

Spokane Plan Commission Agenda

April 26, 2017

2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

City Council Briefing Center

TIMES GIVEN ARE AN ESTIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Public Comment Period:

3 minutes each Citizens are invited to address the Plan Commission on any topic not on the agenda

Commission Briefing Session:

2:00 - 2:20	1) Approve March 22, 2017 and April 12, 2017 meeting minutes	
	2) Approve Revised 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update Findings & Conclusions	
	3) City Council Report	Lori Kinnear
	4) Community Assembly Liaison Reports	Greg Francis
	5) President Report	Dennis Dellwo
	6) Transportation Subcommittee Report	John Dietzman
	7) Secretary Report	Lisa Key

Workshops:

2:20 – 3:05	1) 17 G Code (comp plan amendment process revisions)	Tirrell Black
3:05 – 3:35	2) The Yard Area Wide Plan Workshop	Melissa Owen
3:35 – 4:00	3) MFTE Re-Authorization Update	Teri Stripes

Adjournment:

Next Plan Commission meeting will be on May 10, 2017 at 2:00 pm

The password for City of Spokane Guest Wireless access has been changed:

Username: COS Guest

Password:

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) INFORMATION: The City of Spokane is committed to providing equal access to its facilities, programs and services for persons with disabilities. The Council Briefing Center in the lower level of Spokane City Hall, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., is wheelchair accessible and also is equipped with an infrared assistive listening system for persons with hearing loss. Headsets may be checked out (upon presentation of picture I.D.) through the meeting organizer. Individuals requesting reasonable accommodations or further information may call, write, or email Human Resources at 509.625.6363, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA, 99201; or jjackson@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.

Spokane Plan Commission

March 22, 2017

Meeting Minutes: Meeting called to order at 2:01 pm

Workshop Attendance:

- Board Members Present: Dennis Dellwo, Todd Beyreuther, John Dietzman, Christopher Batten, Christy Jeffers, FJ Dullanty, Patricia Kienholz, Michael Baker, Greg Francis; Community Assembly Liaison, Lori Kinnear; Council Liaison
- Board Not Members Present: Jacob Brooks
- Staff Members Present: Lisa Key, Amanda Winchell, James Richman, Jo Anne Wright, Tirrell Black, Nathan Gwinn, Michael Miller, Amy Mullerleile, Shauna Harshman, Jacqui Halvorson

March 8, 2017 meeting minutes approved unanimously

Public Comment:

- None

Briefing Session:

1. City Council Liaison Report-Lori Kinnear
 - District two Town hall meeting was brought forward concerns about traffic calming.
 - Two districts were concerned about Historic Home removal.
 - Pursuing joint planning with the County.
2. Community Assembly Liaison Report- Greg Francis
 - Land Use committee met and discussed creating a Land Use 101 training for neighborhoods.
 - Working with neighborhoods to develop a collaboration plan between neighborhoods and developers.
3. Transportation Subcommittee Report - John Dietzman
 - Transportation Subcommittee met on March 14th. Committee reviewed the new additions to the 6 year transportation program.
4. Commission President Report-Dennis Dellwo
 - Discussed the procedures for the Comprehensive Plan Hearing Deliberations.
5. Secretary Report-Lisa Key
 - Provided an overview of the review criteria for the Comprehensive Plan Amendment.

Workshops:

1. 17G Code (comprehensive plan amendment process revisions)-Tirrell Black
 - Presentation and overview given
 - Questions asked and answered
 - Discussion ensued
2. Step Back Requirements Adjacent to Riverfront Park-CP Stuckart
 - Presentation and overview given
 - Questions asked and answered
 - Discussion ensued
 - Plan Commission asked staff to bring back a draft charter for the creation of a Plan Commission subcommittee to review existing policy, code and design standards.

Hearing Attendance

- Board Members Present: Dennis Dellwo, Todd Beyreuther, John Dietzman, Christopher Batten, Christy Jeffers, FJ Dullanty, Patricia Kienholz, Michael Baker, Greg Francis; Community Assembly Liaison, Lori Kinnear; Council Liaison

- Staff Members Present: Lisa Key, Amanda Winchell, James Richman, Jo Anne Wright, Tirrell Black, Nathan Gwinn, Michael Miller, Amy Mullerleile, Shauna Harshman, Jacqui Halvorson

Hearings:

1. Building and Fire Code Amendments-Michael Miller

- Presentation and overview given
- Questions asked and answered
- Discussion ensued

Public Comment:

None

Motion:

Todd Beyreuther made a motion recommend approval to city council, seconded by Christy Jeffers. Passes unanimously (9/0)

FJ Dullanty recused himself from second hearing.

2. Comprehensive Plan Deliberations-Jo Anne Wright

- Presented the amendments requested through the public hearing
- Questions asked and answered
- Discussion ensued

Motion

John Dietzman moved to approve changing the language in policy 8.5 Neighborhood Planning coordination to replace the words "often negatively impacted" with the words "may have negatively impacted". Motion passed unanimously (8/0).

John Dietzman moved to approve the amended language in LU 1.16 to state "Encourage the preservation of manufactured and mobile home parks, where appropriate to provide quality affordable housing options through voluntary incentives and related strategies." Motion passed unanimously (8/0).

Patricia Kienholz moved to approve the text change to CFU 3.6, Limitation of Services Outside the Urban Growth Area, to state "The Spokane Regional Health District, the Washington State Department of Health, or the City of Spokane has determined that an existing development (or parcel) should be connected to protect public health, safety, and environment, with such sewer connection consistent with state law and the policy set forth in this section." Motion seconded by Michael Baker. Motion fails (3/5)

Commission President Dennis Dellwo read the review criteria for Commission consideration, and staff explained how each criterion had been addressed. Todd Beyreuther made a motion to recommend to City Council the approval of the proposed 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update, as amended. Motion seconded by Christy Jeffers.

The Plan Commission made the following determination with regard to the decision criteria:

A. The 2017 Update **IS** consistent with the Growth Management Act, and is consistent with the existing Comprehensive Plan Policies.

B. The 2017 Update **IS** consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies for Spokane County.

C. The 2017 Update **WAS** developed through an open and public process, and the City satisfied all public notice and participation requirements.

D. The 2017 Update **WILL** protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Spokane and the general public.

E. The City **DID** comply with State Environmental Policy Act requirements in the review and processing of the 2017 Update.

Motion passed unanimously (8/0)

Meeting Adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

DRAFT

Spokane Plan Commission

April 12, 2017

Meeting Minutes: Meeting called to order at 2:01 pm

Attendance:

- Board Members Present: Dennis Dellwo, Todd Beyreuther, John Dietzman, FJ Dullanty, Patricia Kienholz, Greg Francis; Community Assembly Liaison, Lori Kinnear; Council Liaison
- Board Not Members Present: Jacob Brooks, Christopher Batten, Christy Jeffers, Michael Baker,
- Staff Members Present: Lisa Key, Amanda Winchell, James Richman, Shauna Harshman, Nathan Gwinn, Teri Stripes, Donna deBit, Kevin Freibott, Amy Mullerleile, Brandon Blankenagel, Tirrell Black, Andrew Worlock, Jo Anne Wright, Jacqui Halvorson, Melissa Owen, Katherine Miller, Eric Lester,

March 22, 2017 meeting minutes deferred for approval till the April 26, 2017 meeting due to a lack of quorum.

Public Comment:

- None

Briefing Session:

1. City Council Liaison Report-Lori Kinnear
 - Council passed the transportation matrix. Transportation matrix is to be used as projects are moving from scoping toward design. Council suggested creating a second matrix to measure the projects public involvement and feedback.
 - Approved a demolition moratorium for Brown's Addition for the next 6 months
 - Billboard moratorium has also been passed in Hillyard's Historic District for 6 months.
2. Community Assembly Liaison Report- Greg Francis
 - Community assembly discussed the building height restrictions along Spokane Falls Blvd.
 - Greg was confirmed as a representative for the Downtown step back subcommittee established to discuss the building height restrictions along Spokane Falls Blvd.
3. Commission President Report-Dennis Dellwo
 - To complete the presence of the Plan Commission on the new Spokane Falls Building Height subcommittee, President Dellwo appointed Todd Beyreuther as Chair, with Chris Batten and Christy Jeffers as members of the Subcommittee; he also identified Michael Baker as an Alternate.
4. Transportation Subcommittee Report - John Dietzman
 - Approved the 6 year transportation Program Consistency review and recommended it move forward to the Plan Commission.
 - Discussed the upcoming Impact Fee review.
 - Will be discussing expanded membership with Council and Mayors office in support of the Impact Fee Update.
5. Secretary Report-Lisa Key
 - The Joint Plan Commission and City Council Study Session will be held April 13, 2017 in City Hall City Council Briefing Center.
 - The Inland Northwest APA Chapter's Priest Lake Conference will be held June 1st and June 2nd. Members need to contact Lisa Key if they are interested in attending the Conference.
 - The Plan Commission Retreat is tentatively scheduled for May 24th.

Workshops:

1. **Step-Back Requirements Adjacent to Riverfront Park Draft Charter-Lisa Key**
 - Presentation and overview given
 - Questions asked and answered
 - Discussion ensued

2. **Target Investment Area Annual Report-Andrew Worlock & Teri Stripes**
 - Presentation and overview given
 - Questions asked and answered
 - Discussion ensued
3. **6 Year Transportation Program Consistency Review Workshop-Brandon Blankenagel**
 - Presentation and overview given
 - Questions asked and answered
 - Discussion ensued
4. **Citywide Capital Improvement Program-Crystal Marchand**
 - Presentation and overview given
 - Questions asked and answered
 - Discussion ensued

Meeting Adjourned at 3:53 P.M.

Next regularly scheduled Plan Commission Meeting will be on April 26, 2017

DRAFT

Spokane City Plan Commission
Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Recommendations
Proposed 2017 Periodic Review and Update to the City of Spokane
Comprehensive Plan and Accompanying Maps

A Recommendation from the City Plan Commission to the City Council to approve the proposed 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update. These changes will amend the Spokane Comprehensive Plan text in chapters 1-13, the Comprehensive Plan Glossary, Comprehensive Plan Maps and includes a new Volume V – Technical Appendices to the 2016 Update to the Comprehensive Plan.

Findings of Fact:

- A.** The Growth Management Act (“GMA”), in RCW 36.70A.130(5), requires the City of Spokane to take legislative action on or before June 30, 2017, to review and, if needed, revise its Comprehensive Plan and development regulations to ensure the Plan and regulations comply with the requirements of the Growth Management Act (the “2017 Update”).
- B.** In anticipation of the 2017 Update, on February 4, 2013, pursuant to Resolution 2013-0011, the City Council adopted a Public Participation Plan, consistent with GMA’s public participation requirements; that Plan was updated in 2014 and 2016.
- C.** In 2013, pursuant to the City’s Public Participation Plan, the City began a robust, inclusive, and ongoing public participation and review process that included staff, agency, and citizen focus group review and amendment to six chapters of the plan; 21 Plan Commission workshops; six City Council Study sessions; numerous updates to the Community Assembly and neighborhood councils; ten public open houses; a virtual open house; a frequently updated web page; social media posts; newspaper notices and press releases; correspondence with the Washington State Department of Commerce and the Spokane Regional Transportation Council, and other outreach efforts to keep the update process transparent and accessible. The City’s public engagement efforts in processing the 2017 Update have been consistent with, and in many cases, exceeded the identified engagement activities identified in the adopted Public Participation Plan.
- D.** Review and amendment items during the 2017 Update included GMA requirements to:
 - 1) Amend the plan and codes to reflect changes to applicable state laws;
 - 2) Utilize the most recent population projections from the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) *Projections of the Resident Population for the Growth Management Medium Series, May 2012*; and, the new population allocation recommended by the *Planning Technical Advisory Committee – Population Forecast and Allocation, November 4, 2015* (as recommended by the Steering Committee of Elected Officials on November 10, 2015 to the Spokane County Commissioners, and as approved by the Spokane County Commissioners on August 3, 2016), to ensure that the Comprehensive Plan provides for the City’s ability to accommodate its projected growth in population, housing, and employment;

- 3) Utilize updated land quantity analysis, *2015 Land Quantity Analysis Result and Methodology*;
 - 4) Review Critical Areas Ordinances and codes;
 - 5) Update the Wetlands Protection Ordinance to comply with new state laws; and,
 - 6) Review, analyze, and update the Capital Facilities Plan to ensure that facilities are adequate to accommodate growth over the next 20 years. The newly adopted population forecast reflects a population growth rate that is less than what was used to inform the 2006 Plan, resulting in facility and service capacity beyond what is needed to serve the City's population within the 2017 twenty-year planning horizon.
- E.** The City's work on the 2017 Update followed guidance from the Washington State Department of Commerce (i.e., Periodic Update Checklist for Cities – Updated June 2016, Development Regulations Checklist, and Expanded Comprehensive Plan Checklist). In addition, the City has complied with RCW 36.70A.370 in processing the 2017 Update.
- F.** The Comprehensive Plan text in chapters 1-13 and the Comprehensive Plan Glossary have been updated in order to condense the document, make it more concise, update data and dates eliminate duplicate policies and other redundancies, and clarify policies when needed. The update also includes a new Volume V – Technical Appendices to the 2016 Update to the Comprehensive Plan.

Some major changes include:

- Portions of Chapter 1, Introduction, and Chapter 2, Background were combined;
 - Chapter 2, Implementation and the implementation matrices are new;
 - Chapter 3, Land Use, Proposed Land Use Plan Map includes two new potential District Centers at NorthTown and Five Mile shopping areas; and, adjusts the Neighborhood Center at Fort George Wright Drive and North Government Way to a location east along Fort George Wright Drive, as a result of a recently completed neighborhood planning process;
 - Chapter 5, Capital Facilities and Utilities - Capital Facilities Plan (CFP), includes updated maps, narratives, numbers, and references provided in consultation with City departments and other service providers; and, with the actual CFP moved to appendix;
 - Chapter 10, Social Health, includes new goal and policies pertaining to food access; and,
 - Changes to many of the Comprehensive Plan accompanying maps as based upon recent annexations, and previously approved amendments to the Urban Growth Boundary; and,
 - Wetlands Protection Ordinance Chapter 17E.070 was amended in a separate process.
- G.** The 2017 Update amends the following elements of the Comprehensive Plan:
- Introduction
 - Implementation
 - Land Use
 - Transportation
 - Capital Facilities and Utilities
 - Housing
 - Economic Development

- Urban Design and Historic Preservation
 - Natural Environment
 - Social Health
 - Neighborhoods
 - Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces
 - Leadership, Governance, and Citizenship
- H. Prior to the beginning of the Update process, the City determined that *Shorelines Chapter 14*, would not be reviewed and updated, as it had been recently adopted in 2011.
- I. The 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update was guided by a variety of sources including analyses from the following documents and background reports: updated GMA statutory requirements; 2016 population allocations approved by Spokane County Commissioners; 2015 *Land Quantity Analysis Result and Methodology*; updated Capital Facilities Plans – Police, Fire, Schools, Parks, Water, etc.; updated codes and Critical Areas Ordinance - updated Wetlands Ordinance. All update sources and background documents are listed by reference in the Comprehensive Plan.
- J. While work on the 2017 Update was underway, the City Council proposed amending the City's Land Use Plan Map to designate two potential new District Centers – one centered on the commercial areas in the vicinity of Division Street and Wellesley Avenue in the Nevada Heights neighborhood, and one in the vicinity of Ash and Francis in the Five Mile Neighborhood, as based upon the following factors:
- The mix of retail, service, and multifamily land uses in these areas;
 - The existence of well-established transit service to these areas;
 - The proximity of public facilities and amenities in these areas; and,
 - The fact that both commercial centers already serve a customer base that goes well beyond the immediate neighborhood.
- No changes to land use or zoning within these potential centers are proposed as part of the 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update, and will not be contemplated until such time as a subarea planning process can be completed in these areas. Notices were sent to property owners and tenants within 400 feet of these proposed centers on February 21, 2017, notifying them of the designation on the Comprehensive Plan Land Use map of these new, potential centers. Presentations were made to the Community Assembly and Neighborhood Councils of the affected neighborhoods; an e-mail was sent to the Comprehensive Plan Update Distribution List; a presentation was made to the Plan Commission; and consultation with the Spokane Regional Transportation Council and Department of Commerce Staff occurred.
- K. As a result of neighborhood planning in the West Hills, staff proposed to amend the Land Use Plan Map by moving the Neighborhood Center located at the intersection of Fort George Wright Drive and North Government Way, to a location east along Fort George Wright Drives near Spokane Falls Community College, consistent with the recently adopted neighborhood plan for that area.
- L. In 2013, and in addition to the 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update process, the City initiated an update to the Comprehensive Plan's Transportation Chapter through a separate, but concurrent process branded as LINK Spokane. The LINK update included a review of transportation and integrated infrastructure best practices; review and participation by staff and agencies in a technical advisory group, and a citizen

public policy group that reviewed and updated the Transportation Chapter's Vision, Values, Goals, Policy, and Actions. A joint Public Policy Group and Technical Advisory Group meeting kicked off this portion of the update.

- M.** The LINK Spokane update process included transportation tours of the City, a wide variety of innovative public input strategies, open houses, brochures for distribution, television and social media updates, as well as participation in three Council District Meetings held in 2013, drop-in workshops held around the City, booths at community street fairs and multi-cultural celebrations, and a joint Plan Commission and City Council meeting focused on transportation system needs.
- N.** This Transportation Chapter updates includes the adopted Pedestrian Plan and an updated Bicycle Master Plan to guide decision-making on active transportation facility improvements. These modal plans will be implemented through the adoption of the Six-Year Comprehensive Street Program and associated construction activities. The Transportation Chapter update also integrates and references the multi-modal focused Complete Streets ordinance (C34821) adopted by City Council in 2011.
- O.** Collectively, the foregoing process and proposed amendments are referred to herein as the 2017 Update.
- P.** On February 20, 2017, the City issued a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Addendum for the 2017 Update.
- Q.** The 2017 Update is within the range of alternatives studied in the 2001 EIS and subsequent environmental documents prepared in connection with the City's Comprehensive Plan.
- R.** On February 21 and 28, 2017, the City published a combined notice of the SEPA addendum and the Plan Commission Public Hearing in the Spokesman-Review, a City of Spokane newspaper, and the Official Gazette.
- S.** On March 8, 2017, the Plan Commission held a public hearing and received public testimony on the 2017 Update.
- T.** During its public hearing, the Plan Commission received written comment and testimony relating to Comprehensive Plan Policy LU 1.16 (Mobile Home Parks) from the owners of two mobile/manufactured home communities in Spokane, seeking clarification that the recently adopted policy, which seeks to preserve mobile and manufacture home parks as an affordable housing option in Spokane, will be implemented through the use of voluntary incentives and related strategies. The proposed clarification was within the range of amendments presented to the Plan Commission during earlier workshops on the 2017 Update. The Plan Commission, by a vote of 8 to 0, recommended modifying the 2017 Update to include amendments clarifying that LU 1.16 should be implemented, where appropriate, through voluntary measures.
- U.** The Plan Commission extended the public comment period for written testimony to March 15, 2017 and held deliberations on the Comprehensive Plan Update proposals on March 22, 2017.

- V. During deliberations the Plan Commission considered the 2017 Update using the criteria requirements set forth in SMC 17G.020, "Comprehensive Plan Amendment Procedures", to ensure that the updated Comprehensive Plan meets those requirements.
- W. The Department of Commerce and Spokane Regional Transportation Council will review the Comprehensive Plan pursuant to the requirement of GMA which requires a 60-day comment period prior to adoption by City Council in April, following Plan Commission review and recommendation of the 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update, and prior to scheduling a hearing before Spokane City Council for review and adoption of the 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update, as may be amended.

Conclusions:

The City Plan Commission concludes that the 2017 Update, as modified by the Plan Commission during its public hearing, was developed through an open and public process, that the proposed amendments are consistent with the Growth Management Act and will protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of the general public.

With regard as to whether the 2017 Update, as modified, meets the approval criteria for text amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, the Plan Commission makes the following findings:

- A. The 2017 Update **IS** consistent with the Growth Management Act, and is consistent with the existing Comprehensive Plan Policies.
- B. The 2017 Update **IS** consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies for Spokane County.
- C. The 2017 Update **WAS** developed through an open and public process, and the City satisfied all public notice and participation requirements.
- D. The 2017 Update **WILL** protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Spokane and the general public.
- E. The City **HAS** complied with State Environmental Policy Act requirements in the review and processing of the 2017 Update.

Recommendations:

By a vote of 8 to 0, the Plan Commission unanimously recommended to the City Council the approval of the proposed 2017 Update to the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan, as modified by the Plan Commission.

These findings and conclusions were approved on April 12, 2017.

Dennis Dellwo

Spokane Plan Commission

March 22, 2017

BRIEFING PAPER
City of Spokane
Plan Commission Workshop, April 26, 2017

Subject

The proposal is to update the way that annual amendment proposals to the Comprehensive Plan and the Unified Development Code are reviewed. This proposal would add a threshold determination or a “docketing” step; SMC Chapters 17G.020 and 17G.025 govern these procedure.

Background

Currently, requests to amend the City’s Comprehensive Plan and Unified Development Code, after initial staff and agency review, proceed to the Plan Commission and then to City Council for legislative consideration.

In order to better handle the work load for staff, Plan Commission and the City Council, this proposed amendment will add a process of threshold review prior to full review. It is anticipated that this early review step will also benefit applicants who may spend considerable time and resources on proposed amendments. This early review would establish a Comprehensive Plan Annual Amendment Work Program to be referred to as “the docket” for ease of use. Once this is established, full review would begin. This proposal does not make substantial changes to the full review process now followed.

Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan can be Land Use Plan Map amendments or text amendments. Annual Amendment proposals may be initiated by anyone.

Key Concepts in this code update:

- For early threshold review procedure, the draft in your packet, has language that requires the Plan Commission to hold a public hearing on the applications submitted for early threshold review. The Plan Commission will make a recommendation to the City Council on the threshold review applications. City Council will then set the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program by resolution. Alternatives to this approach were discussed at the previous workshops.
- A \$500 fee currently designated as “pre-application fee” would be re-purposed as the “docket consideration fee”. If an application moves on to full review, the amendment base fee of \$5,000 would be required with a credit for the previous \$500 paid. (SMC 8.02.692).
- This proposal would incorporate any non-city amendments proposed to the Unified Development Code (Title 17) into the docket procedure that will be used primarily for proposed amendments to the comprehensive plan.

Project Timeline

January 25, 2017 – Concept workshop with Plan Commission

March 22, 2017 – Workshop with Plan Commission

April 26, 2017 – PC Workshop with draft language
May -Public Open House if Plan Commission feels draft is ready
May – additional Plan Commission Review?
June 14, 2017?? – Potential Plan Commission Public Hearing
Summer 2017 – City Council Public Hearing

Additional information: Completed [2015/2016 Annual Amendments](#) and the current process.
[Annual amendments for 2017 are suspended](#) while the city adopts the periodic update to the Comprehensive Plan.

Title 17G Administration and Procedures

Chapter 17G.020 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Procedure

Section 17G.020.010 is amended as follows:

Section 17G.020.010 ((Comprehensive Plan Amendment Purpose)) Purpose and Guiding Principles

- A. This chapter ~~((provides the process))~~ establishes the procedure and decision criteria that the City will use to review and ((for amending)) amend the comprehensive plan, including the annual public participation process for proposals to amend the comprehensive plan. All actions taken during the ~~((annual))~~ amendment process are legislative actions. These actions include amendments to the land use plan map ~~or~~ and/or text of the comprehensive plan.
- B. The guiding principles of the annual amendment process ~~((for comprehensive plan amendments))~~ are as follows:
1. Keep the comprehensive plan alive and responsive to the community.
 2. Provide for simultaneous review of proposals to allow for cumulative impact analysis of all applications on a City-wide basis and in conjunction with budget decisions.
 3. Make map adjustments based on a foundation in policy language, consistently applying those concepts citywide.
 4. Honor the community's long-term investment in the comprehensive plan, through public participation and neighborhood planning processes, by not making changes lightly.
 5. Encourage development that will enable our whole community to prosper and reinforce our sense of place and feeling of community, in an ecologically, economically and socially sustainable manner.
 6. ~~((The proposed changes))~~ Amendments to the comprehensive plan must result in a net benefit to the general public.
- C. Scope of Amendments.
A proposed plan amendment may include additions, deletions, corrections, updates, modifications or revisions to:
1. Comprehensive plan maps, goals and policies in the various elements, including the capital facilities program and other supporting documents;
 2. Regulations that implement the comprehensive plan, including the land use code or zoning map, the shoreline master program and critical areas regulations;
 3. Administrative and regulatory procedures that implement the comprehensive plan; or
 4. The comprehensive plan or its implementation measures, as necessitated by annexation action.
 5. Proposed amendments may not include amendments to the urban growth area boundary.

Commented [BT1]: This section has been moved from SMC 17G.020.050(A) with the exception of #5 which is new text.

Section 17G.020.020 is amended as follows:

Section 17G.020.020 ((Timing)) Amendment Process

~~((No more frequently than once every year, the plan commission may recommend and the city council may adopt amendments to the land use plan map, or the text of the comprehensive plan, upon finding that each proposal meets all of the following conditions and requirements. However, proposals that are not consistent with the comprehensive plan are addressed only within the context of the required comprehensive plan update cycle every seven years pursuant to RCW 36.70A.130(4)(c) and every other year starting in 2005.))~~

- ~~A. This chapter applies to and establishes the procedures for consideration of proposed amendments to the comprehensive plan. A proposal for an area-wide or a site-specific rezone that would implement the comprehensive plan and land use plan map (and therefore does not require plan modification) is quasi-judicial and may be considered at any time, subject to the ((application requirements of SMC 17G.060.070)) procedures set forth in chapter 17G.060 SMC.~~

A new section 17G.020.025 is added as follows:

Section 17G.020.025 Initiation of Amendment Proposals

- A. Amendment proposals initiated by the public or persons or entities other than the City.
1. General. Members of the public or persons or entities other than the City Council and Spokane Plan Commission (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the public") may initiate comprehensive plan amendment proposals subject to the provisions of this section. Amendment proposals initiated by the public are reviewed as part of an annual cycle and pursuant to a two-tiered process: a threshold review and a final review, as described below:
 - a. Threshold Review. The threshold review process will determine those proposals that will be included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Work Program and will determine their geographic scope.
 - i. Plan Commission Review. Pursuant to the applicable procedural provisions of this chapter, complete applications to propose an amendment to the comprehensive plan submitted during the time period set forth in section 17G.020.060 will be reviewed by the Plan Commission. The Plan Commission will hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to the City Council, using the criteria set forth in SMC 17G.020.026, as to which amendment proposals initiated by the public should be included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program.
 - ii. Consideration of Geographic Scope. Prior to the hearing, the Plan Commission shall review the geographic scope of any proposed amendments. Expansion of the geographic scope may be recommended if nearby, similarly situated property shares the characteristics of the proposed amendment's site. Expansion shall be the minimum necessary to include properties with shared characteristics.
 - iii. City Council Review. The City Council will review the Plan Commission recommendation and the criteria set forth in SMC 17G.020.026, and determine which amendment proposals will be included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program, and their geographic

scope. Those proposals included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program will then be referred back staff and to the Plan Commission for the Final Review process.

- iv. Alternative Disposition. Proposals not included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program may, at the City's discretion, be considered as provided in subsection A.2 of this section.
- b. Final Review. The final review process will evaluate the proposed amendments included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program and culminate in Council action on the proposed amendments.
 - i. Plan Commission Review. The Plan Commission will review the proposed amendments included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program, hold a public hearing, and make a recommendation to the City Council as to each proposed amendment, using the criteria set forth in SMC 17G.020.030.
 - ii. City Council Action. The City Council will review the Plan Commission recommendations and the criteria set forth in SMC 17G.020.030 and decide on each proposed amendment in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program.
- 2. Alternatives for Proposals Not Included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program.
 - a. Ongoing Work Program. A proposal that is not included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program may, at the City's discretion, be included in a previously established ongoing work program if it raises policy or land use issues more appropriately addressed by such ongoing work program.
 - b. Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update. A proposal that is not included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program may, at the City's discretion, be considered in the course of the City's next Comprehensive Plan periodic update required by RCW 36.70A.130(5) if it addresses a matter appropriate to include in the Comprehensive Plan and is consistent with current policy implementation in the Countywide Planning Policies, GMA, and other state or federal laws and implementing regulations.

B. Amendment Proposals Initiated by the City Council or Plan Commission.

- 1. City Council.
 - a. Initiation. Proposals to amend the Comprehensive Plan may be made by the City Council at any time. An affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the total members of the City Council is required to initiate consideration of an amendment.
 - b. Review. Amendment proposals initiated by the City Council will be reviewed by the Plan Commission and acted upon by Council as set forth in subsection A.1.b of this section, Final Review.
- 2. Plan Commission.

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1.25", No bullets or numbering

- a. Initiation. Proposals to amend the comprehensive plan may be made by the Plan Commission at any time and submitted to the City Council for consideration for inclusion in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program.
 - b. Review. The Council will review the Plan Commission proposals and determine which will be included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program. Those proposals included will be referred back to the Plan Commission and Council for review as set forth in subsection A.1.b of this section.
3. Subarea Plan Review. The City Council may initiate a review of a subarea plan in accordance with the procedure specified in subsection B.1 of this section when it concludes that the issues arising in a subarea are of sufficient magnitude and complexity to merit review through a subarea review process. Prior to review of a subarea plan, the Council shall approve a public involvement program that has the goal of effectively and efficiently soliciting a broad spectrum of public viewpoints.

A new Section 17G.020.026 is added as follows:

Section 17G.020.026 Threshold Review Decision Criteria

The City Council may add a proposed amendment to the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program if the following criteria have been met

- A. The proposed amendment presents a matter appropriately addressed through the comprehensive plan; and
- B. The proposed amendment does not raise policy or land use issues that are more appropriately addressed by an ongoing work program approved by the City Council or by a neighborhood or subarea planning process; and
- C. The proposed amendment can be reasonably reviewed within the resources and time frame of the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program; and
- D. The proposed amendment addresses significantly changed conditions since the last time the pertinent comprehensive plan land use map or text was amended. For purposes of this section, "significantly changed conditions" requires demonstrating evidence of change such as unanticipated consequences of an adopted policy, or changed conditions on the subject property or its surrounding area, or changes related to the pertinent plan map or text; where such change has implications of a magnitude that need to be addressed for the comprehensive plan to function as an integrated whole; and
- E. When expansion of the geographic scope of an amendment proposal is being considered, shared characteristics with nearby, similarly situated property have been identified and the expansion is the minimum necessary to include properties with those shared characteristics; and
- F. The proposed amendment is consistent with current general policies in the comprehensive plan for site-specific amendment proposals. The proposed amendment must also be consistent with policy implementation in the Countywide Planning Policies, the GMA, or other state or federal law, and the Washington Administrative Code; and

- G. The proposed amendment is not the same as or substantially similar to a proposal that was considered in the previous year's threshold review process, but was not included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program, unless additional supporting information has been generated;
- H. State law required, or a decision of a court or administrative agency has directed such a change.

Section 17G.020.030 is amended as follows:

Section 17G.020.030 Final Review Criteria

The following is a list of considerations that shall be used, as appropriate, by the applicant in developing an amendment proposal, by planning staff in analyzing a proposal, ~~((and)) by the plan commission in making its recommendation on the proposal, and by the city council in ((determining whether a criterion for approval has been met))~~ making a decision on the proposal.

- A. Regulatory Changes.
Amendments to the comprehensive plan must be consistent with any recent state or federal legislative actions, or changes to state or federal regulations, such as changes to the Growth Management Act, or new environmental regulations.
- B. GMA.
The change must be consistent with the goals and purposes of the ~~((state))~~ Growth Management Act.
- C. Financing.
In keeping with the GMA's requirement for plans to be supported by financing commitments, infrastructure implications of approved comprehensive plan amendments must be reflected in the relevant six-year capital improvement plan(s) approved in the same budget cycle.
- D. Funding Shortfall.
If funding shortfalls suggest the need to scale back on land use objectives and/or service level standards, those decisions must be made with public input as part of this process for amending the comprehensive plan and capital facilities program.

E. Internal Consistency.

1.

The requirement for internal consistency pertains to the comprehensive plan as it relates to all of its supporting documents, such as the development regulations, capital facilities program, shoreline master program, downtown plan, critical area regulations, and any neighborhood planning documents adopted after 2001. In addition, amendments should strive to be consistent with the parks plan, and vice versa. For example, changes to the development regulations must be reflected in consistent adjustments to the goals or policies in the comprehensive plan. As appropriate, changes to the map or text of the comprehensive plan must also result in corresponding adjustments to the zoning map and implementation regulations in the Spokane Municipal Code.

1-2. If a proposed amendment is significantly inconsistent with current policy within the comprehensive plan, an amendment proposal must also include wording that would

realign the relevant parts of the comprehensive plan and its other supporting documents with the full range of changes implied by the proposal.

E.F. Regional Consistency.

All changes to the comprehensive plan must be consistent with the countywide planning policies (CWPP), the comprehensive plans of neighboring jurisdictions, applicable capital facilities or special district plans, the regional transportation improvement plan, and official population growth forecasts.

