



Special meeting of the Spokane Park Board Retreat

8:15 a.m. Friday, March 29, 2024
In-person at The Pavilion – Sky Room

Park Board Members

- X Bob Anderson – President
- X Gerry Sperling – Vice President
- X Garrett Jones – Secretary
- X Nick Sumner
- X Greta Gilman
- X Sally Lodato
Jennifer Ogden (absent/excused)
- X Barb Richey
Hannah Kitz (absent/excused)
- X Kevin Brownlee
- X Doug Kelley
- X Jonathan Bingle – City Council liaison
(arrived 8:30; left 11:00)

Parks Staff

- Jason Conley
- Fianna Dickson
- Rich Lentz
- Al Vorderbrueggen
- Jennifer Papich
- Jon Moog
- Carl Strong
- Mark Poirier
- Nick Hamad
- Katie Kosanke
- Steve Nittolo
- Sarah Deatrich

Guests

- Mike Piccolo
- Matt Santangelo
- Kelly Brown

MINUTES

1. **Roll Call:** Bob Anderson
The meeting was called to order at 8:21 a.m. See above for attendance.
2. **Public comment:**
 - A. None
3. **Special discussion**
 - A. Welcome and goals for the day – Bob Anderson
 - 1) Bob welcomed everyone and thanked them for their time today.
 - B. Recap of prior board topics, yet to be discussed – Bob Anderson
 - 1) The Board discussed the hybrid meetings. While the general feeling is that the Board members should be there in person, it was mentioned that the virtual option is appreciated in the event of schedule conflicts, logistical difficulties, or minor illness.
 - 2) There was discussion regarding Park Board roles and responsibilities vs. those of the Park staff.
 - 3) There was discussion around the responsibilities and purpose of Park Board sub-committees.
 - C. Urban Forestry / Green Area Maintenance – Al Vorderbrueggen / Katie Kosanke / Steve

Nittolo / Carl Strong

Al Vorderbrueggen, Director of Park Operations, started the conversation by introducing the topics and the respective staff member who will present them.

As background to the Green Area Maintenance portion of the presentation, Al explained that during the 1980's through 2005, due to budget constraints, Parks gave several properties to Public Works, specifically the Water Department, to maintain. Recently, there have been conversations around the Park Department contracting with Public Works to take some of the properties back. Carl Strong will present.

Katie Kosanke will present a Natural Resources / Natural Lands update.

There has been recent consternation between the golf courses and Urban Forestry revolving around golf course tree maintenance and the division of responsibilities between the Golf Division and Urban Forestry. Al praised Steve Nittolo, Urban Forester, for his work in bridging the gap with the Golf Division. Steve will present an update on golf course tree management.

Al gave recognition to Katie Kosanke for her diligent work on applying for, and winning, the Urban and Community Forestry grant which was awarded through the Inflation Reduction Act. Katie will present an update.

1) Green Area Maintenance – Carl Strong

- a. In 2016, AHBL, Inc. was commissioned to draft a Landscape Management Plan, to determine landscape asset inventory, service levels, and cost of assuming landscape maintenance back from Water Department. They estimated a cost of approximately \$600,000 and a need to hire additional full-time staff and seasonal/temporary staff. Two requests for proposals (RFP) were issued, one in 2017 and one in 2018. Both were too high, and Water Department continued to manage the properties.
- b. Since then, Parks and Public Works have entered partnerships for this purpose. The Water Wise Spokane program has benefited Parks Department through investment in water-saving projects in parks, an example of which is the replacement of antiquated irrigation systems in parks.
- c. Parks' water conservation projects since 2015 have included irrigation replacement and turf reduction across City parks and golf courses.
- d. In 2022-2023 Parks started a pilot program for which they hired a Labor Foreperson to shadow ground crew and make assessments. Affected departments held monthly meetings, and Parks is analyzing costs. Moving forward, Parks will enter a formal agreement with Public Works (MOU) wherein Public Works will provide additional details regarding accounting preferences, transfer of equipment/vehicles, transfer of staff, and timeline. Park Ops will meet with Water crew next week to discuss staffing. Additionally, the pilot program will continue through 2025, a communication plan will be developed, and annual meetings will be held to fine tune the program.

Council member Bingle stated that Council may be able to assist with funding for some of these projects.

Public Works is analyzing some properties to be turned back over to homeowners for maintenance.

Water, Streets, and Stormwater departments from Public Works departments are

funding this project through their operational budget. A capital budget will be formed in order to replace some areas.

Final draft of the MOU will go to Land Committee next week.

2) Natural Resources Natural Lands update – Katie Kosanke

- a. Natural Lands are undeveloped or minimally developed parks that provide the most publicly accessible park acres and account for about half of the total park system. They are generally maintained as native vegetation and landscapes that support wildlife habitat, scenic views, outdoor recreation, and nature-based education, as well as providing ecological function and environmental protection to sensitive landscapes and habitats. Among examples of natural lands are Indian Canyon, Camp Sekani, and Minnehaha.
- b. Partnerships for land management include:
 - i. SFD with WA State Dept. of Natural Resources and WA State Dept. of Ecology / WA Conservation Corps, assisting with forest health, thinning, fuel reduction crews, and equipment. This is funded by WDNR at no cost to the City. The disbursement of an \$1.5M federal grant is expected this year to support continued work.
 - ii. Spokane Conservation District, providing workforce training, and native landscape restoration on Parks property. This is grant funded by IRA – USDA Forest Service.
 - iii. Washington Native Plant Society, providing a Native Plant Stewardship training program with forest restoration projects in City parks. This is grant funded by WDNR Community Forestry Assistance.
- c. To date, forest health and wildfire risk reduction has been performed on 407 acres of City park property.
- d. Enhancements of natural lands to restore ecologies and build resilience include:
 - i. Restoration of wildfire burn areas including Camp Sekani, Palisades, and Finch Arboretum.
 - ii. Forest restoration with WA Native Plant Society, grant funded by WDNR Community Forestry Assistance.
 - iii. Goat grazing vegetation management funded by Conservation Futures fund.
 - iv. Forest health fuels reduction
- e. Within the Healthy Parks, Healthy Neighborhoods Levy Initiative, there is outline for Natural Lands Management Plan and acquisition fund. 93% of Spokane residents desire to protect wildlife habitat, conserve native plants, sensitive landscape and forests, and preserve areas with beautiful or unique natural habitat. There is also outline for trailhead and trail improvements including hiring of additional staff. Trailheads and trails were identified by citizens in the 2022 Park and Natural Lands Master Plan as a top tier community desire.

3) Golf Course Tree Management update – Steve Nittolo

- a. Although the golf courses are on Parks owned land, Golf is responsible for tree maintenance on courses. Urban Forestry (UF) has periodically assisted with pruning and removal of trees on the courses. Pruning and removals by contractors are approved by UF and any structural pruning or removals of public trees must be performed by an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist or tree worker. Over many years, a backlog of deferred maintenance has accumulated due to the number of Certified Arborist labor required to maintain the number of trees on courses.
- b. Until recently, UF has invoiced Golf for work done on golf courses. In January 2022,

- Golf began contributing funding for 20% of an UF position. UF staff helps with creating and updating tree management plans, pruning, and removals, and contributed work on over 200 trees to address highest priority pruning and removals in 2022 and 2023. UF is also working with Golf so that staff who are interested, and receive training, can perform minor pruning. Golf has also contracted some tree work to implement plans to identify locations for plantings, trees for removal, and trees in need of pruning. Plans also address issues with play on the courses, safety, turf health, and tree health.
- c. UF has worked with Golf Manager, Mark Poirier, and Golf Superintendents to devise management plans for courses.
- i. Downriver:
 - Planting plan – replacement of trees killed by beetles with Larch trees which are beetle resistant
 - Tree monitoring and removal of dead trees in partnership with DNR crew and Corrections work crews
 - ii. Qualchan:
 - Planting plan – mostly in NE fairways and along Highway 195
 - Shoreline policies – defining tree maintenance in buffer zone
 - Permit for planting in WSDOT right-of-way has been obtained
 - Fuels reduction work on slope above the course by SFD
 - iii. Indian Canyon:
 - Tree management plan for existing trees causing turf and play issues
 - Fuels reduction work in natural areas surrounding course
 - iv. Esmeralda:
 - Tree management plan and tree planting plan for canopy raising causing turf and play issues and planting along Freya St. and Rich Ave.

Jonathan Bingle inquired whether a temporary code change would be helpful to catch up with some of the deferred maintenance of trees on courses. Garrett feels that the new collaboration between Golf and UF will be sufficient.

- 4) Design standards and planting details update – Katie Kosanke
- a. The primary responsibility of UF is caring for park trees. By ordinance, under the Parks Director, UF is also responsible for permitting tree work, reviewing development plans, and new construction inspections.
 - i. Urban Forestry is in partnership with Development Services who pays a percentage of the UF Specialist's wages as most of the Specialist's time is dedicated to development.
 - ii. In stakeholder meetings, four priority actions were recommended:
 - Revision of planting detail to form separate details for various planting scenarios: There have been two revisions made with stakeholders, staff, and UF Committee input. The latest revision will be presented to UF Committees in April.
 - Review of minimum separation distances: The review per design standards found overly restrictive planting distances. Design standards will be updated by Engineering Services and an MOU with Utilities will be drafted.
 - Development Services to inspect interior landscapes: As of last year, with UF provided training, Development Service has taken over inspections. UF consults and/or spot checks as requested.
 - Fee in lieu of street tree: Due to changes to design standards, there are reduced occurrences of fees.

Additionally, there is now allowance for flexibility of the issuance of Certificates of Occupancy with a valid tree permit.

