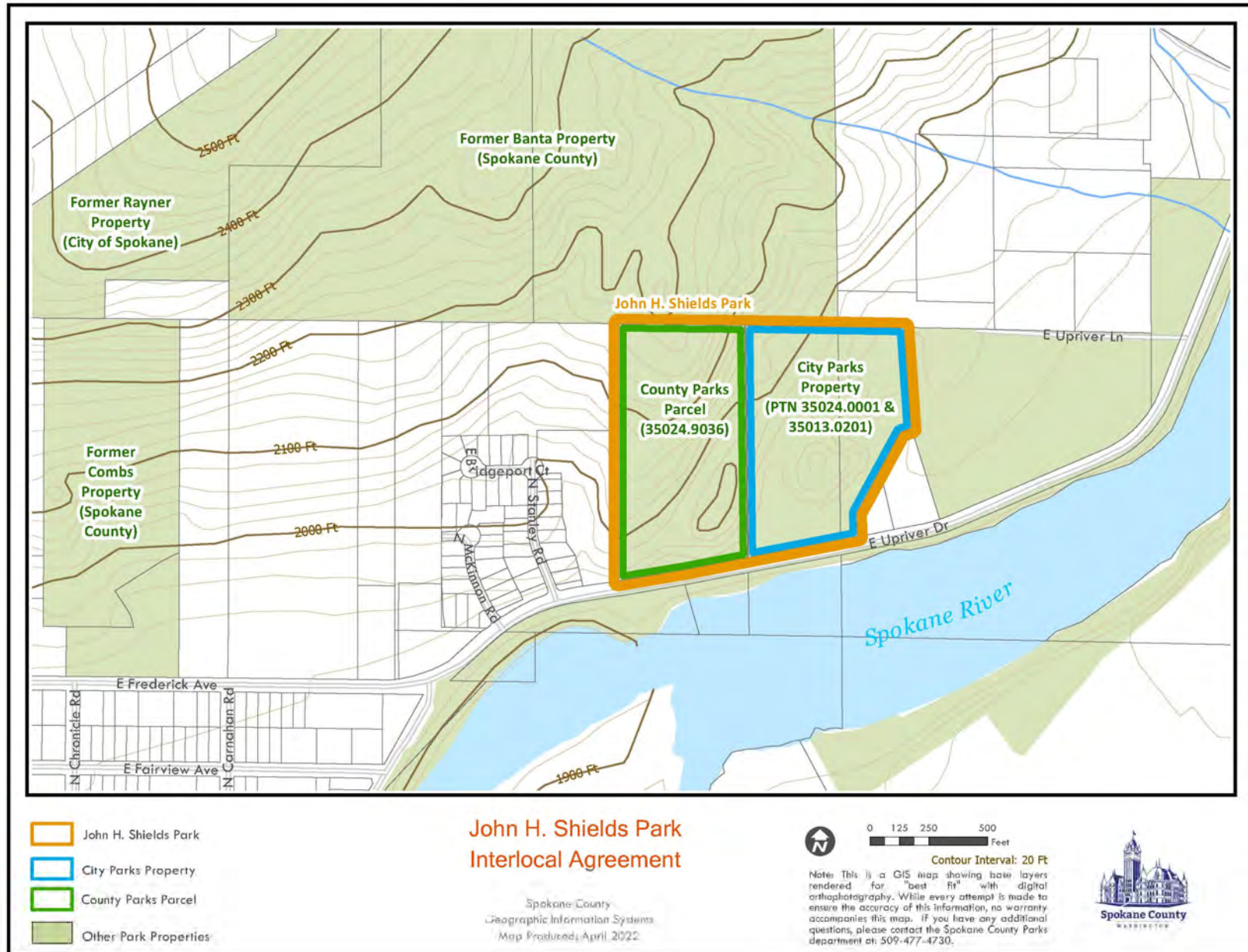
Legal Description of the City Parks Property

THE EAST 24 RODS OF THE SE ¼ OF THE SE ¼ OF SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH RANGE 43 E.W.M., EXCLUDING UPRIVER DRIVE RIGHT OF WAY TOGETHER WITH THE WESTERN 325 FEET OF PORTION OF SPOKANE COUNTY TAX PARCEL NUMBER 35013.0201.

Spokane County Tax Parcel Nos. 35024.0001 and 35013.0201 (Portion).

Situate Spokane County, State of Washington.

EXHIBIT B Map of County and City Parks Property (i.e. Shields Park)



Spokane Park Board

Briefing Paper



Committee	Land Committee		
Committee meeting date	June 1, 2022		
Requester	Nick Hamad	Phone number: 363-5452	
Type of agenda item	<input type="radio"/> Consent <input type="radio"/> Discussion <input type="radio"/> Information <input checked="" type="radio"/> Action		
Type of contract/agreement	<input checked="" type="radio"/> New <input type="radio"/> Renewal/extension <input type="radio"/> Amendment/change order <input type="radio"/> Other		
City Clerks file (OPR or policy #)			
Item title: (Use exact language noted on the agenda)	Avista Corporation Donated Conservation Easement / Beacon Hill (no cost)		
Begin/end dates	Begins: June 9, 2022	Ends:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open ended
Background/history: <p>In February 2020, the Park Board authorized the acquisition of private property from willing sellers if purchased by the County Conservation Futures program. In May 2020, the Park Board authorized a resolution permitting Spokane City Parks to jointly pursue \$1.5M in Washington State RCO grant funding for the 'Make Beacon Hill Public Project'. Grant funding was awarded through RCO for the project and all private property (~160 acres) has been acquired.</p> <p>The Make Beacon Hill Public project included donated conservation easements on 87 acres of property owned by Avista Corporation within the Make Beacon Hill Public project area. The approval and acceptance of this donated conservation easement by Spokane City will ensure its long term protection. The existing public trails on this property are maintained by Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, which currently has an MOU with Spokane Parks.</p>			
Motion wording: Move to approve Avista Corporation donated conservation easement at Beacon Hill (no cost).			
Approvals/signatures outside Parks: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No If so, who/what department, agency or company: Avista Utilities Name: Bruce Howard Email address: bruce.howard@avistacorp.com Phone: 509.495.2941			
Distribution: Parks – Accounting Paul Knowles Parks – Pamela Clarke Al Vorderbruegge Requester: Nick Hamad Grant Management Department/Name:			
Fiscal impact: <input type="radio"/> Expenditure <input checked="" type="radio"/> Revenue Amount: Budget code: N/A N/A			
Vendor: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Existing vendor <input type="radio"/> New vendor Supporting documents: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Quotes/solicitation (RFP, RFQ, RFB) <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor is on the City's A&E Roster - City of Spokane <input type="checkbox"/> UBI: Business license expiration date: </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> W-9 (for new contractors/consultants/vendors) <input type="checkbox"/> ACH Forms (for new contractors/consultants/vendors) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Certificate (min. \$1 million in General Liability) </div> </div>			

After Recording Return To:

City of Spokane Parks & Recreation
808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd, Floor 5
Spokane, WA 99201

Document Title: Easement
Grantor: Avista Corp
Grantee: City of Spokane
Legal Description: PTN SW ¼ of Section 2, Township 25 North, Range 43 East W.M., more particularly described below.
Assessor's Tax Parcel #: 35023.0014, 35024.0038, 35023.0012

CONSERVATION EASEMENT

This Easement (the "Easement") is made this _____ day of _____, 2022 by and between Avista Corporation, a for profit corporation registered in the state of Washington, whose principal place of business is 1411 E Mission Ave, Spokane WA, 99202 ("Grantor"), and City of Spokane, a Washington municipal corporation, acting through the City of Spokane Park Board, with its principal place of business at 808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, Washington, 99201 ("Grantee"), hereinafter each referred to as a "Party" and collectively the "Parties".

Recitals

WHEREAS, Grantor is the sole owner in fee simple of certain real property situated to the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 25, Range 43 East of the Willamette Meridian, in Spokane County, Washington, and legally described in Exhibit "A", attached hereto and referred to hereinafter as the "Protected Property"; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property is approximately 12.31 acres of land that possesses open space and recreational values, collectively "Conservation Values", of interest to Grantor and to Grantee and to the residents of City of Spokane and the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the specific Conservation Values of the Protected Property are documented in an inventory of relevant features of the Protected Property (the "Baseline Resource Report"), on file with the Grantee, which consists of reports, maps, photographs, and other documentation which the Parties agree provides an accurate representation of the Protected Property at the time of the Easement and which is intended to serve as a baseline for monitoring compliance with the terms of this Easement; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property was identified for preservation in the Beacon Hill Trail System Preservation Plan (2016) as well as the 2020 Spokane County Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property is part of the Make Beacon Hill Public Project, which is a partnership between the Grantor, Grantee, Spokane County, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, Inland Northwest Land Conservancy, and others with the goal of permanently protecting through acquisition and donated easements approximately 250 acres of privately owned land that contains the core of the Beacon Hill Trail System; and

WHEREAS, the Grantee and Spokane County jointly applied for grant funding for the Make Beacon Hill Public Project through the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office (“RCO”), under grant #20-1276; and

WHEREAS, as a component to said grant applications, the Grantor committed to donating a conservation easement allowing public recreational use of the Protected Property; and

WHEREAS, Grantor desires to convey a conservation easement to the Grantee on the Protected Property to (1) provide the public the legal right to enjoy non-motorized outdoor recreation on the Protected Property consistent with Revised Code of Washington (“RCW”) 84.34.200 and (2) preserve the Conservation Values of the Protected Property; and

WHEREAS, Grantor intends that the Conservation Values of the Protected Property be preserved and maintained in perpetuity by permitting only those activities on the Protected Property that do not significantly impair or interfere with the Conservation Values; provided that Grantor shall retain the unrestricted right to access, protect, operate, upgrade and maintain its communication, electric transmission and distribution lines, gas lines, and appurtenant facilities and corridor (the “Facilities”) including gated road access and vegetation management activities existing at the time of this grant or as may be applied by Grantor in the future; and

WHEREAS, Grantor further intends, as owner of the Protected Property, to convey to Grantee by this Grant of Easement the right to preserve and protect the Conservation Values of the Protected Property in perpetuity, subject to Grantor’s right to access, protect, operate, upgrade and maintain its Facilities; and

WHEREAS, This Easement is created pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the “IRC”) at Title 26, U.S.C.A., Sections 170(h)(1)-(6), 2031(c), 2055 and 2522, as applicable, and RCW 64.04.130; and

WHEREAS, Grantee is a government agency that is qualified to accept lands and easements for the purpose of preserving and protecting the natural, scenic, recreational, and open space values of real property (“a qualified grantee”); and

WHEREAS, Grantee desires to accept this Easement to honor the intentions of the Grantor as stated herein and to preserve and protect in perpetuity the Conservation Values of the Protected Property for the benefit of this generation and the generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Grantor and Grantee, recognizing the importance of the Protected Property for (i) Grantor's Facilities, as well as (ii) Grantee's conservation and public recreation, as demonstrated by the aforementioned facts, have the common purposes of serving the public interest and conserving the natural and scenic values of the Protected Property by the conveyance of this Easement on, over and across the Protected Property.

NOW, THEREFORE, for the reasons stated above and in consideration of the mutual terms, conditions, restrictions and affirmative rights contained herein, and pursuant to the laws of the State of Washington, and specifically RCW 64.04.130, as amended, Grantor hereby freely gives, grants, conveys, and warrants to Grantee forever a perpetual conservation easement and restriction, all as more particularly set forth below, in the Protected Property as follows:

1. **Grant of Development Rights.** Grantor freely gives, grants, and conveys unto Grantee forever, the development rights and perpetual conservation easement and restrictions (all as more particularly set forth below) in the Protected Property. The development rights hereby conveyed to the Grantee include the rights specifically described in Section 3 below, and exclude those rights specifically reserved by Grantor and all additional rights Grantor may require to carry out the permitted uses of the Protected Property as described herein. The conservation easement and restrictions hereby conveyed to the Grantee consist of covenants on the part of the Grantor to do or refrain from doing, severally and collectively, the various acts set forth below.

It is hereby acknowledged that these covenants shall constitute a servitude upon the land and shall run with the land in perpetuity. Grantee accepts such covenants in order to preserve the Conservation Values of the Protected Property in perpetuity. This conveyance is a conveyance of an interest in real property under the provisions of RCW 64.04.130, as amended, and is made as an absolute, unconditional, unqualified, and completed gift, subject only to title matters of record and the mutual covenants, terms, conditions and restrictions set forth in the Easement, and for no other considerations whatsoever.

2. **Conservation Purposes.** The conservation purposes ("Conservation Purposes") of this Easement are to assure that the Protected Property will be retained forever in its largely undeveloped open space condition providing for the preservation of land areas for non-motorized outdoor recreation and for the scenic enjoyment of the general public, pursuant RCW 84.34.200 and thus providing a significant public benefit and to prevent any use of the Protected Property that would impair or interfere with the Conservation Values of the Protected Property. Subject to Grantor's Reserved Rights described

herein, Grantor intends that this Easement will confine the use of the Protected Property to such activities as are consistent with the Conservation Purposes of this Easement.

3. **Rights of Grantee.** To accomplish the “Conservation Purposes” of this Easement, the following rights are conveyed to Grantee, it’s successors, and assigns by this Easement:
 - (a) To preserve and protect the Conservation Values of the Protected Property; and
 - (b) To enter upon the Protected Property, for the purpose of making a general inspection to assure compliance with the terms of this Easement; and
 - (c) To prevent any activity on or use of the Protected Property by third parties, which is inconsistent with the Conservation Purposes of this Easement and to require the restoration of such areas or features of the Protected Property that may be damaged by any inconsistent activity or use, pursuant to the remedies set forth in Section 7.; and
 - (d) To construct and maintain or cause to construct and maintain the Beacon Hill Trail System, a portion of which currently, or in the future, is located on the Protected Property in accordance with the Grantor’s prior use and approval that such trails will not conflict with the Grantor’s Reserved Rights described in Section 5.; and
 - (e) The Grantee's and the Public's acceptance of this Easement shall be consistent with RCW 84.34.200, Spokane County's Conservation Futures Program, and any legal instrument recorded upon the Protected Property required by the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office (“RCO”) as a condition of the Grantee's acceptance of Make Beacon Hill Public grant awards.
4. **Restricted Uses of the Protected Property.** Any activity on or use of the Protected Property must be consistent with the Conservation Purposes of this Easement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following activities and uses are expressly prohibited:
 - (a) The Protected Property consists of one parcel, further described and depicted in Exhibits “A” and “B” herein; that must always be conveyed together and cannot be conveyed separately or in parts. Grantor shall not legally or in a “de facto” manner subdivide or change the boundaries of the Protected Property, which shall include, but not be limited to, any subdivision, short subdivision, platting, binding site plan, testamentary division, lot line adjustment, or other process by which the Protected Property is divided into parts or the dimensions or size of the Protected Property is changed; and

- (b) All residential, commercial, or industrial activities shall be prohibited, and no building or structure shall be constructed, created, erected or moved onto the Protected Property, except as needed to access, operate, maintain, replace, repair, upgrade, remove and construct the Facilities under Section 5. herein; and
- (c) There shall be no disturbance of the surface, including but not limited to filling, excavation, removal of topsoil, sand, gravel, rocks, minerals or change of the topography of the Protected Property in any manner, except as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the permitted uses as allowed herein. In no case shall the Grantor explore for, or pursue the development and extraction of, minerals or hydrocarbons by any surface mining method or any other method. The exceptions listed in this Paragraph shall not be interpreted to permit any extraction or removal of surface materials inconsistent with Section 170(h)(5) of the IRC and the applicable Treasury Regulations; and
- (d) There shall be no buildings or other structures, including communication towers, constructed on or moved onto the Protected Property, other than those structures appurtenant to the Grantor's Facilities; and
- (e) Timber harvesting shall comply with a Forest Management Plan as allowed in Section 5 herein; and
- (f) There shall be no construction of roads on the Protected Property other than roads reasonably necessary to access, operate, maintain, replace, repair, upgrade, remove and construct the Facilities and related structures under Section 5 herein; and
- (g) There shall be no granting of new access or utility easements across the Protected Property other than in furtherance of the Reserved Rights under Section 5 herein; and
- (h) There shall be no billboards or outdoor advertising erected or displayed; PROVIDED, however, Grantor may erect and maintain reasonable signs indicating boundary markers, informational signage, temporary signs indicating the Protected Property is for sale or lease, and Grantor may, with the permission of Grantee, which permissions shall not be unreasonably denied, erect and maintain signs designating the Protected Property as land under the protection of the Grantee. Subject to Grantor's prior review and approval, which will not be unreasonably withheld, Grantee may, at its sole cost and expense, install kiosks and signs relating to recreational trails and natural history and the property's role in the Make Beacon Hill Public Project; and
- (i) The permanent placement, collection or storage of trash, human waste, or any unsightly or offensive material on the Protected Property is prohibited; and

- (j) There shall be no more than a de minimis use of the Protected Property for commercial recreational activities, as such terms are defined by Section 2031(c)(8)(B) of the IRC and applicable Treasury regulations. Motorized use shall be prohibited on the Protected Property except in conjunction with exercising of the Grantor's rights as allowed herein; and
- (k) Grazing of livestock shall be prohibited on the Prohibited Property unless recommended in conjunction with a stewardship or habitat management plan or as recommended to preserve and / or enhance the Conservation Values of the Protected Property.

5. **Permitted Uses of the Protected Property ("Reserved Rights")**. The following uses of the Protected Property shall be permitted as Reserved Rights:

- (a) The Grantor retains exclusive use and control of access to the Protected Property, including, without limitation, to protect, operate, maintain, repair, upgrade, remove and construct, as needed, the Facilities. Grantee acknowledges and agrees that Grantor's Reserved Rights are complimentary to and do not conflict with the Grantee's rights granted herein and the public's right to enjoy and use the Protected Property for non-motorized recreation consistent with RCW 84.34.200. Grantor and Grantee will develop a memorandum of understanding with Grantee and other parties relating to designing, locating, constructing, maintaining and improving the recreational trails; and
- (b) Grantee and / or Grantor may construct or cause to construct natural surface trails as part of the Beacon Hill Trail System. New trails shall not be located or constructed to negatively impact the Grantor's or Grantee's other rights as granted and reserved herein. New trails (not shown in the Baseline Report) shall be located, sited, and / or limited to preserve the Conservation Values of the Protected Property. Grantor shall make reasonable efforts to avoid damaging trails that are a part of the Beacon Hill Trail System, and in instances where existing and future trails are displaced or damaged by Grantor, Grantor shall be responsible for the repair or relocation of such trails; and
- (c) Grantor retains the right to access, operate, maintain, replace, repair, upgrade, remove, and construct Facilities. Any related and/or associated land disturbance caused by these activities will be reasonably restored by Grantor at the Grantor's sole expense to a condition consistent with this Easement or relevant permit requirements; and
- (d) Harvesting and removal of standing dead or down trees by Grantor for its own personal use or to mitigate potential risk, is permitted without prior notice to Grantee. Commercial or pre-commercial timber harvesting shall be conducted

according to standard utility practices, in accordance with a forest or vegetation management plan, which will be provided to Grantee for review, upon its request, and shall comply with all applicable regulations; and

(e) Grantor may undertake activities necessary to protect public health and safety on the Protected Property, including, but not limited to activities required by local, state, or federal regulatory agencies; PROVIDED, that such activities shall be conducted in a manner which minimizes interference with the Conservation Purposes of this Easement, except when an emergency response is required in the judgment of the Grantor to protect the public or its energy infrastructure; and

(f) Grazing of livestock shall only be permitted on the Prohibited Property in conjunction with a stewardship or habitat management plan or as recommended to preserve and / or enhance the Conservation Values of the Protected Property

6. **Notice Requirements.** The purpose of notification is to afford Grantee an opportunity to ensure that the contemplated activities or uses on the Protected Property are designed and carried out in a manner consistent with the Conservation Purposes. Grantor shall endeavor to notify Grantee, in writing, at least fourteen (14) days before Grantor intends to exercise the Reserved Rights that are specified in Section 6(a) below. Such notice shall be sent via first class certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Grantee's address: **City of Spokane Parks & Recreation, C/O Director, 808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, WA 99201.** The Parties agree to accept notice via e-mail. The notice shall describe the nature, scope, design, location, timetable, and any other material aspect of the proposed activity or use in sufficient detail to permit Grantee to make an informed judgment as to its consistency with the Reserved Rights. If such notice pertains to proposed timber harvest activities that require notice, said notice shall include a copy of Grantor's Forest Practices Application ("FPA"). Prior notice is not required when Grantor needs to take emergency action to prevent, abate, or mitigate risk or injury to persons, the Protected Property, the Facilities, or abutting properties.

(a) Written notice to Grantee as specified above shall be required for:

- i. Transfer of Title as allowed in Section 13;
- ii. Building any future structures;
- iii. Commercial or pre-commercial timber harvest; and
- iv. Replacing, upgrading, removing and constructing Facilities.

7. **Grantee's Remedies.**

Notice of Violation; Corrective Action. If Grantee determines that a violation of the terms and conditions of this Easement has occurred or is threatened, Grantee shall provide written notice to Grantor of such violation via certified mail, return receipt requested, and demand that Grantor take corrective action sufficient to reasonably cure the violation, and restore the Protected Property to its prior condition within a commercially reasonable period of time. Notice shall be addressed to: **Avista Corp, C/O Real Estate Manager, 1411 E. Mission Ave. Spokane, WA 99202.**

- (a) Injunctive and Other Relief. The Parties to the Easement specifically acknowledge that events and circumstances of noncompliance may constitute immediate and irreparable injury, loss and damage to the Protected Property, and accordingly entitle Grantee to such equitable relief, including but not limited to injunctive relief, as a court deems fair and just.
 - i. Injunctive Relief. If Grantor fails to cure the violation within the period provided by the Grantee, or fails to begin curing the violation within the period provided, or fails to continue diligently to cure such violation until finally cured, Grantee may bring an action at law or in equity in a court of competent jurisdiction to enforce the terms of this Easement, to enjoin the violation, *ex parte* as necessary, by temporary or permanent injunctions, and to require the restoration of the Protected Property to the condition that existed prior to any such injury.
 - ii. Damages. Grantee may seek to recover damages for uncured violations of the terms of this Easement or uncured injury to any Conservation Values protected by this Easement. Such damages, when recovered, shall be applied by Grantee to corrective action on the Protected Property.
 - iii. Other Remedies Available. The remedies described herein are in addition to, and not limitations of, any other remedies available to Grantee at law, in equity, or through administrative proceedings.
- (b) Emergency Enforcement. If Grantee, in its sole and reasonable discretion, determines that circumstances require immediate action to prevent or mitigate significant damage to the Conservation Values of the Protected Property, Grantee may pursue its remedies under this Section 7 without prior notice to Grantor or without waiting for the period provided for cure to expire.
- (c) Scope of Relief. Grantee's rights under this Section 7 apply equally in the event of either actual or threatened violations of the terms of this Easement. Grantor agrees that Grantee's remedies at law for any violation of the terms of this Easement are inadequate and that Grantee shall be entitled to the injunctive and other relief described in Section 7(b), in addition to such other relief to which

the Grantee may be entitled, including specific performance of the terms of this Easement, without the necessity of proving either actual damages or the inadequacy of otherwise available legal remedies. Grantee's remedies described in this Section 7 shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to all remedies now or hereafter existing at law or in equity.

- (d) Costs of Enforcement. If a court determines that Grantor has failed to comply with this Easement and that such failure was without reasonable cause or in bad faith, Grantor shall reimburse Grantee for any reasonable costs of enforcement, including, without limitation, Grantee's staff time, court costs, and reasonable attorney fees, in addition to any other payments ordered by such court. In the event that Grantee initiates litigation and the court determines that the Grantor has not failed to comply with this Easement and that Grantee initiated litigation without reasonable cause or in bad faith, then Grantee shall reimburse Grantor for any reasonable costs of defending such action, including court costs and reasonable attorney fees.
- (e) Forbearance. No forbearance, delay or omission by either Party in the exercise of any right or remedy upon breach by the other Party shall impair the non-breaching Party's rights or remedies or be construed as a waiver.
- (f) Acts Beyond Grantor's Control. Nothing contained in this Easement shall be construed to entitle Grantee to bring any action against Grantor for any injury to or change in the Protected Property resulting from causes beyond Grantor's control, including, without limitation, fire, flood, storm, and earth movement, or from any prudent action taken by Grantor under emergency conditions to prevent, abate, or mitigate injury to the property resulting from such causes or from acts of trespassers. Results of the acts of Grantor's invitees shall not be considered beyond Grantor's control for purposes of this paragraph. In the event the terms of this Easement are violated by acts of trespassers or the general public, Grantor agrees, at Grantee's option and expense, to join in any suit, to assign its right of action to Grantee, or to appoint Grantee its attorney-in-fact, for the purpose of pursuing enforcement action against the responsible parties.
- (g) Prior Owners. Nothing in this Section 7 shall be construed as imposing liability upon a prior owner of the Protected Property, where the event or circumstance of noncompliance shall have occurred after said prior owner's ownership or control of the Protected Property has terminated.

8. **Costs, Liabilities, Taxes and Environmental Compliance.**

- (a) Costs. Grantor retains all responsibilities and shall bear all costs and liabilities of any kind related to the ownership, operation, upkeep, and maintenance of the Protected Property, unless otherwise provided for herein such as costs and

liabilities related to the Beacon Trail System, for which Grantee shall be responsible.

- (b) Taxes. Grantor shall pay all taxes levied against the Protected Property by competent authority as they become due.
- (c) Hold Harmless. Grantor hereby agrees to release and hold harmless, indemnify, and defend Grantee and its members, directors, officers, employees, agents, and contractors and the personal representatives, heirs, successors, and assigns of each of them (collectively “Indemnified Parties”) from and against all liabilities, penalties, costs, losses, damages, expenses, causes of action, claims, demands of judgments, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys’ and consultants’ fees, arising or in any way connected with:
 - i. Injury to, or the death of, any person, or physical damage to any property, resulting from any act, omission, condition or other matter related to or occurring on or about the Protected Property that is not a consequence of any activity of any of the Indemnified Parties undertaken under the rights granted to Grantee under this Easement;
 - ii. Violations or alleged violations of, or other failure to comply with, any federal, state or local environmental law or regulation relating to pollutants or hazardous, toxic or dangerous substances or materials, including, without limitation, 42 U.S.C. § 9601 and RCW 70.105D. by any person other than any of the Indemnified Parties, in any way affecting, involving, or relating to the Protected Property, unless such violations or alleged violations are due solely to the acts or omissions of any of the Indemnified Parties;
 - iii. The presence or release in, on, from, or about the Protected Property, at any time, of any substance now or hereafter defined, listed or otherwise classified pursuant to any federal, state or local law, regulation or requirement as hazardous, toxic or dangerous to the air, water or soil, or in any way harmful or threatening to human health or the environment, unless caused solely by any of the Indemnified Parties; and
 - iv. The obligations specified in this Section 8.
- (d) Control. Nothing in this Easement shall be construed as giving rise, in the absence of a judicial decree, to any right or ability in Grantee to exercise physical or managerial control over the day-to-day operations of the Protected Property, or over any of Grantor’s activities on the Protected Property, or otherwise to become an owner or operator with respect to the Protected Property within the meaning of 42 U.S.C. § 9601 or RCW 70.105D.

9. **Extinguishment.** If circumstances arise in the future that render the Conservation Purposes of this Easement impossible to accomplish, such as, but not limited to, taking by eminent domain, this Easement can only be terminated or extinguished, whether in whole or in part, by judicial proceedings in a court having jurisdiction. The amount of the proceeds to which Grantee shall be entitled, after the satisfaction of prior claims, from any sale, exchange or involuntary conversion of all or any portion of the Protected Property subsequent to such termination or extinguishment, shall be determined, unless otherwise provided by Washington law at the time, in accordance with Section 10 of this Easement. In the event the Grantor causes the extinguishment of this Easement, Grantor shall be solely responsible for any conversion costs as may be required by the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office (“RCO”) and its Successors through the Grantee’s acceptance of the Make Beacon Hill Public grant awards.
10. **Valuation.** This Easement constitutes a real property interest immediately vested in Grantee, which for the purposes of Section 9 above, the Parties stipulate to have a fair market value determined by multiplying (1) the fair market value of the Protected Property unencumbered by the Easement as of the effective date of such valuation by (2) “x/y”, which is the ratio of the value of the Easement at the time of this grant (“x”) to the value of the Protected Property unencumbered by this Easement at the time of this grant (“y”). The values at the time of this grant shall be those values used to calculate a deduction for federal income tax purposes allowable by reasons of this grant, if any, pursuant to Section 170(h) of the IRC (or any successor provisions(s) then applicable). For the purposes of this paragraph, the ratio of the value of the Easement to the value of the Protected Property unencumbered by the Easement (i.e., the x/y ratio cited above) shall remain constant.
11. **Assignment.** This Easement is transferable as provided herein, but Grantee may assign its rights and obligations under this Easement only to an organization that is a qualified organization at the time of transfer under Section 170(h) of the IRC (or any successor provision(s) then applicable), and authorized to acquire and hold conservation easements under RCW 64.04.130 (or any successor statute then applicable) or the laws of the United States. As a condition of such transfer, Grantee shall require written agreement from the transferee that the Conservation Purposes that this Easement are intended to advance will continue to be carried out. Grantee agrees to give written notice to Grantor of an assignment at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of such assignment, which shall be subject to Grantor’s review and approval, which will not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.
12. **Subsequent Transfers.** In any deed, lease or other instrument conveying any interest in all or part of the Protected Property, Grantor shall make reference to this Easement and shall indicate that this Easement is binding upon all successors in interest in the Protected Property in perpetuity. Grantor shall notify Grantee of the name and address of any successor in interest at least thirty (30) days prior to transferring any interest in

the Protected Property. The failure of Grantor to perform any act required by this Section shall not impair the validity of this Easement or limit its enforceability in any way.

13. **Estoppel Certificates**. Grantee shall within thirty (30) days, conduct an inspection, and execute any document, including an estoppel certificate, at Grantor's expense, which certifies, to the best of Grantee's knowledge, Grantor's compliance or lack thereof with any obligation of Grantor contained in this Easement as requested by Grantor. Such certification shall be delivered within ten (10) days of receipt of Grantor's payment therefore.
14. **Recordation**. Grantee shall cause to record this Easement in a timely fashion with the Spokane County Auditor's Office, State of Washington, and may re-record it at any time as may be required to preserve its rights in this Easement.
15. **Amendment**. If circumstances arise under which an amendment to, or modification of, this Easement is deemed desirable by the Parties, Grantor and Grantee are free to jointly amend this Easement; provided that: (1) the proposed amendment shall not affect the qualification of this Easement, or the status of the Grantee under any applicable laws, including RCW 64.04.130 or Section 170(h) of the IRC (or any successor provision(s) then applicable); (2) the proposed amendment does not cause a conversion as deemed by RCO; and (3) any such amendment shall be consistent with the Conservation Purposes of this Easement, shall not affect its perpetual duration, and shall be recorded with the Spokane County Auditor's Office, State of Washington.
16. **General Provisions**.
 - (a) **Successors**. The term "Grantor" shall include the successors, heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns of Avista Corporation. The term "Grantee" shall include the successors, executors, administrators, and assigns of Spokane County.
 - (b) **Joint Obligation**. The obligations imposed by this Easement upon Grantor (if more than one) shall be joint and several.
 - (c) **Severability**. Invalidation of any of the provisions of this Easement shall not affect any other provision of this Easement.
 - (d) **Controlling Law**. The interpretation and performance of this Easement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Washington.
 - (e) **Good Right and Title**. Grantor covenants that it is the sole owner(s) of the Protected Property, that it has good right and title to convey the Protected Property in a manner herein described, and that the Protected Property is free

from every encumbrance, except those of record, and hereby engages to warrant and defend the same against all lawful claims whatsoever.

- (f) Entire Agreement. This instrument sets forth the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the Easement and supersedes all prior discussions, negotiations, understandings, or agreements relating to the Easement, all of which are merged herein. No alteration or variation of this instrument shall be valid or binding unless contained in an amendment that complies with Section 16 above.
- (g) No Forfeiture. Nothing contained herein will result in a forfeiture or reversion of Grantor's title in any respect.
- (h) Captions. The captions in this instrument have been inserted solely for convenience and ease of reference and are not a part of this instrument and shall have no effect upon construction or interpretation.
- (i) Authority. The individuals signing below, if signing on behalf of any entity, represent and warrant that they have the requisite authority to bind the entity on whose behalf they are signing.
- (j) Acknowledgment of Donation. Except for such monetary considerations (if any) as is set forth in this document, Grantor acknowledges that no goods or services were received in consideration of this Grant.
- (k) No Representation of Tax Benefits. The undersigned Grantor(s) represent, warrant, and covenant to Grantee that: (1) Grantor(s) have not relied on any information or analyses furnished by Grantee about the availability, amount or effect of any deduction, credit or other benefit to Grantor(s) under applicable law; or the value of the conservation easement or property; (2) Grantor(s) have relied solely on their own judgment and/or professional advice furnished by their appraiser and legal, financial and accounting professionals. If Grantee recommended any of these people, Grantor(s) acknowledge that Grantee is not responsible in any way for the performance of their services; and (3) this Grant is not conditioned upon the availability or amount of any deduction, credit or other benefit under applicable law.
- (l) Full Incorporation. Each recital set forth above is fully incorporated into this Easement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor and Grantee have entered into this Easement as of the day and year first written above.

GRANTOR:

AVISTA CORPORATION

By: _____
Bruce Howard, its Senior Director of Environmental Affairs and Real Estate

STATE OF WASHINGTON)
) ss.
COUNTY OF SPOKANE)

I certify that I know or have satisfactory evidence that _____, personally appeared before me, and said persons acknowledged that they signed this instrument and acknowledged it to be the free and voluntary act

DATED this ____ day of _____, 2022.

GRANTEE:

CITY OF SPOKANE

By: _____
Park Board President

By: _____
Mayor

By: _____
City Attorney

ATTEST:

By: _____
City Clerk

STATE OF WASHINGTON)

) ss.

COUNTY OF SPOKANE)

On this _____ day of _____, 2022, before me personally appeared _____, and _____ to me known to be the Mayor, and the City Attorney, respectively, of the CITY OF SPOKANE, a municipal corporation, that executed the within and foregoing instrument, and acknowledged the said instrument to be the free and voluntary act and deed of the corporation, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned, and on oath stated that they were authorized to execute said instrument and that the seal affixed is the corporate seal of said corporation.

NOTARY PUBLIC

In and for the State of Washington,
residing at Spokane.

My appointment expires:_____.

EXHIBIT A

Legal Description of Protected Property

A portion of the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 25 North, Range 45 East W.M. as follows:

PARCEL A

The south ten rods of the east thirty-two rods of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 25 North, Range 45 East W.M.

PARCEL B

The two hundred-foot right of way over and across the North Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 25 North, Range 45 East W.M conveyed by Statutory Warranty Deed, Spokane County Recording Number 6944767.

PARCEL C

A portion of the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 25 North, Range 45 East W.M. as follows:

Beginning at the center of Section Two, thence South along the North-South centerline 244.43 feet, thence North 55°15'30" East 244.43 feet, then North on the line North East parallel with the North-South centerline 103.95 feet to East-West centerline, thence west along said East-West centerline 200 feet to Point of Beginning.

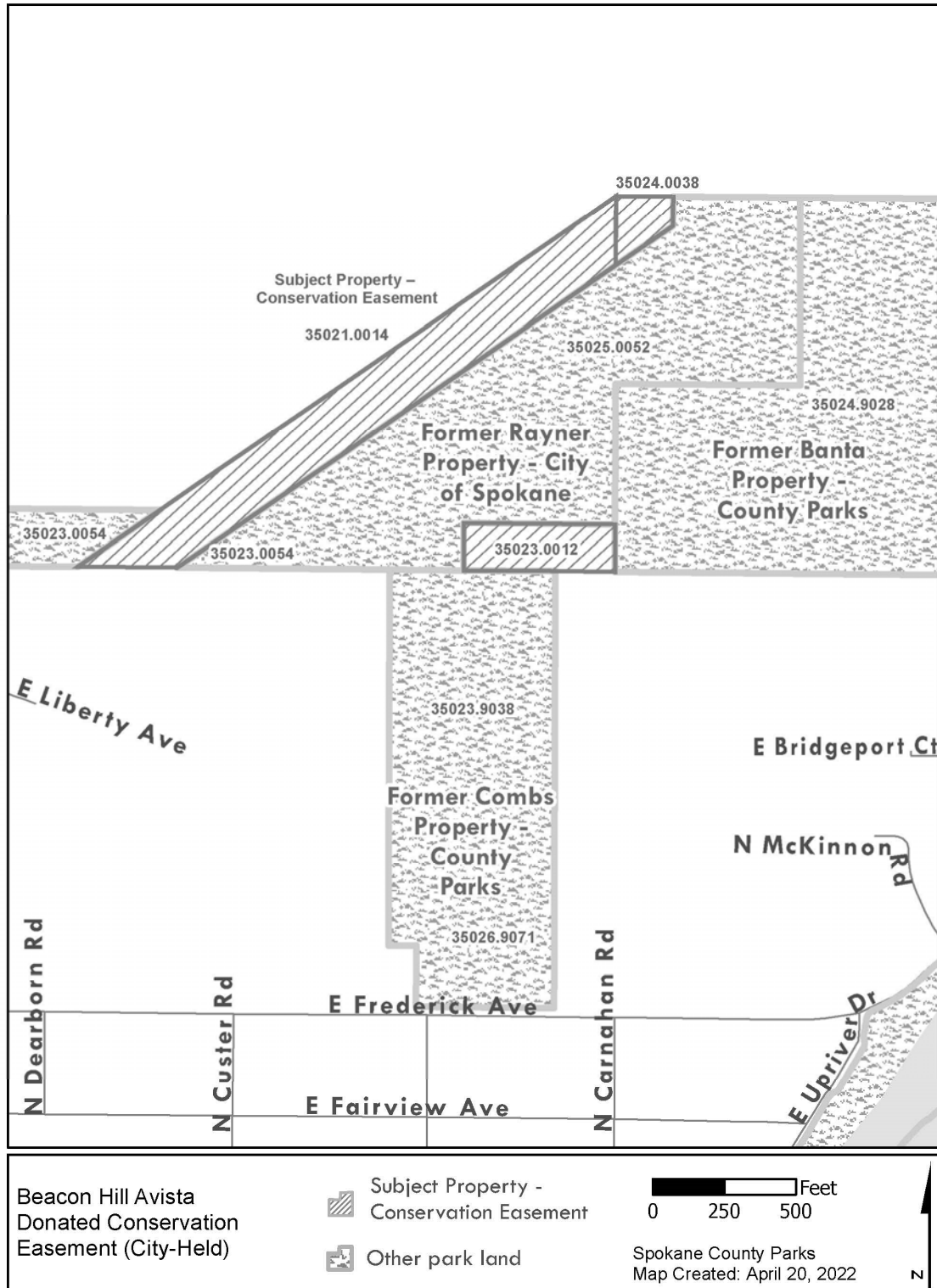
Situate in Spokane County, State of Washington.

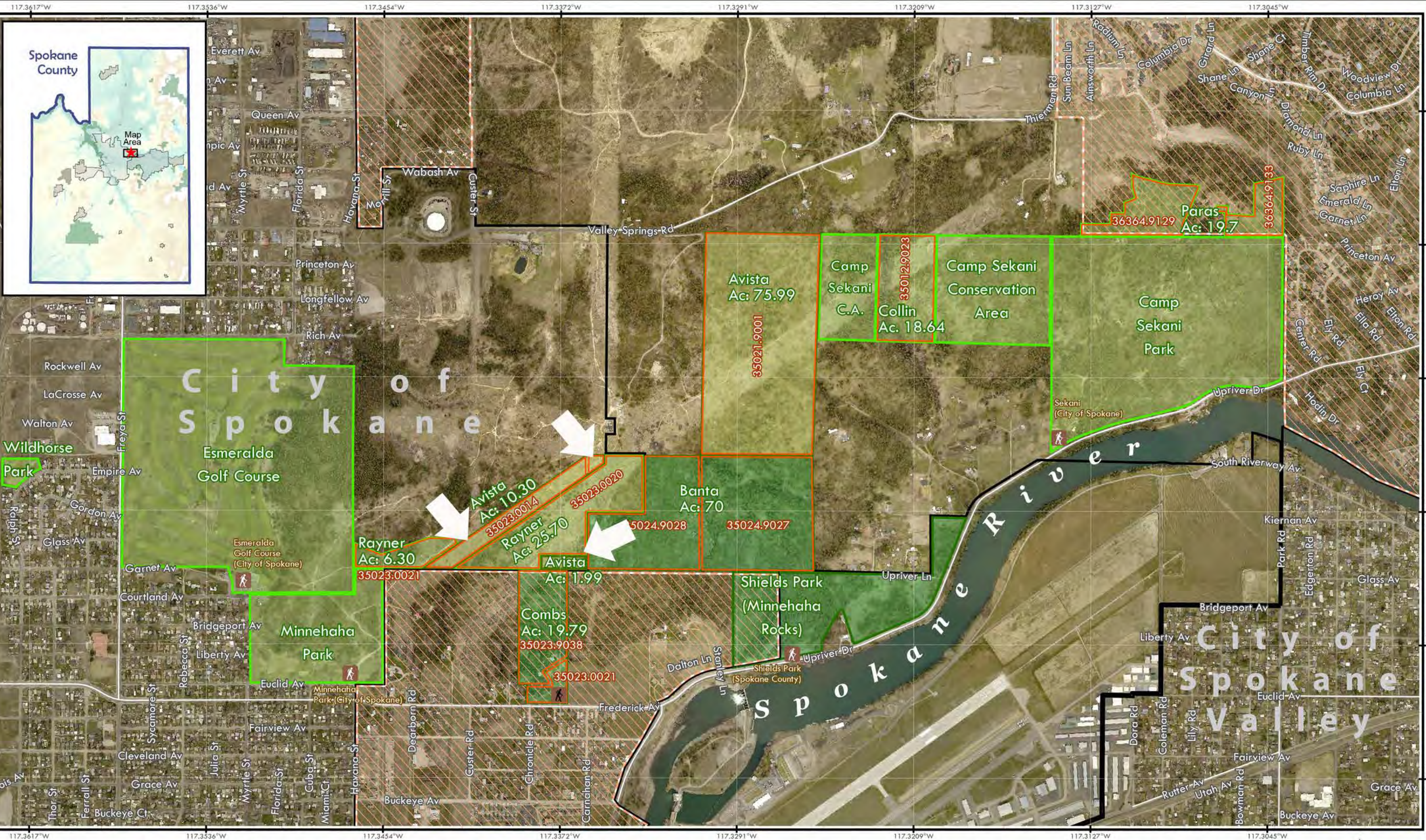
Containing 12.31 acres.

Assessor's Tax Parcel Number(s):

35023.0014, 35024.0038, 35023.0012

Exhibit B
Map of the Protected Property





- | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--|--|---------------------|
| | Existing Spokane County Parks | | Banta, Combs Properties - To be acquired by Spokane County Parks | | Urban Growth Area |
| | Existing Spokane City Parks | | Paros, Collin, Rayner Properties - To be acquired by City of Spokane Parks | | Existing Trailheads |
| | Parcel Acquisition Pieces | | Avista - Conservation/Public Recreation Easement to be Donated | | Future Trailhead |
| | Municipal Boundaries | | | | |

Make Beacon Hill Public
Parcel Detail Map
WWRP | Local Parks | 20-1275
w/ Aerial Imagery Detail



Spokane County
Geographic Information Systems
Map Produced: August 2020



Spokane Park Board

Briefing Paper



Committee	Land Committee		
Committee meeting date	June 1, 2022		
Requester	Nick Hamad	Phone number: 509-363-5452	
Type of agenda item	<input type="radio"/> Consent <input type="radio"/> Discussion <input type="radio"/> Information <input checked="" type="radio"/> Action		
Type of contract/agreement	<input checked="" type="radio"/> New <input type="radio"/> Renewal/extension <input type="radio"/> Amendment/change order <input type="radio"/> Other		
City Clerks file (OPR or policy #)			
Item title: (Use exact language noted on the agenda)	Resolution Adopting Natural Lands Master Plan (no cost)		
Begin/end dates	Begins: 06/09/2022	Ends:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open ended
Background/history: In Fall of 2019 Spokane Parks retained Design Workshop to update the city's parks and open spaces master plan. In Spring 2020, the project was put on hold due to Covid-19. In spring 2021 the project re-started and has been ongoing since that time. Since Spring 2021 the master plan has been created using various technical analyses and assessment and including feedback from an extensive 2021 public outreach campaign which engaged over 5,300 residents through 26+ public engagement opportunities. The plan has evaluated the city parks systems and established 4 themes (land, water, people and legacy), 13 goals and recommended dozens of strategies to improve the City Parks system over the next 10+ years. The plan has also created a framework for prioritizing city park investment decisions and established high priority capital, operational, and policy action items for immediate and near term implementation.			
Motion wording: Motion to approve resolution adopting the 2022 Parks and Recreation Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan			
Approvals/signatures outside Parks: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No If so, who/what department, agency or company: Name: _____ Email address: _____ Phone: _____			
Distribution: Parks – Accounting Parks – Pamela Clarke Requester: Nick Hamad Grant Management Department/Name: _____ <div style="float: right; text-align: right;"> Anna Laybourn Garrett Jones Fianna Dickson </div>			
Fiscal impact: <input type="radio"/> Expenditure <input checked="" type="radio"/> Revenue Amount: N/A Budget code: N/A			
Vendor: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Existing vendor <input type="radio"/> New vendor Supporting documents: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Quotes/solicitation (RFP, RFQ, RFB) <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor is on the City's A&E Roster - City of Spokane <input type="checkbox"/> UBI: _____ Business license expiration date: _____ </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> W-9 (for new contractors/consultants/vendors) <input type="checkbox"/> ACH Forms (for new contractors/consultants/vendors) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Certificate (min. \$1 million in General Liability) </div> </div>			

Resolution # _____

CITY OF SPOKANE
PARK BOARD RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION Adopting the 2022 Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane owns and operates 3,900+ acres of parks & natural lands within and outside of the City of Spokane; and

WHEREAS, the Park Board is empowered by the City Charter with exclusive jurisdiction and control to lay out, establish, procure, purchase, accept, and have the care, management control and improvement of, all parks and grounds used for park purposes, all boulevards and parkways, and connecting parks and structures thereon located both within and outside of the City of Spokane; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane has an extensive history in park system planning, commissioning the City's first park plan in 1913; and

WHEREAS, the City Park Board has regularly and strategically planned this system of parks and natural lands for the benefit of the public since that time; and

WHEREAS, the last adopted park master plan was completed in 2014 for the Riverfront Park Redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, to remain eligible for State and Federal grants, the Park Board is required to develop and/or update and adopt a long-range 'parks, recreation and open space plan' a minimum of every 6 calendar years; and

WHEREAS, with the substantial completion of the Riverfront Park Bond improvements, timing is suitable to conduct a new system-wide park master plan; and

WHEREAS, the Park Board desired the current master plan be based primarily on Spokane City residents park needs and desires through direct community outreach; and

WHEREAS, since the beginning of 2021, the public has provided substantial input and direction through the master planning process during over 26 individual opportunities, including a series of topical focus groups, pop-up events in parks, an open online survey, a statistically valid survey, virtual workshops, an open online mapping activity, direct outreach to under-represented group through ambassadors, and youth outreach through Spokane Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, in addition to public input, the master planning process for the system-wide parks and natural lands master plan also included extensive deliberations among Park Board members, a Project Advisory Committee, city park, engineering, and planning staff, and numerous technical and professional consultants culminating in a "2022 Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan"; and

WHEREAS, the resulting 2022 Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan, compiled by Park Department staff and project consultants, is the direct result of input and recommendations from Spokane City residents, the Project Advisory Committee, Park Board, and city staff; and

WHEREAS, city staff, project consultants, and project advisory committee substantially concluded planning work in May 2022; and

WHEREAS, to ensure the proposed plan recommendations remain sustainable and relevant, the Park Board recognizes that the 2022 Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan is a living document, and that ongoing changes additions and edits will be made to the plan using 'prioritization matrix' framework included in the plan; and

WHEREAS, as identified, needed changes or additions will require approval by the Park Board; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the 2022 Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan does not specifically identify policy, budget or other final decisions regarding capital improvements related to a public bond proposal, all such decisions being reserved to the Park Board under the Spokane City Charter; and

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Park Board to adopt the 2022 Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that park staff shall monitor the plan for future potential updates and begin implementation of plan recommendations.

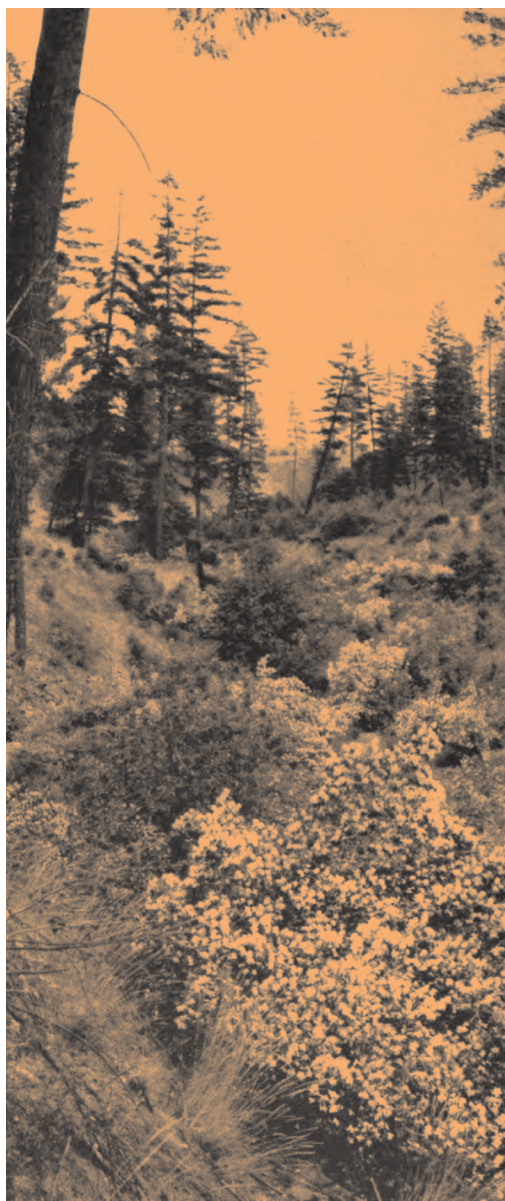
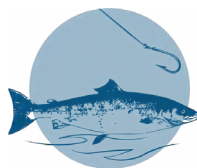
ADOPTED BY THE PARK BOARD ON _____

Attest:

Park Board President
Approved as to form:

City Clerk

Assistant City Attorney



CITY OF SPOKANE PARKS AND NATURAL LANDS MASTER PLAN

MAY 2022

DRAFT PLAN FOR COMMUNITY REVIEW





North Bank grand opening at Riverfront Park, May 2021

LETTER FROM DIRECTOR

I love seeing the ways people use our City’s parks in their daily lives. It’s walking out the door of a downtown restaurant and stepping into a 50-acre park at the roaring river falls, hiking the paths of Palisades, and catching a softball game at Merkel. It’s walking through Duncan Garden with ice cream cones, listening to the Symphony play a free concert under the Pavilion lights, a child’s birthday party at a picnic shelter, and a pick-up game at the neighborhood basketball court. Parks are part of our life’s moments, big and small.