F.G. Cumulative Effect.

All amendments must be considered concurrently in order to evaluate their cumulative effect on the comprehensive plan text and map, development regulations, capital facilities program, neighborhood planning documents, adopted environmental policies and other relevant implementation measures.

1. Land Use Impacts.

In addition, applications should be reviewed for their cumulative land use impacts. Where adverse environmental impacts are identified, mitigation requirements may be imposed as a part of the approval action.

2. Grouping.

Proposals for area-wide rezones and/or site-specific land use plan map amendments may be evaluated by geographic sector and/or land use type in order to facilitate the assessment of their cumulative impacts.

G.H. SEPA.

SEPA review must be completed on all amendment proposals and is described in chapter 17E.050.

0. Grouping.

When possible, the SEPA review process should be combined for related land use types or affected geographic sectors in order to better evaluate the proposals' cumulative impacts. This combined review process may result in a single threshold determination for those related proposals.

1. DS.

If a determination of significance (DS) is made regarding any proposal, that application will be deferred for further consideration until the next applicable review cycle in order to allow adequate time for generating and processing the required environmental impact statement (EIS).

H.I. Adequate Public Facilities

The amendment must not adversely affect the City's ability to provide the full range of urban public facilities and services (as described in CFU 2.1 and CFU 2.2) citywide at the planned level of service, or consume public resources otherwise needed to support comprehensive plan implementation strategies.

I.J. UGA.

Amendments to the urban growth area boundary may only be proposed by the city council or the mayor of Spokane and shall follow the procedures of the countywide planning policies for Spokane County.

J.K. ~~((Consistent Amendments))~~ Demonstration of Need.

- Policy Adjustments.

Proposed policy adjustments that are intended to be consistent with the comprehensive plan should be designed to provide correction or additional guidance so the community's original visions and values can better be achieved. The need for this type of adjustment might be supported by findings from feedback instruments related to monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the comprehensive plan. Examples of such findings could include:

- a. growth and development as envisioned in the plan is occurring faster, slower or is failing to materialize;
- b. the capacity to provide adequate services is diminished or increased;
- c. land availability to meet demand is reduced;
- d. population or employment growth is significantly different than the plan's assumptions;
- e. plan objectives are not being met as specified;
- f. the effect of the plan on land values and affordable housing is contrary to plan goals;
- g. transportation and/or other capital improvements are not being made as expected;
- h. a question of consistency exists between the comprehensive plan and its elements and chapter 36.70A RCW, the countywide planning policies, or development regulations.

- Map Changes.

Changes to the land use plan map (and by extension, the zoning map) may only be approved if the proponent has demonstrated that all of the following are true:

- i. The designation is in conformance with the appropriate location criteria identified in the comprehensive plan (e.g., compatibility with neighboring land uses, proximity to arterials, etc.);
- j. The map amendment or site is suitable for the proposed designation;
- k. The map amendment implements applicable comprehensive plan policies and subarea plans better than the current map designation.

- Rezones, Land Use Plan Map Amendment.

Corresponding rezones will be adopted concurrently with land use plan map amendments as a legislative action of the city council. If policy language changes have map implications, changes to the land use plan map and zoning map will be made accordingly for all affected sites upon adoption of the new policy language. This is done to ensure that the comprehensive plan remains internally consistent and to preserve consistency between the comprehensive plan and supporting development regulations.

K.L. ~~((Inconsistent Amendments.~~

0. — Review Cycle.

~~Because of the length of time required for staff review, public comment, and plan commission's in-depth analysis of the applicant's extensive supporting data and long-term trend analysis, proposals that are not consistent with the comprehensive plan are addressed only within the context of the~~

required comprehensive plan update cycle every seven years pursuant to RCW 36.70A.130(4)(C) and every other year starting in 2005.

1. ~~Adequate Documentation of Need for Change.~~

- a. ~~The burden of proof rests entirely with the applicant to provide convincing evidence that community values, priorities, needs and trends have changed sufficiently to justify a fundamental shift in the comprehensive plan. Results from various measurement systems should be used to demonstrate or document the need to depart from the current version of the comprehensive plan. Relevant information may include:~~
- b. ~~growth and development as envisioned in the plan is occurring faster, slower or is failing to materialize;~~
- c. ~~the capacity to provide adequate services is diminished or increased;~~
- d. ~~land availability to meet demand is reduced;~~
- e. ~~population or employment growth is significantly different than the plan's assumptions;~~
- f. ~~transportation and/or other capital improvements are not being made as expected;~~
- g. ~~conditions have changed substantially in the area within which the subject property lies and/or Citywide;~~
- h. ~~assumptions upon which the plan is based are found to be invalid; or~~
- i. ~~sufficient change or lack of change in circumstances dictates the need for such consideration.~~

2. ~~Overall Consistency.~~

~~If significantly inconsistent with the current version of the comprehensive plan, an amendment proposal must also include wording that would realign the relevant parts of the comprehensive plan and its other supporting documents with the full range of changes implied by the proposal.))~~

Section 17G.020.040 is amended as follows:

Section 17G.020.040 Amendment ((Exceptions)) Frequency

The comprehensive plan shall be subject to continuing review and evaluation by the City. Amendments to the comprehensive plan should not be considered more frequently than once a year, except as described in RCW 36.70A.130 or in the following cases: ((The following types of amendments may be considered more frequently than once a year, provided that all of the amendment criteria have been met, and appropriate steps have been taken to ensure public participation.))

- A. Initial adoption of a specific/subarea plan that does not modify the comprehensive plan policies and designations applicable to the subarea (RCW 36.70A.130(2)(a)(i)).-However, as anticipated by the comprehensive plan, redesignations are exempt that comply with and implement the comprehensive plan policies regarding designations created as a part of initial neighborhood and centers planning efforts through the neighborhood planning program. Also, future annexations will require an amendment to the land use plan map.
- B. Amendment to the Land Use Plan Map to accommodate an annexation into the city.

- C. Adoption or amendment of ((a)) the shoreline master program.
- D. Amendment of the capital facilities program portion of the comprehensive plan that occurs concurrently with the adoption or amendment of a City budget.
- E. Whenever an emergency exists. The plan commission will review a potential emergency situation, with advice from the city attorney's office, to determine if the situation does, in fact, necessitate an emergency comprehensive plan amendment. Findings must demonstrate a need of neighborhood or community-wide significance, and not a personal emergency on the part of a particular applicant or property owner. Potential emergency situations may involve official, legal or administrative actions, such as those to immediately avoid an imminent danger to public health and safety, prevent imminent danger to public or private property, prevent an imminent threat of serious environmental degradation or address the absence of adequate and available public facilities or services.
- F. Changes necessary to resolve an appeal of a comprehensive plan filed with a growth management hearings board or with the court.
- G. Changes necessary to address any recent state or federal legislative actions, or changes to state or federal regulations, such as changes to the Growth Management Act, or new environmental regulations.
- H. Changes to development regulations that are consistent with the comprehensive plan or are necessary to implement the comprehensive plan.
- I. Technical corrections that would remove typographical errors or resolve a mapping error.

Section 17G.020.050 is amended as follows:

Section 17G.020.050 Amendment Applications

- A. ~~Scope of Amendments.~~
~~A proposed plan amendment may include additions, deletions, corrections, updates, modifications or revisions to:~~
 - 1. ~~comprehensive plan maps, goals and policies in the various elements, including the capital facilities program and other supporting documents;~~
 - 2. ~~regulations that implement the comprehensive plan, including the land use code or zoning map, the shoreline master program and critical areas regulations;~~
 - 3. ~~administrative and regulatory procedures that implement the comprehensive plan;~~
or
 - 4. ~~the comprehensive plan or its implementation measures, as necessitated by annexation action.~~
- B. ~~((Applicant.~~
~~Any person or entity may apply for a comprehensive plan amendment with the exception of amendments to the UGA which are initiated by the city council or mayor of Spokane.))~~

Commented [BT2]: This language has been moved to section 17G.020.010

A. ~~((Pre-application))~~ Threshold Review Application.

Prior to submitting an amendment proposal for threshold review per SMC 17G.020.025A.1.a, a

private applicant is required to schedule a pre-application conference. The following shall be submitted prior to scheduling the predevelopment conference by submitting the following:

1. ~~((Pre-))~~Threshold review application form, including a general summary of the nature of the ~~((desired change))~~ proposed amendment.
2. The ~~((pre-application))~~ threshold review fee as specified in chapter 8.02 SMC.

B. Final Review Application. ~~((Components.))~~

If an amendment proposal is included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program, ~~((A private applicant for a comprehensive plan amendment))~~ the person or entity that initiated the amendment proposal must submit the following documents and fees:

1. A general application.
2. A supplemental application for a comprehensive plan text or map amendment proposal, containing the following information:
 - a. Nature of and reason for the amendment request, including whether the applicant believes the proposal is consistent ~~((or inconsistent))~~ with the current comprehensive plan, and whether the applicant believes any ~~((specific suggested changes))~~ additional amendments to the plan, policies, and/or other related document, may be necessary to maintain the comprehensive plan's internal consistency. "The applicant's decision to characterize an amendment proposal as either consistent or inconsistent does not imply that the plan commission or city council will later agree with that characterization.
 - b. Statement of how the amendment request is consistent with all of the ~~((decision))~~ criteria guiding principles and final review criteria.
3. A completed SEPA checklist. A supplement ~~is~~ will be required at the time of permit or development application (if the Comprehensive Plan amendment is approved) since all comprehensive plan amendments are considered non-project proposals.
4. A notification district map.
5. Except for amendment proposals initiated by the Plan Commission or City Council, the ~~((Full))~~ full application fee (as specified in chapter 8.02 SMC) with credit given for the ~~((pre-application))~~ threshold review fee that has already been paid.
 - a. Fees shall not be required for amendment applications submitted by a neighborhood council or resulting from a neighborhood planning process.
 - b. SMC 8.02.011(C) provides that the mayor or his/her designee may waive this fee if the applicant meets certain low-income criteria.

Section 17G.020.060 is amended as follows:

Section 17G.020.060 Process for Application, Review and Decision

A. ~~((Pre-application Form))~~

~~((Applicants must submit a ~~((pre-application))~~ threshold review application form and fee in order to schedule a pre-application conference.))~~

A. Pre-application Conference.

A pre-application conference is required in order to give the applicant and staff an opportunity to explore options for addressing the applicant's ~~((desired change))~~ proposed amendment. During the pre-application conference, staff will work with the applicant to consider which aspect of the planning department's work program would be the most appropriate arena for addressing their ~~((concern))~~ proposal. Staff and the applicant will also explore approaches to the amendment proposal that would help to make it consistent with the comprehensive plan. In addition, staff will do its best to advise the applicant on the extent of justification and documentation needed to support the application (depending on the degree the proposal varies from the comprehensive plan).

~~B. ((Deadline for Consideration.))~~ Application Deadline.

~~((Applications for amendment will be accepted any time after the applicant has completed a pre-application conference.))~~ Applications for threshold review initiated by the public must be submitted between September 1 and October 31 in order to be considered for inclusion in that cycle's Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program. Planning staff shall have 30 days following application submittal to request additional information in order to make sure the application is counter complete. An application ((will)) shall not move ahead for final review unless it is added to the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program by the City Council pursuant to SMC 17G.020.025, and a final review application has been submitted as provided in SMC 17G.020.050D. Final review applications and fees must be submitted no later than fifteen (15) days following the City Council's decision to place an amendment proposal on the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program. ((An application will not move ahead for further consideration until it has been certified as a "complete application" by the planning department. All applications that are certified complete by November 30th will be considered concurrently during the upcoming amendment cycle. Applications must be submitted no later than October 31st if the applicant is seeking application certification by November 30th. Applications that are certified complete after November 30th will be docketed for consideration during future amendment cycles. In addition, consideration of proposals may be delayed if a large volume of requests is received or a large-scale study is required in order to adequately assess a proposal.))

~~((C. Application Certification, Docketing~~

Within twenty-eight days of receiving an amendment application, planning staff will review it for completeness and adequacy, either certifying it as a "complete application" or notifying the applicant in writing as to which specific elements are missing or incomplete, according to the provisions of SMC 17G.060.090. Once staff certifies the application as complete, it is then docketed for future consideration by the plan commission and city council. (However, amendment applications are not subject to the one-hundred-twenty-day review requirements of chapter 36.70B RCW.)

D. ~~((Full Review — SEPA.))~~ Review by City Staff and Agencies.

~~((Full))~~ Once the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program is set by City Council and staff have received the full application and fees, full review of proposals may begin. City staff shall notify interested city departments and agencies of all proposals on the docket and request review and comments. SEPA review and in-depth staff analysis of the proposals

may require additional information and studies (such as a traffic study) which the applicant may be required to provide. ~~((begins December 1st for those proposals certified complete by November 30th. Priority of proposal))~~ Timely review is ~~((based))~~ dependent on the applicant's timely response to requests for information and studies and compliance with notice requirements. ~~((and provision of requested studies.))~~ Related proposals are reviewed in groups according to 17G.020.030(H)(2) and (I)(1). Based on findings from the SEPA review and staff and agency analysis, the applicant may be required to conduct additional studies. If required studies are not completed sufficiently in advance of the end of the comment period to allow for adequate staff and public review, the Planning Director may defer consideration of those applications ~~((will be postponed))~~ until the next applicable amendment cycle.

E. Notice of Application/SEPA.

~~((Within fourteen days of the completion of the review required in))~~ When the review described in subsection (ED) above is complete, staff sends ~~((the))~~ a form of notice of application to the applicant. Applicants must complete all notice requirements 17G.020.070(D) or 17G.020.070(E) within ~~((sixty))~~ thirty days of ~~((the date))~~ receiving the notice of application ~~((is sent by staff to the applicant))~~ provided by staff. This is a combined notice, also announcing that the proposal will be reviewed under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and comments will be accepted on environmental issues and any documents related to the proposal. If the planning director or his/her designee decides an amendment proposal could potentially affect multiple sites, staff may require that the notice of application reference all potentially affected sites.

F. Public Comment Period.

The public comment period initiated by the notice of application may last up to sixty days ~~(or longer)~~ and may not be less than thirty days, depending on the complexity and number of applications. During this time period each applicant must present their proposal to representatives of all neighborhood councils related to each potentially affected site. As public comment letters are received, the planning department will input contact information into a database for later use in notifying interested parties regarding specific stages of the process.

G. Plan Commission Consideration.

Plan commission consideration of each amendment proposal will be conducted at public workshops held during the public comment period. Applicants will be afforded the opportunity to address the plan commission during the workshop regarding their application. In order to stay abreast of public sentiment regarding each amendment proposal, the plan commission and staff will also review public comment correspondence ~~((and hold public open houses))~~ during this time.

H. SEPA Determination.

~~((Within ten days of))~~ Following the end of the public comment period, staff will complete the SEPA threshold determination pursuant to SMC 17E.050 and set a hearing date with the Plan Commission. Applicants must complete all notice requirements in SMC 17G.020.070 within thirty days of the date of the applicant's receipt of the notice of SEPA determination and Notice of Plan Commission hearing provided by staff. ~~((and mail a combined notice of SEPA determination and notice of plan commission hearing to those applicants with a notice duty.))~~ If a determination of significance (DS) is made, those applications will be deferred for further consideration until the next applicable review cycle in order to allow adequate time for generating and processing the required environmental impact statement (EIS).

- I. Notice of SEPA and Hearing.
The combined notice of SEPA determination and notice of plan commission hearing must be published ~~((within seventeen days of the end of the public comment period, and))~~ fourteen days prior to the plan commission's hearing on the amendment proposals. If the SEPA determination on an application is appealed, the plan commission and hearing examiner hearings on the file both proceed ahead on parallel tracks. If the hearing examiner's reversal of a planning director's decision regarding SEPA imposes requirements that would delay further consideration of the proposal, that application is then deferred for further plan commission consideration until the next applicable amendment cycle.
- J. Staff Report.
~~((Once the SEPA appeal period ends,))~~ Prior to the Plan Commission hearing, ~~((the))~~ staff prepares its final report, which should address((es both)) SEPA and provide an analysis regarding the merits of the amendment proposal. Copies of the report are ~~((mailed))~~provided to the applicant as well as ((the)) plan commission members, and made available to any interested person for the cost of reproduction. In addition, a copy of the proposed amendment application and the staff report is sent to the ~~((Washington state office of community, trade and economic development))~~ Washington State Department of Commerce and other state agencies for their sixty-day review, per RCW 36.70A.106, WAC 365-195-620, ~~and subsection ((1))((9)) of this section.~~
- K. Plan Commission Hearing.
The plan commission's ~~((public))~~ hearing takes place after the SEPA ~~((appeal period has expired))~~ decision has been issued. The hearing will usually occur within thirty days of the end of the public comment period.
- L. Plan Commission Recommendation.
The plan commission bases its recommendation on the ~~((review guidelines and required decision))~~ guiding principles, final review criteria, public input, conclusions from any required studies, the staff report, and the SEPA determination. The plan commission's ~~((findings and conclusions regarding its recommendation))~~ findings, conclusions, and recommendations are forwarded to the city council within thirty days of their decision. ~~((on their recommendation.))~~
The plan commission's recommendation may take the form of one of the following:
1. Approval based on support for the proposal and recognition that it is ~~((either))~~ consistent with the comprehensive plan ~~((and/or that enough evidence was presented to justify the need for the change.))~~ and applicable guiding principles and amendment review criteria.
 - The plan commission may also decide to condition their approval recommendation upon modification of the proposal. If the proposal is modified substantially, an additional hearing is required. One possible modification might be to expand the geographic scope of a privately initiated amendment in order to allow for consideration of nearby property, similarly situated property or area-wide impacts.
 2. Denial for the following reason(s):
 - a. The proposal ~~((does not comply with the review guidelines or decision criteria.))~~ is not consistent with applicable guiding principles and/or amendment review criteria.
 - b. A majority of the plan commission believes the proposal would be more appropriately and effectively addressed through another aspect of the planning department's work program (neighborhood planning, writing new regulations, etc.).

- c. The plan commission did not receive enough information from the applicant to be able to reach a decision based on the merits of the proposal. ~~((This could be for a variety of reasons, including the possibility that the application mislabeled the proposal as consistent with the comprehensive plan when it was actually inconsistent.))~~

L.M. City Council.

The city council considers the amendment proposals, public comments and testimony, staff report, and the plan commission's ~~((amendment))~~ recommendations within the context of its budget discussions, and acts on the amendment proposals prior to or at the same time as it adopts the City budget. The council may decide to approve, modify, continue consideration of or deny an amendment proposal. The council may also remand the proposal back to the plan commission for further consideration, in which case the council shall specify the time within which the plan commission shall report back with its findings and recommendations on the matter referred to it. If the council wishes to substantially modify the proposal before adopting it, the council ~~((may))~~ shall hold an additional hearing on the modified version following an opportunity for public input. The council's decision shall reflect the same decision criteria applied by the plan commission. ~~((, as indicated by comments in the council's findings on each item that factors into its decision.))~~ Proposals adopted by ordinance after public hearings are official amendments to the comprehensive plan.

Denied amendments shall have to wait one year before being resubmitted unless the proposed amendment is substantially modified. ~~((However, mislabeled applications that are denied for lack of documentation sufficient to support an inconsistent proposal may reapply during the next cycle for inconsistent amendments.))~~

M.N. Changes Made.

As soon as the adopted amendments become effective, the resulting text and map changes are made and reflected in information subsequently distributed to relevant parties, including the public, both in paper form and on the planning department's website. In addition, planning staff will maintain a running list of all comprehensive plan amendments over the years, and such list will be included as part of the comprehensive plan.

Section 17G.020.070 Notification

A. Application Deadline.

As a courtesy, the city will publish a reminder notice once in ~~((early January and again in))~~ early ~~((September))~~ August regarding each year's amendment application deadlines.

B. Private Applicant.

A private applicant assumes all responsibility for the costs and timely accomplishment of notice requirements related to their amendment proposal.

C. Text Changes.

Notice of application and notice of plan commission public hearings related to comprehensive plan or development regulation text changes require legal notice in the newspaper, and notice in the *Official Gazette*, written notice to neighborhood councils impacted by the text change, and prominent display on the planning services department Web site. After the notice is performed, affidavits of publishing/posting/mailling are

provided to the planning department by the applicant.

D. Map Changes.

Notice of application and notice of plan commission public hearings related to comprehensive land use plan map amendments or area-wide rezones require legal notice in the newspaper, and notice in the *Official Gazette*, written notice to neighborhood councils impacted by the map change and prominent display on the planning services department Web site. If initiated by private application, additional requirements include individual notice, and posted notice, as specified in [SMC 17G.060.120](#). In the case of an amendment proposal that could potentially affect multiple sites, requirements for individual notice shall apply to all potentially affected sites. The applicant submits affidavits of publication/posting/ mailing of the notice of public hearing to the planning services department at least ten days prior to the hearing.

E. City Council Hearing.

Notice of city council hearings must be published in the *Official Gazette*, and shall also be published as a legal notice in the newspaper. Written notice shall be given to neighborhood councils impacted by the change and amendments shall be prominently displayed on the planning services department Web site.

F. City Council Decisions.

City council decisions regarding comprehensive plan text or map amendments, development regulation text adoption or amendments, area-wide rezones or other land use decisions, regardless of whether initiated by private application, are legislative actions, and as such, only require notice in the *Official Gazette*. They do not require individual notice, even if numerous map changes could result from such an amendment. However, the city council may decide to provide notice of their decisions on site-specific or area-wide land use amendment proposals according to [SMC 17G.060.190](#).

G. Duration, Content of Notice.

Notice of plan commission public hearings shall be published at least fourteen days in advance of the hearing. Notice of city council public hearings must be published at least fourteen days before the hearing is scheduled to take place. When appropriate, notices should announce the availability of relevant draft documents upon request on the planning services department Web site.

H. Transmittal to State, Notice of Intent to Adopt.

At least sixty days prior to final adoption, copies of proposed amendments to the comprehensive plan or development regulations (e.g., application, staff report, draft ordinance) must be provided to the Washington state department of Commerce (Commerce) office of community, trade and economic development (CTED) as well as to other state agencies identified on a list distributed by CTED to planning jurisdictions, for their review and comment. In addition, copies of adopted amendments must be transmitted to ((CTED)) Commerce within ten days after final adoption (RCW 36.70A.106, WAC 365-195-620).

No amendments proposed....for your reference
[Section 17G.020.075](#) Supplemental Notice

A. Purpose.

In order to make all efforts to notify related parties, supplemental notification methods should be utilized, as appropriate, such as:

1. notifying public or private groups with known interest in a certain proposal or in the type of proposal being considered;
2. placing notices in appropriate regional, neighborhood, foreign language or trade journals; and
3. publishing notice in agency newsletters or sending notice to agency mailing lists, including general lists or lists for specific proposals or subject areas.

B. ~~((Who to Notify))~~ Notification.

Depending on the nature of particular applications, the ~~plan commission~~ Planning Director may decide to require additional notice procedures that are reasonably calculated to provide notice of proposed amendments to comprehensive plans and development regulations to any of the following groups:

1. Property owners, residents and building occupants.
2. Other affected and interested individuals.
3. Tribes.
4. Government agencies.
5. Businesses.
6. School districts; and
7. Organizations.

No amendments proposed....for your reference
[Section 17G.020.080](#) Public Participation Program

A. Roles

All complete final review applications for amendment to the comprehensive plan are considered and reviewed by the plan commission and city council. Depending on the content, scope or potential impact of a proposed modification, additional review by other citizen committees and opportunities for public comment may occur.

B. Goals.

Various public meetings, forums, presentations and outreach may be conducted in order to ensure:

1. broad dissemination of proposals and alternatives;
2. opportunity for written comments;
3. public meetings after effective notice;
4. provision for open discussion;
5. communication programs;
6. information services; and

7. consideration of and response to public comments.
- C. Strategies and Methods.
- In addition to plan commission and city council public hearings on amendment proposals, specific public participation strategies and methods should include, as appropriate:
1. efforts to involve the broadest cross-section of the community;
 2. a series of public meetings or workshops should be held at various locations;
 3. opportunity to make written comment;
 4. a variety of communication programs and information services, such as information packets, brochures and a speakers bureau;
 5. drafts of proposals and alternatives should be reproduced and made available to the public at the planning department offices, public libraries, and the planning department's website;
 6. notice of all events at which public input is sought should be broadly disseminated in advance through all available means, including flyers and press releases to print and broadcast media;
 7. all public meetings and hearings should be free and open. Anyone who wants to should be able to speak at a hearing.
- D. Neighborhood Meetings.
- Since all proposals are required to be consistent with any adopted neighborhood plan or center plan; persons proposing site-specific amendments are encouraged to address these through the neighborhood planning process. If the affected area currently has no existing neighborhood or center planning group, the applicant should meet with whatever representative body already exists (e.g., neighborhood council, or CDBG steering committee).
- E. Consideration of and Response to Public Comments.
- All comments and recommendations of the public should be reviewed. Adequate time should be provided between the time of any public hearing and the date of adoption of all or any part of the comprehensive plan to evaluate and respond to public comments. The proceedings and all public hearings should be recorded. A summary of public comments and an explanation of what action was taken in response to them should be made in writing and included in the record of adoption of the plan.
- F. SEPA.
- Every effort should be made to incorporate public involvement efforts into the SEPA process.
- G. Emergencies.
- Amendments outside the regular annual amendment cycle, such as emergency amendments, still carry a requirement for appropriate public participation.

Chapter 17G.025 is amended as follows:

Chapter 17G.025
Unified Development Code Amendment Procedure

**17G.025.010 ~~((Text Amendments to the))~~ Unified Development Code
Amendment Procedure**

- A. Initiation.
~~((Text amendments))~~Proposals to amend ~~((to this code))~~ Title 17 SMC may be initiated by any of the following, pursuant to the procedures set forth in this chapter:
1. Property owner(s) or their representatives;
 2. Any citizen, agency, neighborhood council, or other party; or
 3. A ~~((City))~~ city department, the plan commission, or the city council.
- B. Applications. ~~((Applications shall be made))~~ Amendment proposals shall be submitted on application forms provided by the City. Application fees are specified in Chapter 8.02 SMC.
- C. Application Submittal for Amendment Proposals Initiated by Persons or Entities Other than the City.
1. ~~((After submittal of an applicant-initiated application, the application))~~Privately-initiated amendment applications must be submitted no later than October 31 each year and shall be subject to ~~((a pre-application conference, counter-complete determination, and fully complete determination pursuant to chapter 17G.060 SMC))~~ the threshold review and docketing procedures set forth in Chapter 17G.020.025 SMC, using the following criteria:
 - a. The proposed amendment presents a matter appropriately addressed through an amendment to Title 17 SMC; and
 - b. The proposed amendment does not raise policy or land use issues that are more appropriately addressed by an ongoing work program approved by the City Council or by a neighborhood/subarea planning process; and
 - c. The proposed amendment can be reasonably reviewed within the resources and time frame of the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program; and
 - d. The proposed amendment is consistent with the comprehensive plan. The proposed amendment must also be consistent with policy implementation in the Countywide Planning Policies, the GMA, and other state or federal law; and

- e. The proposed amendment is not the same as or substantially similar to a proposal that was considered in the previous year's threshold review process, but was not included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program, unless additional supporting information has been generated; or
- f. State law required, or a decision of a court or administrative agency has directed such a change.

- 2. ~~((After submittal))~~ If the proposed text amendment is included on the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program, the application ~~((shall))~~ should be placed on the next available plan commission agenda for a workshop.

D. Notice of Intent to Adopt and SEPA Review

Proposals to amend Title 17 SMC may be subject to SEPA review, unless categorically exempt. When a draft of the amendment proposal and SEPA checklist are available for review by the public, a notice describing the amendment proposal should be published in the City Gazette at time of Plan Commission workshop review, or earlier if possible. Public participation, appropriate to the scope or potential impact of the proposal, should be undertaken as outlined in SMC 17G.020.080.

E. ~~D.~~ Notice of Public Hearing.

Amendments to ~~((this code))~~ Title 17 SMC require a public hearing before the plan commission.

1. Contents of Notice.

A notice of public hearing shall include the following:

- a. The citation, if any, of the provision that would be changed by the proposal along with a brief description of that provision;
- b. A statement of how the proposal would change the affected provision;
- c. The date, time, and place of the public hearing;
- d. A statement of the availability of the official file; ~~((and))~~
- e. Description of SEPA Status; including if the project is SEPA exempt, and if so, a statement of the statutory basis for the exemption; and
- f. A statement of the right of any person to submit written comments to the planning commission and to appear at the public hearing of the planning commission to give oral comments on the proposal.

2. Distribution of Notice.

The department shall distribute the notice to the applicant, newspaper, City Hall and the main branch of the library. The applicant is then responsible for following the public notice requirements outlined in SMC 17G.060.120, Public Notice – Types of Notice.

E. Plan Commission Recommendation – Procedure.

Following the public hearing, the plan commission shall consider the proposal and shall prepare and forward a recommendation to the city council. The plan commission shall take one of the following actions:

1. If the plan commission determines that the proposal should be adopted, it may, by a majority vote, recommend that the city council adopt the proposal. The plan commission may make modifications to any proposal prior to recommending the proposal to city council for adoption. If the modifications proposed by the plan commission are significant, the plan commission shall accept testimony on the modifications before voting on the modified proposal, unless the proposed modifications are within the scope of alternatives available for public comment ahead of the hearing;
2. If the plan commission determines that the proposal should not be adopted, it may, by a majority vote, recommend that the city council not adopt the proposal; or
3. If the plan commission is unable to take either of the actions specified in subsection (E)(1) or (2) of this section, the proposal will be sent to city council with the notation that the plan commission makes no recommendation.

F. Approval Criteria.

The City may approve amendments to this code if it finds that:

1. The proposed amendment is consistent with the applicable provisions of the comprehensive plan; and
2. The proposed amendment bears a substantial relation to public health, safety, welfare, and protection of the environment.

G. City Council Action.

Within sixty days of receipt of the plan commission's findings and recommendations, the city council shall consider the findings and recommendations of the commission concerning the application and shall hold a public hearing pursuant to council rules. Notice of city council hearings must be published in the *Official Gazette*. The applicant shall also publish a legal notice in the newspaper at least two weeks prior to the hearing by the city council. ~~((By a majority vote, the city council shall:))~~ The council may:

1. Approve the application;
2. Disapprove the application;
3. Modify the application. If modification is substantial, the council must either conduct a new public hearing on the modified proposal (unless the modification is within the scope of alternatives available for public comment ahead of the hearing); or
4. Refer the proposal back to the plan commission for further consideration.

H. Transmittal to the State of Washington.
At least sixty days prior to final action being taken by the city council, the Washington department of ~~((community, trade and economic development))~~ commerce ("commerce") shall be provided with a copy of the amendments in order to initiate the sixty-day comment period. No later than ten days after adoption of the proposal, a copy of the final decision shall be forwarded to commerce.

I. Inapplicability to certain chapters.

This Chapter does not apply to the following chapters of the Spokane Municipal Code: 17F.040 (International Building Code, International Residential Code, International Energy Conservation Code), 17F.050 (National Electrical Code), 17F.080 (International Fire Code), 17F.090 (International Mechanical Code), and 17F.100 (Uniform Plumbing Code) (collectively referred to as the "construction standards"). The construction standards specified in this subsection may be amended, after notice to the Plan Commission, pursuant to the City Council's regular legislative process, subject to the requirements of Chapter 43.21C RCW, if any, and further subject to RCW 19.27.040 and 19.27.060, and shall, to the extent they apply to single-family or multifamily residential buildings, be submitted for the approval of the State Building Code Council pursuant to RCW 19.27.074(1)(b).

Amending SMC Section 8.02.699 Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Code Amendments

Title 08 Taxation and Revenue

Chapter 08.02 Fees and Charges

Article VI. Land Use and Occupancy

Section 08.02.069 Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Code Amendments

- A. A ~~((pre-application))~~ threshold review fee of five hundred dollars shall be charged for applications submitted pursuant to [SMC 17G.020.010\(G\)\(3\)](#) and shall be credited to the full application fee pursuant to [SMC 17G.020.010\(G\)\(4\)\(e\)](#).
- B. The fee for a proposal to change the comprehensive plan, map or text, or other land use codes, is five thousand dollars plus one thousand seventy five dollars per each additional increment of ten acres of site for comprehensive plan map changes plus the cost of publishing the notice of hearing in the newspaper.
- C. A fee of eighty-five dollars per hour may be charged to cover a particular planning staff service for the applicant that greatly exceeds the above fees or is not covered by the fees listed above.
- D. For a formal written interpretation of the comprehensive plan: One thousand seventy-five dollars.

BRIEFING PAPER
City of Spokane
Plan Commission
April 26, 2017

Subject

The YARD US EPA Area Wide Plan (AWP) Grant Update – Final Draft Plan and next steps.

Intent

The intent of this briefing is to present the final draft YARD Area Wide Plan to the Plan Commission, provide an opportunity for Q&A, and assist in preparation for a future hearing and recommendations by the Commission.

Background

The USEPA Brownfield Area-wide Plan (AWP) is intended advance the YARD Development Strategy by building on previous planning efforts. The plan capitalizes on the Northeast Public Development Authority (NEPDA) as a liaison between City of Spokane and the community.