- 5) Inflation Reduction Act – Urban and Community Forestry Grant update – Katie Kosanke
- a. The federal government committed over \$1B in community and urban forestry nationwide. We submitted our application, Tree Equity Spokane, in June 2023. It proposed to provide urgent needed maintenance and education programs for street trees, park trees, and school property trees. All tree planting and maintenance work must be within the boundaries of the City of Spokane on City properties. The grant requires all work to be performed in disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution and underinvestment, as identified on a federal map. Letters of support were written by Spokane Mayor/Administration, various City Council members, Park Board, and more.
 - b. In September 2023, City of Spokane was awarded \$6M and was one of only 15 awards within WA state. The grant period is five years and requires \$0 City match. \$6M was also awarded to Spokane County Conservation District which will also benefit the City of Spokane for tree planting and minor maintenance support. SCCD will provide the all the trees, which is roughly \$100K/year.
 - c. The grant will provide for pruning of 4,979 trees, removal of 1,115 trees, and planting of 2,500 street trees and 5,000 seedlings.
 - d. UF will coordinate with SCCD to determine timing, species, etc., and contract for education/outreach. Removals will be priority for year one, with pruning focus in subsequent years.

There was some conversation around the park levy initiative, moved up to accommodate a schedule conflict for Council Member Bingle. The full Levy Outreach update presentation remains in order of the posted agenda.

Council Member Bingle encouraged the Board to be diligent and present in keeping Council and City Administration aware of their stance on the possible deferment of the park levy initiative on the August ballot. The deadline for Council approval for the August ballot is May 3.

There are concerns over the chance of success when competing with a Public Safety bond on the same ballot. The economy was also a concern.

- D. City Charter and SMC overview – Mike Piccolo
- 1) City Attorney, Mike Piccolo, provided an overview of the [City of Spokane Charter](#) and the [Spokane Municipal Code](#) where they pertain to Parks and the Park Board.
- E. Partnership Agreement Committee update – Al Vorderbrueggen / Nick Hamad / Greta Gilman
- 1) The purpose of the update is to establish a policy to evaluate proposal for alternative uses on park land and ensure quantifiable net improvement to the park system.
 - 2) The goals of the policy are 1) to protect and enhance public park lands and uses, 2) to standardize process and criteria for evaluating proposed alternative uses on park lands, 3) to gather proposal information for Park Board and staff prior to requesting time on Park Board Committee, and 4) to continue to allow 'case-by-case' evaluation of proposals.
 - 3) Staff found an existing policy from April 1999 which they will work on amending.
 - 4) The policy will outline uses which may be accepted or prohibited, ie. danger to the

public. Staff are developing application/intake forms for alternative use, which will be used to gather proposal information and considered on a case-by-case basis. Proposals will be reviewed by Park Board Land Committee prior to drafting of agreements, and subsequent agreements will include language with respect to net benefit and how it will be measured.

- 5) Policy drafting will occur through early Summer 2024, followed by review and revision in Summer 2024 and policy adoption in late Summer/Fall 2024.

F. [Levy update](#) – Fianna Dickson / Nick Hamad

- 1) Fianna and Nick gave a review of the Information-only Educational Outreach Plan given to the Park Board at the February meeting.
- 2) Phase I continues through April with Phase II from May – August.
- 3) A calendar of events and activations has been shared in the Parks shared drive. Examples include presentations at neighborhood council meetings, community groups and business organizations; booths at community festivals and events; an online webinar; and Coffee & Chats. Fianna passed around a volunteer sign-up sheet for tablins at Expo+50 events.
- 4) Phase II digital outreach includes an updated website, social media, blogs, videos, e-newsletters, TV screens at Parks facilities, and the RFP electronic billboard.
- 5) Examples of collateral and mail outreach include cut sheets, activity guide ads, utility bill inserts, postcards, and more.
- 6) Phase II earned media and advertising include pitched news stories, partner channels (ex: SPS), small ad buys, and City Cable 5.
- 7) There are many volunteer opportunities available both in City-led outreach and PAC activities without the use of City resources. The Marketing team is developing a Volunteer Toolkit.

Of all the park related bond and levy measures in the state of Washington from November 2023 and February 2024, 13 of 18 passed. Four of the five that did not pass were aquatics related.

One of the purposes of the Development & Volunteer Committee (DVC) is to unite neighborhood councils and Park Friends groups. The neighborhoods are actively campaigning for the levy as it would provide positive benefits to their areas.

Bob Anderson suggested drafting a resolution to take to the Board at the April meeting, to reaffirm the Board's stance on having the levy on the August ballot. Jason Conley suggested the resolution be read aloud in its entirety at the Board meeting, and if the motion is seconded, each Park Board member provide their individual reason they support keeping the levy on the August ballot.

If the levy is moved back, there will be discussions and Park Board will provide guidance concerning cuts.

G. [Department Priorities/Goals/Highlights](#) (moved up in order while waiting for Expo+50 presenters to arrive) – Garrett Jones

Garrett gave an outline on Park projections in the absence of levy dollars. At the April Finance Committee meeting, Rich Lentz will present a five-year projection of Parks operating fund with the general fund transfer. In 2025, no increase in Parks' 8% of the general fund is projected. Assuming this, when Rich brings his projections with added costs for services, wages, etc., we see a deficit developing. In 2026 and beyond, the deficit

is projected to increase to approximately \$3M in 2028.

Capital is a major priority when facing these challenges, i.e.: decisions of whether to focus on new projects or replacing existing equipment. Other areas of focus include Park Operations (closing restrooms, deferred maintenance, etc.), Recreation (which programs generate revenue), and Community Centers. Garrett asked that the Board begin considering what their priorities are, moving forward. Discussion and suggestions of ways to cut spending followed.

H. [Expo+50 update](#) – Matt Santangelo / Kelly Brown / Jon Moog

- 1) The 50th anniversary of Expo '74 will celebrate the legacy of creativity, community, and environmental stewardship that drives Spokane. Over 100 community events will highlight five thematic pillars: 1) Environmental Stewardship, 2) Tribal Culture, 3) Legacy of the World's Fair, 4) Arts and Culture, 5) Recreation and Sport. The celebration will take place May 4, 2024 – July 7, 2024. The attached presentation lists some of the events and activations to take place.
- 2) One may donate in support of the celebration by joining 'Club 74'. Members will receive a commemorative coin and be the first to know about special events. They will also receive discounts at participating local restaurants and retailers, and pay \$0 cover charge at the Stepwell which will be transformed into a Speakeasy from May 3 through May 19.
- 3) Go to www.expo50spokane.com to view the event calendar, sign up for the newsletter, and/or join Club '74.

I. Closing thoughts – Bob Anderson

Bob spoke of his hope that Expo+50 will bring plans for more river access in Spokane. This will be discussed in future meetings.

J. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Garrett Jones

Minutes approved by: Garrett Jones, Director of Parks and Recreation



Park Board Retreat

March 29, 2024





Green Area Maintenance

City of Spokane Public Works | Parks & Recreation

Carl Strong, presenter



Research & Studies

- 2016 AHBL “Landscape Management Plan” to determine landscape asset inventory, service levels, and cost of assuming landscaping maintenance.
 - ~\$600,000 /500 acres (2015 base)
 - Additional FTE staff + seasonal needed



UPDATED FINAL DRAFT - 3.28.16

CITY OF SPOKANE PARKS AND RECREATION
Landscape Management Plan

March 2016



 Prepared by AHBL Spokane
509.252.5019 | www.ahbl.com

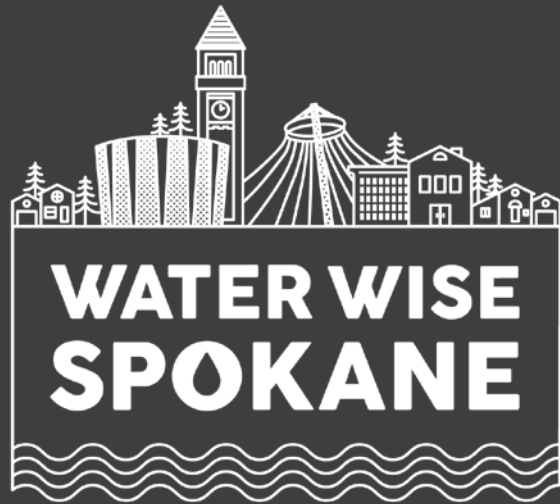
Bids from Private Sector

- 2 RFPs on this matter:
 - 2017
 - 2018
- Both were too expensive
- Left Water to manage



Parks & Public Works Partnership

- PW support of projects that protect capacity in Water System
- Annual \$250,000 investment in water-saving projects in City Parks





Parks' Water Conservation Projects Overview

Golf Courses

- Indian Canyon- Completed June 2019
 - 2019: 30.5% Water Savings - **16.83 million gallons**
 - 2020: 35% Savings - **19.2 million gallons**
- Esmerelda- Completed June 2020
 - 2020: 26% Water Savings - **16.5 million gallons**
- Downriver (active fall 2021)
 - 30% reduction goal

Manito Park Irrigation and Turf Reduction- Completed Fall 2020

- 4 acres new irrigation system eliminating overspray and daytime watering on Grand Blvd
- 2 acres converted to SpokaneScape- showcasing Water Wise landscaping in an iconic park

Japanese Garden Pond Modification- Completed July 2021

- Installed recirculation equipment and filtration system
- **17 million gallons** in potable water savings and wastewater treatment

Parks Water Conservation Projects 2015 to current

- Franklin Park Irrigation **2015**, Liberty Park **2023**, Coeur d'Alene Park **2024**
- Cannon Hill (**future**)

Irrigation Design Standards for City Projects- In Process

- Establish consistent practices for irrigation installation methods and reduce irrigation water waste due to inconsistent installation methods and equipment.

Future Green Area Maintenance

Current Progress

- 2022-23 Pilot- Parks hired Labor Foreman to shadow Ground Crew and make assessments.
- Ongoing monthly meetings with all affected departments
- Current costs are being analyzed by Parks.
- Pilot would include all areas except downtown business district



Next Steps

- Public Works will provide additional details on:
 - Accounting preferences
 - Equipment/Vehicles to transfer
 - Staff to transfer
 - Timeline
- Formal agreement (MOU) between departments.
- Communication plan development
- Continue Pilot program through 2025
- Annual meetings to fine tune program.