Garrett Jones

Spokane’s treasured park system is no accident. It was laid with an incredible foundation by the Olmsted Brothers and founding members of the Park Board, and in the many years since, our vibrant parks have grown and flourished. That’s thanks to thoughtful daily care from volunteers and staff, and community investments including bond projects like aquatics/athletics in 2007, and Riverfront Park in 2014.

No doubt what we have is special. The question is, where are we headed next? We started this master planning effort by asking the community earnest questions – what do you want from your parks, what are we doing well, what can we do better, where are the gaps, what do you want to see more of?

We heard from more than 5,000 of you, and we couldn’t be more grateful. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts on the survey (translated into six languages), at pop-up events, with our ambassadors, in focus groups, and through online tools. You can see highlights of that feedback in an infographic in the pages ahead.

This master plan is shaped by what we learned from you.

It will serve as our guide, shaping our focus, direction, and spending priorities over the next ten years. It will give us a tool to match funding sources – like Parks funds, bond funds, donations, or grants – with priority projects, and ensure we apply limited resources in ways that match community need and desire.

It’s an honor to work for Spokane Parks & Recreation, and we take to heart the tremendous responsibility to preserve its past, nurture its present, and ensure its future. Thank you for the vital role you play. Together, we envision a bright decade ahead.

Sincerely,

Garrett Jones
Director of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department

CONTENTS

Letter from Director III

Acknowledgments VII

Executive Summary 2

Context 3

Chapter 1. Introduction 15

Plan Purpose 15

Plan Vision Summary 17

Spokane’s Park Legacy 22

Spokane Context 29

Spokane’s Park System 31

Spokane’s Parks and Natural Lands System 37

Community Profile 39

Recreation Trends 46

Opportunities and Challenges 51

Chapter 2. Evaluating the Parks System 57

Level of Service Analyses 57

Park Access Gaps 61

Chapter 3. Land 79

Goal A. Serving the Under-resourced 81

Goal B. Inland Northwest Living 89

Goal C. Preserve our Wild 97

Chapter 4. Water 107

Goal D. Swim and Splash 109

Goal E. Care for and Activate the Spokane river 113

Goal F. Improve Water Use Efficiency 120

Chapter 5. People 125

Goal G. Parks for All 127

Goal H. Build Awareness 130

Goal I. Diversity of Offerings 132

Goal J. Co-Existence 135

Chapter 6. Legacy 143

Goal K: Maintain and Care 145

Goal L: Funding Future 154

Goal M: Strategic Acquisitions and Real Estate Management . . 156

Chapter 7. Implementing the Plan 163

Framework for Prioritizing Investment Decisions 163

Revenue Sources and Funding Opportunities 167

Funding Opportunities and Constraints 168

Guidelines for Park System Expansion 177

LIST OF MAPS

Map 1: Vision Plan 9

Map 2: Previous RCO Grant Funded Project Locations. 19

Map 3: Regional Context Map 30

Map 4: Spokane Parks and Natural Lands 34

Map 5: CDC Social Vulnerability Index 40

Map 6: Age Distribution - Under 20 41

Map 7: Age Distribution - Over 65 41

Map 8: Spokane Population Density 43

Map 9: Spokane Districts 62

Map 10: Walkshed Park Gaps 63

Map 11: Park Condition Ratings 67

Map 12: Park Investment History, 1999 - 2021 70

Map 13: Factors of Socioeconomic Vulnerability 74

Map 14: Potential Opportunity Areas for New Parks 84

Map 15: Equity Priority Zones 87

Map 16: Existing Spokane Park System Amenities 90

Map 17: Desired Amenities by District 91

Map 18: Spokane Park System Trails 94

Map 19: Priority Areas for Conservation 99

Map 20: Latah Creek 102

Map 21: Potential Water Access Improvements 115

Map 22: Potential Investment Park Properties 148

Map 23: Urban Growth Areas 159

Map 24: Vision Plan 175

APPENDICES

Appendix A - Park Inventory

Appendix B - Recreation Trends

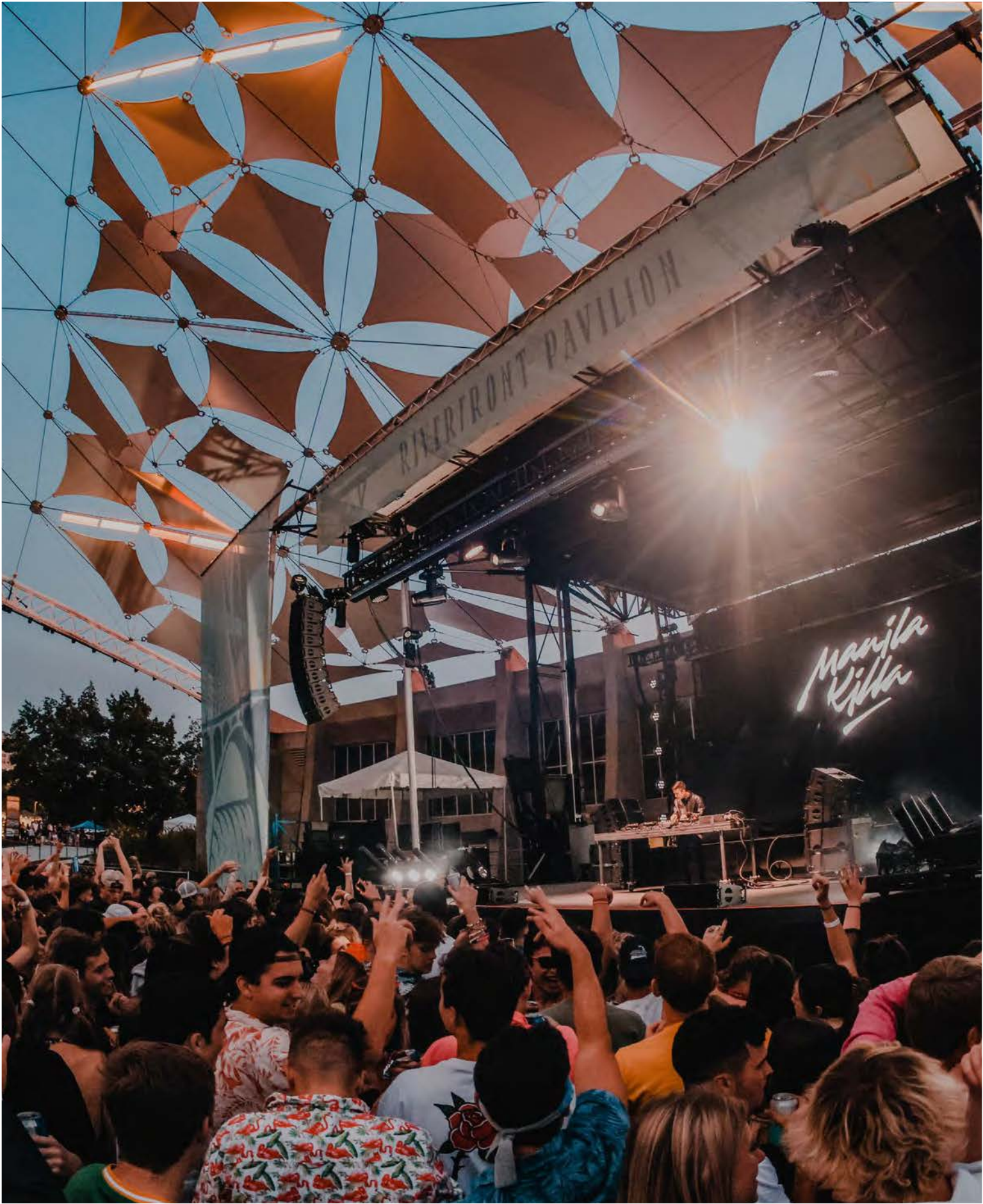
Appendix C - Public Engagement and Survey Results Report

Appendix D - Concept Plans

Appendix E - Conservation Lands Prioritization Mapping

All images are Spokane City or Design Workshop unless otherwise noted.





Pavilion at Riverfront Park

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Project Advisory Committee

Jennifer Ogden, Park Board President
Greta Gilman, Park Board Land Committee Chair
Brandy Cote, Mayoral Administration Chief of Staff
Breean Beggs, City Council President
Michael Cathcart, City Council District 1, Park Board Liaison
Garrett Jones, Parks Department Director
Fianna Dickson, Parks Department Communication Manager
Nick Hamad, Parks Department Acting Park Planning & Development Manager
Maren Murphy, Assistant Planner, Planning Services
Inga Note, Senior Traffic Planning Engineer
Jerrall Haynes, Spokane Public School Board President
Greg Forsyth, Director, Capital Projects and Planning
Lauren Schubring, Staff Ambassador Liaison

Plan Ambassadors

Joseph Sampson, Homeless Ambassador
Alec Josephson, Youth MTB/BMX Programmer
Sarah Dixit, Co-Chair of APIC – Asian Pacific Islanders Coalition
Ian Sullivan, Odyssey Youth Spokane
Pat Casteneda, World Relief
Ryan Hite, Negative Split
Dave Schaub, Inland Northwest Land Conservancy
Andy Dunau, Spokane River Forum
Cat Nichols, Spokane County Regional Veteran Services
Trevor Finchamp, Friends of the Bluff
KJ January, Spectrum
Kevin Eddy, Make a Splash in a Kid’s Life
Jen Contreras, Hispanic Business Professionals Association

The City of Spokane would like to thank all the citizens who provided their time and input necessary for the success of this plan.

Consultant Team

Design Workshop

Anna Laybourn, Principal in Charge
Callie New, Project Manager
Carolyn Levine, Planner
Jennifer Pintar, GIS Specialist

ETM Associates

Tim Marshall
Desiree Liu

National Research Center at Polco



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CONTEXT

Spokane is a special place. Its location in the inland northwest and proximity to the Spokane River has made it a place for gathering, sustenance and healing for its inhabitants since time immemorial. The Spokane Tribe of Indians, the original inhabitants of the land, lived a semi-nomadic life of hunting, fishing and gathering along the banks of the Spokane River. The City’s original parks plan from 110 years ago formed a commitment for providing accessible green space that is restorative and nurturing.

Flash forward to today, Spokane is recognized as a city with a legacy in parks planning. The Olmsted Brothers, the nation’s most prominent landscape architecture firm, wrote the first parks plan in 1913. Spokane’s built environment has been shaped by its park spaces. Almost ninety percent of Spokanites can access a park within a 10 minute walk from where they live. Currently, the City of Spokane has 105 parks, golf course, natural lands, and parkway properties constituting approximately 3,800 acres. Expo ‘74, a world’s fair held on the south bank of the Spokane River, laid the groundwork for developing Riverfront Park; renovations within the last 10 years make it one of the nation’s most scenic urban parks according to National Geographic.

Past parks master plans are to thank for establishing visions concentrated on creating our major signature parks that have put us on the map. A contrast with this plan was discovery that what is needed is a shift in focus

to improving the many less iconic park and natural lands offerings that greatly contribute to a sense of community and quality of life. This distribution of investments is directed to smaller projects such as revitalizing older parks, conserving and enhancing natural lands, adapting to be more resilient to climate change and adjusting the ways Spokane operates to be more responsive to our citizens.

MASTER PLAN CONTENTS

Preserve and Play is a plan about honoring Spokane’s deep heritage and maintaining the momentum of its recent successes. The four themes of this plan—**Land, Water, People and Legacy**—celebrate the importance of its natural setting and commitment to its health, support creating accessible park spaces as a place for community building and inclusivity and develop strategies for investing in the parks and recreation system’s future. An action plan creates a road map for implementation and creates a framework for decision-making based on equity, needs and level of service, park conditions and strategic opportunities. The themes and action plan were crafted from thorough analysis of the park system distribution, quality and history of investments, bringing in measures of diversity, social and health vulnerability, economic disparity and environmental justice to determine areas of need.

Voices from the community are woven throughout the plan, marking outreach efforts that were successful due to partnerships with Plan Ambassadors that reached people typically underrepresented in planning processes, such as residents and youth experiencing homelessness.

PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

The following pages provide a summary of the major items within this plan: an overall plan vision statement, guiding principles, plan themes, a concluding map noting geographically based recommendations for new projects, and concept plans for three park sites to demonstrate how ideas from this master plan may be applied.

Key Projects:

- » Concept plans for Minnehaha, Meadowglen, and Cowley Parks;
- » Focus on improving the condition and types of amenities offered at neighborhood and community parks;
- » Vision for future acquisition and preservation of natural lands as areas that provide high quality habitat for wild life, scenic views and recreational opportunities;
- » Framework for a citywide policy as it relates to future park development and dedication of funding as Spokane grows; and
- » Recommendations for water conservation and aquatic recreation access.

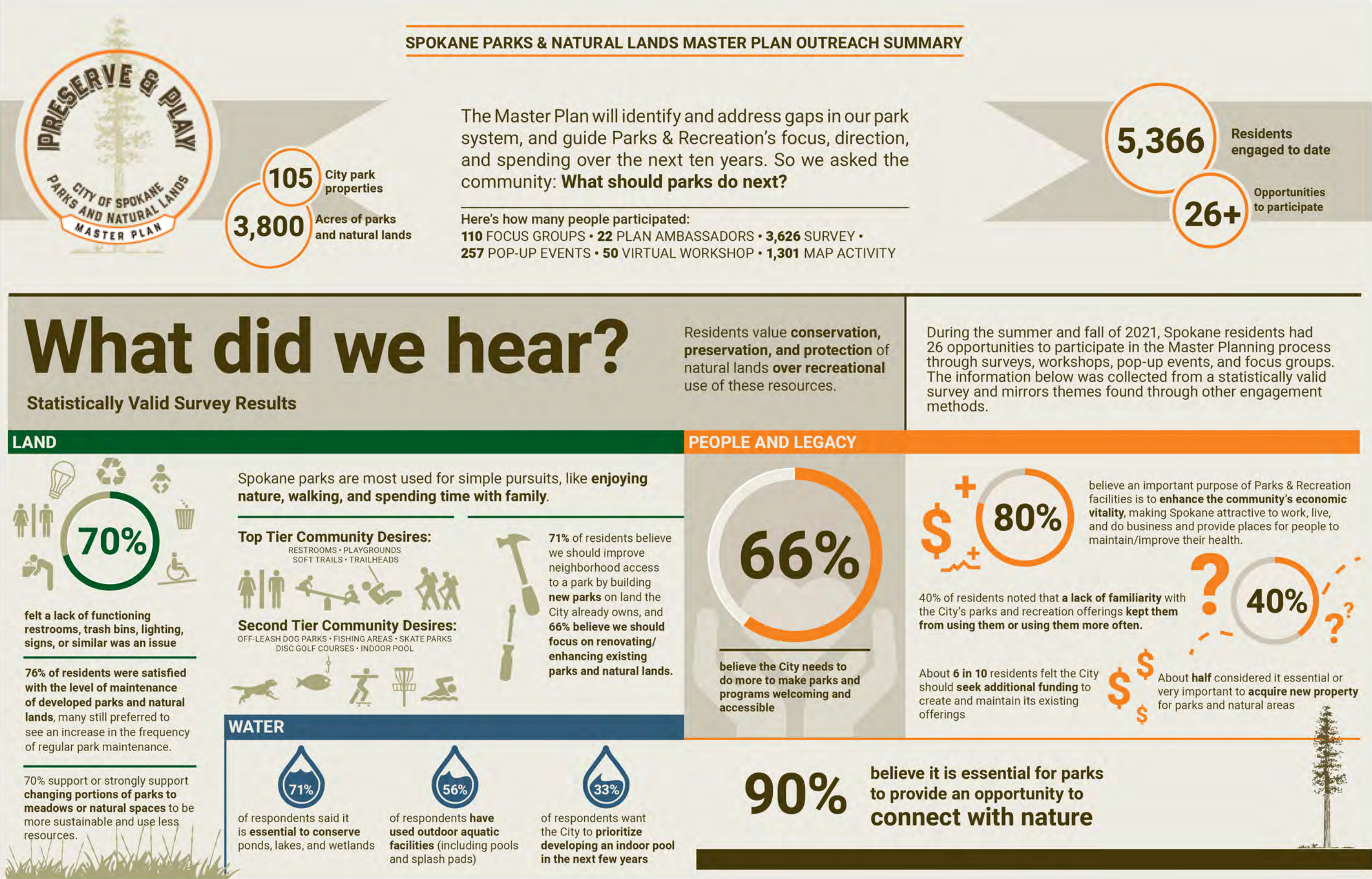
A Plan of Action:

- » The Implementation Action Plan (Chapter 7) provides guidance on the order of execution for specific projects.

- » Prioritization is based on a matrix of need based on whether the park is in an Equity Zone, existing needs and level of service in the neighborhood, existing park condition, and opportunities for funding and partnerships. The below diagram is a framework for future decision-making for park investments.

The Spokane Parks and Natural Lands system is on the precipice of an exciting new phase, with the potential to respond to changing needs and desires of the community, that will take funding and support to make it a reality. This evolution of the park system provides clarity and focus for equitable investments, a more inclusive approach that acknowledges community diversity, and integration of climate action strategies into park management and design.

Figure 1: Preserve and Play Overview



MASTER PLAN AT-A-GLANCE

VISION STATEMENT

Spokane is a visionary city, founded with parks and natural lands at its heart and with commitment to continue to build a community legacy. We focus on creating prosperity with equitable park development and targeted outcomes that uplift people. We cherish our special landscape with a strong environmental ethic.

PRESERVE & PLAY

At the heart of this plan are two guiding principles that reflect the values of the residents of Spokane: preserve and play. A nod to both the region’s historic conservation efforts and contemporary desire to mitigate the effects of climate change, preservation is woven into each theme, goal, and strategy. The Inland Northwest’s unadulterated beauty and natural playground influence recreation trends and goals for the Parks Department.



COMMUNITY-DRIVEN PLAN

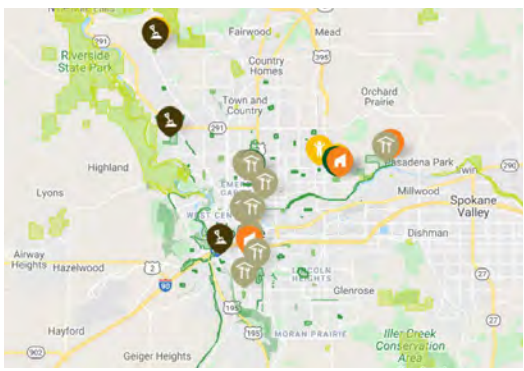
This plan is derived from the goals, desires and feedback obtained over months of outreach and engagement.



One of fourteen pop-up events in the community to obtain input from a diverse range of people.



Residents of all ages were engaged to ensure the plan represents the needs of the entire community.



Residents submitted comments and feedback using an online mapping tool.

THEMES



LAND

All physical park properties, programming, and facilities that take place on City park lands

- GOAL A. SERVING THE UNDER-RESOURCED
- GOAL B. INLAND NORTHWEST LIVING
- GOAL C. PRESERVE OUR WILD

WATER

All activities, facilities, and programming in and around natural and manufactured water features including rivers, streams, swimming holes, pools, and splash pads

- GOAL D. SWIM AND SPLASH
- GOAL E. CARE FOR AND ACTIVATE THE SPOKANE RIVER
- GOAL F. IMPROVE WATER USE EFFICIENCY

PEOPLE

Goals and strategies related to how residents engage with and utilize parklands and programming

- GOAL G. PARKS FOR ALL
- GOAL H. BUILD AWARENESS
- GOAL I. DIVERSITY OF OFFERINGS
- GOAL J. CO-EXISTENCE

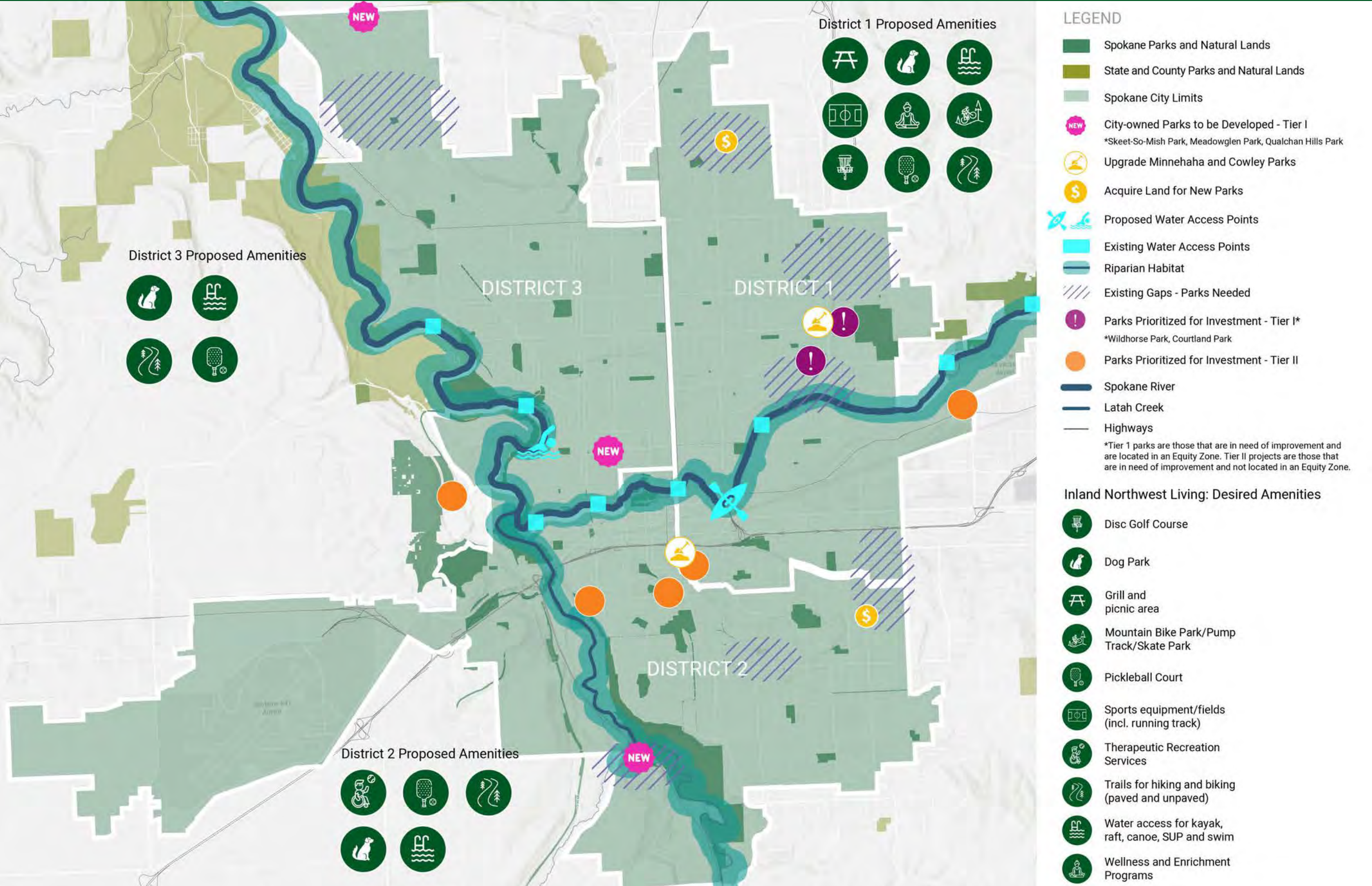
LEGACY

Ensure that all goals and actions contribute to continuing Spokane’s heritage of renowned parks, recreation, and services

- GOAL K. MAINTAIN AND CARE
- GOAL L. FUNDING FUTURES
- GOAL M. STRATEGIC ACQUISITIONS AND REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT



MAP 1: VISION PLAN



CONCEPT PLANS

HOW CAN THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS PLAN BE APPLIED TO SPECIFIC PARKS?

HIGHLIGHT OF CONCEPT PLANS & PROCESS

Within the Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan are three distinct park concept plans for community or neighborhood parks, one in each of Spokane's three districts. Understanding park improvement needs at the neighborhood level, park concept plans were developed with an intent to express a vision for upgrades that can be emblematic of the overall plan. As these concept plans were developed in tandem with overall outreach for the Master Plan, they express feedback heard from the community and provide a representation for how future improvements can be made.

The first concept plan envisions renovating an existing community park in need of significant renovation, the second envisions renovating an existing urban pocket park in partnership with nearby stakeholders and the third envisions developing a new park on existing City land.

Minnehaha Park: Located in District 1, Minnehaha Park is a community park with a historic building, tennis courts in disrepair and a small and aging playground. Perhaps most

notable to the site is the several acres of natural land that provide trails, granite outcroppings and views. This concept plan helps the City explore how revisions to older parks can better meet current needs for gathering and recreation in addition to exploring opportunities to enhance natural areas within parks.

Cowley Park Cowley Park is a pocket park located in District 2 and adjacent to several medical facilities including the Sacred Heart Children's Hospital. As a currently under-used park, this concept explores how to encourage activity and use by surrounding institutions and encourage coexistence with park users experiencing homelessness.

Meadowglen Park Meadowglen Park is currently an undeveloped, vacant parcel owned by the City since 1986. Located in the northernmost edge of District 3, this future community park will improve access to parks and green spaces for residents who cannot currently reach a park within a 10 minute walk. Meadowglen may be a model for new park development to become centers for gathering, all-age activities, and climate resilient design in low density residential neighborhoods.



Minnehaha Park existing condition



Minnehaha Park Concept Plan



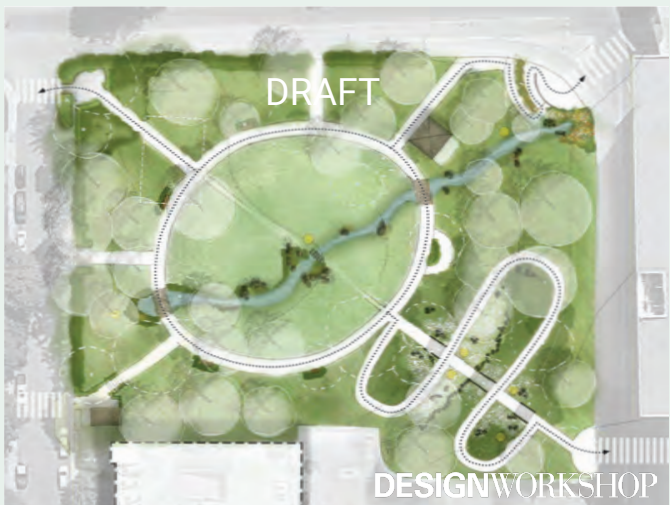
Meadowglen Park existing condition



Meadowglen Park Concept Plan



Cowley Park existing condition



Cowley Park Concept Plan



1

INTRODUCTION

- Plan Purpose
- Plan Vision Summary
- Spokane Context
- Spokane's Park System
- Community Profile
- Recreation Trends
- Opportunities & Challenges

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

“

It is well understood, by those who have studied the subject, that public parks, while ostensibly undertaken for the pleasure which their beauty affords the people, are also very important aids to the improvement and preservation of the health of the people.

Source: Report of the Board of Park Commissioners, 1891-1913. John Charles Olmsted, Frederick Law Olmsted Jr.

”

PLAN PURPOSE

The purpose of this plan is to use technical study and community input to guide future park investment in Spokane’s park system in the most efficient manner possible.

PRESERVE AND PLAY

The name “Spokane” which means “Children of the Sun” comes from the original inhabitants of the region, the Spokane Tribe of Indians. The Spokane are one of the Interior Salish-speaking tribes and were traditionally a semi-nomadic people who lived along the banks of the Spokane and Columbia Rivers. As regional traders, the Spokane and those from surrounding areas gathered at Spokane Falls to trap, dry and store Coho and Chinook salmon. The river, which sustained generations of indigenous Spokane for several thousand years, is central to the health and well-being of those living in the region today. Many of the



Source: Olmsted Brothers Report, 1913

natural spaces that were fundamental to indigenous life and culture are cared for today by the Spokane Parks and Recreation Department. This commitment to environmental stewardship and conservation remains an important value to the Parks Department and the residents of Spokane.

WHY THIS PLAN IS NEEDED

HISTORY

Since the City of Spokane’s incorporation to the United States in 1891 and the City’s first parks master plan in 1913, preservation of the natural beauty and features of Spokane, balanced with a desire for recreation, has continued to be a part of the ethos of the City and a value of its residents. It is with this in mind that the two principles of preserve and play were created to guide the Parks Master Plan. “Preserve” is two pronged and pays homage to both the

City’s original inhabitants as well as the City’s precedent parks plan created by famous landscape architecture firm, Olmsted Brothers. The Spokane Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan seeks to uphold the original intent of the City’s first parks plan (1908) to guide Spokane to be a “model city of modern park planning.”

COMMUNITY VALUES

Characteristic of both the Olmsted approach as well as Spokane’s original native stewards, this plan draws inspiration from Spokane’s natural setting and sets ambitious goals for safeguarding natural lands. “Play” honors the active lifestyles of those who call this part of the country home, and the joy derived from being in nature. Spokane’s geographic context and unique recreation opportunities create a setting where some local recreation trends differ from both state and national trends.

Reflecting community values and inspired by the ideas contributed by many residents and informed by evaluation of the specialness of this place, this plan describes an aspirational vision that may take over a decade to achieve. Providing direction to fulfill this vision, the plan presents strategies and priorities for action which achieve plan goals. These strategies will be led by the City Parks and Recreation Department and Parks Board with support from other departments and partners which are anticipated to be implemented over the next six years.



Source: Olmsted Brothers Report, 1913



View from Mt. Spokane



PLAN VISION SUMMARY

Spokane Parks and Recreation Department provides important services and facilities to the community that promote livability, protect the natural environment, and provide mental and physical health benefits through access to nature, physical activity and play and community connection. To ensure this legacy continues for generations to come, this plan outlines a framework developed from the analysis in Chapter 2 and community desires with a vision for the entire park system. The framework also incorporates strategic direction from citywide initiatives and other department Master Plans such as the Spokane Downtown Plan, City Strategic Plan and the City’s Comprehensive Plan. It seeks to refine the Parks and Recreation Department’s focus and direction for the next six years, outline strategic recommendations to address gaps within the existing network and identify park programming partnerships, while

taking into consideration successes to date.

Building on the legacy of Spokane’s historic commitment to parks and recreation, starting with its initial parks plan created in 1913 by the renowned Olmsted Brothers firm, Spokane Parks and Recreation is planning for a future that values recreation, access to parks and natural lands, and preserves land, water and wildlife. As local recreation trends evolve and public health concerns take center stage in response to Covid-19, it is important to reevaluate the vision and goals. The plan strategies are organized in four chapters: land, water, people and legacy. Each contain a set of objectives with corresponding strategies. Note that themes and objectives are not listed in any particular order.

The plan was developed using an equity lens to ensure resources and programming are available to residents regardless of where they live.

Plan Vision Statement

Spokane is a visionary city, founded with an environmental ethic and appreciation of the river and natural landscape at its heart. We have a commitment to build a community legacy through green space and parks. We focus on creating prosperity with equitable park development and recreation opportunities that uplift all people.

HOW THIS DOCUMENT IS ORGANIZED

This document is organized into seven chapters with an introduction, analysis and four chapters of plan recommendations, organized by theme. The seventh chapter includes an implementation plan for action.

CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION

Chapter 1 describes the community of Spokane, including a demographic profile and summary of local, state and national recreation trends. The chapter concludes with a discussion of opportunities and challenges.

CHAPTER 2 - ANALYSIS

Chapter 2 provides several sets of analyses centered upon key questions asked throughout the planning process. The questions cumulatively help to strategize recommendations that address equity in Spokane’s park system.

CHAPTERS 3-6 - PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Chapter themes are described at right.

CHAPTER 7 - IMPLEMENTATION

The plan concludes with action and vision plans to direct future investments for the City of Spokane.

PLAN THEMES



LAND - CHAPTER 3

The theme of land includes all physical park properties, programming, and facilities that take place on city park lands. Within the land theme are four goals and supporting strategies.

WATER - CHAPTER 4

The theme of water includes activities, facilities, and programming in and around natural and manufactured water features including rivers, streams, swimming holes, pools, and splash pads.

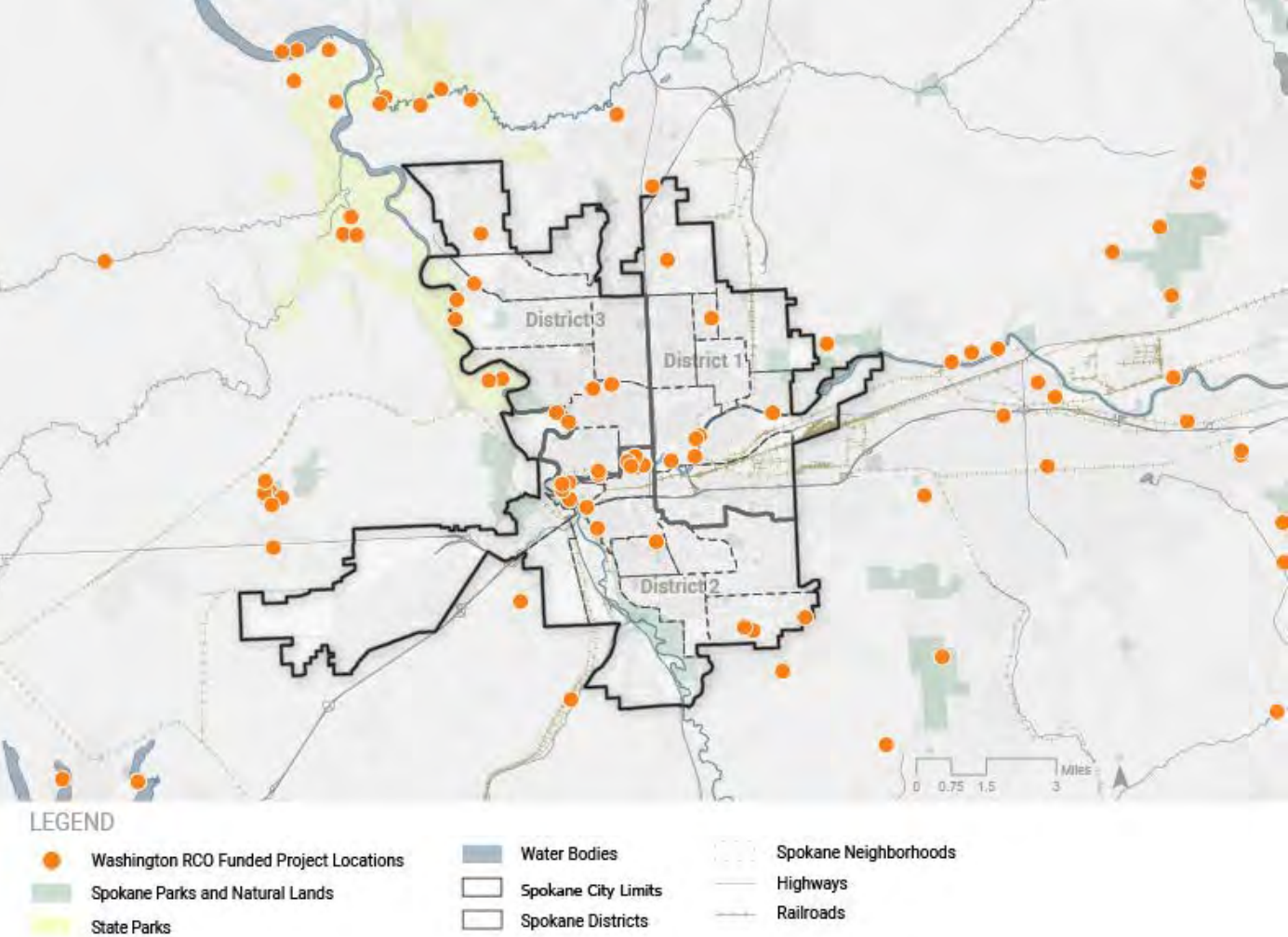
PEOPLE - CHAPTER 5

The theme of people includes goals and strategies related to how residents engage with and utilize parklands and programming.

LEGACY - CHAPTER 6

The theme of legacy ensures that all goals and actions contribute to continuing Spokane’s heritage of renowned parks, recreation, and services.

MAP 2: PREVIOUS RCO GRANT FUNDED PROJECT LOCATIONS



Source: Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office 2021

SPOKANE PARK BOARD MISSION

Formed upon the City’s inception, the City of Spokane’s 11 member Park Board oversees the Parks and Recreation Department and allocates eight percent of the City’s budget for parks and recreation purposes. Under the Parks Board purview, the Parks and Recreation Department, “acquires, operates, enhances, and protects a diverse system of parks, boulevards, parkways, urban forest, golf courses, recreational, cultural, historical and open space areas for the enjoyment and enrichment of all.” The Park

Board has the authority to determine the management, control and use of all park spaces owned by the City of Spokane.

Note: The park board is a volunteer board appointed by the City administration and is separate from the City’s elected officials.

STATE REQUIREMENTS

Through the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), the State of Washington offers a valuable resource to local municipalities for grants related to wildlife, land and water conservation, boating facilities,

non-highway and off-road vehicle activities and recreation programs. The purpose of the RCO grants is to create outdoor opportunities, protect habitat and working lands and to protect threatened species. RCO funded projects in the region from 1964 to 2021 are shown in Map 2. For municipal agencies to qualify to receive grant funding for eligible activities, RCO requires a parks system master plan to be adopted within six years. In addition to providing strategic department direction, this Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan fulfills this requirement. Per the Washington State RCO, the following plan elements are required and are found in this document:

- » Goals and objectives
- » An inventory of current facilities and/or properties
- » Public involvement in the process
- » A demand and need analysis
- » A capital improvement program
- » Adoption by the organization’s board or council

This plan will assist the Parks Department in guiding the prioritization of future grant requests. As grant evaluators often require information that is contained in park system plans, this document lays a valuable foundation and strategically poises the agency for future grant applications.

HOW THE PLAN WAS CREATED

To capture an understanding of the broadness of citizen needs and prompt suggestions of ideas and partnership opportunities, an extensive community engagement process began in April 2021 and ran through the refinement stages of this plan in April 2022 as outlined in Figure 1 on







The SkyRide at Riverfront Park

the following page. Thousands of Spokane residents and organization stakeholders provided feedback in community workshops, focus groups, pop-up events and through an online interactive mapping tool. See Appendix C for a summary of the engagement process and findings.

To supplement community engagement efforts, the planning process was grounded in a community profile and recreation trends report to understand the demographic factors and sports and leisure activities that contribute to Spokane’s unique culture. With a focus on equity and inclusion, this plan identifies park and programming gaps as well as areas of disinvestment and places that are in poor condition to understand where to prioritize future efforts. Residents were asked to provide their opinion of ‘equitable park development.’

This plan establishes three park concept plans to model how public input for the park system can be realized in community and neighborhood park designs. These concept plans were established with the input of community stewards, youth, neighborhood representatives and partners.

Figure 1: The Planning Process

Date	Action	Outcome
WINTER/SPRING 2021	<div></div> <div>Inventory and Analysis<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus groups and stakeholder interviews• Review of existing resources and programs• Benchmarking comparable communities• Park condition analysis• Equity analysis</div>	Foundational understanding of existing park system
SUMMER 2021	<div></div> <div>Creating a Needs Assessment<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community surveys and pop-up events to understand residents' perspectives on values, current park use, recreational needs and opportunities for improvement• Community feedback on inventory & analysis</div>	Draft themes, goals and objectives
FALL 2021	<div></div> <div>Community and Neighborhood Workshops</div>	Plan strategies and action items
WINTER/SPRING 2022	<div></div> <div>Create draft plan with action steps for implementation over next 10 years</div>	Celebrate and share draft plan with community for adoption

2010 ROAD MAP TO THE FUTURE

The most recent Spokane Parks and Recreation master plan identified the need for a dedicated parks funding source in the form of a parkland dedication ordinance to pay for growth and called for partnerships to enhance the quantity and quality of collaboration. Those recommendations have yet to be accomplished and are still relevant today.

SPOKANE’S PARK LEGACY

The City of Spokane became an incorporated city in 1891; a decade later the newly instated Park Board, determined to make Spokane into a model of modern park planning, commissioned a study by the famous Olmsted Brothers. After Portland and Seattle, Olmsted prepared a plan for Spokane’s park system in 1908. It takes advantage of the scenic Spokane River and Latah Creek, laying out parkways and scattering parks throughout neighborhoods. The plan included advice for the city’s ten existing parks and recommendations to expand their 223 acre park system to 1,150 acres to provide an adequate proportion of park space to inhabitants. He designed park concepts for Adams (today’s Cannon Hill), Liberty, and Corbin Parks. This precedent plan established Spokane’s diverse array of park classifications, with proposals for four large parks, five smaller parks, 11 play fields, numerous parkways and boulevards and steep wildlands for connections to the river gorge. Remnants of these foundational parks exist today, many of which still provide their imagined purpose.

Many of the tools used by the Olmsted Brothers to inform Spokane’s original park system plan are still considered best practices today and have been integrated into this planning effort. Among these tools are comparative community benchmarking level of service and park provision calculations.

EXPANSION OF THE ARTS, AQUATICS AND CENTERS

Subsequent park planning efforts have built upon the original Olmsted plan and provided key recommendations for expansion and improvements, adding facilities such as outdoor swimming pools, senior and youth centers, arts and culture facilities, outdoor sports complexes, and an indoor sports complex (The Podium). Most recently, the 2010 Spokane Parks and Recreation “Road map to the Future” identified the need for a dedicated parks funding source in the form of a parkland dedication ordinance to pay for growth and called for partnerships to enhance the quantity and quality of collaboration. The 2010 recommendations have yet to be accomplished and are still relevant today.

COMMITMENT TO WELCOMENESS AND INCLUSIVITY

Recent planning efforts within the City of Spokane’s Planning Department and other departments or entities relevant for this plan include the 2017 Shaping Spokane Comprehensive Plan (City of Spokane Planning), the 2020 Spokane Downtown Plan (City of Spokane Planning), the Spokane Climate Action Strategy (Coalition of a group of City Council-appointed volunteer community members), the Spokane County 2020 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan and the 2020 to 2025 5-Year Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness (City and County of Spokane). Themes of creating inclusive and welcoming environments in public spaces unite these planning efforts. Overall, 32 previous or concurrent plans were reviewed for incorporation, reference, and coordination with this plan.

COMMUNITY INPUT SUMMARY

ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY



A community survey obtained feedback from Spokane residents regarding the use of and preferences for parks and natural lands in the community. The survey, which was distributed as both a statistically valid and open participation survey, was available in English, Arabic, Chinese, Marshallese, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Statistically Valid Survey: 329 Participants | 8% Response Rate

A representative sample of 4,000 randomly selected residential addresses were mailed invitations to complete an online survey. Of the 4,000 households, 329 completed the survey, providing a response rate of 8 percent, which is in the typical range (5-15 percent) for this type of survey.

Open Participation Survey: 3,297 Participants

This survey was open to all residents. The questions were the same as the statistically valid survey (SV), however, anyone could respond. Outreach efforts were very successful; 3,297 people responded. Open participation survey respondents were more likely than SV survey respondents to be active users of the park system. They were more likely to own their own home, live in a single-family home, and be age 35 or older. Through the park ambassador outreach there was also engagement with people experiencing homelessness.

Key Takeaways

With broad representation from the community, the values and subsequent plan themes of land, water, people and legacy were developed. The surveys were representative of both the largest and most broad swath of feedback and as such, formed the basis for the plan recommendations.

“This plan should be driven by the community.”

- Director Garrett Jones

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Park Board

5 meetings | 11 participants

The Park Board served in an advisory role during the process, providing input and helping to guide recommendations and priorities, reviewing deliverables at key milestones, and spreading the word to help get the community involved. Twelve out of the fourteen board members have lived in Spokane for 10 years or longer.

Key Takeaways

The Park Board emphasized the need to shift the focus from large investments focused on individual properties to spreading funds throughout the system to bring all parks into a state of good repair. They also emphasized the need for policies and data to evaluate requests to change park uses and add to the park system.

Focus Groups

7 groups | 111 participants

Conversations with individual stakeholders helped to gain a detailed understanding of the history, current conditions, and future plans for the park system. Conversations were centered on the following topics.

- Growth and future development
- Natural lands, ecology, greenways
- Outdoor recreation
- Sports and active recreation
- Program needs, gaps and opportunities
- Public service and advocacy
- Neighborhood parks

Key Takeaways

Initial findings for the plan were informed through stakeholder meetings. Feedback ranged from a desire to prioritize maintenance of existing parklands before expanding the system

to directing a focus for enhancements in District 1.

Project Advisory Committee

4 meetings | 11 participants

The Advisory Committee consisted of twelve members representing various Spokane special interests including the Park Board, Mayor’s office, City Council, Parks Department, City staff, and public schools.

Key Takeaways

The project advisory committee was

influential in guiding the direction of the plan’s focus with an emphasis on equity, legacy and ensuring robust public representation.

TARGETED OUTREACH



Community members provide input on the parks and natural lands at pop-up events throughout the summer of 2021.

Pop-Up Events
14 events | 257 participants

Pop-Up Surveys enabled the team to reach communities that may not be typically inclined to participate in citywide community workshops or traditional surveys. Fourteen pop-up events were timed in conjunction with otherwise planned happenings, such as minor league baseball games, farmers markets and at outdoor swimming pools and parks.

Key Takeaways
Respondents at pop-up events indicated that improving daily maintenance and management as well as renovating and enhancing existing parks were the top two priorities for the next five

years. Ensuring that parks feel welcoming and safe and that they’re accessible for all ages and abilities were important outcomes to improving park equity.

Plan Ambassadors
14 participants

Ambassadors are leaders of the community who represent key interest groups that utilize the Spokane Park system. Ambassadors played a fundamental role in outreach for the plan by acting as a more personalized voice of the Parks Department to deliver messages at key plan milestones, such as advertising engagement opportunities. This group represents a diverse cross section of the Spokane community, representing various groups from neighborhood councils to those experiencing homelessness.

Key Takeaways
There are times when planning project teams are not able to reach certain demographics due to perceptions of trust, or time or communication barriers. Spokane Park Ambassadors were able to reach some demographic segments that are often missed, such as unhoused and non-English speaking residents.

Minnehaha Park Youth Engagement
1 event | 200 participants



Students in grades K-6 were asked for their feedback on the future of Minnehaha Park. The students were shown a series of photographs depicting different types of play and voted for their preference.

Key Takeaways
A high preference was made for traditional playgrounds with swings

Input from first graders about how they like to play in parks.

and slides, climbing on big rocks, trees, climbing walls and other equipment, and bicycle facilities including a BMX track.

NEIGHBORHOOD WORKSHOPS

To advance the concept plans for three individual park sites, virtual workshops were conducted with residents who live near Minnehaha and Meadowglen Parks as well as key stakeholders surrounding Cowley Park. Workshops utilized visual preference surveys and sketched program studies to gauge resident preferences for the future design of the park spaces.

Minnehaha Park
10 public meeting participants (plus see youth engagement)

Minnehaha is a community park which has planned renovations and upgrades to address degraded facilities and to increase diversity and interest in park spaces in District 1. Participants in the public meeting were adults who mostly live or work near Minnehaha Park. A separate youth engagement was conducted to understand preference.

Key Takeaways
Priorities for upgrades include an upgraded playground followed by a splash or spray pad and adventure play. It should be noted that responses from adults differ slightly from those of the elementary-aged students who were asked similar questions (summarized above in “youth outreach”); students expressed more interest in adventure play such as climbing and bicycling /scooting/ roller blading.

Meadowglen Park
14 participants

Meadowglen is a new community park to be built in District 3 over the planning horizon of this plan. The Meadowglen Neighborhood Council co-hosted the workshop; participants were adults who live near the future Meadowglen Park.

Key Takeaways
Residents expressed a desire for shaded lawn areas, sport courts, ADA walking trails, and traditional playgrounds.

Cowley Park
7 SHC Hospital Representatives

Cowley Park is a pocket park located adjacent to several medical facilities. The primary park users are therefore hospital staff and those visiting hospital patients and also tends to be a location our residents experiencing homelessness find they are not bothered. The neighborhood workshop consisted of a facilitate discussion between Sacred Heart Children’s Hospital and City of Spokane staff with a goal of aligning shared values for he future design and activation of the park space.

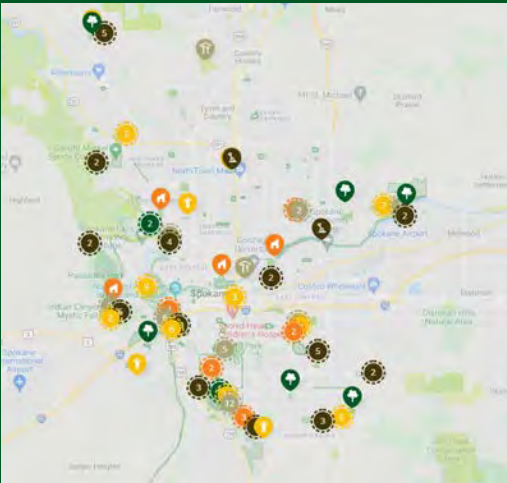
Key Takeaways
Stakeholder feedback suggested a desire to make the park more inviting and walkable, with looped pathways and places to sit or eat and lawn areas for play and relaxation. With its adjacency to medical facilities, Cowley Park provides therapeutic value for both patients and visitors; ADA accessibility is essential throughout the park and at the street level. The park space has historic and cultural significance for Spokane’s Indigenous community, and features a watercourse that is still used today for harvesting water cress and other native plants.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Online Map Activity

250 participants

An interactive online engagement tool, Social Pinpoint, was used for the first time by Spokane Parks and Recreation on this project. The program was very well received, resulting in nearly one thousand public comments that fall under one of five categories: maintenance, recreation, new places, structures, and nature.



Key Takeaways

An overwhelming number of comments were highly complementary of the parks system and many focused on trails, access, courts, and parking.

Virtual Community Workshop

1 workshop | 50 participants

The community workshop was advertised through a public notice, flyers, social media advertisements and an email campaign with the plan ambassadors.” The workshop presentation provided information on community demographics, an overview of feedback received from the community survey and a description of recreation trends and Spokane’s parks and natural lands system. Polling software was used to understand participant’s level of support for the plan vision statement and the draft plan themes, goals and strategies.