This AWP planning effort was grounded in a market feasibility analysis; addresses major infrastructure needs; and, engaged the Hillyard community and partners throughout the planning process.

The goal of the plan is to:

1. Increase industrial employment base
2. Capitalize on North Spokane Corridor
3. Target public infrastructure improvements to leverage private investment
4. Resolve legacy environmental concerns

Impact

The Area-wide Plan will provide the City of Spokane, the NEPDA and the Hillyard community a path from overarching development strategy to specific prioritized projects intended to spur private investment and development of catalyst sites.

Action

None at this time. The YARD Area Wide Plan is tentatively scheduled for a Plan Commission hearing in July, 2017.

Attachment

Final Draft YARD Area Wide Plan and Appendices

THE YARD REDEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN

THE YARD



April 10, 2017



PAST



PRESENT



FUTURE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Northeast Public Development Authority Board

Chair, Anthony Carollo
Vice Chair, Nicole Hydzik
Craig Riley
Joe Totorelli, Treasurer
Laura McAloon
Richard Burris
Cheryl Stewart

City of Spokane

City Council
President, Ben Stuckart
District 1, Amber Waldref and Mike Fagan
District 2, Breean Beggs and Lori Kinnear
District 3, Candace Mumm and Karen Stratton
Mayor, David Condon
Planning Director, Lisa Key
Integrated Capital Planning Manager, Katherine Miller
Assistant Planner, Teri Stripes
Assistant Planner, Melissa Owen

Partners

Avista
Spokane Transit Authority
Washington State Department of Transportation

Consulting Team

Maul Foster & Alongi, Inc.
Heartland, LLC
ECONorthwest
Taylor Engineering



This plan was generously funded by a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Cooperative Agreement Number 00J9990). It has not been formally reviewed by EPA. The views expressed are solely those of NEPDA and City of Spokane, and EPA does not endorse any of the mentioned products or commercial services.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
1. INTRODUCTION	1
Planning Process	
Challenges	
Strategy for Redevelopment	
Historical Context	
2. EXISTING CONDITIONS	5
Demographics	
Land Use	
Infrastructure	
Implications for Development	
Market Conditions	
3. COMMUNITY INPUT	20
Stakeholder Interviews	
Community Meetings	
4. FUTURE USE PLAN	22
Vision, Goals, and Objectives	
Growth Projection	
5. CATALYST SITES	24
Selection of Catalyst Sites	
Catalyst Site Redevelopment Opportunities	
6. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	40
Partnerships	
Phasing	
Recommended Actions	
Environmental Risk Management	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Hillyard Industrial Area in northeast Spokane (The YARD) is an emerging employment center for industrial businesses. The YARD includes approximately 500 acres of heavy and light industrial-zoned property adjacent to residential and commercial areas. Historically, it was the location of the Great Northern Rail Yard, but more recently it served as the location for small and large industrial businesses including distribution centers, fabricators, automotive repair shops, and contractors.

In 2012, the Northeast Public Development Authority (NEPDA) was established by the City of Spokane (City) in response to requests from the community for increased capacity and focus on creating more jobs in the YARD. The NEPDA, in partnership with the City, has prepared this Area-Wide Plan to guide development and public investments in The YARD. The Area-Wide Plan aligns with the goals and policies of the City's Comprehensive Plan and builds on the recommendations of the Greater Hillyard Northeast Planning Alliance's Neighborhood Plan (2010), along with previous planning studies conducted by the NEPDA including the Development Strategy, Brownfield Business Plan, and Heavy Freight User Analysis.

Opportunities

The YARD is one of the few locations in the City with land capacity to support significant growth in industrial land uses. As the region recovers from the Great Recession,

the vacancy rate for leasable commercial buildings in The YARD has decreased to less than two percent. Existing businesses are beginning to expand, but construction of new buildings is still relatively limited in The YARD.

After nearly five decades of planning, the North Spokane Corridor (NSC or U.S. Highway 395) has reached the northern edge of The YARD. Funding has been allocated by the Washington State legislature to complete construction to connect with Interstate 90 by 2027. This new freeway will include two interchanges in The YARD, on Francis Avenue and Wellesley Avenue. The enhanced accessibility and mobility provided by the NSC is expected to significantly increase demand by businesses to locate and develop in The YARD.

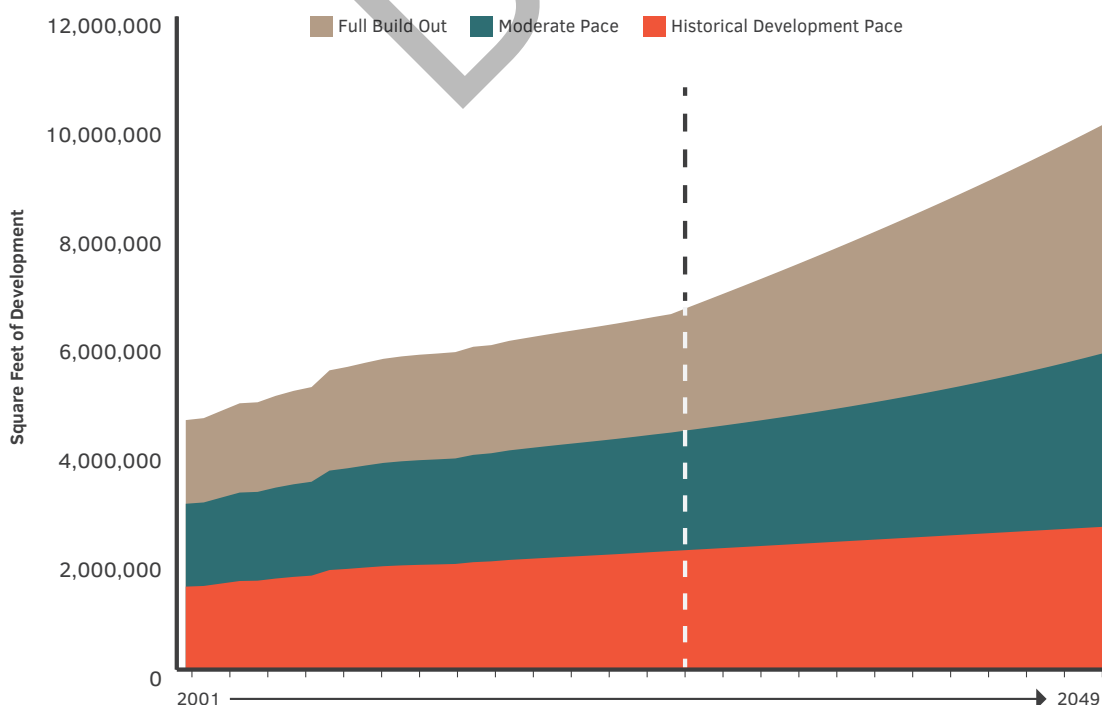
Challenges

Community development and investment in construction and business expansion is driven by a large number of factors and the decisions of individual property owners and firms. There are three primary challenges to redevelopment in The YARD: infrastructure deficiencies, regional competition, and environmental stigma.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Currently, many of the streets in The YARD do not meet city design standards. Portions of the water and sewer systems do not meet the demands of industrial users. There is no public stormwater management system.

GROWTH FORECAST



REGIONAL COMPETITION

While The YARD offers good access to downtown Spokane and relatively inexpensive land, businesses have several other location options in the region. Other large industrial areas include Spokane Valley, West Plains, and Airway Heights, as well as locations in Idaho. These other areas are able to offer large parcels (greater than 20 acres), infrastructure systems designed for industrial use, and relatively low-cost land.

ENVIRONMENTAL STIGMA

As the historic location of a former rail yard, there is a widely believed perception that there is significant environmental contamination in The YARD. The former rail yard is the largest tract of land in the area and is highly visible, so it contributes to this perception. In the eyes of potential investors and developers, the risks associated with environmental contamination are a significant barrier to redevelopment.

Vision and Goals

A vision for The YARD has evolved through the NEPDA's work and was confirmed in this planning process:

"The YARD will be home to an array of commercial and industrial businesses, providing quality employment and economic opportunity to residents in the region, and quality housing for area workers."

Goals:

- Create and sustain family-wage jobs
- Capture the opportunity provided by the NSC to promote economic revitalization of a historically industrial area
- Promote development that is economically and environmentally sustainable
- Improve health and safety of neighborhoods through environmental restoration
- Improve quality of life for residents, employees, and visitors



An artistic rendering of The YARD with one million square feet of new development.

.....

Objectives:

- Support existing businesses and attract new large- and small-scale companies
- Improve the regional competitiveness of The YARD
- Provide incentives that encourage revitalization and leverage existing infrastructure
- Target economic development tools that will have the greatest impact
- Make rational, cost-effective improvements to public infrastructure
- Leverage public investments and incentives with private investment
- Equitably share the costs of public improvements
- Address legacy environmental issues
- Address concerns and perceptions of public safety
- Foster stable housing opportunities

The future vision for The YARD has been illustrated in the above artistic rendering, which shows the development of approximately 1,000,000 square feet of new industrial and commercial building space alongside the approximately 2,000,000 square feet of existing buildings. Based on historic growth trends and a moderate level forecast for future development, it is projected that The YARD could reach this scale of development within 20 years.

Implementation Strategy

The NEPDA and the City have developed a multi-faceted strategy to promote job creation and economic development in The YARD. This strategy includes:

PARTNERSHIPS

The YARD has served as the starting point for many local businesses, as well as a base of operations for large corporations. Private-sector development will continue to drive revitalization of The YARD. The NEPDA and City will be most effective when they can coordinate with private- and public-sector partners to address challenges and leverage resources.

PHASING

Redevelopment of The YARD is expected to be catalyzed by construction of the NSC, but should be expected to occur over years. The Spokane economy has historically been relatively stable with moderate growth. The

financial feasibility of redevelopment of properties that are currently challenging is expected to significantly improve when the freeway is completed. With confidence in a schedule for completion of the NSC, there will likely be increasing private-investor interest in The YARD. With completion of NSC expected in 2027, the community is now an opportune position to prepare for future development. Since large public infrastructure projects can take years to design, fund, and construct, it is critical to identify priority projects and initiate that process now so local infrastructure is in place when the state highway is completed.

FINANCIAL INCENTIVES

The YARD regionally competes with other industrial areas that provide relatively low-cost land and proximity to freight corridors. With the availability of competitive options, businesses are expected to compare costs, advantages, and disadvantages in location decisions. The City of Spokane has established a number of financial incentives to make The YARD an attractive location for development, including waiving General Facility Charges. A portion of The YARD has also been designated as a Community Empowerment Zone by Washington State. It is recommended that the City enhance these incentives with the following actions:

- Establish a Community Revitalization Financing (CRF) District in The YARD. Within the designated CRF district, a portion of increasing property taxes can be dedicated to financing public improvements. This form of tax increment financing is not as robust as programs in other states, but can generate critical local public dollars to leverage private, state, and federal funds to support the significant infrastructure improvements need in The YARD.
- Reinvigorate efforts to work with property owners to utilize Local Improvement Districts (LID) to fund infrastructure projects in The YARD. The City should amend policy around LIDs to make this tool more accessible and effective. The City should align property-owner approval thresholds with requirements of state law (RCW 35.43 through 35.56). The City should also explore opportunities to leverage private-property owner investment with other funds such as Community Development Block Grants, the City transportation levy, and/or CRF funds.

POLICY AND PROGRAMMATIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Networking and Capacity Building

The NEPDA can serve as a convener and facilitator of collaborative discussions among businesses in The

.....

YARD. This could include informal events like happy hours to build relationships and promote networking among existing businesses, as well as hosting a series of presentations with topics such as financial management, marketing, and staff development to support local businesses.

Business Recruitment

The NEPDA and City should build on their existing partnership with Greater Spokane Incorporated (GSI) to recruit compatible businesses to The YARD. NEPDA and the City have developed a prospectus and other marketing materials to promote The YARD. GSI has established active programs for business recruitment.

Affordable Housing Policy

The City should develop policy for affordable housing with consideration that as The YARD redevelops, some non-conforming housing in industrially zoned areas will be displaced.

Public Safety

To address stated concerns from businesses and stakeholders, the City and NEPDA should continue to coordinate with the Spokane police department on crime prevention. Based on community concerns, a new police station was recently opened on Market Street in Hillyard.

Maker/Builder Space

The City and NEPDA have developed a conceptual site plan for development of a Maker/Builder space at the city's road maintenance facility (the Ranch property). A facility of this kind could serve multiple purposes, including workforce training and accelerating expansion of new businesses. The City and NEPDA should conduct a feasibility study to evaluate management and operational options, market demand, and funding strategies for such a facility.

INFRASTRUCTURE RECOMMENDATIONS

A set of priority infrastructure improvement projects have been developed to position catalyst properties in The YARD for redevelopment (see Table 8). These projects include "Regional Connections" for roads and utilities that establish a framework for transportation, water, and sewer services in The YARD (see Figure 25). It is recommended that the City and NEPDA proactively seek federal, state, and local funding to implement these "Regional Connections" projects. These regional projects include the following:

- Maintenance of Freya Street (Project 1) and repair of a sewer trunk line (Project 2).

- Reconstruction of Freya Street (Projects 3, 12, and 15) and Wellesley Street (Projects 4 and 5) to improve these arterial streets to meet the demands of heavy freight traffic and increase capacity of water and sewer systems to support increased development.
- Developing a regional stormwater management solution (Project 6) that allows for maximum utilization of property while meeting increasingly rigorous stormwater management requirements. The lack of public stormwater infrastructure in The YARD provides the opportunity for innovative solutions such as a regional facility or distributed facilities integrated into public rights-of-way (ROWs).

A set of complementary "Local Projects" are also recommended (see Figure 26). These "Local Projects" serve lower traffic streets and areas that are expected to develop more slowly than the catalyst sites. These projects have been identified to improve streets to meet City design standards and address constraints in water and sewer systems. Timing for implementation of "Local Projects" should be driven by private-sector demand. It is expected that these will be funded primarily through LID, CRF, and private contributions.

ENVIRONMENTAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The most effective approach to addressing contaminated properties in The YARD is to implement remedial actions through redevelopment. In addition to the historical operations associated with the former Great Northern Rail Yard, a number of other properties in The YARD have been identified in environmental databases or suspected, based on past uses, to be potentially contaminated. In general, the contamination concerns pose relatively low risk to human health and the environment and are not likely to be subject to regulatory enforcement actions. Addressing these impacts through redevelopment capitalizes on the momentum and resources generated through property transactions and construction projects.

City staff have developed significant experience and expertise in navigating the environmental remediation process. It is recommended that the City continue to offer technical assistance to property owners and to serve as a liaison between private property owners and organizational resources including the Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Department of Commerce, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Hillyard Industrial Area in northeast Spokane (The YARD) is an emerging employment center for industrial businesses. The YARD includes approximately 850 acres of land, mostly in heavy and light industrial use, along with residential and commercial areas. Historically, it was the location of the Great Northern Rail Yard, but more recently it served as the location for industrial businesses including distribution centers, fabricators, automotive repair shops, and contractors.

There is significant opportunity for growth in The YARD. There is a substantial volume of land available for purchase, lease, and/or redevelopment. Zoning regulations support a wide range of industrial uses. Land and electricity costs, as well as taxes, are relatively low. The City of Spokane has designated The YARD as a Targeted Investment Area for public infrastructure improvements and financial incentives to promote private development.

The YARD is located just three miles from downtown Spokane and provides road and rail access to the region (see Figure 1). It can be accessed by multiple arterial roads and will soon be connected to Interstate 90 via a new freeway, U.S. Route 395, referred to as the North Spokane Corridor (NSC). After decades of planning, funding for construction of the NSC is in place and it is expected to be completed by 2027. The improved accessibility created by completion of the NSC will open tremendous new opportunities in The YARD. With completion of this major transportation project on the

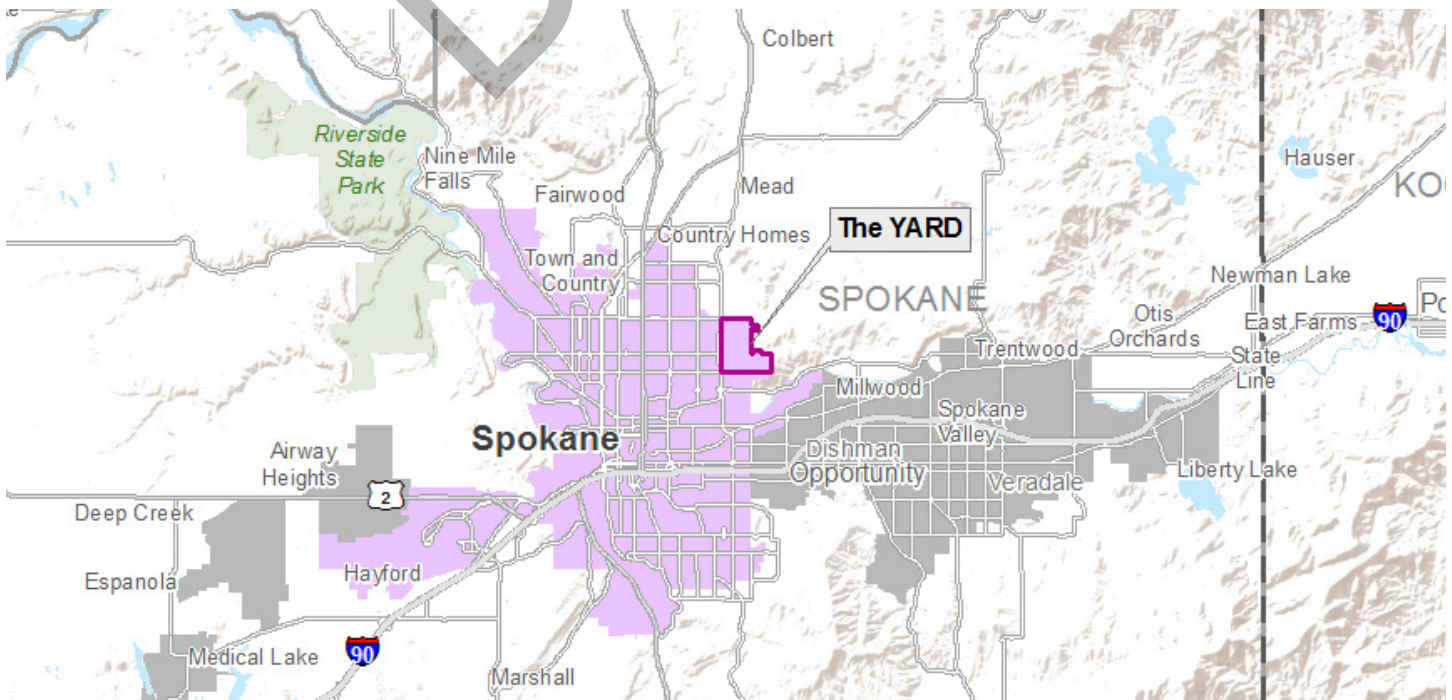
Fast Facts

Total Area	Approximately 900 Acres
Zoning	Light Industrial, Heavy Industrial, Residential Single Family (some Commercial along Market Street)
Access	Arterial Roads connecting to the North, South, East and West. BNSF rail line. North Spokane Corridor freeway scheduled for completion by 2027

horizon, now is the time for the community to plan for the future of The YARD and to make investments to position properties for redevelopment.

The Northeast Public Development Authority (NEPDA), in partnership with the City of Spokane (City), has developed this Area-Wide Plan to guide development and public investments in The YARD. The Area-Wide Plan aligns with the goals and policies of the City's Comprehensive Plan and builds on the recommendations of the Greater Hillyard Northeast Planning Alliance's Neighborhood Plan (2010), along with previous planning studies conducted by the NEPDA, including the Development Strategy, Brownfield Business Plan, and Heavy Freight User Analysis.

FIGURE 1. VICINITY MAP



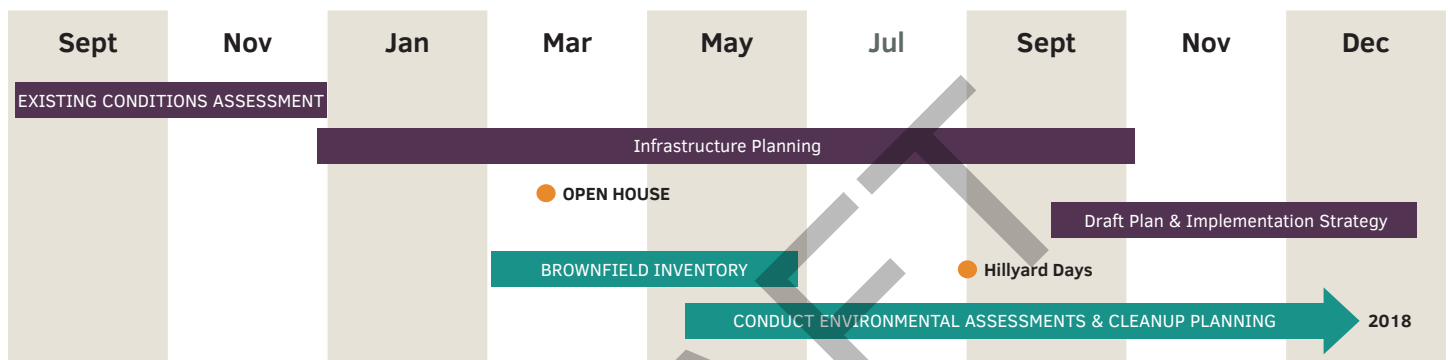
Planning Process

This plan was developed through an open planning process that was guided by the NEPDA Board of Directors and included engagement of community stakeholders through personal interviews, community meetings, and participation in the Hillyard Festival Day's event in August 2016. The planning process included three primary steps: assessment of existing conditions, evaluation of options

for infrastructure improvement, and development of a final plan (see Figure 2).

The Area-Wide Plan was developed in coordination with an inventory and assessment of brownfield properties funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

FIGURE 2. PLANNING PROCESS



Challenges

There are three primary challenges to redevelopment in The YARD: infrastructure deficiencies, regional competition, and environmental stigma.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Currently, many of the streets in The YARD do not meet city design standards. Portions of the water and sewer systems do not meet the demands of industrial users. There is no public stormwater management system.

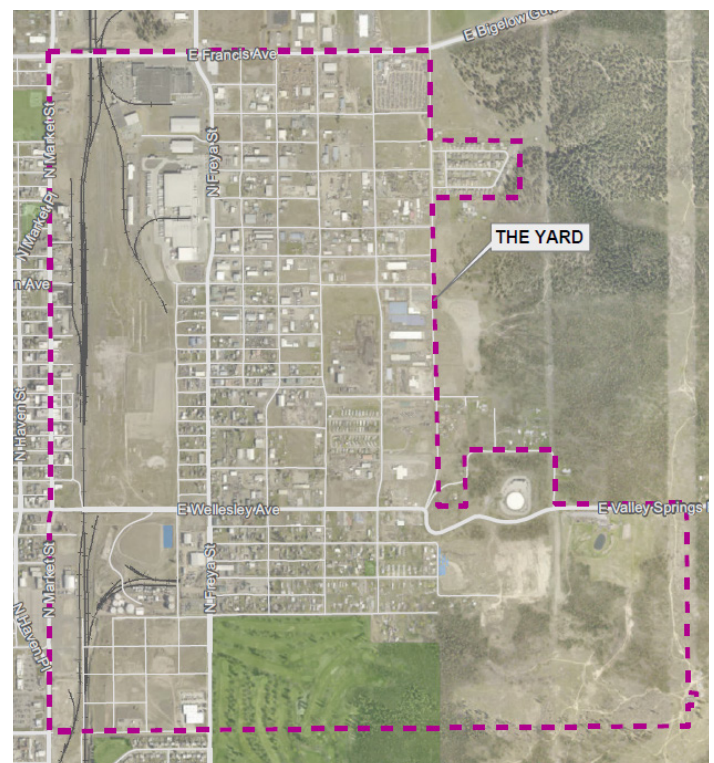
REGIONAL COMPETITION

While The YARD offers good access to downtown Spokane and relatively inexpensive land, businesses have several other location options in the region. Other large industrial areas include Spokane Valley, West Plains, and Airway Heights, as well as locations in Idaho. These other areas are able to offer large parcels (greater than 20 acres), infrastructure systems designed for industrial use, and relatively low-cost land.

ENVIRONMENTAL STIGMA

As the historic location of a former rail yard, there is a widely believed perception that there is significant environmental contamination in The YARD. The former rail yard is the largest tract of land in the area and is highly visible, thereby contributing to this perception (see Figure 3). In the eyes of potential investors and developers, the risks associated environmental contamination are a significant barrier to redevelopment.

FIGURE 3. AERIAL MAP - THE YARD

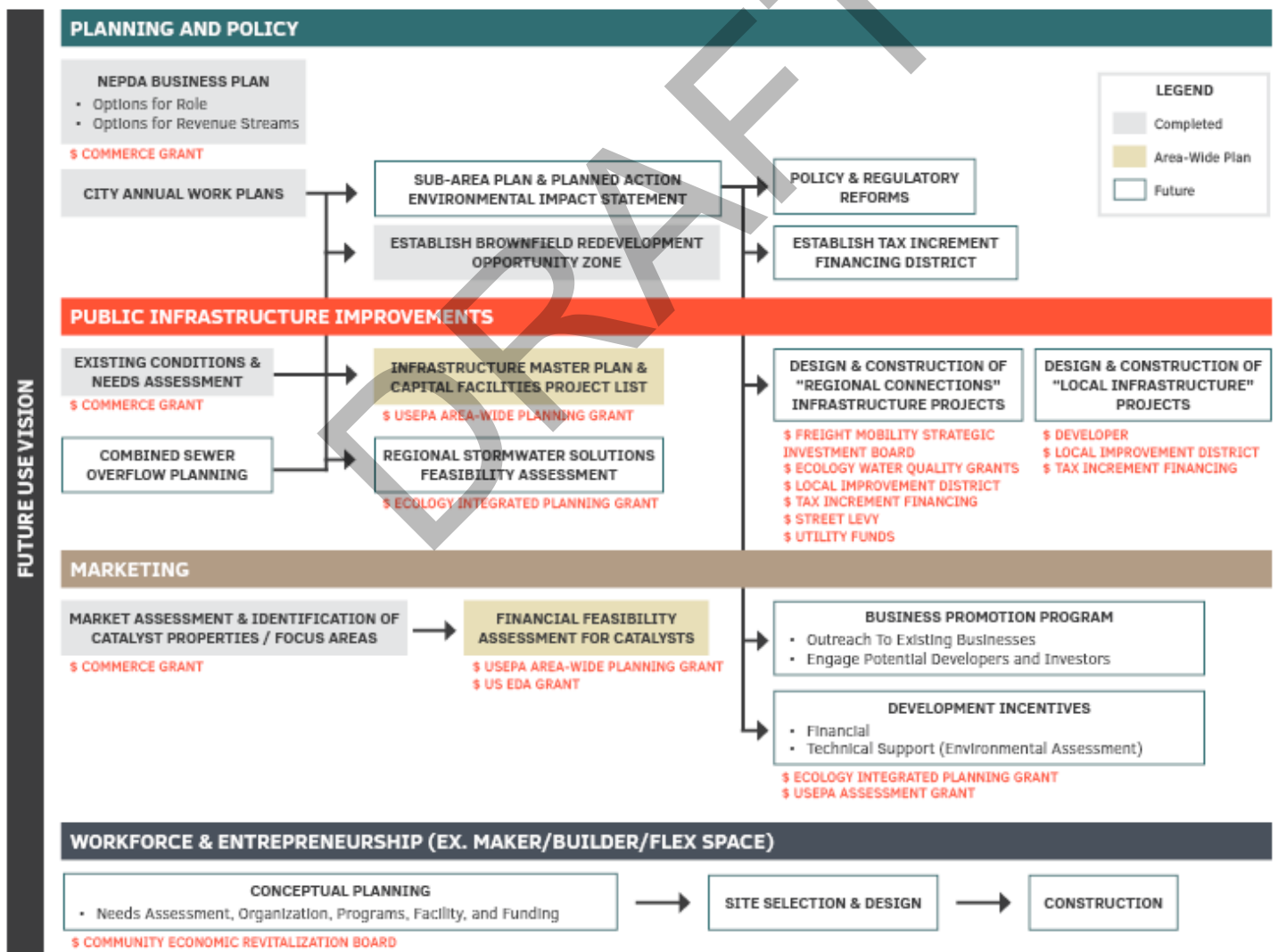


Strategy for Redevelopment

The NEPDA and the City have developed a multi-faceted strategy to promote job creation and economic development in The YARD (see Figure 4). This strategy is based on making targeted public improvements to attract private investment. The strategy includes land-use policy and capacity building, public infrastructure improvements, marketing, and workforce training and entrepreneurship.

The Area-Wide Plan articulates the vision for future use and recommends specific actions to move from strategy to implementation.

FIGURE 4. HILLYARD REDEVELOPMENT STRATEGY DIAGRAM



Historical Context

The Hillyard neighborhood developed around the Great Northern Rail Yard established by James J. Hill (Hill's yard). In 1892, Hillyard was platted as a separate town site outside of Spokane.¹ The rail yard grew quickly and by 1899 was reported to be the largest locomotive shop west of St. Paul. By 1900, the rail yard employed approximately 350 people. The rail yard expanded, and by 1916 the population of Hillyard grew to approximately 4,000 people. Hillyard was annexed into the City of Spokane in 1924. The rail yard complex occupied an approximately 100-acre area with buildings for manufacturing and repairing locomotives, storage warehouses, and a round house for turning train engines. In the 1920s, the facility was renowned for building the largest and most powerful locomotives of its time. The Hillyard neighborhood developed around the rail yard. On the west side of the railroad tracks, Market Street developed into a commercial corridor. Blocks of residential housing were built further to the west (see Figure 5).

When the industry began to change from steam- to diesel-powered locomotives in the 1940s and 1950s, production shifted to other locations and the rail yard began to decline. The Great Northern Railroad merged with the Northern Pacific to become Burlington Northern in about 1970. Operations at the Hillyard rail yard were dramatically reduced and most workers were relocated to other facilities or laid off. The rail yard closed in 1982. All of the former rail yard buildings have been demolished. The main rail line and several side spurs remain.

While the rail yard operations reduced, the surrounding industrially zoned land developed to become an employment center in its own right. Several large food distribution centers, including Safeway and Food Services America, have located to The YARD. A number of small businesses including construction-related contractors, fabricators, and automotive services have established The YARD as the "work bench" of Spokane. More information about the current business environment in The YARD is provided in Section 2.

FIGURE 5. HILLYARD CIRCA 1942



¹HistoryLink.org. <http://www.historylink.org/File/8406>. Accessed on October 26, 2016.

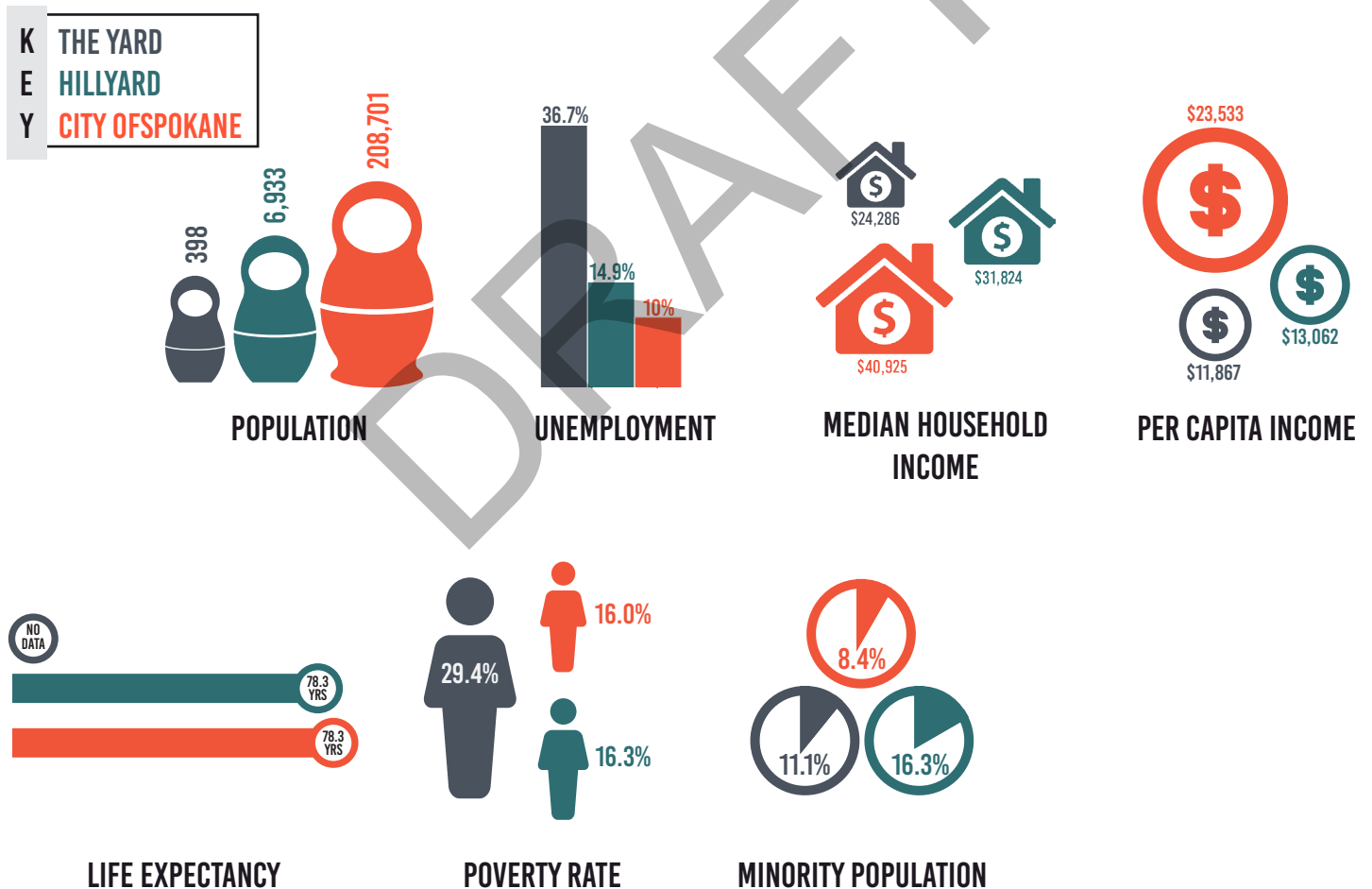
2. EXISTING CONDITIONS

Demographics

The Hillyard neighborhood, which surrounds and includes The YARD, is a strong, highly connected community, but one that has experienced a long economic struggle since the closure of the rail yard. Unemployment has been persistently high and incomes are lower than in the rest of Spokane and the State of Washington (see Figure 6). The community is more ethnically diverse than the rest of Spokane. Historically, the rail yard recruited Italian and Japanese immigrants. Today, the population of Hillyard includes a mix of ethnic groups, predominantly white, Hispanic or Latino, and African American.