Natural Resources Natural Lands Update

Katie Kosanke (for Angel Spell)



Function & Purpose

- Natural Lands are undeveloped, or minimally developed, parks that provide the most publicly accessible park acres and account for about half of the total park system.
- Generally maintained as native vegetation and landscapes that support wildlife habitat, scenic views, outdoor recreation, and nature-based education.
- Provide ecological function and environmental protection to sensitive landscapes and habitats such as steep slopes, riparian areas, unstable soils, ponderosa pine forests, wetlands and shorelines.
- Examples: Indian Canyon, Palisades, Wyakin, Camp Sekani, Hamblen, Hangman, High Drive, Underhill, High Bridge, Drumheller Springs, Minnehaha, Downriver, Austin Ravin, Herbert M. Hamblen, Three Islands, Champion, Romine, Lincoln, Three Islands, and more.

Partnerships for Land Management

- **Spokane Fire Department with WNDR and WADOE/WCC.** Forest health, thinning, fuels reduction crews and equipment working on Parks properties at no cost to the City. Funded by WDNR. Disbursement of \$1.5M federal grant expected this year to support continued work.
- **Spokane Conservation District.** Workforce training and native landscape restoration on Parks properties. Grant funded by IRA – USDA Forest Service.
- **Washington Native Plant Society.** Native Plant Stewardship Training program with forest restoration projects in city parks. Grant funded by WDNR Community Forestry Assistance.



Robbing Future Fires of Fuel
Vegetation management slows wildfires.



Forest Health & Wildfire Risk Reduction

Forest Health & Wildfire Risk Reduction

- Indian Canyon Park & Golf Course – 145 acres
- Minnehaha Park & Esmeralda GC – 54 acres
- Romine Conservation Area – 25 acres
- Wyakin Park – 25 acres
- Palisades Park – 56 acres
- Austin Ravine – 17 acres
- Hangman Park – 85 acres

407 acres!

Enhance Natural Lands to Restore Ecologies and Build Resilience

- Restoration of wildfire burn areas: Camp Sekani, Palisades, and Finch Arboretum.
- Forest restoration sites with WNPS: Fearn Conservation Area at Riverfront Park, Polly Judd Park, Underhill Park, and more to be named. Grant funded by WDNR Community Forestry Assistance.
- Goat-grazing vegetation management: Minnehaha, Hangman, High Drive, Meadowglen, and Palisades. Funded by Conservation Futures Fund.
- Forest health fuels reduction: Minnehaha/Esmeralda, Indian Canyon, Hangman, Wyakin, and Palisades.



Forest Restoration after Wildfire



Native Forest Restoration



Goat-grazing Vegetation Management



Forest Health & Wildfire Risk Reduction



Healthy Parks, Healthy Neighborhoods Levy Initiative

- Natural Lands Management Plan & Acquisition Fund
- 93% of Spokane residents desire to protect wildlife habitat, conserve native plants, sensitive landscape and forests and preserve areas with beautiful or unique natural habitat.
- Trailhead and Trail Improvements
- Hire additional staff dedicated to maintenance of park natural lands. Add approximately (2) FTE, including (1) program specialist / trails coordinator, and (1) caretaker/laborer.
- Trailheads' & 'Trails' were identified by citizens during the 2022 park and natural lands master plan as a top tier community desire.



Trailhead and Trail Improvements



Trailhead and Trail Improvements





Questions?

Golf Course Tree Management Update

Steve Nittolo



Update Overview

- Background
- Partnership with Golf
- Tasks
 - Tree Management Plans
 - Tree Planting Plans
 - Pruning for Clearance
 - Pest Monitoring and Management

Background

- Although the golf courses are on Parks owned land, Golf is responsible for tree maintenance on the courses.
- Urban Forestry (UF) has assisted periodically with pruning and removal of trees. Pruning and removals by contractors are approved by UF, as specified in the City of Spokane Municipal Code covering public trees.
- Any structural pruning or removals of public trees must be performed by an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist or Tree Worker.
- Over many years, a backlog of deferred maintenance has accumulated due to the amount of Certified Arborist labor required to maintain the number of trees on the courses.



Urban Forestry/Golf Partnership

- Until recently, Urban Forestry has invoiced Golf for work done on golf courses.
- Starting January 2022 Golf has contributed funding for 20% of an Urban Forestry position.
- UF staff helps with creating and updating tree management plans, pruning, and removals.
- UF contributed work on over 200 trees to address highest priority pruning and removals in 2022 and 2023.



Urban Forestry/Golf Partnership

- UF staff is working with Golf so that staff who have received training, and are interested, are able to perform minor pruning.
- Golf has also contracted some tree work to implement plans.
- Plans include identifying locations for plantings, trees for removal, and trees in need of pruning.
- Plans address issues with Play on the course, Safety, Turf Health, and Tree Health.



Turf issues

Tree Health



Update for Courses

- **Downriver**

- Management Plan for existing trees
- Planting Plan – mostly replacements for beetle killed trees
- Tree Monitoring, removals of dead trees (in-house in partnership with work crews for clean up)

- **Qualchan**

- Tree Planting Plan – mostly in the northeast fairways and along State Highway 195
- Shoreline Policies – working to define tree maintenance in buffer zone
- Permit for planting in WSDOT right-of-way obtained
- Fuels reduction work on slope above course



TreeWorks Map

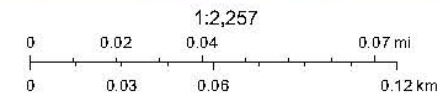


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TreeWorks_Data

- removal site
- stump
- tree

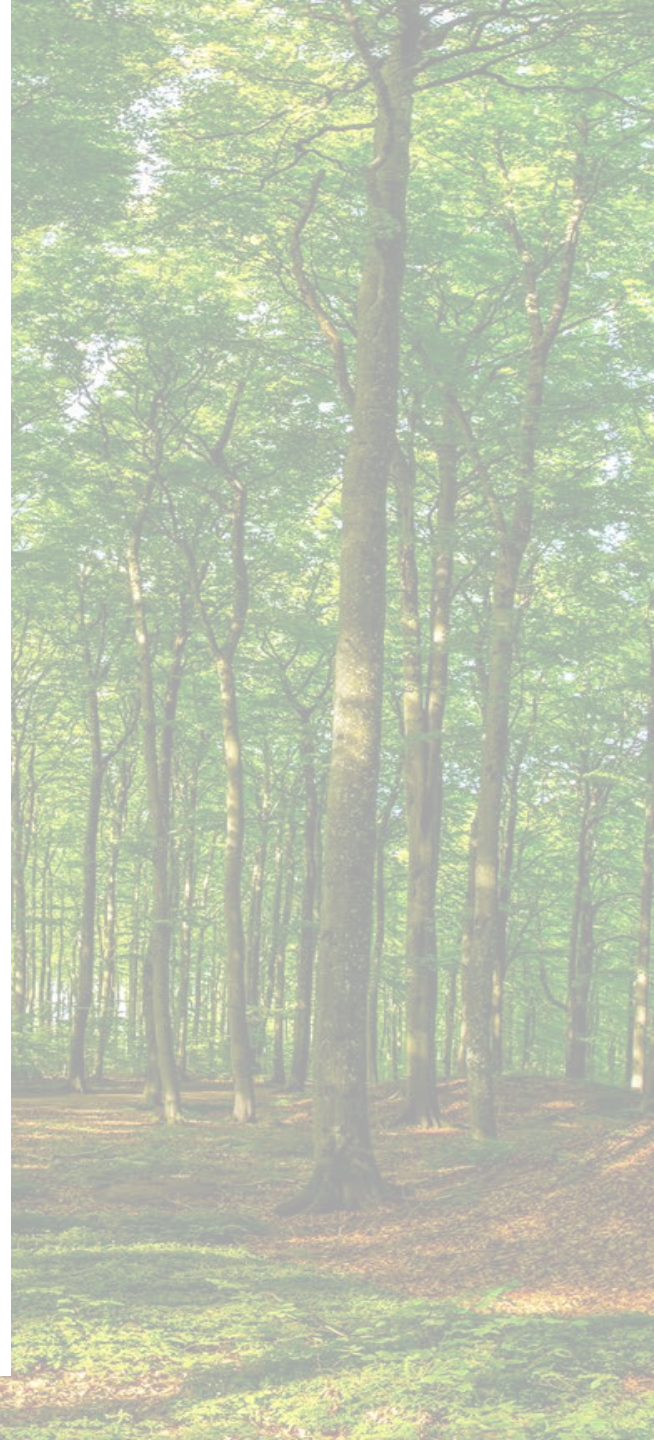
Sheet 6



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Qualchan 4 tee, 4 green, 5tee, 5 green, 6 green, 7 green, 3 green, 8 tee



Update for Courses

▶ Indian Canyon

- Tree management plan for existing trees
 - Turf and play issues
- Fuels Reduction work mostly in natural areas surrounding course

▶ Esmeralda

- Tree management plan and tree planting plan
 - Turf and play issues- canopy raising
 - Planting sites along Freya on west and Rich on north
- ▶ Fuels Reduction work on surrounding areas