Key Takeaways

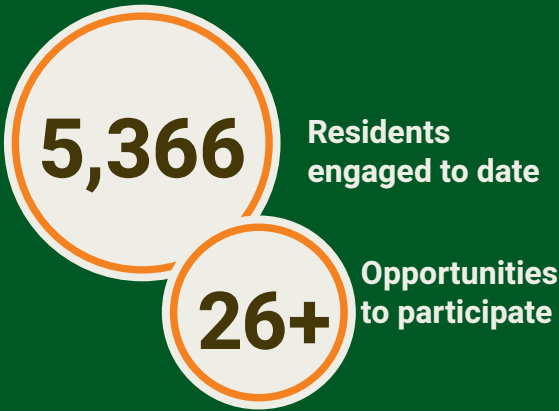
Participants voiced support for the plan vision statement and most enthusiasm for the plan goals of “Serving the Under-Resourced,” “Preserve our Wild,” and “Maintain and Care.” These feedback expresses an appreciation of existing park spaces and prioritizing system expansion that serves those most in need. When asked which strategies would most improve a sense of belonging in park spaces, participants identified designing inclusive and accessible spaces through co-creation and co-design and employing universal design principles to ensure accessibility for all abilities to be the most preferred tactics.

Acknowledged Gaps in Engagement

- » Casual park users
- » College students
- » Indigenous population

Next Steps for Plan Completion

We invite the Spokane community to provide their feedback on the draft plan through April 2022. The project team is working to spread the word through tabling at community events, conducting public presentations and through sharing an informational video. Public feedback will be incorporated into the final plan to be adopted Spring 2022.



A young Spokaneite shreds at the skate & wheels park at Riverfront Park



Walking the dog in Manito Park.

SPOKANE CONTEXT

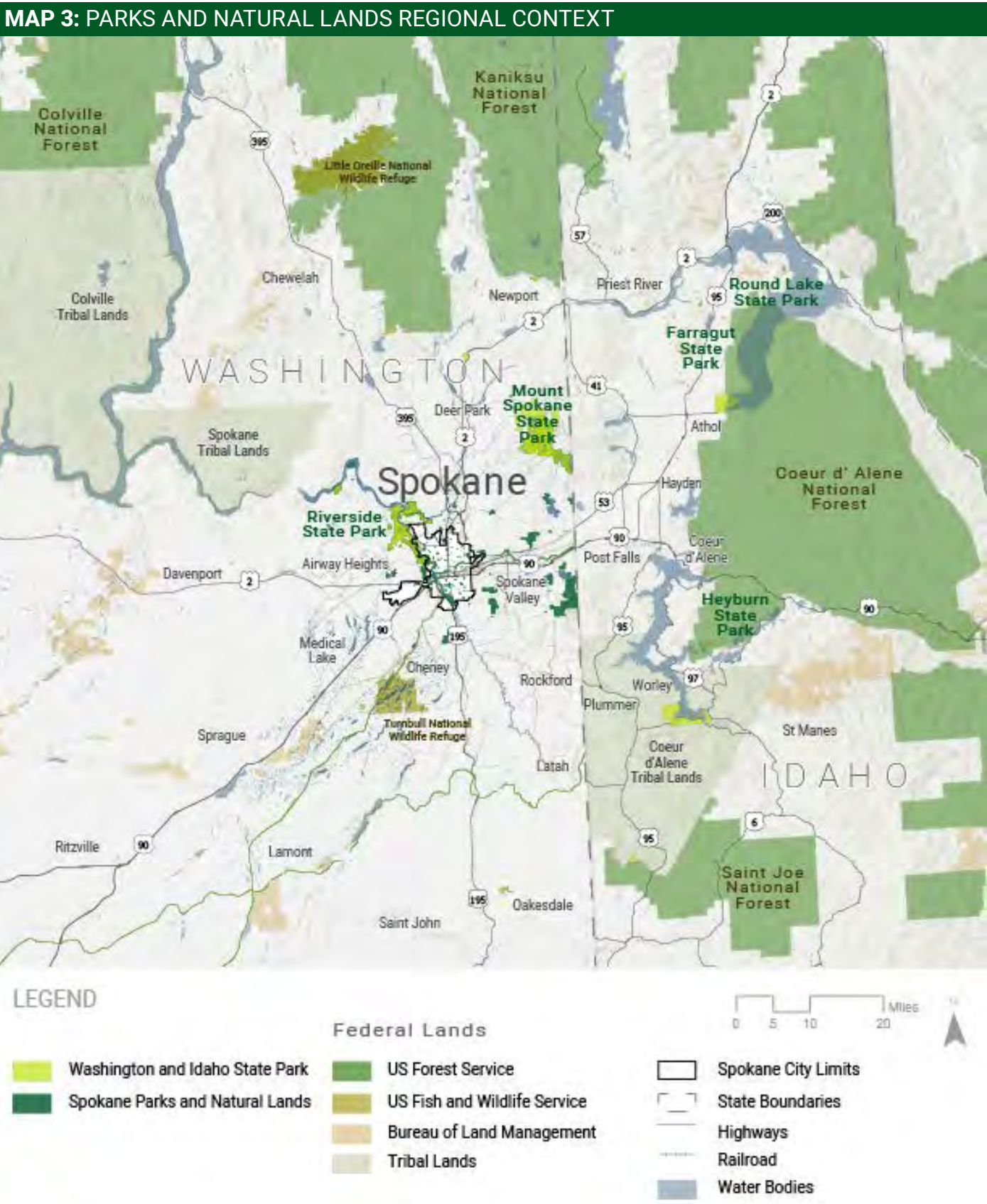
Located in eastern Washington and the heart of the inland northwest, the City of Spokane is the second-most populous in the state and home to more than 220,000 people. A four-season city with access to 12 conservation areas within 10 miles of downtown and more than 75 lakes within an hour’s drive, the city’s former motto of “Near Nature, Near Perfect,” is telling.

Washington State has long been known for its abundant outdoors scene. In fact, Washington’s 124 state parks, includes islands, forests, mountains, and other geographic features, attracting more than 40 million annual visitors and making the state a prime destination for many outdoors enthusiasts. The Outdoor Industry Association report showed that in 2019, outdoor recreation in Washington generated over \$12.3 billion, which accounts for two percent of the state’s gross domestic product (GDP). This made Washington’s outdoor recreation industry the eighth largest in the country. In 2019, outdoor recreation provided more than 130,000 jobs in the state of Washington, which

is about 2.8 percent of the state’s employment.

THE INLAND NORTHWEST

Greater Spokane is the center of the Inland Northwest, a region of the American Northwest encompassing Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. Bounded by the Cascade Mountains on the west and the Rocky Mountains on the east, the region enjoys plenty of pristine wilderness and small-town spirit. Outdoor recreation is arguably one of the highlights that brings people to eastern Washington. The diverse and refreshing landscapes of the region contribute to a high quality of life and are a good reason why many visit or choose to live here. Map 3 shows that State Parks and parks and natural lands managed by other entities in the region contribute to a wealth of green space and recreation opportunities. The City of Spokane, the most populated area in the region, has the potential to not only serve as the region’s recreation center point but also to offer a high quality of life to its residents.



Source: City of Spokane GIS data 2021, Washington State Open Data, State of Idaho GIS Data 2020, BLM, DoD, USFS, USFWS, NPS, PADUS 2.1. Rasterized by Esri from features July 2021. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Branch of Geospatial Support (BOGS) New Land Area Representation GIS dataset 2018

SPOKANE'S PARK SYSTEM

PARK CLASSIFICATION

The City of Spokane's Parks and Natural Lands system is comprised of 105 properties constituting approximately 3,800 acres (Table 1). The system is classified into eight distinct park types, based on characteristics of the park such as size, amenities offered, purpose for use, access and length of stay. Map 4 on the following page displays the distribution of these properties, and Table 2 provides a description of each type. Neighborhood parks, which range from four to 15 acres in size, are the most common park type found in Spokane, followed by parkways and natural land properties. Natural lands provide the most publicly accessible park acres and encompass almost half of the total park system with over 1,600 acres.

Table 1: City of Spokane Park Classifications and Number

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER	ACREAGE
Special Use Park	6	248
Community Park	12	297
Natural Lands	17	1,643
Golf Course	4	690
Regional Park	3	474
Neighborhood Park	32	274
Pocket Park	13	14
Parkway	18	196
Total	105	3,836

Source: City of Spokane GIS data 2021

TIME LINE OF PREVIOUS INVESTMENTS

The Parks Department has been successful in passing three voter approved bond initiatives over the past 20 years (Figure 3). Each bond has been associated with a package of specific park improvements:

Capital investments from bond initiatives have totaled \$133.6 million between 1999 and 2020. These bond initiatives have allowed the Parks Department to execute major improvements to the system that expands and improves recreation offerings. These bonds have contributed to caring for and improving many of the park system's larger signature parks, such as Riverfront and Manito, and improve the overall image of the city. It is apparent that Spokane residents value these large special use parks and appreciate recent investments made in them.

1999 – 2004

\$11.2 M (2.63% of overall)

Park Maintenance, Infrastructure and Expansion Bond: Funded the renovation of several existing parks and playgrounds as well as the construction of new neighborhood and community parks and facilities such as a skate park and picnic shelters.

2007 – 2011

\$16.1M (2.42% of overall)

Pool & Splash Pad Bond: Funded the construction of one new pool and 12 splash pads and renovated five existing outdoor pools.

2014 – 2020

\$20.2M (2.32% of overall)

Riverfront Park Redevelopment Bond: Funded the major renovation of signature downtown park to include a new ice ribbon, redevelop the north bank into a regional all-ages and abilities playground and sports courts, renovated parking facilities and U.S. Pavilion, develop pedestrian promenades, and construct a new building to host the park's historic Loeff Carousel.

Figure 2: Timeline of Previous Investments

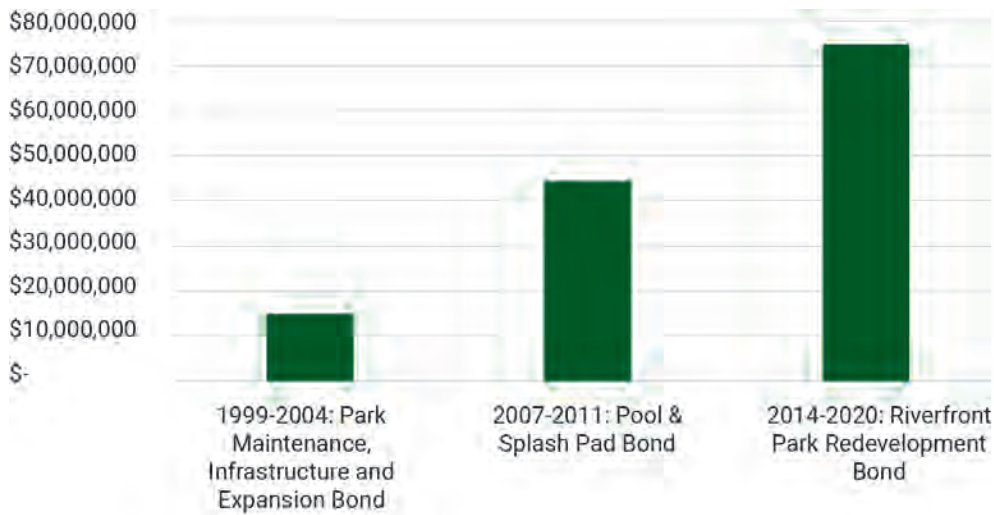


Figure 3: History of Park Bonds: 1999 - 2020. Source: City of Spokane.

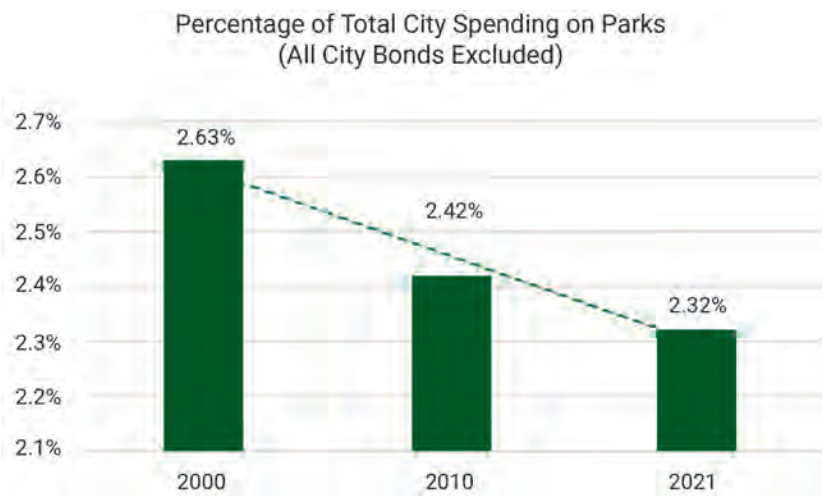
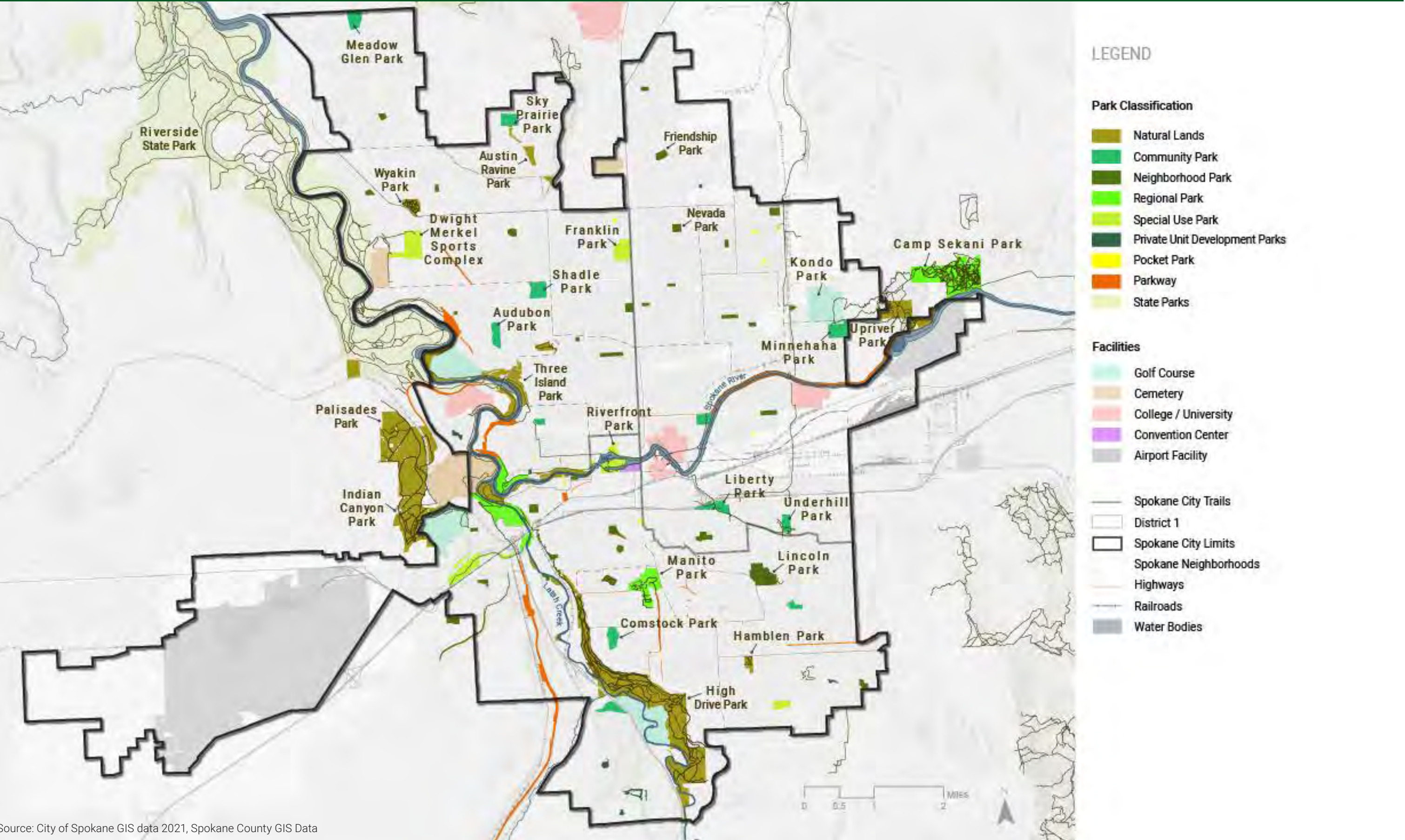






Figure 4: History of City Spending on Parks: 2000 - 2021. Source: City of Spokane.





MAP 4: SPOKANE EXISTING PARKS AND NATURAL LANDS



Source: City of Spokane GIS data 2021, Spokane County GIS Data

Table 2: Spokane Park Classification

TYPE OF PARK	DESCRIPTION	SPOKANE
	COMMUNITY PARKS offer diverse recreational opportunities depending on site suitability and community need. These parks may include areas suited for facilities such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools, natural features (such as bodies of water), and support walking, viewing, picnicking, and outdoor recreation. These parks are centrally located in neighborhoods with safe walking and bicycle access and are adjacent to a school when possible. They are medium-sized, 10-50 acres, and contain 6-15 amenities.	12 Properties 297 Acres <div></div> Examples include: Minnehaha Park and Liberty Park
	GOLF COURSES are large expanses of turf grass, trees, and small water features that are maintained for the game of golf. Golf courses may include trails or trail access within non-playable portions of the property so long as golf activity remains unencumbered by trail access. Note that golf courses were not included in the service area analysis below. They are generally between 140 and 250 acres.	4 Properties 690 Acres <div></div> Examples include: Downriver golf course and Indian Canyon golf course
	NATURAL LANDS function to protect environmentally sensitive features such as steep slopes, unstable soils, and riverfront areas that may restrict land use. Generally maintained in a natural state, the facilities preserve significant views and provide wildlife sanctuary. They are more than 25 acres and contain few amenities, though they may support outdoor and nature-oriented recreational activities for both city residents and tourists. Within conservation lands, which can be found on natural lands, public access for recreational use within conservation land is often limited.	17 Properties 1,643 Acres <div></div> Examples include: Indian Canyon Park and High Drive Park
	NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS are intended to provide both active and passive recreation for residents enjoying short daily leisure periods but should provide for most intensive use by children, family groups, and senior citizens. These parks are centrally located in neighborhoods with safe walking and bicycle access. They are medium-sized, between 4-15 acres, and contain 3-7 amenities.	32 Properties 274 Acres <div></div> Examples include: Lincoln Park and Corbin Park

TYPE OF PARK	DESCRIPTION	SPOKANE
	PARKWAYS are landscaped areas of distinct quality within or adjacent to the public right of way which connect larger park spaces or which are specially fitted for pleasure walking or driving. Parkway may have direct access from a major park with connectivity to adjacent parks and open spaces. Parkway are ideally accessible from a community corridor.	18 Properties 196 Acres <div></div> Examples include: Upriver Drive Parkway
	POCKET PARKS are specialized facilities that are centrally located within neighborhoods, along collector streets, along trail or drainage corridors, or in urban centers. Pocket parks serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as children or seniors and could be provided by the public or private sector. They are small, often 2 acres or less, and contain few amenities.	13 Properties 14 Acres <div></div> Examples include: Cowley Park, Ruth Park and Kehoe Park
	REGIONAL PARKS are a large expanse of open land (more than 80 acres) designed to provide natural scenery and unique features of citywide and regional interest as well as afford a pleasant environment and open space in which to engage in active and passive recreation. They provide outdoor and nature-oriented recreational activities for residents and tourists.	3 Properties 407 Acres <div></div> Examples include: Camp Sekani Park and High Bridge Park
	SPECIAL USE PARKS might include horticultural centers, working farms, arboretums, aquatic centers, sports complexes, parkways, environmental education centers, performance areas, urban plazas, civic parks, skateboard parks, motor-cross tracks, mountain bike parks, or other specialized activity or recreation interests. Location of special use properties must be carefully planned to ensure that access, traffic control, and lighting and noise issues do not negatively impact neighborhoods. They are often medium-size, 4-15 acres.	6 Properties 248 Acres <div></div> Examples include: Finch Arboretum and Riverfront Park

National Geographic aptly named Riverfront Park one of America's best urban parks in 2020.



Riverfront Park



Manito Park

SPOKANE'S PARKS AND NATURAL LANDS SYSTEM

Perhaps the most beloved of Spokane's park system is its natural lands. At 1,600 acres, Spokane's natural lands preserve significant views, provide wildlife sanctuaries, and supports opportunities for passive recreation through trails, interpretive facilities, historic and cultural exhibits, nature observation, photography, orienteering, kayaking, canoeing, floating and fishing. While Spokane's natural lands are a highlight of the parks system, there are far fewer than comparable cities in the Northwest. The largest of Spokane's natural lands properties is High Drive Park, which offers almost 500 acres of contiguous ponderosa pine habitat and a 20-mile trail network. This park is supported by one of Spokane's prized "Friends of" volunteer groups, the "Friends of the Bluff." Throughout the community, the desire to both use and protect natural lands for the purpose of providing connections to the outdoors as well as habitat preservation and environmental protection is a key component of the Preserve and Play Master Plan.



Liberty Park postcard, circa 1910. Source: Historic Spokane

SPOKANE'S SIGNATURE PARKS

Spokane is a city known as much for its historic Manito Park and recently renovated Riverfront Park, colloquially referred to as the "jewel of the city," as it is by the natural landscapes that surround it. A special use park that was renovated from an industrial railyard along the Spokane River for the 1974 World Fair, \$84 million in renovations within the past five years have brought Riverfront Park and Spokane within the national spotlight. In fact, National Geographic aptly named Riverfront Park one of America's best urban parks in 2020. The park boasts views of

the Spokane River cascading over basalt rock and the largest urban waterfall in the country. The scenery can be enjoyed from walkways and a gondola, and the park hosts a variety of amenities including an all ages and abilities playground, an outdoor skate ribbon, a historic carousel and community event space. Rich signage, art and interpretation plays homage to Spokane's ancestral history and environmental setting. Riverfront Park sets an important precedent for how a Spokane park can not only provide residents a space for recreational and leisure opportunities but also elevate the community's posture in how it addresses inclusion and reflects the culture of its past and present.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

In support of Spokane’s diverse community profile, the Parks Department has an opportunity to provide spaces and programs for all ages and abilities, to consider tactics to ease barriers to entry such as providing no and low-cost programming, to design spaces with an intent to reflect the community culture and identity and to craft programs that appeal to age groups differently within specific areas of the City. The following demographic profiles reflect prominent populations within Spokane that parks could support.

One third of households have one or more person living with a disability
Approximately 30 percent of households have one or more persons living with a disability, and 26 percent of households have one or more persons over the age of 65. Table 3 provides a comparison of these numbers between the City of Spokane and the State of Washington.

More “at risk” households compared to state; concentrated in District 1
The ESRI criteria used to determine “at risk” populations include examining households living below poverty, those receiving Food Stamps/SNAP benefits, households with one or more people living with a disability, non-English speakers, and those without access to a vehicle. These factors are relevant for this planning project in that they can indicate areas within the City with a concentration of those who may face economic, social or physical barriers to access the park system and its services. Overlaying this socioeconomic information with data related to the availability and quality of parks, open space, and recreation offerings can portray critical gaps in the system.

Spokane’s at-risk population is relatively higher compared to the statewide level. Besides having a lower percentage of its population that does not speak English, the City has higher percentages of its population represented in all other at-risk criteria.

Table 3: Households with members under 18, over 65 and living with a disability

HOUSEHOLDS							
	Total (2010)	Total (2020)	% Change between 2010 and 2020	Average Size (2020)	Households with one or more person under 18 years	Households with one or more person over 65	Households with one or more persons with disability
Spokane City	87,607	96,789	10.48%	2.32	29.2%	26.1%	29.9%
Washington State	2,620,076	3,002,804	14.6%	2.53	30.8%	27.0%	25.4%

Source: ESRI, Business Analyst 2020

37
Median Age

18% of the population is under 14 years old

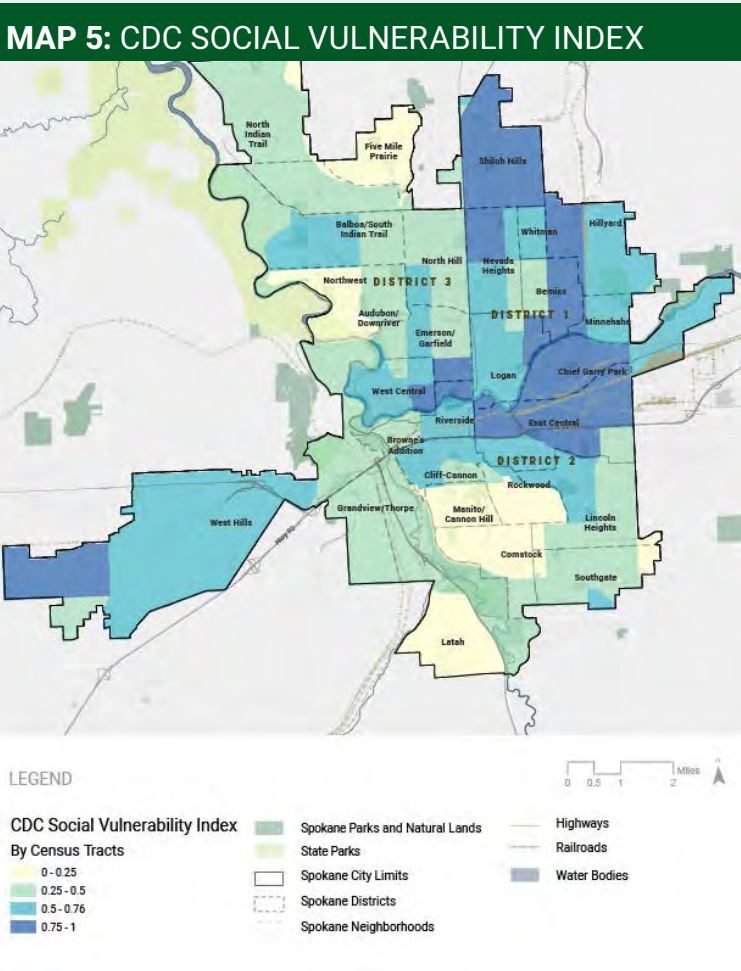
65+
Fastest growing population

PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

Spokane: 30% Washington State: 25%



The percentage of households in Spokane that receive SNAP benefits is nearly double that of the state.



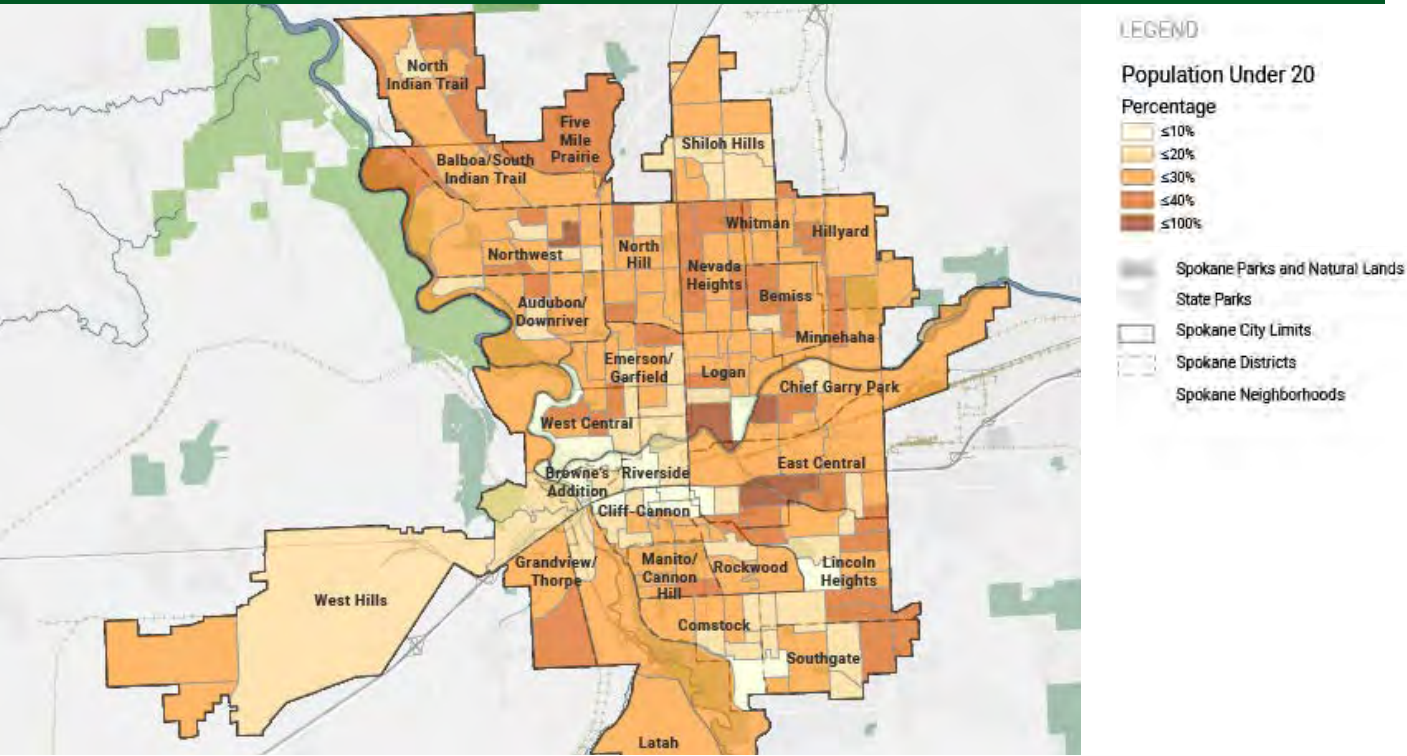
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey

CONCENTRATION OF “AT-RISK” HOUSEHOLDS IN DISTRICT 1

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates four themes of 15 factors to measure social vulnerability including access to a vehicle and income level. Five criteria are highlighted below, comparing the percentage of households in Spokane to Washington State.

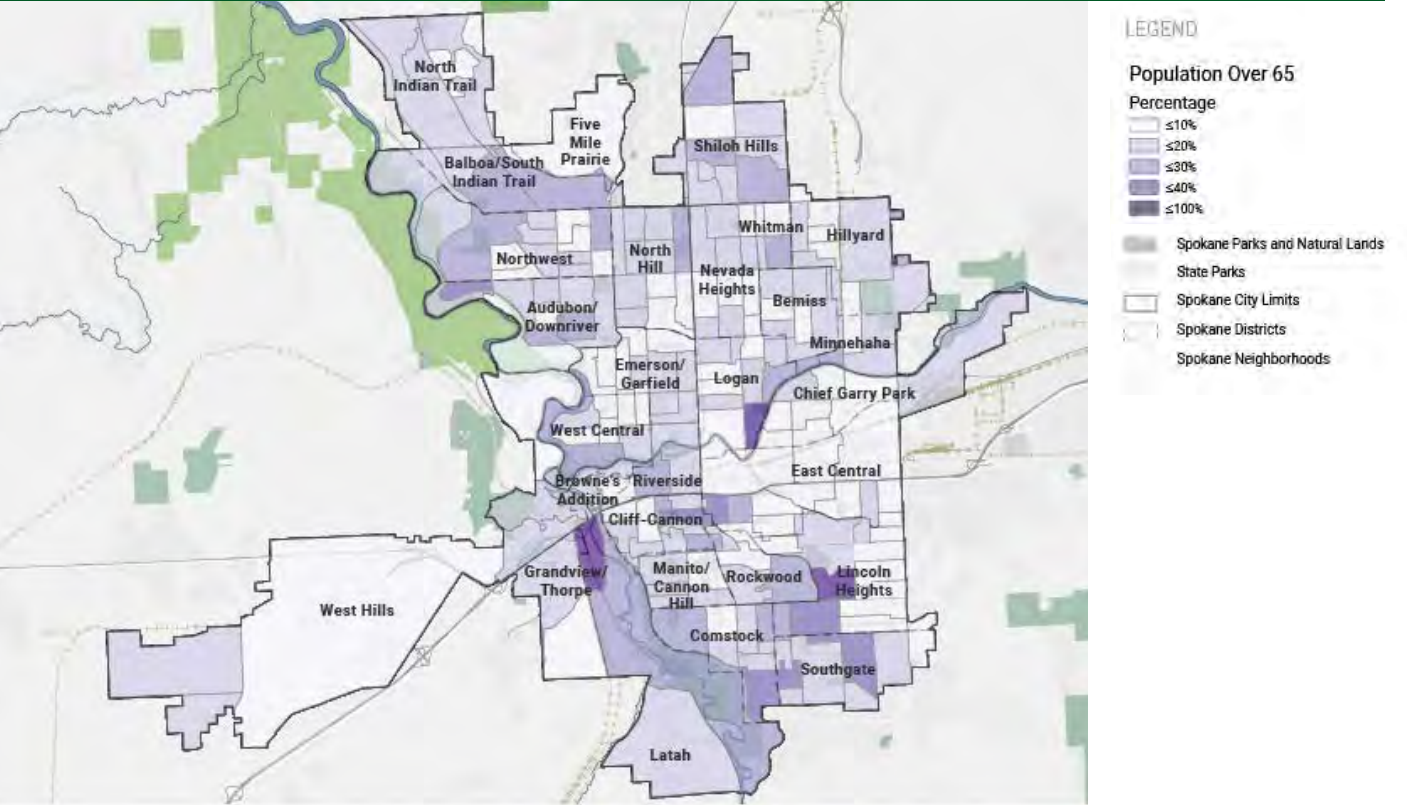
Household Below the Poverty Level	17% vs. 11%
Households Receiving SNAP	22% vs. 13%
Households with 1+ Persons with a Disability	30% vs. 25%
Population that Speaks Only a Language other than English	.22% vs. 1%
Owner Households with no Vehicles	2% vs. 1%

MAP 6: AGE DISTRIBUTION - UNDER 20



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey

MAP 7: AGE DISTRIBUTION - OVER 65



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey

A large student population located near Gonzaga University and Liberty Park

Areas with a large concentration of individuals younger than 20 years of age include the area around Gonzaga University and Liberty Park, as well as a small pocket in the northeastern part of the City.

Largest age segment is those aged 25 to 40 who may have families

The largest age segment, representing 28.1 percent of people in Spokane, is millennial adults between the age of 25 and 44. The City's population of children (less than 14 years of age) is similar to the State's average, both representing about 18 percent of the population. Map 6 shows the distribution of those under age 20.

A growing aging community, specifically in eastern portions of the City

The 65 and older age group is noteworthy, accounting for 16.8 percent of the population. This age group is expected to grow the fastest of any age segment in the coming years, reaching 18.5 percent of the population in 2025. Map 7 shows the residential location of those 65 or older. A large concentration of residents over the age of 65 live in the southeastern and northeastern portions of the City.

Greater concentrations of people live in the older parts of Spokane

Spokane's population is concentrated in District 1 and pockets of District 2 along the Spokane River (Map 8). The newer parts of the City in the north are less dense. This look at population density helps us understand which areas of the City will likely have greater demand for park use.



Spokane youth participating in outdoor programming

A city that is growing in racial and ethnic diversity

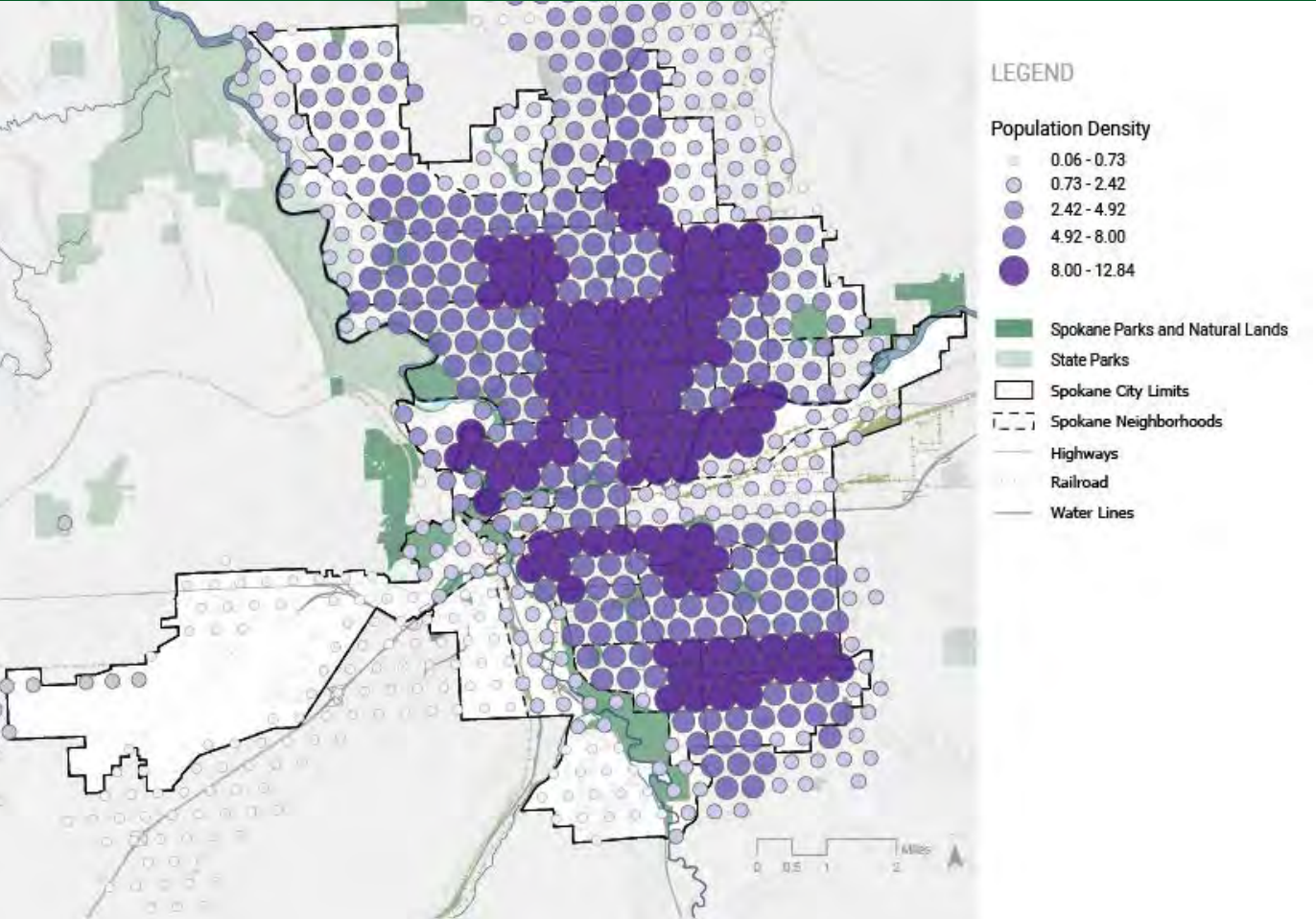
An area's diversity index increases to 100 when the population is evenly divided into two or more race/ethnic groups.¹ Spokane's Diversity Index is projected to grow from 38.5 in 2020 to 42.1 in 2025.

Areas with notably high rates of racially diverse populations include east of East Central, west of Emerson/Garfield, and portions of the Whitman, Nevada Heights, and Hillyard neighborhoods. In general, the northeastern portion of the City is more diverse than the other districts.

As of 2020, white residents account for the majority of Spokane City's population (83.9 percent), followed by people of Hispanic origin (7 percent), Asian (2.9 percent), Black or African American (2.7 percent) and American

¹ Esri. Community Profile 2021, Retrieved from Esri Business Analyst. Source Data: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. Esri forecasts for 2020 and 2025 Esri converted Census 2000 data into 2010 geography.

MAP 8: SPOKANE POPULATION DENSITY



Source: 2020 US Census Bureau, Graphic by Design Workshop

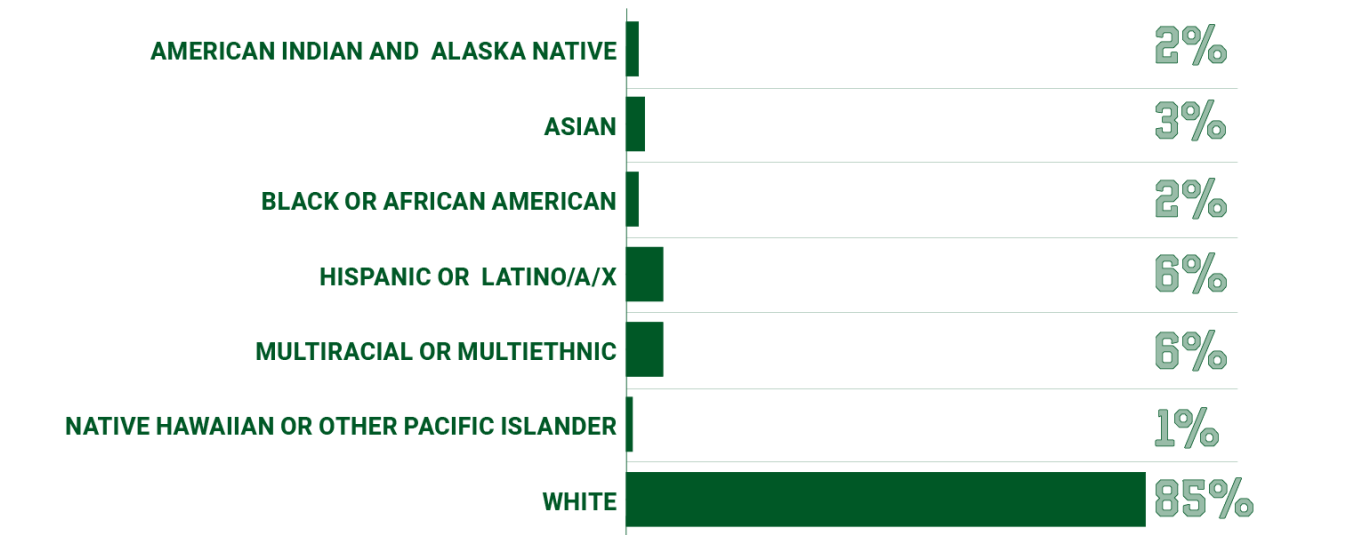


Figure 5: Spokane population by race and ethnicity. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020.

Indian or Alaska Native (2.1 percent) residents (Figure 4). Ninety-two percent of Spokane residents speak English only and 2.4 percent speak Spanish only. The Russian language is also prevalent in the City; according to data from ACS 2019, about 3.6 percent of the City’s population claims Russian heritage. A Diversity Index, developed by ESRI was used to understand the racial and ethnic makeup of a specific geography. The Diversity Index is based on the Census block group level and ranges from 0 (no diversity) to 100 (complete diversity). As determined by ESRI Business Analyst data descriptions, “if an area’s entire population unhoused families rose by 21 percent and the number of single adults rose by 19 percent between 2019 and 2020².

A community with a local indigenous population and a representative population base of the Interior Salish Group

The Spokane and other Indigenous people have lived on the unceded lands today known as Spokane since time immemorial. Two percent of Spokane’s population is comprised of Indigenous residents.

A rise in unhoused residents

According to the 2020 “Point in Time Count” provided by the City of Spokane and Spokane County’s Continuum of Care program, approximately 1,500 people in Spokane are experiencing homelessness and seek services provided by shelters. Nearly a quarter of these residents are adults with children; the number of population.

² Point-in-Time Count 2020, <https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/chhs/hmis/reports/2020-pit-count-presentation.pdf>. Accessed 4 Dec. 2021.



YPI participants enjoying Spokane’s natural lands

HISTORIC REDLINING

To gain a full understanding of the systemic and persistent disinvestment in specific neighborhoods, this equity analysis considers redlining, which was one of many tactics used to perpetuate housing segregation in the middle of the 20th century. The effects of modern racial wealth inequality and environmental injustices can be traced to redlining.

Between 1935 and 1940, the Home Owners’ Loan Corporation (HOLC), a federal agency, created “Residential Security” maps to illustrate the risk associated with distributing home loans in certain neighborhoods. Areas were rated on a scale from A to D with D being the lowest score, and thus, difficult or impossible for residents desiring to live in these areas to obtain a the loan required to purchase a home. The term ‘redlining’ stems from the red color used to indicate D-rated areas (Figure 5). Ratings were based on characteristics including the presence of industrial uses and, most significantly, race and ethnicity.

The modern effects of this historic practice are felt today, as many Black Americans were denied access to the fundamental wealth-building mechanism of homeownership. The inability to accumulate generational wealth has contributed to racial income inequality over the last ninety years. There is a direct correlation between parts of the city that received low ratings during the era of redlining and neighborhoods today that are prone to socioeconomic vulnerabilities as quantified by the CDC and public health inequities.

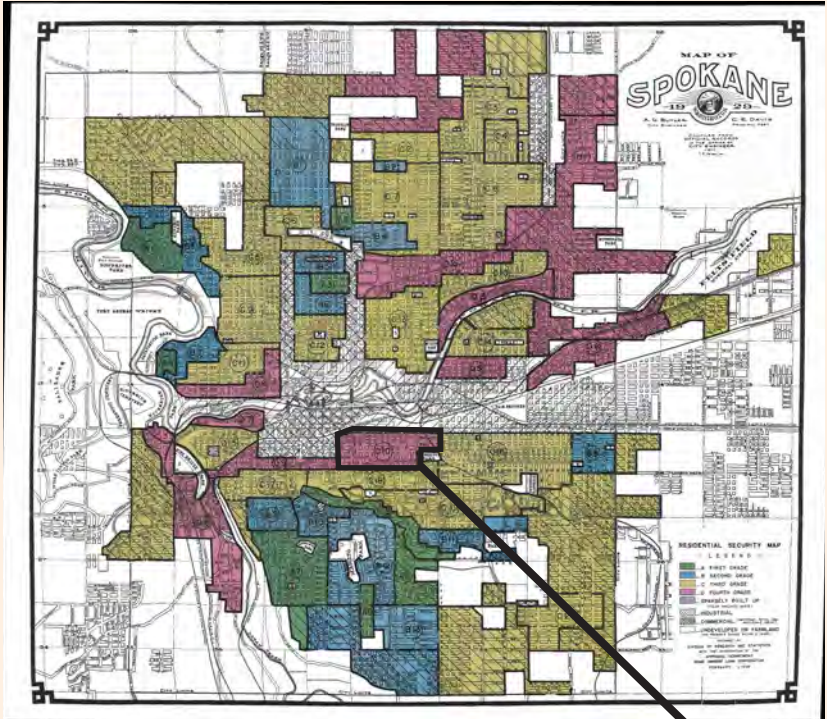


Figure 6: Excerpt from 1938 HOLC “Residential Security” Map. Source: Mapping Inequality, University of Richmond.

“Largely zoned for industry and business. Lot values are \$5 per front foot or less. The territory immediately adjacent to Liberty Park is slightly better grade but proximity to largest [Black] concentration of the city precludes higher grading. This is the “melting pot” of Spokane, and is extremely heterogeneous. The area is accorded a “low red” grade.”

HOW DOES THIS IMPACT THE PARKS AND NATURAL LANDS MASTER PLAN?

Living adjacent to industrial uses exposes residents to hazardous air, poor water quality and often limits access to parks and natural lands. These neighborhoods should be prioritized for investment in the immediate future to reduce existing harms and support environmental justice mitigation efforts.

RECREATION TRENDS

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

In the 2021 Parks and Natural Lands Community Survey, residents of Spokane reported they most use their parks and natural lands for simple or communal pursuits in the outdoors. Using the walking and hiking trails, spending time with family and friends, relax/contemplate/meditate and attending special events are among the top five ways the system is used today. Open swim and aquatic programs are the most highly-utilized of all program offerings in the city. Similarly, the 2018-2022 Recreation and Conservation Plan for Washington State (RCO) report states that the top activities in Washington based on participation rate are walking; visiting rivers, streams, beaches, or tide pools; attending outdoor concerts or events; and gathering or collecting things in a nature setting. These trends reflect a strong preference for outdoor recreation and are similar to national trends that indicate a preference for walking, running and bicycling, freshwater fishing and camping.

Interests by Demographics

According to the Outdoor Industry Association, when asked about which activities they are most interested yet do not participate in, younger individuals in the U.S. (ages six to 24) predominantly chose fishing and camping. People 45 and older expressed more interest in bicycling and swimming. Interestingly, this trend is similar when demographics are dissected by income. Fishing and camping are the two activities people of lower income expressed most interest in, compared to bicycling



Open swim and aquatic programs are the most highly utilized of all program offerings in the city

and swimming for fitness on the other side of the income spectrum. This information is important in understanding Spokane’s diverse outdoor and recreation needs and considering how to ease barriers for participation.

National Trends in Spokane

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), national experts in recreation, completes annual studies of parks and recreation trends so that local departments can anticipate future needs. The trends that will most likely affect Spokane include climate change (specifically increasing temperatures); “disruptive” technology, including electric micromobility devices like self-balancing devices, e-rollerblades, e-scooters and e-bikes; monitoring systems such as beacon counters, geofencing and drones; and the rising popularity of dog parks. Already Spokane has welcomed scooter share systems, which allow

People 45 and older expressed more interest in bicycling and swimming.

NATIONAL RECREATION TRENDS



Climate change

Parks provide natural infrastructure to reduce urban heat island effects and mitigate extreme heat.



Technology

Micro and e-mobility devices are upending the ways that people access parks. Beacon counters, geofencing, and drones provide data that can help administrators understand usage patterns.



Pets

Dog parks are one of the fastest growing types of parks in the country and can contribute to agency revenues and tourism.

LOCAL RECREATION TRENDS

Top 12 Activities Residents Like to do in Spokane Parks and Natural Areas

1. Enjoy nature and/or wildlife
2. Use walking and hiking trails
3. Spend time with family and/or friends
4. Relax/contemplate/meditate
5. Attend special events
6. Use playgrounds
7. Exercise
8. Walk dog/use off leash dog areas
9. Use splash pads/pools
10. Kayak/raft/canoe/stand up paddleboard
11. Picnic/BBQ
12. SkyRide, ride the carousel, use the skate ribbon

Source: Master Plan Community Survey results (2021)

users to rent scooters by the minute and leave them at their destination. The City has been strategic in addressing safety in high-use public spaces by implementing non-visible speed barriers that automatically restrict top scooter speeds in specified zones like Riverfront Park.

See Appendix B for more information about recreation trends.

HOW DO PEOPLE WISH THEY RECREATED?

According to the Outdoor Industry Association, when asked about which activities they are most interested yet do not participate in, younger individuals in the U.S. (ages six to 24) predominantly chose fishing and camping. People 45 and older expressed more interest in bicycling and swimming. Interestingly, this trend is similar when demographics are dissected by income. Fishing and camping are the two activities people of lower income expressed most interest in, compared to bicycling and swimming for fitness on the other side of the income spectrum. This information is important in understanding Spokane's diverse outdoor and recreation needs and considering how to ease barriers for participation.



SPOKANE RECREATION TRENDS

Data gathered from community surveys pointed to areas of opportunity for Spokane to expand services to residents. Respondents indicated a strong desire for restrooms in more parks and trail heads and increased access and maintenance of existing facilities. Other facilities that rose to the top of desire amenities include playgrounds and trail heads. In addition, the six recreation trends listed below were commonly requested.



Dog Parks: Mirroring national recreation trends, Spokane residents desire more facilities for their dogs to safely play, exercise, and socialize. There are currently only two public dog parks, Downtown Spokane Dog Park on Riverside Avenue, which is less than one acre, and SpokAnimal Dog Park, an 11-plus acre space in High Bridge Park. Both off-leash dog parks are in District 2. Standards for dog parks has risen in recent years and residents appreciate additional amenities such as water fountains for both people and dogs, secure fencing, and trash cans.