The YARD is comprised of a single U.S. Census Block Group, and is less than one percent of Spokane County's population and employment within the Block Group, which comprises 398 people. This is also a low-income Block Group, with a median household income of \$24,286, compared to the County's median household income of \$48,485 and that of households within 5 miles of The YARD, at \$38,500. Finally, the educational attainment for people in The YARD is also well below County's attainment and the attainment for people within 5 miles of The YARD.

FIGURE 6. DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION



Data Sources:

Data from 2010 U.S. Census; Census blocks approximate
Data from Neilson/Claritas (2014)
Data from Bureau of Labor Statistics
Data from 2012 American Community Survey
Data from 2014 American Community Survey

Land Use

The existing land use in The YARD is predominantly industrial with an established residential neighborhood in the southeast (see Table 1). Based on county tax assessor records, approximately 32 percent of the land in The YARD is currently used for industrial purposes. The predominance of industrial uses is also seen in the commercial building stock, with approximately 1.6 million square feet of the total 2 million square feet of commercial building space used for industrial purposes. The development pattern in The YARD is open with relatively low density. Approximately 41 percent of land in The YARD is currently vacant and over 60 percent is considered underutilized.² This includes both the over 60-acre former rail yard property and multiple smaller infill properties. There are approximately 373 residential units in The YARD, with the majority of these located in the southeast corner of the planning area. Approximately 180 industrially zoned parcels are currently in residential use. Most of these residences are small, single-family homes, in addition to a mobile home park.

The YARD is characterized by a few large developments surrounded by relatively small parcels and small buildings owned with diverse ownership. Four property owners (Beacon Hill Properties, BNSF Railway, the City, and Safeway) comprise 354 acres or 50 percent of the parcel area in The YARD. The remaining land is made up of nearly 680 unique assemblages averaging 0.75 acres each. An assemblage is defined as one or more contiguous parcels under the same ownership group. The existing building stock includes approximately 2 million square feet of space in 289 buildings, translating to an average building size of 6,845 square feet. Over half of The YARD's building stock is in 29 buildings that total 10,000 square feet or more. The remaining buildings average 3,505 square feet (see Table 2).

TABLE 1. EXISTING LAND USE

Use Class	Size (% of Total)
Industrial	275 acres (32%)
Commercial	41 acres (5%)
Residential	106 acres (12%)
Vacant	345 acres (41%)
Other	83 acres (10%)

TABLE 2. BUILDING SIZE SUMMARY

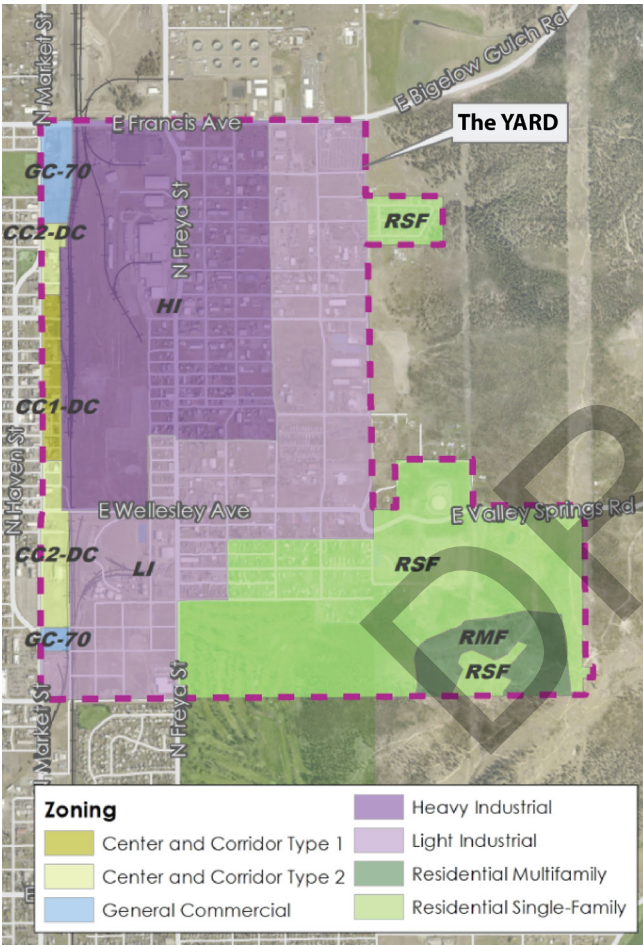
Building Size Class	Total Area (Square Feet)	Percent of Total	Number of Buildings	Average Area (Square Feet)
Less than 10,000 sq. ft.	911,342	46%	260	3,505
10,000 sq. ft. or greater	1,066,908	54%	29	36,790
Total	1,978,250	100%	289	

²Defined by the ratio of improved value to land value for a property being less than 50%.

ZONING

Three zoning districts comprise the majority of property in The YARD: heavy industrial, light industrial, and single-family residential (see Figure 7). The heavy and light industrial zones, combined, make up 64 percent of the land in the study area. The heavy and light industrial zones are designed to allow for a wide range of potential businesses (see Table 3). As noted above, there are many non-conforming residential uses within the industrial zones.

FIGURE 7. ZONING MAP



LAND USE PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The Area-Wide Plan builds on the history of previous land use plans for the City of Spokane and the Hillyard neighborhood (see Figure 8). The Area-Wide Plan was developed to align with the goals and policies established in existing land use plans. Key elements of these previous plans are summarized below:

FIGURE 8. THE YARD TIMELINE

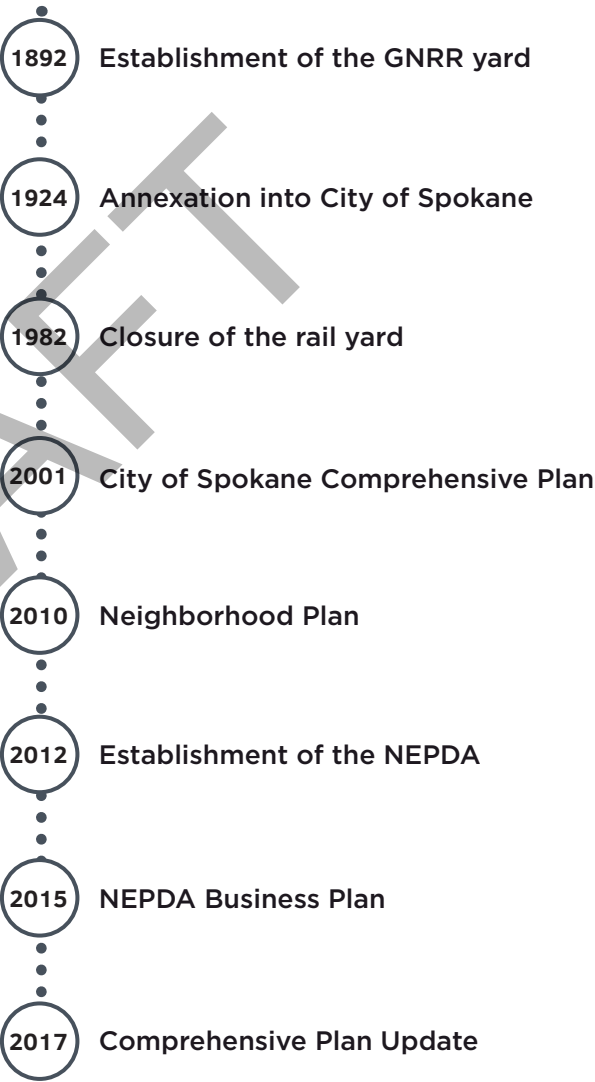


TABLE 3. ZONING SUMMARY

Zone	Size (% of Total)	Allowed Uses	Conditional Uses
Heavy Industrial (HI)	306 acres (31%)	Industrial Services, manufacturing, railroad yards, warehouse, retail (up to 20,000 square feet)	Retail (greater than 20,000 square feet), Parks
Light Industrial (LI)	327 acres (33%)	Manufacturing, warehouse, wholesale sales, retail (up to 60,000 square feet)	Retail (greater than 60,000 square feet)
Single Family Residential (RSF)	279 acres (28%)	Residential, parks	Schools

Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan is the foundational land-use planning document for the City and establishes the framework for physical development within the jurisdiction. As required by the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), the Comprehensive Plan must address key elements including land use, economic development, housing, utilities, and transportation. These plans are the starting point for any planning process and the centerpiece of local planning. All development regulations in the municipal code are required by GMA to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. The City of Spokane is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan.

The current Comprehensive Plan establishes a number of goals and policies that are relevant to The YARD. The Land Use element focuses on coordination of infrastructure improvements with land development. The Economic Development element identifies the need for incentives to revitalize industrial districts like those in The YARD. Specific goals and policies that are most relevant to the revitalization of The YARD are listed below.

Land Use

Goal 3: Promote the efficient use of land through the use of incentives, density, and mixed-use development in proximity to retail businesses, public services, places of work, and transportation systems.

- Policy LU 3.1 – Encourage coordinated and efficient growth and development through infrastructure financing and construction programs, tax and regulatory incentives, and focused growth in areas where adequate services and facilities exist or can be economically extended.
- Policy LU 3.4 – Utilize basic criteria for growth planning estimates and, subsequently, growth targets for centers and corridors.

Transportation

Goal 2: Provide a variety of transportation options, including walking, bicycling, taking the bus, carpooling, and driving private automobiles, to ensure that all citizens have viable travel options and can reduce dependency on automobiles.

Goal 3: Recognize the key relationship between the places where people live, work, and shop and their need to have access to these places; use this relationship to promote land-use patterns, transportation facilities, and other urban features that advance Spokane's quality of life.

- Policy TR 3.1 – Use the city's transportation system and infrastructure to support desired land uses and development patterns, especially to reduce sprawl and encourage development in urban areas.

Goal 4: Design and maintain Spokane's transportation system to have efficient and safe movement of people and goods within the city and region.

- Policy TR 4.8 – Accommodate moving freight and commercial goods in ways that are safe, cost efficient, energy efficient, and environmentally friendly.

Capital Facilities and Utilities

Goal 1: Provide and maintain adequate public facilities and utility services, as well as reliable funding to protect investment in existing facilities and ensure appropriate levels of service.

- Policy CFU 1.2 – Require the development of capital improvement projects that either improve the City's operational efficiency or reduce costs by increasing the capacity, use, and/or life expectancy of existing facilities.

Goal 4: Provide public services in a manner that facilitates efficient and effective delivery services and meets current and future demand.

- Policy CFU 4.1 – Promote compact areas of concentrated development in designated centers to facilitate economical and efficient provision of utilities, public facilities, and services.

Goal 6: Use capital facilities and utilities to support multiple interests and purposes

- Policy CFU 6.1 – Strategically provide capital facilities and utility services to encourage and support the development of Centers and Corridors, especially in older parts of the city.
- Policy CFU 6.2 – Make capital improvements that stimulate employment opportunities, strengthen the city's tax base, and attract private investment to target areas.

Economic Development

Goal 2: Ensure that an adequate supply of usable industrial and commercial land is available for economic development activities.

- Policy ED 2.1 – Ensure opportunities for locating a variety of desirable, livable wage industries in Spokane that are environmentally compatible with adjacent land uses and support a range of employment types.
- Policy ED 2.2 – Provide incentives to encourage the revitalization and utilization of historic and older commercial and industrial districts for redevelopment.

Goal 3: Foster a strong, diverse, and sustainable economy that provides a range of employment and business opportunities.

- Policy ED 3.1 – Stimulate economic growth by supporting the formation, retention, expansion, and recruitment of businesses.
- Policy ED 3.3 – Create economic development opportunities utilizing tools available to the city which will foster the growth of Spokane's economy.

Goal 8: Improve and protect the natural and built environment as assets that attract economic development opportunities and enhance the City of Spokane's quality of life.

- Policy ED 8.6 – Target contaminated sites and facilitate their cleanup.

Neighborhood Plan

In 2010, the Greater Hillyard Northeast Planning Alliance (GHNEPA),³ a community group formed of three neighborhood councils in northeast Spokane, prepared a Strategic Plan for the greater Hillyard area. This plan, funded by the City, featured a number of strategies and objectives relevant to The YARD, including the creation of a Hillyard industrial master plan to promote growth in manufacturing sectors; a light manufacturing incubator; a business-support organization; and actions to reduce crime in the area. The City and community have implemented a number of these recommendations, including establishing the NEPDA and preparing this plan document, which serves as the master plan for the industrial area. Below are specific goals and policies found in the plan that are most relevant to the revitalization of The YARD.

Strategy Five – Business and Job Development

Goal: To promote, develop, and recruit retail, commercial, and industrial businesses in the Greater Hillyard-Northeast Spokane Area that serve residents and attract customers from outside the area in order to create new business and job opportunities, resulting in increased wealth for the entire community.

- Objective 5.2 – To promote, develop, and recruit commercial services businesses in the GHNEPA area (professional, residential, business to business, etc.).
- Objective 5.3 – To promote, develop, and recruit Industrial / Manufacturing in the GHNEPA area, particularly in the East Hillyard industrial zone [The YARD].

Strategy Six – Transportation and Infrastructure Improvement

Goal: To develop and maintain a fully coordinated transportation and infrastructure concept that serves identified needs of neighborhood residents; area businesses and industry clusters; and interfaces with the plans of surrounding communities.

- Objective 6.2 – Rail Spur for Industry; to secure the economic and community development advantages of rail service to the GHNEPA neighborhoods for both commercial shipping and personal transit needs.

Strategy Seven – Changing the Image

Goal: To create and maintain a set of positive perceptions about the Greater Northeast Spokane area, intended to improve quality of life and healthy growth conditions for residents and the local economy.

Infrastructure

The YARD is served by public and private utility systems. The most notable characteristic of infrastructure conditions in The YARD is the number of streets that are not paved and do not meet the City's design standards. Generally, water, sewer, and power utilities meet current needs but lack capacity to support high-intensity development in the area. In certain locations, water or sewer conveyance pipes have reached the end of their design life or are undersized to support high-intensity development or meet fire flow requirements.

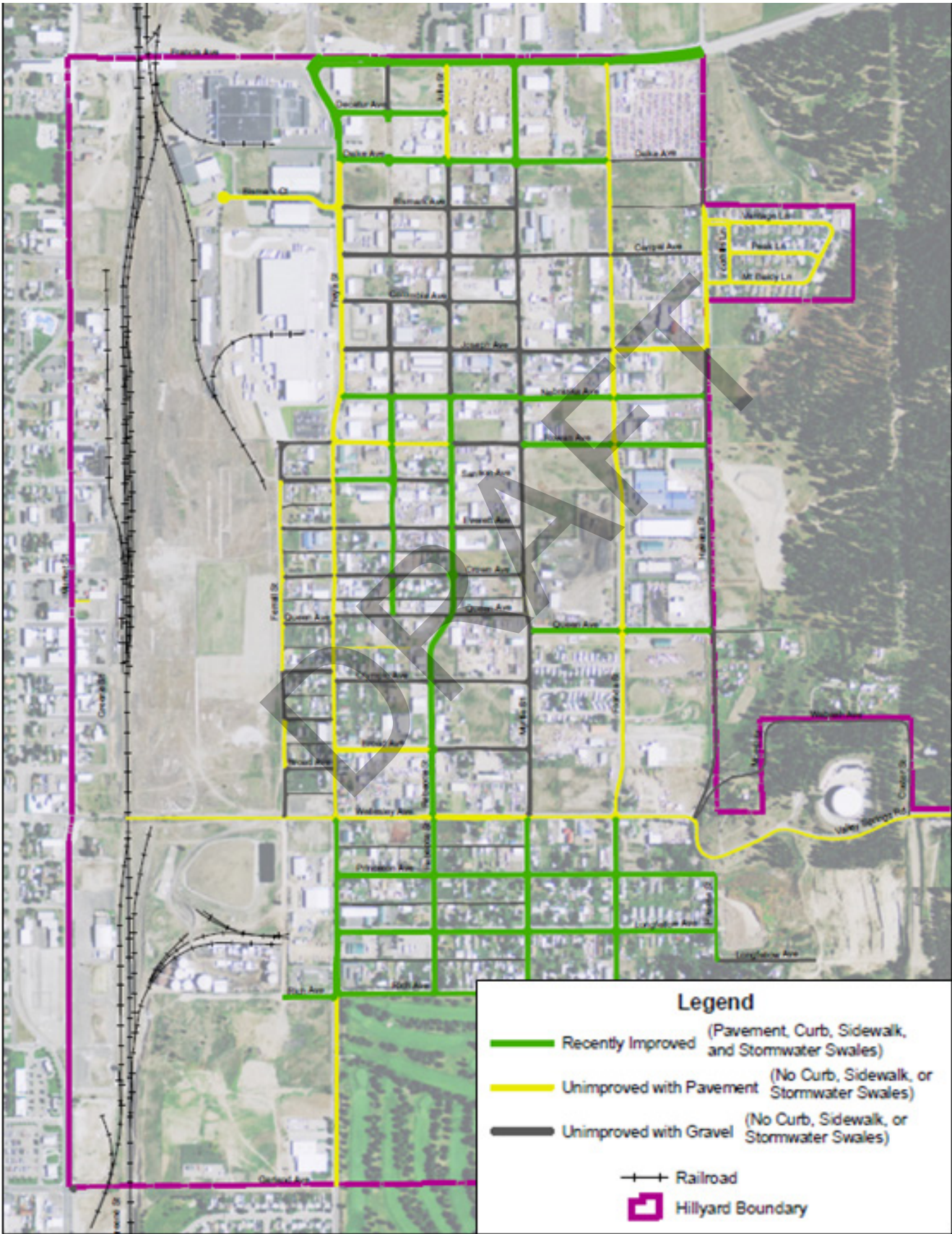
TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

The YARD has an established street grid with a hierarchy from arterial to local streets. Freya Street, Francis Avenue, and Wellesley Avenue are the arterials connecting The YARD to surrounding areas. Rights of way exist for a grid of local streets, but many of these streets are not developed to City standards. As shown in Figure 9, approximately 41,000 (42%) feet of street length in The YARD is gravel and 26,900 (27%) feet of street length are paved but do not meet current City design standards for curbs and stormwater management facilities, and 30,500 (31%) feet of street are recently improved. Almost all of the streets in The YARD lack the minimum right-of-way width required by current City standards.

Several blocks were recently improved as part of a series of Local Improvement District (LID) funded projects. The City established a funding program that shared street-improvement costs evenly between Community Development Block Grant funds, City levy funds, and private-property owner contributions. This formula provided 2:1 leverage of private property contributions.

³GHNEPA's role has been formally passed on to a non-profit called Organizations of Northeast Spokane (ONES).

FIGURE 9. STREET CONDITIONS



This program successfully implemented projects over a series of three years. However, costs of the last project escalated and have created concern from local property owners about using LID assessments to fund future projects. Recent City policy changes have increased the threshold for approving LID assessments above the minimum established in state law (RCW 52.20). There have been no LID projects in The YARD since this City policy change was adopted.

Trails and Pedestrian Access:

There are currently no delineated trails and only very limited pedestrian-access facilities within The YARD. The YARD is grouped in the lowest priority category of the pedestrian priority map prepared in 2012 for use with the City's Pedestrian Master Plan. The majority of the existing pedestrian access facilities was recently constructed as a component of the LID street projects described above, consistent with City standards for local-access streets section. An eight-block segment of Rebecca Street, from Wellesley Avenue to Nebraska Avenue, is the longest run of continuous pedestrian improvements. The other areas in The YARD feature disjointed pedestrian access with infrequent sidewalks, access ramps, and pedestrian lighting.

Highway Access

As described earlier, the NSC is an extension of U.S. 395 through Spokane. The NSC will be a critical link in transportation infrastructure for the greater Spokane area by providing a high-speed connection from the Interstate-90 corridor located south of The YARD to northern Spokane and beyond. The proposed highway corridor will pass through the western edge of The YARD and will include a new interchange at Francis Avenue (constructed) and Wellesley Avenue (currently in design). This major infrastructure improvement will effectively close the gap that currently exists between the northern and southern portions of the freeway.

While the NSC is intended to improve the movement of goods to and through Spokane, it may also serve as a catalyst for new industrial and commercial development for areas with new highway interchanges and shorter travel times from Interstate 90. As of November 2016, the NSC is approximately half complete, with 5.7 miles of the NSC open to traffic, as illustrated in Figure 10. Construction is underway to realign 7.5 miles of BNSF railway tracks and subsequently build two freeway bridges. A new roundabout interchange has been constructed at the intersection of Freya Street and Wellesley Avenue in anticipation of the future highway interchange. The design of the Wellesley Avenue interchange is in flux: concerns have arisen about the implications of groundwater contamination associated

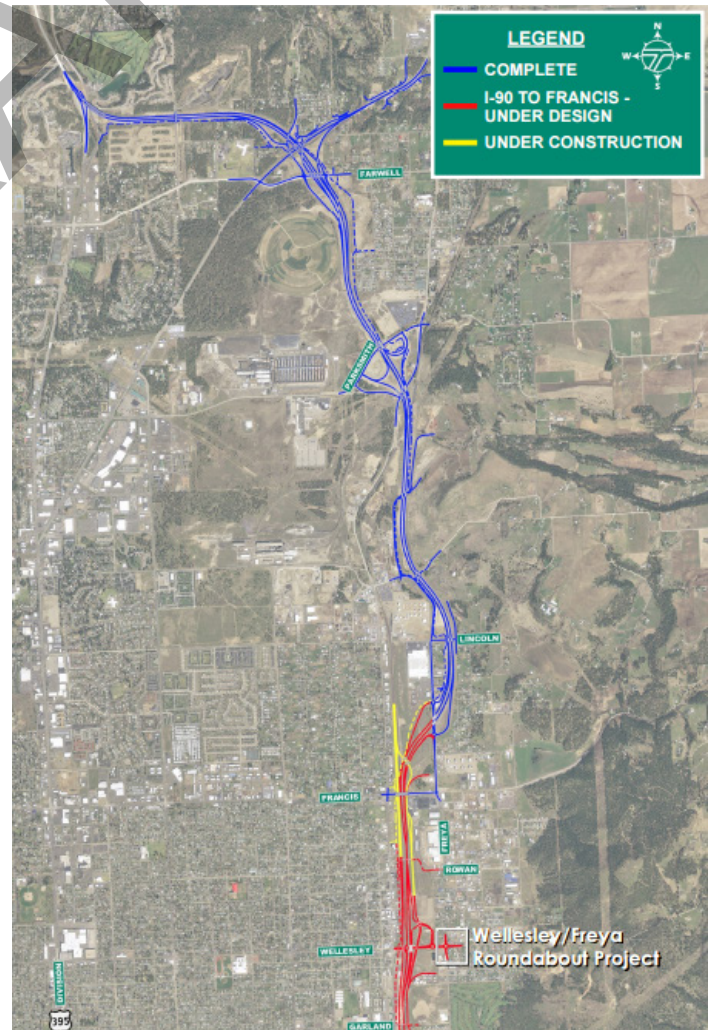
with the Black Tank site south of Wellesley Avenue and west of Freya Street.

With passage of a large transportation bill in the Washington State legislature in 2016, funds have been allocated to complete design and construction of the NSC. Construction is expected to be completed by 2027.

Rail Access

The BNSF rail line that crosses The YARD provides a high-speed freight connection to a nationwide rail system. The main rail line is actively used, although there are currently few users within The YARD. The main-line track has been recently shifted to accommodate the NSC. The length and condition of the existing sidings in The YARD will need to be evaluated relative to specific future users to determine whether any improvements would be needed.

FIGURE 10. NORTH SPOKANE CORRIDOR



UTILITIES

Sanitary Sewer

The YARD is served by a network of gravity sanitary sewer mains within the public ROW. The purveyor is the City. Based on a research interview with the City's combined sewer overflow team, the sanitary sewer system in The YARD is generally "separated" (as opposed to "combined") and does not convey stormwater runoff from the surface. There is a possibility that isolated downspouts may be connected to the system, and that stormwater may contribute to flows in the piped sewer system. With the exception of areas west of Freya Avenue and Ferrall Avenue, sewer flows from The YARD drain to the Northeast Terrace Lift Station located at the intersection of East Dalke Avenue and Havana Street (see Figure 11). Flows are pumped via a 14-inch diameter ductile iron-force main to a 15-inch diameter concrete gravity main that crosses under the former rail yard and drains to the west, into a 21-inch diameter trunk line on East Broad Avenue. The concrete gravity main represents a significant bottleneck in the system should the force main ever approach capacity.

Sanitary sewer flows from properties in the interior of The YARD generally drain in the easterly or westerly direction via 8-inch or 10-inch diameter pipes to one of two larger mains that run in the north-south direction (see Figure 11). One of these large mains is a 15-inch diameter line that runs south along North Freya Street and North Ferrall Street and discharges into the line that crosses the former rail yard property to the west. The portion of The YARD that does not drain to the Northeast Terrace Lift Station drains via this pipe. The second large main is a run of 18-inch diameter concrete pipe that runs from south to north on North Myrtle Street, turns east on East Rowan Avenue, and then north on North Havana Street to discharge at the Northeast Terrace Lift Station.

Sanitary-sewer infrastructure in The YARD offers a relatively high level of service to current and future users, even in a fully built-out condition. The City's design standard for new development requires an estimate of design flow based on zoning and a hydraulic analysis to ensure that sanitary sewer mains can convey the design flow at 70 percent depth with a minimum velocity of 2 feet per second. Discussions with the City's Wastewater Department, and preliminary calculations performed by consultants using the City zoning basis, indicate that the large 15-inch and 18-inch diameter mains mentioned above have capacity to accommodate future development. This should be verified through an in-depth study of existing flows, projections of future use specific to the development goals of The YARD, and a detailed analysis of the performance of the existing system. All of

the smaller 8-inch and 10-inch diameter lines draining side streets within The YARD satisfy the City's minimum pipe size of 8 inches.

Per discussions with the City's Wastewater Department, the Northeast Terrace Lift Station was designed with an oversized force main (14-inch diameter) and oversized wet well to accommodate future growth, although the lift station is currently operating with smaller pumps than could potentially be used in the future. This indicates that the capacity of the lift station will not act as a barrier to development in The YARD, although the current pumps may require replacement with larger pumps to fully utilize the capacity of the existing lift station and force main. This information should be verified with a detailed study of the existing lift station's performance and evaluation of available pumping and storage capacity.

The use of the current pumps with an oversized force main has contributed to low-flow velocities in the force main and corrosion issues, especially at the point of discharge to the gravity system near the intersection of North Ferrall Street and East Olympic Avenue. Damage from corrosion may require repairs or replacement of isolated pipe sections in this area.

If future development planned for The YARD includes industries that generate an exceptional amount of wastewater or process water (e.g., certain manufacturing processes), the capacity of the Northeast Terrace Lift Station and the conveyance main lines must be evaluated in detail to ensure adequate capacity is available. In addition, some industries with atypical wastewater profiles may be required to provide treatment of their wastewater before discharging to the City's system.

Potable Water

The City provides potable water to The YARD through a network of pressure pipes located within ROW. The YARD is within the City's water supply area referred to as the North Hill Pressure Zone. The nearest reservoir is the North Hill reservoir located in the southeast portion of The YARD on East Valley Springs Road (see Figure 12). A 24-inch diameter ductile iron transmission main runs from the reservoir to the east on Wellesley Avenue and transitions to a 30-inch diameter steel pipe to cross the BNSF ROW toward the west. This transmission main connects in multiple locations to a parallel 10-inch diameter cast iron line that also runs on East Wellesley Avenue. These two parallel lines running in the east-west direction connect to three primary distribution mains that run in the north-south direction up North Freya Street, North Rebecca Street, North Julia Street, and North Myrtle Street. One additional primary distribution main runs from East Wellesley Avenue north up North Havana

FIGURE 11. SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

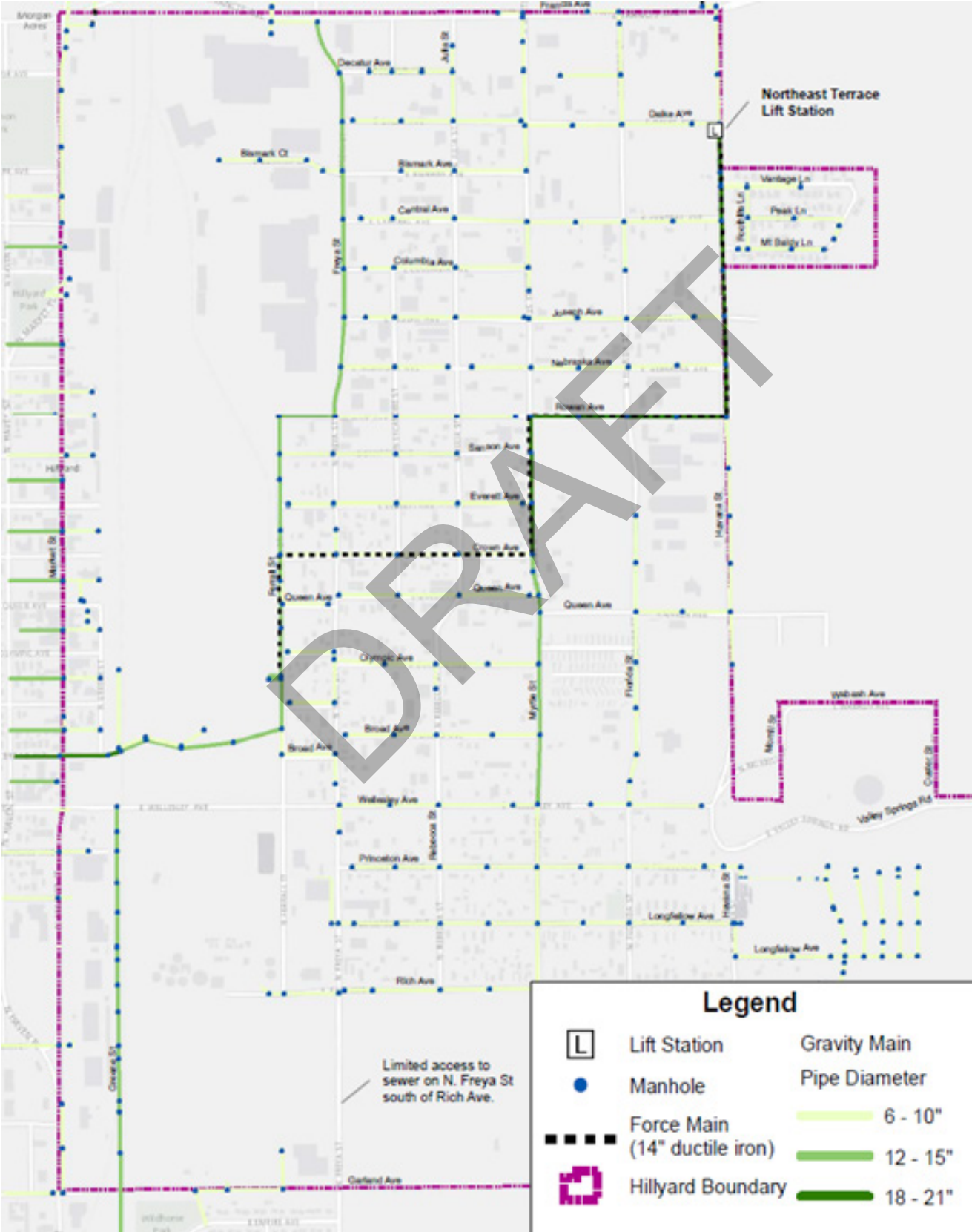
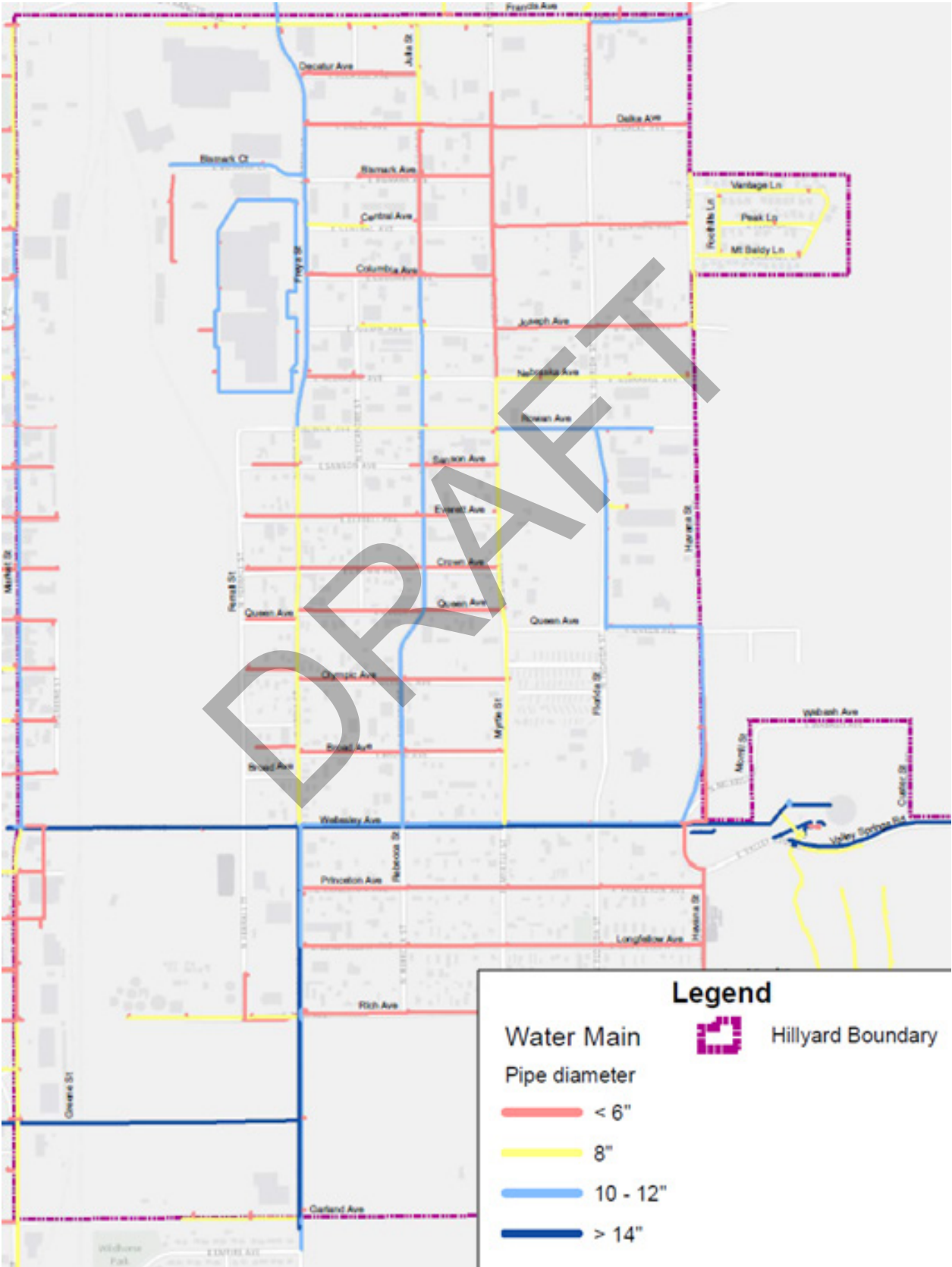


FIGURE 12. POTABLE WATER SYSTEM



Street, then east on East Queen Avenue, north on North Florida Street, and east on East Rowan Avenue to connect to the main on North Myrtle Street. These four north-south lines serve as the “backbone” of the potable water infrastructure of The YARD. These lines are 8-inch or 12-inch diameter cast iron or ductile iron pipes, although there are isolated sections of 6-inch diameter lines, as discussed below.