17 tee, 16 green, 14 green, 15 tee, 11 tee

TreeWorks Map

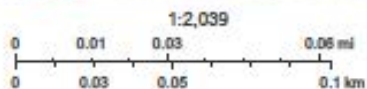


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TreeWorks_Data

- planting site
- removal site
- stump
- tree

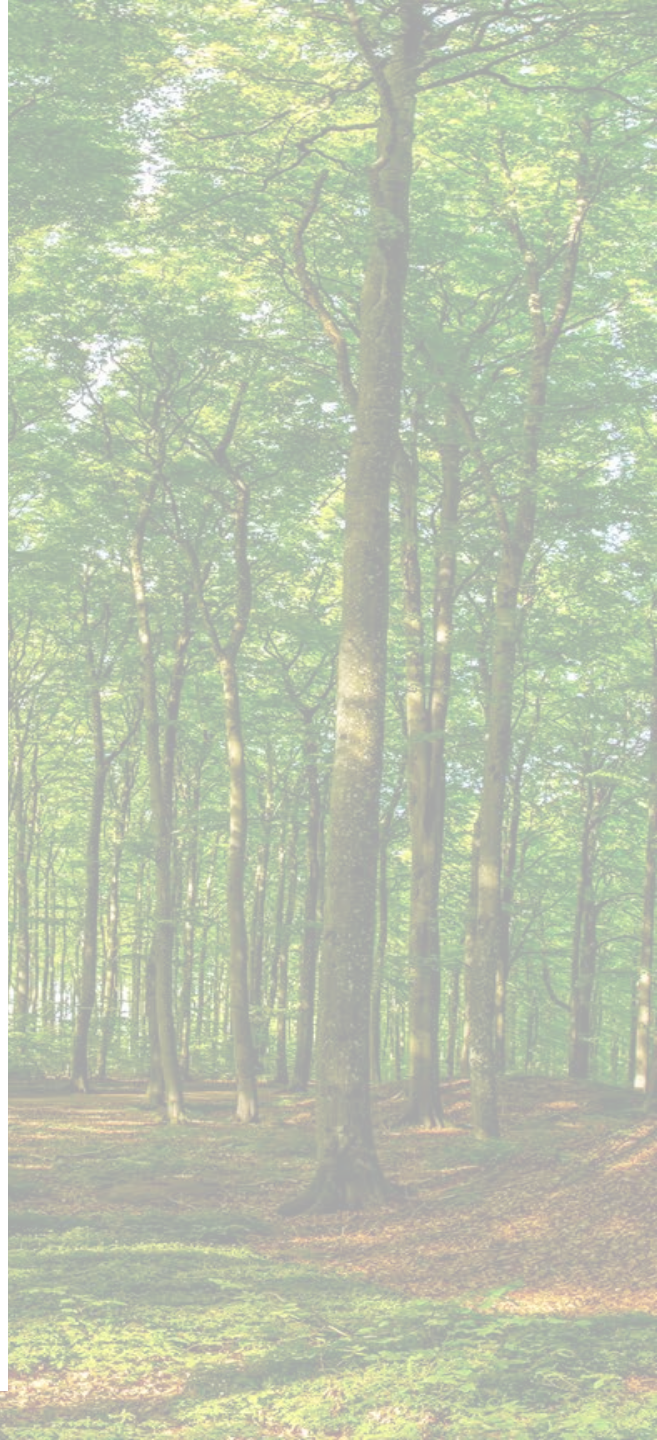
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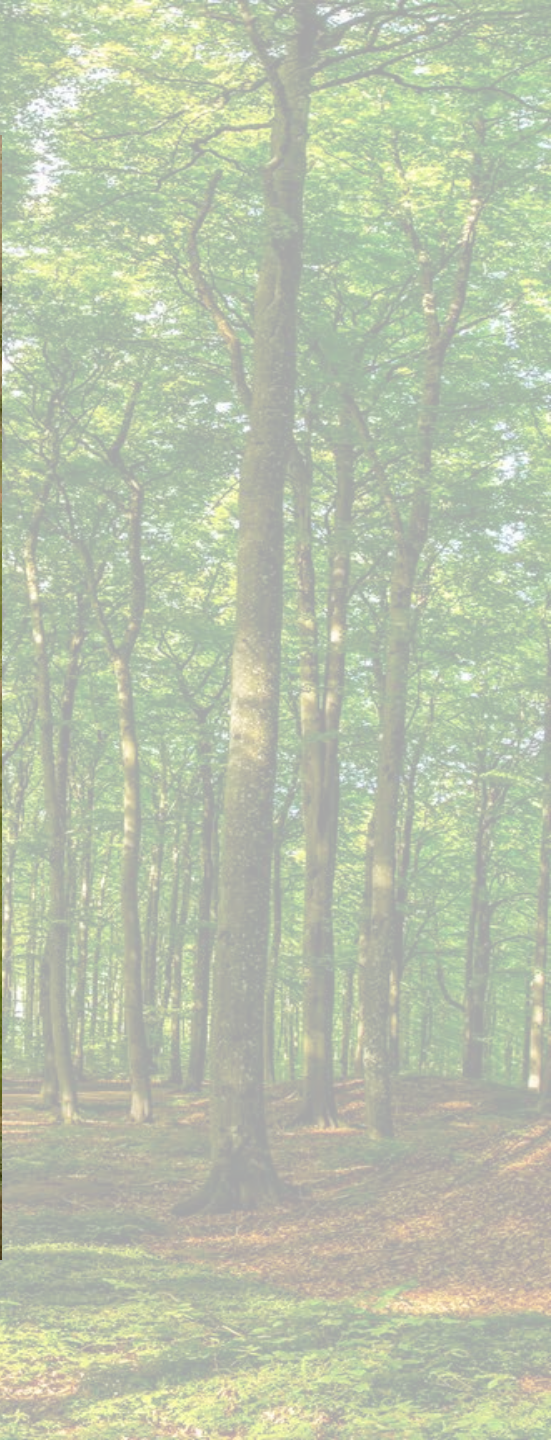


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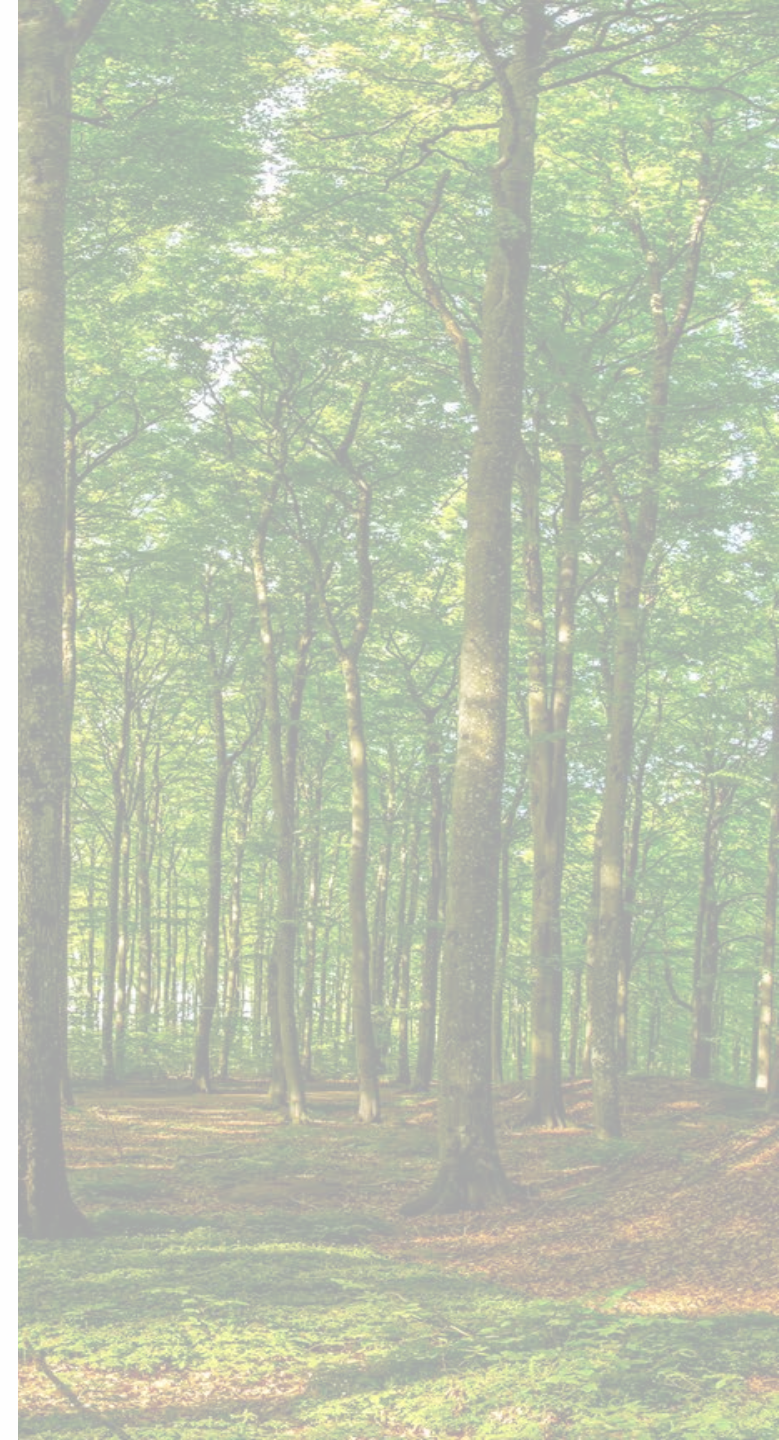
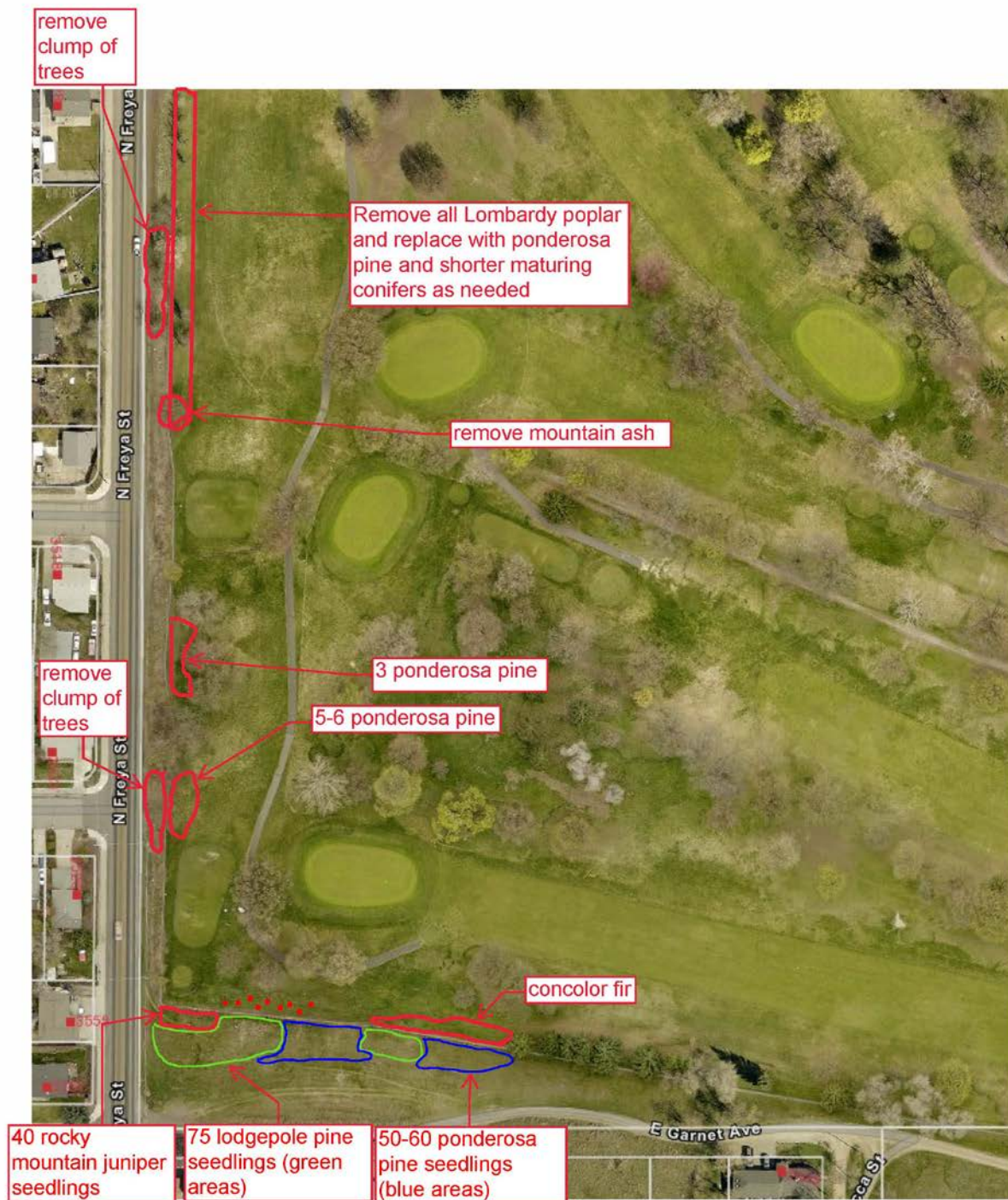
TreeWorks User