Gathering Spaces: More than three quarters of respondents to the statistically valid survey indicated ‘provide social opportunities, places to gather and community events’ as an essential or very important aspect of parks and recreation facilities and programs. Forty-four percent of respondents said that ‘spend time with family and/or friends’ is one of the things they like to do in Spokane’s parks and natural lands.



Disc Golf Courses: Spokane’s disc golf programs have helped shaped the game play in the Northwest region. Sixty (60) percent of respondents in the statistically valid survey indicated a desire for more disc golf courses. Many comments in the survey also noted a specific desire for more disc golf courses in general and professional level courses specifically, to host professional events. There are currently seven courses across the city.



Pickleball Courts: Recreation trends reports show popularity of this sport growing within the region. Forty-eight percent of respondents (excluding respondents who selected “Don’t Know”) in the statistically valid survey indicated they “strongly ” and/or “somewhat” prefer the City consider adding outdoor pickleball courts in the next few years. Respondents also noted a desire for lights at existing facilities for year-round use. Comparisons to other communities of a similar size indicate that Spokane’s current level of service does not meet the averages for Tennis/ Pickleball courts. The Parks Department should consider expanding on those needs to help reduce service gaps.



Biking and Skating Facilities: Facilities such as BMX courses, pump tracks, skate parks, and mountain bike trails (soft surface trails) are important to people in Spokane. One-third of respondents in the statistically valid survey said they use the biking trails and students in grades K-6 prioritized bicycle and skating facilities in parks. Respondents also indicated a need for improved signage and wayfinding on biking trails; nearly half of respondents noted that getting to parks, trails, and natural lands by bicycling is a challenge.



Nature-Based Play: Nature-based play, which includes activities such as adventure programming, nature-based water play, rock climbing and exploration ranked high on preference scales by adults in community workshops. When students in grades K-6 were asked about their preferences, nature-based activities like climbing and playing in water and features like tree forts and rocks, ranked highly. Adults and kids alike prioritized access to nature in public engagement sessions.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Through the Spokane Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan process, the system has been analyzed through a technical lens as well as the perception of the public. These tools have led to the identification of several opportunities that should be supported and enhanced, as well as potential challenges to address.

OPPORTUNITIES

Sustainability and Resilience

Spokane’s parks and recreation system is one that is defined by beloved natural lands as well as several special use parks that showcase Spokane’s pride in its public spaces and inclusive mindset. There is an opportunity to infuse sustainability and resiliency best practices into all of Spokane’s properties to address both climate risk and adaptation.

Volunteerism and Education

With an enthusiasm for the park system and appreciation for what exists, Spokane has a strong base of volunteerism that can be built upon and enhanced. Spokane’s highly active population presents an opportunity to create programs that educate and empower residents.

Without adjustments in park funding levels that increase with system expansions, it will be difficult for the City to keep up maintenance of existing and future park properties.

Equitable Investment and Cultural Reflection

With a park system that was founded on the idea of every resident having access within a quarter mile, many parks are in ideal locations to be accessible to residents. Ongoing investments in existing spaces will make the park system current, safe and reflective of Spokane’s culture. With neighborhood pride supported by active neighborhood councils, the political and organizational structure is placed for making locally driven investments.

CHALLENGES

Concentrated At-risk Population

Spokane has a relatively high proportion of its population that is considered “at-risk,” with the percentage of Spokane households receiving SNAP benefits (food stamps) nearly double that of the state and nearly one-third of households include one or more people living with a disability. Concentrations of these households are located predominately in District 1 or northeast Spokane; District 1 also has the least amount of park acreage per population. Additionally, with the construction of a north-south highway located in District 1, residents to the east will be bifurcated from the rest of the City. As large infrastructure projects pose barriers to access especially for those traveling by foot or bike, the construction of east-west trail and path connections and park investments in District 1 east of the new freeway are imperative.

With a growing aging population in Spokane, the 2019-2021 Spokane County Community Needs

Assessment points to a need for “aging friendly communities,” which has implications for park design and programming, as well as the reality that high costs of living and fixed wages among aging residents are affecting rates of homelessness among the 65 and older population.

Rising Unsheltered Population

Homelessness is an issue that faces many communities across the United States, and Spokane has witnessed growth in unsheltered residents, along with a high visibility of encampments and impacts to citizen’s perception of safety. Over the last two years, the City of Spokane has worked on addressing unsheltered homelessness. The City has invested more in street outreach to register people into the homeless service system and has also begun utilizing an integrated database system to better track and map encampments and improve opportunities to send targeted service supports to those areas. As the Park’s Department interfaces with and also potentially serves unsheltered citizens, it is critical that administrators understand and coordinate with City and regional efforts underway to address these challenges.

Growing Population

As Spokane is known as a great place to start a business and a small city with an affordable cost of living compared to neighboring west coast cities like Seattle, Portland and San Francisco, Spokane continues to receive nationwide recognition and resulting growth. The City of Spokane is projected to grow by 13,000 residents by the year 2027. More residents and higher visitation rates translate to more stress on parks,



Snxw Mene? (sin-HOO-men-huh) is an island just north of the Blue Bridge. It was rededicated in 2017 to the Spokane Tribe of Indians in acknowledgment of the sacred and historic connection between the island and the Spokane Tribe. The name **Snxw Mene?** means “salmon people” in English.

natural areas, sensitive landscapes and wildlife habitats, more wear-and-tear and higher maintenance costs, and more crowding and competition for access to trails and recreation facilities.

Climate Change

Impacts from climate change, such as changes in wildlife habitat and ecosystems, coupled with rising temperatures and an increase in wildfires will exacerbate stress on the system and result in changes to how we recreate and enjoy the outdoors. Without adjustments in park funding levels that increase with additional system expansion and adaptations in land and recreation management tactics to address environmental and human health, it will be difficult for the City to keep up maintenance and adapt to meet this projected change.

i Esri. Community Profile 2021, Retrieved from Esri Business Analyst. Source Data: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. Esri forecasts for 2020 and 2025 Esri converted Census 2000 data into 2010 geography.

ii Point-in-Time Count 2020, <https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/chhs/hmis/reports/2020-pit-count-presentation.pdf>. Accessed 4 Dec. 2021.

IDENTIFYING CHALLENGES

Barriers to Participation

Several respondents to the Spokane Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan online survey noted that some of the program costs present a barrier for participation. Lowering or removing the program fees would make them more accessible, however the Parks Department currently works at a \$1.7 to \$2.5 million deficit annually, despite continuously refining their programs. Without additional funding, the Parks Department cannot offer more programs, events, and services that are free or low-cost for residents. One of the greatest challenges for the Parks Department is to balance the programs that are being offered and securing the funding to provide those services.

Lack of Indoor Facilities

Another key challenge is the limited number of indoor recreation facilities and a lack of funding to add more. Ideally, a centralized indoor space would be available for youth summer camps and other activities, which are often cancelled due to smoke, rain, or other inclement weather. While some schools have joint agreements with the City, allowing them access to their indoor spaces, competition with School District programming may limit the amount and diversity of activities the Department can provide. Despite the desire for additional indoor recreational space, it is important to note that building or expanding facilities to meet the demand of an increasing and evolving population, as well as hiring the staff needed to operate and maintain them, is a challenge based on the projected City budget.

In 2021 the Parks Department, in partnership with the city of Spokane and the Spokane Public Facilities District (PFD) opened The Podium, an indoor facility directly adjacent Riverfront Park. The facility sits on public park land, is maintained and operated by PFD and per the current lease agreement is available for public programming and use by the Parks Department four days a week. This will enhance indoor levels of service for the immediate future.

Existing Dedicated Funding Sources Do Not Cover Needed Capital and Operational Improvements

The Parks Department’s dedicated funding source is from the City’s general fund, which is an allocation of eight percent of the city’s general fund expenditures. This funding covers primarily operational needs (\$24.6 million), with a smaller portion available for capital improvements (less than \$5 million annually, based on historic spending). Over the past 22 years, the Parks Department has relied heavily on voter approval for major bond initiatives in order to invest in renovating and building new park facilities. These bond initiatives have been instrumental in funding many of Spokane’s state-of-the-art facilities that expand the department’s ability to provide for all ages and abilities, such as the Providence Playscape at Riverfront Park and investments in six aquatics facilities throughout the city. These represent important investments in the parks system that could not have been done with existing dedicated funding sources and without voter approval.

Looking forward, it is therefore assumed that additional funding will



need to be sought for most project improvements contained in this plan. While the City has had success in passing bonds in the past, relying on them for the future of the system’s success is a risk.



2

EVALUATING THE PARKS SYSTEM

- Level of Service Analyses
- Environmental and Financial Sustainability
- System Equity

CHAPTER 2. EVALUATING THE PARKS SYSTEM



LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSES

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The City of Spokane was laid-out in a pattern that encouraged development of neighborhoods with parks in their core. This strategic design and continued investment in growth and improvements in response to population growth have resulted in Spokane’s high rates of park access as compared to most US cities. A detailed analysis of the current distribution of parks found that 89 percent of households in the City of Spokane are within a 10-minute walk of a public park or school grounds. While this is significantly higher than the national average of 55 percent, it is not the only measurement of a complete parks, recreation, and natural lands system. Closer examination of eight questions below point to aspects for improvement:

- 1. **Do we have enough?**
- 2. **Are parks located in the right places?**
- 3. **Which parks are in poor condition?**
- 4. **Are facilities meeting program needs?**
- 5. **Are we managing natural lands to meet environmental goals?**

- 6. **How well are parks funded?**
- 7. **Is our system equitable and inclusive?**

This chapter provides an evaluation of Spokane’s current parks, recreation offerings and natural lands to identify gaps in service, under-served areas or populations, and community feedback about the system’s overall performance. The analysis in this report is filtered through an equity lens to ensure that changes to the park system do not have disproportionate consequences on people based on their race, income, disability, gender, age, where they live, and more. A comparison of the three city districts identifies locations that are under-served. For instance, District 1 has considerably fewer acres of parks (458) compared to District 2 (1,651) and District 3 (748), and many of the parks in District 1 are small, in disrepair, and without the same level of investment in facilities and recreation amenities of peer parks. The data indicates a need to shift the Parks Department’s focus to more, smaller projects and increased maintenance throughout the City rather than a large, singular project such as the focus with Riverfront Park over the past decade.

1. DO WE HAVE ENOUGH?

Acres of parks

A common measurement to assess level of service is the acreage of parkland compared to the population. Currently, when measuring all parklands, approximately 16.2 acres of park space are provided per 1,000 people. Excluding golf courses, parkways and natural lands, this number drops to 5.8 developed acres per 1,000 people, significantly lower than the national average of 9.9 acres per 1,000 people (NRPA). This data provide a baseline to help understand if the amount of parkland is appropriate for the current population and any projected growth.

Spokane’s population is projected to reach 237,000 people, an increase of approximately 13,000 residents from 2020. In order to provide the same level of park service for the growing population, the city would need to increase parkland acreage by 5.8 percent.

Spokane currently provides **16.2 acres** of total park land per 1,000 people.

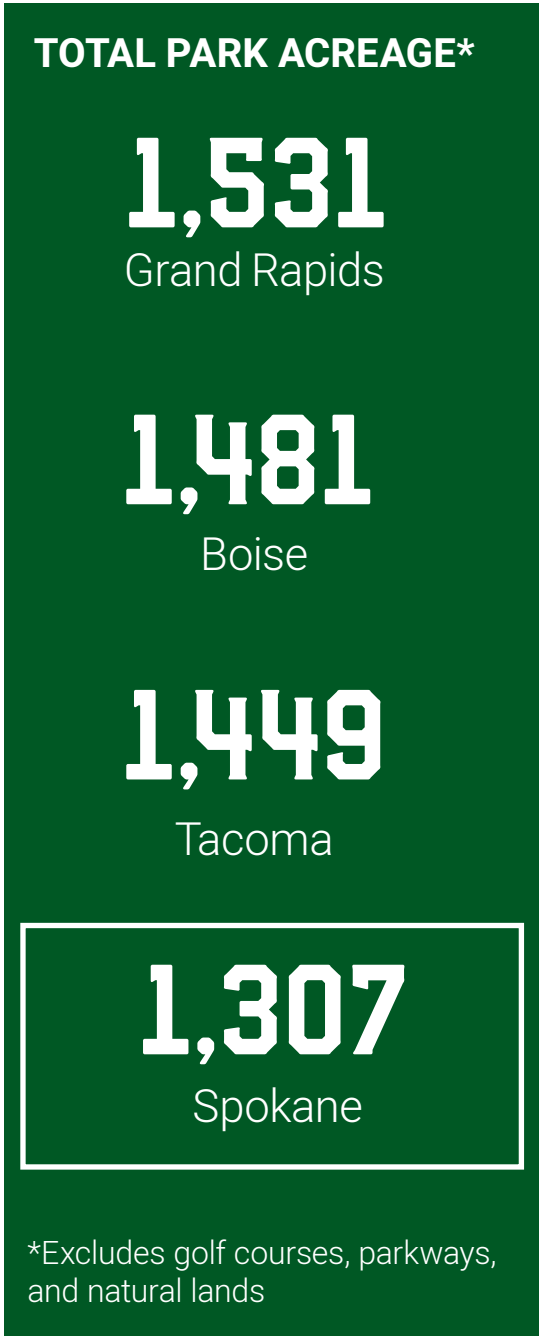
Spokane currently provides **5.8 acres** of developed park land per 1,000 people.

Table 4: Park acreage with projected population increase

PARK CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER OF PROPERTIES	PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE PROPERTY ACRES	ACRES/1,000 POPULATION IN 2020 (223,600)	ACRES/1,000 POPULATION IN 2037 * (236,698)	ACRES NEEDED TO MEET CURRENT LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS IN 2037
Regional Parks	3	474	2.1	2.0	26
Special Use Parks	6	248	1.11	1	15
Golf Course	4	690	3.09	3	40
Community Park	12	297	1.33	1	17
Neighborhood Park	32	274	1.23	1	16
Pocket Park	13	14	0.06	0	1
Parkway	18	196	0.88	1	11
Natural Lands	17	1,643	7.35	7	96
Total	105	3,836	17.2	16.2	222
Total excluding golf courses, parkways and natural lands	82	1,307	5.8	5.5	<100

*Without adding new parks

Comparable Community Benchmarking

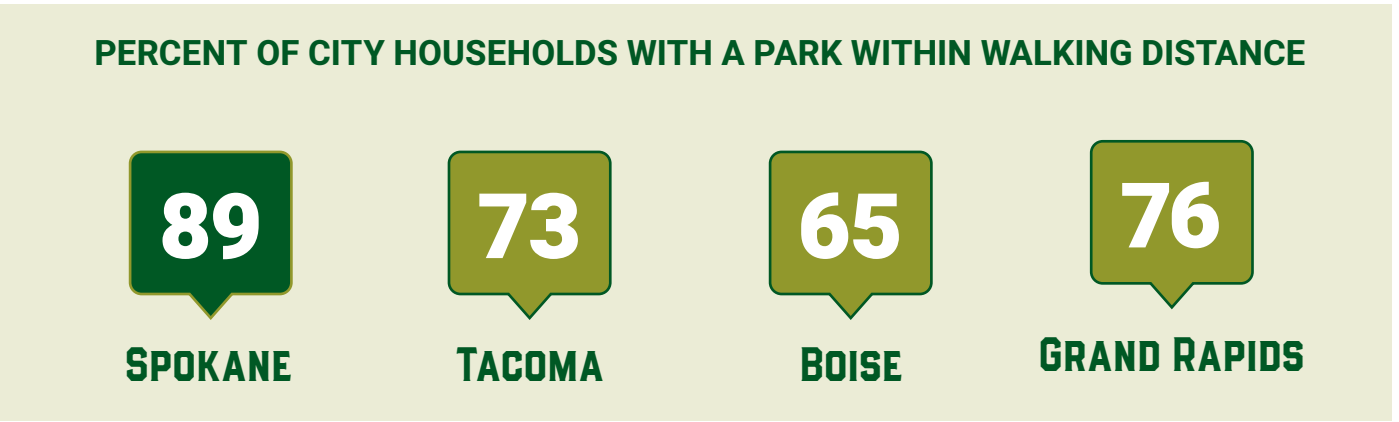


Benchmarking Comparable Communities

One best practice is to compare park acreage level of service to benchmark communities or cities with comparable qualities. Tacoma, WA, Grand Rapids, MI and Boise, ID were selected due to similarities in population, climate, natural setting and/or ranking on numerous ‘best of’ lists.

As seen in Table 5 Spokane ranks in the middle of all benchmarking cities when it comes to “developed and public access” parks, which include regional, community and neighborhood parks, special use, plazas and pocket parks. In terms of acres of natural lands, Tacoma and Boise have double and three times, respectively, the amount of Spokane. This comparison provides an important indicator for the Parks Department to use to understand if they are surpassing or falling behind other similar sized cities and help to identify areas of improvement to create and maintain a high-quality parks and natural lands system.

In order to provide the same level of park service for the growing population, the city would need to increase park acreage by 5.8%.



Source: Design Workshop 2021 (Spokane), Trust for Public Land 2021 (other cities).

Table 5: Benchmark comparison, acres of park and natural lands per 1,000 people

PARK CLASSIFICATION	SPOKANE	BOISE, ID	GRAND RAPIDS, MI	TACOMA, WA
Regional Parks	2.13	0.38	5.42	3.98
Special Use Parks	1.12	3.17	0.08	0.73
Golf Course	3.11	1.27	0.46	N/A
Community Park	1.34	1.32	1.26	1.17
Neighborhood Park	1.23	1.31	0.82	0.76
Pocket Park	0.06	0.08	0.03	0.03
Parkway	0.88	0.49	N/A	N/A
Natural Lands	7.40	28.42	6.56	13.96
Total developed park acres*	5.88	7.53	8.07	6.67

*Excludes golf, parkway, natural land

Spokane’s strength is an equitable distribution of neighborhood parks but it has significantly less park land than comparable cities.

“

...the subdivided portions of cities ought to have neighborhood parks if possible not more than half a mile from any residence.

”

Source: 1913 Olmsted Brothers Master Plan for Spokane Parks

2. ARE PARKS LOCATED IN THE RIGHT PLACES?

PARK ACCESS GAPS

The Parks and Recreation Department looks to the century-old Olmsted Plan for guidance and inspiration. The Olmsted Plan set an important standard—for all residents to be able to access parkland within one-half mile of their home—so Spokane’s park system has a strong foundation of neighborhood and community parks distributed throughout the city.

Today, with the help of schools and privately operated parks, 89 percent of Spokane residents can access park space within a 10-minute walk. Approximately 78 percent of residents are within a comfortable walk distance to a city-owned park. With a national average of 55 percent of residents able to access parks within a 10-minute walk, Spokane is a model for how parks should be geographically distributed to serve their community.

In 2021, the Trust for Public Lands, in evaluating park systems throughout the top 100 largest cities in the United

States, found Spokane’s to rank 17th best. This ranking is based off criteria that measure the opportunities a system provides residents to get outside and recreate. Spokane’s system is also notable in having one of the highest ranking amount of park acreage contained in the system as well as above-average levels of public investments made in parks and their amenities. This ranking puts Spokane slightly behind other west coast communities including San Francisco (sixth), Seattle (ninth) and Portland (tenth).

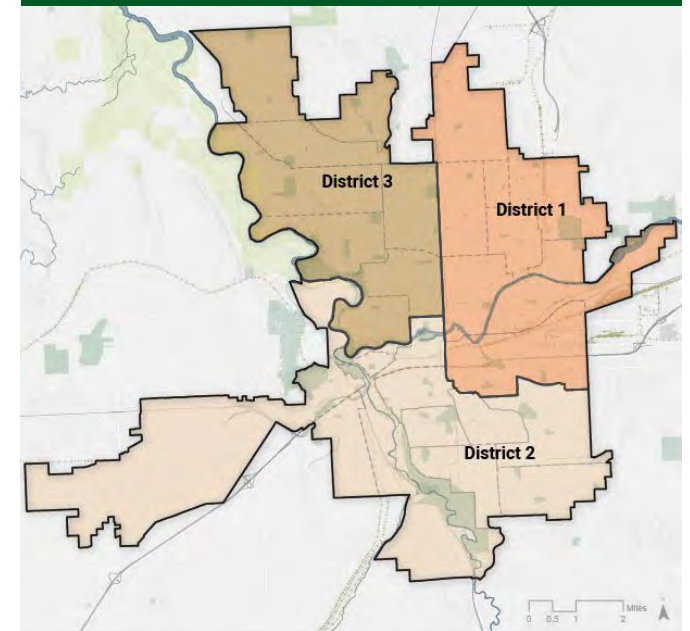
A walkshed analysis, shown in Map 10, identifies areas that can be reached within a 10 minute walk from parks or natural lands (and having sidewalks and trails connecting to them for a true half-mile walking distance). Significant barriers, including rivers and highways, are factored into the walkshed. Layering residential address points on this walkshed (shown in orange) reveals the homes that cannot reach green space within a short walk.

Spokane’s parks are distributed throughout the city to provide 89 percent of households a publicly available park within a comfortable walking distance. This is a considerably better coverage than benchmark cities of Tacoma, Boise, and Grand Rapids. However, the availability of parks differs by geographic area of Spokane as explored in further detail in the coming section.

DISTRIBUTION OF PARKS

A summary of the distribution of parks by the three City Districts is compared in Table 6. District 2, representing south Spokane, contains the largest amount of park acreage. Although serving the smallest number of households, District 2 has approximately 1,000 more park acres than District 1 (representing northeast Spokane) and 900 more acres than District 3 (northwest Spokane). District 2 holds the most individual parks – 43 park properties compared to 28 in both Districts 1 and 2. District 2 holds nine distinct natural lands properties compared to one in District 1 and four in District 3, meaning that residents in this district are afforded more access to recreation in a natural setting. District 1 has the least amount of park acreage, resulting in more competition and use of park amenities.

MAP 9: SPOKANE DISTRICTS



Source: City of Spokane GIS data (2021)

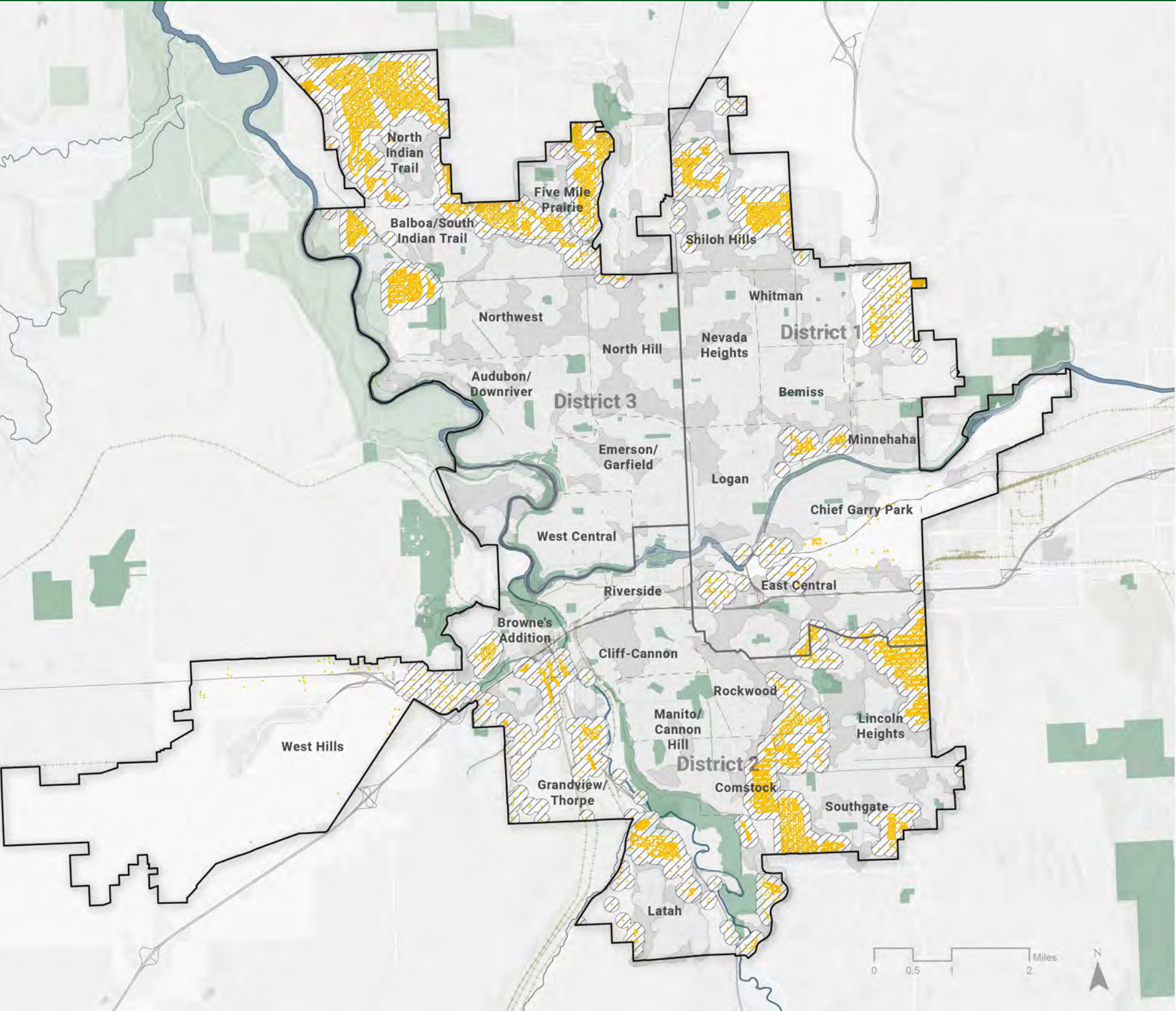
Table 6: Parks and Households per District

DISTRICT	HOUSEHOLDS	PARK ACRES	PARK PROPERTIES	PARK ACRES PER HOUSEHOLD
District 1	32,267	458	28	0.014
District 2	29,380	1,681	43	0.057
District 3	33,466	748	28	0.02
Total	95,113	3,863	105	0.04

Source: City of Spokane GIS data 2021

District 2 has more park acres per household than both Districts 1 and 3 combined

MAP 10: WALKSHED PARK GAPS



Source: Design Workshop Analysis 2021, City of Spokane GIS data 2021, Spokane County GIS Data

- Distribution of Parks**
- » **District 1** has a larger percentage of households with parks within walking distance of their homes, but the smallest total acreage of parks. According to public feedback, the quality of some of these parks is less desirable and that they are used less. This indicates that walkshed is not the only measure of park need.
 - » **District 2** has 18 percent of its households without a park within walking distance. Many of their parks are larger natural areas or larger acreage parks. The large number of households without park access indicates a need for better connections between park spaces and to residential areas of the district, particularly in the Lincoln Heights and Southgate neighborhoods.
 - » **District 3** has 14 percent of the district's households are without a park within a 10-minute walk of their home (equates to 4,232 households). Investments on city owned property within the northwest portion of the district, if completed, will improve park access for residents in this quickly growing part of the city.

See Appendix A, tables 6-8 for a detailed neighborhood by neighborhood breakdown of park distribution and household access to park

89%
of Spokane residents can access park space within a 10-minute walk of a park

PARK GAPS PER DISTRICT

The following neighborhoods have the highest percentage or number of households that are not within a 10 minute walkshed. Significant findings below are organized by district and neighborhood. A breakdown of park access by neighborhood can be found in Appendix A: Park Inventory.

DISTRICT 1

Shiloh Hills: The Shiloh Hills Neighborhood in the northwestern part of the city currently lacks adequate park access. Consider acquiring land east of North Nevada Street, near multi-family housing units.

DISTRICT 2

Lincoln Heights: Lincoln Park, Underhill Park, Thornton Murphy Park and the Lincoln Heights Elementary School are located within the central or western side of the Lincoln Heights neighborhood, however those living on the eastern edge of the neighborhood lacks park access within a short walk. Those living east of South Ray Street face barriers in crossing this high-capacity roadway to access parkland.

Comstock and Southgate: Although residents living on the western edge of Comstock and eastern edge of Southgate neighborhoods currently lack park access within a 10-minute walk, a fifteen to twenty-minute walk (or quick drive) from this neighborhood affords access to High Drive Bluff Park with an extensive trail system and premier views. The suburban nature of these neighborhoods contribute to park

access lacking more than an actual deficiency of park space provided.

Latah/Hangman: The Latah/Hangman neighborhood is comprised of more recent residential developments within the City of Spokane. On the southwestern most portion of town, this neighborhood is separated from the rest of Spokane by Highway 195. While residents likely enjoy the natural setting afforded by surrounding forested land and views of Hangman Creek, the neighborhood currently lacks a city-owned park property. There is a privately maintained park with a playground, sport court and lawn. Access to nearby High Drive Bluff Park is provided by a short drive.

DISTRICT 3

North Indian Trail: The development of the Meadowglen Community Park will significantly improve access for the North Indian Trail neighborhood, which has the highest percentage of its population outside a 10 minute walk to a park.

Five Mile Prairie: The Five Mile Prairie neighborhood is a newer residential area within the City of Spokane that is not fully built out. There are many vacant properties located in a patchwork fashion within this largely single-family neighborhood. As the area continues to subdivide and planned residential developments are proposed, the city should be equipped to plan and develop a new park property to service this growing part of the city.

Northwest: The residences that currently lack access to parkland are within close proximity to the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex, BMX Bike Track, and Fairmount Memorial Park,

however the curved streets of the suburban style residential development coupled with a large tree buffer do not create an environment that promotes residents walking to access these facilities.

3. WHICH PARKS ARE IN POOR CONDITION?

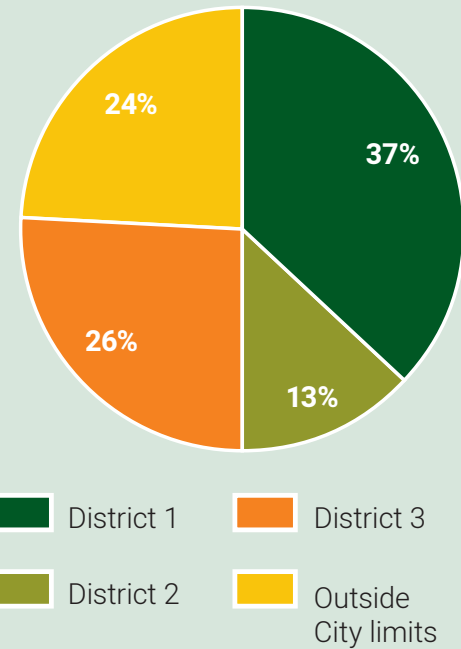
PARK QUALITY

When talking about equity in parks, it is important to consider factors including quality, condition, amenities and recreation programming. A high-level analysis conducted by park staff provides a point-in-time picture of park quality. Each park in the system (including undeveloped parks) were evaluated based on staff’s knowledge of facility condition. The condition assessment concludes that District 1 and 2 have the most parks that are considered to be in poor condition, meaning they are either not functional or have major facility damage. The developed parks contained in District 3 appear to be in the best overall shape when compared to other districts.

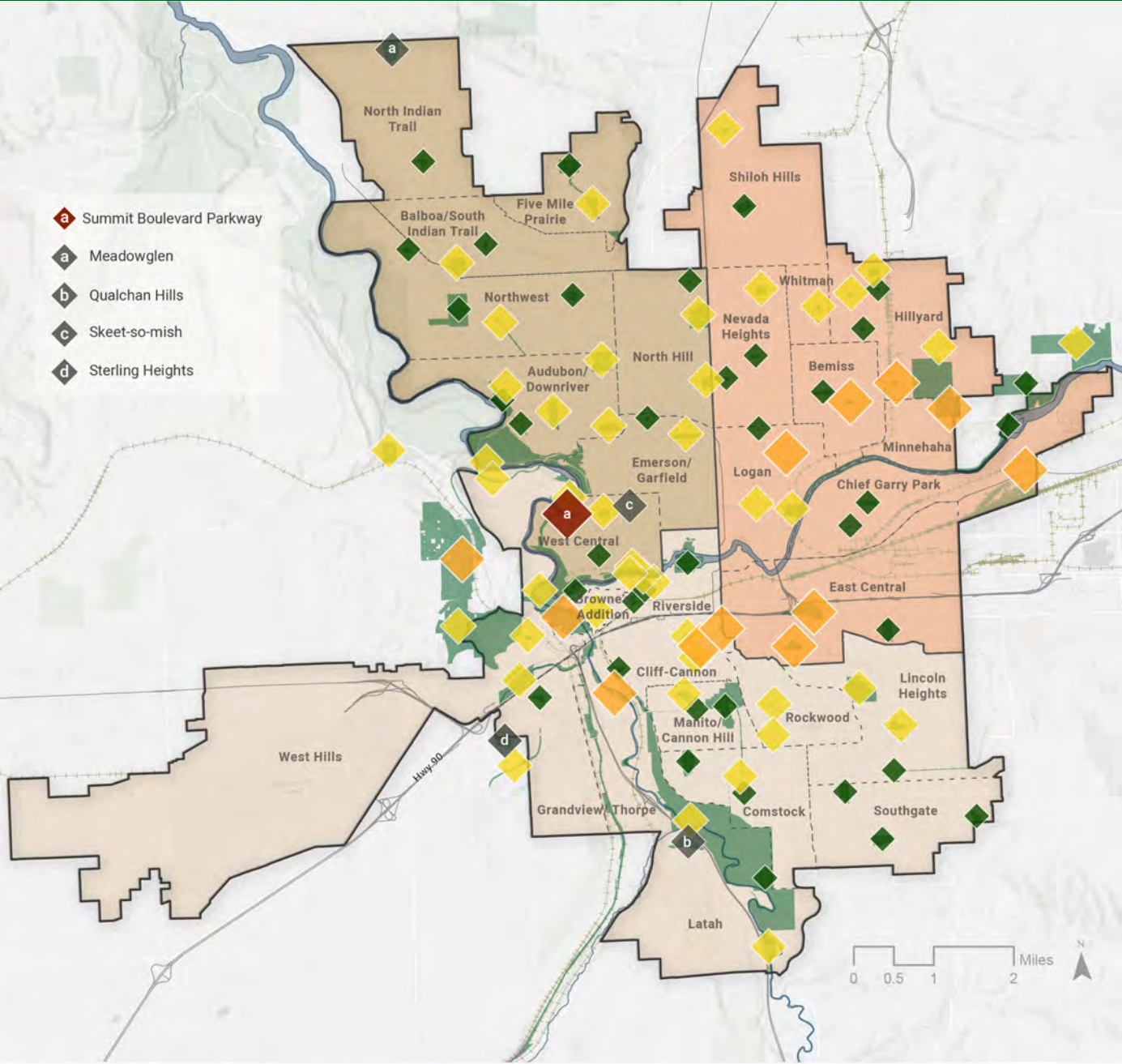
Survey participants were asked to indicate what they believe the Parks Department should focus on over the next five years. The three most selected were:

- 1. Give attention to maintenance and enhancement of park facilities
- 2. Focus investment on undeveloped City-owned properties
- 3. Expand the system and acquire new lands for parks and trails

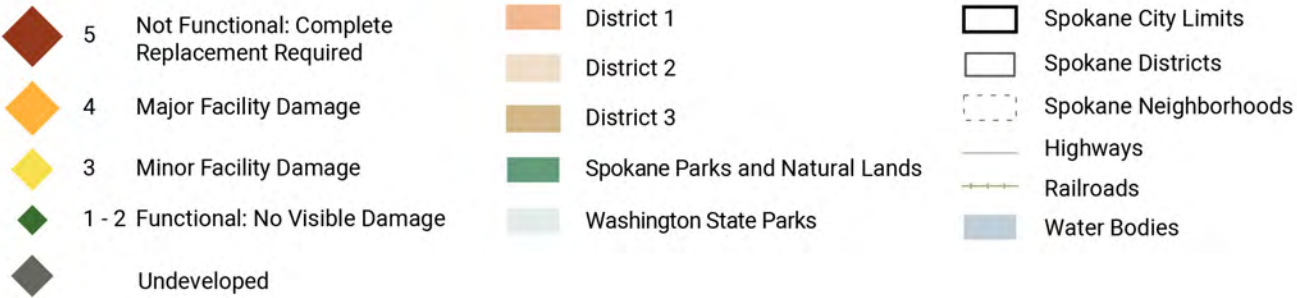
Participants were asked to rate which districts have the highest need of park additions of enhancements. The breakdown of responses is represented below.



MAP 11: PARK CONDITION RATINGS



Park Condition Ratings



Source: City of Spokane Parks & Recreation, City of Spokane GIS data 2021, Spokane County GIS Data

4. ARE FACILITIES MEETING PROGRAM NEEDS?

PROGRAM OFFERINGS

The Parks Department provides a variety of recreational programming, including adult, youth, aquatic, community, arts and outdoor program series. Additionally, the Therapeutic Recreation Services programs are designed to ensure residents with disabilities can participate in parks programming. Arts programs are offered within the Corbin Arts Center, while aquatic programs are typically offered at the four outdoor city aquatic centers.

The number of recreational facilities available compared to the population helps understand how the Parks Department is serving the current population and fulfilling the needs based on projected growth. The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) collects metrics from park and recreation agencies around the country to develop an annual Agency Performance Review. When assessed with other comparable communities:

- » **Spokane provides a significantly higher than typical level of service for outdoor swimming pools*, playgrounds, soccer fields, and softball fields (youth and adult).**
- » **Spokane provides an average level of service for baseball facilities (youth and adult) and skate parks.**
- » **Spokane provides a lower level of service for dog parks, lacrosse fields, multi-purpose fields (unprogrammed fields), and outdoor multi-purpose sport courts (for tennis and pickleball).**

Adapting to recreation trends and fulfilling maintenance needs

It is critical to consider how recreational facilities and program offerings will keep pace with both the increasing population and changing demographics. Future facilities should be designed with flexibility in mind—both in terms of the types of recreation programs offered and accommodating revenue-generating opportunities such as rentals and concessions. This will help the City to be nimble and quickly respond to changing recreation trends and popular programs. The City should continue to support and advocate for quality maintenance and timely repairs of existing facilities, including courts and fields, to enhance their longevity, reduce closure times, and extend the time needed between renovations and replacements.

In particular, several tennis courts are currently out of service due to deferred maintenance. Maintenance frequency should be reduced with upgraded landscaping that requires less water and facility repair frequency should be increased to improve access to court sports. When renovations or repairs are made, court striping and design should encourage multiple uses on the same surface.

*It should be noted that the level of service calculations do not take into account seasonal closures. Because Spokane’s aquatic offerings are all outdoors, the swim season is generally from late May to early September and notably shorter than those with year-round offerings. While the aquatics facilities are open in Spokane they receive very high levels of use.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

5. ARE WE MANAGING NATURAL LANDS TO MEET ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS?

HOW ARE OUR NATURAL LANDS PERFORMING?

This section focuses on tactics to advance and support environmental protection on natural lands as well as methods to ensure financial stability for the Parks Department.

Promoting environmental sustainability in Spokane's natural lands

The City of Spokane has ambitious goals for environmental sustainability which are backed by resident support. The 2021 Spokane Climate Action Plan, outlined goals to protect the Spokane River and natural aquatic ecosystems and explore partnerships with regional organizations and agencies for environmental stewardship. These goals are in direct alignment with the Parks Department mission and goals laid out in this plan.

HOW WELL ARE PARKS CURRENTLY FUNDED?

Map 12 shows park capital investments from the year 1999 through 2021. The park investment history contains funding from three sets of bond measures that were initiated in 1999, 2007 and 2014. These were voter approved ballot initiatives, created for specific park improvements. The park investment history also includes funding over the past five years from non-bond funding

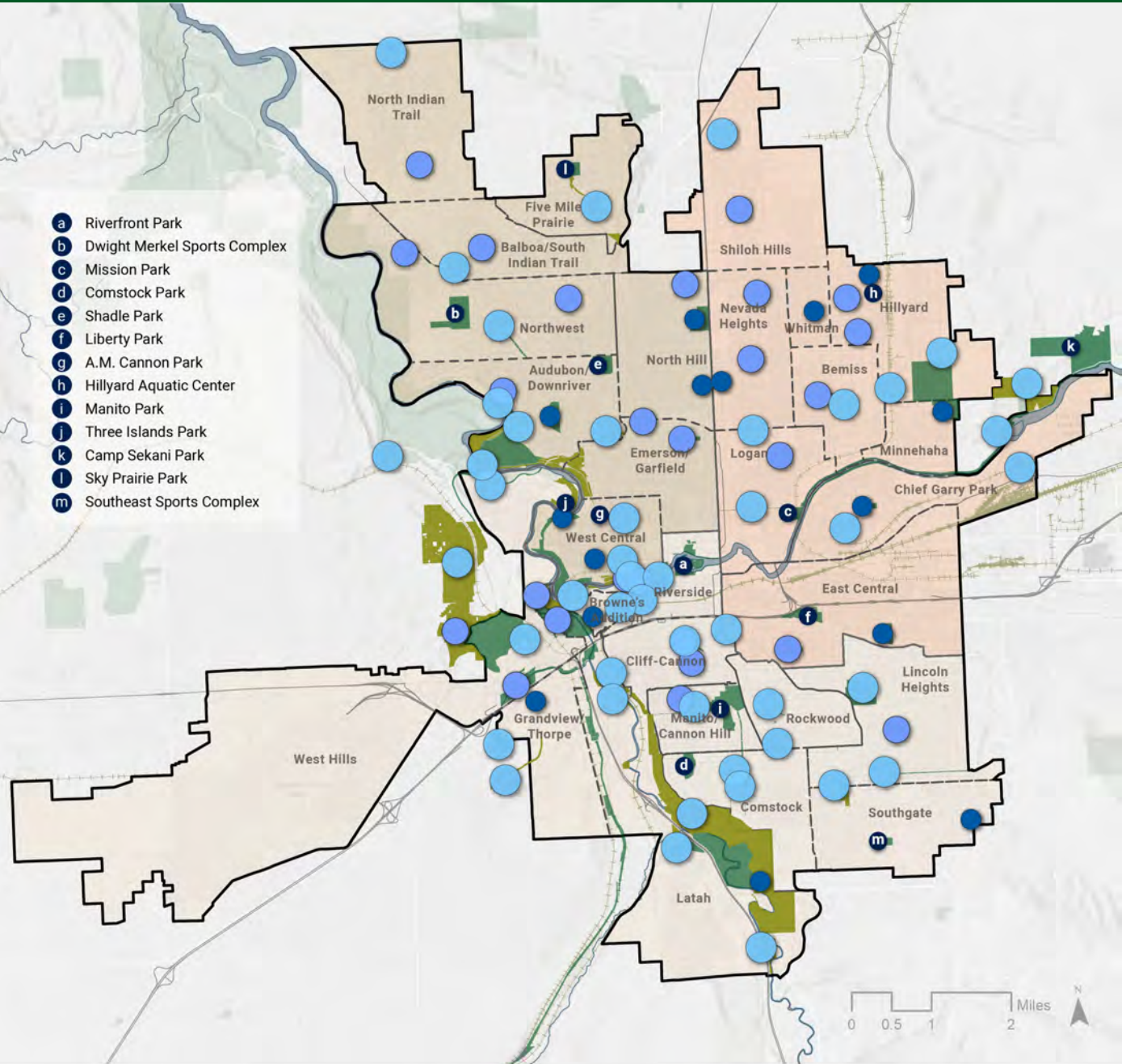
sources. While a smaller amount of money, the non-bond funding source paid for park improvements has helped fill gaps that are not eligible to be funded under program/project specific bond funding, such as playground replacements, maintenance needs, and planning efforts.

Eight percent of the City's general fund goes towards parks. However, over the past 20 years, a number of "enterprise funds" have been established, which are not considered part of the general fund. While these are not considered part of the general fund, they compete for tax dollars that normally are allocated to the general fund. The data represented in this report is a snapshot that illustrates what percentage of the total city funding (including enterprise funds) is spent on parks. Reviewing spending from 5, 10, and 20 years ago can illustrate trends over time.

CAPITAL SPENDING

Revenue for the Spokane Parks and Recreation Department capital expenditures come from a variety of sources, including grants, federal funds, corporate partnerships and philanthropic groups and the City's Parks Division budget. About 70 percent of City funding comes from the City general fund (eight percent of general fund expenses) and the remaining 30 percent comes from program revenue. As outlined in Chapter 1, three bond initiatives passed between 1999 and 2014 have helped the Parks Department focus on major park renovations

MAP 12: PARK INVESTMENT HISTORY, 1999 - 2021



Source: City of Spokane Parks & Recreation, City of Spokane GIS data 2021, Spokane County GIS Data

and expansions. Within the past four years (2017-2021), non-bond spending by the department for capital improvements has totaled \$18.7 million (approximately \$4.675 million when averaged annually); investments from bonds over the last 22 years has totaled \$133.6 million (approximately \$6 million when averaged annually).

*Historic park investment data reflects three separate bond initiatives that were executed between 1999-2020 and non-bond spending that occurred only between 2017 and 2021. It can be assumed that non-bond spending occurred in parks between 1999 and 2017, however cannot be tracked with accuracy and is therefore excluded from this time line.

Figure 4 illustrates the distribution of spending across Spokane’s three council districts. Park investments made in District 2 are more than six times that of District 1 and three times

greater than District 3 over a 22 year period. It should be noted, however, that the major investment in Riverfront Park, a special use park that serves the entire city as well as tourists and regional visitors, is located in District 2. With investments of almost \$75 million in Riverfront Park between 2014-2020, and \$13 million in Dwight Merkel Sports Complex, the inclusion of those facilities in Figure 5 skews spending levels in District 2 and 3 upward. To account for this, shown in dark green are capital investments per district with the exclusion of Riverfront Park and Dwight Merkel Sports Complex. This data depicts greater spending in District 2 between 1999 and 2021, with less spending in Districts 1 and 3.

When excluding bond initiatives, capital investment spending data by council district between 2017 and 2021 illuminates that investments made in District 2 have exceeded

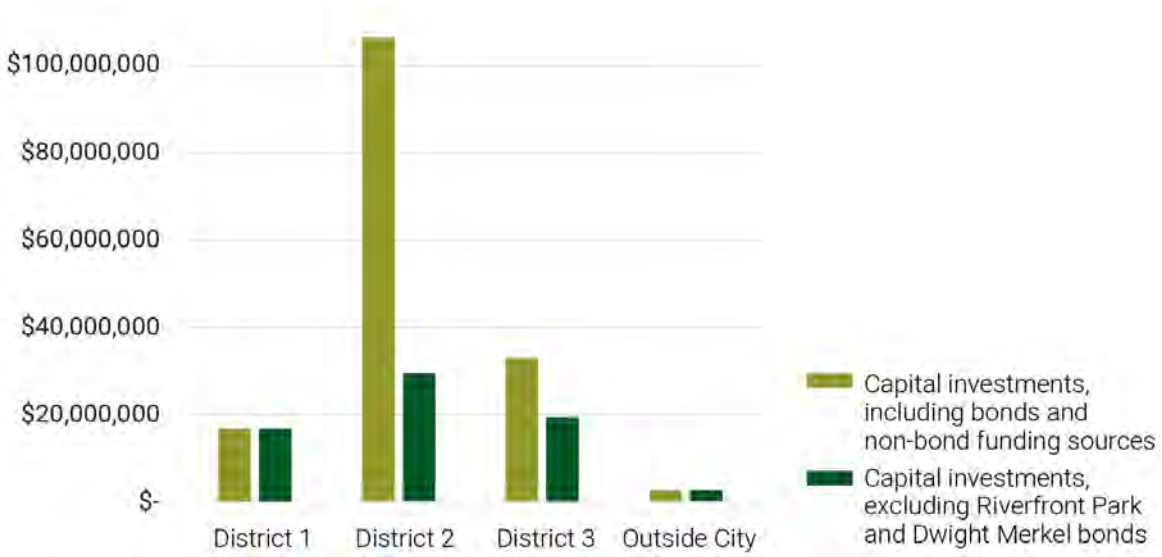


Figure 6: Capital Investments by Council District, 1999 - 2021 Source: City of Spokane. History of Park Investments, 1999-2021.

that of Districts 1 and 3 by 200 percent or more than \$4 million. Non-bond revenue sources include a combination of local taxes, County Conservation Futures excise tax funding, grants from Washington State Recreation Conservation Office (WA State RCO), or federal grants.

Investments made outside the City of Spokane have been for the expansion of Camp Sekani, a regional park that shares ownership with private landowners outside the city, and for the purchase of conserved natural lands. This spending was made possible through the Spokane County Conservation Futures Funding Program and reflects the Parks Department’s commitment to system expansion as well as the need to conserve in-tact natural resources in anticipation of Spokane’s growing population and associated land development pressures.

OPERATIONAL BUDGET

The Parks Department had a total annual operating budget of \$24.6 million in 2021. Operational expenditures are paid for through the City Parks Division budget, which is sourced from both the City’s general fund (eight percent of the City’s general fund expenditures), and program revenue. Operational expenditures account for personnel, as well as grounds and building maintenance activities, recreation programming services and the general upkeep of the parks system. Operational budgets are spent system wide.

Benchmarking these numbers against Spokane’s comparable communities

indicates that Spokane’s operating budget is behind that of Boise, ID and Tacoma, WA, but better funded than Grand Rapids, MI.

Looking forward, 72 percent of residents noted in the citizen survey that the city should improve the frequency of cleaning, garbage removal, mowing and general upkeep, indicating that it could be appropriate for the Parks Department to invest in improving operations and maintenance on parklands.

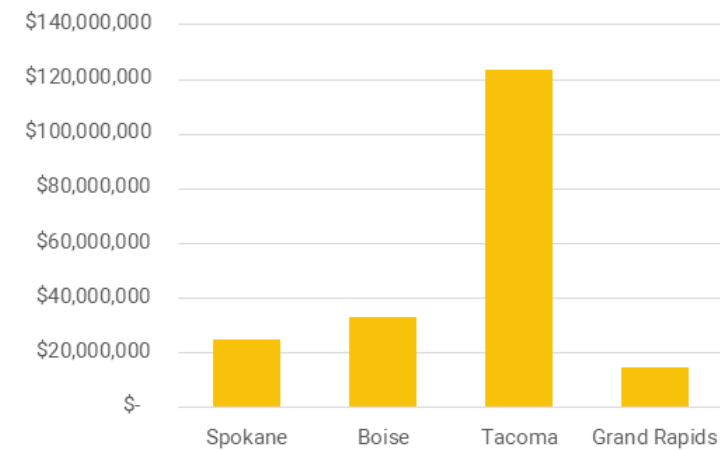


Figure 7: Comparable Community Annual Operating Budgets. Source: NRPA PRORAGIS reports, 2021.

HIGHLIGHTING THERAPEUTIC RECREATION SERVICE

The Therapeutic Recreation Service (TRS) programs are designed for residents with mobility restrictions. TRS programs have been successful in the City and the demand is growing. It is both the Parks Department and participants' wish to integrate the TRS program with the rest of the City-offered programs. Attendees want to be incorporated into the general population recreation programs rather than being placed into the "special" programs.