Various 6-inch or 8-inch diameter ductile iron or cast iron distribution mains tee off of the four north-south mains mentioned above in the east-west direction to serve the interior side streets of The YARD. Existing fire hydrants are typically available at each intersection, and gate valves appear to be located at nearly all tees and crosses, consistent with standard practice.

In general, the abundance of 8-inch diameter (or greater) distribution mains, the 24-inch diameter transmission main on East Wellesley Avenue, and the nearby storage reservoir on Easy Valley Springs Road provide a reasonable level of service to The YARD. A water quality issue, a few areas with gaps in service, and some undersized pipes were identified, all of which are outlined below.

Several of the side streets running in the east-west direction in The YARD have water mains that terminate instead of connecting to the next available main. This is evident on East Bismark Avenue, East Joseph Avenue, East Central Avenue, and East Sanson Avenue, among others. North Florida Street and North Havana Street also lack a cohesive run of distribution main in the north-south direction. Distribution mains should be extended, when possible, to the next available connection point to provide service to “interior” parcels and increase circulation. In fact, conversations with representatives of the City’s Water Department indicate that The YARD currently experiences stagnation issues due to the large diameter lines, relatively low demand, and poor circulation. Stagnation creates “stale” water and can deteriorate pipes before their intended design life. This issue can be improved by extending existing pipes and creating additional connections to provide increased circulation within the system. A robust grid will improve potable water quality and access to service in The YARD.

The City’s design standard for new development requires that potable water lines be sized based on fire flow requirements and peak hour demand, which are both calculated based on zoning and gross acreage. Fire flow requirements for industrial areas are determined on a case-by-case basis. Preliminary calculations indicate that a minimum 12-inch diameter pipe size is appropriate for future improvements to the potable water infrastructure in The YARD. Although some 6” and 8” lines currently serve The YARD, representatives from the City’s Water

Department indicate that the City would prefer to leave 8-inch diameter pipes in place and upsize 6-inch pipes to 12-inch diameter pipes as the opportunity arises. There are currently 6-inch diameter lines on East Dalke Avenue, East Columbia Avenue, East Everett Avenue, East Princeton Avenue, East Rich Avenue, North Myrtle Street, North Florida Street, and North Havana Street that should be targeted for future upsizing efforts.

An in-depth study of the nature of future development in The YARD, the storage capacity of the North Hills Reservoir, and available pressures and flowrates in the area is required to fully determine the extent of improvements (if any) required to provide the highest level of service to The YARD in a fully developed condition. A detailed analysis can help the City prioritize which pipes should be upsized or extended at an accelerated pace to spur development in The YARD.

Stormwater Management

The YARD lacks a centralized stormwater management system and basic stormwater management infrastructure. There are no public facilities for collection, detention, or treatment of stormwater and no established surface water conveyances. The few large industrial users in The YARD manage the treatment and infiltration of stormwater internally with no off-site discharge. Existing street drainage is directed to vegetated infiltration areas adjacent to the roadway, where available. At the current development level the overall impervious surface area in The YARD is low. As the area continues to develop and additional impervious surface area is added, it may become necessary to install a regional collection system to capture and send stormwater to a centralized area or multiple areas for detention and/or treatment. The few existing pipes and catch basins could be incorporated into a new centralized system, if necessary. Area topographic contours indicate a drainage trend toward the northeast.

There is an upstream drainage area of approximately 1.27 square miles, which includes most of The YARD, the shallow valley bracketing Valley Springs Road, and the west-facing hillsides of Little Baldy and Beacon Hill. For the purpose of this report, this drainage area is referred to as the Valley Springs Watershed. The mean annual precipitation of the watershed was calculated at 20 inches. The minimum estimated basin elevation was 2,000 feet and the maximum was 2,660 feet, with a mean slope of 11.2 percent.

At this time, it is unknown how the relatively large estimated flow volumes are conveyed, considering there are no apparent flow channels in the vicinity. A high-resolution topographic survey should be collected to

further evaluate flow characteristics at The YARD.

Dry Utilities

Natural gas, electrical, and telecommunication utilities—including fiber optic—are all present in The YARD, but full services are not provided throughout the entire neighborhood. These existing utility networks have gaps in coverage between the existing industrial facilities. Currently offered service levels are primarily sized for residential and commercial use. That said, the various purveyors of dry utilities serving The YARD are fully capable of expanding capacity to support both light and heavy industrial development, but plan to extend services as development occurs and specific needs arise.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The YARD is low-lying and mostly flat, with very gentle slopes otherwise. This, and a lack of adequate storm drainage facilities, can lead to localized flooding problems during typical storm events. However, this is partially mitigated by the limited presence of impervious surfaces. Existing soils in The YARD are likely structurally competent and do not indicate that significant clay deposits or other biological materials are present. More than 80 percent of soils are classified sandy and gravelly, and are well-drained. The rest of the area is characterized as excessively drained.

WATER

The YARD does not contain any flood zones or definable surface water features other than some limited pooling as a result of the flat and poorly drained surface. The neighborhood extends over the Spokane Valley/Rathdrum Prairie aquifer. This aquifer contributes to the drinking water supply of the region and it has been designated as a Sole Source Aquifer, which requires an additional level of review to ensure that use and disposal of hazardous materials do not impact water quality. The risk of impacts to the aquifer are increased in The YARD because of the high infiltration rate of soils.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The YARD contains a number of known and suspected brownfields. A brownfield is defined by real or perceived contamination and current use as vacant or underutilized. A review of environmental databases found 26 sites listed as having confirmed contamination or generating hazardous waste. The largest potentially contaminated sites are facilities associated with the former Great Northern Rail Yard. A number of other properties around The YARD also have potential environmental concerns. In general, these sites are considered to pose relatively low risk to human health and the environment and are not subject to current enforcement actions.

Implications for Development

TRANSPORTATION

- Completion of the NSC, including two interchanges in The YARD, will significantly improve accessibility of this area.
- Access to rail and freeway infrastructure is a strong advantage for location of industrial businesses in The YARD.
- City development regulations require street frontage improvements for permits for new development. The widespread deficiency of streets in The YARD poses an additional financial burden on prospective developers.

UTILITIES

Sanitary Sewer

- The YARD generally possesses a relatively high level of sanitary sewer service. Adequately sized main lines in the City ROW are available for future development to connect to.
- The existing lift station, wet well, and force main that serve The YARD were intentionally oversized to accommodate future growth, although the existing 14-inch diameter force main to 15-inch diameter gravity main represents a significant bottleneck if the current pumps were up-sized to accommodate a fully built-out condition.
- There is an isolated, approximately 40-acre area in the southwest corner of The YARD, between Wellesley Avenue and Garland Avenue, that lacks the sanitary sewer lines necessary to accommodate development. Sanitary sewer lines should be extended to serve the site from the existing available ROW. There may be viable connection points for new mains on East Rich Avenue or within the BNSF ROW.
- Future industrial development that generates an exceptional amount of wastewater or wastewater with unique chemical or physical constituents will require special consideration before connecting to the existing system. The capacity of the existing system and the downstream wastewater treatment plant must be evaluated.

Potable Water

- A reasonable level of potable water service is currently available in The YARD. In general, a nearby storage reservoir and large diameter transmission main provide relatively high pressures and flows to the majority of the area. The existing network of distribution mains provides connection points for the majority of the area.

- The YARD suffers from stagnation issues due to poor circulation of potable water in the existing system. In addition, there are some isolated gaps in potable water service for “interior” parcels on North Florida Street, North Havana Street, and multiple side streets that run east-west through The YARD. Water distribution mains should be extended to the next available connection point to create a robust grid.
- There are some undersized 6-inch diameter lines in The YARD that could inhibit development due to the unavailability of adequate fire flow. These pipes should be upsized to a 12-inch minimum diameter to meet the City’s design standard.
- Future industrial development that consumes an exceptional volume of potable water or has a high risk of fire (e.g., certain manufacturing processes or chemical storage facilities) will require special consideration before connecting to the existing system. The capacity of the existing system must be evaluated in detail to ensure adequate fire flows are available to future development.

Stormwater Management

- Reconsider the requirement to manage all stormwater on-site, as this limits the development capacity of properties.
- Recommend or require low-impact development improvements be implemented for stormwater management in order to take advantage of well-drained soils and delay the need for a centralized stormwater management system. Runoff generated by increased impervious surfaces at industrial sites should be infiltrated internally at each site.
- Well-drained soils in The YARD are conducive to infiltration of street stormwater via swales or drywells (after treatment) within available ROW.
- The lack of existing surface water conveyances in The YARD could result in flooding, particularly at the eastern, low-lying edge of The YARD during large-volume runoff events. Further evaluation of surface runoff in the area is necessary.
- The estimated design flows for the 100-year storm event are significant and prior to redevelopment further evaluation of the need for stormwater infrastructure should be gathered.

Dry Utilities

- Development requiring greater natural gas, electric, or telecommunication capacity should be coordinated with the various utility purveyors to extend required utility service to specific locations within The YARD.

- Dry utility corridors and easements for each major transportation corridor should be considered.

PHYSICAL, WATER, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

- The soil characteristics found in The YARD indicate that existing soils are likely structurally competent, and do not indicate that significant clay deposits or other biological materials are present in the strata.
- The Spokane Valley/Rathdrum Prairie aquifer located beneath The YARD includes soil strata that features moderate to high hydraulic conductivity. Further development within The YARD and redevelopment for industrial use should include consideration of the various aquifer protection regulations. There may be specific restrictions on how stormwater runoff is handled for industrial users and pre-treatment may be required to protect the underlying aquifer.
- Major infrastructure improvement projects will require review by the USEPA or its designee, consistent with several Memorandums of Understanding established for Sole Source Aquifer protection.
- There are a significant number of known and suspected brownfield sites within The YARD. Redevelopment of The YARD should be coordinated to prioritize cleanup and re-claim these encumbered sites, enabling the community to return properties to productive use.

Market Conditions

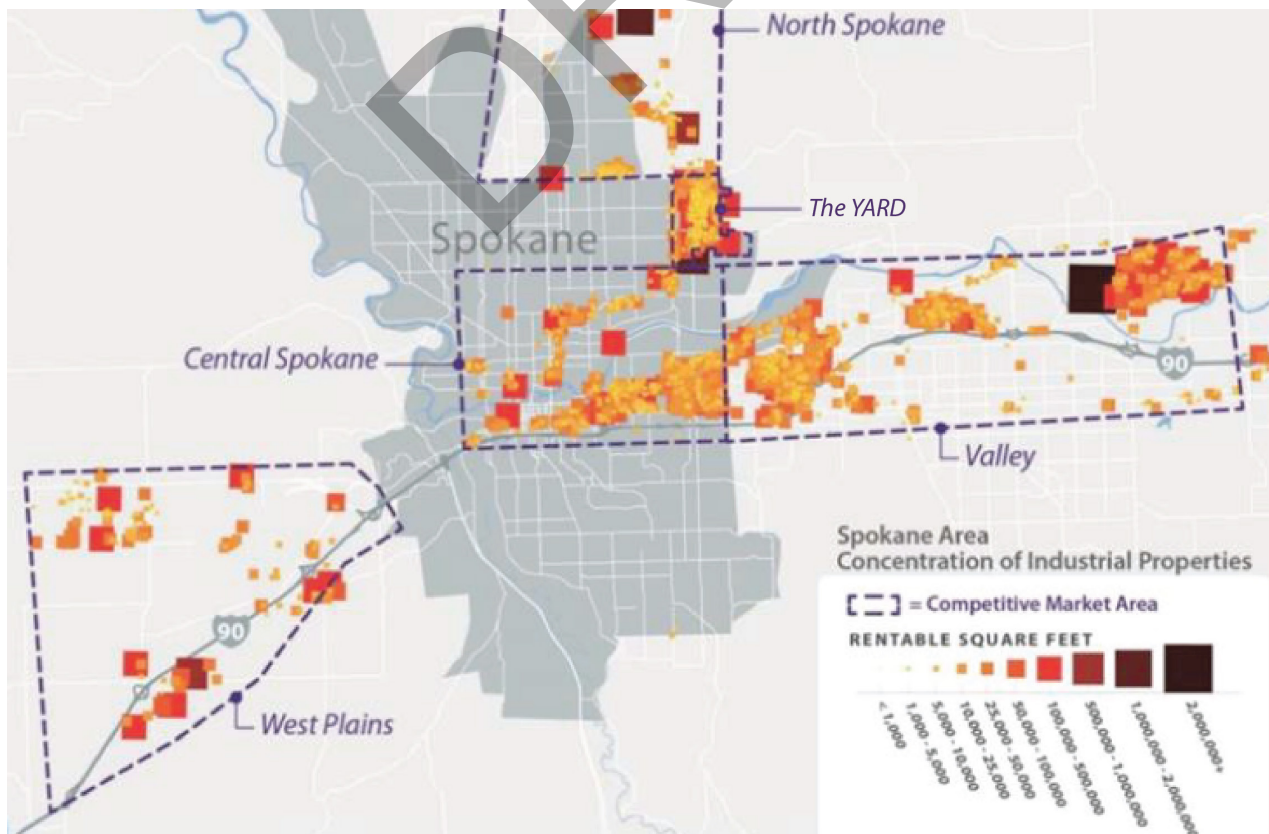
A market study was conducted in 2015-2016 to support this Redevelopment Master Plan.

The YARD contains more than 1.6 million square feet of industrial space, which comprises about four percent of the total industrial space in Spokane County. The average asking rental rate for this existing building space is \$7.56 in The YARD, compared to about \$5.58 per square foot throughout Spokane County. The YARD's advantages, compared to other industrial neighborhoods throughout the County, include a regionally central location and proximity to downtown Spokane. Disadvantages include a small number of large-scale parcels; fragmented ownership; perceived and real contamination; relatively little local infrastructure and access to regional highways; and plenty of land available in competitive areas. Figures 13 and 14 show The YARD's regional competition for industrial businesses and land values, respectively. Table 4 shows how The YARD compares to some of these neighborhoods in terms of price and available space. Table 4 also shows a significantly smaller average building square footage, suggesting that there are fewer existing buildings in The YARD that are suitable for reuse by regional or national industrial users.

Recent significant industrial projects have located in submarkets outside of The YARD. For example, a 560,000-square-foot construction equipment distribution plant and a 200,000-square-foot cold storage facility were built in West Plains in 2012 and 2014, respectively. A major metal fabrication company also expanded to the West Plains submarket, citing a strong workforce, tax incentives, economic grant funding, and city-funded infrastructure improvements. There has been an increase in construction in The YARD in 2015 and 2016, including an approximately 20,000-square-foot specialty metals fabrication facility.

The YARD's competitiveness is likely to improve as a number of planned influential developments take place around the neighborhood. More than 200 acres of single-family residential developments are expected to be added to the Beacon Hill properties immediately east of the Hillyard neighborhood. This will include more than 300 residential units in the first phase, and theoretically a total of at least 1,500 units by the completion of the tenth and final phase. This development would create demand for complementary uses and additional traffic volumes on Wellesley Avenue in the southern portion of The YARD.

FIGURE 13. REGIONAL COMPETITION



Additionally, as mentioned above, The YARD is expected to benefit from other planned changes, including construction of the NSC and realignment of the BNSF rail associated with the freeway project. The NSC will connect Hillyard to U.S. Route 395, which carries an estimated \$13-billion worth of freight annually. In particular, the planned interchange located on the western edge of The YARD may serve as a catalyst to attract new development

in the immediate area. Furthermore, the realignment of the BNSF railway tracks, partially funded by grants awarded to the City of Spokane in 2012, would maintain this method for the transportation of goods produced in or for The YARD. However, these projects are only partially funded, and it may take as many as 20 years to complete the project due to uncertain levels of future funding.

FIGURE 14. LAND VALUES

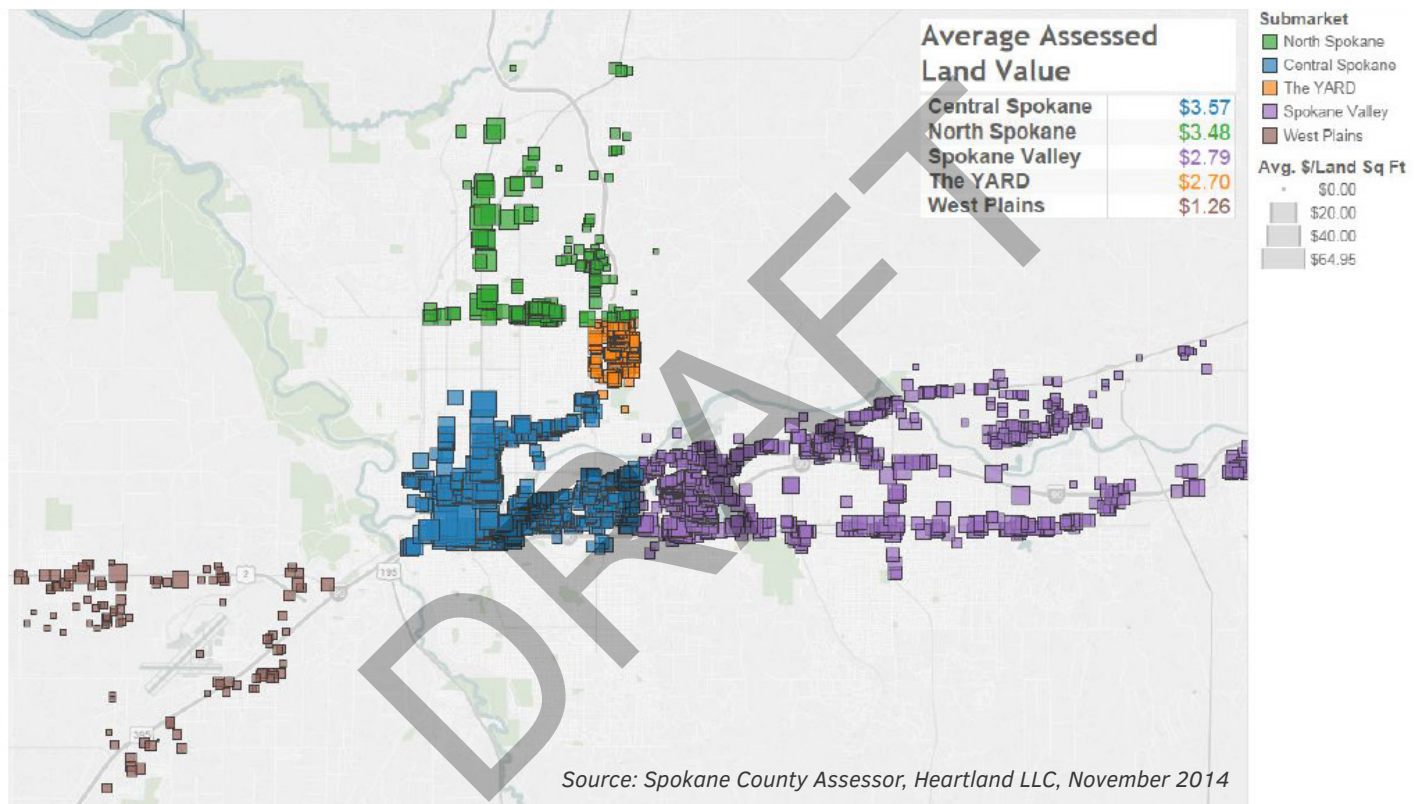


TABLE 4. MARKET CONDITIONS IN COMPETING AREAS

Submarket	Buildings	Total Rentable Square Feet	Average Building Square feet	Vacancy Rate	Average Asking Rent Per Square Foot (NNN)
The YARD	169	1,654,588	9,790	1.4%	\$7.56
Spokane Valley	761	20,796,868	27,328	2.5%	\$4.93
West Plains	156	4,276,986	27,417	1.5%	\$5.50
Central Spokane	521	9,395,791	18,034	3.1%	\$6.84
North Spokane	146	3,726,200	25,522	0.1%	\$5.19
Spokane County	1,753	39,850,433	22,733	2.2%	\$5.58

Source: CoStar, Heartland LLC, March 2017

3. COMMUNITY INPUT

Stakeholder Interviews

In September of 2015, consultants Maul Foster Alongi (MFA) and Heartland LLC conducted interviews with property owners and other stakeholders in The YARD. The purpose of these interviews was to identify the perceived strengths and weaknesses of the neighborhood and identify means to improve the area's ability to attract investment. Questions posed to these individuals included:

- What attracted you to The YARD?
- Where else did you look to locate?
- What were the key drivers in your site search?
- How does The YARD play into your business goals and strategy?
- Do you have any plans for property development or transaction?
- Are you currently seeking users to lease existing space or construct new space?

COMMON THEMES

During the interview process, MFA and Heartland uncovered several common opinions of The YARD. Advantages included:

- **Relatively Low Cost** – Nearly all of the interviewees stated that they were attracted to The YARD by the low-cost land. Many of them moved from a more central location within Spokane and looked at other cost-efficient places like Spokane Valley, Airway Heights, or West Plains, but they eventually settled in The YARD.
- **Location and Accessibility** – Most of the interviewees were also attracted to The YARD due to its convenient location. Alternate locations were not nearly as close to downtown Spokane. The consensus opinion was that completion of the NSC will improve accessibility for all types of users, but also that the infrastructure within The YARD itself needs improvement.

Challenges to development and business in The YARD included:

- **Infrastructure** – There was consensus among the interviewees that the lack of paved roads was a major challenge. Some interviewees stated that other issues were the costs of extending power and the water system upgrades needed to meet fire codes.
- **Crime** – Some interviewees stated that crime, including property theft, was a major issue and felt

that police enforcement was insufficient in the area. Other interviewees stated that the issue was over-exaggerated.

- **City Development Regulations** – There were mixed responses regarding City development regulations and the permitting process. Some interviewees had personal experience with permit requirements they considered unnecessary and burdensome. Others stated that local government officials and building codes were reasonable.
- **Development Incentives** – Several interviewees stated that while they knew that there were some development incentives, such as the Community Empowerment Zone, they did not understand the incentives and had inaccurate information about them.
- **Residential Uses in Industrial Area** – Within the industrially zoned area of The YARD, there are a number of residential homes that are non-conforming uses. Several interviewees expressed concerns about the condition of those houses and about illegal activities associated with the residences.

When community members described their desires for the future of The YARD, the following themes were common:

- There was broad support for the City's efforts to increase economic development in The YARD by attracting industrial-sector jobs.
- There was some interest in the addition of retail and commercial uses in The YARD. The highway interchange and potential development of Beacon Hill could create a market for retail. Local businesses could also support professional and financial services, such as banks.

Community Meetings

The NEPDA and the City hosted a community open house on March 16, 2016 and also staffed a booth at the Hillyard Festival Days at Harmon Park on August 5 and 6 of 2016. The NEPDA has also hosted annual luncheons with local business executives. The purpose of these outreach efforts was to provide information about the Area-Wide Plan and solicit input from the public.

COMMON THEMES

Community members generally expressed support for the City's efforts to plan for improvements in The YARD. A large number of the comments and questions received were related to the NSC project. Because of the large scale and current construction activities, this was expected to be a major area of interest. When

asked about the needs of The YARD, the most common responses involved road improvements, jobs, and transportation options (pedestrian and transit).

Some of the more frequent specific topics were as follows:

- Many expressed support for infrastructure improvements and increased economic activity in order to displace the negative stigma for the former rail yard area.
- Many people stressed urgency for improvements to be constructed.
- Several expressed gratitude to the federal, state, and local government for its willingness to fund projects in this neighborhood.
- Many hoped to see multiple east-west pedestrian connections across the proposed highway location, as the highway may create a physical barrier between The YARD and the commercial corridor of Market Street.
- A number of individuals wanted to see increased transit service to the area.
- Some individuals expressed confusion regarding construction projects in the area and along the potential highway path. They hoped to see improved detour signage and sources of information that could explain the purpose of each construction project.

4. FUTURE USE PLAN

The Future Use Plan for the Hillyard neighborhood seeks to build on and synthesize previous planning efforts such as the City Comprehensive Plan, Hillyard Neighborhood Plan, and NEPDA plan documents. This section will include the vision statement, goals, and objectives that have resulted from this process.

Vision, Goals, and Objectives

VISION STATEMENT

The YARD will be home to an array of commercial and industrial businesses that provide quality employment and economic opportunities to residents in the region, as well as quality housing for area workers.

GOALS

- Create and sustain family-wage jobs
- Capture the opportunity provided by the North Spokane Corridor to promote economic revitalization of a historically industrial area
- Promote development that is economically and environmentally sustainable

- Improve health and safety of neighborhoods through environmental restoration
- Improve quality of life for residents, employees, and visitors

OBJECTIVES

- Support existing businesses and attract new large- and small-scale companies
- Improve the regional competitiveness of The YARD
- Provide incentives that encourage revitalization and leverage existing infrastructure
- Target economic development tools that will have the greatest impact
- Make rational, cost-effective improvements to public infrastructure
- Leverage public investments and incentives with private investment
- Equitably share the costs of public improvements
- Address legacy environmental issues
- Address concerns and perceptions of public safety
- Foster stable housing opportunities

FIGURE 15. FUTURE VISION



Growth Projection

CAPACITY ANALYSIS SUMMARY

An evaluation of The YARD's potential development capacity at full build-out was undertaken to inform the infrastructure assessment. The approach involved identifying the parcels that could be developed or redeveloped at some point through 2050, as follows:

- Identify properties with proposed projects based on information from the City. These are flagged as redevelopment sites.
- Identify properties with an assessed improvement value to an assessed total value ratio of less than 50 percent, as potentially re-developable through 2050.
- Exclude the property meeting this ratio threshold that are owned by utilities and land to be used for the North/South Corridor.
- For property that could be redeveloped during this period, a floor area ratio of 0.3 was applied to the land area, resulting in potentially supportable industrial building square footage.

TABLE 5. CAPACITY ANALYSIS

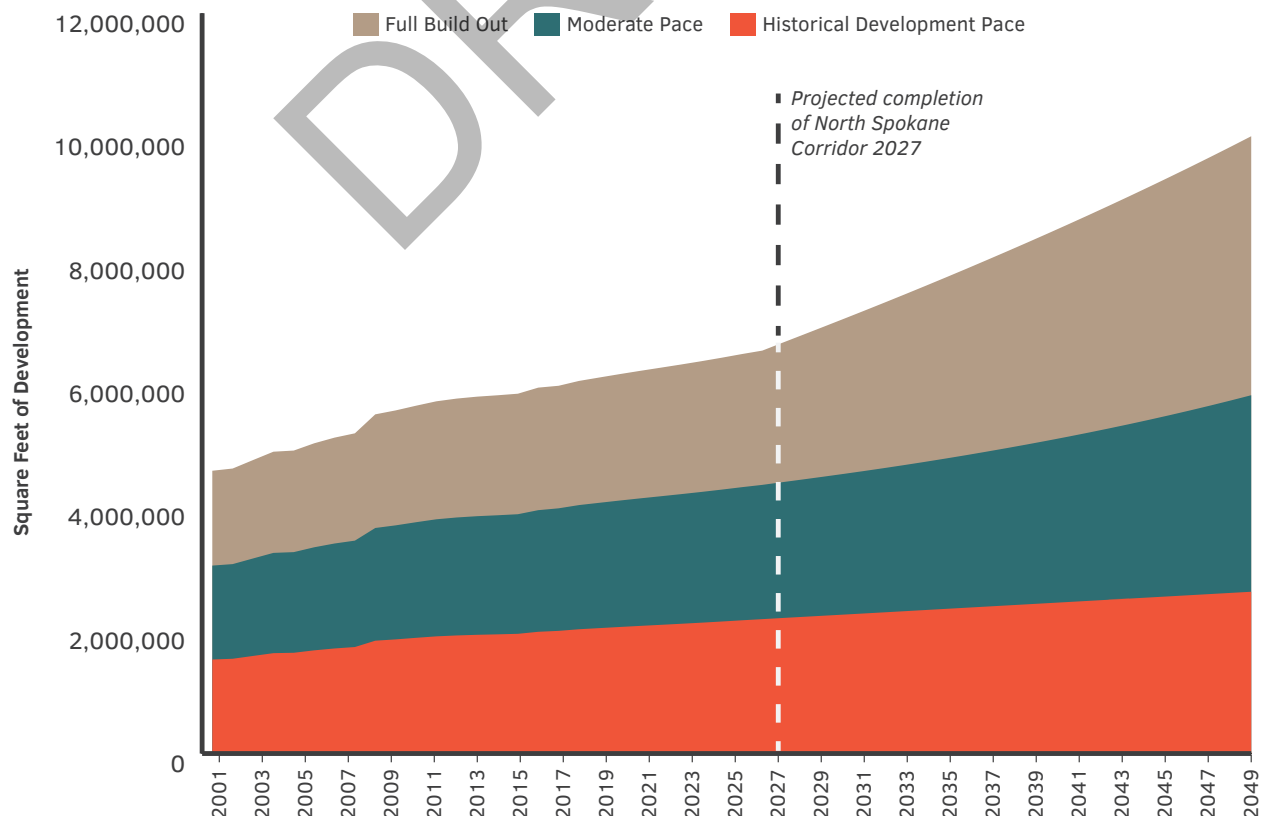
	Total 2050 (YARD Square Feet)	New 2017-2050 (Square Feet)
Historical Pace	2,620,310	634,042
Moderate Pace	3,809,745	1,823,477
Full Capacity*	4,850,159	2,863,891

* If vacant or Imp AV to Total AV <25%. If a project is proposed then that program is accounted for.