Spokane Image Consortium, Maxar, Microsoft | Earl Community Maps Contributors, City of Spokane, Spokane County, WA State Parks GIS, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Earl, HERE, Garmin, SwisSphoX, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METANASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau,





Plantings Esmeralda



Golf Course Tree Management Update

- Any questions?



Design Standards & Planting Details Update

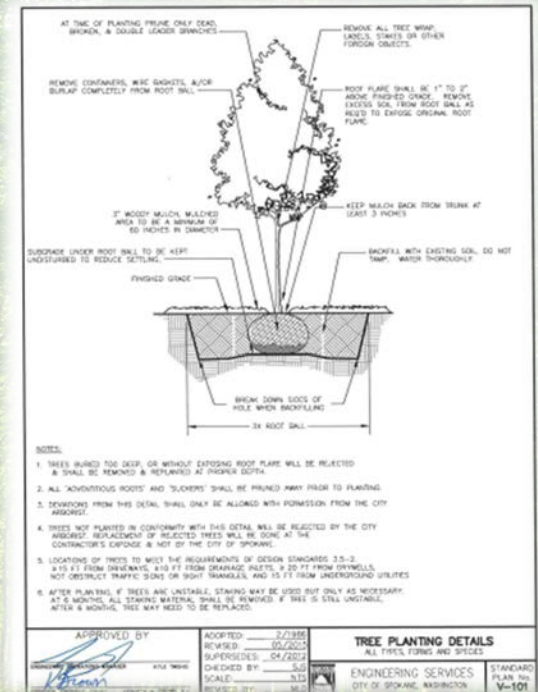
Katie Kosanke

Overview

- Development Services Partnership overview
- Challenges – urgent timelines

Consultant Project

- Stakeholder meetings, four Priority Actions Determined
 1. Review Planting Detail – form separate details for various planting scenarios
 2. Design Standards - Review Minimum Separation Distances
 3. Development Services to inspect interior landscapes
 4. Fee in Lieu of Street Tree



Action Items Updates

1. Revisions to Planting Detail

- Additional details for different planting scenarios (planting strip, grate, raingarden and slope)
- Two revisions with stakeholders, staff and UF Committee input
- Committees asked for another round of comments to previous stakeholders for final draft
- LA to present latest revision to UF Committees in April
 - To be stamped by City LA once complete, approved by committees, then adopted by City through Engineering process

2. Design Standards - Review Minimum Separation Distances

- Consultant review found overly restrictive planting distances from site features, utilities, etc.
- Design Standards to be updated by Engineering
- MOU with City Utilities



Action Items Updates

3. Development Services to inspect interior landscapes
 - UF provided training
 - DSC has completely taken over these inspections (last year)
 - UF consults and/or spot checks as requested

4. Fee in Lieu of Street Tree
 - Reduced occurrences of fees due to changes to Design Standards

Additional Improvement:

- Allowance for flexibility for the C.O. with a valid Tree Permit



Inflation Reduction Act Update

Urban and Community Forestry Grant



IRA Urban and Community Forestry Grant

1+ Billion in Nationwide Investments

- Applied June 1, 2023
 - Quick Application Period (announced in late April)
 - Our Application – Tree Equity Spokane
 - Proposed to plant trees, provide urgent needed maintenance + educational programs
 - Street trees, park trees, school property trees
 - Within the boundaries of the City of Spokane and on City properties. All tree planting and maintenance work must be performed in disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution and underinvestment, as identified on a Federal Map (GRANT REQUIREMENT)
 - Letters of support from Mayor/Administration, various City Council members, Park Board, Various Committees, Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz & more

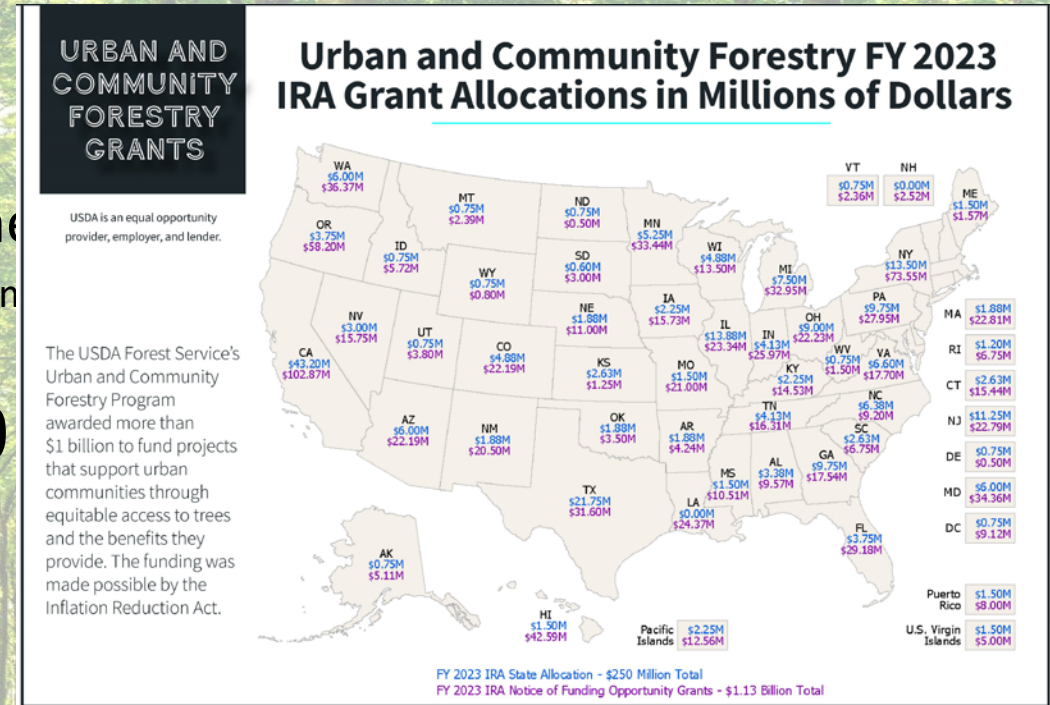


IRA Urban and Community Forestry Grant

- Awards Announced September 14, 2023
- City of Spokane Application – Tree Equity Spokane
 - Proposed to plant trees, provide maintenance + educational program

City of Spokane Award \$6,000,000

- One of only 15 awards within Washington State
- Grant Period over 5 years / \$0 Match
- Spokane County Conservation Dist also awarded 6 Million
 - Their program will also benefit the City of Spokane for tree planting support, work groups likely will assist with planting and minor maintenance projects.



Scaled Back Proposal

Budget Overview:

- ▶ Original Requested Budget: \$24,798,019

Revised to: \$6,000,000 (Award Amount)

Planting Overview:

- ▶ Originally requested: 1,000 trees per year and 3,000 seedlings per year

Revised to: 500 trees per year (250 each spring and fall) and 1,000 seedlings per year

- ▶ SCCD to supply street trees with their IRA Grant

Original numbers:

- 33,291 pruned
- 618 removed
- 20,000 planted
 - 5,000 street trees planted
 - 15,000 seedlings

Revised to:

- 4,979 Pruned
- **1,115 trees removed (significantly decreasing)**
- 7,500 trees planted
 - 2,500 street trees
 - 5,000 seedlings



▶ Planting Scale Up

- ▶ Coordinate trees (timing, species, etc.) with SCCD
- ▶ Contract for Education / Outreach
 - ▶ Determine locations
 - ▶ Monitoring / temp watering / reminders
 - ▶ Planting volunteer and outreach groups / Expo 50 opportunities

▶ Tree Maintenance

- ▶ Removals priority for year 1, pruning focus in subsequent years
- ▶ Outline maintenance and planting projects and Create Scopes of Work - park and street trees
 - ▶ Initial inspections / mapping has started
- ▶ Establish On-call and/or multi-year contracts with tree services
- ▶ Communication with Neighborhood Councils, Postcard mailings, etc.