Currently, there are insufficient resources to allow a more seamless integration. The Parks Department lacks enough staff with the specific skills required to meet TRS participants' needs, such as modifying a kayak/paddle boat to outfit one with physical disability. As demand increases, staff need more training to be able to serve all program attendees, regardless of their ability.

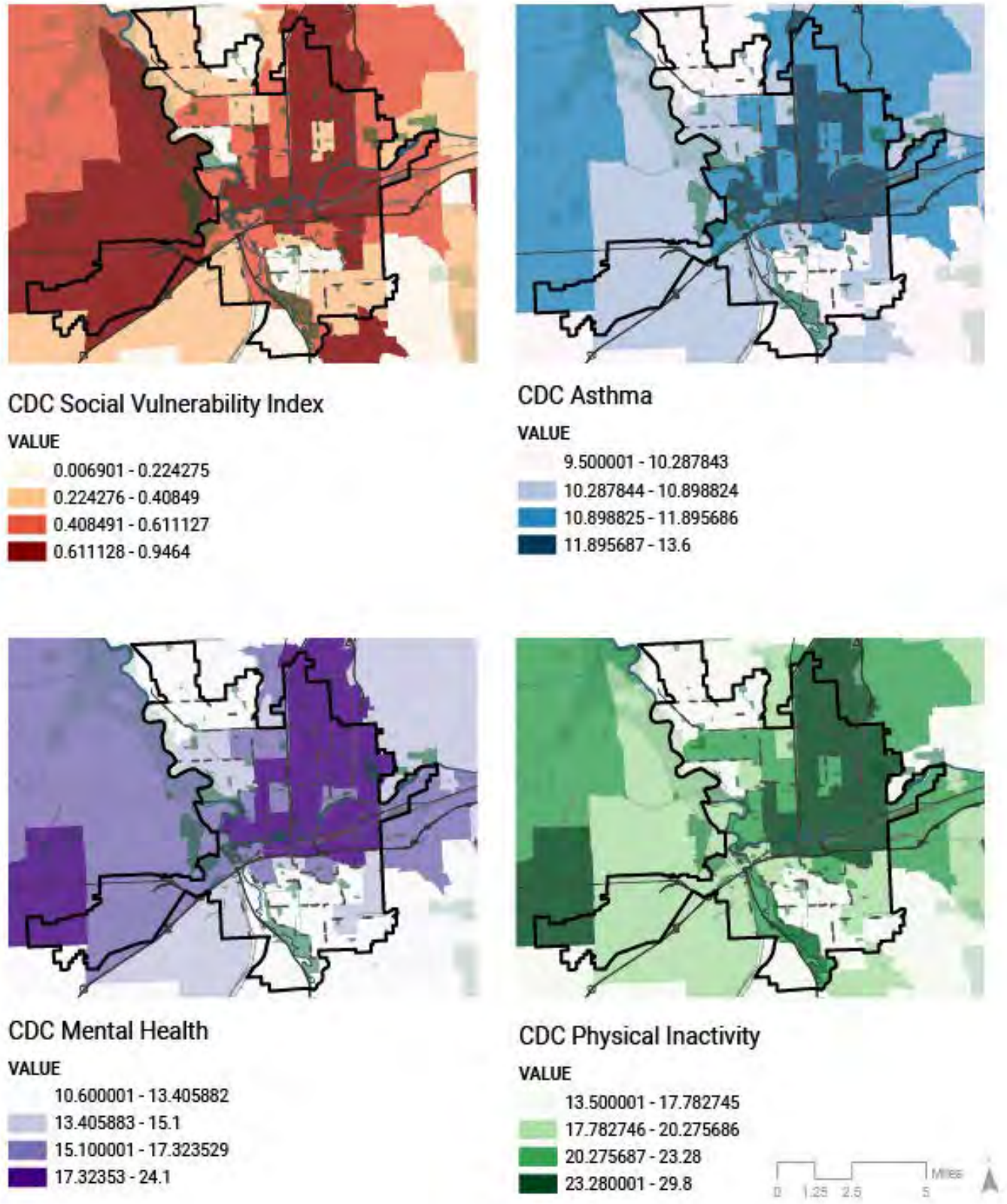


IS OUR SYSTEM EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE?

The Parks and Recreation Department is committed to the creation and maintenance of parks and recreation services that serve and uplift all residents of Spokane. With that in mind, the parks system evaluation concludes with an analysis of socioeconomic factors that can be both indicators and exacerbators of social vulnerability, as well as above average rates of asthma, populations who experience poor mental health and those who have low rates of physical inactivity (Map 13). These datasets collectively create a more comprehensive view of neighborhood dynamics and the social, economic and environmental factors that influence park access and utilization and, ultimately, are determinants of public health. These datasets are blended to create a composite map of "Equity Zones" that is used to guide recommendations for the plan (see Chapter 4 - Land).

Looking at the previous analyses related to the history of park investments per district and the distribution and quantity of park spaces, we understand that investments have not been made equally throughout the system. In particular, there are less park investments made in District 1. Likewise, the largest concentration of populations that are at risk for social and economic vulnerability are located largely in District 1. Findings from this analysis informs strategic investments and priorities for the Parks Department to address needs and improve equity within the parks system.

MAP 13: FACTORS OF SOCIOECONOMIC VULNERABILITY



Source: Center for Disease Control, 2020; U.S. Census, 2020; Environmental Protection Agency, 2020.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT CHAPTERS

Chapters 3-6 contain plan recommendations which are organized by theme (below). Each theme includes goals, indicated by a letter, and each goal has objectives, indicated by a number. Strategies for each recommendation are highlighted in a box of the theme’s color.

THEME - COLOR

Themes, which are organized by color, are the four over-arching categories for the plan recommendations and were developed based on community input. In the organizational hierarchy, themes are at the top.

GOAL - LETTER

Goals are assigned a letter and indicate a something the Parks Department should strive for (e.g., A. Parks for All). The number of goals is different for each theme but all goals have corresponding objectives (e.g. Support ADA Accessibility).

OBJECTIVES - NUMBER

In the organizational hierarchy of this document, objectives come after goals. They refer to ways that the Parks Department can achieve the stated goals.

STRATEGIES - BOXED

Strategies refer to specific actionable steps the Parks Department can take to achieve the stated goals and objectives. They are easy-to-find in boxes that correlate to the color of their theme

PLAN THEMES



LAND - CHAPTER 3

The theme of land includes all physical park properties, programming, and facilities that take place on city park lands.



WATER - CHAPTER 4

The theme of water includes activities, facilities, and programming in and around natural and manufactured water features including rivers, streams, swimming holes, pools, and splash pads.



PEOPLE - CHAPTER 5

The theme of people includes goals and strategies related to how residents engage with and utilize parklands and programming.



LEGACY - CHAPTER 6

The theme of legacy ensures that all goals and actions contribute to continuing Spokane’s heritage of renowned parks, recreation, and services.



Numerica SkyRide at Riverfront Park



3

OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT: LAND

- Goal A. Serving the Under-resourced
- Goal B. Inland Northwest Living
- Goal C. Preserve our Wild



CHAPTER 3. LAND

Three goals, all of which relate to what takes place on park lands, from preservation and conservation to accessible parks and trails, emerged from community input. The following three goals: Serving the Under-resourced, Inland Northwest Living, and Preserve our Wild, each encompass a different aspect of how park users engage with Spokane’s parks and natural lands. Objectives and strategies that support each goal are included.

THEME: LAND

Goal A: Serving the Under-resourced	
Objective 1.	Address Geographic Gaps In Park Provision
Objective 2.	Invest In Equity Zones
Objective 3.	Focus On Neighborhood And Community Parks
Goal B: Inland Northwest Living	
Objective 1.	Offerings Reflect Our Mountain Landscape And Respond To Our Recreation And Park Use Trends
Objective 2.	Trails For Park Access
Goal C: Preserve Our Wild	
Objective 1.	Initiate Framework For Natural Land Acquisition Decision-Making
Objective 2.	Further Regional Partnerships For Land Acquisitions.
Objective 3.	Initiate Interdisciplinary Partnerships For Land Management.
Objective 4.	Create Dashboard For Monitoring And Reporting.
Objective 5.	Enhance Our Natural Lands With Projects To Restore Ecologies And Build Resilience To Natural Disasters.

“Among the medium-sized proposed parks, this [neighborhood] park would be one of the most important in order to secure an equitable distribution of park benefits”

- 1913 Olmsted Report

GOAL A. SERVING THE UNDER-RESOURCED

Serving the Under-resourced highlights the need to improve park access and quality equitably throughout the city. With most recent investments in neighborhood and community parks occurring in 1999, many are nearing the end of their life cycle and are overdue for improvements. Serving the Under-resourced means prioritizing needed investments located in equity zones. (Equity zones, which are defined by history of investments and demographics, are further discussed in Chapter 2). Improving access also includes adding trails that connect to parks and recreation opportunities and developing parks on vacant properties to increase the number of households within walking distance of a park.

Table 7: Goal for address gaps 10 minute walkshed per district

	ACREAGE	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS OUTSIDE WALKSHED	PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS OUTSIDE WALKSHED	FUTURE GOAL
District 1	458	32,267	2,250	9%	5%
District 2	1,680	29,380	4,161	18%	15%
District 3	748	33,466	4,163	14%	10%
Outside City Boundary	968	Not defined due to lack of boundaries	Not defined due to lack of boundaries	Not defined due to lack of boundaries	Not defined due to lack of boundaries

Objective 1. Address Geographic Gaps in Park Provision

The following neighborhoods have the highest percentage or number of households that are not within a 10 minute walkshed. Findings are organized by district and neighborhood. See Table 7 for a breakdown of 10 minute walksheds by district.

District 1 has a larger percentage of households with parks within walking distance of their homes, but the smallest total acreage of parks. Some of the park provision is supplemented with school properties in the central part of the district or the Bemiss Neighborhood. Quality of some of these parks are less desirable and they are used less. Certainly walkshed is not the only measure of park need.

Shiloh Hills: The Shiloh Hills Neighborhood in the northwestern part of the city currently lacks adequate park access. Consider acquiring land east of North Nevada Street, near multi-family housing units.

District 2 has substantially more park acreage than the other districts, with 43 parks in this district compared to 28 parks in both Districts 1 and 3. Strategies to increase access should therefore be centered upon the addition of infrastructure that supports comfortable walk conditions to existing parks.

Lincoln Heights: Lincoln Park, Underhill Park, Thornton Murphy Park and the Lincoln Heights Elementary School are located within the central or western side of the Lincoln Heights neighborhood, however those living on the eastern edge of the neighborhood lacks park access within a short walk. Those living east of South Ray Street face barriers in crossing this high-capacity roadway to access parkland.

Comstock and Southgate: Although residents living on the western edge of Comstock and eastern edge of Southgate neighborhoods currently lack park access within a 10 minute walk, a fifteen to twenty-minute walk from this neighborhood affords access to High Drive Bluff Park with an extensive trail system and premier views. The suburban nature of these neighborhoods contribute to park access lacking more than an actual deficiency of park space provided.

Additionally, the Manito Country Club, which offers private outdoor recreational opportunities is located in the Comstock neighborhood, providing access to nearby residents willing to join the club.

Latah/Hangman: The Latah/Hangman neighborhood is comprised of more recent residential developments within the City of Spokane. On the southwestern most portion of town, this neighborhood is separated from the rest of Spokane by Highway 195. While residents likely enjoy the natural setting afforded by surrounding forested land and views of Hangman Creek, the neighborhood currently lacks a city-owned park property. There is a privately maintained park with a playground, sport court and lawn. Access to nearby High Drive Bluff Park is provided by a short drive.

District 3 is a high growth area of Spokane, with recent residential developments stretching to the northern portions of the city. Park provisioning has not necessarily kept up with new residential developments due to the lack of a development fee tied to growth.

North Indian Trail: The development of the Meadowglen Community Park will significantly improve access for the North Indian Trail neighborhood.

Five Mile Prairie: The Five Mile Prairie neighborhood is a newer residential area within the City of Spokane that is not fully built out. There are many vacant properties located in a patchwork fashion within this largely single-family neighborhood. As the area continues to subdivide and planned residential developments are proposed, the city should be equipped to plan and develop a new park property to service this growing part of the city.

Northwest: The residences that currently lack access to parkland are within close proximity to the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex, BMX Bike Track, and Fairmount Memorial Park, however the curved streets of the suburban style residential development coupled with a large tree buffer do not create an environment that promotes residents walking to access these facilities.

“When we have gone more often and more deeply into the enormous benefit which parks are to the health of the people of the city, we come to realize not only the importance of having parks conveniently accessible, which is a very obvious requirement, but also the reason why they should be large”

-1913 Olmsted Report



GOAL A: SERVING THE UNDER-RESROUCED

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Address Geographic Gaps In Park Provision

- » Develop parks on vacant lands to increase the number of households with a park within walking distance.
- » Develop one additional park in District 1 (east of newly constructed north-south freeway) to increase park access for residents in these neighborhoods.
- » Consider additional east-west pathway connections that support residents in District 1 to reach nearby parks located west of the north-south freeway.
- » In District 2, add pathway connections from residential areas to existing parks.
- » Develop future Meadowglen Park property in District 3 to service residents in the northwest portion of the district who currently do not have adequate park access.
- » Acquire land for development for a future pocket park within the east central or Lincoln Heights neighborhoods east of South Ray Street.

Objective 2. Investing in Equity Zones

Layering in information related to park conditions, identification of demographics that indicate different needs, park distribution gaps, and a history of investments, equity zones have been identified that indicate geographic areas that investment should be prioritized (Map 14).

Drawing upon the 10 minute walkshed analysis and layering in information related to park conditions and a history of investments, we will have a firmer understanding of neighborhoods that are currently lacking park access.



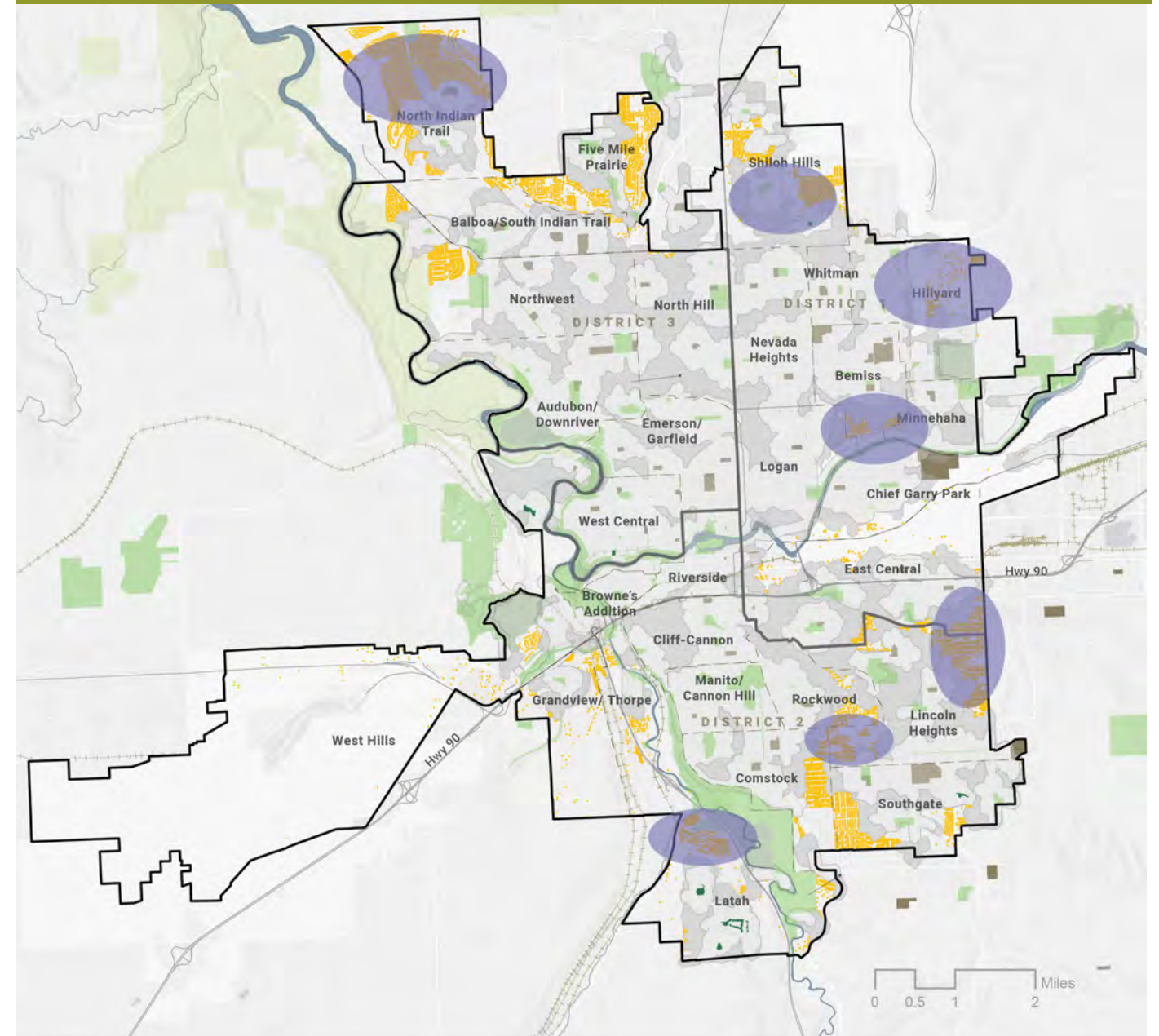
GOAL A: SERVING THE UNDER-RESOURCED

STRATEGIES

Objective 2. Invest In Equity Priority Zones As Shown In Map 14 (next page)

- » Prioritize investments in improving parks in Equity Zones (defined by history of investments, conditions, and demographics).
- » Invest in types of recreations and activities that Equity Zones are interested in. See Map 17: Inland Northwest Living.
- » Explore revising citywide street tree maintenance program to ensure proper maintenance does not adversely burden community members and/or result in inadequate urban tree canopy coverage.

MAP 14: POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITY AREAS FOR NEW PARKS



LEGEND

- | | |
|--|--|
| Opportunity Areas for New Parks | Golf Courses |
| Homes Located Outside 10-minute Park Walk | Spokane City Limits |
| 10-Minute Walkshed | Spokane Districts |
| 5-Minute Walkshed | Spokane Neighborhoods |
| Public Schools | Highways |
| Spokane Parks and Natural Lands | Railroads |
| State Parks | Water Bodies |
| Private Unit Development Parks | |

Source: Design Workshop Analysis 2021, City of Spokane GIS data 2021, Spokane County GIS Data

Objective 3. Focus on Neighborhood and Community Parks

Neighborhood and community parks and outdoor sport courts were indicated as having the greatest need by Spokane survey respondents when asked about physical improvements. These parks are centrally located in neighborhoods with safe walking and bicycle access. Neighborhood parks are intended to provide both active and passive recreation for residents enjoying short daily leisure periods but should provide for most intensive use by children, family groups, and senior citizens. Community parks are larger and serve a wider audience. They offer diverse recreational opportunities depending on site suitability and community need. They may include areas suited to facilities such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools, natural features (such as bodies of water), and support walking, viewing, picnicking and outdoor recreation. They are centrally located in neighborhoods with safe walking and bicycling access and are adjacent to schools when possible. Outdoor sport courts can be single- or multi-use for tennis, pickleball, basketball, and other sports and games.

Many park facilities have likely reached the extent of their lifespan as 1999 was the last time neighborhood parks received comprehensive updates.



Residents added a basketball hoop on the street adjacent to Wildhorse Park



GOAL A: SERVING THE UNDER-RESOURCED

STRATEGIES

Objective 3. Focus on Neighborhood and Community Parks

- » Prioritize investments in historically neglected or under-resourced neighborhoods through a Neighborhood Parks Initiative.
- » Develop a Community Parks Initiative to complete a comprehensive investment in smaller parks. The investment includes capital improvements, expanded recreation programming, increased maintenance and gardening staff, and capacity building in partnership with local community groups.
- » Couple neighborhood and community park improvements with environmental protection tactics that address climate change impacts. On existing developed parklands, such as community and neighborhood parks, the City can implement landscaping changes that convert existing spaces that require large park resources, such as unused turf lawns, to drought tolerant plantings, pollinator gardens and low maintenance vegetation.
- » In park buildings, the Parks Department can support Spokane’s Climate Action Strategy by incorporating energy efficiency and new energy technologies and building practices in new park facilities and infrastructure, while retrofitting eligible existing facilities using LEED certified and similar performance standards.
- » Generate strategy to improve restroom availability and preferred methods for altering or replacing restrooms to improve ADA accessibility.



Kids playing flag football at Dwight Merkel Sports Complex

WHAT WE HEARD:
NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY PARKS

Residents of Districts 2 and 3 were more likely to have used neighborhood parks than residents of District 1

94% of respondents have used a neighborhood park

67% of respondents feel that neighborhood parks and picnic areas could use improvement

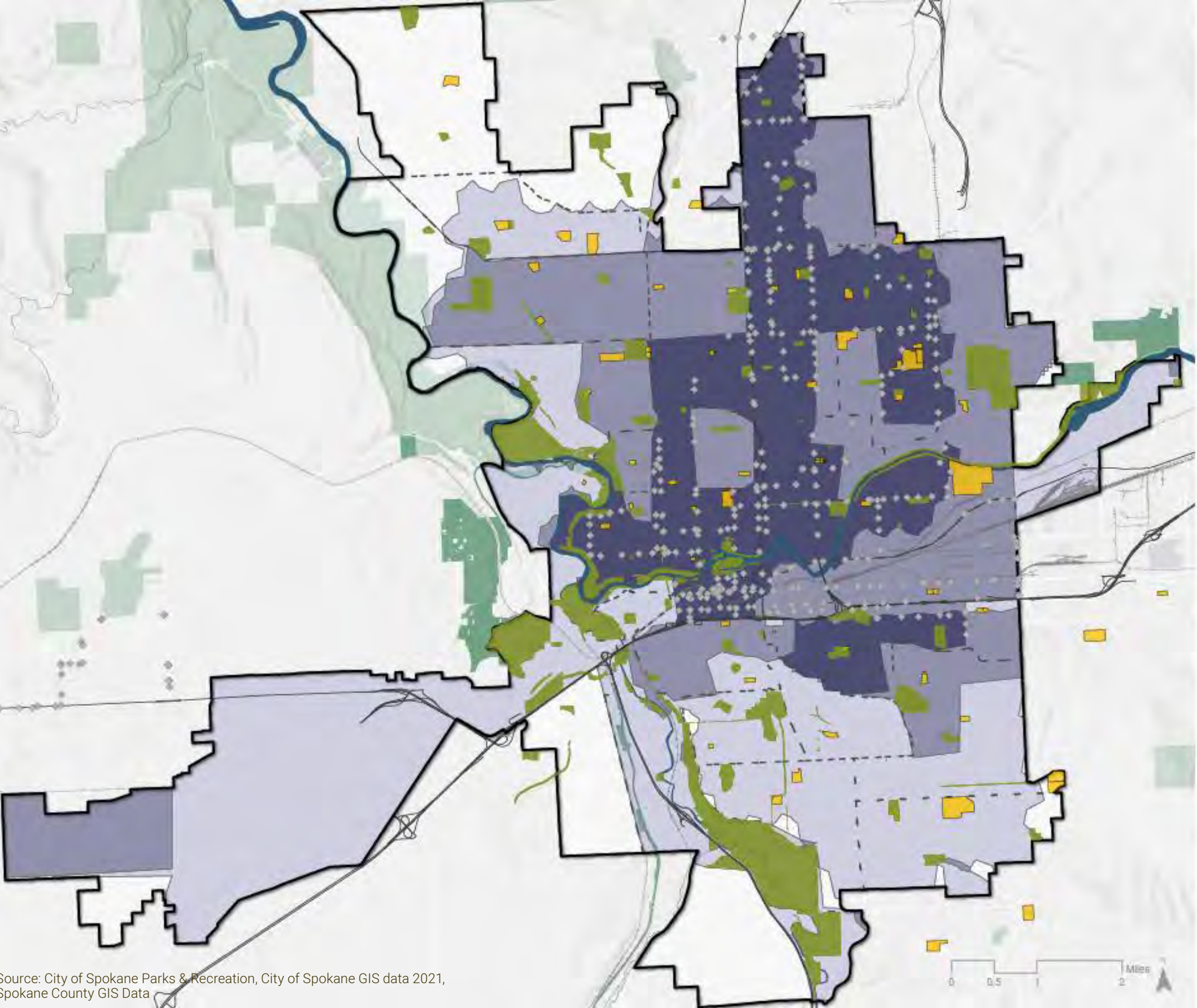
73% of respondents felt it was “very important” or “essential” that new neighborhood parks are built on land the city already owns

“Build Meadowglen Park, with full park amenities for families including play structures, splash pads, walking trails and tennis courts. There is no park that is within a 10 minute walking distance for this neighborhood, so it would be great if this is developed.”

Source: Parks and Natural Lands Survey, 2021 (Appendix C)



MAP 15: EQUITY PRIORITY ZONES



LEGEND

Social and Environmental Equity Zones

- 300 Highest Equity Priority
- 200
- 100
- 0 Lowest Equity Priority

- Transit Stops
- Public Schools
- Spokane Parks and Natural Lands
- State Parks
- Spokane City Limits
- Spokane Neighborhoods
- Highways
- Railroads
- Water Bodies

VARIABLES INCLUDED IN THE ANALYSIS:

Social and Environmental Equity Zones:

- Population Density
- Housing Density
- CDC Social Vulnerability Index
- Asthma health prevalence
- Mental health distress
- Physical inactivity

Other Variables:

- Transit stops
- Public schools
- Spokane parks and natural lands

Source: City of Spokane Parks & Recreation, City of Spokane GIS data 2021, Spokane County GIS Data



Adventure Park Rope Course

GOAL B. INLAND NORTHWEST LIVING

Spokane residents noted in surveys that it is important for parks to reflect and highlight the assets of the Inland Northwest, including the mountain landscape and local recreation trends. As the center of the Inland Northwest Region, Spokane is home to breathtaking mountains, rivers, ravines, forests and other natural features that work together to create a natural playground.

Objective 1. Offerings Reflect Our Mountain Landscape And Respond To Our Recreation And Park Use Trends

It is important to reflect the culture and lifestyle of Spokane residents, who value spending time outdoors, with their dogs, using hiking and biking trails and facilities such as skate parks and pump tracks, playing in nature and gathering with friends and family in natural settings. The strategies were developed using data from the statistically valid survey and feedback from residents at community workshops and trends and analysis of park levels of service.



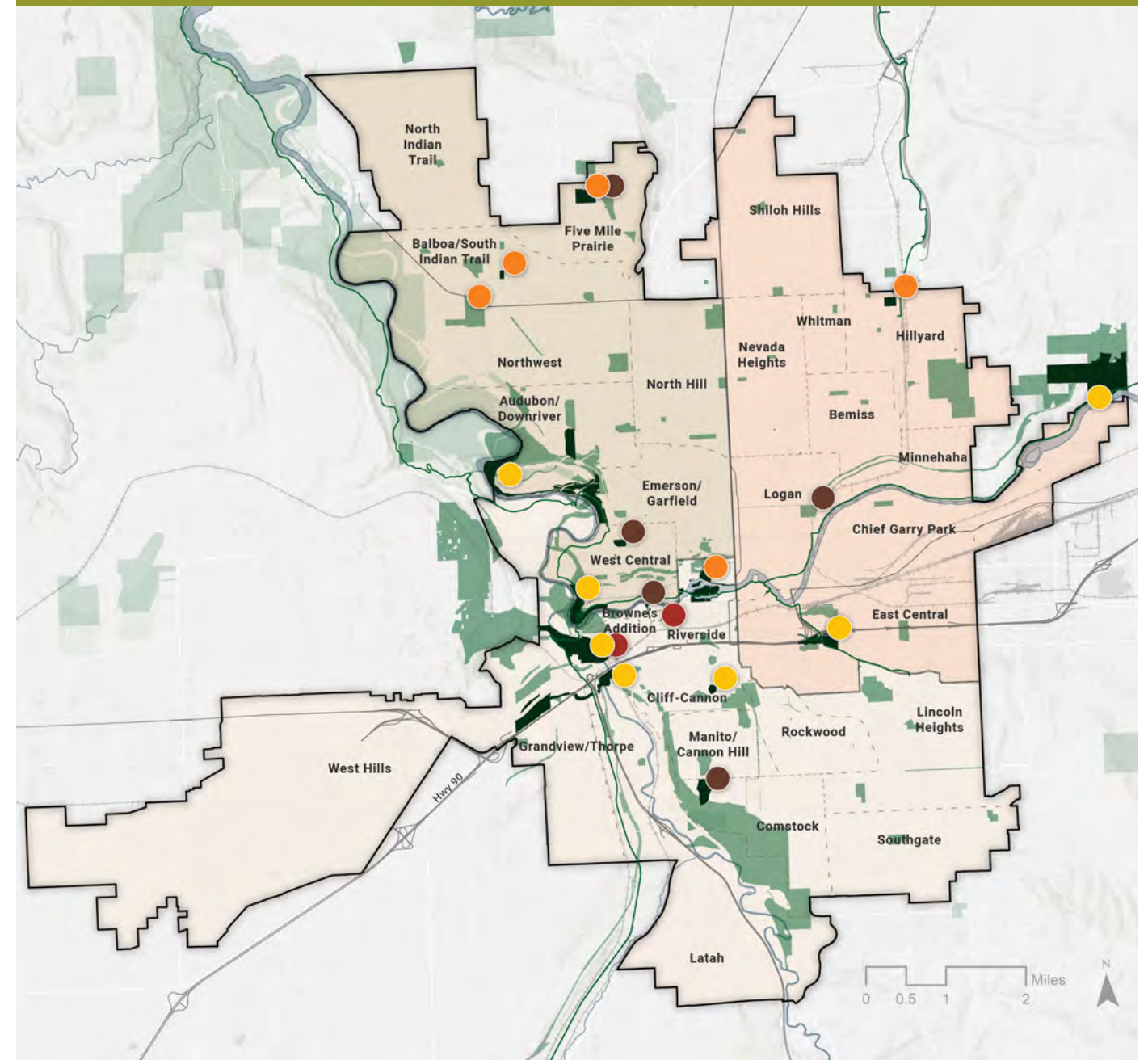
GOAL B: INLAND NORTHWEST LIVING

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Offerings Reflect Our Mountain Landscape And Respond To Our Recreation And Park Use Trends

- » **Dog parks:** Complete planned study (2022) to locate off-leash dog parks city-wide, identifying up to 10 potential sites.
- » **Gathering spaces:** Greater investment should be made to providing places for gathering like plazas, event spaces, pavilions with grills and seating areas and community programming like outdoor concerts.
- » **Disc golf:** Efforts to advance this popular sport involve creating advanced courses as well as investments in amenities to support hosting regional tournaments, such as adequate parking facilities that service premier courses.
- » **Pickleball:** When renovating or repairing existing facilities, court striping and design should encourage multiple uses, including pickleball, on the same surface, further enhancing availability. Evaluate potential of constructing centrally-located regional pickleball complex at existing special use facility to draw larger events.
- » **Biking and skating facilities:** In addition to special use parks and zones, there is a need for more dedicated bike trails, bike lanes and soft surface trails more evenly distributed throughout the city for recreation and commuting. A full list of proposed trails and supporting strategies can be found in Chapter 4.
- » **Nature play:** When making upgrades to existing playgrounds, there are opportunities to incorporate play features that are made from or mimic the natural environment, such as trees, stumps, logs, boulders, water, plants, sand, ropes, bridges and tree houses.
- » **Winter activities:** Golf courses, which often go unused during winter, could serve as spaces for winter activities like cross-country skiing, sledding, and snowshoeing. The City should pilot winter recreation programs at golf courses.

MAP 16: EXISTING SPOKANE PARK SYSTEM AMENITIES

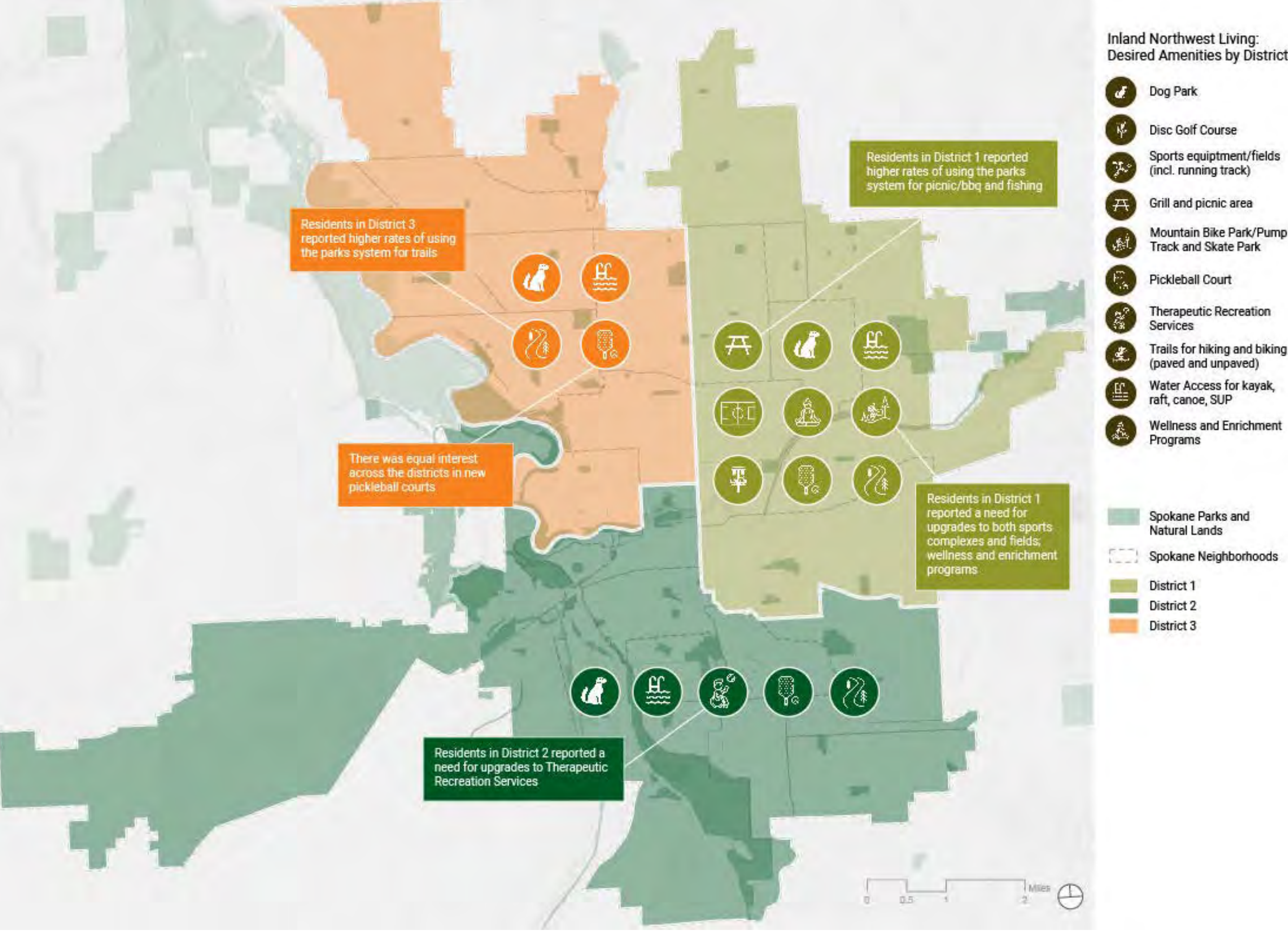


LEGEND

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ● Disc Golf Courses | □ Spokane City Limits |
| ● Biking and Skating Facilities | □ Spokane Neighborhoods |
| ● Dog Parks | — Highways |
| ● Pickleball Courts | — Railroad |
| ■ Parks with Amenities | — Water Lines |
| ■ Spokane Parks and Natural Lands | ■ District 1 |
| ■ State Parks | ■ District 2 |
| | ■ District 3 |

Source: City of Spokane GIS data 2021, Spokane County GIS Data

MAP 17: DESIRED AMENITIES BY DISTRICT



PUBLIC COMMENT

“The trails deserve attention from the city in a comprehensive way. What trails need the most love? Where should signs be placed? What trails need to be de-commissioned? [Which] trails need better access.”

Objective 2. Trails for Park Access

Trails are wildly popular in Spokane, with 96 percent of respondents in the statistically valid survey indicating they have used the trail system for walking, running, or hiking and 88 percent of respondents indicating that providing recreation trails and greenways is “essential” or “very important” aspect of natural lands programming. Residents indicated a need for improved connectivity between existing trails and park lands.

Sixty-nine percent of respondents use parks and natural areas for walking and hiking trails. Among the top list of improvements for the parks and natural lands system is to improve trail heads on natural lands and to add unpaved trails for hiking. 183 geographically referenced comments collected through the planning process presented the idea of a new trail, indicated a trail maintenance need or voiced an appreciation for an existing trail.

Beacon Hill, which has been envisioned as a park since 1908, is one of the largest undeveloped ridge lines in Spokane. It is a popular destination for runners, hikers, mountain bikers, and disc golfers. Many residents would like to see the park be city-owned and highlighted for the asset that it is.

The Latah Valley Hangman Creek corridor and Fish Lake Trail gap between Government Way and the Centennial Trail both represent locations in need of additional trail development. Previous studies have been completed in both of these reaches and should be utilized in developing additional trails and trail connections in these area specifically.

There is a need to better define unpaved trails. Many social, or unmanaged, trails have developed as a result of a lack of clear wayfinding or signage. These trails are created when people leave a defined trail and can lead to environmental degradation by fragmenting natural lands, wildlife displacement and soil compaction and vegetative trampling.



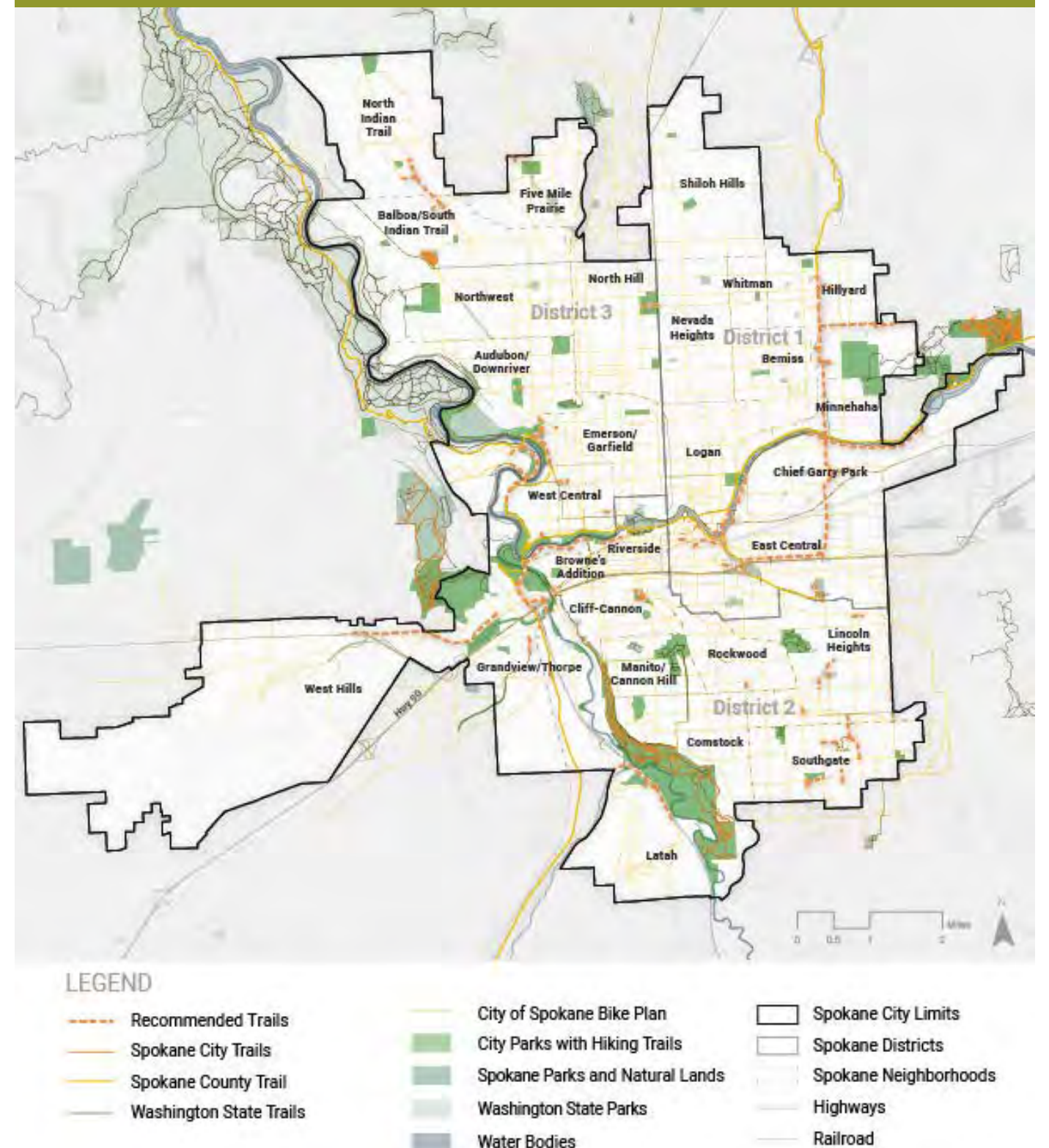
GOAL B: INLAND NORTHWEST LIVING

STRATEGIES

Objective 2. Trails for Park Access

- » Add trails that connect residences, schools, and places with a high concentration of people to parks and recreation.
- » Support and partner for the development of trails, many of which are suggested in the City of Spokane’s Transportation Master Plan.
- » To support a cohesive trails system throughout the city, implement standards for trail designs that include trail characteristics, management best practices for environmental protection, and signage and wayfinding guidelines (Figure 8).
- » Develop standards for trail heads that promotes them as a full-service stop, providing users with signage and maps, trash cans, rest rooms and bike maintenance tools.
- » Develop a trail maintenance plan for open spaces.
- » Invest in a comprehensive city trail map. Currently, there are over 170 miles of both hard and soft trails, and the number of trails increase every year. When the City does not have the trails properly mapped and identified, they cannot properly direct people to different trails by use (bike trails, dedicated loops, dogs-allowed, wide enough for strollers, etc.). A properly recorded trail map will help ensure accessibility.

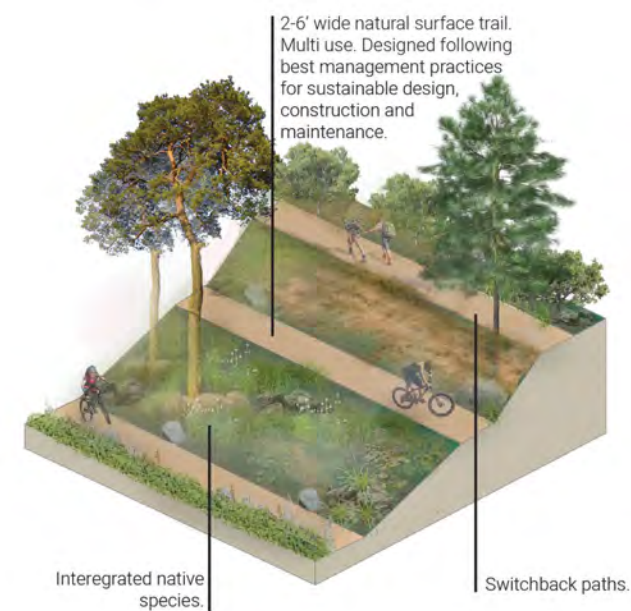
MAP 18: SPOKANE PARK SYSTEM TRAILS



Source: City of Spokane Comprehensive Master Plan, 2017

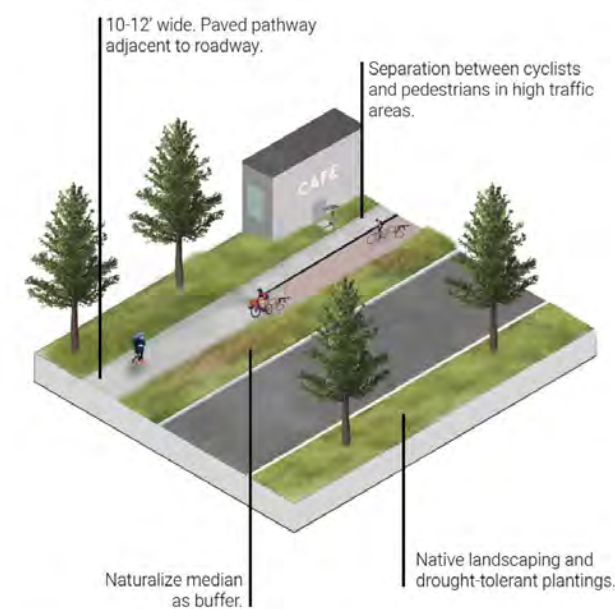
TRAIL TYPOLOGIES

Figure 8: Trail Typologies



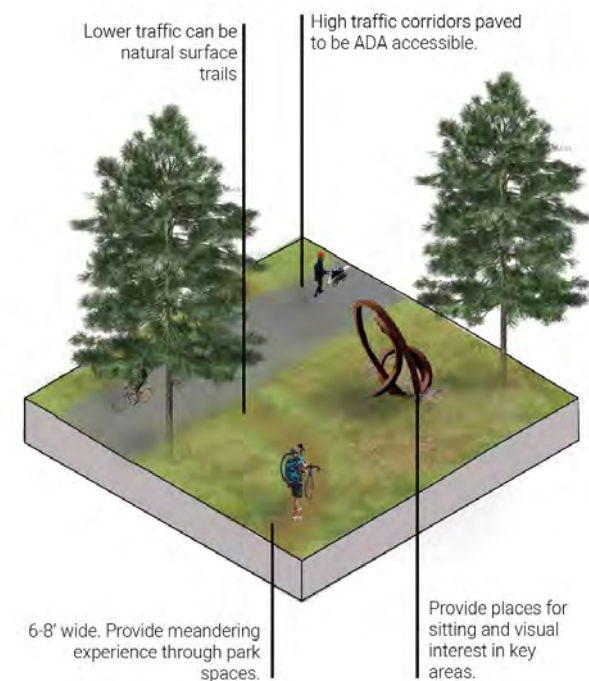
Single Track Trail

2-3' wide natural surface trail. Multi use (hiking or biking). Designed following best management practices for sustainable design, construction and maintenance.



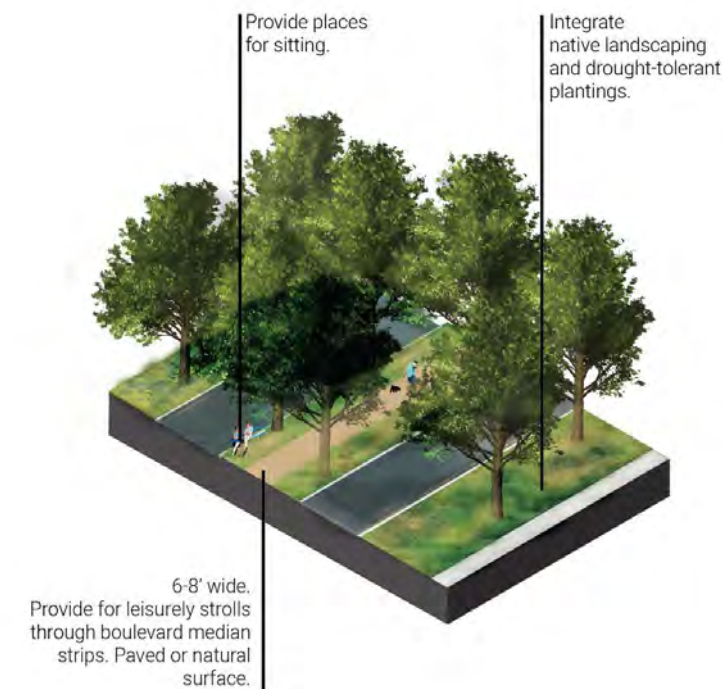
Class 1 Trail

10-12' wide. Paved pathway adjacent to roadway Separated shared use path.



Park Pathway

6-8' wide. Provide meandering experience through park spaces. High traffic corridors paved to be ADA accessible; lower traffic can be natural surface trails. Provide places for sitting and visual interest in key areas.



Parkway Boulevard Trails

6-8' wide. Provide for leisurely strolls through boulevard median strips. Paved or natural surface, integrating native landscaping and drought-tolerant plantings. Provide places for sitting.

PUBLIC
COMMENTS

“Keep [Hamblen Park] the way it is - wild and unfenced. The small trails through the trees are a popular spot for kids to ride bikes.”

“Robust plans of management of our parks/ natural spaces that supported by strong partnerships... a River Vision Plan that protects and helps people access our Spokane River corridor(s) natural spaces in a safe and healthy way.”



Trail in natural land area. Source: Spokane County

GOAL C. PRESERVE OUR WILD

Preserve our Wild prioritizes acquiring natural areas and managing land for improved environmental quality. With 1,643 acres preserved within the parks system as “Natural Lands,” the residents of Spokane are afforded nearby access to settings that feel as if they are miles away in the hinterlands. Natural lands, properties that are preserved and maintained in their natural state and help preserve significant views and provide wildlife sanctuaries, are cherished by the residents of Spokane and were noted time and again as assets to preserve during the planning process.

Natural lands provide and support opportunities for passive recreation through trails, interpretive facilities, historic and cultural exhibits, nature observation, photography, orienteering, kayaking, canoeing, floating, fishing, and off-trail equestrian and bicycle use. These properties may also support scientific research.

The Olmsted Plan considered the preservation of natural lands to be the “first duty” of the Board of Park Commissioners in order to “secure the land for several large parks as soon as may be, so that the existing opportunities for preserving beautiful natural landscape, conveniently accessible by the mass of people, may not be lost by the spread of subdivisions and city improvements.” Portions of the natural parks proposed by the Olmsted Plan exist today; properties such as the 400-acre Palisades Park, the 147-acre Upriver Park, and the rocky outcrops in Minnehaha Park (community park) are found on the western and eastern edges of the city, respectively.

Public support for conservation, preservation, and protection of natural lands is overwhelming. The City’s current natural lands could be managed and enhanced for improved environmental performance and build resilience to natural disasters. Within developed parks, strides towards re-wilding can be made through turf grass being replaced with more native and drought tolerant vegetation, pollinator gardens, and applying design principals to encourage nature play. Additionally, the community recognizes the importance of continuing to conserve lands to link and create contiguous green network



Bald Eagle at Tubbs Hill trail just outside of downtown Coeur D’Alene. Source: Bureau of Land Management / flickr

with goals around wildlife habitat preservation, conserving and enhancing vegetation quality and water quality enhancement. Acquisition of lands for these purposes needs to be strategic to balance the need for additional affordable housing provision in the community and direct conservation to the locations most beneficial towards environmental and management goals. A concept to direct priorities for acquisition is provided here that is informed by a high-level evaluation of the most valuable assets.