• Average FAR Assumption = 0.3

Based on this analysis, the total new capacity that could be built is 2.86m square feet. Table 5 and Figure 16 show the three iterations used to estimate build-out, assuming all of it will not be delivered. The first scenario is a historical pace based on the 10-year rolling average of the rate of new construction; the second scenario is based on the 10-year moving average of the year-over-year change that results in an increase in the rate of new construction around the highway completion. The final scenario is the full build-out estimate, spread out through 2050.

FIGURE 16. GROWTH FORECAST



5. CATALYST SITES

The YARD is a large area that has significant need for strategic interventions, including infrastructure improvements, to promote revitalization. To increase the impact and cost effectiveness of investment of public resources, the NEPDA and the City have identified catalyst sites to target and focus interventions. Successful urban redevelopment efforts in the region, such as the University District, and across the country, often begin with a handful of transformative investments that begin to change perceptions of an area, demonstrate financial viability, and blaze the trail for other projects to follow. Five catalyst sites have been identified in The YARD as significant redevelopment opportunities that could lead to revitalization throughout the area. Each of these sites contains vacant or underutilized parcels and includes properties that have real or perceived environmental conditions that constrain redevelopment. These areas are also large enough to encourage transformational development. When developed, these catalyst sites will attract new businesses and jobs to The YARD, signaling to the real estate market an emerging development opportunity.

Selection of Catalyst Sites

Previous planning efforts, including The YARD Development Strategy, have identified opportunity sites for redevelopment. These previously identified sites were combined with properties identified in the brownfield inventory as being underutilized and having confirmed or suspected environmental impacts. These potential catalyst sites were reviewed by the NEPDA board and in community meetings. The final selection of catalyst sites was decided based on a set of evaluation factors (see Table 6). The factors include the following:

Capacity—The size of each site largely determines its capacity. Larger parcels or a collection of contiguous parcels under single ownership is generally preferred for larger development projects because that provides significant area for development and avoids the transaction costs of assembling land through negotiations with multiple parties.

Accessibility—Properties with close proximity to the proposed NSC, access to arterial and collector roads, in addition to rail access are considered more attractive for industrial uses, which would use this regional infrastructure to move goods.

Existing Infrastructure/Cost Efficiency to Serve—Properties currently served by water, sewer, power, and telecommunications with sufficient capacity and in good condition are more likely to attract private investment. The costs of upgrading infrastructure systems present a potentially significant challenge to the financial feasibility

of a redevelopment. Based on current market conditions, it is unlikely that private development projects can take on that additional cost. Properties that needed relatively minor infrastructure improvements ranked more highly for this factor.

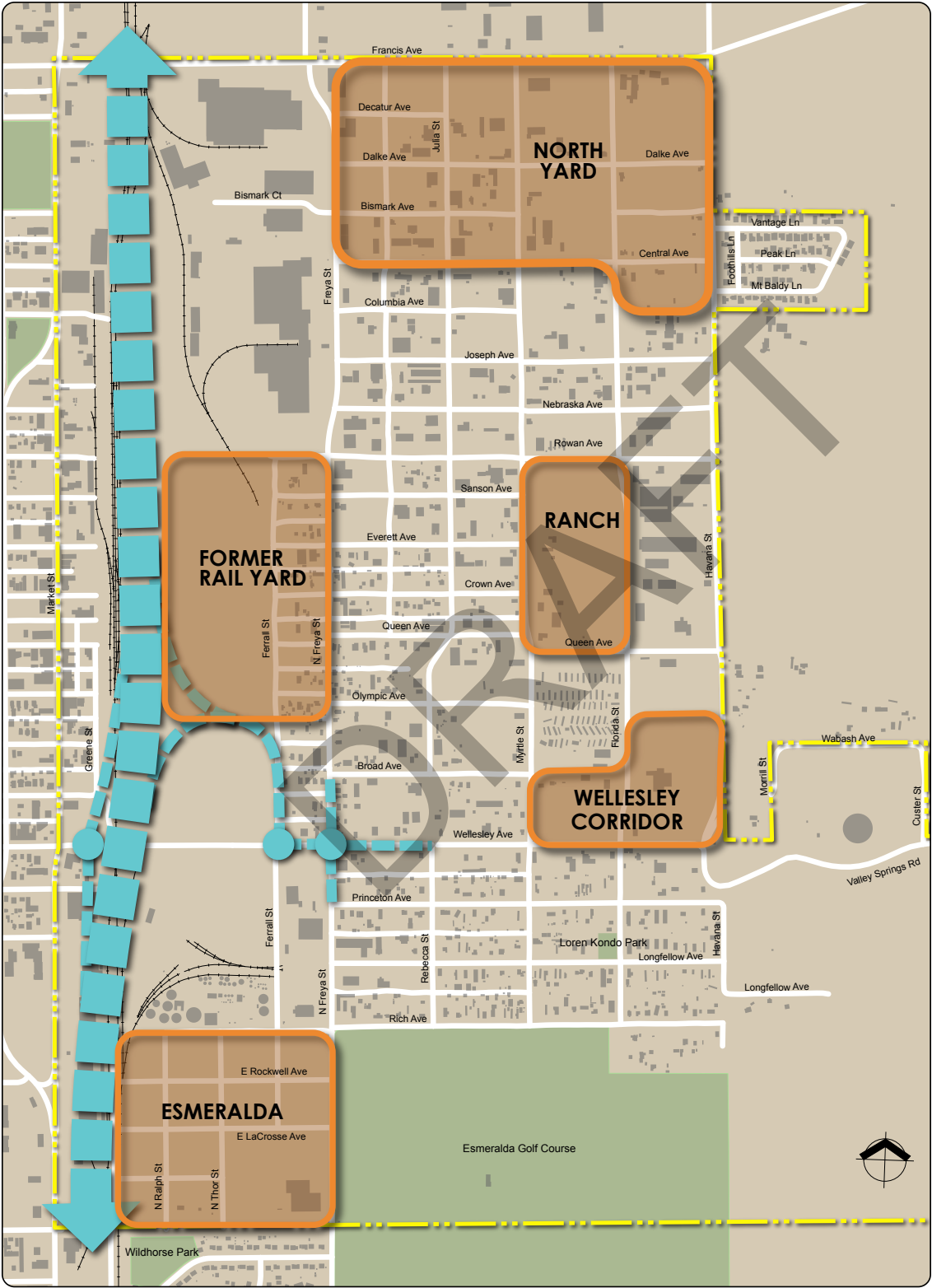
Environmental—The risks and costs associated with environmental remediation can be strong deterrents to private investment. Public investments, such as creation of a Redevelopment Opportunity Zone and conducting Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) to reduce uncertainty regarding environmental issues, can be highly effective public interventions to improve market viability for a property.

Willing Owner(s)—The NEPDA and the City are reaching out to support and partner with property owners and businesses. The interest and willingness of a property owner to partner with the public and pursue redevelopment of his/her land ranked high.

Existing Use—Properties that are currently vacant or underutilized ranked higher for this factor. The NEPDA and City approach is to expand economic opportunities in The YARD and not just replace one viable business with a different one.

The catalyst sites are shown on the following page in Figure 17.

FIGURE 17. CATALYST SITES



Legend

- Hillyard Boundary
- Proposed US 395
- Potential Catalyst Sites

TABLE 6. EVALUATION OF CATALYST SITES

Catalyst Sites	EVALUATION FACTORS			EVALUATION FACTORS		
	Capacity	Accessibility	Existing Infrastructure/ Cost Efficiency to Serve	Environmental	Willing Owner(s)	Existing Use
Ranch Property	About 10 acres	Frontage on Florida Street, a high traffic, paved road. Less than 1 mile to NSC corridor via paved road.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and sewer are available, but upgrades are needed to support redevelopment. • Florida Street is paved, but should be improved to support higher traffic volume. • Sidewalks and stormwater swales recently constructed on Rowan and Queen Avenues north and south of property. • Power and telecommunications available. 	Potential impacts identified in Phase I ESA	Yes, owned by City	Public works yard for Streets Department. Used for storage.
Esmeralda	About 27 acres	Adjacent to NSC route. Frontage on Freya Street.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water, sewer, and power are present. • Road and sidewalk to the east, and no transportation infrastructure to the north or west. • Proposed improvements include pedestrian and industrial grade transportation infrastructure. • Power and telecommunications available. 	Potential environmental impacts from fill material and adjacent industrial activities	Property owner interested in redevelopment. Property actively listed for sale.	Currently vacant.
Former Rail Yard	About 90 acres, including over 60 acres in single ownership	Adjacent to NSC route. Rail access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and sewer service available. • Potable water line undersized to meet future development needs. • Improvements to Freya Street likely needed to support future development. • Power and telecommunications available 	Lead impacted soil containment cell on property. Potential impacts from historic rail yard operations.	Yes, BNSF has stated interest in redevelopment	BNSF property currently vacant. Adjacent mix of residential and small industrial uses
North Yard	About 30 acres	Adjacent to completed Francis Avenue interchange.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and sewer service available. Potable water lines in Julia Street, Myrtle Street, and Florida Street are undersized to support future development. • Francis Avenue, Decatur, Avenue, and Dalke Avenue recently improved. • Power and telecommunications available 	Suspected – Fragmented, with about half of parcels suspected and half unknown	Multiple owners. Some properties listed for sale.	Mix of fragmented light industrial and vacant. About 14 acres of vacant land.
Wellesley Corridor	About 50 acres	NSC interchange planned at Wellesley Avenue, which is designated as Minor Collector Arterial.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waters, sewer, power and telecommunications available. • Water main in Wellesley ROW in need of replacement. • Street should be widened and reconstructed to support higher intensity development. 	Potential for impacts associated with historic industrial uses on multiple properties	Multiple owners. Some recent proposed and constructed development projects.	Mix of residential and industrial uses. More than 10 acres of vacant land.

Catalyst Site Redevelopment Opportunities

The redevelopment potential of each of the catalyst sites is evaluated and key strategies for positioning these properties for redevelopment are identified in the following section.

ESMERALDA

Redevelopment Opportunity: Light industrial and commercial/retail uses.

Key Features

- Large property under single ownership
- Frontage on Freya Avenue, arterial roadway
- Proximity to NSC interchange
- Transition property between residential and light industrial uses
- Mostly vacant with mix of small-scale industrial uses
- Close proximity to BNSF “Black Tank” site

Overview

The Esmeralda property is one of the largest properties under single ownership in The YARD. This provides unique opportunities for a large-scale master planned development with significant associated economic benefits (see Figure 18).

FIGURE 18. ESMERALDA



At a Glance

- Tax Parcel numbers: 35032.2001, 35032.1901, 35032.1801, 35032.1405, 35032.1501, 35032.1601, 35032.1701, 35032.1005, 35032.0901, 35032.0801, 35032.0701, 35032.0303, 35032.0401, 35032.0501, and 35032.0601.
- Size: 24.39 acres
- Zoning: Light Industrial
- Access: Frontage on North Freya Street, which is designated as a Minor Collector Arterial in this section.
- Utilities:
 - Public water: 30-inch diameter steel line in Freya ROW constructed in 1926, so at end of its design life. A 24-inch diameter steel line crosses property in Lacrosse Street ROW.
 - Sanitary sewer: 8-inch diameter gravity sewer line in Garland Street ROW. Drains through residential development to the south. Capacity appears sufficient to support future development.
 - Power: Served by Avista with potential for three-phase power.
 - Telecommunications available along Freya Avenue.

Redevelopment Concept

The size and location of the Esmeralda property present a number of redevelopment opportunities including light industrial, retail, or professional services to support nearby residences and businesses. Future development should include appropriate uses and site design features to provide a transition and buffer between residential uses to the south and industrial activities to the north. The large size of the property allows for physical development that can meet this suite of needs. The proposed redevelopment concept includes large light-industrial buildings in the interior of the property and retail or commercial buildings on the Freya Avenue frontage (see Figure 19). A generous landscaped buffer is incorporated into the southern edge of the property to provide a buffer to residential uses. This concept features more than 300,000 square feet of commercial building space and more than 1,000 parking spaces, at full build-out, including one larger building (nearly 200,000 square feet) and several smaller buildings.

Market Context

Future developments in The YARD create opportunities for this catalyst site to be developed for retail, commercial, and/or industrial use. This site's proximity to the future NSC interchange at Wellesley Avenue, if combined with

widening of North Freya Street to support truck traffic, make it well-situated to support industrial users. Given the low industrial vacancy rate in Spokane and The YARD, 2.2 percent and 1.4 percent respectively, demand for a range of light industrial uses could be supported on this site.

A prevalence of industrial and retail uses within this catalyst site is intended to meet near-term industrial demand while anticipating the need for retail services from the mix of nearby residents and workers, which is poised to increase as a result of this project, and upcoming housing developments at Beacon Hill eastern edge of The YARD.

With expected business and residential growth in The YARD, there is also potential demand for retail and commercial uses. Currently, there are limited options for employees and residents in The YARD to eat, shop, and access conveniences. The proximity of this site to Wellesley Avenue, a primary east-west connection in the area, and the future NSC interchange will make this site attractive for retail developers and business. This retail potential will become realized after construction of the Wellesley Avenue interchange and build out of the roughly 3,000 new homes planned for the Beacon Hill development.

FIGURE 19. ESMERALDA CONCEPT



A financial feasibility analysis was conducted on the conceptual redevelopment plan for the Esmeralda. This analysis provides a preliminary evaluation of the potential for a redevelopment project to be successful based on current market conditions. A static pro forma model was used to assess the feasibility of the redevelopment scenarios. The model was populated with market-based income, cost, and debt inputs. The income assumptions are grounded in the analysis presented in Section 2 of this report. The key output metric used to assess feasibility is the cash-on-cash return, or the rate of return of the net cash flow from the income property relative to the equity invested. The model compares the pro forma cash-on-cash return to target cash-on-cash return. Based on experience, this return should reach at least a 10 percent risk-adjusted return.

The feasibility assessment finds that redevelopment of the Esmeralda property is financially viable given the following conditions:

- Triple-net rents averaging \$9.35/square foot/year
- Capitalization rate of 7 percent
- Site build-out costs of \$70/building square foot
 - Building: \$42/square foot
 - Site improvements (parking, grading, internal roads): \$11/square foot
 - Taxes on hard costs and contingency: \$7/square foot
 - Sot costs (design, permitting): \$10/square foot

The redevelopment could become financially infeasible under several scenarios:

- If the developer were required to bear the fully appraised value of the ROW interior to the site and construction costs increase by 10 percent
- If the developer were required to purchase the ROW and rents decrease 10 percent
- If the capitalization rate increases to 7.5 percent

It expected that the financial feasibility for redevelopment of the property will improve after the NSC is completed. It is important to note that this financial feasibility analysis is based on the metrics for a speculative developer that is trying to make revenue solely on the development. The economics for an owner-operator are fundamentally different and tied to that specific business model.

Environmental Conditions

The Esmeralda property is currently undeveloped and, historically, there were no operations that would be cause for concern relative to environmental impacts. However, it is located adjacent to an asphalt batch plant and bulk

fuel-storage facility associated with the former Great Northern rail yard. It is recommended that standard due diligence be conducted prior to transaction or development of the property to evaluate any potential environmental risks.

Barriers to Redevelopment

Timing. There is significant potential market demand to increase following construction of the transportation improvements and the Beacon Hill residential development. It will be challenging to realize that potential until the NSC and Beacon Hill developments are complete, or at least under a firm schedule for near-term construction.

Property Consolidation. The property is internally divided by a grid of public ROW. Vacating at least a portion of this ROW would greatly increase the flexibility and opportunities for industrial or commercial site development. State law RCW place clear procedural and valuation requirements on public ROW vacation. A preliminary estimate of the cost of vacating the ROW on this property is over \$500,000.

Environmental. The market may perceive environmental risks associated with this property. Phase I and Phase II ESAs could serve to clarify environmental uncertainty and reduce perceived risk.

Recommended Actions

The NEPDA and the City can collaborate with the property owner and partners in the community, including real estate development professionals, to make this property more attractive for investors and enhance the financial feasibility of redevelopment. Actions include:

- **Providing Information and Promoting Redevelopment.** The NEPDA and the City are well-suited, with partners including Greater Spokane Incorporated and real estate brokers, to provide key information about the property, its redevelopment potential, and incentives that can enhance the viability of redevelopment. Key information could include:
 - Updated information on the status and schedule of construction of the NSC and other infrastructure improvements
 - Financial incentives available to support redevelopment of the property
 - List of required City permits and timeline for permitting process
- **Coordinate with Property Owner to Vacate Sections of City ROW.** City regulations related to vacating public ROW (SMC 17G.080.020) align with requirements in state law (RCW 35.79). The

applicant is required to petition the City Council after acquiring signatures from owners of at least two-thirds of the property. City Council would then provide 20 days of public notice, followed by a public hearing to determine that the vacation is in the public's interest, before approving or rejecting the application. Resolving the ROW issue would allow the property owner to place a more flexible real estate asset on the market, which would increase the likelihood of investment. Vacating the ROW would also allow for more efficient use of space in design.

- **Public Infrastructure Improvements.** Improvements to the road and water system along Freya Street between Wellesley Avenue and Garland Avenue should be implemented to enhance the development capacity of this property. These investments would capitalize on the NSC improvements, including the new roundabout intersection at Wellesley Avenue and Freya Street, to improve accessibility to the property. Infrastructure improvements should include replacing the aging water line and re-building the street. (See Project information sheet 10 for more detail).
- **Environmental.** The NEPDA and City can provide technical resources to the property owner to conduct Phase I and Phase II ESAs and prepare a cleanup action that can be integrated into redevelopment of the property. The NEPDA City can utilize its USEPA brownfield assessment grant funds to conduct this assessment and cleanup planning.

RANCH PROPERTY AND ADJACENT PROPERTIES

Redevelopment Opportunity: Light industrial and/or commercial uses.

Key Features

- Mostly City-owned property
- Designated as Redevelopment Opportunity Zone (ROZ)
- Adjacent to both residential and light industrial uses
- Mostly open storage area with some pre-existing industrial storage

Overview

The Ranch property is owned by the City and designated as an ROZ. This designation from the City will allow this site to be a higher priority for cleanup funding from the Department of Ecology. Its size and location make this property an ideal candidate for an expansion of the same type of work-bench industrial or commercial shops that exist in The YARD today.

One concept for redevelopment of the Ranch property is to establish a Builders and Makers Small Business Incubation Center for innovators, creators, and startup entrepreneurs. The City's approximately 10-acre property could be expanded to include the two adjacent properties that have recently been listed for sale.

At a Glance

- Tax Parcel numbers: 36344.0204, 36344.0208, 36344.0210, 36344.0209, and 36344.0206
- Size: 10.43 acres
- Zoning: Light Industrial
- Utilities:
 - Water: 12-inch diameter line in Florida Street and 8-inch diameter line in Myrtle Street ROW
 - Sewer: 8-inch diameter sewer lines in Florida and Myrtle Street ROW
- Streets:
 - Queen Avenue and Rowan Avenue: recently improved with curbs and stormwater swales
 - Florida Street. Paved, but does not meet City design standards
 - Myrtle Street: gravel road

Redevelopment Concept

A builder and maker space can take many forms, but is generally a collaborative space where people can share tools, equipment, and knowledge to design and build. These facilities can provide a wide range of opportunities

in areas such as electronics, metal working, wood working, and 3D printing. Builder and maker spaces are emerging in many places around the country as creative places for entrepreneurs to learn new skills, develop business relationships, and test their ideas.

With technical assistance provided by USEPA funding, conceptual alternatives for development of a builders and makers incubator space on the Ranch property were prepared. The preferred concept plan includes 92,800 square feet of space in four buildings (see Figure 20). The conceptual plan includes loading docks and circulation for movements of large trucks. A stormwater management facility is also illustrated on the north end of the property, with enough capacity to serve the builders and makers space and stormwater from other properties in the vicinity. The goals for the redevelopment concept for the Ranch property are to create employment opportunities and develop appropriate uses that can co-exist with other businesses and residential areas.



Photos of the Ranch Property's present day use for storage and maintenance.

FIGURE 20. RANCH CONCEPT



Credit: ICF Incorporated, LLC and Van Meter Williams Pollack LLP

Market Context

The market context keys for an institutional use such as a builder and maker space are the potential users and organizational structure to manage the facility. It is recommended that a feasibility study for demand and funding for the facility be conducted as the key next step.

If the property were to redevelop for a private industrial business, this catalyst site will depend on the same forces that have previously attracted these operations to The YARD. With proper cleanup and other improvements, this site could provide the same cost-efficient land and adequate infrastructure as other small-scale industrial businesses in The YARD. As depicted, the site conceptual site plan of the Ranch could support a number of small-scale industrial businesses, or it may provide one or two owner/user business(es) a location to establish and grow operations. As was indicated in the previous market context section, in 2015 the industrial vacancy rate was below two percent in The YARD. This is a clear sign that businesses wanting to expand or locate to Spokane will need to either be more creative in their search for existing space or identify underdeveloped or vacant locations that could be developed to support their business. The Ranch has the size and location to support this demand.

Environmental Conditions

Since the early 1980s, the property has been owned and operated by the City of Spokane as a public works yard. Prior ownership and operations at the property are unknown, but development outside of residential or agricultural use of the area did not take place until after 1972. The property formerly contained diesel

impacts in soil related to the historical operation of three underground storage tanks (USTs). The USTs and related soil impacts have since been removed and the Washington State Department of Ecology issued a No Further Action determination in regards to the release from the USTs.

A phase I ESA for the property was completed in November 2014. The following recognized environmental conditions (RECs) were identified in the Phase I ESA: a drainage pit at the north end of the property, surface soil-staining related to bulk asphalt storage, a 2007 deicer spill, historical operation of former dry wells, and former storage of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)-containing transformers. Additional assessment of these RECs is recommended in order to confirm any remaining impacts on the property. There are no known environmental restrictions for future development of this property.

Recommended Actions

As owner of the property, the City has great control of how it can be positioned for redevelopment. Key actions the City and NEPDA can take include:

- **Evaluate Financial Feasibility of Maker/Builder Space.** The City and NEPDA should conduct a study to estimate the operational costs of the maker/builder space to complement the construction cost estimate of development. The study should also explore options for governance and management of the maker/builder space and for funding the project.
- **Attracting Private Investment.** The City and NEPDA can work with partners, including Greater Spokane

Incorporated and real estate brokers, to provide key information about the property, its redevelopment potential, and incentives that can enhance the viability of redevelopment. Key information could include:

- Updated information on the status and schedule of construction of the NSC and other infrastructure improvements
 - Financial incentives available to support redevelopment of the property
 - List of required City permits and timeline for permitting process
- **Public Infrastructure Improvements.** The roads on the North and South sides of the property have been recently improved, but Florida Street does not meet City design standards and Myrtle Street is not paved. Infrastructure improvements will be required to support higher intensity use of this property. In the Florida Street ROW, the existing water main should be extended south, from Queen Avenue to Wellesley Avenue, and north, from Rowan Avenue to Francis Avenue, to provide sufficient pressure to meet fire flow requirements. A small segment of sanitary sewer should also be installed to provide service near the northern end of the Ranch property between Everett and Rowan. In addition, Florida Street should be re-built to meet industrial standards to support the higher traffic trips expected in the future. (See Appendix A: Priority Infrastructure Projects 7 and 8 for more detail). In the long-term, Myrtle Street should also be re-built with paving and stormwater management facilities that meet City street design standards.
 - **Environmental.** The City should conduct a Phase II ESA to address environmental concerns on the Property. The City is currently seeking state and federal resources to conduct this assessment. Based

on the findings of the Phase II ESA, the City should develop a strategy to resolve environmental issues to support redevelopment. Strategic options include:

- Provide a future buyer with a reduced purchase price to financially offset the costs of remedial actions.
- Conduct cleanup actions ahead of a transaction and pursue a No Further Action letter through the Voluntary Cleanup Program to resolve the issue ahead of future development. This work could be funded by a combination of Washington State Remedial Action Grants, historic insurance recovery, and City funds.

FORMER RAIL YARD

Redevelopment Opportunity: Heavy industrial and freight-related uses.

Key Features

- Large property under single ownership
- Proximity to Freya Avenue, arterial roadway
- Proximity to NSC interchange
- Confirmed environmental impacts

Overview

The site of the former Great Northern Rail Yard has been vacant since the 1980s. It is one of the largest industrial properties in The YARD (see Figure 21). This area could be expanded through land assembly to include land located between Ferrall Street and Freya Street. This presents a unique opportunity for future large-scale industrial development that can capitalize on the large area, rail access, and proximity to the proposed NSC. However, legacy environmental impacts related to historical operations present a significant barrier to redevelopment.

FIGURE 21. FORMER RAIL YARD & ADJACENT PROPERTIES



At a Glance

- Tax Parcel numbers: 36343.0005
- Size: 62.9 acres (including land allocated for NSC)
- Zoning: Heavy Industrial
- Utilities:
 - Water: 8-inch diameter cast-iron pipe installed in 1938 in Freya Street ROW. Pipe is beyond its design life.
 - Sewer: 15-inch diameter concrete gravity-flow sewer line in Ferrall Street ROW. This gravity line collects all of the sewer outflow from The YARD and conveys it to a 36-inch diameter main line in Haven Road. The 15-inch diameter sewer line crosses the rail yard property between Broad Avenue and Wellesley Avenue and is in need of repair.
 - Power Provided by Avista. Three-phase power available.
- Roads:
 - Ferrall Street is a gravel road.
 - Freya Street designated as an arterial and serves as the primary freight corridor through The YARD. Between Rowan Avenue and Wellesley Avenue, Freya Street does not meet typical standards for paved width and pavement thickness to support heavy freight traffic.



The Former Rail Yard is currently vacant with a gravel road.

Redevelopment Concept

The redevelopment concept for the property is an industrial business that can capitalize on the large parcel size, rail access, and proximity to the future highway (see Figure 22). The large size of the property allows for physical development that can meet these needs. The proposed redevelopment concept includes additional infrastructure improvements that could accommodate heavy freight users.

Market Context

The YARD currently contains two larger-scale industrial users in the Safeway and Food Services of America distribution centers. Demand for large, heavy industrial spaces with rail and highway access is driven by user requirements. In general, these users are driven less by land use economics, but rather by decisions on business economics. The acquisition of land is a relatively small part of business decisions and other factors weigh heavily. These factors include availability and cost of power and other utilities; transportation costs; property and business taxes; and labor costs relative to other areas.

FIGURE 22. FORMER RAIL YARD CONCEPTUAL PLAN



Locally, this catalyst site would compete well with other large acreage properties in the Spokane region stretching from Airway Heights and then east to Post Falls. The effective cost of land today may be less expensive in alternative rural areas of the metropolitan area. The cost of land is less and some jurisdictions have been willing to support new development by providing new utility and road infrastructure. These locations are farther from the labor pool and potentially farther from customers. However, the completion of the NSC will position the property within minutes from I-90, thereby complementing its rail access.

Environmental Conditions

The Department of Ecology has confirmed that contamination is present at this site. This property has perpetuated the perception of pervasive environmental hazards throughout The YARD. From the 1890s until the 1970s, the Hillyard Railroad Yard operated on the property. Soil contaminated with lead, arsenic, cadmium, select volatile organic compounds, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and petroleum hydrocarbons was identified at the property in 2002 during an adjacent property’s interim remedial action efforts. The property has since undergone remediation of impacted soils by excavating, stabilizing, and capping impacted soils in an approximately four-acre containment area.

Future development of the capped containment area will require maintaining or strengthening the integrity of the existing cap and liner. The top of the capped containment area is approximately two feet above the existing grade. No known environmental investigation has been conducted outside of the lead-impacted soil remediation area.

Recommended Actions

Because of its size, location, and prominence in the area, there is a high level of interest and support for redevelopment of the property among a number of potential partners including the City, NEPDA, the property owner, Greater Spokane Incorporated, the Department of Ecology, and the Department of Commerce. Key actions to positioning the property for acquisition include:

- **Providing Information and Promoting Redevelopment.** The NEPDA and the City are well-suited, with partners including Greater Spokane Incorporated and real estate brokers, to provide key information about the property, its redevelopment potential, and incentives that can enhance the viability of redevelopment. Key information could include:
 - Updated information on the status and

schedule of construction of the NSC and other infrastructure improvements

- Financial incentives available to support redevelopment of the property
- List of required City permits and timeline for permitting process
- **Coordinate with WSDOT on Wellesley Avenue Interchange Alignment.** The City meets regularly with WSDOT to provide input into design and construction of the NSC, including the Wellesley Interchange. The location and design for the interchange will effectively set the southern boundary line for developable land on this property. Design should consider efficient use of land and circulation of truck traffic and passenger vehicles through the property.
- **Public Infrastructure Improvements.** Improvements to the road and water system along Freya Street between Rowan Avenue and Wellesley Avenue should be implemented to enhance the development capacity of this property. These investments would capitalize on the NSC improvements, including the new roundabout intersection at Wellesley Avenue that included widening and re-building Freya Street along two blocks. Infrastructure improvements should include replacing the water line with a new, larger-diameter pipe and repairing the gravity sewer main that crosses the property. (See Appendix A Priority Infrastructure Projects 1, 2, and 3 for more detail). The utilization of this unique property could be increased if stormwater could be managed off-site, either in public ROW or a regional facility. (See Appendix A Priority Infrastructure Project 6 for more detail).

- **Environmental.** The NEPDA and City can provide technical resources to the property owner to conduct more extensive site assessment and prepare a cleanup action plan that can be integrated into redevelopment of the property. The NEPDA and City could assist the property owner or a future buyer in developing a strategy to resolve environmental issues, thereby supporting redevelopment. Strategy options for the current owner, future buyer, or developer include:

- Contractual agreements between the seller and future buyer, including reduced purchase price to financially offset the costs of remedial actions and indemnification clauses.
- Conduct cleanup actions ahead of a transaction and pursue a No Further Action letter through the Voluntary Cleanup Program to resolve the issue ahead of future development.
- Proactively designing to contain and cap contaminated soil beneath paved parking areas or buildings as part of the redevelopment.

WELLESLEY CORRIDOR

Redevelopment Opportunity: Light Industrial or retail uses.

Key Features

- Located along primary east-west corridor with good access to future NSC
- Diversity of parcel sizes and property owners
- Proximity to residential and industrial uses
- Potential for environmental impacts

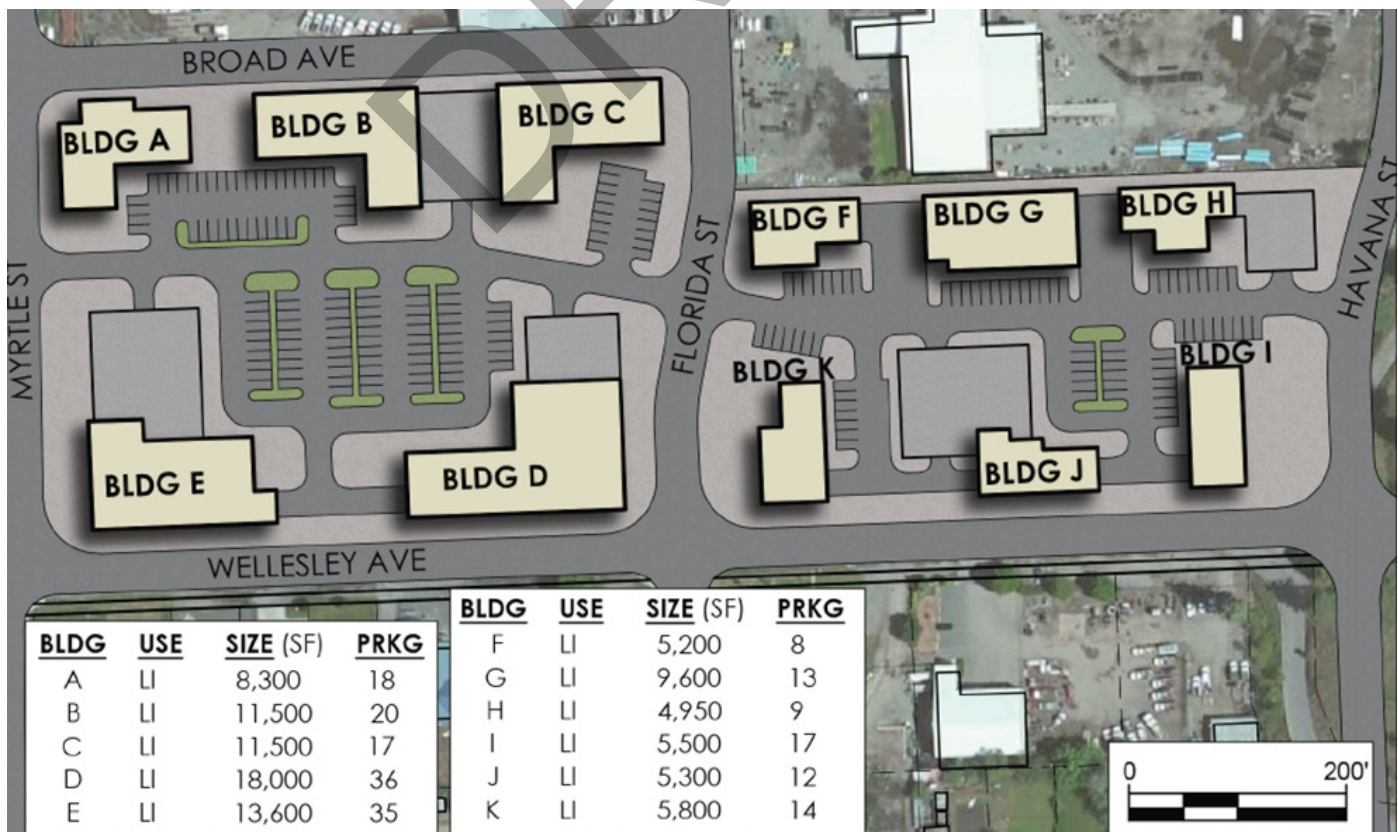
Overview

Completion of the NSC, in addition to development of the Beacon Hill residential community, has the potential to drive change along Wellesley Avenue, which acts as a connector. With improved accessibility and a higher local population, these properties could be positioned for redevelopment for light industrial uses and potentially also for retail or professional services. The catalyst site is made up of ten parcels, including five parcels that are over two acres in size and currently vacant or underutilized. These properties are of sufficient size to support small light industrial parks with multiple buildings or one larger business.