IRA Urban and Community Forestry Grant - General Updates

- ▶ Final Grant Approval - February 22, 2024 (to February 22, 2029)
- ▶ Hire Urban Forester - Start date April 15th
- ▶ Budget Coordination with accounting for spending authority, request funds advances (Rich Lentz completed SBO at City Council)
- ▶ Meetings with School Dist to determine their goals and priorities
- ▶ RFE's and Contracts Upcoming:
 - ▶ Education and Outreach
 - ▶ Tree Planting
 - ▶ Tree Removal
 - ▶ Tree Pruning
- ▶ Form Robust Communication Plan
 - ▶ Flyers, brochures, Signs, postcard mailers, process for removal/replacements
 - ▶ Website
 - ▶ Request Process



Thank you!

Questions?



Partnership Agreement Committee Update

Purpose

“To establish a policy to evaluate proposal for ‘alternative uses’ on park land and ensure quantifiable net improvement to the park system.”

Policy Goals

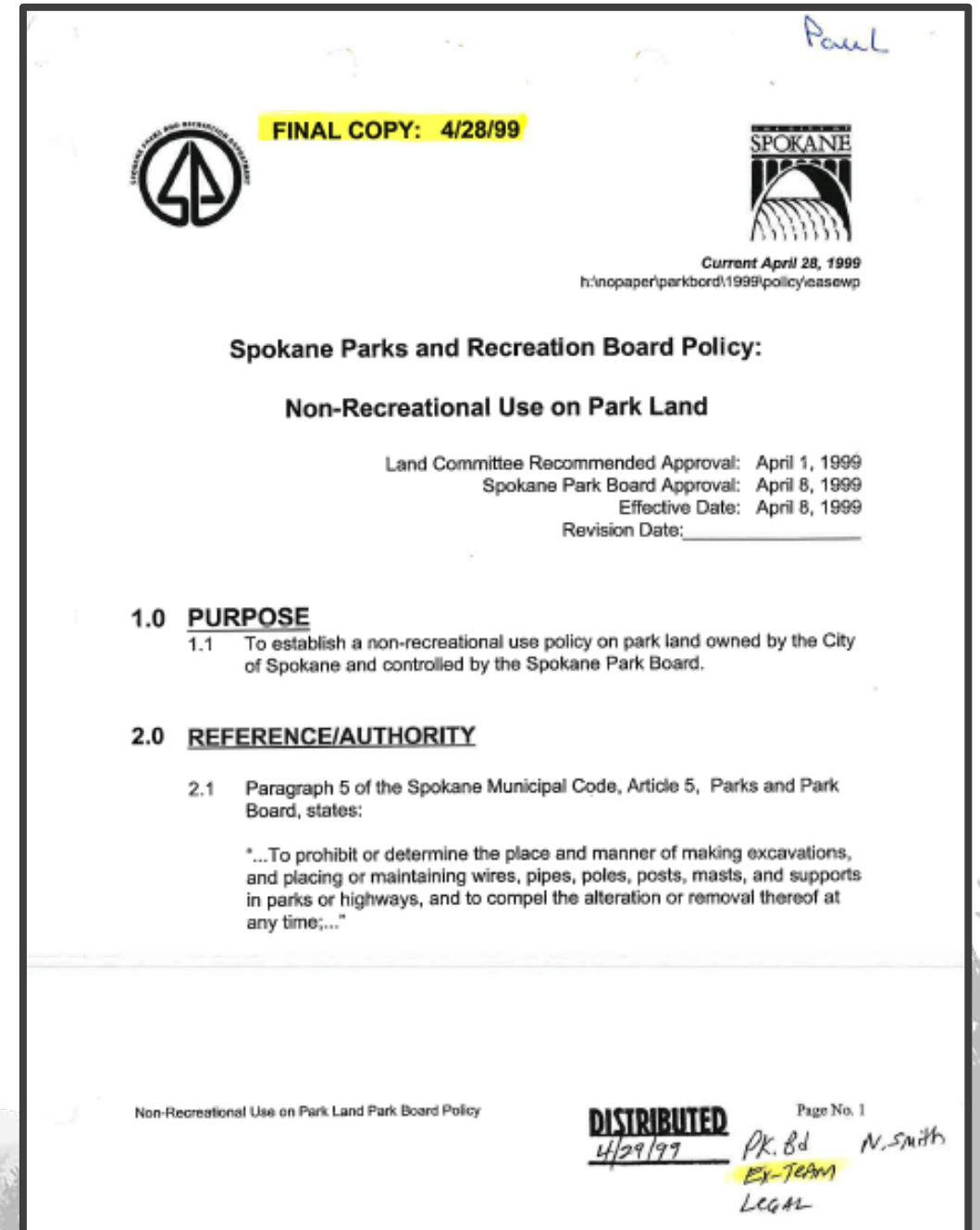
- Protect and enhance public park lands & uses.
- Standardize process & criteria for evaluating proposed alt. uses on park lands.
 - For both Park Board & Applicants
- Gather additional proposal information for Park Board and staff prior to requesting time on park board committee.
- Continue to allow 'case-by-case' evaluation of proposals.

Progress

After Last Retreat

- Held Initial Meeting
- Held (1) working meeting

- Found existing policy, not updated since April 1999



Policy Framework

- Policy to outline uses which may generally be considered for acceptance or which may be prohibited.
 - *ie. danger to public generally prohibited*
- Applications for 'Alternative Use' to be considered on case-by-case basis.
- Staff developing 'application form' / 'intake form'.
- Proposal reviewed by park board land committee before drafting of any agreements.
- followup partnership agreements will include language with respect to the net benefit and how it will be measured.

Application Form

- Used to gather proposal information, including:
 - Park location & park area proposed for alternative use
 - Type of 'alternative use' requested
 - Physical impact & duration of proposal on park land or uses
 - Timing & duration of proposed alt. use
 - Proposed benefit to parks / park use, including 'quantifiable net benefit'
 - Staff Review section

Schedule

Spring- Early Summer 2024

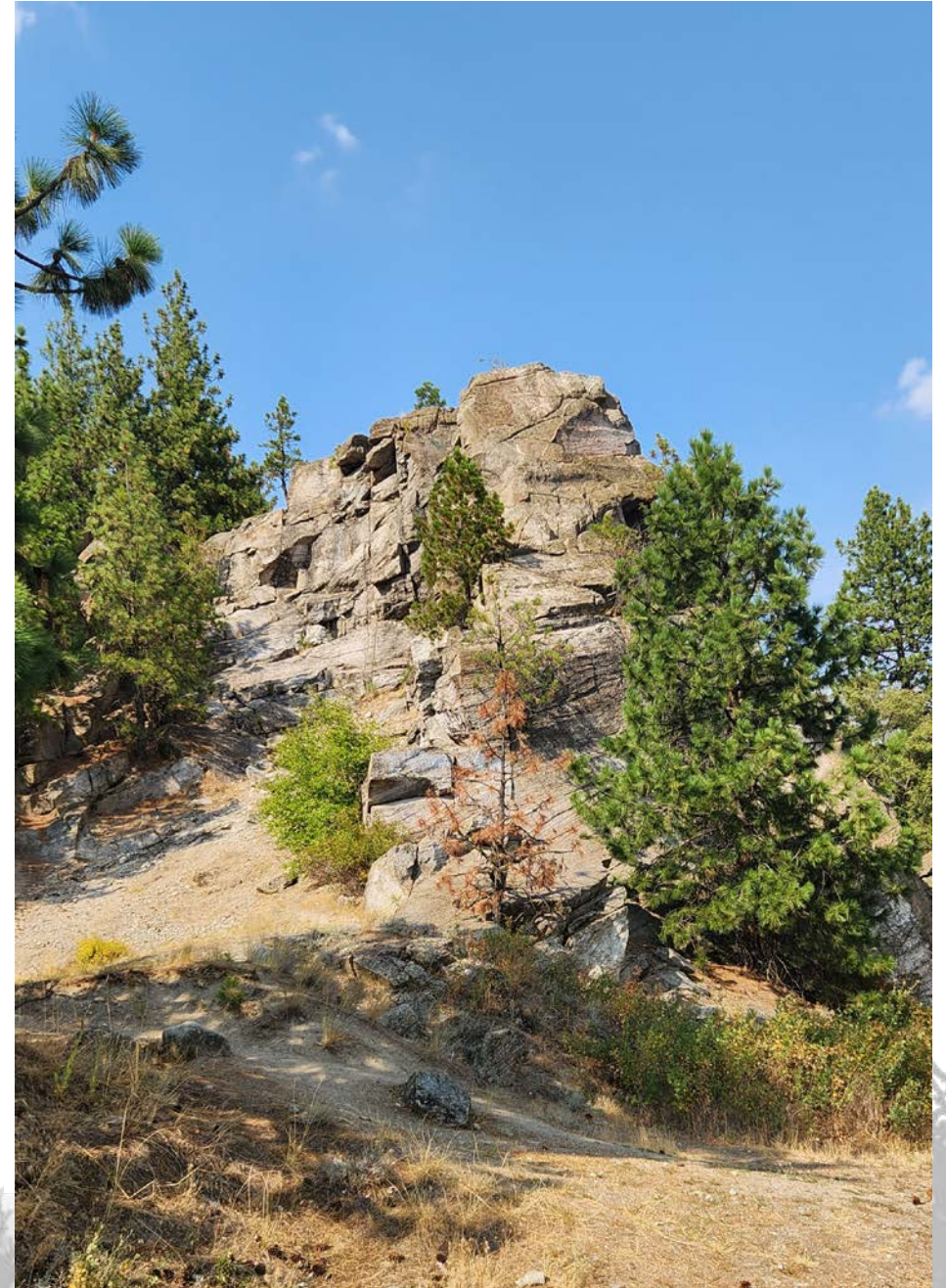
- Policy Drafting

Summer 2024

- Policy Review, Comment, Revision

Late Summer/Fall 2024

- Policy Adoption



Healthy Parks, Healthy Neighborhoods Park Investment Levy – Education-only Outreach Plan Update

Park Board Retreat, March 2024

WHAT SHOULD PARKS DO NEXT?