Objective 1. Initiate Framework For Natural Land Acquisition Decision Making

Map 19: Priority Areas for Conservation supports an open space acquisition strategy that incorporates environmental considerations for wildlife, water, and scenic views as well as factors that determine ease of acquisition and strategies to address network fragmentation. See Appendix E for more information about the evaluation and factors that are included in this composite map.



GOAL C: PRESERVE OUR WILD

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Initiate Framework For Natural Land Acquisition Decision-Making

- » Create acquisition plan to prioritize parcels that link and create contiguous green network with goals around wildlife habitat provision, conserving and enhancing vegetation quality and water quality management. Undeveloped lands that are not located near existing city-owned Natural Lands should also be considered for acquisition, specifically in Equity Priority Zones. See Map 19: Priority Areas for Conservation.

96%

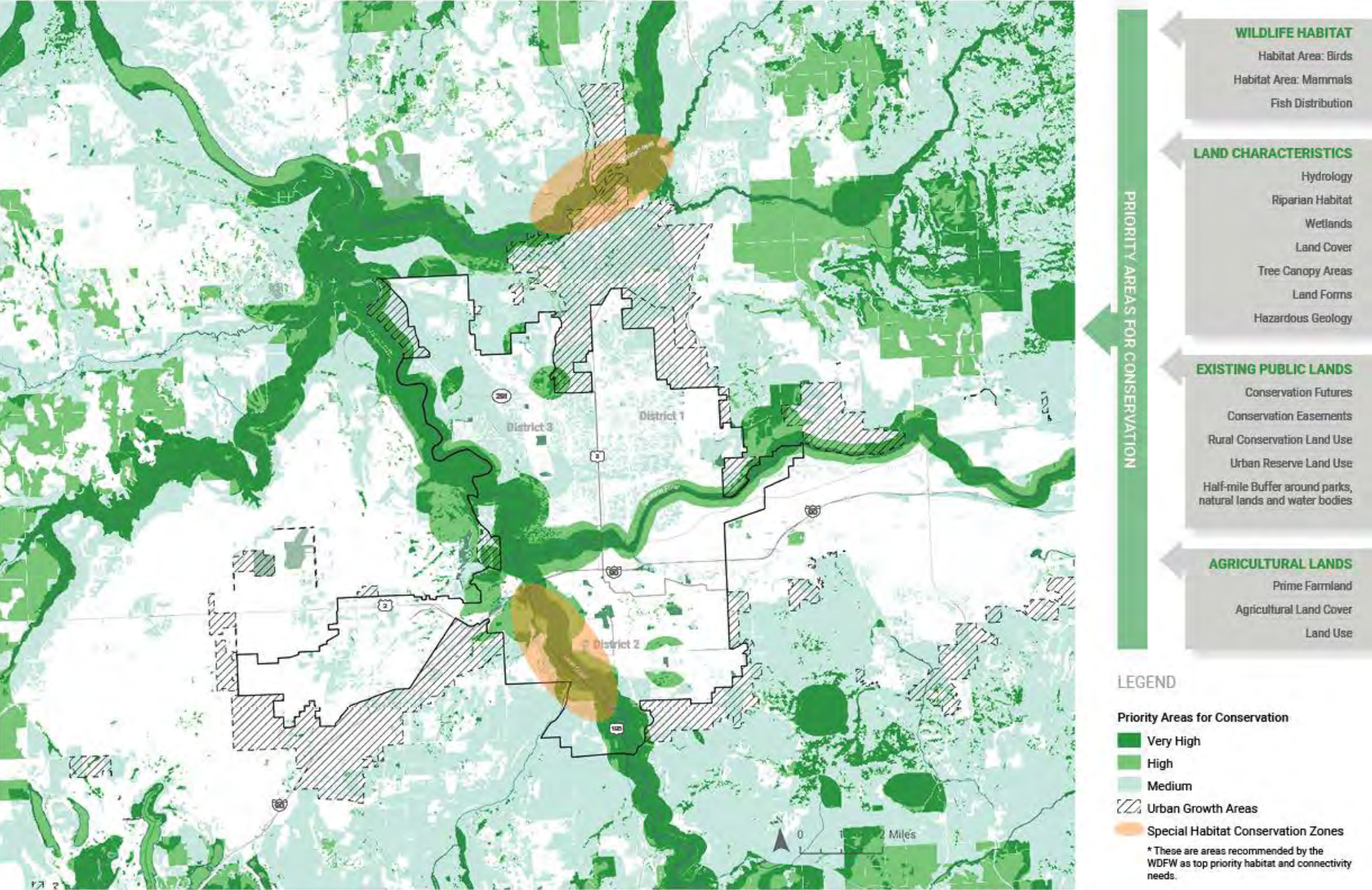
of Spokane residents consider the conservation of lands and water essential of very important

93%

of Spokane residents desire to protect wildlife habitat, conserve native plants, sensitive landscapes and forest and preserve areas with beautiful or unique natural features

Source: Public Survey 2021

MAP 19: PRIORITY AREAS FOR CONSERVATION



Source: City of Spokane GIS data 2021, Spokane County GIS Data, Washington State Open Data

Objective 2. Further Regional Partnerships For Land Acquisitions

The Parks Department should further its existing partnership program for natural land property acquisitions with the Inland Northwest Land Conservancy. The Inland Northwest Land Conservancy (INLC) is a local nonprofit based in Spokane that works with community members to “identify and protect special places throughout the region.” With a team of conservationists, land stewards, protection specialists and fundraisers, the INLC is an ideal partner for both acquisitions and land management and improvement programs. Importantly, the INLC has created a long-range open space plan for Spokane County. This plan lays groundwork for strategic decision-making and fundraising opportunities for natural land conservation. Formal partnerships with the Coeur d’Alene Tribe, INLC and others can bolster the plans land acquisition goal to link and create a contiguous green network.



GOAL C: PRESERVE OUR WILD

STRATEGIES

Objective 2. Further Regional Partnerships For Land Acquisitions

» Explore advancements to existing partnerships, such as INLC and Spokane County, and enhancing efforts made by the Coeur d’Alene Tribe for natural land preservation.

Objective 3. Initiate Interdisciplinary Partnerships For Land Management

Partnerships for land management and improvement projects help to enhance existing properties that lack proper maintenance to improve ecological function and enhance vegetation and water quality. The City should also consider the INLC and others with expertise in natural sciences, such as the U.S. Forest Service and local education and research groups, to be partners for the care and attention of existing natural lands under City ownership. Partners can execute condition assessments to analyze natural resource quality then experts can train city staff on proper land management techniques at the nexus of sustainability and recreation. Staff can develop projects that help mitigate impacts that are resulting to a degradation of environmental quality can be planned and accomplished with assistance from volunteers and partner staff.



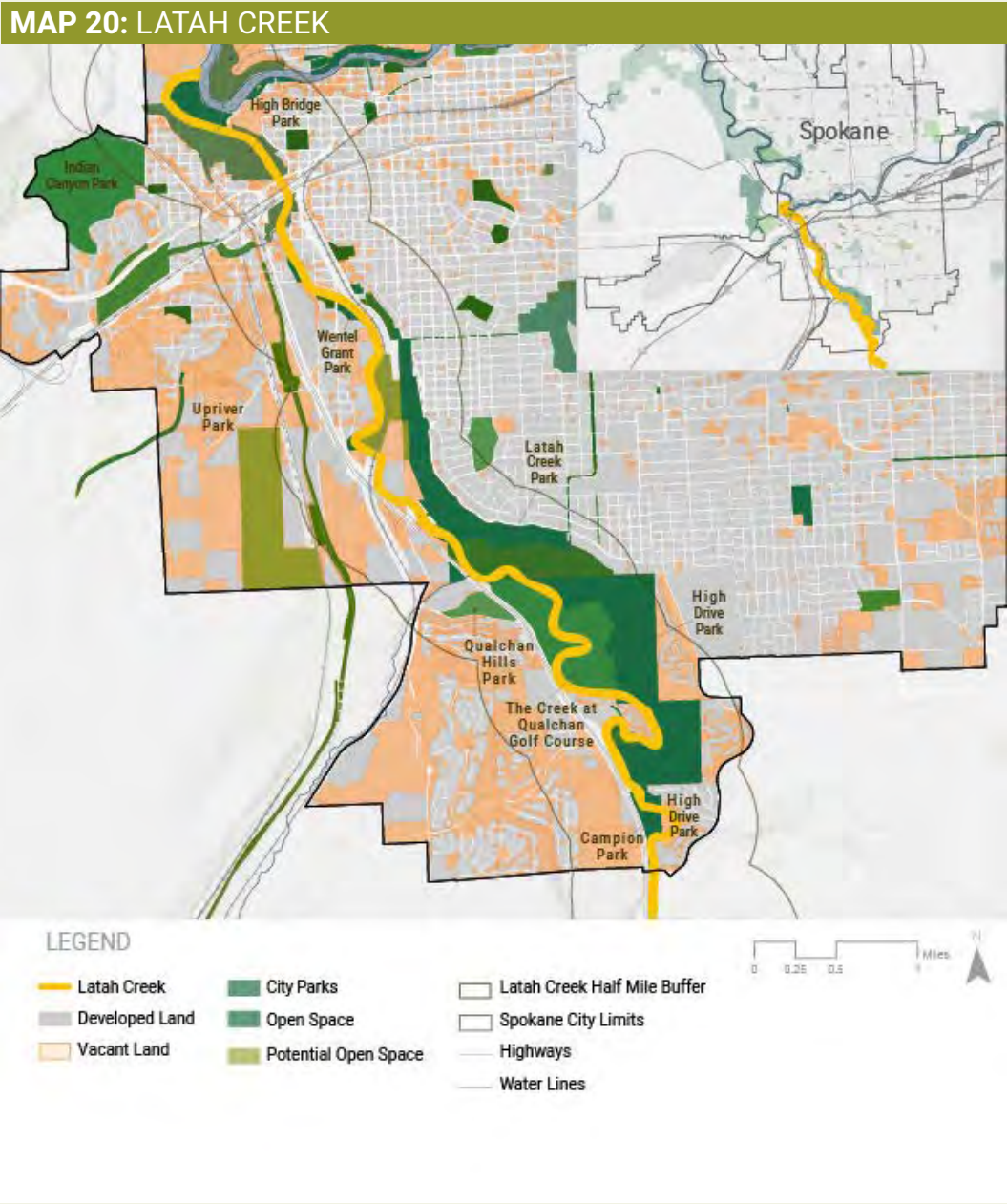
GOAL C: PRESERVE OUR WILD

STRATEGIES

Objective 3. Initiate Interdisciplinary Partnerships For Land Management

» Develop partnerships for cross-collaboration and education with universities, non-profit and government agencies with expertise in land management.

ACQUISITION CASE STUDY



Source: City of Spokane GIS data 2021, Spokane County GIS Data

The Coeur d’Alene Tribe may be seen as a leader in land conservation efforts. Notably, the Tribe’s recent purchase of the “Pilcher property,” a 48-acre parcel of land within Spokane city limits, has preserved an important property that is adjacent to Latah Creek from residential subdivision. The property purchase was motivated by concerns of the potential loss of farmland and likely harm to the ecological function along the creek. This purchase may be considered as groundwork for regional coordination for preservation of properties along Latah Creek.

Objective 4. Create Dashboard For Monitoring And Reporting

Create a dashboard for monitoring and reporting natural land health and function, using partnerships with local universities. The dashboard might show the performance of natural lands in terms of contributions to air and water quality and important wildlife habitat. Showcasing current restoration projects can help to publicize the effort, garner volunteers and support and demonstrate city-led efforts in response to resident feedback regarding conservation goals. This type of partnership realizes multiple benefits. Reporting on how lands are performing helps to educate residents about the benefits of natural lands and can be used to promote future acquisition or protection efforts by demonstrating land value with a lens that is focused beyond financial terms. Local universities benefit from having access to properties for “real life” classroom settings. Further, by providing a setting for students to become invested in Spokane’s landscapes and recreation areas, efforts for talent retention will be supported as young people are more likely to want to set roots in an area to which they feel connected.



GOAL C: PRESERVE OUR WILD

STRATEGIES

Objective 4. Create Dashboard For Monitoring And Reporting

» Create a dashboard for monitoring and reporting natural land health and function, using partnerships with local universities.

Objective 5. Enhance Our Natural Lands With Projects To Restore Ecologies And Build Resilience To Natural Disasters

The multitude of factors that contribute to climate change are broad and intertwined with many facets of our daily lives. Therefore, it is imperative to deploy an interdisciplinary approach to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) that contribute to temperature rise as well as adjust practices to mitigate the effects of climate change.


The impact of climate change is global, but the specific consequences vary based on geography and environmental factors unique to each region. According to a 2018 Climate Impact Research Consortium (CIRC) climate adaptation project, Spokane can expect warmer year-round temperatures that result in longer, drier summers, decreased snowpack and ensuing changes in river flow and an increased risk of wildfire frequency and intensity, resulting in loss of habitat. These effects are expected to cause significant economic

and recreation costs and will disproportionately and adversely impact children, people who work outdoors, people without housing, low-income residents and those with underlying health issues.

The City can build strategies that address, respond to, and even lessen the projected impacts of climate change by taking advantage of the existing network of natural lands. The following recommendations focus on climate adaptation strategies.



Spokane natural lands



GOAL C: PRESERVE OUR WILD

STRATEGIES

Objective 5. Enhance Our Natural Lands With Projects To Restore Ecologies And Build Resilience To Natural Disasters

» Develop climate adaptation strategies and land management practices for natural lands that support environmental quality and resilience.

» Execute a trail maintenance plan. A key component to preserving open space and promoting ecological health is maintaining recreation trails. By providing a designated space for passive recreational use, surrounding natural areas are less likely to bear the impacts of human disruption such as trampling and erosion which can negatively affect water bodies and soil and vegetation health.

» Grow the urban forest to take in carbon and filter particulate matter from the air, provide shade and mitigate the urban heat island effect of hot summers, and provide critical wildlife habitat for feeding, nesting and migration.

» Develop “fuel reduction” treatments that thin and remove vegetation, focusing on dryer forests that are more prone to frequent fires. Thinning vegetation, or fuels, disrupts the amount of vertical and horizontal vegetative continuity that create the intense, hot and fast fire spread. This approach is commonplace for large land managers such as the U.S. Forest Service, who use it to reduce the risk of catastrophic “mega fires” that have come to define this era of increased fire frequency and intensity.

» Implement strategies that reduce and remove invasive species to support the growth of native vegetation and habitats.

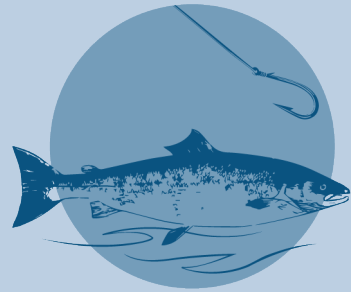
» Form partnerships and team with interdisciplinary experts, such as working with Tribal partners to develop traditional ecological management strategies or partnering with federal agencies to learn best practices for forest treatments.



4

OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT: WATER

- Goal E: Swim and Splash
- Goal F: Activate the Spokane River
- Goal G: Improve Water Use Efficiency



CHAPTER 4. WATER

Per the State of Washington’s 2017 Assessment of Outdoor Recreation Demand Report , 66 percent of Washingtonians report visiting rivers or streams, making it the second most popular activity in the state based on participation rate. As a city that is known by the river that runs through it, Spokane is a place with unique and notable opportunities for water recreation and enjoyment. From enjoying the beach to whitewater kayaking, interacting with water requires skill sets that can be built at a young age.

THEME: WATER

Goal D: Swim and Splash	
Objective 1.	Expand Access To Existing Outdoor Pools
Objective 2.	Partner With Public Schools, Public Facilities, Private Nonprofits To Enhance Water Recreation
Objective 3.	Provide Additional Splash Pads In Parks
Goal E : Care for and Activate the Spokane River	
Objective 1.	Develop Additional Universally Accessible Water Access Points
Objective 2.	Develop Trails And Boardwalks For Safe Swimming Access In Spokane River
Objective 3.	Program River Races
Objective 4.	River Recreation Programming And Rentals
Goal F: Improve Water Use Efficiency	
Objective 1.	Reduce Water Needs
Objective 2.	Improve City-Wide Water Management Practices



Outdoor pools like Witter at Mission Park are popular destinations during the summer months

GOAL D. SWIM AND SPLASH

Swim and Splash includes improving and expanding aquatic facilities, specifically an indoor aquatics center, and expanding access to existing outdoor pools. With six outdoor pools throughout the community, Spokane already provides more than three times more aquatic facilities than the national average, two times more facilities than agencies with populations similar to Spokane, eight times more than agencies that manage comparable amounts of land to the city of Spokane, and more than other comparable park agencies in the Pacific Northwest. Use of these outdoor pools is limited, however, to the summer season. When the aquatics facilities are open, they receive very high levels of use. This goal therefore focuses on expanding opportunities to teach swimming and water safety to reduce barriers to water recreation by providing additional splash pads in parks and exploring partnerships with public schools or private organizations such as the YMCA to enhance year-round access to water recreation.

The safety risks of inadequate water skills are severe; more children ages one to four die from drowning than any other cause of death except birth defects. This danger disproportionately impacts communities of color and those on the lower end of the socioeconomic spectrum. According to the USA Swimming Foundation, 79 percent of children in families with household income less than \$50,000, 64 percent of African American children and 45 percent of Hispanic children have no to low swimming ability. Preventing the risk of drowning

requires water competency from developing personal swimming skills and water understanding to training a broad base of people with CPR and emergency response skills to help others.

The parks and recreation system has an important role to play in promoting a person's full life cycle of water play, from establishing water skills in developed settings to building an appreciation of natural amenities and spending time recreating in nature.

Objective 1. Expand Access To Existing Outdoor Pools

The City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department currently offers a rare service in the form of open and free public access to six outdoor swimming pools throughout the city. The City's outdoor pools are open for 10 weeks through the summer months. While public outreach responses reflect an enthusiastic appreciation for this service, feedback also reflects a desire for a longer swim season.

Spokane provide 3 times more aquatic facilities than the national average



GOAL D: SWIM AND SPLASH

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Expand Access To Existing Outdoor Pools


- » Explore a pilot project to expand the open and free public swim season from June through September. Policies might consider additional fees for expanded swim time.
- » Develop metrics understand changes or increases in use and whether offering a longer season would increase participation. The costs to provide free swim access within the city is not insignificant; to justify an expansion the pools should be utilized at comparable levels to the current open season.

PUBLIC COMMENT

"Pool should be open for a longer time; the season is way too short and it is hot well before it opens."

Objective 2. Partner With Public Schools, Public Facilities, Private Nonprofits To Enhance Water Recreation

Like requests for a longer outdoor pool season, public feedback reflect a desire for an indoor aquatics center. The cost of building and maintaining these types of facilities is immense and could require years of fund raising and planning. As a large expense, it is important to budget accordingly and possibly seek cost-sharing or partnerships. Like requests for a longer outdoor pool season, public feedback reflect a desire for a publicly accessible indoor aquatics center. It should be noted that there are several organizations in the Spokane Community that already offer indoor swimming pools, however access is fee-based and presents barriers to participation for some segments of Spokane’s population. The cost of building and maintaining publicly accessible aquatics facilities is immense and could require years of fund raising and planning. As a large expense, it is important to budget accordingly and possibly seek cost-sharing or partnerships.



GOAL D: SWIM AND SPLASH

STRATEGIES

Objective 2. Partnerships with public schools, public facilities districts to enhance water recreation.

- » Study options to reduce barriers to access water recreation. Explore the potential for partnership programs through first assessing the capacity for public access at existing facilities at the YMCA, Whitworth University and Spokane Community College. If sufficient capacity exists, study the partnerships for complementary or reduced membership could reduce financial hurdles by creating free or low-cost programming opportunities for year-round swim lessons and water safety courses to ease barriers to water recreation.


Objective 3. Provide Additional Splashpads in Parks.

Splash and spray pads offer a fun, interactive and accessible way to socialize in shared public spaces. Geared toward children, splash and spray pads supports learning and growth and can also provide benefits to all age groups as families can come together and socialize outdoors while watching the younger ones play in a safe and contained space. Additionally, as we move toward an era of increasingly warmer global temperatures, splash and spray pads can provide important cooling features and respite during hot summer days. With a relatively small footprint, splash and spray pads provide an opportunity for water play but are less costly to build and maintain than full aquatic centers or pools.

Currently there are 18 splash pads distributed throughout Spokane’s parks system; they are found in neighborhood parks, community parks, regional parks and special use parks.



A young Spokaneite enjoying a splash pad



GOAL D: SWIM AND SPLASH

STRATEGIES

Objective 3. Provide additional splash pads in parks.

- » Identify new locations for splash pads. These investments are most appropriate to be located in regional and community parks and urban plazas, in order to capitalize on cost savings by serving the most amount of people with their relatively high cost of operation.
- » Develop guidelines for design that is reflective of neighborhood culture and demographics, provides both tactile and contextual learning opportunities and can be flexible to adapt to different seasons.
- » Incorporate designs features to make splash and spray pads accessible for all.
- » Prioritize using ‘recirculating splash pad systems’ to ‘flow through systems’ to conserve splash pad water use and comply with Washington State Department of Ecology Requirements for disposal of splash pad water. Identify maintenance funding for additional labor, chemical, and material cost associated with recirculating systems.



Campers learning to canoe as part of the Youth Outdoor Adventure Camp

GOAL E. CARE FOR AND ACTIVATE THE SPOKANE RIVER

Active the Spokane River means making it easier for residents to access and utilize the river including additional boat launches and access points in coordination with parking lots to make it easier to transport vessels such as kayaks, canoes, and standup paddleboards into the water. There is opportunity for expanding trails and boardwalks for swimming access and additional programming such as river races and rentals. Additionally, river access should meet ADA standards to ensure all Spokane residents can realize the benefits of water access.

The Spokane River is a prominent feature within the city. The original inhabitants of the area relied on the river for almost all facets of daily life, from sustenance to cultural connection. As European settlers arrived in the Spokane Valley, they similarly primarily settled along river. Importantly, the Upriver Hydroelectric Dam is a concrete gravity dam located on the Spokane River in southeast Spokane near John H. Shields and Minnehaha Parks.

Today the city's crown park, Riverfront Park, is considered the defining landmark of Spokane and affords many opportunities to take in views of the Spokane River, including Spokane Falls, through the Numerica Sky Ride gondola, viewing platforms and benches. The Centennial Trail also provides viewing access as it winds its way along the Spokane River west of Riverfront Park, connecting to the Herbert M. Hamblen Conservation Area. As the Spokane River snakes north from downtown, it borders the western boundary of the city and flows through the Downriver Golf and Disc Golf Course and Riverside State Park. As the river runs east from downtown, it travels through several neighborhoods to Camp Sekani and Beacon Hill, which offer mountain biking and hiking trails as well as disc golf.

Through public engagement efforts, residents voiced both an appreciation for the Spokane River and a desire to access it for recreation. An impressive 74 percent of survey respondents noted an appreciation and desire for fishing amenities. The following recommendations focus on careful coordination with State, Tribal and regional partners to find policy, acquisition and design solutions to increase public access to the Spokane River. A map of potential water access improvements is contained in this chapter (Map 21) to direct future investments.

Objective 1. Develop Additional Universally Accessible Water Access Points

The Spokane River is already a recreation touchstone for residents. In a 2009 poll conducted by the State of Washington, 70 percent of residents who live near the river reported visiting the river for hiking, biking, boating or fishing at least three times a year. There are currently seven boat launches within the city; resident survey responses indicate a need for more.

As the City of Spokane seeks to provide inclusive recreational opportunities throughout its system, creative designs and innovative projects can promote river access for all ages and abilities. Inclusive design includes a myriad of solutions, from fishing piers and platforms that consider rail heights to support those in a wheelchair to creating universal access ramps for kayaks and canoes. Universal accessibility creates opportunities for people with disabilities to reap the benefits of recreation; recreation builds physical and social skills, promotes health, strengthens bonds among community members and fosters environmental stewardship.



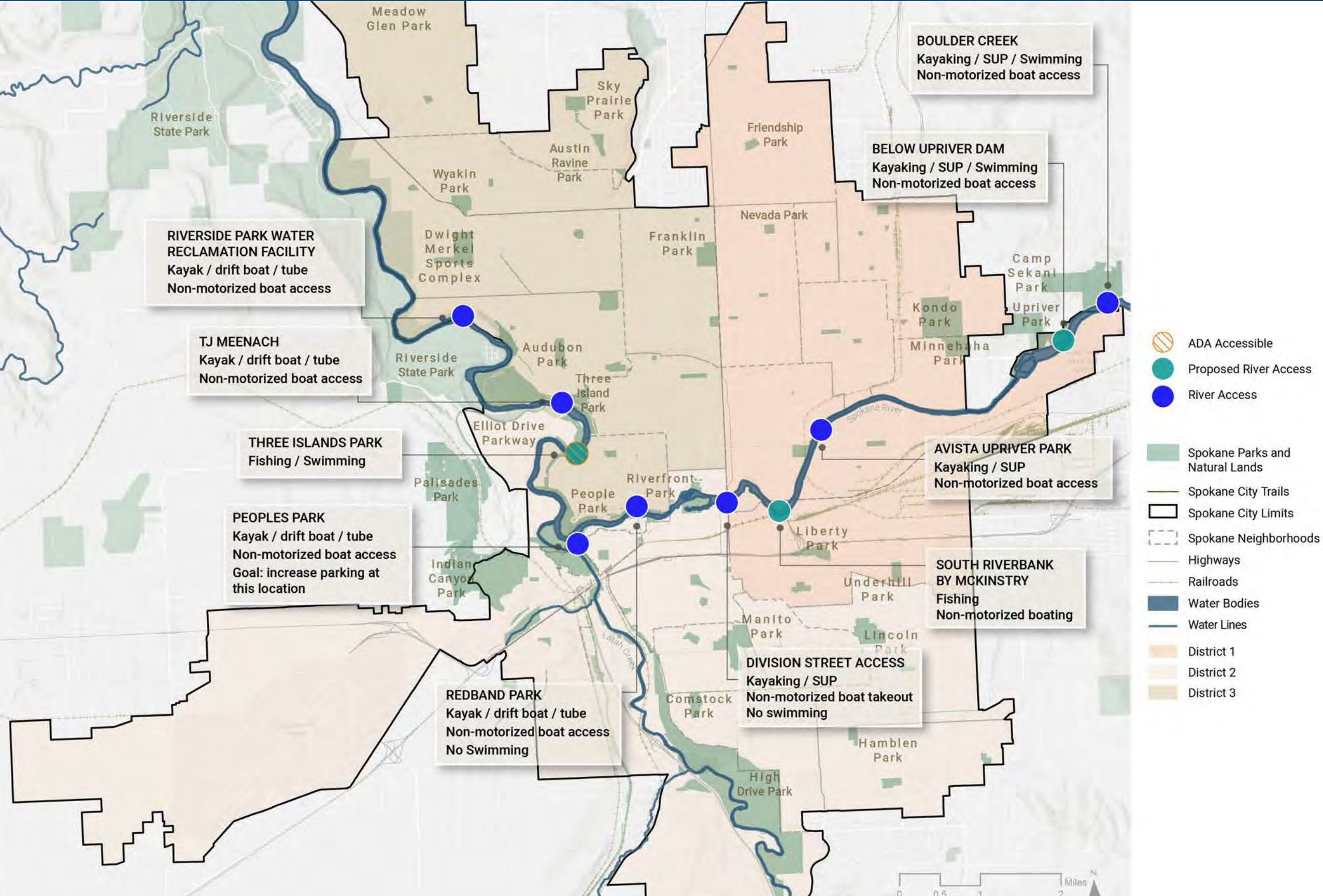
GOAL E: CARE FOR AND ACTIVATE THE SPOKANE RIVER

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Develop Additional Water Access Points

- » Develop additional fishing access points and launches for boats, stand up paddle boards and kayaks in coordination with parking lots.
- » Incorporate ADA design best practices for developed water access points, such as mobi-mats and on-site water wheelchair rentals.

Map 21: Potential Water Access Improvements



Source: City of Spokane, 2022

Objective 2. Develop Trails And Boardwalks For Safe Swimming Access In Spokane River

Perhaps not widely understood as a public space within an urban setting, the Spokane River can provide opportunities for swimming in natural waters. While some places along the Spokane River, such as areas downtown surrounding Spokane Falls, are unsafe for swimming, other places where the river widens and slows are suitable for water recreation.



GOAL E: CARE FOR AND ACTIVATE THE SPOKANE RIVER

STRATEGIES

Objective 2. Develop trails and boardwalks for safe swimming access in Spokane River

- » Identify ideal locations for designated swimming areas in a natural setting within city limits.
- » Partner with local outdoor outfitters or those who promote recreation in Spokane, such as Visit Spokane, providing an opportunity to inform residents about where these swimming access points are located and promote their safe use.

WHAT WE HEARD: WATER

95% of respondents rated conservation of lands around rivers, streams, creeks, and floodplains as “very important” or “essential”

59% of respondents have used outdoor aquatic facilities including pools and splash pads

74% percent of survey respondents noted an appreciation and desire for the Parks Department to support fishing access

“Build Meadowglen Park, with full park amenities for families including play structures, splash pads, walking trails and tennis courts. There is no park that is within a 10 minute walking distance for this neighborhood, so it would be great if this is developed.”

76% percent of respondents physically changing portions of parks to meadows or natural space to be more sustainable and use less resources.

CASE STUDY: URBAN RIVER INTERVENTIONS



Small design interventions, such as the creation of boardwalks, diving boards and even temporary structures that create pools within the open waters by providing floating boundaries can direct human access to places that are safe for interacting with the river. Precedents can be found for urban river swimming models in places with similar climates such as Switzerland and Copenhagen.



Start of the 2007 International Weiswampach Triathlon, Men. by Steven Fruitsmaak via Wikimedia Commons

Objective 3. Program River Races

As the Spokane River spans from Lake Coeur d'Alene in Idaho to its confluence with Lake Roosevelt (the Upper Columbia River) in Washington, race courses can span multiple jurisdictions and draw people from the broader region to participate. In addition to supporting activities that support health and wellness, this programming also provides economic development opportunity. According to the 2021 Spokane Sustainability Action Plan, large city events such as Hoopfest and Pig Out in the Park combined bring an estimated \$54 million to Spokane every year.

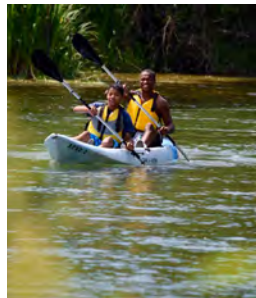


GOAL E: CARE FOR AND ACTIVATE THE SPOKANE RIVER

STRATEGIES

Objective 3. Program River Races

- » Develop partnerships to promote recreation on the Spokane River through the programming of river races, ranging from canoe and kayak races to swimming courses.



Two people kayaking

Objective 4. River Recreation Programming And Rentals

The Parks Department currently offers water sports programming with kayaking classes. These are highly popular classes for teenagers and families with teenagers, presenting an opportunity to reach an important demographic that can often be missed in parks programming.



GOAL E: CARE FOR AND ACTIVATE THE SPOKANE RIVER

STRATEGIES

Objective 4. River Recreation Programming And Rentals

- » Expand river recreation programming opportunities with specific focus on young adults and teens.
- » Pair water recreation rentals, such as kayaks and water wheelchairs, in high-use areas designated for water access.
- » Consider expanding river shuttle use to ease demand on parking facilities.

GOAL F. IMPROVE WATER USE EFFICIENCY

Improve water use efficiency would include partnerships between city offices to update water systems and applications, ranging from capital infrastructure projects to water management practices that more holistically address drought and climate.

According to the 2020 Spokane Water Conservation Master Plan, four percent of the city's water consumption is dedicated to parks and recreation facilities including all city-owned parks and golf courses. In 2014, the City of Spokane set annual water use efficiency goals, creating a specific target of reducing water use on government-owned outdoor spaces, such as city-owned parks. With the exception of the year 2015, the city goals have not been realized between 2014 and 2019 (the latest time span of reporting). Looking forward, this Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan outlines strategies to meet an ambitious goal of reducing watering needs by ten percent system wide. This would require making necessary system upgrades while converting some landscapes to drought-tolerant vegetation to result in a water reduction of 20 to 30 percent per park site.

Objective 1. Reduce Water Needs

Efforts to reduce the amount of land area that requires irrigation, such as landscaping changes that convert turf or impervious spaces to native plants species and drought-tolerant plantings, reduce water consumption and demonstrate the city's commitment to natural resource conservation.



GOAL F: IMPROVE WATER USE EFFICIENCY

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Reduce Water Needs

- » Replace turf with synthetic fields and/or organic and hardscape materials such as drought-tolerant plants, mulch, decomposed granite, gravel and permeable pavers.



A maintenance worker adjusts a sprinkler

Objective 2. Improve City-Wide Water Management Practices

Implementing operation techniques within park spaces, such as utilizing advancements in water system technologies and the strategic intervention of natural landscape designs, supports the Parks Department in being responsible land stewards with an eye for conservation.



GOAL F: IMPROVE WATER USE EFFICIENCY

STRATEGIES

Objective 2. Improve City-Wide Water Management Practices

- » Develop a Drought Management Plan to outline a method for reducing water consumption within parks during drought conditions.
- » Identify improvements such as automated irrigation systems to reduce hand watering and permit overnight watering. This would also reduce staff time spent hand watering and increase time for other park maintenance work.
- » Utilize recycled water by implement natural landscaping to slow and filter rainwater runoff from impervious surfaces, such as demonstration rain gardens around park building sites or bioswales. These serve as a model to the community for practical stormwater management tactics as well as an opportunity to increase the amount of greenspace using limited to no water resources.





5

OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT: PEOPLE

- Goal H: Parks For All
- Goal I: Build Awareness
- Goal J: Diversity of Offerings
- Goal K: Co-existence



CHAPTER 5. PEOPLE

The theme People refers to ways that residents and visitors interact with parklands and recreational offerings. As public spaces, parks are shared by all types of people. Avoiding conflict and sharing space within the parks is a challenge around the country and Spokane is no exception. In addition to spatial conflicts, there are also ways to bring more people to the parks and introduce new audiences to available programming. Many residents requested a broader diversity of program offerings, including more offerings at Corbin Art Center for adults and teens.

THEME: PEOPLE

Goal G: Parks for All

- Objective 1. Support ADA Accessibility
- Objective 2. Parks Reflect People And Place

Goal H: Build Awareness

- Objective 1. Signage And Wayfinding
- Objective 2. Ongoing Marketing Campaign For Programs and Services
- Objective 3. Partnerships With Schools

Goal I: Diversity of Offerings

- Objective 1. Refresh Program Offerings
- Objective 2. Commit To Diversity, Equity And Inclusion In Programming

Goal J: Co-existence

- Objective 1. Clarify Park’s Role With Addressing Homelessness And Train Staff Members For Appropriate Response And Interactions
- Objective 2. Park Design For Positive Interactions
- Objective 3. Partner For A Public Awareness And Support Campaign

GOAL G. PARKS FOR ALL

Parks for All aims to enhance and improve existing parks in Spokane to better serve all ages, incomes, abilities, genders, and cultural identities. This includes improvements and renovations to address American Disability Act (ADA) accessibility, providing low-or-no-cost activities, and ensuring that parks reflect the culture, identity, and demographics of the neighborhood and city.

Objective 1. Support ADA Accessibility

Of the 82 parks in Spokane (excluding golf courses and parkways), only 28 are ADA accessible. Public input indicates caregivers want more accessible playgrounds. Of the 53 playgrounds in Spokane, only 32 are ADA accessible. Playgrounds that are not eligible for full renovations could add some accessible equipment such as the swings at Providence Playscape. The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) provides design guidelines for parks and plazas based on the seven universal design principles (right) including but not limited to: at grade connections to the street, comfortable and accessible seating and consistent multi-sensory wayfinding such as tactile paving.



GOAL G: PARKS FOR ALL

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Support ADA Accessibility

- » Update parks designs for ADA access such as walkways, seating, play areas and other facilities, prioritized by areas of identified need.
- » When replacing playground equipment in poor condition, consider replacing with equipment that follow Universal Design Principles.



A child plays the xylophone at Providence Playscape, Spokane’s first inclusive playground

UNIVERSAL DESIGN

Universal Design Principles were developed in 1997 by a group of architects, designers, engineers, and environmental design researchers with the goal to guide the design of environments, products, and communications.

- Equitable Use
- Flexibility in Use
- Simple and Intuitive Use
- Perceptible Information
- Tolerance for Error
- Low Physical Effort
- Size and Space for Approach and Use

Objective 2. Parks Reflect People And Place

It is important for parks to reflect the culture, identity and support the composition of the residents of the neighborhood within which they are located. While some typical aspects of parks are standardized for efficiency, such as entry signs and trash receptacles, there is opportunity to celebrate neighborhood character in parks through design and program provision.

Outdoor adventure is an important aspect of Inland Northwest culture and should be clearly represented in public spaces. Recreation trends that reflect the local culture and lifestyle include high participation rates in disc golf, pickleball and dog parks. Spokane residents value connecting with and spending time in nature, so parks with a lot of hardscaping and no flora and fauna would not be appropriate.

During the park planning process it is essential to enlist feedback and earn buy-in from residents from adjacent neighborhoods. Local knowledge helps ensure the future park improvements and programs include the right components that contribute to parks’ use and provide elements that address perceptions of welcomeness and inclusion. Partnerships with local organizations opens opportunities for programming in park spaces that is tailored to the character, culture, environmental setting and history of the city’s neighborhoods.

Reflecting Age: The median age of Spokane is 37 and nearly 20 percent of the population are under 18. The fastest growing age segment is 65 and older, many of whom live in the southeastern and northeastern portions of the city. Residents younger than 20 are concentrated in the areas around Gonzaga University and Liberty Park as well as a small pocket in the northeastern part of the city. The age of a neighborhood’s residents will influence the amenities that are desired and the concentration of where they live may influence priorities for parks to upgrade. For example, as the aging population continues to grow, it is important to plan for this demographic by providing wheelchair accessible raised garden beds. Older adults who may no longer drive, and who have limited mobility, still require access to parks for important mental and physical health benefits. The Parks and Recreation department

may want to explore park design considerations for dementia and older populations.

Reflecting Ethnicity and Language: Spokane residents are 84 percent white, three percent Asian, and three percent Black or African American. The Native American population makes up two percent of the city, with a significant concentration living in the downtown area. Seven percent of the population are of Hispanic origin and the city is slowly growing in diversity. Ninety-two percent of Spokane residents speak English only, and 2.4 percent, or 6,200 people, speak Spanish. Languages besides English and Spanish are spoken by 19.4 percent of residents. One of the languages that prevalent in the city is Russian; according to data from ACS 2019, about 3.6 percent of the County’s population claims Russian heritage. Strategies to foster a sense



PUBLIC COMMENT

“It would be nice if there were many more unique parks that would be destinations ...Sandboxes would also be awesome. Faux streams to play in. More interesting splash pads.”

of belonging and increase accessibility include providing signage in multiple languages and displaying public art or design features that reflect certain heritages or histories. Providing programming that recognizes diverse cultures, such as festivals, markets, performances, art exhibits, and others, can attract new audiences to the parks. Partnerships with community-based organizations and local non-profit groups can lead to experimental programs and help to reach a wider audience.

Reflecting Income (Providing Low- or no-cost Activities): Spokane’s Median Household Income (MHI) is substantially lower than that of the state’s - \$51,504 compared to \$76,403. Median household incomes are expected to grow by 6.4 percent in 2025. Income distribution by household in the city shows a large portion of low to middle income households. About a quarter of all households (24.3 percent) earn less than \$25,000 annually. About 33

percent of households earn between \$35,000 and \$50,000 annually, and 32 percent of households earn \$50,000 to \$100,000 annually.

Households earning a higher MHI are concentrated in the southern and northwestern parts of city while areas with a lower median household income are situated in the downtown area and around Gonzaga University. The city has much fewer high-income households than the State with 19.8 percent of households earning more than \$100,000 annually compared to 37.7 percent in Washington. This is significant for the Parks and Recreation department as they consider budgeting and pricing of programs. By providing low-cost or no cost activities to residents, more people can benefit from the department’s offerings. The city already offers free pool access, which is very popular, and should be prioritized and potentially expanded going forward.

GOAL H. BUILD AWARENESS

Spokane Parks and Recreation offers incredible programming and facilities, but many residents are not aware of the full breadth of resources available to them. Build Awareness includes making it easier for residents to learn about recreation programming and locations. Specific strategies to improve building awareness include improving signage and wayfinding at existing locations to make them more accessible, expanding, or improving marketing campaigns for program offerings, and partnerships with schools.

Objective 1. Signage and Wayfinding

Signage and wayfinding are important aspects of park branding and placemaking and key to orienting visitors in physical space. The style, design, use of materials communicate the brand of the parks department or the special use park. Signage helps to define the space and often signals who the space is for. Wayfinding combines signage and map design, symbols, color, and typography to effectively navigate people through a space. It helps orient people, creating clarity and confidence in park users. Wayfinding includes trail markers, maps, and directional signs.



GOAL G: PARKS FOR ALL

STRATEGIES

Objective 2. Parks Reflect People and Place

- » Design and program Neighborhood Parks to highlight the unique natural, historical, cultural and economic identity of the surrounding area and community in which they are located.
- » Combine community planning for neighborhoods with neighborhood park planning to give a more wholistic approach to public engagement and collecting inspiration for park design.
- » Explore possibility of a sliding scale for program fees to create more affordability for those with lower income.
- » Explore possibility of charging a higher fee for non-city residents participating in regional activities, such as adult softball leagues.



GOAL H: BUILD AWARENESS

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Signage and Wayfinding

- » Develop comprehensive signage and wayfinding guidelines for the park system to assist residents and visitors in navigating city offerings and amenities.
- » Incorporate digital signage to help inform people where services are located.

Objective 2. Ongoing Marketing Campaign For Programs and Services

One finding that emerged from community feedback was that residents don't know about some of the existing programs and services that The Parks Department offers. A marketing campaign to advertise the full breadth of services, and highlight that they have been revamped in part because of the efforts of this plan, could bring more awareness to the people of Spokane.



GOAL H: BUILD AWARENESS

STRATEGIES

Objective 2. Ongoing Marketing Campaign For Programs and Services

- » Standardized graphics printed material and signage would provide recognition for Spokane Parks and Recreation.
- » Explore partnerships with local community groups and Friends of groups to expand outreach.
- » Develop several new strategies for reaching additional audiences, particularly teens and adults, and for further engaging current users.

Objective 3. Partnerships With Schools

While the Parks Department may have the facilities and also the staffing expertise to operating successful and popular programs, some residents would like to see additional offering of some programs, particularly the Open Swim and some swim classes. They do not necessarily have sufficient funding to meet the ongoing demand. In the meantime, the local school groups typically have the funding resources, but they do not have the facilities and the staffing expertise to program some after school activities. The local schools do not have swim teams and meets but are interested in starting up. Currently, the Parks Department may not have the facility that would meet middle/high school competition requirements, but can coordinate with other local recreation providers (such as the YMCA) for facility uses, support the school with experienced Parks Department staff, to ensure a successful after school program for the local students.

GOAL H: BUILD AWARENESS



STRATEGIES

Objective 3. Partnerships With Schools

- » Explore partnership opportunities with local schools by offering programs, instructions, and a place for swim meets for school clubs or teams.
- » Connect school clubs/teams with other local nonprofits (such as YMCA) that may have facilities that are more suitable for competitions.
- » Explore opportunities to create educational programs/activities with local schools on environmental and natural resource education.
- » Consider “professional” classes for adults for landscape maintenance, such as proper pruning techniques and other technical classes.

GOAL I. DIVERSITY OF OFFERINGS

Public comments throughout the engagement process referenced a lack of diversity in programing. Diversity of Offerings refers to expanding program offerings to reach a broader diversity of users, eliminating under-used programs, and providing additional diversity as requested by the public. Shifting program offerings to more convenient times of day and/or providing them year-round can increase the public's ability to participate.

Objective 1. Refresh program offerings


Variety: To reach a broader range of participants, the Parks Department can diversify program offerings to reach a broader diversity of users, eliminate under-used programs, and provide additional diversity requested by the public. User groups who are historically under-engaged are teenagers, older adults, and low-income youth. These groups should receive special consideration and outreach. More variety could attract new, more diverse audiences, as well as fill gaps found elsewhere.

Consider reintroducing classes that were eliminated from the program due to low attendance. Public survey results reflect a desire for certain activities to be revived, such as camping.

Timing: In addition to the types of programming available, timing is important to reach a broader audience. People who work traditional 9-5 jobs cannot access classes or events that are offered during the day. Likewise, after school programs that do not include transportation may be inaccessible for kids with working parents. One respondent noted that classes fill up quickly, before they have a chance to register. When asked what prevents them from using Spokane recreation facilities, programs, parks, or natural lands more often, 14 percent of District 2 and 17 percent of District 3 respondents said the hours/timing are not convenient. Comparatively, 6 percent of District 1 respondents said the same thing.



Residents enjoy a community yoga class in the Riverfront Pavilion



GOAL I: DIVERSITY OF OFFERINGS

STRATEGIES

Objective 1: Refresh program offerings

- » Offer programs to under-engaged groups, such as teenagers, aging populations, low-income youth, etc.
- » Form partnerships with non-profits and higher education institutions to introduce thousands of students to water safety and swimming.
- » Identify user groups that most identify with specific times of day, such as programs that are for young adults, teens, and families occurring in the early evening and on weekends.
- » Consider “reintroducing” classes that were previously offered but eliminated due to low attendance. Public survey results reflect wish to reintroduce certain activities that were once offered (such as camping), explore opportunities to vary scheduling and when activities are offered.

Objective 2. Commit To Diversity, Equity And Inclusion In Programming

To make Spokane Parks and Recreation more inclusive, a dedicated staffer can collaborate with community-based organizations, build relationships with the community, and develop programming that reflects the diverse demographics and needs of Spokane. According to a report by the National Recreation and Park Association, one in three park and recreation agencies have established formal diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives and another third have plans to do so within the next year.



A young participant at the Spokane Powwow



GOAL I: DIVERSITY OF OFFERINGS

STRATEGIES

Objective 2. Commit To Diversity, Equity And Inclusion In Programming

- » Hire a staff member with a specific focus on inclusion. Staffer could serve across departments to ensure consistency in programming, operations, partnerships, etc.
- » Commit to diversity, equity, and inclusion improvements at the organizational level through training and continuing education.
- » Evaluate discontinuing the Therapeutic Recreation Services program and instead ensure all programs are accessible. This strategy leads to better integration between recreation users across the ability spectrum.

WHAT WE HEARD: PEOPLE

76% of respondents rated the importance of parks and recreation facilities providing social opportunities, places to gather and social events as “very important” or “essential”

73% of respondents rated promoting appreciation and preservation of the cultural and national heritage of the community as “essential” or “very important”

66% of respondents believe the City needs to do more to make parks and programs welcoming and accessible

GOAL J. CO-EXISTENCE

Co-existence addresses conflicts between park users and builds a human-centered, compassionate response to people experiencing homelessness who visit Spokane parks. Recommendations include clarifying the role of the Parks and Recreation Department in working in partnership with other city departments and agencies, educating the public and building relationships, as well as planning, adding park features, and managing parks with thoughts to the needs of this park user group.

Homelessness is a growing crisis across the country related to intersecting and complex issues like affordable housing and social service needs. According to the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, approximately 30 percent of people experiencing homelessness are unsheltered which means they are living on the street, a park, abandoned building, or other locations not suitable for human health. Many others have unstable or unreliable housing. The crisis puts a particular strain on parks and recreation departments, as many people living in temporary shelters may spend daytime hours in a park and those without access to safe or reliable shelter may seek refuge on public properties. Homelessness is often criminalized in the form of bans on camping, trespassing in parks, storing personal property in public spaces, and solicitation. Fifty-three percent of cities have laws prohibiting sitting or lying down in public. People experiencing homelessness often have nowhere to go and rely on public parks. The American Society of Landscape Architects has stated that, “the exclusion of those experiencing homelessness from public parks is often based on fear of crime and the discomfort from others at viewing the circumstances of unhoused individuals.” This report seeks to find a balance between the right of all people to exist in public space while maintaining a welcoming atmosphere for all park users.

Many residents throughout the engagement process commented about not feeling welcome or safe in parks due to trash, drug use, and encampments. It is important to take a human-centered and trauma-informed approach to address homelessness in parks.

Objective 1. Clarify Park’s Role With Addressing Homelessness And Train Staff Members For Appropriate Response And Interactions

The question of who feels welcome in Spokane’s parks came up frequently in the statistically valid survey, resulting in the theme of co-existence. Public spaces are inherently contested space, as they are shared by all types of people. More specifically, to achieve feelings of belonging and community cohesion in Spokane’s parks, the role of parks in addressing homelessness needs to be clarified. The Parks and Recreation Department interfaces with people experiencing homelessness, so it is critical that administrators understand and coordinate with city and regional efforts already underway to address these

challenges. Having clear objectives and policies in place will assist Spokane Parks and Recreation Department in strategic management of issues.

In 2020, the City of Spokane and Spokane County published a 5-Year Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness which is intended to align with the mission of the Continuum of Care (CoC), a multi-jurisdictional/agency advisory board of the regions’ homeless crisis response system. Since 2018, the City of Spokane has worked on addressing unsheltered homelessness, as those numbers appear to increase, and visibility of encampments has impacted resident’s perceptions of safety. As a result, the City of Spokane has invested more in street outreach to try and get people into the homeless service system and has begun utilizing a database and an integrated system to better track and map encampments and improve opportunities to send targeted service supports to those areas. Participation in a coalition on homelessness to coordinate efforts and seek solutions can help the Parks and Recreation Department to proactively address challenges on their properties with support from other organizations.

Parks departments across the U.S. assume varying parts in addressing the rising crisis of homelessness, from forming partnerships with local service providers to providing sanctioned encampments.

Additional steps to train staff on trauma-informed approaches for interacting with users of park spaces will strengthen the park’s role in supporting welcoming and conflict free park spaces. A trauma-informed approach means acknowledging that people experiencing homelessness, both temporary and chronic, likely have a history of trauma. This approach also recognizes that people are more than what has happened to them and are capable of healing and wholeness. Removing tents and belongings of a person experiencing homelessness can compound trauma and distrust. Residents—housed and unhoused—deserve to feel safe and welcome in city parks, so education and a compassionate response are important.



"Solidarity locker" near Santa Apolonia railway station in Lisbon, December 15, 2016. Source: Particia De Melo Moreira, AFP



GOAL J: CO-EXISTENCE

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Clarify Park's Role With Addressing Homelessness And Train Staff Members For Appropriate Response And Interactions

- » To determine the Spokane Parks Department's role, leaders might host a summit, form an interdisciplinary committee, or initiate a study to evaluate the capacity, scope, ability and appropriateness of staff to act in this space.
- » The Parks Department can create an internal workgroup to collaborate across the department and with external stakeholders to define how the department will coordinate with service providers and homelessness coalitions.
- » The Parks Department may consider volunteering a staff member to sit on the CoC board to ensure the parks interests are represented and to serve as a liaison.
- » Parks and Recreation frontline staff receive trauma-informed training, which centers healing, compassion, and respect.