At a Glance

- Tax Parcel numbers: 36344.2011, 36344.2012, 36344.2021, 36344.2022, 36344.2008, 36344.2014, 36344.2109, 36344.2110, 36344.2104, and 36344.2101
- Size: 18.0 acres
- Zoning: Light Industrial
- Utilities:
 - Water: 10-inch diameter line in Wellesley Avenue ROW, 6–12-inch diameter line in Havana Street ROW and 8-inch diameter line in Myrtle Street ROW
 - Sewer: 8-inch diameter sewer lines in Wellesley Avenue, Florida Street, and Myrtle Street ROW
- Streets:
 - Wellesley Avenue: Arterial classification. Does not meet City design standards
 - Florida Street. Paved, but does not meet City design standards
 - Myrtle Street and Havana Street: gravel roads

FIGURE 23. WELLESLEY CORRIDOR CONCEPT



Redevelopment Concept

Like the Esmeralda property, the redevelopment concept for the Wellesley corridor is intended to support the development of appropriate uses to transition from housing to the south and industrial activities to the north. The size of the properties and scale of the buildings in the conceptual site plan are a continuation of the types of small-scale, “work-bench,” light industrial businesses that currently exist throughout much of The YARD (see Figure 23). This development is intended to contribute to job creation and co-exist with other businesses and residential areas. The size and layout of buildings in the conceptual site plan could also accommodate a retail or professional services business.

Market Context

Overall, the market conditions for this property are very similar to that of the Esmeralda property, discussed earlier in this report. This set of properties could see increased traffic from the proposed Beacon Hill residential development, which would utilize Wellesley to access the future NSC freeway and downtown Spokane. As such, sufficient demand could exist for services such as retail. However, convenient industrial-grade access to the NSC, via the possible widening of Wellesley Avenue, could also attract demand from potential industrial users.

Environmental Conditions

Based on a review of historical records, most of the land in this catalyst site has not previously been developed, so environmental contamination concerns are limited. However, several of the parcels have industrial shops and equipment that could create a perception of potential impacts. To date, no known environmental assessment has been conducted on these properties.

Recommended Actions

The NEPDA and the City can collaborate with the property owners and partners in the community, including real estate development professionals, to make these properties more attractive for investors and enhance the financial feasibility of redevelopment. Actions include:

- **Providing Information and Promoting Redevelopment.** The NEPDA and the City are well-suited, with partners including Greater Spokane Incorporated and real estate brokers, to provide key information about these properties, their redevelopment potential, and incentives that can enhance the viability of redevelopment. Key information could include:
 - Updated information on the status and schedule of construction of the NSC, Beacon Hill, and infrastructure improvements
 - Financial incentives available to support redevelopment of the property
 - List of required City permits and timeline for permitting process
- **Public Infrastructure Improvements.** These properties would benefit from street and utility improvements in Florida and Myrtle as discussed in the Ranch Property (See Appendix A: Priority Infrastructure Projects 7 and 8 for more detail). The most significant need is re-building Wellesley Street to meet arterial standards (See Appendix A: Priority Infrastructure Projects 4 and 5). The water main in the Wellesley Avenue ROW is also over 50 years old and in need of replacement. In the City’s original Development Agreement for Beacon Hill, the developer was required to pay for street improvements on Wellesley.
- **Environmental.** The NEPDA and City can provide technical resources to property owners for conducting Phase I and Phase II ESAs to clarify the potential environmental concerns on these properties. Based on information about historical operations, there is strong potential that conducting environmental assessments will provide sufficient information and certainly will allow the private sector to manage any risks associated with environmental concerns. The City and NEPDA can utilize the USEPA brownfield assessment grant funds to conduct these assessments.

NORTH YARD PROPERTIES

Redevelopment Opportunity: Light Industrial

Key Features

- Recently improved street network and good access to future NSC
- Diversity of parcel sizes and property owners
- Potential for environmental impacts

Overview

The northern end of The YARD appears to be the most well-positioned section of study area for redevelopment from an infrastructure perspective (see Figure 24). The NSC interchange, as part of Francis Avenue, has been completed and Francis Avenue has been re-built. Multiple blocks of local streets have been re-built to current City standards through Local Improvement District Funding. There are more than 60 parcels of land in this area totaling over 80 acres, including 25 parcels that are vacant or mostly vacant. As is typical in The YARD, there is diverse ownership of property and many of the parcels are less than 0.5 acres, but five are more than two acres. The mostly likely redevelopment scenario for these properties is light industrial development similar to existing types of businesses in the area.

At a Glance

- Tax Parcel numbers: 67 different tax parcels.
- Size: 80 acres
- Zoning: Heavy and Light Industrial
- Utilities:
 - Water: 6–8-inch diameter lines in Francis, Dalke, and Rowan Avenue ROW. 6–12-inch diameter lines in Julia, Myrtle, and Florida Street ROW
 - Sewer: 8-inch diameter lines in Dalke, and Rowan Avenue ROW. 8-inch diameter lines in sections of Julia, Myrtle, and Florida Street ROW
- Streets:
 - Francis Avenue: Principal Arterial classification. Recently re-constructed per City design standards
 - Dalke Avenue: Recently improved including stormwater swales
 - Rowan Avenue: Gravel surface from Freya Street to Myrtle Street. Recently improved including stormwater swales east of Myrtle Street

FIGURE 24. NORTH YARD



Redevelopment Concept

The redevelopment concept for the North Yard is increased light industrial businesses. This development is intended to generate jobs and economic activity, as well as complement surrounding businesses.

Market Context

The market conditions for this area are characteristic of the entire YARD, with low building vacancy rates and demand for relatively small scale, flexible, light industrial space (generally less than 10,000 square feet). Based on anecdotes from a local real estate development professional, the key limiting factors to development in this area are property-owner expectations for land value higher than what the market can bear, and the rents not high enough to support new construction on speculation. The highest potential for redevelopment are likely owner-operator businesses. For owner-operators, the financial decisions for new construction are based more on their business economics than on the costs of land and construction.

Environmental Conditions

There are several known or potentially contaminated properties in the North Yard. These include a large automobile scrap yard and leaking underground storage tank sites. As part of this project, no property-specific Phase I or Phase II ESAs were conducted on properties in the North Yard. Based on environmental documentation for contaminated properties elsewhere in The YARD, it is expected that any impacts that may be present are likely limited to shallow soils.

Recommended Actions

The NEPDA and the City can collaborate with the property owner and partners in the community, including real estate development professionals, to make this area more attractive for investors and enhance the financial feasibility of redevelopment. The actions include:

- **Providing Information and Promoting Redevelopment.** The NEPDA and the City are well-suited, with partners including Greater Spokane Incorporated and real estate brokers, to provide key information about these properties, their redevelopment potential, and incentives that can enhance the viability of redevelopment. Key information could include:
 - Updated information on the status and schedule of construction of the NSC and other infrastructure improvements
 - Financial incentives available to support redevelopment of the property
 - List of required City permits and timeline for permitting process
- **Public Infrastructure Improvements.** The North Yard is generally well-served by existing infrastructure. Improvements to Rowan Avenue, Rebecca-Julia Street, and Florida Street as described earlier would also support this catalyst site.
- **Environmental.** The NEPDA and City can provide technical resources to the property owner to conduct Phase I and Phase II ESAs to clarify the potential environmental concerns on these properties. Based on information about historical operations, there is strong potential that conducting environmental assessments will provide sufficient information and certainly will allow the private sector to manage any risks associated with environmental concerns. The City and NEPDA can utilize the USEPA brownfield assessment grant funds to conduct these assessments.

6. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Achieving the future vision for The YARD will require a long-term focused effort. Key implementation strategies will include partnerships, phasing, and coordinated actions by public agencies including financial incentives, policy amendments, and public infrastructure improvements.

Partnerships

The NEPDA and City have built a strong partnership and reached out to others including private businesses, property owners, and other agencies to promote revitalization of The YARD. Each of these partners has resources and strengths for the revitalization effort. In general, the public agencies’ role will be to support conditions that make The YARD more attractive for private-sector investment. The critical roles for public agencies will be in marketing, establishing incentives to compete with other industrial areas, and providing public infrastructure to make properties ready for development (see Table 7).

Phasing

Redevelopment of The YARD is expected to be catalyzed by construction of the NSC, but should be expected to occur over years. The Spokane economy has historically been relatively stable with moderate growth. With

completion of NSC expected in 2027, the community is now in an opportune position to prepare for future development. As shown in Figure 16 (Section 4), the real estate fundamentals are expected to change after completion of the NSC. The financial feasibility of redevelopment of properties that are currently challenging is expected to significantly improve when the freeway is completed. With confidence in a schedule for completion of the NSC, there will likely be increasing private-investor interest in The YARD, and there is sufficient time to plan, design, and implement the infrastructure improvements needed to support future development.

Recommended Actions

FINANCIAL INCENTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

The YARD regionally competes with other industrial areas that provide relatively low-cost land and proximity to freight corridors. With the availability of competitive options, businesses are expected to compare costs, advantages, and disadvantages in location decisions. There are a number of existing financial incentives designed to make The YARD an attractive location for development.

- Waiver for General Facility Charges for water and sewer permits
- Community Empowerment Zone—provides a suite of potential tax credits for businesses locating and hiring employees in the zone
- Workforce Development Assessment—multiple grant and tax credit options for workforce training

As part of the Area-Wide Planning effort, an incentive calculator has been developed. This tool estimates potential incentives based on the value of investment and employment projections. This tool can be requested from Economic Development Planners at the City of Spokane.

It is recommended that the City create new tools and modify existing policies to increase local capacity to fund the significant infrastructure improvements needed in The YARD.

Community Revitalization Financing

It is recommended that the City establish a Community Revitalization Financing (CRF) District in The YARD. CRF is a form of tax increment financing established by the Washington State legislature in 2001 (RCW 39.89). The program authorized cities, towns, counties, and port districts to create a tax “increment area.” Within the designated area, a portion of increasing property taxes can be dedicated to financing public improvements. Tax

TABLE 7. ROLE OF PARTNERS

Actions	Roles
Economic Development. Recruiting new businesses to locate in The YARD and supporting retention and expansion of existing businesses through networking and training opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NEPDA—Promotion, networking and training local businesses• GSI—Regional business recruitment
Financial Incentives. Establishing attractive incentives to promote business development and expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• City of Spokane—Adopt financial incentives• NEPDA and GSI—Assist prospective developers in utilizing incentives
Public Infrastructure Improvements. Constructing the backbone infrastructure to support private development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• City of Spokane—Leading funding, design, and construction• NEPDA—Supporting the City and acting as liaison with local businesses

increment financing is based on the premise that these investments will support increased development and higher property values. At the end of the proscribed period, all taxing jurisdictions receive greater revenues than would be expected without those investments. The City of Spokane is one of the few cities in the state with experience with CRF.

CRF increment areas are created and administered at the local level and they do not include a state contribution. State approval is not required to use CRF. Local governments must approve imposing at least 75 percent of the regular property taxes within the area. The incremental local property taxes under the CRF program are calculated on 75 percent of any increase in assessed value of new construction in the designated area. Any fire protection district with geographic borders in the “increment area” must agree to participate. There are currently five increment areas located in Spokane County. Cities, counties, and ports are free to partner via inter-local agreements on the dedication of their respective tax increment funds.

Local Improvement District (LID)

The City should reinvigorate its efforts to work with property owners to utilize LIDs to fund infrastructure projects in The YARD. The City should amend policy around LIDs to make this tool more accessible and effective. The City should align property-owner approval thresholds with requirements of state law (RCW 35.43 through 35.56). The City should also explore opportunities to leverage private-property owner investment with other funds such as Community Development Block Grants, City transportation levy, and/or CRF funds.

POLICY AND PROGRAMMATIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The NEPDA and City provide important institutional capacity to support revitalization of The YARD. These current efforts should be continued and can be enhanced.

Networking and Capacity Building

The NEPDA can serve as a convener and facilitator of collaborative discussions among businesses in The YARD. This could include informal events like happy hours to build relationships and promote networking among existing businesses, as well as hosting a series of presentations with topics such as financial management, marketing, and staff development to support local businesses.

Business Recruitment

The NEPDA and City should continue to partner with GSI to recruit compatible businesses to The YARD. NEPDA and the City have developed a prospectus and other

marketing materials to promote The YARD. GSI has established active programs for business recruitment. The City and NEPDA should coordinate with and complement these existing GSI efforts.

Affordable Housing Policy

The City should develop policy for affordable housing with consideration that as The YARD redevelops, some non-conforming housing in industrially zoned areas will be displaced.

Public Safety

To address stated concerns from businesses and stakeholders, the City and NEPDA should continue to coordinate with the Spokane police department on crime prevention. Based on community concerns, a new police station has been opened on Market Street in Hillyard. The police department also offers consultations on Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED).

Builder and Maker Space

The City and NEPDA have developed a conceptual site plan for development of a builder and maker space at the Ranch property (see Section 5). A facility of this kind could serve multiple purposes, including workforce training and accelerating the expansion of new businesses. The City and NEPDA should conduct a feasibility study to evaluate management and operational options, market demand, and funding strategies for such a facility.

INFRASTRUCTURE RECOMMENDATIONS

A set of priority infrastructure improvement projects has been developed to position catalyst properties in The YARD for redevelopment (see Table 8). These projects include “Regional Connections” for roads and utilities that establish a framework for transportation, water, and sewer services in The YARD (see Figure 25). It is recommended that the City and NEPDA proactively seek federal, state, and local funding to implement these “Regional Connections” projects. These regional projects include the following:

- Maintenance of Freya Street (Project 1) and repair of a sewer trunk line (Project 2).
- Reconstruction of Freya Street (Projects 3, 12, and 15) and Wellesley Street (Projects 4 and 5) to improve these arterial streets to meet the demands of heavy freight traffic and increase capacity of water and sewer systems to support increased development.

TABLE 8. PRIORITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Project Number	Project Name	Description	Planning Level Cost Estimate
REGIONAL PROJECTS			
1	Freya Heavy Maintenance	Street maintenance including asphalt grind and overlay of street surface on Freya St. from Wellesley Ave. to Rowan Ave.	\$500,000
2	Sanitary Sewer Mitigation Project	Reversal of existing pipe slope of 8-ince sewer pipe on Broad Ave. between Ferrall St. and Freya St.; New piping and manholes at Ferrall and Freya; Piping improvements at Freya and Wellesley; Improvements will include pipe-bursting sections and cast-in-place pipe under the NSC.	\$1,000,000
3	Freya Reconstruction	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and reconstruction of street to bring Freya St. to industrial street standard.	\$4,145,000
4	Wellesley Phase I	Extension of the NE Lift Station sewer force main from N. Freya St. to a sanitary trunk line at Haven St., including patching and reconstruction of streets as necessary. <i>Coordinated with reconstruction of Wellesley Ave as part of NSC interchange.</i>	\$520,000
5	Wellesley Phase II	Replacement of existing water main at Wellesley Ave., from Rebecca St. to Florida St., acquisition of ROW to construct standard width minor arterial street, and reconstruction of streets as necessary to meet minor arterial street classification.	\$1,340,000
6	Regional Stormwater Facility	Evaluation of viability of centralized stormwater treatment facility to support future development. If viability is confirmed, project would include ROW acquisition, installation of conveyance utilities, and stormwater treatment facility.	\$3,270,000
LOCAL PROJECTS			
7	Florida Phase I	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and widening and reconstruction of half of the street underlain by utilities on Florida St.; Will increase service to Wellesley Corridor and Ranch catalyst properties.	\$1,920,000
8	Florida Phase II	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and widening and reconstruction of half of the street underlain by utilities on Florida St.; Will increase service to North Yard catalyst property.	\$2,185,000
9	NSC Utility Corridor	Type/Size/Location study for utility corridor and pedestrian crossing, across the NSC; Will require easement or ROW acquisition and water main connection from Freya to Market St.	\$600,000
10	Rowan Phase I	Installation of water, sewer, stormwater underground utilities, and new road surface; Could include pedestrian improvements on one or both sides of the road.	\$1,215,000
11	Rowan Phase II	ROW acquisition and installation of potable water main extension to complete loop.	\$110,000
12	Freya Phase II	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and street reconstruction to bring Freya St. to industrial street classification; Includes replacement of potable water mains.	\$3,340,000
13	Rebecca / Julia Phase I	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and reconstruction of street to support multiple transportation modes on Rebecca / Julia from Francis to Columbia Aves.; Includes replacement of potable water line.	\$1,525,000
14	Rebecca / Julia Phase II	ROW acquisition and full reconstruction of street to improve Freya to a multi-modal road classification; In addition, a study of siting and design options for a bus stop on this corridor.	\$1,645,000
15	Freya Phase III	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and full reconstruction of street to bring Freya to industrial street classification.	\$2,590,000
16	Infill Street Improvements	ROW acquisition and construction of local roads along Broad, Queen, Central, Dalke Avenues as well as Myrtle and Havana Streets.	\$9,841,000

FIGURE 25. REGIONAL CONNECTIONS - PRIORITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

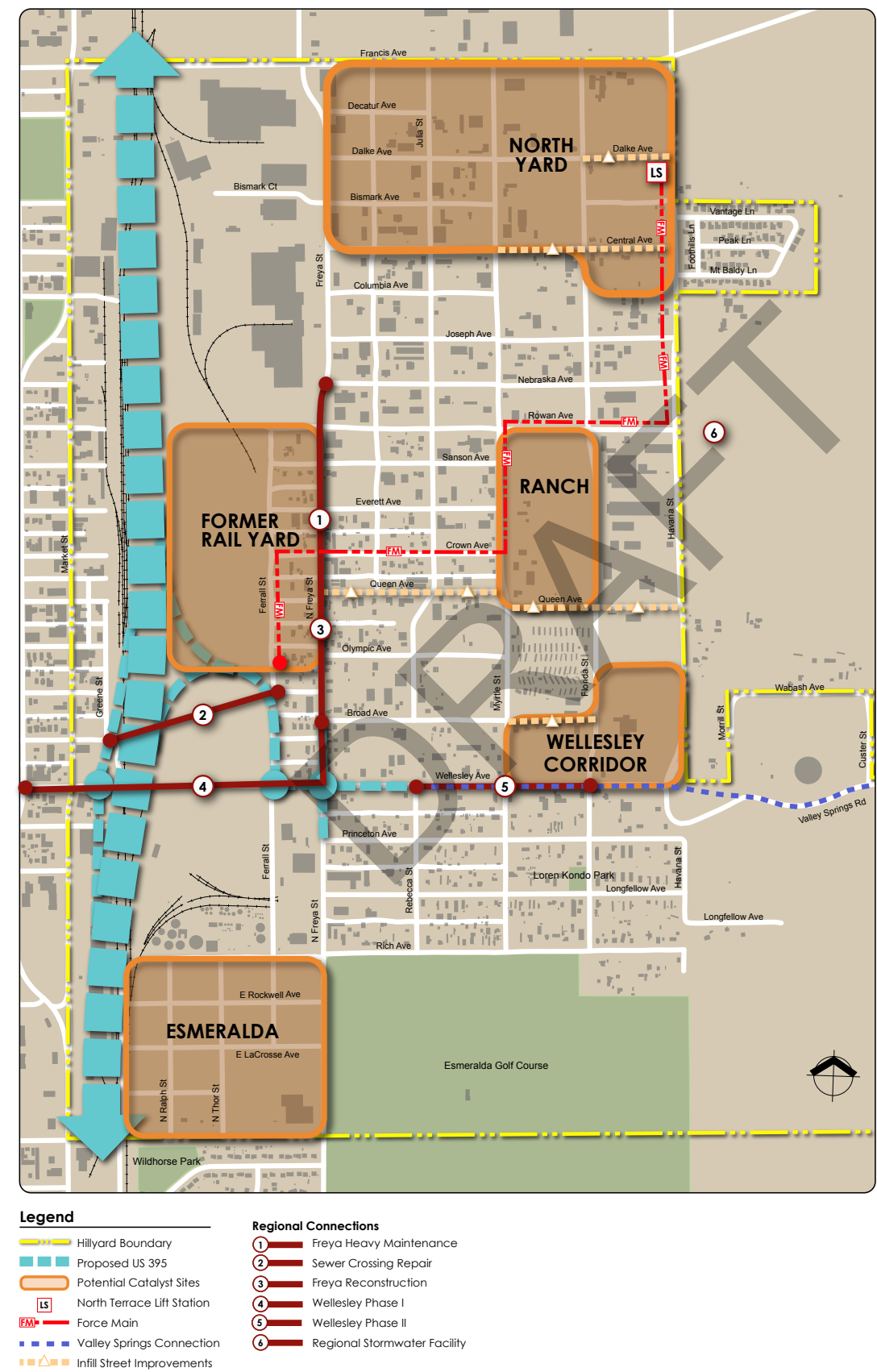
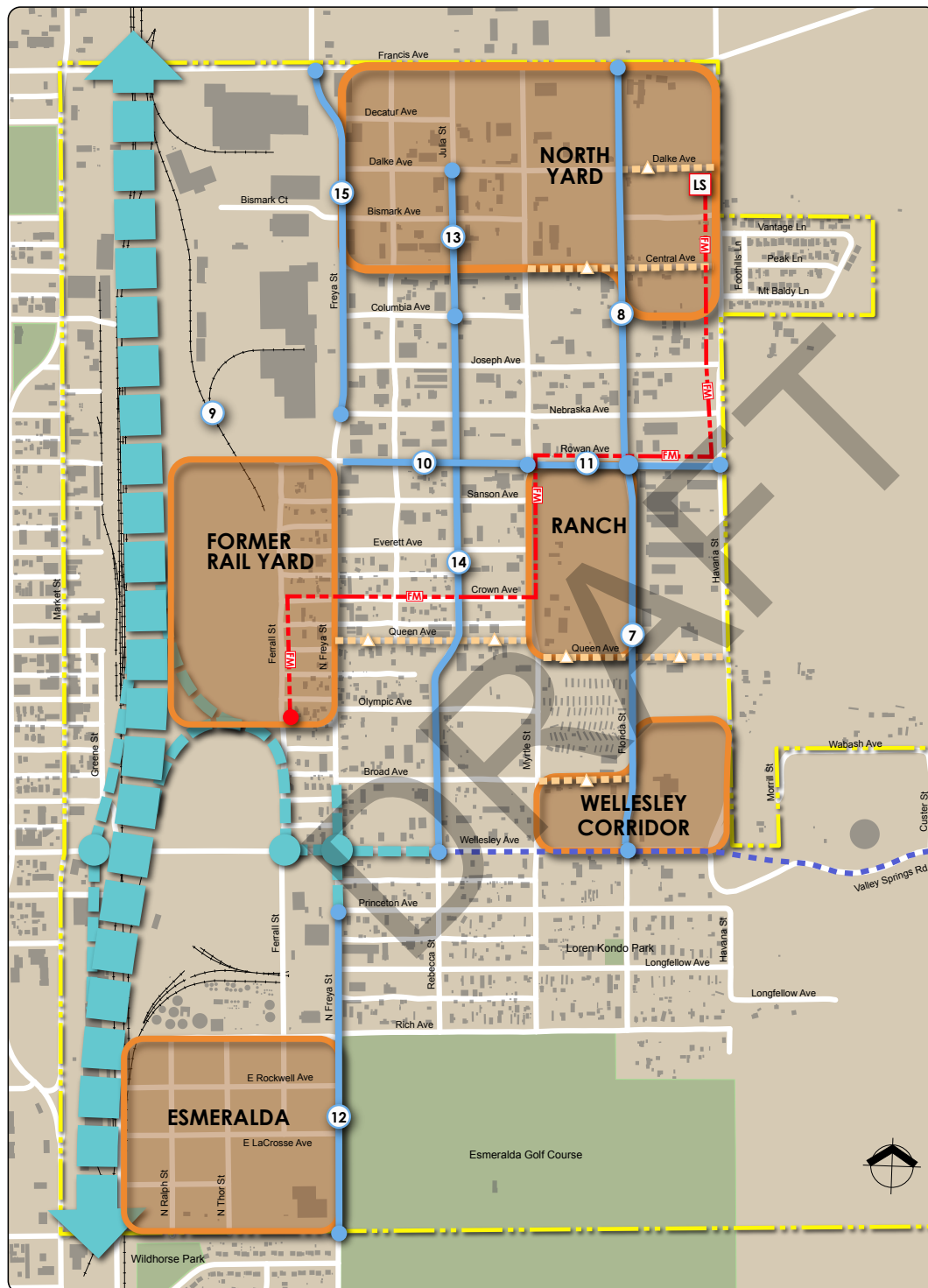


FIGURE 26. LOCAL PROJECTS - PRIORITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS



Legend

- Hillyard Boundary
- Proposed US 395
- Potential Catalyst Sites
- LS North Terrace Lift Station
- Force Main
- Valley Springs Connection
- △ Infill Street Improvements

Local Projects

- 7 Florida Phase I
- 8 Florida Phase II
- 9 NSC Utility Corridor
- 10 Rowan Phase I
- 11 Rowan Phase II
- 12 Freya Phase II
- 13 Rebecca/Julia Phase I

- Development of a regional stormwater management solution (Project 6) that allows for maximum utilization of property while meeting increasingly rigorous stormwater management requirements. The lack of public stormwater infrastructure in The YARD provides an opportunity for innovative solutions, such as a regional facility or distributed facilities integrated into public rights of way.

A set of complementary “Local Projects” are also recommended (see Figure 26). These “Local Projects” serve lower traffic streets and areas that are expected to develop more slowly than the catalyst sites. These projects have been identified to improve streets to meet City design standards and address constraints in water and sewer systems. Timing for implementation of “Local Projects” should be driven by private-sector demand. It is expected that these will be funded primarily through LID, CRF, and private contributions. Project-specific descriptions, cost estimates, and funding strategies are outlined in the project concept sheets in Appendix A.

Environmental Risk Management

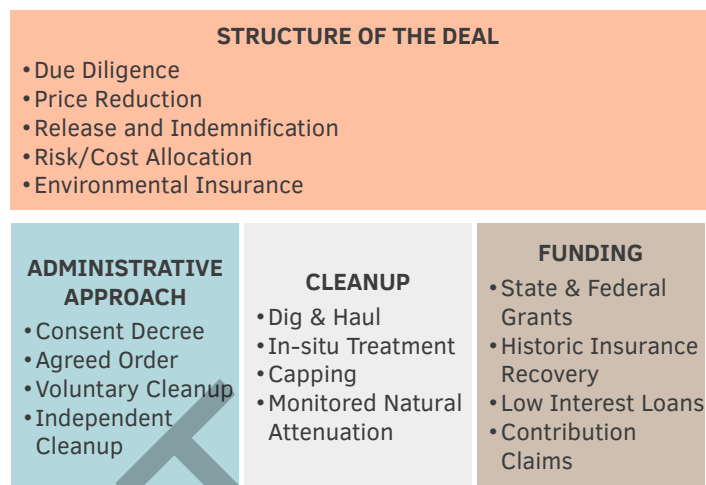
The most effective approach to addressing contaminated properties in The YARD is to implement remedial actions through redevelopment. The inventory of historical operations in The YARD has identified 26 potentially contaminated properties listed in environmental databases. In general, the contamination concerns pose relatively low risk to human health and the environment and are not likely to be subject to regulatory enforcement actions. Addressing these impacts through redevelopment capitalizes on the energy and resources generated through property transactions and construction projects.

City staff have developed significant experience and expertise in navigating the environmental remediation process. It is recommended that the City continue to offer technical assistance to property owners and to serve as a liaison between private property owners and organizational resources including the Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Department of Commerce, and USEPA.

There are four approaches to managing environmental risk associated with the redevelopment of brownfield properties (see Figure 27).

- Structure of the real estate deal
- Cleanup options
- Administrative pathway
- Funding

FIGURE 27. APPROACHES TO MANAGING ENVIRONMENTAL RISK



STRUCTURE OF THE REAL ESTATE DEAL

In order to assess the environmental conditions of a property and limit legal liability, property owners need to define the nature and extent of contamination via remedial investigation. This can be done through a Phase I ESA and, if needed, a follow-up investigation. It is important to note that to meet the federal bona fide prospective purchaser liability defense, a Phase I ESA must be completed no sooner than six months prior to the date of purchase.

Once environmental and land use factors are understood, contamination and liability can be addressed through the transaction process. For example, the seller could reduce the purchase price in exchange for an agreement that the buyer will conduct cleanup. Conversely, the seller could address contamination in order to bring the purchase price up to full market value. The sales agreement could also include an indemnification and release clause, on behalf of either the buyer or seller, which would be executed if contamination were found.

CLEANUP APPROACH

Cleanup alternatives can range from complete removal of contaminants, to treatment, to leaving materials in place with engineering and institutional controls to prevent exposure. The alternatives carry a different level of risk of potential future impacts from the contamination. The decision on which method to choose is based on risk tolerance; cost; science and engineering analysis; and the proposed use for the property.

The future use of a property is a driving factor in selecting a preferred cleanup option. Under Washington State’s Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), cleanup standards are determined by the Department of Ecology and allow

for cleanup levels based on two types of land use—unrestricted and industrial. The cleanup standard for a property will depend on a number of factors, including future use of the property, type of contaminants, and risk of exposure to human and ecological receptors. For example, the unrestricted land use is based on residential use standards, and provides the most protective cleanup levels based on child exposure assumptions (WAC 173-340-740). Industrial land-use cleanup levels are based on adult worker exposures, and require that the site in question qualify as industrial property. This requires the site to be zoned for industrial uses, and future activities must conform to that definition (WAC 173-340-745).

ADMINISTRATIVE APPROACH

MTCA provides two administrative paths to manage site cleanup: the formal process and the independent process. The legal protections provided by the pathways vary, so the choice of path directly affects future liability and risk. The choice is also linked to potential funding sources because of applicant eligibility criteria.

The formal process involves oversight from the Department of Ecology through either an Agreed Order or Consent Decree. An Agreed Order is a negotiated agreement between the Department of Ecology and the lead work party, with no liability settlement. A Consent Decree involves a judicial approval with a covenant not to sue, including a liability settlement. The latter provides the greatest liability protection, but also requires the greatest level of state oversight and highest transaction costs. Both formal processes require extensive Department of Ecology staff review, necessitate public involvement in cleanup decisions, and should be expected to take longer than an independent process. Local governments are eligible for state Remedial Action Grants to partially fund cleanups conducted under an Agreed Order or Consent Decree.

The independent process typically involves either a fully independent approach, without any Department of Ecology review, or utilization of the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). The VCP allows property owners to conduct cleanup with limited Department of Ecology oversight. It is the most commonly utilized pathway because of its relative expediency and control of regulatory involvement. Following the completion of cleanup, the property owner reports to the Department of Ecology the remedial actions conducted; upon completion of cleanup, a No Further Action (NFA) letter can be obtained. Local governments that pursue cleanup through the VCP are also eligible to obtain Remedial Action Grants.

FUNDING

Funding for redevelopment on contaminated properties can be leveraged through contributions from potentially responsible parties, historical insurance recovery, grant funding (for public entities), and low interest loans.

Contribution Claims. Under federal and state law, potentially responsible parties, such as historical operators or owners, are liable to pay for cleanup of environmental contamination. Contribution can be sought through negotiated agreements or legal actions.

Pursue Historical Insurance Recovery. Previous owners and operators may also have access to historical insurance recovery. Before 1986, commercial general liability policies did not contain exclusions for liabilities caused by environmental damage. Cost recovery may be pursued from insurance policies that were in place when pollution occurred and covered the property owner, operators, or other potentially liable parties. As with pursuing contribution claims directly from potentially liable parties, historical insurance recovery requires a significant commitment of time and resources. It should be noted that seeking liability insurance claims are not actions against a site owner or operator, but are taken against their insurance carrier, to which they paid premiums for coverage.

State and Federal Grants. Grants from government agencies directly offset project costs, with no requirement for repayment, so they can dramatically improve a project's financial balance. There are many potential grant sources available to brownfield redevelopment projects, including state and federal grants (see Table 9). These grants are most readily available to public entities; however, some public funding programs do also provide opportunities to borrow low-interest loans. In these cases, loans are typically available to both public and private entities. The connection to funding programs may be based on the project location in a rural or economically disadvantaged town, the preservation of a historic building, the development of affordable housing, or many other factors.