Be part of the conversation as we look to the next ten years for Spokane's parks and natural lands.

Take the survey today!
Point your phone's camera at the QR code to be prompted to visit the website.

For more information, go to SpokaneParksMasterPlan.org

Information-only Education Outreach Plan

Phase I: Through April

Phase II: May – August

Events & Activations

- ▶ ***Presentations with neighborhood councils, community groups, business organizations, service clubs, etc. (phases I & II)***
- ▶ ***Booths at community festivals, events (phases I & II)***
- ▶ ***Online webinar (phase II)***
- ▶ ***Coffee & Chats (phase II)***

June 2024							July 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
May 26	27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1							
						11:00am Expo 50 Tabling (In Park - Specific Location TBD)							
2	3	4 6:00pm NHC Presentation - Cliff Cannon @04 S. Monroe St. (Old)	5	6	7	8 11:00am Expo 50 Tabling (In Park - Specific Location TBD)							
9	10	11 5:00pm NHC Presentation - West Hills	12 5:00pm NHC Presentation - 6:00pm NHC Presentation -	13 5:30pm NHC Presentation - North Hill	14 SPS Last Day of School	15 11:00am Expo 50 Tabling (In Park - Specific Location TBD)							
16	17	18	19 Juneteenth Holiday 5:30pm NHC Presentation - Chief Garry Park	20 6:00pm NHC Presentation - Shiloh Hills	21 1:00pm Pool Tabling (Pool Rotation TBD)	22 11:00am Expo 50 Tabling (In Park - Specific Location TBD)							
23	24	25	26	27 6:00pm NHC Presentation - Five Mile Prairie (Option 2) (Indian Trail)	28 1:00pm Pool Tabling (Pool Rotation TBD)	29 11:00am Expo 50 Tabling (In Park - Specific Location TBD)							
30 Week of 4th of July	Jul 1	2	3	4	5	6							

Hamad, Nicholas 1 3/28/2024 12:49 PM

Digital

- ▶ *Website (phases I & II)*
- ▶ *Social media (phases I & II)*
- ▶ *Blogs (phase II)*
- ▶ *Videos (phase II)*
- ▶ *E-newsletters (phase II)*
- ▶ *TV screens at Parks facilities (phase II)*
- ▶ *Riverfront Park electronic billboard (phase II)*

Home Renovate & Replace Enhance Experience Acquire & Develop Project Management

RENOVATE & REPLACE

- PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS
- RESTROOM IMPROVEMENTS
- IRRIGATION IMPROVEMENTS
- AMENITIES IMPROVEMENTS
- MINOR PARK REPAIRS
- TRAILHEADS AND TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
- MAJOR PARK RENOVATIONS

PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

'Playgrounds' were identified by citizens during the 2022 park and natural lands master plan as the second highest priority asset to upgrade within existing parks. A detailed condition rating of all city park playgrounds found nearly 60% of all city park playgrounds have aged beyond their design life, contain major damage, or are no longer functional and require complete replacement to restore proper functionality.

This project will replace all park playgrounds which are rated with a physical condition of 3.0 or higher. This includes replacement of approximately (32) playgrounds citywide, including all (10) large (community) park playgrounds within the city and approximately (22) smaller

Playground Physical Condition Rating

All larger (community) parks listed below receive major playground replacement **regardless of rating**.

A.M. Cannon Park, Audubon Park, Comstock Park, Mission Park, Shadle Park, Sky Prairie Park, Thornton Murphy Park, and Underhill Park.

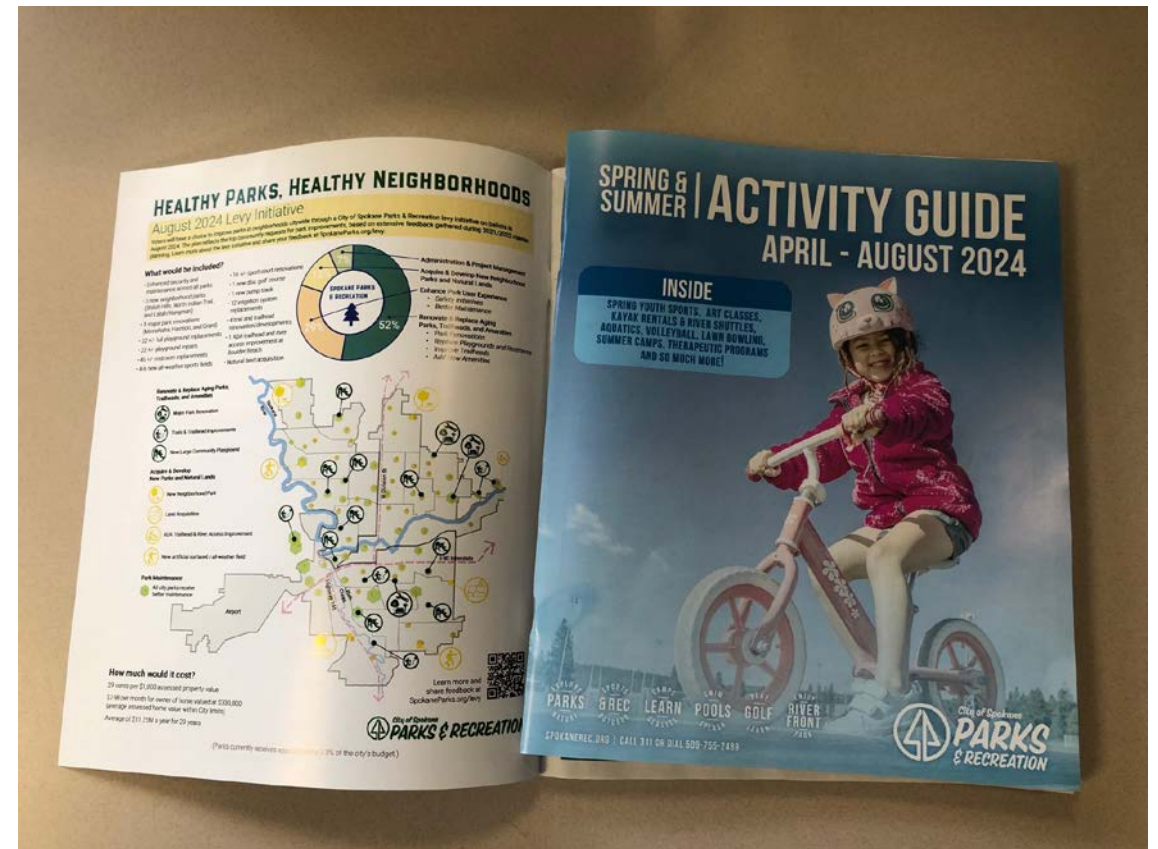
All smaller (neighborhood) park playgrounds **rated 3.0 to 5.0** receive complete playground replacement.

All smaller (neighborhood) park playgrounds **rated 1.0 to 3.0** receive enhanced maintenance repair.

How we rate your park:
1.0 = newly constructed or renovated, highly functional

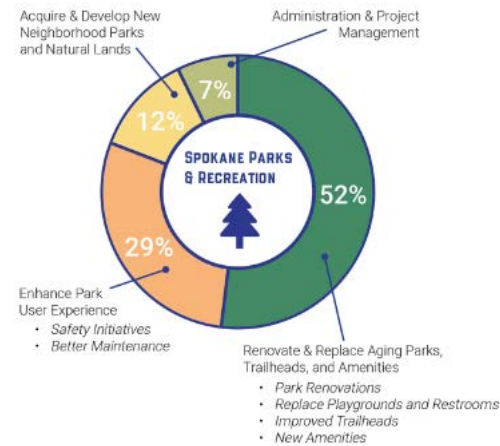
Collateral & Mail

- ▶ *One-sheet (phases I & II)*
- ▶ *Cut sheets (phases I & II)*
- ▶ *FAQ (phases I & II)*
- ▶ *Activity Guide ads (phases I & II)*
- ▶ *Utility bill inserts (phase II)*
- ▶ *Postcards (phase II)*
- ▶ *Banners in parks (phase II)*
- ▶ *Posters (phase II)*



Earned Media & Advertising

- ▶ ***Pitched news stories (phase II)***
- ▶ ***Partner channels (i.e. SPS) (phase II)***
- ▶ ***Small ad buy (phase II)***
- ▶ ***City Cable 5 (phases I & II)***