Objective 2. Park Design For Positive Interactions

An inclusive park design begins with an inclusive planning process. This can be accomplished by designing with those experiencing homelessness as a key user group and stakeholder in engagement. Creating special engagement opportunities for those experiencing homelessness provides an opportunity for those residents to have a voice and some agency in the process. It also builds relationships and contributes to breaking down stereotypes. According to the Center for Active Design, signage that encourages park uses, as opposed to listing prohibited activities, leads to increased feelings of welcome.

Partnerships with businesses that abut parks and park lands can increase access to basic amenities for people experiencing homelessness.

Other solutions for designing for positive interactions involve activating park spaces to build more human presence. Often it is the presence of diverse people in the park that contribute to a sense of safety and inclusion. Strategies to activate parks and provide comforts such as drinking water, lighting and restrooms to encourage people to spend longer periods of time in the park can lead to improved positive interactions for everyone.



GOAL J: CO-EXISTENCE

STRATEGIES

Objective 2. Park Design For Positive Interactions

- » For parks that may have a presence of people experiencing homelessness, create targeted public engagement for those experiencing homelessness when initiating projects that will address park design and improvements.
- » In parks that may have a presence of people experiencing homelessness visiting, explore how their needs might be met through partnerships with agencies that do outreach and park facilities such as storage lockers, drinking fountains, and more.

CASE STUDY: THE PLEDGE



Source: Be: Seattle

The Pledge is a network of business offering what they can to help their neighbors who are experiencing homelessness. Started in Seattle in 2016, the network now includes Tacoma, Portland, and soon, New York City, with each chapter run by a separate organization. Business owners can opt-in based on what they are willing and able to provide, from a glass of water, a place to charge your phone, a bike pump, or restrooms. Stickers displayed in business windows let folks know they are an available resource. This can take some pressure off the parks to provide facilities and importantly, it signals to people experiencing homelessness that they are welcome members of the greater community.

Objective 3. Partner For A Public Awareness And Support Campaign

Long-term or intensive solutions to end homelessness require broad public support. The following are common public education messages provided by National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) to express regarding parks to create a common understanding:

- All members of the community are welcome to use public parks and open spaces.
- Everybody is welcome to use parks for recreation, relaxation, rest and leisure.
- Those experiencing homelessness are part of our community.
- Public parks and open spaces can be a more comfortable space for those experiencing homelessness. Parks and other public spaces are key spaces for functional communities.



GOAL J: CO-EXISTENCE

STRATEGIES

Objective 3. Partner For A Public Awareness And Support Campaign.

- » Work with the CoC board to create a public awareness and support campaign to build compassion and educate the public on the roots and enduring hardships of homelessness.



The game cart at Woodruff Park offered both amenities and a new approachable staff person to support all users of the park.
Source: Project for Public Spaces

CASE STUDY

In Atlanta, Woodruff Park is staffed full-time by a social worker whose main objective is to build relationships and connect people experiencing homelessness with social services. This strategy ensures that all park users can access the resources they need while reducing the need for punitive measures. A low budget strategy is to share information on bulletin or community boards about available resources.



6

OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT: LEGACY

- Goal L: Maintain and Care
- Goal M: Funding Futures
- Goal N: Strategic Acquisitions and real Estate Management



CHAPTER 6. LEGACY

New efforts will not be successful without continuing to care for the existing properties and amenities, and doing the basics well. Tracking with growth of the system, attention must be given seeking sustainable forms of funding and adjusting operations to support continuing Spokane’s care for public spaces, natural resources, recreation and services.

THEME: LEGACY

Goal K: Maintain and Care

- Objective 1. Replace Aged Facilities
- Objective 2. Put The Park Back Into Parkways Boulevards
- Objective 3. Expand Volunteerism Programs And Acknowledgment
- Objective 4. Environmental Education And Facilities/Trails
- Objective 5. Expand Park Programming For Park Sustainability And Resilience

Goal L: Funding Futures

- Objective 1. Pursue Additional Funding Sources

Goal M: Strategic Acquisitions, Partnerships, and Real Estate Management

- Objective 1. New Development Pays for Itself
- Objective 2. Evaluate Current Land Holdings and Potential Partnerships

**PUBLIC
COMMENTS**

“Palisades could use some trash cans and benches.”

“Additional lighting so parks can be used as a walking trail in the dark of winter.”

“Glass Park needs some lighting, the park is very dark and could use some safety lights.”

GOAL K: MAINTAIN AND CARE

Maintain and Care means improving maintenance standards and enhancing community involvement in park care. A management plan to increase standards of care, as well as expanding volunteerism, can contribute to this legacy. Amenities such as more trash and recycling cans (and more frequent emptying of existing ones) and year-round and 18-hour restroom access and upkeep will greatly improve both public perception of the parks system and increase access. Other strategies include improving landscaping, weeding, and watering, expanding environmental education and pursuing additional funding sources.

Objective 1. Replace Aged Facilities

Basic services like restrooms, drinking fountains, and general maintenance were frequently cited throughout the engagement process as lacking in Spokane parks. The community desires more restrooms where they do not currently exist and expanded hours and improved maintenance at existing restroom facilities. Restrooms that are frequently cleaned improve the park experience for parents with young children, the elderly, people with disabilities, people who menstruate, and others who may need more frequent access to restrooms. Park visitors can spend more time enjoying the parks if they don’t need to leave to use the bathroom. It also provides a humane, safe, and clean place for people experiencing homelessness to practice basic hygiene and use the restroom. Parks with existing restrooms should invest in improved maintenance and be open for more hours a day and more days in a year.

Improvements to lighting, landscaping, weeding, and watering were also cited as high priorities among the community. Designing with human comfort in mind and prioritizing beauty make spaces more welcoming. The Center for Active Design’s Assembly Guidelines list four strategies to make public spaces comfortable: provide seating options, illuminate public spaces and buildings, provide water and restrooms, and tailor design to local climate. In addition to physical comforts, perceptions about safety and cleanliness influence the use of public space.

Well-maintained parks and natural lands can increase feelings of comfort, trust in local government, civic pride, and lead to increased use of facilities. To address needed capital investments, life cycle costs of parks, including maintenance costs, should be developed and considered within overall budgets to form a more complete picture of funds needed to maintain the park system in a high-quality condition. It can be tempting to identify only capital construction projects needed to enhance the breadth and depth of the parks system when taking a comprehensive look at a city’s parks and recreation assets. However, in an era of constrained city budgets and escalating construction and labor costs, it is pertinent that park system planners consider not only new park needs, but also the time, resources and staff required to maintain and upkeep both new and existing assets. This leads to better informed decisions, as these costs are more accurately weighed in relation to the fiscal realities of maintaining what already exists today.

Life cycle cost analyses require detailed and up-to-date data. Data sets related to all existing park assets building size, age, capital cost, use and features; utility usage and park assets including size, maintenance schedules (mowing, watering, etc.), asset age, and landscaping are required. An asset management plan that depicts the condition of assets is a helpful supplement to inform this analysis. Information related to these existing assets can then be used to inform the standards that are expected for each asset type; parks management plans should be developed to inform the timing and resource needs for maintenance, upgrades, and replacements.



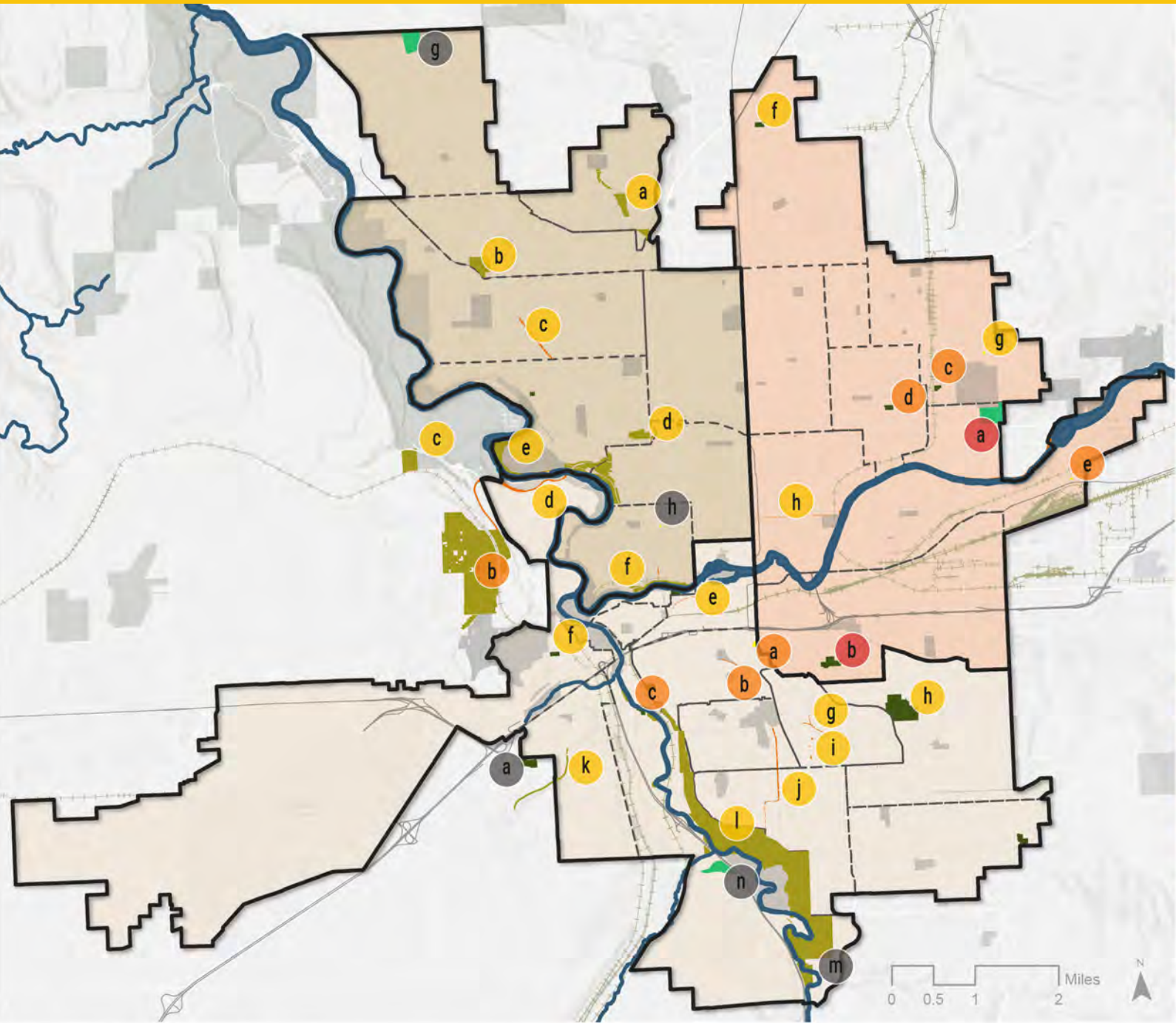
GOAL K: MAINTAIN AND CARE

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Replace Aged Facilities

- » Standardize maintenance practices and materials to ensure all parks receive the same level of care regardless of location. Ensure facilities are in operating condition, such as restrooms and drinking fountains, where present. In parks where these facilities are not available, capital and maintenance funding will be needed to ensure park users have access to them.
- » Update system level guidelines for, adding trash cans (and more frequent emptying of existing ones); seasonally, expanded 18-hour restroom access at neighborhood parks (March 1 - October 31) and landscaping, weeding, watering, schedules.
- » Develop life cycle cost analyses to inform needed improvements for facilities.
- » Complete an asset management plan to make specific recommendations for capital improvements. The inventory and conditional assessment of existing parks on Map 22 (found on next page) should be used to prioritize annual investments in replacement or adding features to these parks based on funding availability.
- » Establish capital replacement funding for infrastructure, such as irrigation systems or bridges.

Map 22: Potential Investment Park Properties



- District 1**
- a Minnehaha Park
 - b Grant Park
 - c Wildhorse Park
 - d Courtland Park
 - e Parkwater Park
 - f Hill N'Dale Rotary Park
 - g Loren Kondo Park
 - h Mission Avenue Parkway

- District 2**
- a Cowley Park
 - b Cliff Drive Parkway
 - c Wentel Grant Park
 - d Elliot Drive Parkway
 - e Riverside-Cedar Parkway
 - f Whittier Park
 - g Rockwood Boulevard Parkway
 - h Lincoln Park
 - i Garfield Road Parkway
 - j Manito Boulevard Parkway
 - k Reimer Park
 - l High Drive Park
 - m Campion Park
 - n Qualchan Hills Park

- District 3**
- a Austin Ravine Park
 - b Wyakin Park
 - c Driscoll Boulevard Parkway
 - d Drumheller Springs Park
 - e Downriver Park
 - f Herbert M. Hamblen Park
 - g Meadowglen Park
 - h Skeet-So-Mish Park

- Out of District**
- a Sterling Heights Park
 - b Palisades Park
 - c Romine Park

Potential Investment
Parks with \$0 previous investment and park condition rating of 3, 4, or 5

- Complete Replacement Required
- Major Facility Damage
- Minor Facility Damage
- Undeveloped Park

Park Classification

- Natural Lands
- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Pocket Park
- Parkway
- Other Spokane Parks

Spokane Neighborhoods

- Highways
- Railroads
- Water Bodies
- District 1
- District 2
- District 3

* Parks that have received significant investments over the last 20 years or in good condition are not included.

“It is convenient to designate as boulevards such ways as are formal in character and as parkways such ways as are more or less informal. In both boulevards and parkways there must be a distinct quality of luxury and width and beauty of turf and trees, and in the latter there must be some landscape feature or naturalistic landscape gardening.”

-1913
Olmsted
Report



Manito Boulevard Parkway, Source: Reddit user myk_ed

Objective 2. Put The Park Back Into Parkway Boulevards

There are 18 properties in the City of Spokane classified as parkways. Parkway are landscaped areas within the center of the street or adjacent to it. The parkways were first envisioned in Spokane’s precedent park plan created by the Olmsted brothers and were fitted for pleasure walking or driving.

These turn-of-the-century parkways are largely intact today and contribute to the charm and historic character of the neighborhoods in which they are situated. However, with long and narrow expanses of turf lawn that requires regular mowing and watering, the parkways require excessive maintenance and resources for upkeep that no longer align with the City’s sustainability goals. Because the parkways provide refuge and comfortable walking conditions adjacent to the roadway, social walking trails have been created, negating maintenance efforts and resulting in an impression that the spaces are not properly kept.

With an objective to preserve the intent and function of the parkways as originally imagined, they can be redesigned. Landscaping with native vegetation that requires less water and maintenance enhances the environmental resilience of the park property and reduces maintenance costs. Creating a pathway with opportunities for seating formalizes residents’ desires to utilize the spaces for walking, resting and socializing.



GOAL K: MAINTAIN AND CARE **STRATEGIES**

Objective 2. Put The Park Back Into Parkway Boulevards

- » Complete pilot projects for two parkways to demonstrate different landscape treatments for improved appearance and sustainability and install walking paths.

Objective 3. Expand Volunteerism Programs And Acknowledgment

Spokane benefits from a high rate of volunteerism and a network of people dedicated to park upkeep and success. The city organizes volunteer programs such as ice-skating assistants, gardening activities, weed and invasive species management and events operations. Citizen-led volunteer coalitions include three “Friends of” groups, which are non-profit organizations that support specific parks (Manito Park, Palisades and High Drive Bluff Park). Friends of groups are dedicated park users who take on the responsibility of maintaining parklands, coordinating activities such as trail maintenance, fire suppression, invasive plant management, tree planting, park cleanup and naturalist events. These are great models to build upon to increase and support a culture of community stewardship for park spaces. Additional acknowledgment and public accolades help to build moral and enthusiasm for these efforts.



GOAL K: MAINTAIN AND CARE

STRATEGIES

Objective 3. Expand Volunteerism Programs And Acknowledgement.

- » Explore partnership opportunities to build Friends of and Trail Ambassador groups, as well as with business- and community-oriented support such as Neighborhood Councils, Greater Spokane Incorporated, Tribal organizations, after school programs, corporate sponsorships, and Continuum of Care.
- » Explore opportunities to connect Friends of groups to share resources and best practices.
- » Prioritize staffing to lead, coordinate, and train the volunteer effort.
- » Identify projects that can be executed in one day, such as river cleanup events, forest management activities or tree plantings; reward volunteers with a shared meal, access to program offerings or an item that commemorates and touts the event, such as a t-shirt.
- » Partner with others for tree planting.
- » Host quarterly training sessions to teach volunteers best practices for environmental stewardship, creating a culture that honors diversity and inclusion in parks spaces and supporting awareness and responsiveness for public safety.
- » Host regular special events to honor and recognize volunteers for their efforts.
- » Identify local champions, residents who are passionate about parks or a specific aspect of the department. Utilize their excitement and personal networks to expand lists of volunteers. An example in Spokane is the pickleball community, who consistently recruit 20-50 volunteers for their events. Coordinate with special interest groups to improve program offerings.
- » Create/expand online volunteer portal for easy sign-ups for groups and individuals.

PUBLIC COMMENT

“I would love to see educational signing in Corbin Park to highlight the unique history of this park.”

“This park [Drumheller Springs Park] is on an awesome overlook blocked by houses. A Forest Service style viewing tower would be great over here and make this underutilized park more well known. It’s so historically significant, it deserves to be more widely known.”

Objective 4. Environmental Education And Facilities/Trails

Parks and Recreation Department have a special role to play in offering diverse economic experiences in city parks and natural areas. Programs such as guided walks, camps, volunteer opportunities, naturalist training and special events can promote stewardship and connection to nature for all ages.

Similarly, specific park spaces can be designed in such a way to promote environmental learning. Signage that depicts topics such as plant diversity, animal habitat, sustainable building, wetlands and stream ecology and macro invertebrates promote place-based learning and a greater understanding of local ecosystems. Viewing platforms and windows enhance the experience of users. Camps and after school programs that are integrated into these spaces can engage school-aged children, while accessible walking paths and benches provide an opportunity for elders to connect with the space.



GOAL K: MAINTAIN AND CARE

STRATEGIES

Objective 4. Environmental Education And Facilities/Trails

- » Explore partnerships for pilot projects for school-based environmental learning camp or after school program.
- » Incorporate interpretive signage in natural land areas that are designated for high levels of visitation and recreation.

Objective 5. Expand Programs For Improved Park Sustainability And Resilience

In alignment with the goals of the 2021 Spokane Sustainability Action Plan and 2017 Spokane Comprehensive Plan, this plan recommends expanding programs to improve park sustainability and resilience.

2021 SPOKANE SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN GOALS FOR THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

1. Establish partnerships with community organizations and agencies to leverage funding and invite community input
2. Build awareness and engage the community in Natural Resources stewardship
3. Increase urban tree canopy and climate-adapted plant landscapes within the built environment
4. Protect and build climate resilience in natural spaces within Spokane



GOAL K: MAINTAIN AND CARE

STRATEGIES

Objective 5. Expand Programs For Improved Park Sustainability And Resilience

- » Integrate additional education and outreach programs that promote natural resources stewardship.
- » Explore possibility for nature and water center for education of community including youth.

CASE STUDY: RISE, ROCKAWAY, QUEENS, NY



Source: Rockaway Institute for Sustainability and Equity

The Rockaway Institute for Sustainability and Equity (RISE) is an environmental education program for kids and teens in Queens, New York. RISE provides civic engagement and youth development programs that advance social equity and the physical well-being of their vibrant coastal community. Through unique partnerships, such as with the Pratt Institute Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment and the New York City Department of Transportation, and programming that focuses on sustainability, environmental justice, food justice and equity, students can have a direct impact on their community. Planning efforts by RISE have resulted in the creation of a 28-acre Waterfront Park on a lot that had been an illegal dumping ground, the creation of a community hub in a dilapidated firehouse and other projects to improve the built and natural environment. RISE is one exemplary model of environmental and sustainability education for teens that Spokane can build upon or emulate.

GOAL L: FUNDING FUTURE

Funding Future looks to create a sustainable future by acquiring new funding sources and leveraging current assets. Strategies include capturing a share of revenue that parks bring to an area through the creation of Business Improvement Districts and Tax Increment Financing, as well as advocating for a larger share of the city's general fund dedication to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Objective 1. Pursue Additional Funding Sources

The Parks and Recreation Department receives most of its funding from the City's general fund, with some additional funding from revenues generated by its parks and recreation offerings. The Parks and Recreation Department is guaranteed a minimum 8 percent of general fund expenses for its operations. During the pandemic with City revenue greatly impacted, the general fund shrunk along with overall revenues. Additionally, as more Enterprise Funds are created and consume an increasingly larger share of the City's total tax base, the general fund pool shrinks. These cumulative events have reduced overall city spending on parks from 2.63% of the city expenses in 2000 to 2.32% in 2021. A decrease of 0.3% in total city expenses is equivalent to approximately \$2.6M in 2021. This downward trend in city general fund contribution to parks has prompted the Parks and Recreation Division to consider diversifying its revenue sources to minimize revenue fluctuations.

Additionally, the increased value that parks bring to a neighborhood or district can be leveraged. The presence of parks increases the value of surrounding properties, it encourages further development and a more desirable place to visit or live. Large events, particularly in Riverfront Park, can have a positive impact on nearby businesses, such as F&B operations and lodging. Currently, there is not a mechanism in place to capture increased economic development with some of it going to parks that's generated by park users or increased property values. The Parks Department, along with the city, could consider exploring the options of various types of real estate value capture. These options include:

Tax Increment Financing (TIF)/Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) – TIF is a district designated for redevelopment where the city subsidizes companies by refunding or diverting a portion of their taxes to help finance development. Typically, businesses locate in the TIF district will see their property values rise as the district and its surrounding areas are developed. Rather than simply collecting the increased taxes, the city shares a percentage of the increase above the "base rate" (what they received prior to the increase) and the "tax increment" (the additional taxes), with a portion of the increase used for capital improvements within the district. This can be a funding options for some capital improvements and ongoing maintenance to benefit parks.

To catalyze investment in areas of the city that need attention, the Parks and Recreation Department could also align with the City to designate areas that are eligible for Tax Increment Financing (TIF). TIF is a district designated for

redevelopment where the city subsidizes companies by refunding or diverting a portion of their taxes to help finance development. Typically, businesses locate in the TIF district will see their property values rise as the district and its surrounding areas are developed. Rather than simply collecting the increased taxes, the city shares a percentage of the increase above the “base rate” (what they received prior to the increase) and the “tax increment” (the additional taxes), with a portion of the increase used for capital improvements within the district. This can be a funding options for some capital improvements and ongoing maintenance to benefit parks.

Business Improvement District (BID) – BID is a defined area where the businesses within a district elect to pay an additional tax (or levy) to fund projects within the defined district. The collected tax is typically used for funding services which benefits the whole district, this may include street cleaning, providing security, aesthetic improvements, capital improvements, etc. Some BIDs extend their maintenance into public parks or provide additional support in security and marketing for the district.

Bonds/ Dedicated Users Fees/ Dedicated Tax – Spokane Parks and Recreation successfully implemented dedicated user fees for additional capital funding of its golf courses. Similar fees should be explored for dedicated uses, particularly at the sport complexes.

Sponsorship – Typically, corporate sponsorships are long-term, and the corporation receives some form of recognition for contribution/support for a period. If the ‘term” is too long, it can limit other funding/sponsorship opportunities and should be limited to a relatively short period, depending on the sponsorship amount.

Super Friends Group/Conservancy – Consider forming a nonprofit public private partnership, a Foundation, Conservancy, or Friends Group, with the Parks Department with a park-focused mission and support. A private entity can access several fundraising opportunities to solicit funding. The nonprofit can maximize fundraising options (such as grant application, donors) by channeling funding to one entity, rather than having many smaller groups applying and competing from the same pool.

“Adopt-a” Program – The Adopt-a program could be for benches, or an acre of lawn, or other park amenities to provide funding to maintain and endow the care of park amenities and landscapes. Typically, a base fee is identified for each of the park element available for adoption. The sponsor will have the opportunity to select where or what they would like to “adopt”, the sponsor will receive a certificate or a plaque recognizing their donation. The funds generated from the Adopt-a program go to an endowment and can be used to help pay for ongoing maintenance of the item that have been adopted, and its surrounding landscape.



GOAL L: FUNDING FUTURE

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. Pursue Additional Funding Sources

- » Advocate for a higher percentage of general fund allocations to ensure city funding dedicated toward Parks and Recreation is consistent with the desires and expectations of the Spokane Citizens, even despite increased city enterprise fund activity.
- » Explore leveraging downtown events to stimulate the local economy. These events encourage visitors to visit and spend money.
- » Explore opportunities to align parks with larger city events, to
- » Encourage park visitation, and to capture some potential spending.
- » Advocate for an allocation of the existing downtown Spokane BID toward Riverfront Park
- » Partner with other City Divisions to pursue Tax Increment Financing districts in areas of the city that would benefit from investment. Identify nearby parks that are in need of repair to set clear expectations that TIF dollars will be reinvested locally to fund needed park improvements.
- » Explore sponsorship, super friends/conservancy, and “adopt-a” programs.

GOAL M: STRATEGIC ACQUISITIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, AND REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT

The 2020 U.S. Census data shows that Spokane County’s population increased by 9.6 percent between 2010 and 2020 and projections indicate growth will continue with 13,000 more people anticipated by 2037. Proactive steps to acquire lands for future parks is a strategic move in anticipation of population growth, increasing land costs, or limited availability. With a current level of service of 5.5 acres per 1,000 people, the City will need to develop 220 more acres of developed parkland, such as community and neighborhood parks, by 2037 to provide residents with the same level of park provision as exist today. The City currently owns 29 acres of land anticipated to become developed parks and will need to strategically acquire lands for currently underserved areas with concentrated population densities and also in areas anticipated for new residential development. See Map 23: Urban Growth Areas for an anticipation of areas of the city with policies for expansion of development.

Without an increased percentage of the city’s overall budget being allocated toward capital improvements for parks, it will be challenging for the Parks and Recreation Department to dedicate funds to system expansion while maintaining existing parklands. Partnerships with the development community to succeed in strategic acquisitions is therefore critical.



Park ribbon cutting at the Mission Park Ability Ballfield

Objective 1. New Development Pays For Itself

The following adjustments to the City's Municipal Code are suggested to ensure that dedication of land or funding for future parks is associated with future growth:

Park Dedication Ordinance – Park dedication ordinances require a certain amount of land is dedicated as open space within new developments. This type of ordinance is most often associated with large developments, like subdivisions, that occur on greenfield (undeveloped) areas. In the site planning, the developer works with the city on lot configurations to coordinate “clustered developments” and land dedicated for active and passive recreation. The construction and ongoing maintenance can be privately operated and maintained or deeded to the city. This requirement currently exists in Spokane for Planned Unit Developments (master planned developments) but not for other types of common housing types in Spokane.

Applying a Park Dedication Ordinance universally in Spokane is challenging, however; as Spokane grows, development will begin to occur more commonly as infill and in the urban area, which has limited green space/parks that can be set aside within the development. A secondary Park Impact Fee option is therefore recommended.

Park Impact Fee – The fee is imposed on new development on a new unit basis to pay for a portion of the costs for providing new park spaces within the project area or system-wide (based on need). The fee should account for long-term maintenance costs of public spaces and explicitly state that this would be the responsibility of the park department. This would support the Parks and Recreation Department in achieving the acquisition of the additional 220 acres of parkland that is suggested in this plan.

A precedent is set for this, as the City of Spokane currently requires a Transportation Impact Fee for new developments, under the finding that new growth creates additional demand for public streets and roadways. By requiring a fee upon the construction of new uses, the city can plan for and implement the provision of transportation facilities to service existing and future populations. The Transportation Impact Fees vary by geographic area.

While the City's Municipal Code Chapter 17D.080 states that “property developments in the City increase the demand for and use of City streets, parks, open spaces, recreational facilities and fire protection facilities” and that “increasing demand brought about by priority development decreases the availability, productivity and usefulness of existing public facilities for present and future citizens of the City, straining municipal resources beyond their capacity,” the City does not explicitly nor universally charge impact fees for the provision or upkeep of parks, open space and recreation assets or services.



GOAL STRATEGIC ACQUISITIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, AND REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

STRATEGIES

Objective 1. New Development Pays For Itself


- » Revise the Spokane Municipal Land Use Code to universally define “open space” as a planned outdoor landscaped area (landscaping, grassy lawn, outdoor seating areas or play/recreation features) outside the required zone setbacks that is designated or retained for use by residents for gatherings, activities or visual enjoyment. This definition should also include a statement that roads, buildings, and other impervious surfaces cannot contribute to the area requirements, as well as a statement about the use of the property is usually included as being open to residents of the property or more generally open to the public. Creating a common definition sets expectations for park dedication ordinances and ensures a common level of service for new parks.
- » Develop a two-pronged approach that applies to all new residential developments. New developments are required a) a park dedication within the development or b) if not possible due to land constraints or otherwise, the option to pay into the broader parks and recreation system via a park impact fee.
- » Estimated maintenance costs and plans should be developed for new park construction and included in development impact fees and allocated to Spokane Parks and Recreation for maintenance of facilities available to the public.

Objective 2. Evaluate Current Land Holdings and Potential Partnerships

Assessment of the current inventory of lands held for parks, natural lands, and parkways indicates not all properties are performing well or have potential to perform well for their intended purposes. Examples include small fragments that are not located in areas where they might contribute to becoming parks, trails or serve environmental purposes. It is recommended that these properties are studied in greater detail to determine best real estate management strategies to refine the quality of the City Parks holdings portfolio. Proposals for changing the use of lands in the parks portfolio should be considered only for parcels that due to size, location or geologic condition are unsuitable for use as developed parks or natural lands. Such proposals should not negatively impact existing park uses or affect future park development. Such proposals should result in compensation that will be used exclusively for Parks as the Park Board deems appropriate.

The Parks Department is also in need of further revenue to acquire additional park lands, develop/redevelop additional parks in strategic locations, and to

maintain and enhance levels of park service. Parks may consider and evaluate potential partnerships with other public agencies or private parties to enhance the park system. The Parks Department should develop a policy to objectively evaluate such partnerships to ensure they result in a ‘net improvement’ to city park lands and recreation offerings for typical park users. These partnerships should be considered on a case-by-case basis, with public input when Park Board deems necessary, for approval by the Park Board and may be considered a ‘net improvement’ so long as a net increase in park lands, park usage, or park service can be demonstrated and quantified. For example, if a potential project partner proposes a one or two acre portion of existing park land be utilized for a new library and offers sufficient funding to either purchase five or ten acres of new park land, or significantly improve the other park lands, parks should consider accepting the proposal. The same policy should be applied to leasing arrangements on park lands. If, for example, a project partner proposes leasing park land for a specific recreational use, and the park land is unprogrammed, under-utilized or in poor condition, a lease in exchange for compensation which is sufficient to permit significant enhancement of park lands or purchase of new park lands may be approved. Parks should remain flexible in its evaluation of partnerships and proposals for a variety of uses so long as partnerships are consistent with the Spokane Park Board mission and the goals and objectives of this plan, and ensure a quantifiable ‘net improvement’ to City park lands and recreation offerings.



GOAL M: STRATEGIC ACQUISITIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, AND REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

STRATEGIES

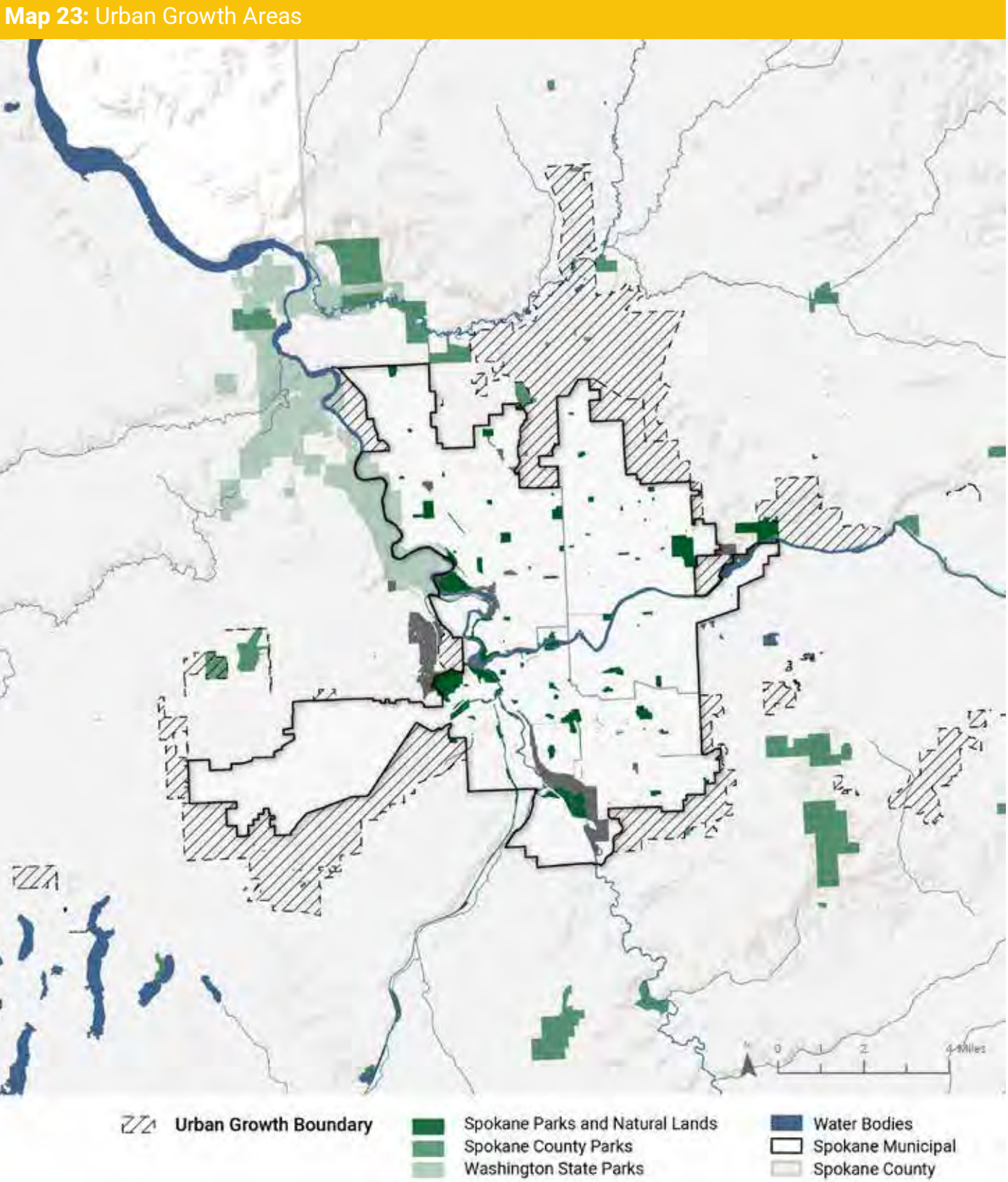
Objective 2. Evaluate Current Land Holdings and Potential Partnerships

- » Initiate a study to evaluate the significance, contribution and value of current land holdings and develop a subsequent real estate strategy.
- » Develop a process and objective criteria by which the parks department evaluates proposals for land leasing and land use partnerships, ensuring partnerships are consistent with the Spokane Park Board Mission and the goals and objectives of this plan and result in ‘net improvement’ to City park lands and recreation offerings.

WHAT WE HEARD: LEGACY

78% of respondents think the City should acquire additional natural lands

60% of respondents felt the City should seek additional funding to create and maintain its existing offerings





Community leaders break ground on a new project



7

IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

- Framework for Prioritizing Investment Decisions
- Revenue Sources and Funding Opportunities
- Action Items & Vision Map
- Guidelines for Park System Expansion



Playground at Minnehaha Park



Picnic area

CHAPTER 7. IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

This chapter outlines a framework and direction for implementation of the Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan and presents potential revenue sources and funding opportunities that may be utilized by the Parks Department. It includes action Items to be taken over the course of the next ten years, and provides guiding metrics for park system expansion to meet future population growth. This chapter is intended to serve the Parks Board in guiding strategic investments over the next ten years and beyond.

FRAMEWORK FOR PRIORITIZING INVESTMENT DECISIONS

To guide the Parks Department and Board in the difficult task of selecting projects to be funded for implementation, the following Venn diagram (Figure 7) may be used as a framework for decision making. Using the diagram and accompanying sample matrix (Table 8), projects and investment needs can be evaluated based on how well they fit within four areas of focus: Park Condition, Equity Investment Zones, Needs and Level of Service, and Opportunities.



The following data, maps, and reports are identified to assist in the evaluation process:

- » **Equity Investment Zones:** Map 15, page 76
- » **Needs and Level of Service:** Map 17: Desired Amenities by District, page 91; Level of Service Table 7, page 58; Survey Report, Appendix C
- » **Opportunities:** Opportunities cannot necessarily be defined in a table or map, as these are actions that arise out of strategic partnerships, philanthropic efforts, or development trends. Opportunities are the most fluid and are expected to change over-time given different circumstances that occur.
- » **Park Conditions:** Map 11, page 67

This plan asks Spokane residents, “What should the Parks Department do next?,” and outlines recommended action items over the next ten-plus years to complete. The framework is intended to support decision-making that is both data-driven and grounded in plan goals, while allowing for flexibility for the prioritization of projects to adjust over time as opportunities arise. Chapter 7 represents needs within the park system upon plan adoption. As additional projects are identified, this framework can be applied. The next master plan may find it necessary to re-evaluate the action items after six to ten years.

Figure 8: Prioritization Matrix

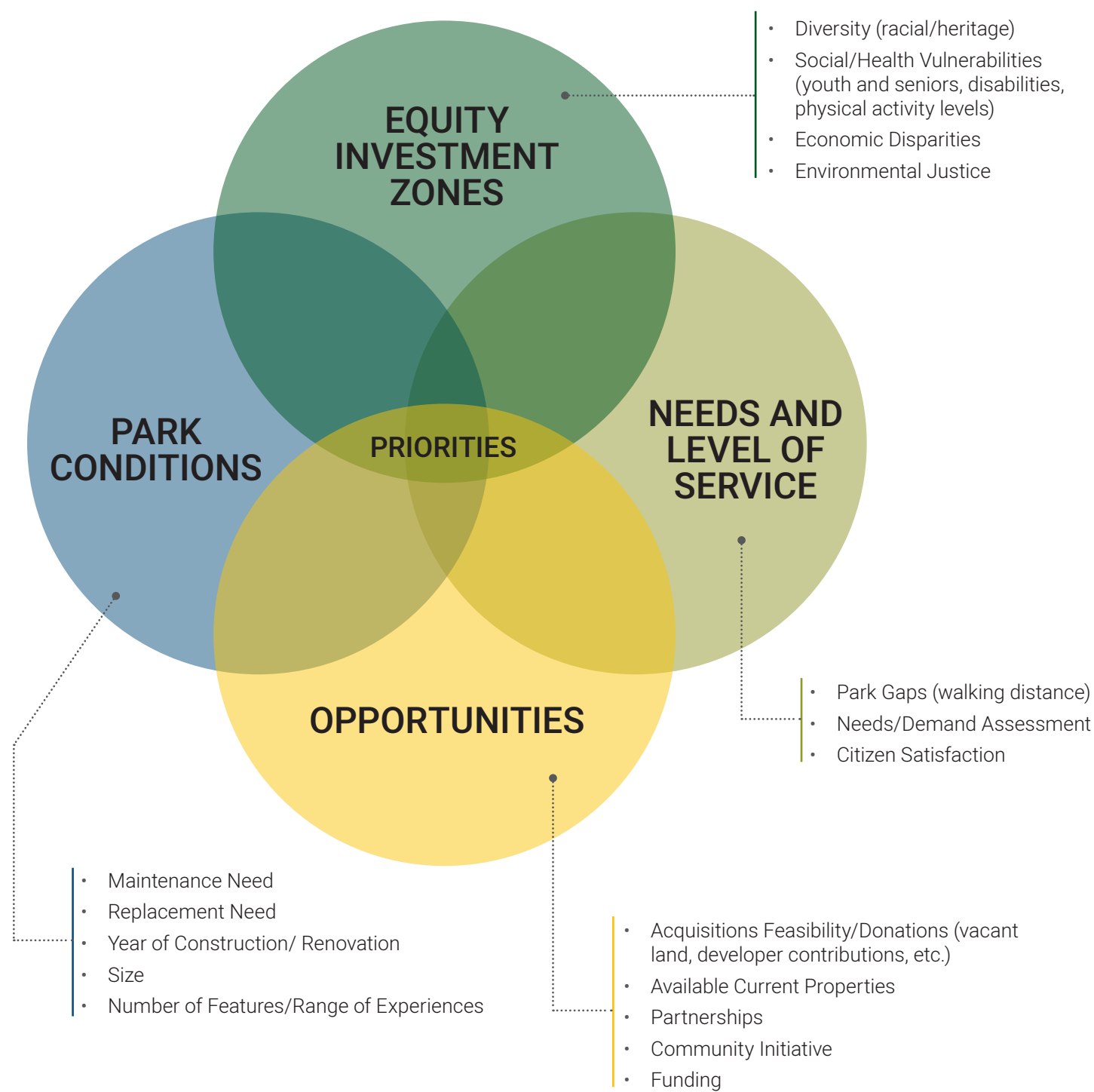


Table 8: Sample Capital Project Prioritization Evaluation

RATING CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION
PARK CONDITIONS	
Risk to Health, Safety, Environment	Physical safety hazard present. Use of asset of facility may cause failure resulting in harm to user.
Asset condition, maintenance need, annual repair costs	Improvement in parks and facilities that are in failing to poor condition. Investment required to retain asset or restore asset for continued use.
Historical Capital Investment	Level of historical park/facility investment
Quantity of existing features and range of experiences	Features and assets within park/facility
NEEDS & LEVEL OF SERVICE	
Community Identified Need	Asset or amenity identified as community desire by public input & survey. Improvement is a Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 community desire.
Technical Assessment Identified Need	Asset or amenity identified in technical system review as needed.
O&M or Programming Service Improvement	Improvement enhances maintenance & operation service delivery or recreational program service delivery, yielding cost savings or revenue increase.
Service Level Increase Using Existing Land	Improves level of park service by adding new recreation or park amenity on existing City land.
EQUITY INVESTMENT	
Social & Environmental Equity Zone	Improvement is within established social & environmental equity zones.
Geographic Park Gap	Improvement enhances neighborhood park access and is within identified park gap
OPPORTUNITIES	
Master Plan Strategic Project	Identified as strategic project is most recent park master plan update.
Unique Partnership Opportunity	Grant, partnership or sponsorship opportunity available to improve public park service.
Unique Environmental Benefit	Environmentally unique, valuable, or sensitive opportunity.
Unique Cultural Benefit	Provides historic or artistic benefit to community.

REVENUE SOURCES AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Revenue for the Spokane Parks and Recreation Department capital and operating expenditures come from a variety of sources, including municipal taxes, grants, federal funds, corporate partnerships and philanthropic groups.

Below is a list of funding sources that have been used by the Parks Department or are anticipated to pay for existing and future maintenance of parkland, trails and natural lands, as well as to provide recreational facilities and programming to the community.

It should be noted that without park bond initiatives, the majority of the Parks Department funding comes from municipal taxes, which is an allocation of eight percent of the city’s general fund expenditures. This funding covers primarily operational needs (\$24.6 million), with a smaller portion available for capital improvements (less than \$5 million annually, based on historic spending).

It is therefore assumed that additional funding, beyond the eight percent general fund contribution for routine, annual investment, will need to be sought for most many of the action items contained in this plan.

Table 9: Fund Source

FUND	SOURCE
Municipal Taxes	8% of general fund expenses dedicated to the City Parks Division budget, spent on operations and capital investments.
Grants	» County: Spokane County Conservation Futures Program » State: Washington Recreation Conservation Office (RCO) » Federal: Community Development Block Grant and Neighborhoods (CDBG)
Federal Funds	American Rescue Plan appropriations
Corporate Partnerships and Developer Contributions	The City will seek partners to execute action items based on the framework that each party will cooperate to fulfill the following three tenets of good partnership: 1) the program creates a symbiotic relationship where both parties benefit; 2) there are cost sharing opportunities; and 3) the program improves levels of service for the community.
Philanthropic Groups, Fundraising and Donations	» Parks Friends Groups

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS

Identify additional funding mechanisms outside general fund and bonds

The Parks and Recreation Department is currently limited in options for municipal finance mechanisms that other cities, particularly those that establish a Parks and Recreation District, utilize. Cities that establish a district have levee authority, which authorizes them to impose property taxes to finance park operations and improvements. Without levee authority or the specific dedication of other taxes to the department, the department must rely on grants and bonds to finance expansion. While bonds can be attributed for most of the system expansion to date, relying on bonds to fund future improvements can be risky as it is dependent on voter approval. Bonds are also tied to specific improvements and have an end date. As mentioned in previous sections, the general fund capture that is used to pay for baseline operations has decreased over time. The creation of ‘enterprise funds’ over the past 20 years pull sales tax revenues from the general fund to pay for specific (non-park) projects within the city.

Endowment

An endowment can help set funding aside for the future, the interests it generates can be used towards the annual operating expenses. However, a significant amount of money will need to be raised in order to generate

an impact amount of interests. Assuming a 5 percent distribution annually, in order to generate \$1 million in interests, the Parks Department will need a minimum \$20 million in endowment. Realistically, the distribution percentage may actually be lower, which means the endowment will need to be even bigger to make it a reliable source of income.

State grants offer opportunities to fund recreation and land acquisitions for conservation

The State of Washington Recreation Conservation Office (RCO) offers local agencies the opportunity to compete for grant funding that help pay for building and renovating parks, trails, waterfront access opportunities and other outdoor spaces. The state agency also provides grants to protect and restore land for animal habitat, forest conservation activities and land purchases for habitat and recreation purposes. This is an important fund source to consider and prepare projects accordingly in order to meet the state’s criteria for funding. Action items that could potentially be funded through an RCO grant are indicated as such in Table 10.

Future bond initiative to focus on citywide neighborhood park improvement program to:

- » Construct 1 new park within equity zones of each district
- » Renovate 3 neighborhood parks
- » Prioritize community desires
- » Renovate 3 trail heads
- » Replace antiquated park irrigation systems to improve level of service and increase water use efficiency

ACTION ITEMS EXPLAINED

This section outlines specific action items to support the strategies contained in Chapters 3-6. Per State requirements, priority projects for near-term implementation are identified along with a discussion of how this plan informs the city’s Capital Improvement Plan. These Action Items are near-term, initial first steps to complete and are not intended to serve as a detailed step-by-step process but rather a means to get the Parks Department started.

It is anticipated that partnerships will occur to execute action items. Likely partners include private interest groups, public agencies, other City Divisions and City Council, neighborhoods and non-profit organizations.

Action Items are categorized by whether they require capital investment, operational shift, or policy change, defined as follows:

- » **Capital:** Improvements that are tactile and result in physical improvements to the parks system. Examples include park upgrades, investments in non-developed park properties, land acquisitions for new parks and program investments.
- » **Operational:** Structural changes that result in shifts of day-to-day management of the parks system. Examples include recommendations for grounds maintenance activities or staffing.
- » **Policy:** Efforts that result in changes to processes or lay the groundwork for future investments. Examples include planning efforts, design guidelines or policy changes that impact the entire system.

Action Items are listed by these categories and then grouped by Plan Goal. It is anticipated priorities may change based on resource availability and opportunities. Therefore, this table is for reference only in creating annual work plans that identify funding priorities.

Priority Tiers

Project tiers provide a general framework to guide park department action. It is not intended that all tier one projects must be complete prior to implementing any tier 2 or 3 projects. The Parks Department should continually evaluate and update priorities in accordance with the prioritization matrix.