2023 Neighborhood Playground & Restroom Improvements



Volunteer Support

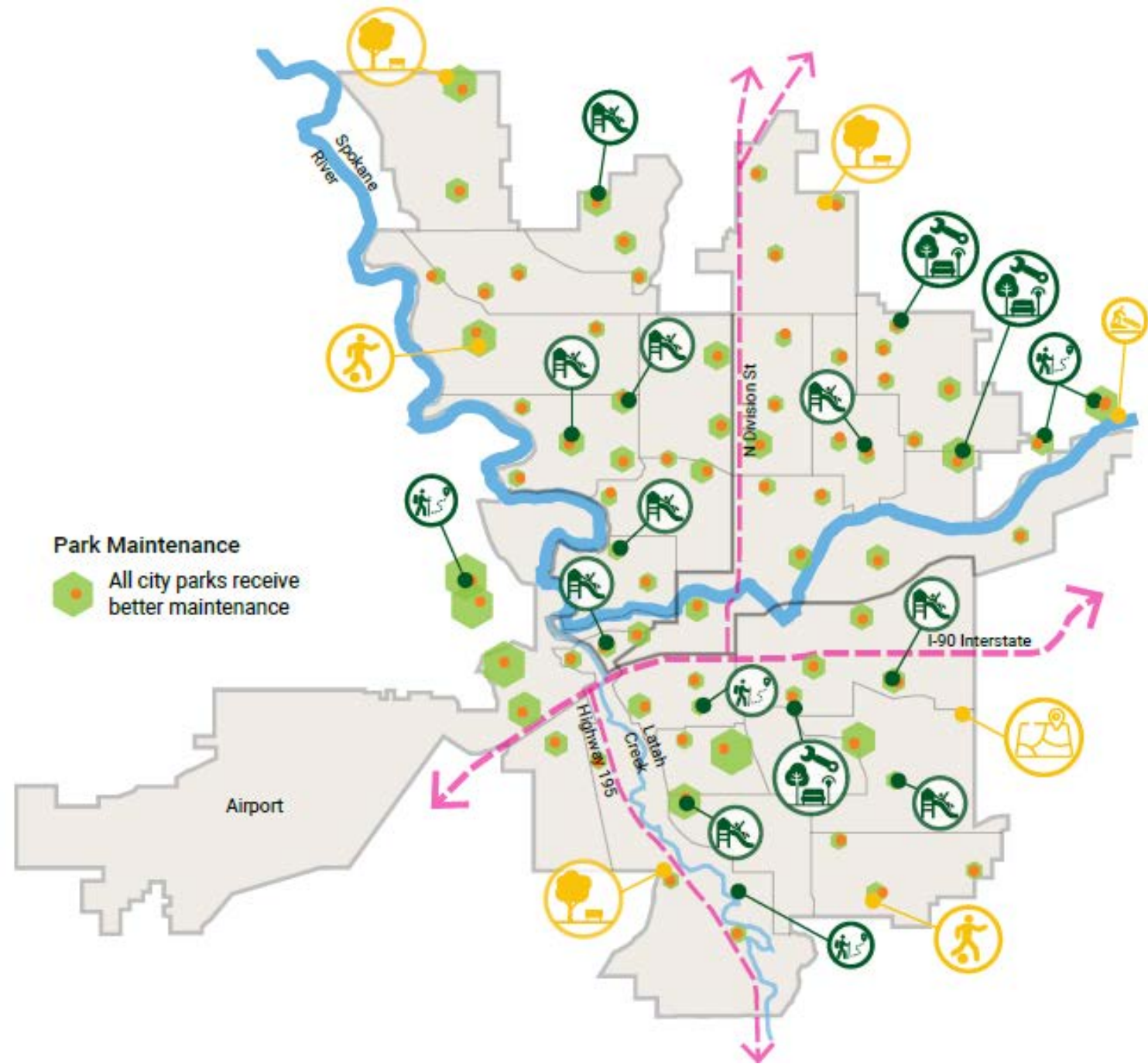
Volunteer Support

- City-lead outreach where we could use your support:
 - Help us staff booths at community events – [sign-up sheet for Expo events](#)
 - Connect us with groups you think we should present information to
 - Share our info messages on social media
 - Share collateral information
 - Invite friends to the webinar/coffee & chats
 - Help with ideas for video/written testimonials about what parks mean for Spokane
- PAC activities may, without the use of any City resources, include things like:
 - Steering committee
 - Recruiting volunteers
 - Fundraising for advertising, mailers, signs
 - Writing letters to the editor
 - Social media sharing with “vote yes” messaging
 - Posting “vote yes” signs
 - Rallies
 - Waving on street corners
 - Flyer distribution

Volunteer Toolkit

April - August

- ▶ One sheets & cut sheets
- ▶ FAQ
- ▶ Sample social media messages
- ▶ Posters
- ▶ Legal info



SpokaneParks.org/levy



HEALTHY PARKS, HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

An investment in neighborhood parks, safety, and maintenance|





May 4 – July 7, 2024

In 1974, Spokane became the smallest city in history to host the World's Fair.



As an environmentally focused event, the Spokane World's Fair sparked a transformation in the heart of our city that became the catalyst for sustainable growth in our region.

The 50th anniversary of Expo '74 will celebrate the legacy of creativity, community, and environmental stewardship that drives Spokane to this day.

Community Wide Celebration

- Existing Community Partners
- May 4, 2024 – July 7, 2024
- A megaphone to the great work Spokane does
- An opportunity for organizations to collaborate
- 100 + community events highlighting 5 thematic pillars
 - Environmental Stewardship
 - Tribal Culture
 - Legacy of the World's Fair
 - Arts and Culture
 - Recreation and Sport



Initial partner organizations

City of Spokane | Spokane County | Visit Spokane |
Spokane Sports | Greater Spokane Inc. | Public Facilities
District | Downtown Spokane Partnership | Innovia
Foundation | Avista Utilities | Gonzaga University | Kendall
Yards | University District

Signature Sponsors

Washington Trust Bank | Garco | KHQ

team - executive committee

Garrett Jones - City of Spokane

Rose Noble - Visit Spokane

Jon Moog - City of Spokane; Riverfront Park

Rick Romero - City of Spokane (retired)

team - program managers

Matt Santangelo - Program Manager

Kelly Brown - Program Coordinator

Activation Team

Marketing & Branding



Fianna Dickson
City of Spokane
Parks & Recreation
Communications Manager



Lisa Simpson
Visit Spokane
Director of Partner Services
& Technology

Walkability



Marlene Fiest
City of Spokane
Director of Public Works



Steve MacDonald
City of Spokane
Community & Economic
Development

Events & Activations



Amy Lindsey
City of Spokane
Riverfront Spokane
Marketing & Programming
Manager



Liz Hooker
Downtown Spokane
Partnership
Marketing & Programming
Manager

Funding & Sponsorships



Aaron McMurray
Innovia Foundation
Chief Strategy Officer



Amy Lindsey
City of Spokane
Riverfront Spokane
Marketing & Programming
Manager

team - planning committee

EXPO LEGACY - Kerry Lynch, Ben Stuckart

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP - Amanda Parrish

TRIBAL CULTURE - Margo Hill

RECREATION + SPORT - Ashley Blake, Jennifer Papich

ARTS + CULTURE - Marguerite De Mauro, Yvonne Montoya
Zamora, Karen Boone

Signature Events

- May 4, 2024: Opening Ceremonies, Riverfront Park
- Every Saturday: Arts & Culture Stage – at Manito on June 8.
- May 2024: Club '74 Post St Bridge Dinner
- May 25, 2024: Multi-nation Pow wow
- July 4, 2024 (TBD): Closing Ceremonies, Riverfront Park

Other Events

- Environmental Legislative Summit
- Asian Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage Festival
- Junetober Festival
- Spokane's Got Talent
- Pickleball Festival



Original Replica of Expo Kiosk



- 20ft tall x 15ft wide. 6ft sq base
- Center piece for history & programs
- Displayed at Riverfront

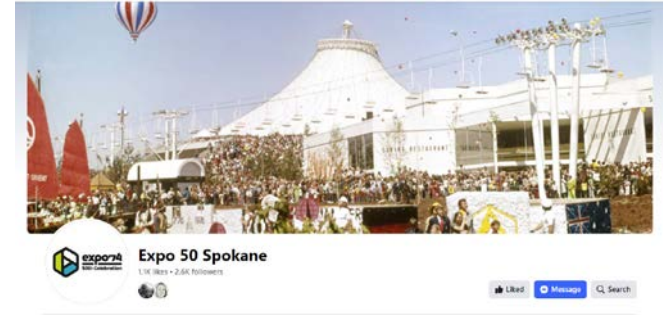
Other Activations

- Northwest MAC Exhibits:
 - Films from the Vault
 - It Happened Here: EXPO '74 Fifty Years After
- Official 50Th Celebration Merchandise
- EXPO Historical Timeline at US Pavilion
- Downtown Skywalk Lighting
- Historic Walking Tours
- Kayak Tours
- Disc Golf Clinics



Marketing

- Facebook and Instagram pages (34,000+)
- Website
- E-newsletters
- Earned media
- City Cable 5 stories
- Posters & decals in store windows
- Street banners and site signs (like the Riverfront reader board)
- Partner message sharing
- Advertising buy
 - The Inlander will have a special tear-out section in early May, and a weekly 2-page feature of events, as our official print media partner (they are also running ads February – July)
 - KHQ is running many Expo stories, as our official TV partner
 - Various print publications (Activity Guides, Visitor Guide, Broadway Playbill, etc.)
 - Digital advertising buy
 - Billboards



Expo '74 50th Celebration

SPRING IS ALMOST HERE...AND SO IS EXPO!

Get ready to kick off the nine-week anniversary celebration of Expo '74 with a bang! The Opening Ceremonies are just around the corner, promising an unforgettable start to the calendar of events. Here's a sneak peek of the excitement to come, with more details headed your way soon!

OPENING CEREMONIES SNEAK PEAK

Join us on May 4th, 2024, at 3:00 PM for the Expo '74 50th Celebration Opening Ceremonies!



Club '74

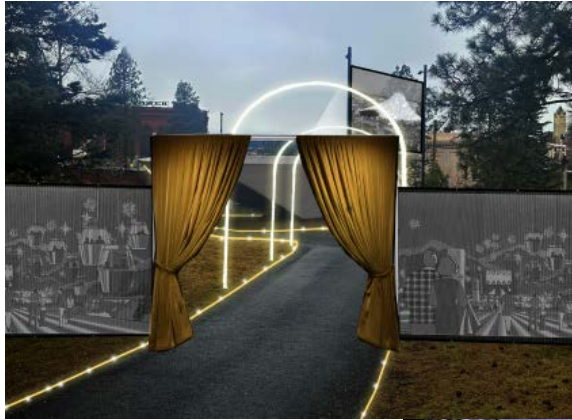
- Crowd-sourced philanthropic support of the 50th Celebration
- Commemorative coin
- Members will be the first to know about special events
- Discounts at participating local restaurants and retailers
- Opportunity to join The Post St Bridge Dinner and Club '74 Speakeasy
- Goal to earn 1,974 members



Join
Today



Club '74 – EXPO Speakeasy



Get Involved



Join the Festivities

- Community Stage Performer
- Pillar Procession & Opening Ceremonies
- Vendor Village Opportunity
- Volunteer



“You have unsurpassed scenic beauty, a wonderful climate, friendly people, and in addition, a determination to progress which I am confident results from a community pride that is the necessary ingredient to success.”

- King Cole, October 4, 1963





expo'74
50th Celebration

expo50spokane.com



Sign up for the newsletter