- » First tier: 1-10 years
- » Second tier: 5-10 years
- » Third tier: 10+ years

Table 10: Capital Investment Action Items

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS	
Action Item	Priority Tier
INLAND NORTHWEST LIVING	
Add facilities with unmet demand in this region: dog parks, gathering spaces, disc golf, pickleball, hiking and biking facilities (including trail heads), nature play and winter activity opportunities.	
District 1	First
» Gathering spaces for picnics and BBQs	
» Dog parks	
» Nature Play: water access for kayak/raft/canoe/SUP and designated fishing areas	
» Traditional sports equipment and fields	
» Wellness and enrichment programs	
» Mountain bike park/pump tracks, skate parks	
» Disc golf courses	
» Pickleball courts	
» Paved and unpaved trails for hiking and biking. Prioritize renovation of existing trail heads, especially in Camp Sekani Park and Beacon Hill, to construction of new.	
District 2	Third
» Dog Park	
» Nature play: water access for kayak/raft/canoe/SUP	
» Therapeutic Recreation Services	
» Pickleball courts	
» Paved and unpaved trails for hiking and biking. Prioritize renovation of existing trail heads to construction of new.	
District 3	First
» Paved and unpaved trails for hiking and biking. Prioritize renovation of existing trail heads, especially in Palisades Park, to construction of new.	
» Dog parks	
» Nature Play: water access for kayak/raft/canoe/SUP	
» Pickleball courts	

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS	
Action Item	Priority Tier
SERVING THE UNDER-RESOURCED Filling in park gaps by building new parks and improving access to existing parks	
» Shiloh Hills: Identify and purchase land for development in Shiloh Hills neighborhood, east of North Nevada Street. Vacant parcels in this area present opportunities for a community or neighborhood park.	First
» Lincoln Heights: Take advantage of the comfortable walk conditions of this neighborhood provided by the easy-to-navigate, tight street grid. Support the development of shared use pathway(s) to serve as a bridge to homes in the eastern edge to the parks and services provided in central and western Lincoln Heights.	Second
» East Central: Acquire land for development for a future pocket park, east of South Ray Street.	First
» Latah/Hangman: The addition of a trail to and from this neighborhood would improve recreational access as well as serve as an additional access route, thereby enhancing emergency management and resiliency tactics for the neighborhood.	Second
» Five Mile Prairie: The city should explore updating its development fees and/or requirements to involve the dedication of land or fee in lieu of land for park purposes.	Second
» Northwest: Identify a paved path or walk route that creates access between suburban neighborhood and existing park properties	Second
Prioritize improvements in parks that are in failing to poor condition, lack recent investment, and are located in Equity Priority Zones: Courtland Park, Minnehaha Community Park, Liberty Park, Grant Park, Summit Boulevard Parkway, North Maple Street Parkway, Logan Peace Park Prioritize development on vacant park properties that are located in Equity Priority Zones: Sterling Heights (District 2), Skeet-so-mish (District 3), Wildhorse (District 1)	First
PARKS FOR ALL Focus on neighborhood and community parks: Meadowglen, Sterling Heights and Qualchan Hills	First
Pursue additional development and future implementation of the three concept plans performed during this master plan (Minnehaha, Meadowglen, and Cowley).	First
MAINTAIN AND CARE Complete trail and native landscaping pilot project in Summit Boulevard Parkway and Manito Boulevard Parkway.	First
PRESERVE OUR WILD Using the urban forestry study completed in 2020, partner with others to prioritize tree plantings in areas of need.	First

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS	
Action Item	Priority Tier
SWIM AND SPLASH Identify areas for splash and spray pad investments.	Second
ACTIVATE THE SPOKANE RIVER Pursue the development of the following places for additional boat launches and access points for water vessels. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » TJ Meenach put-in » New facilities within High Bridge Park » New Facilities with ADA access within the Three Islands Property » Renovated or expanded facilities at Boulder Beach / Camp Sekani Park » Mission Park near the Witter Aquatics Center 	Second
ACTIVATE THE SPOKANE RIVER Identify potential ADA water sport rentals in popular water access locations.	First

Table 11: Policy Action Items

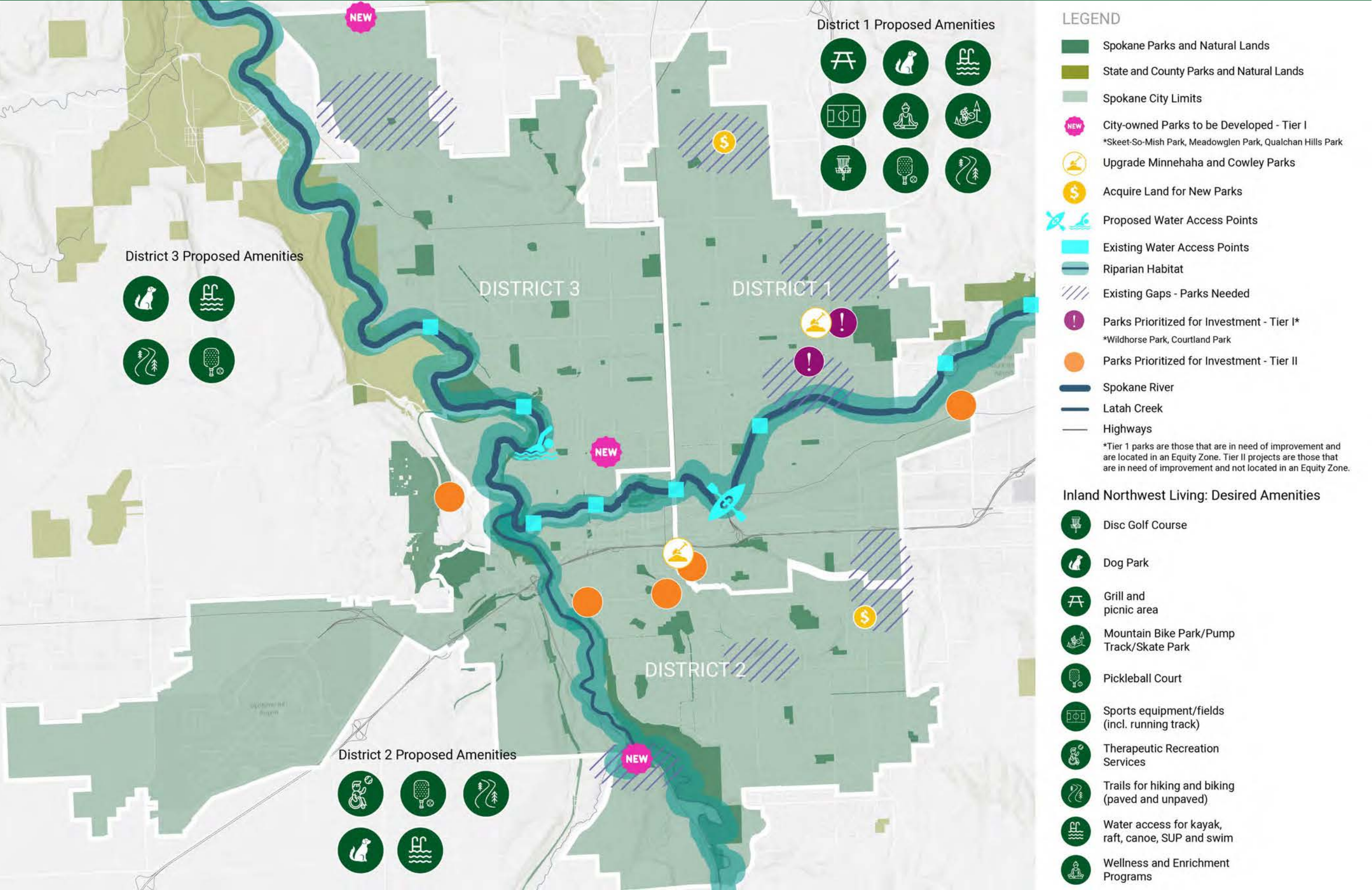
POLICY		
Action Item	Goal	Priority Tier
Complete an accessibility survey of parks, playgrounds, and other facilities to benchmark and prioritize actions for replacement.	Parks for All	First
Establish park land use and land partnership evaluation policy	Parks for All	First
Complete three neighborhood or community park plans (one in each District) following principles for culture and context sensitive planning and embedded in an overall neighborhood planning process.	Parks for All	First
Conduct a feasibility study for purchasing vacant land in locations that have a gap in parks in walking distance of residents	Serving the Under-resourced	First
Create and implement a trail master plan that considers and clearly defines trail types and user groups.	Inland Northwest Living	Second
Explore next steps for codifying development fees and/or requirements to involve the dedication of land or fee in lieu of land for park purposes across residential types.	Funding Futures	First
Develop a departmental action plan for park landscape conversions that identifies time lines and tactics for replacing existing turf with native and drought-tolerant plantings.	Preserve Our Wild	Second
Develop TS&L* design guidelines for river boardwalks.	Activate the Spokane River	Second
Complete a signage and wayfinding plan for the parks system to integrate additional languages and universal accessibility and enhance clarity in direction.	Build Awareness	First
Seek additional contribution to parks from City general fund to be dedicated to yearly capital repair and replacement to improve park condition.	Funding Futures	First
Citywide dog park survey and TS&L design guidelines	Inland Northwest Living	Second

*Type, size and location

Table 12: Operational Shift Action Items

OPERATIONAL SHIFT		
Action Item	Goal	Priority Tier
Develop and implement a departmental trail maintenance plan with guidelines for seasonal trail clearing and brushing, trimming and invasive species management. Funding provided by the U.S. Forest Service	Preserve our Wild	Second
Explore potential fuel reduction treatments in overgrown natural areas, such as Cliff Park.	Preserve our Wild	Second
Add potential environmental education programming actions.	Preserve our Wild	First
Identify staffing needs and resources for expanding free and open swim season.	Swim and Splash	Second
Identify key partnerships for indoor swim programs. Funding provided by the YMCA, local universities and colleges	Swim and Splash	Second
Action items related marketing campaign for program offerings and partnerships with schools.	Build Awareness	First
Create more offerings within park system, specifically for teens and adults.	Diversity of Offerings	First
Action item related to compassionate response to people experiencing homelessness.	Co-existence	First
Action item related to standards for maintenance, watering, etc.	Maintain and Care	First
Establish policy for facility and equipment replacement.	Maintain and Care	Second

MAP 24: VISION PLAN





Undeveloped Meadowglen Community Park

GUIDELINES FOR PARK SYSTEM EXPANSION

In addition to the aforementioned Action Items, the following strategies are provided to expand the existing system to meet existing and future demands.

IMPROVE UNDEVELOPED PARKS

The Parks Department has already been working with strategic partners to preserve the following undeveloped parks that will contribute to near-term growth of the system:

- » Meadowglen Community Park - 29 acres
- » Sterling Heights Neighborhood Park - 10 acres
- » Qualchan Hills Community Park - 28 acres

The city should prioritize efforts to improve these parks, focusing on neighborhood character and adding amenities that have been highlighted as lacking in the community, such as those found in the Inland Northwest recommendations.

CODIFY DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS

Coordination between the City of Spokane Planning Department and the Parks Department is essential to ensure the parks system can continue to expand as the population grows.

Recommendations are listed in Table 13 to provide a guideline for developer contributions per 1,000 people by the year 2037 (future population estimates sourced from 2017 Comprehensive Plan). These recommendations are based on existing levels of service, account for undeveloped parks that are planned to be developed,

and follow community preferences for expansion of the natural lands system. The municipal code will need to be revised in reference to these recommendations.

There is an increasing number of proposed residential development applications located within substandard service areas (Marshall Creek, True Property, Beacon Hill, etc.). The below contribution goals should apply to these developments and any other development proposals located in areas of substandard levels of service.

Table 13: Guidelines for Park System Expansion

DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTION GOALS OVER THE NEXT 15 YEARS			
Park type	Park acreage today / Existing Level of Service	Goal 2037	Total acreage needed
Regional	474 / 2.1	Meet regional needs through community parks	1.8 acres per 1,000 people for any new development*
Community Park	297 / 1.33	297 acres	
Neighborhood & Pocket Parks	274 / 1.23	15-20 acres	1.23 acres per 1,000 people for any new development*
Parkways	18 / 0.88	3 acres / 3 additional parkways	0.23 acres per 1,000 people for any new development*
Natural Lands	1,643 / 7	~100 acres would meet the current provision, but Spokane’s natural lands provision is behind comparable communities. Recommendation needs to be based on resources and habitat.	

*Cash in lieu or dedication

DESIGNWORKSHOP

www.designworkshop.com

Spokane Park Board

Briefing Paper

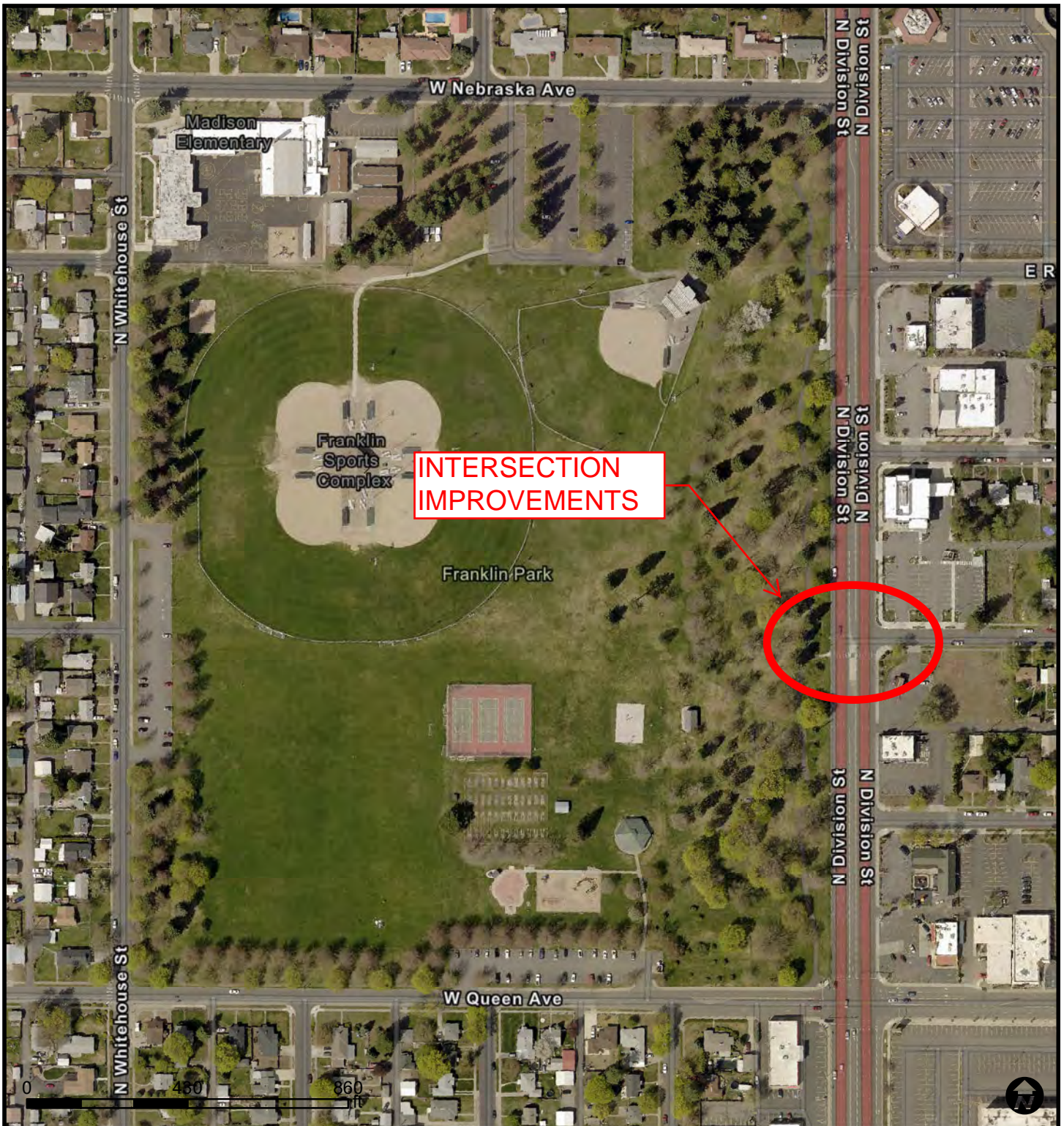


Committee	Land Committee		
Committee meeting date	June 1, 2022		
Requester	Nick Hamad	Phone number: 509-363-5452	
Type of agenda item	<input type="radio"/> Consent <input checked="" type="radio"/> Discussion <input type="radio"/> Information <input type="radio"/> Action		
Type of contract/agreement	<input checked="" type="radio"/> New <input type="radio"/> Renewal/extension <input type="radio"/> Amendment/change order <input type="radio"/> Other		
City Clerks file (OPR or policy #)			
Item title: (Use exact language noted on the agenda)	HAWK pedestrian signals at Franklin Park and Nevada Park. Discuss de minimis park impact & staff letter of support.		
Begin/end dates	Begins: 06/01/2022	Ends: 06/01/2022	<input type="checkbox"/> Open ended
Background/history: City of Spokane Engineering Services has obtained funding to improve pedestrian crosswalks across major arterials leading into (2) existing city parks, Nevada Park & Franklin Park. Nevada Park is located adjacent to N. Nevada St. and Franklin Park is located adjacent N. Division St. Crossing Improvements would include the installation of 'High Intensity Activated crossWalk' (HAWK) beacons. Installation of these beacons would impact & occupy a small area of park property in order to enhance pedestrian access to the parks and would not adversely affect the features, attributes, activities, or overall function of the parks. Therefore, City staff recommend the impact of the improvements is 'de minimis' to the park.			
Motion wording: Discuss 'de minimis' impact of proposed improvements on park properties & discuss staff letter of support.			
Approvals/signatures outside Parks: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No If so, who/what department, agency or company: Name: _____ Email address: _____ Phone: _____			
Distribution: Parks – Accounting Parks – Pamela Clarke Requester: Nick Hamad Grant Management Department/Name: _____ <div style="float: right; text-align: right;"> Dan Buller Al Vorderbrueggen </div>			
Fiscal impact: <input type="radio"/> Expenditure <input checked="" type="radio"/> Revenue Amount: _____ Budget code: _____ N/A N/A			
Vendor: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Existing vendor <input type="radio"/> New vendor Supporting documents: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Quotes/solicitation (RFP, RFQ, RFB) <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor is on the City's A&E Roster - City of Spokane <input type="checkbox"/> UBI: _____ Business license expiration date: _____ </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> W-9 (for new contractors/consultants/vendors) <input type="checkbox"/> ACH Forms (for new contractors/consultants/vendors) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Certificate (min. \$1 million in General Liability) </div> </div>			



EXISTING HAWK LIGHT @ MANITO PARK

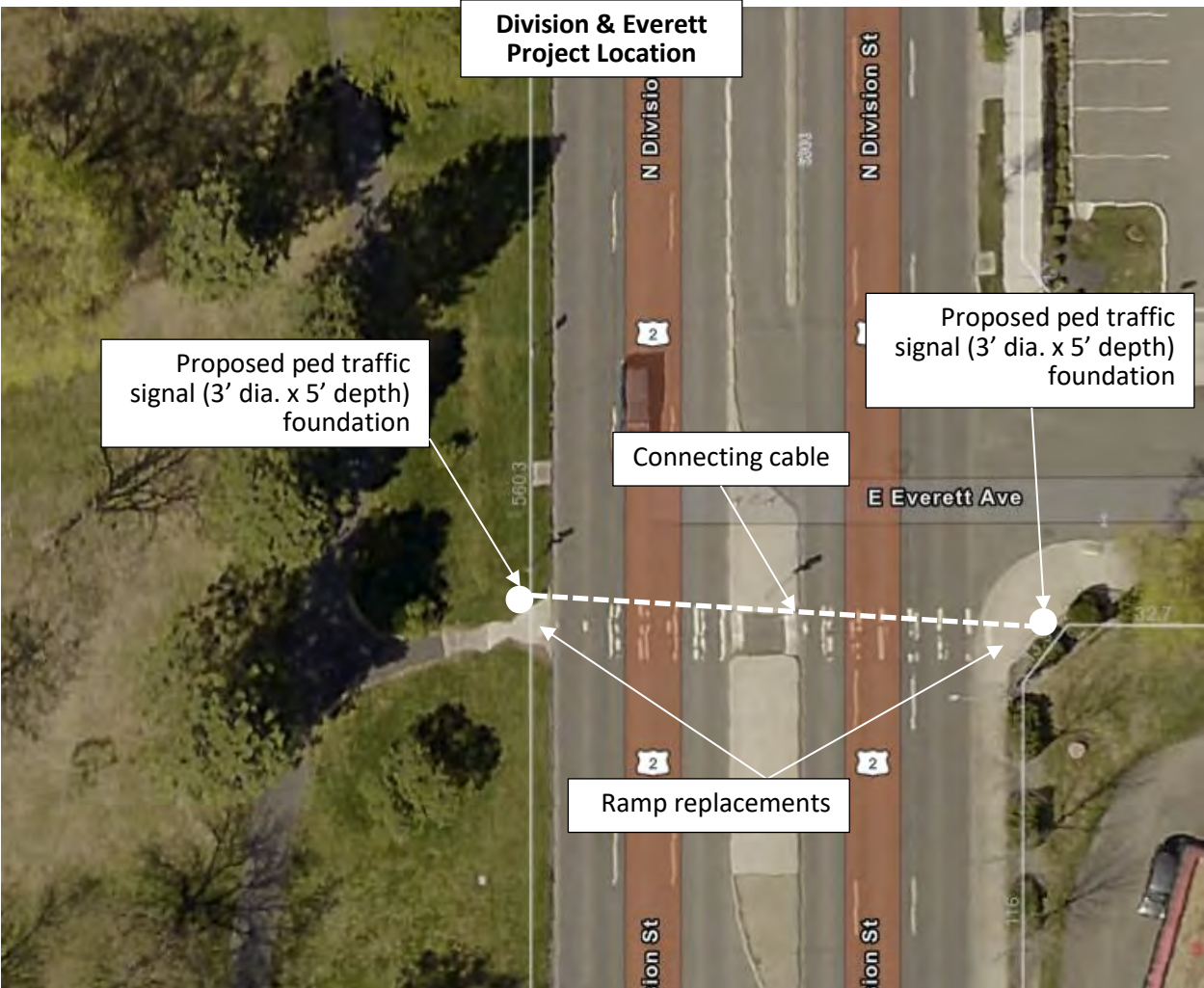
Franklin Park

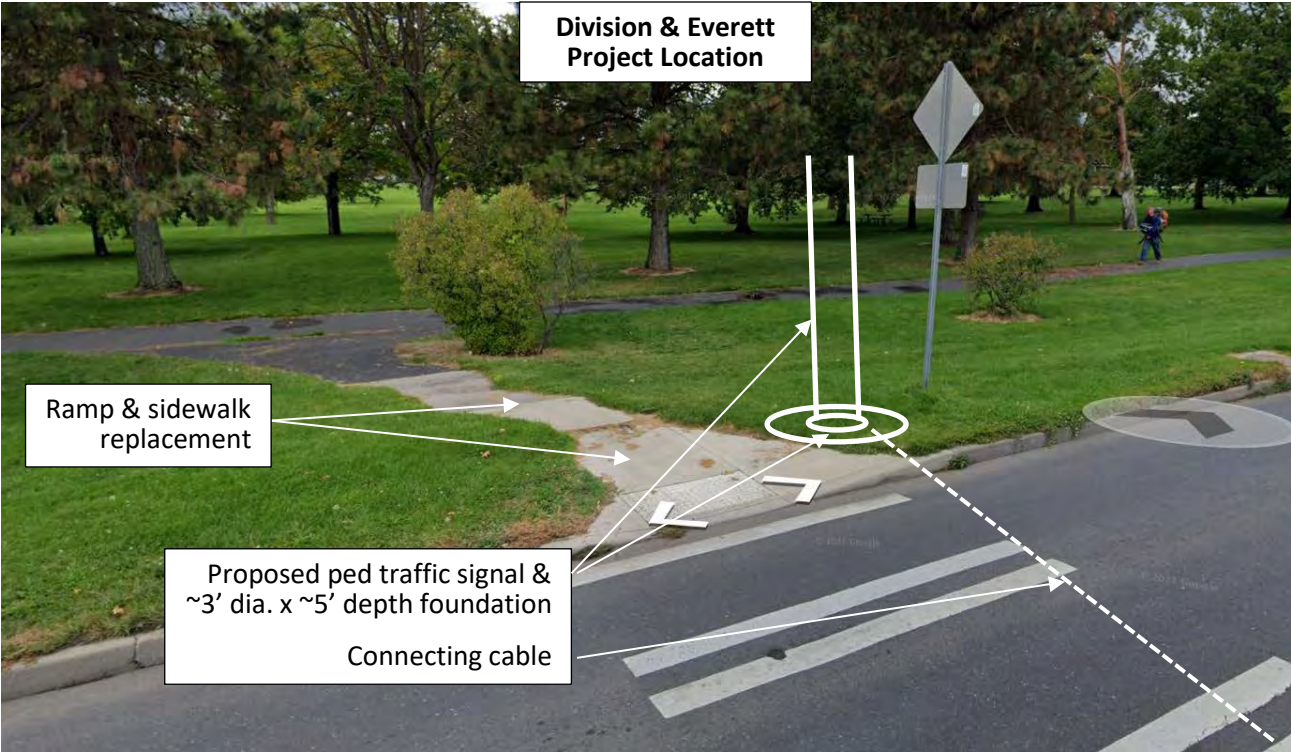


City of Spokane GIS

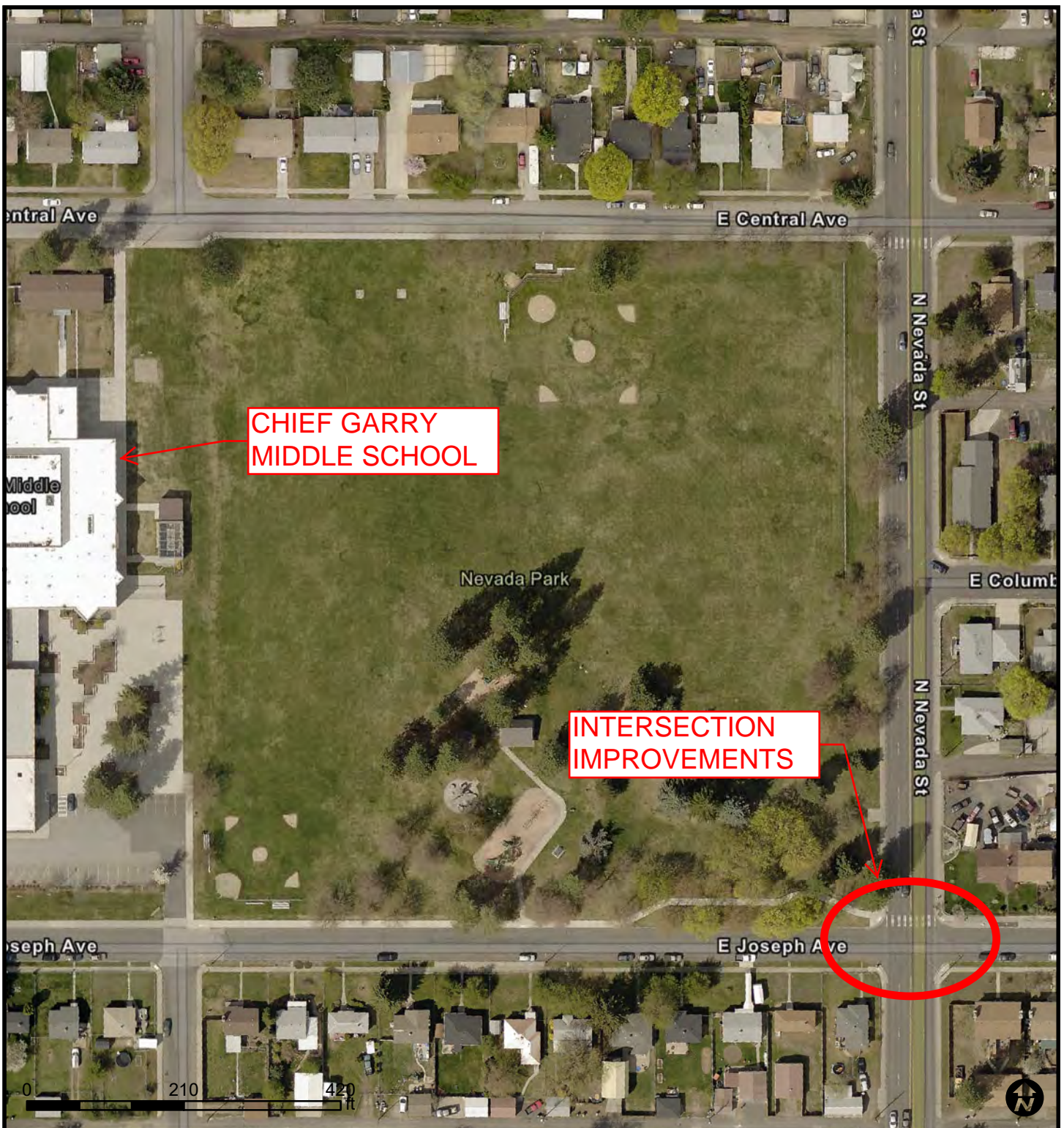


THIS IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT:
The information shown on this map is compiled from various sources and is subject to constant revision. Information shown on this map should not be used to determine the location of facilities in relationship to property lines, section lines, streets, etc.





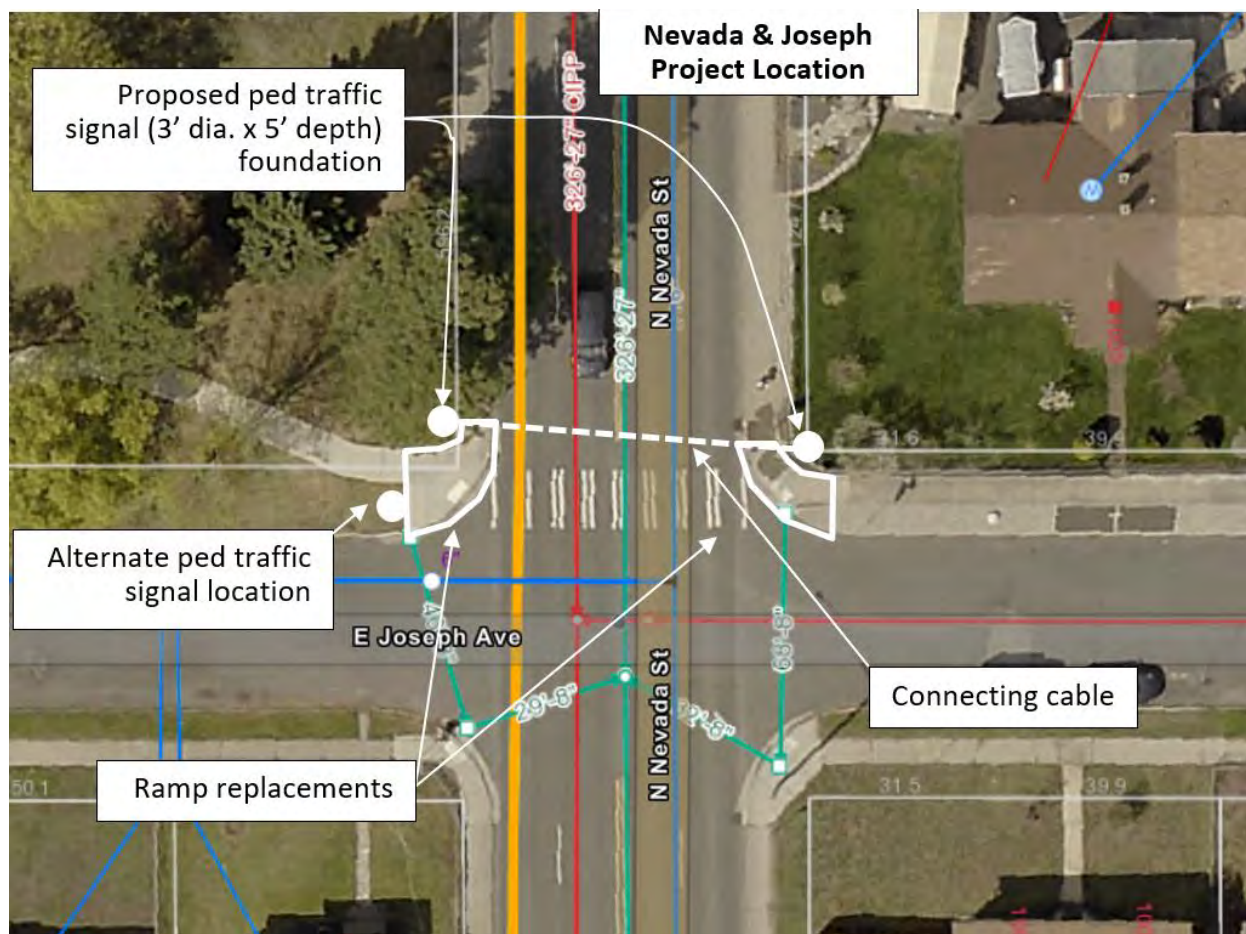
Nevada Park

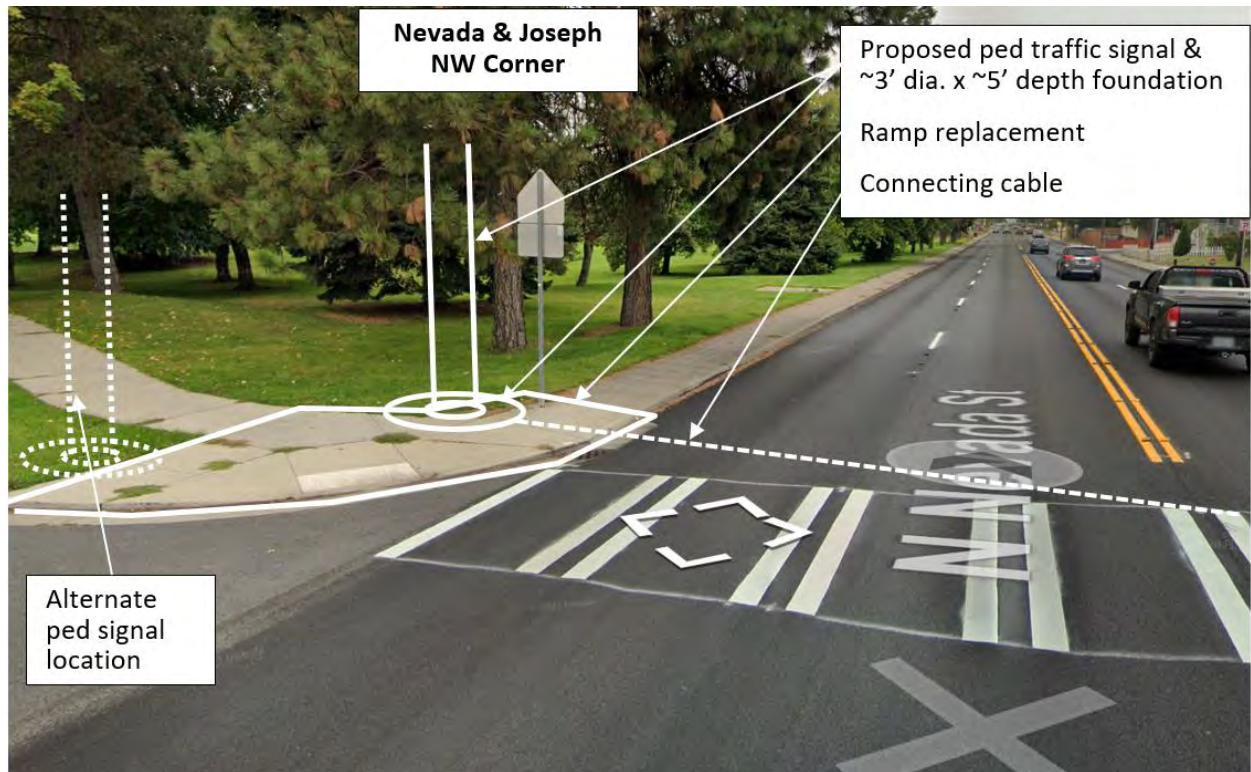


City of Spokane GIS



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Spokane Park Board

Briefing Paper



Committee	Land Committee
Committee meeting date	June 1, 2022
Requester	Nick Hamad Phone number: 509-363-5452
Type of agenda item	<input type="radio"/> Consent <input checked="" type="radio"/> Discussion <input type="radio"/> Information <input type="radio"/> Action
Type of contract/agreement	<input checked="" type="radio"/> New <input type="radio"/> Renewal/extension <input type="radio"/> Amendment/change order <input type="radio"/> Other
City Clerks file (OPR or policy #)	
Item title: (Use exact language noted on the agenda)	2244 N. Pettet Drive private sewer easement request / Downriver Park (~\$8/sf revenue)
Begin/end dates	Begins: 06/01/2022 Ends: 06/01/2022 <input type="checkbox"/> Open ended
Background/history: Spokane Parks staff has received a request from a private property owner for a sewer easement across public park property. The property owner desires to construct a residence on his property (2244 N. Pettet Dr.) and a sewer connection is required to receive a residential building permit within City limits. Although the private property is accessible from City Right-Of-Way, no city sewer is located within the right-of-way adjacent the owner's property. As a result, the property owner has requested permission for a sewer easement across public park property to install a private sewer line connection to the nearest right-of-way. The private property owner is willing to provide appropriate compensation for this permission. Prior to drafting a proposed easement agreement, park staff desires a discussion with the property owner and the park board land committee to determine if the park board is willing to consider granting such an easement.	
Motion wording: Discuss if the Park Board is willing to consider a future private sewer easement across Downriver Park in exchange for appropriate compensation. Discussion to occur prior to drafting any agreement.	
Approvals/signatures outside Parks: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No If so, who/what department, agency or company: Private Citizen / Property Owner Name: Tom Ehring Email address: Tomehring@yahoo.com Phone: 1.626.644.3192	
Distribution: Parks – Accounting Parks – Pamela Clarke Requester: Nick Hamad Grant Management Department/Name:	
Fiscal impact: <input type="radio"/> Expenditure <input checked="" type="radio"/> Revenue Amount: N/A Budget code: N/A	
Vendor: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Existing vendor <input type="radio"/> New vendor Supporting documents: <input type="checkbox"/> Quotes/solicitation (RFP, RFQ, RFB) <input type="checkbox"/> W-9 (for new contractors/consultants/vendors) <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor is on the City's A&E Roster - City of Spokane <input type="checkbox"/> ACH Forms (for new contractors/consultants/vendors) <input type="checkbox"/> UBI: Business license expiration date: <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Certificate (min. \$1 million in General Liability)	

Hamad, Nicholas

From: Tom Ehrling <tomehrling@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 2, 2022 10:35 AM
To: Hamad, Nicholas
Subject: Land Committee Request for Easement for Sewage connection

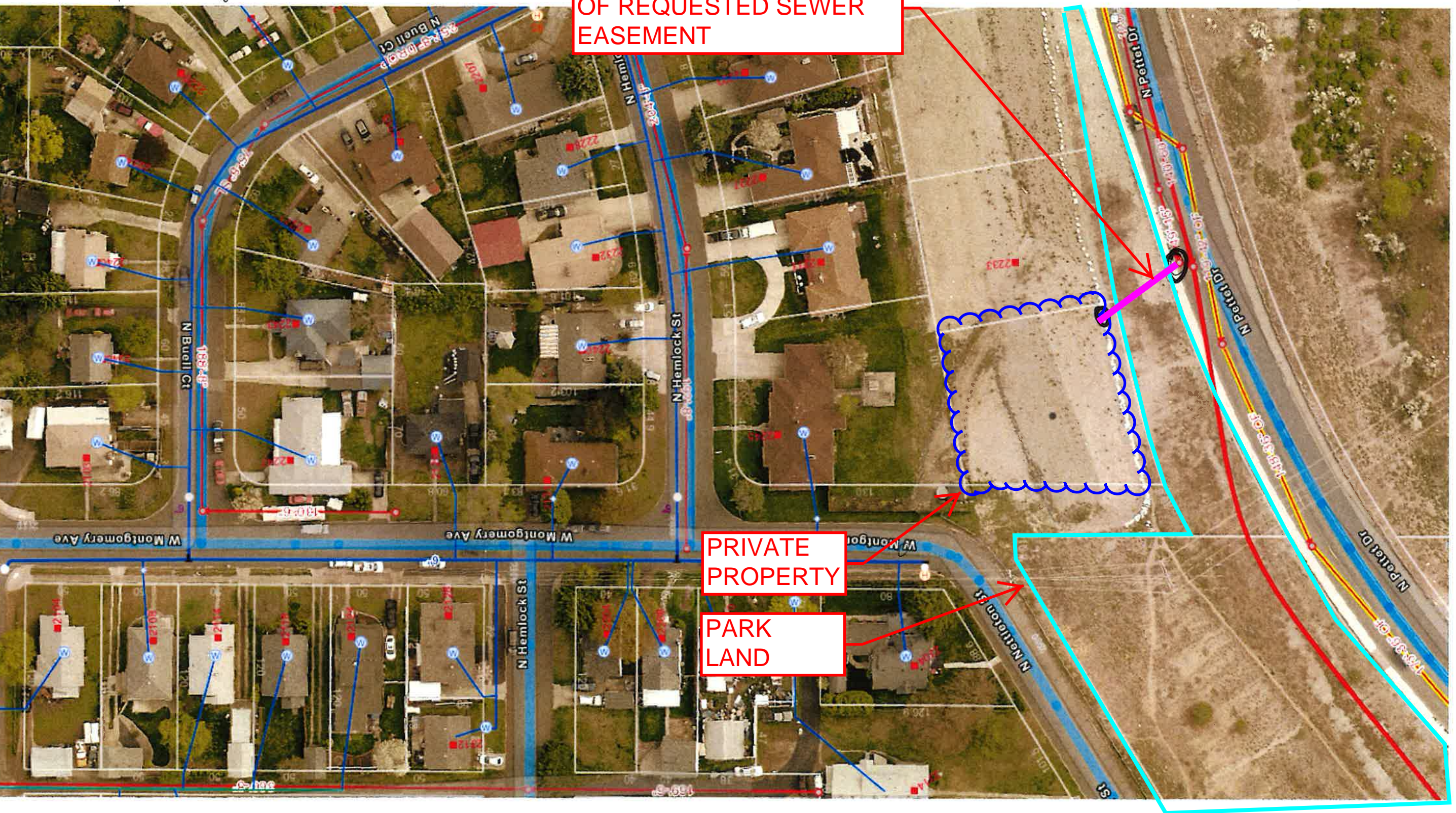
[CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Verify Sender]

Nick Hamad,

Request to be heard at the next Land Committee meeting on June 1, 2022.

1. Easement from my property at 2244 N. PETTET DR, Spokane WA 99205 to Sewer connection on Pettet Dr.
2. My preference is not to go through Park & Recreation Land, but due to locastion it would require sewage to go uphill and the city does allow septic tanks.

Thanks,
Tom Ehrling
6266443192



APPROXIMATE LOCATION
OF REQUESTED SEWER
EASEMENT

PRIVATE
PROPERTY

PARK
LAND

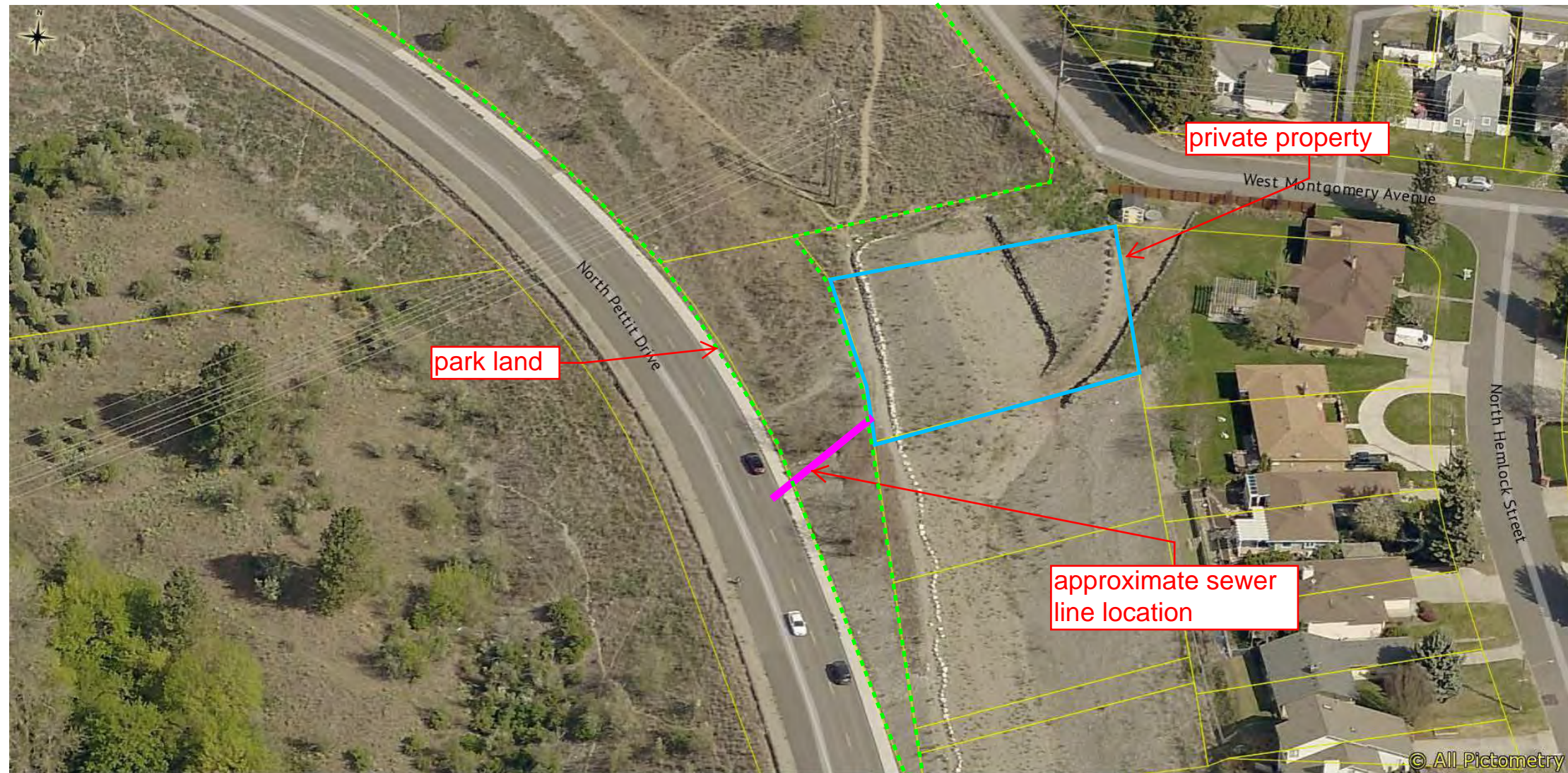
Water Tap
1 well
\$1,299.00
water meter
2,024.00
SFP
\$40 app

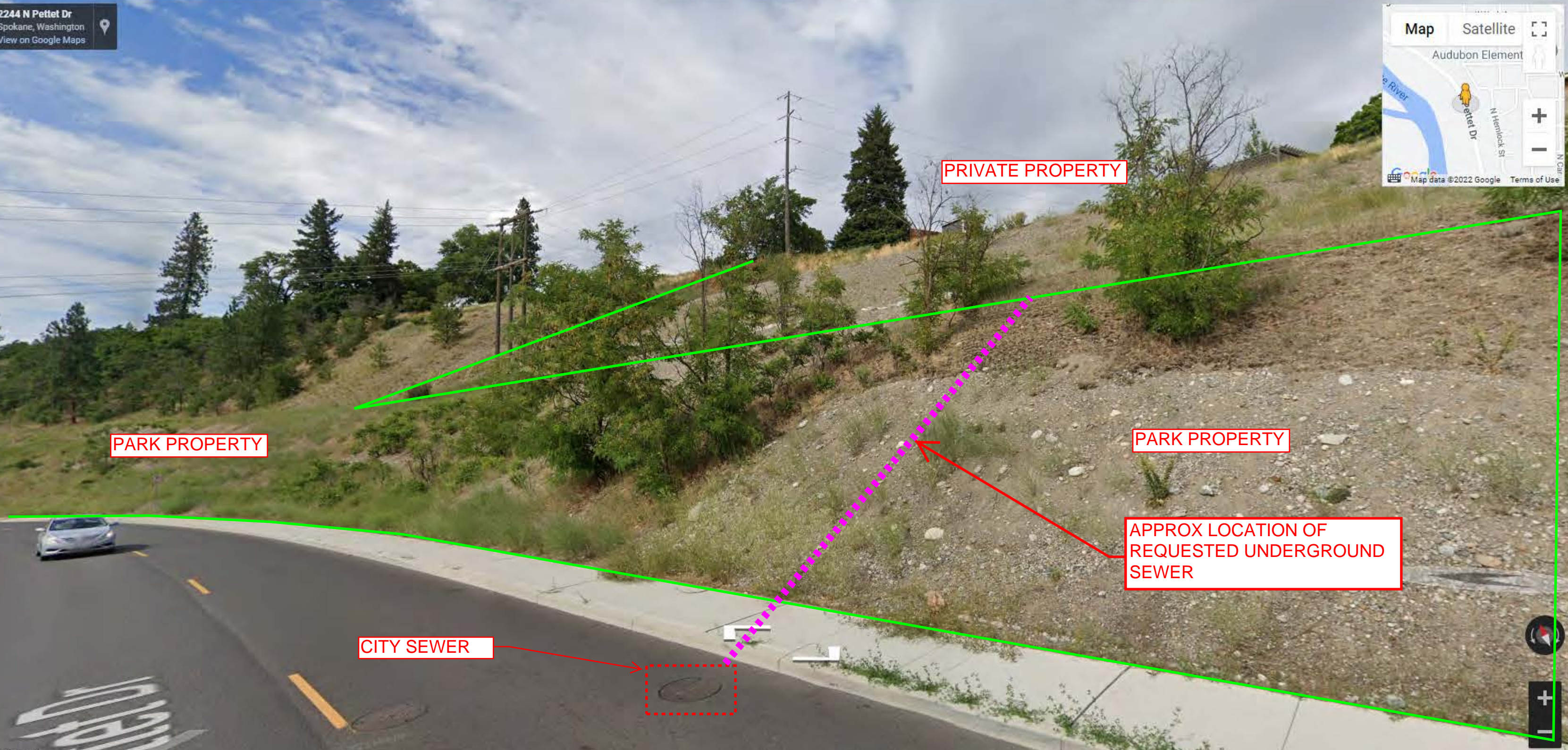
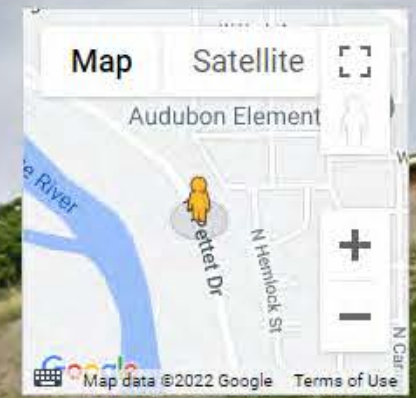
Sewer \$190 in water rates

5 sides 15 feet 20 Carve
ADU can be in Rear 25 feet
600 limit may 860

TAMMI

Aerial View





PARK PROPERTY

PRIVATE PROPERTY

PARK PROPERTY

APPROX LOCATION OF
REQUESTED UNDERGROUND
SEWER

CITY SEWER



Building a constituency for the Spokane River.
Driving impacts through individual stewardship.



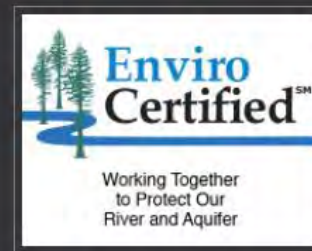
SPOKANE RIVER WATER TRAIL

Explore the Spokane River!



**SPOKANE KOOTENAI
WASTE & RECYCLE DIRECTORY**

Got waste? Put it in the right place.



ENVIROCERTIFIED

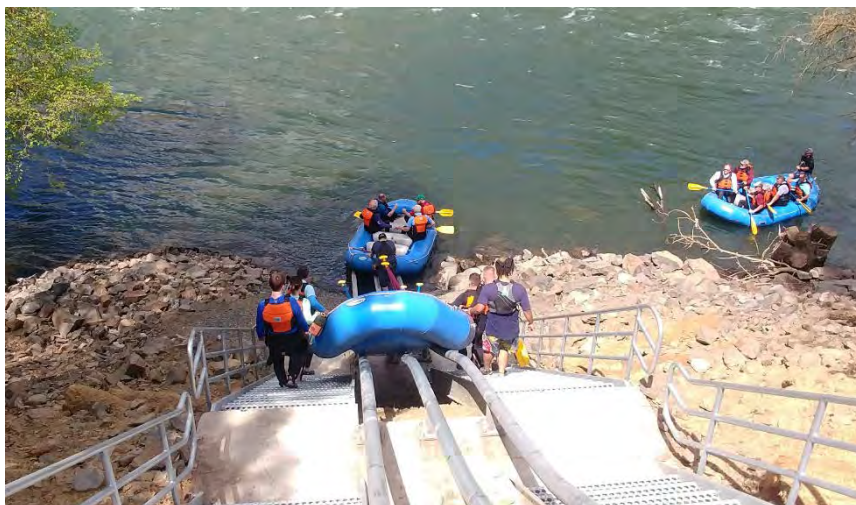
Apply for certification today!



STEWARDSHIP

Volunteer Opportunities

Redband Park Water Trail Access, 2018



Redband Park Plaza, 2019

**2022:
Redband Life
Cycle and
Historical
Significance
Interpretive
Signs with
Spokane Tribe**



Major Funders

Spokane River Forum

Department of Commerce	\$380,000
TC Energy	<u>\$ 80,000</u>
Subtotal	\$460,000

Spokane Conservation District

Initial Slide Engineering

City RCO

Parking, etc.

Spokane Indians Baseball & Extreme Team

Ballfield & Building Rehab

People's Park Water Trail Access, 2020



Spokane River Water Trail and Centennial Trail Wayfinding



People's Park, 2021



Redband Park, 2021

Additional Wayfinding & Interpretation



**TJ Meenach 2022-23
Wayfinding and
Stormwater Interpretive**



**Division Street
Bridge/Centennial Trail?**



Thank you! - Questions?