TABLE 9. BROWNFIELD FUNDING SOURCES

Grant	Maximum Amount	Grant Share of Total Project Costs	Notes
WASHINGTON STATE			
Integrated Planning Grant	\$200K (\$300K Multi-Site)	100%	Planning & environmental Eligibility: Local governments
Oversight Remedial Action Grant	N/A	50%–90%	Assessment and Cleanup under Formal Process Eligibility: Local governments
Independent Remedial Action Grant	\$600K	50%–90%	Assessment and Cleanup under VCP Eligibility: Local governments
Area-Wide Groundwater Grants	\$500K	100%	Remedial Investigation Only Eligibility: Local governments
Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund	\$425K (exceedance can be approved)	N/A	Managed by Department of Commerce. Must meet EPA eligibility criteria. Max loan term 5 years.
USEPA			
Brownfield Assessment Grants	\$300K	100%	Eligibility: local governments, tribes, and non-profits
Brownfield Cleanup Grants	\$200K	80%	Eligibility: local governments, tribes, and non-profits
Brownfield Area-wide Planning Grants	\$200K	100%	Eligibility: local governments

Appendix A

The YARD Redevelopment Master Plan

Priority Infrastructure Project Information Sheets

April 10, 2017



MAUL FOSTER ALONGI

Priority Infrastructure Project Information Sheets

A set of priority infrastructure improvement projects has been identified to catalyze redevelopment in The YARD. These projects have been identified based on the condition and capacity of existing infrastructure systems, needs of catalyst sites, and projections for future development in The YARD.

The following information sheets describe the purpose and elements of the projects and provide planning level cost estimates and strategies for funding.

These projects align with the goals and strategies established in the Development Strategy Document adopted by the Northeast Public Development Authority (NEPDA), the Strategic Plan for the greater Hillyard area prepared by the Greater Hillyard Northeast Planning Alliance (GHNEPA), and multiple City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan goals and policies including the following:

Land Use

Goal 3: Promote the efficient use of land by the use of incentives, density, and mixed-use development in proximity to retail businesses, public services, places of work, and transportation systems.

- Policy LU 3.1 – Encourage coordinated and efficient growth and development through infrastructure financing and construction programs, tax and regulatory incentives, and focused growth in areas where adequate services and facilities exist or can be economically extended.
- Policy LU 3.4 – Utilize basic criteria for growth planning estimates and, subsequently, growth targets for centers and corridors.

Transportation

Goal 2: Provide a variety of transportation options, including walking, bicycling, taking the bus, carpooling, and driving private automobiles, to ensure that all citizens have viable travel options and reduce dependency on automobiles.

Goal 3: Recognize the key relationship between the places where people live, work, and shop and their need to have access to these places; use this relationship to promote land use patterns, transportation facilities, and other urban features that advance Spokane's quality of life.

- Policy TR 3.1 – Use the city's transportation system and infrastructure to support desired land uses and development patterns, especially to reduce sprawl and encourage development in urban areas.

Goal 4: Design and maintain Spokane's transportation system to have efficient and safe movement of people and goods within the city and region.

- Policy TR 4.8 – Accommodate moving freight and commercial goods in ways that are safe, cost efficient, energy efficient, and environmentally friendly.

Capital Facilities and Utilities

Goal 1: Provide and maintain adequate public facilities and utility services and reliable funding in order to protect investment in existing facilities and ensure appropriate levels of service.

- Policy CFU 1.2 – Require the development of capital improvement projects that either improve the city's operational efficiency or reduce costs by increasing the capacity, use, and/or life expectancy of existing facilities.

Goal 4: Provide public services in a manner that facilitates efficient and effective delivery of services and meets current and future demand.

- Policy CFU 4.1 – Promote compact areas of concentrated development in designated centers to facilitate economical and efficient provision of utilities, public facilities, and services.

Goal 6: Use capital facilities and utilities to support multiple interests and purposes

- Policy CFU 6.1 – Provide capital facilities and utility services strategically in order to encourage and support the development of Centers and Corridors, especially in older parts of the city.
- Policy CFU 6.2 – Make capital improvements that stimulate employment opportunities, strengthen the city's tax base, and attract private investment to target areas.

Economic Development

Goal 2: Ensure that an adequate supply of usable industrial and commercial land is available for economic development activities.

- Policy ED 2.1 – Ensure opportunities for locating a variety of desirable, livable wage industries in Spokane that are environmentally compatible with adjacent land uses and support a range of employment types.
- Policy ED 2.2 – Provide incentives to encourage the revitalization and utilization of historic and older commercial and industrial districts for redevelopment.

Goal 3: Foster a strong, diverse, and sustainable economy that provides a range of employment and business opportunities.

- Policy ED 3.1 – Stimulate economic growth by supporting the formation, retention, expansion, and recruitment of businesses.
- Policy ED 3.3 – Create economic development opportunities utilizing tools available to the city which will foster the growth of Spokane's economy.

Goal 8: Improve and protect the natural and built environment as assets that attract economic development opportunities and enhance the City of Spokane's quality of life.

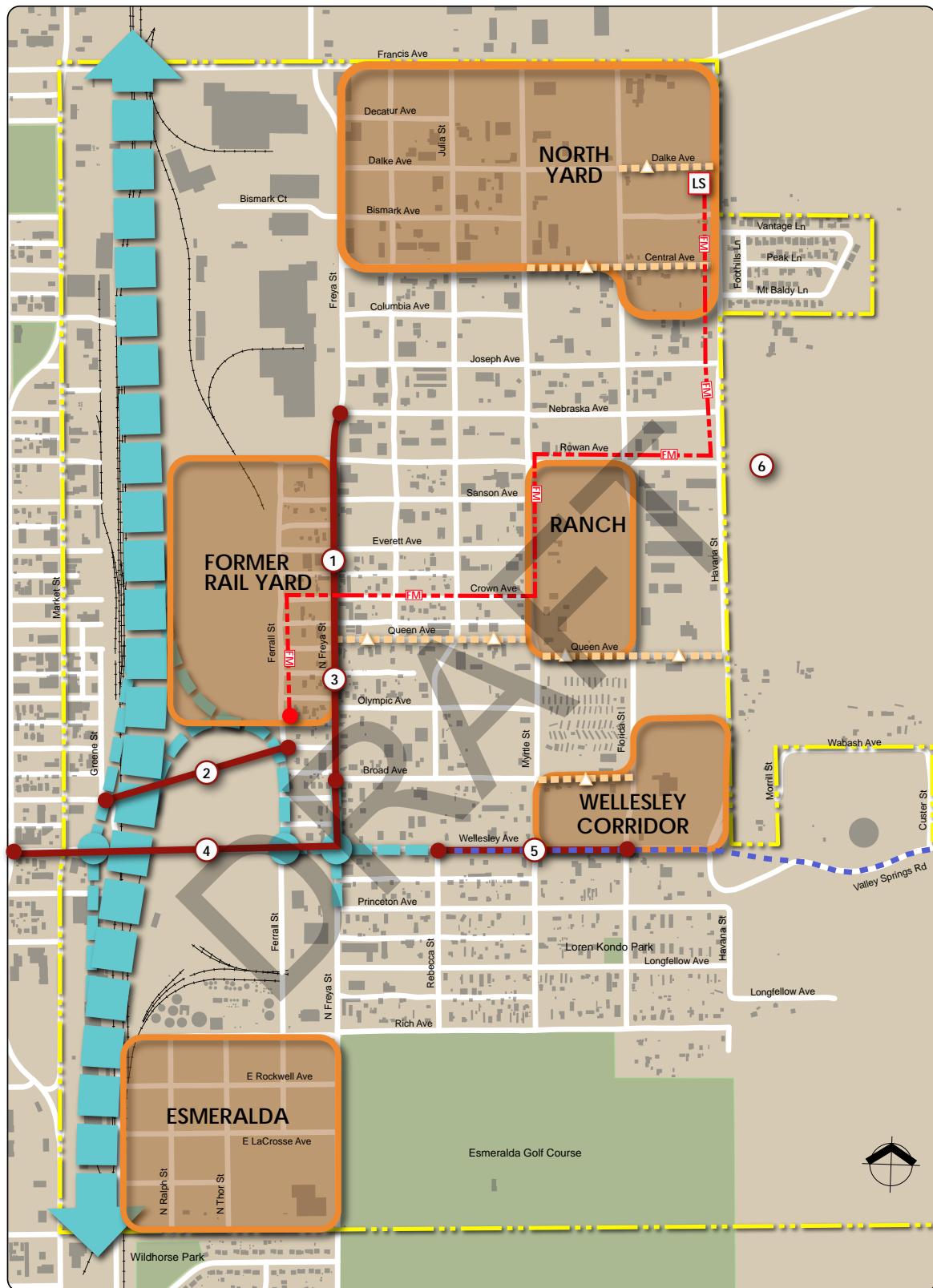
- Policy ED 8.6 – Target contaminated sites and facilitate their cleanup.

DRAFT

Priority Infrastructure Improvements

Project Number	Project Name	Description	Planning Level Cost Estimate
REGIONAL PROJECTS			
1	Freya Heavy Maintenance	Street maintenance including asphalt grind and overlay of street surface on Freya St. from Wellesley Ave. to Rowan Ave.	\$500,000
2	Sanitary Sewer Mitigation Project	Reversal of existing pipe slope of 8-ince sewer pipe on Broad Ave. between Ferrall St. and Freya St.; New piping and manholes at Ferrall and Freya; Piping improvements at Freya and Wellesley; Improvements will include pipe-bursting sections and cast-in-place pipe under the NSC.	\$1,000,000
3	Freya Reconstruction	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and reconstruction of street to bring Freya St. to industrial street standard.	\$4,145,000
4	Wellesley Phase I	Extension of the NE Lift Station sewer force main from N. Freya St. to a sanitary trunk line at Haven St., including patching and reconstruction of streets as necessary. <i>Coordinated with reconstruction of Wellesley Ave as part of NSC interchange.</i>	\$520,000
5	Wellesley Phase II	Replacement of existing water main at Wellesley Ave., from Rebecca St. to Florida St., acquisition of ROW to construct standard width minor arterial street, and reconstruction of streets as necessary to meet minor arterial street classification.	\$1,340,000
6	Regional Stormwater Facility	Evaluation of viability of centralized stormwater treatment facility to support future development. If viability is confirmed, project would include ROW acquisition, installation of conveyance utilities, and stormwater treatment facility.	\$3,270,000
LOCAL PROJECTS			
7	Florida Phase I	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and widening and reconstruction of half of the street underlain by utilities on Florida St.; Will increase service to Wellesley Corridor and Ranch catalyst properties.	\$1,920,000
8	Florida Phase II	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and widening and reconstruction of half of the street underlain by utilities on Florida St.; Will increase service to North Yard catalyst property.	\$2,185,000
9	NSC Utility Corridor	Type/Size/Location study for utility corridor and pedestrian crossing, across the NSC; Will require easement or ROW acquisition and water main connection from Freya to Market St.	\$600,000
10	Rowan Phase I	Installation of water, sewer, stormwater underground utilities, and new road surface; Could include pedestrian improvements on one or both sides of the road.	\$1,215,000
11	Rowan Phase II	ROW acquisition and installation of potable water main extension to complete loop.	\$110,000
12	Freya Phase II	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and street reconstruction to bring Freya St. to industrial street classification; Includes replacement of potable water mains.	\$3,340,000
13	Rebecca / Julia Phase I	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and reconstruction of street to support multiple transportation modes on Rebecca / Julia from Francis to Columbia Aves.; Includes replacement of potable water line.	\$1,525,000
14	Rebecca / Julia Phase II	ROW acquisition and full reconstruction of street to improve Freya to a multi-modal road classification; In addition, a study of siting and design options for a bus stop on this corridor.	\$1,645,000
15	Freya Phase III	ROW acquisition, installation of underground utilities, and full reconstruction of street to bring Freya to industrial street classification.	\$2,590,000
16	Infill Street Improvements	ROW acquisition and construction of local roads along Broad, Queen, Central, Dalke Avenues as well as Myrtle and Havana Streets.	\$9,841,000

Regional Connections - Priority Infrastructure Improvements



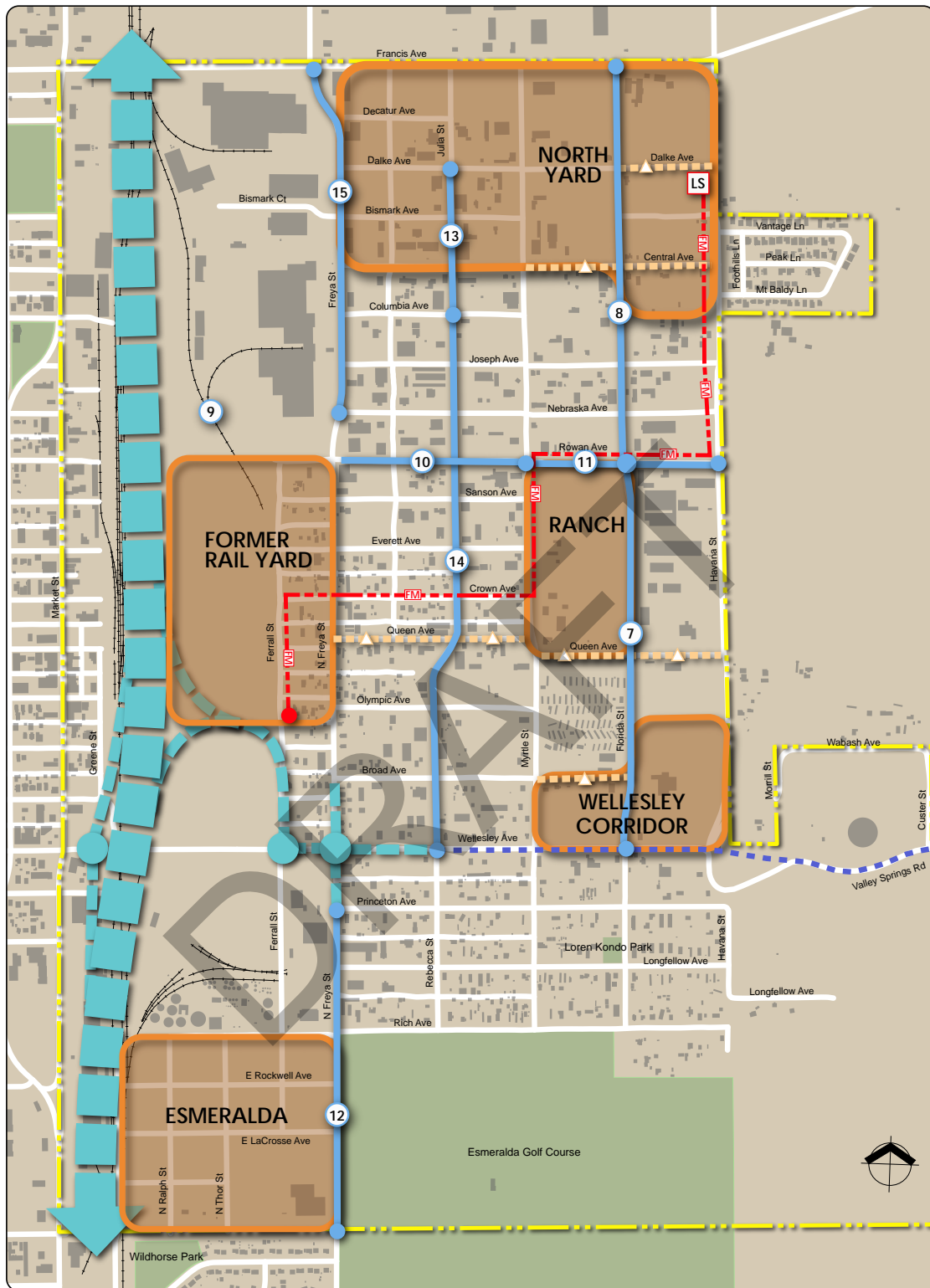
Legend

- Hillyard Boundary
- Proposed US 395
- Potential Catalyst Sites
- North Terrace Lift Station
- Force Main
- Valley Springs Connection
- Infill Street Improvements

Regional Connections

- 1 Freya Heavy Maintenance
- 2 Sewer Crossing Repair
- 3 Freya Reconstruction
- 4 Wellesley Phase I
- 5 Wellesley Phase II
- 6 Regional Stormwater Facility

Local Projects - Priority Infrastructure Improvements



Legend

- Hillyard Boundary
- Proposed US 395
- Potential Catalyst Sites
- North Terrace Lift Station
- Force Main
- Valley Springs Connection
- Infill Street Improvements

Local Projects

- 7 Florida Phase I
- 8 Florida Phase II
- 9 NSC Utility Corridor
- 10 Rowan Phase I
- 11 Rowan Phase II
- 12 Freya Phase II
- 13 Rebecca/Julia Phase I
- 14 Rebecca/Julia Phase II
- 15 Freya Phase III

Project Extent: Rowan Avenue to Wellesley Avenue

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$500,000



Purpose and Need

North Freya Street is a Minor Collector Arterial and T3 freight route. The street is the primary freight corridor through The YARD and runs parallel to the planned NSC. The segment of North Freya Street between Wellesley Avenue and Rowan Avenue experiences concentrated traffic flow on pavement surfaces that are overdue for repair or replacement. The condition of the roadway in this segment requires priority attention to ensure the safety transiting through the corridor. A grind and overlay street maintenance project will extend the service life of the segment until the street can be improved to the standard industrial street section. A future project will provide for the geometric design necessary to adequately service local traffic.

Description

The street maintenance project will include an asphalt grind and overlay of the street surface from the northern extent of the WSDOT work for the round-a-bout at the intersection of Freya Street and Wellesley Avenue to the intersection of Freya Street and Rowan Avenue. This will serve to restore and maintain the travel surface of North Freya Street until the street is improved to an industrial street standard.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Grind and overlay	3,000 feet	\$50,000.00	\$450,000.00	\$500,000.00

Funding Strategy

Summary of Funding Sources

Funding Source	Target Amount	Maximum Available Funds
Street Maintenance Funds	\$500,000	N/A
TOTAL	\$500,000	



1

Legend

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Hillyard Boundary | Proposed Water Main |
| Proposed US 395 | Proposed Sewer Main |
| Existing Force Main | Proposed Force Main |
| Project Extent | Proposed Road Improvement |

Freya Heavy Maintenance

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Based on City GIS data layers, not surveyed. All locations approximate.

Project Extent: Rowan Avenue to Wellesley

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$1,000,000

Purpose and Need

Sanitary sewer service in The YARD is accomplished through both gravity and forcemain systems which combine at a vault and flow out of The YARD in a gravity sewer pipe. The majority of wastewater in The YARD drains to the Northeast Terrace Lift Station where it is pumped eastward to a main sewer trunk line in Haven Avenue through a 14-inch forcemain. The forcemain terminates at a vault adjacent to Ferral Street where flows from the forcemain and a gravity sewer line that runs down North Freya Street and Ferrall Street are combined in a gravity pipe that flows under a vacant lot to a sanitary sewer trunk line in Haven Street. The section of gravity sewer pipe downstream from the vault adjacent to Ferral Street that crosses the BNSF rail and intended NSC highway corridor is in distress and at risk of failure. This section requires immediate mitigation to preserve sanitary sewer service in The YARD until a long term solution is implemented. A future project will provide for improvements to wastewater facilities that will provide for additional demand and continue local service capabilities.

Description

This project will reverse the existing pipe slope of the 8-inch sewer pipe in Broad Ave. between Ferrall Street and Freya Street. New piping and two manholes will be added at Broad Ave and Freya Street and Broad Ave and Ferrall St. In addition, piping improvements will relocate an 8" sanitary pipe and manhole out of the proposed WSDOT roundabout at Freya and Wellesley. The crossing improvements will include pipe-bursting sections of 15-inch and 21-inch gravity sewer pipe and installing cast-in-place pipe under the WSDOT proposed NSC. This improvement will protect the capability of the existing pipeline to convey wastewater to the Haven Street sewer trunk and on to the City treatment plant. These improvements will continue sanitary service until upstream projects that change wastewater flow routes and a new pipe crossing of the proposed NSC can be completed.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Sanitary Sewer Mitigation Project	2,200 feet	\$200,000.00	\$800,000.00	\$1,000,000.00

Funding Strategy

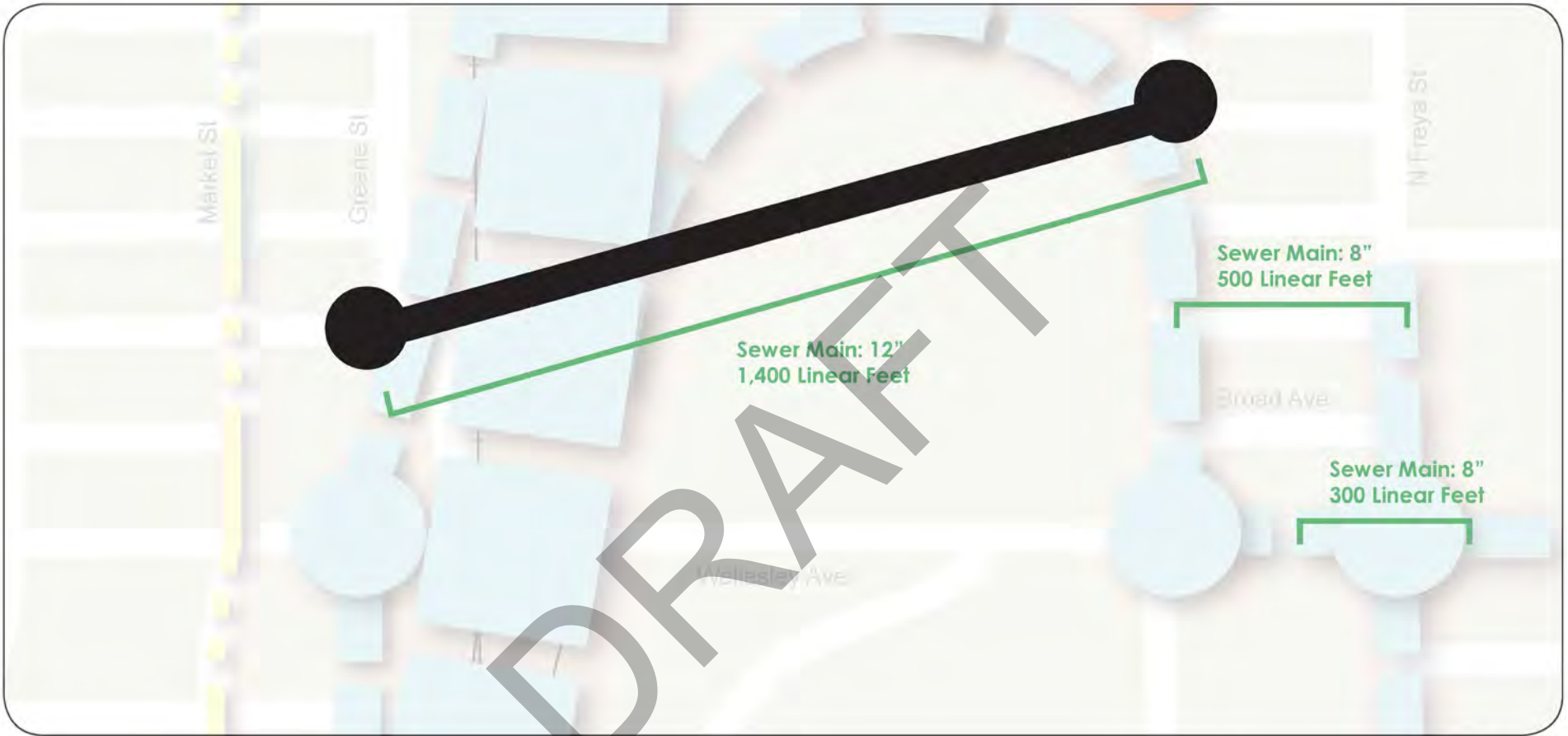
Summary of Funding Sources

Funding Source	Target	Maximum Available Funds
Utility Funds	\$1,000,000	N/A
TOTAL	\$1,000,000	

Utility Funds. This project can be fully funded by revenues generated by current utility rates. The project should be added to the City sewer capital improvement project list.

Implementation Steps

Step	Description	Timing
1. Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed plans and specifications for repair 	2017
2. Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of repair 	2017-2018



2

Sanitary Sewer Mitigation Project

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Legend

	Hillyard Boundary		Existing Force Main		Proposed Water Main		Proposed Force Main
	Proposed US 395		Project Extent		Proposed Sewer Main		Proposed Road Improvement

Project Extent: Rowan Avenue to Wellesley Avenue

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$3,945,000

Purpose and Need

North Freya Street is currently designated as a Minor Collector Arterial and is the primary freight corridor through The YARD. This T3 freight route is a significant street parallel to NSC that comprises frontage for several important regional employers and industrial properties. North Freya Street between Wellesley Avenue and Francis Avenue presently experiences the most concentrated traffic flow in The YARD on pavement surfaces that are overdue for repair or replacement. The Freya Heavy Maintenance project (Project 1), scheduled for construction in 2017, will provide an improved surface to support freight traffic in the short term. In addition, the existing street has insufficient right-of-way (ROW) with private property encroaching into the footprint necessary for an industrial street section. Freya Street lacks the geometric design to adequately service existing traffic and requires expansion and mitigation to provide an acceptable level of service for existing and future traffic loading.

Description

The Freya Phase I project will include ROW acquisition, install necessary underground utilities and provide full depth reconstruction of the street to improve Freya to an industrial street classification. This improvement will support anticipated future industrial growth in Hillyard. The Phase I area, including the Former Rail Yard catalyst site located along North Freya Street, would benefit from enhancements to the heavy freight corridor.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Potable Water Main	3,000 feet	\$180,000	\$725,000	\$905,000
Sanitary Sewer Force Main	1,450 feet (<i>Force Main</i>) 380 feet (<i>Gravity Main</i>)	\$60,000	\$240,000	\$300,000
Industrial Street Section	3,000 feet	\$540,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,740,000

Funding Strategy

Funding Approach: Create a multi-layered funding strategy that relies on:

1. Freight Mobility Strategic Investment (FMSIB) - State Grant
2. Discretionary Grant Funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) – Public Works Grant
3. Enterprise funding from the city water and sewer utility.

Summary of Funding Sources

Funding Source	Target Amount	Maximum Available Funds
FMSIB	\$1,945,000	65% of Project Cost
EDA Public Works Grant	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Utility Funds	\$1,000,000	N/A
TOTAL	\$3,945,000	

Summary of Funding Sources (cont.)

FMSIB. The FMSIB will make an estimated \$10 million will be available for projects in 2016-2019. Another \$18-\$23 million is anticipated to be available in 2019-2021. State law requires projects to be on corridors that meet freight tonnage volume thresholds. Projects must be ready to go to construction between 2016-2021. Project sponsors will be asked to present their project to a selection panel for consideration after the initial scoring is completed. Statements indicating project benefits for rail, truck or port operations will need to be supported by endorsement letters from the beneficiary freight mode. A 35 percent funding match is required by statute. Higher funding matches will improve scores.

EDA Public Works Grants. A maximum of \$2 million per award is available for public works projects that the Freya project would qualify for. There is a rolling match required that targets no more than half the cost of the project (however, some project scoring adjustments may allow more cost coverage). Projects are scored on a variety of criteria based on economic conditions in the area and the economic impact of the industries supported by the infrastructure projects. The YARD's orientation toward industrial/logistic uses would qualify under these criteria. The program is currently funded and there is no application deadline.

Utility Funds. The inclusion of the projects on the City's Water and Sewer CIPs and would allow a portion of the projects to be supported by all commercial ratepayers for the utility line upgrades (Alternatively, this approach could be supplemented with local improvement district assessed on all benefiting projects in The YARD area).

Implementation Steps

Step	Description	Timing
1. Scoping / Preliminary Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with adjacent property owners and community stakeholders Explore key design element options: ROW width, lanes, striping, pedestrian / bike access, stormwater management, water and sewer pipe sizing Preliminary design and cost estimate 	2019-2020
2. Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for grants and allocate local funding match 	2020 – until successful
3. Final Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topographic and boundary survey, engineering design, cost estimating 	Initiate after funding obtained, assume 6-9 months to complete design
4. ROW acquisition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquire additional ROW as needed to allow for construction 	Initiate after funding obtained, assume 6-12 months to acquire ROW
5. Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public bid process to select contractor. Construction of improvements 	Initiate after funding, design, and ROW acquisition. Assume 6-9 months to complete construction



3

Legend

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Hillyard Boundary | Proposed Water Main |
| Proposed US 395 | Proposed Sewer Main |
| Existing Force Main | Proposed Force Main |
| Project Extent | Proposed Road Improvement |

Freya Reconstruction

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Based on City GIS data layers, not surveyed. All locations approximate.

Project Extent: Haven Street to North Freya Street

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$520,000

Purpose and Need

Wellesley Avenue is currently designated as a Minor Collector Arterial and comprises the primary east-west access into The YARD. The arterial will feature an interchange with NSC upon construction of the next segment of that highway. In addition, the Wellesley corridor is one of three easements that cross the BNSF rail line and future NSC route so it is an important utility corridor to get necessary City services in and out of The YARD. The Wellesley corridor provides an opportunity to bypass a distressed section of gravity sanitary sewer by extending an existing sewer forcemain that comes from the Northeast Lift Station to cross the rail and highway corridors at Wellesley Avenue. The street pavement surface is overdue for repair or replacement and should be addressed following utility improvements.

Description

The Wellesley Phase I project will include the extension of the NE Lift Station sewer forcemain from North Freya Street to the sanitary trunk line in Haven Street and provide patching and reconstruction of the streets as necessary. These improvements will support anticipated future industrial growth in Hillyard particularly as the sanitary sewer pumping rates increase. The entire Yard area would benefit from the forcemain extension as it will enable continued growth east of NSC.

Note: It is assumed that Washington State Department of Transportation will rebuild Wellesley Avenue from Market Street to Freya Street as part of NSC. This project will be constructed in coordination with the 30-inch transmission water main replacement planned along the Wellesley Avenue right-of-way (ROW).

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Sanitary Sewer Force Main	2,250 feet	\$105,000	\$415,000	\$520,000

Funding Strategy

Funding Approach: Create a multi-layered funding strategy that relies on:

1. Enterprise funding from the city water and sewer utility

Summary of Funding Sources

Funding Source	Target	Maximum Available Funds
Utility Funds	\$520,000	N/A
TOTAL	\$520,000	

Utility Funds. The inclusion of the projects on the City's Water and Sewer 20-year CIPs and would allow a portion of the projects to be supported by all commercial ratepayers for the utility line upgrades (Alternatively, this approach could be supplemented with local improvement district assessed on all benefiting projects in The YARD area).

Implementation Steps

Step	Description	Timing
1. Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topographic and boundary survey, engineering design, cost estimating 	Initiate after decision made by WSDOT on Wellesley interchange design, assume 6-9 months to complete design
2. Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public bid process to select contractor. Construction of improvements 	Coordinated with WSDOT reconstruction of Wellesley Avenue. Assume 3-6 months to complete construction

DRAFT



4

Wellesley Phase I

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Legend

Hillyard Boundary	Existing Force Main	Proposed Water Main	Proposed Force Main
Proposed US 395	Project Extent	Proposed Sewer Main	Proposed Road Improvement

Project Extent: Rebecca Street to Florida Street

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$1,340,000

Purpose and Need

Wellesley Avenue is currently designated as a Minor Collector Arterial and comprises the primary east-west access into The YARD. The arterial will also feature an interchange with NSC and traffic in The YARD is expected to significantly increase upon construction of the next segment of that highway. The portion of Wellesley east of North Freya Street is an important connecting street that services residential neighborhoods to the south and light industrial developments to the north. The street width is narrower than recommended for a Minor Collector Arterial and the pavement surface is overdue for repair or replacement. In addition, the water main providing service along Wellesley was installed in 1959 and is in need of replacement.

Description

The Wellesley Phase II project includes replacement of the existing water main from Rebecca Street to Florida Street, acquisition of some additional right-of-way (ROW) and provide full depth reconstruction of the street as necessary to meet the Minor Collector Arterial street classification. These improvements will support anticipated future industrial growth in Hillyard particularly for the growing small industrial parks north of Wellesley. This project will benefit area resident and the Wellesley corridor catalyst site.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Potable Water Main	1,400 feet	\$70,000	\$280,000	\$350,000
Minor Arterial Street Section	1,400 feet	\$200,000	\$790,000	\$990,000

Funding Strategy

Funding Approach: Create a multi-layered funding strategy that relies on:

1. Community Revitalization Financing (CRF) – Beacon Hill CRF District
2. Enterprise funding from the city water and sewer utility
3. Freight Mobility Strategic Investment (FMSIB) - State Grant

Summary of Funding Sources

Funding Source	Target	Maximum Available Funds
Beacon Hill CRF District	\$200,000	N/A
Utility Funds	\$350,000	N/A
FMSIB	\$790,000	65% of Project Cost
TOTAL	\$1,340,000	

Beacon Hill CRF. The City has previously established the Beacon Hill CRF District. Revenues flowing into this account can support a portion of the arterial street upgrade.

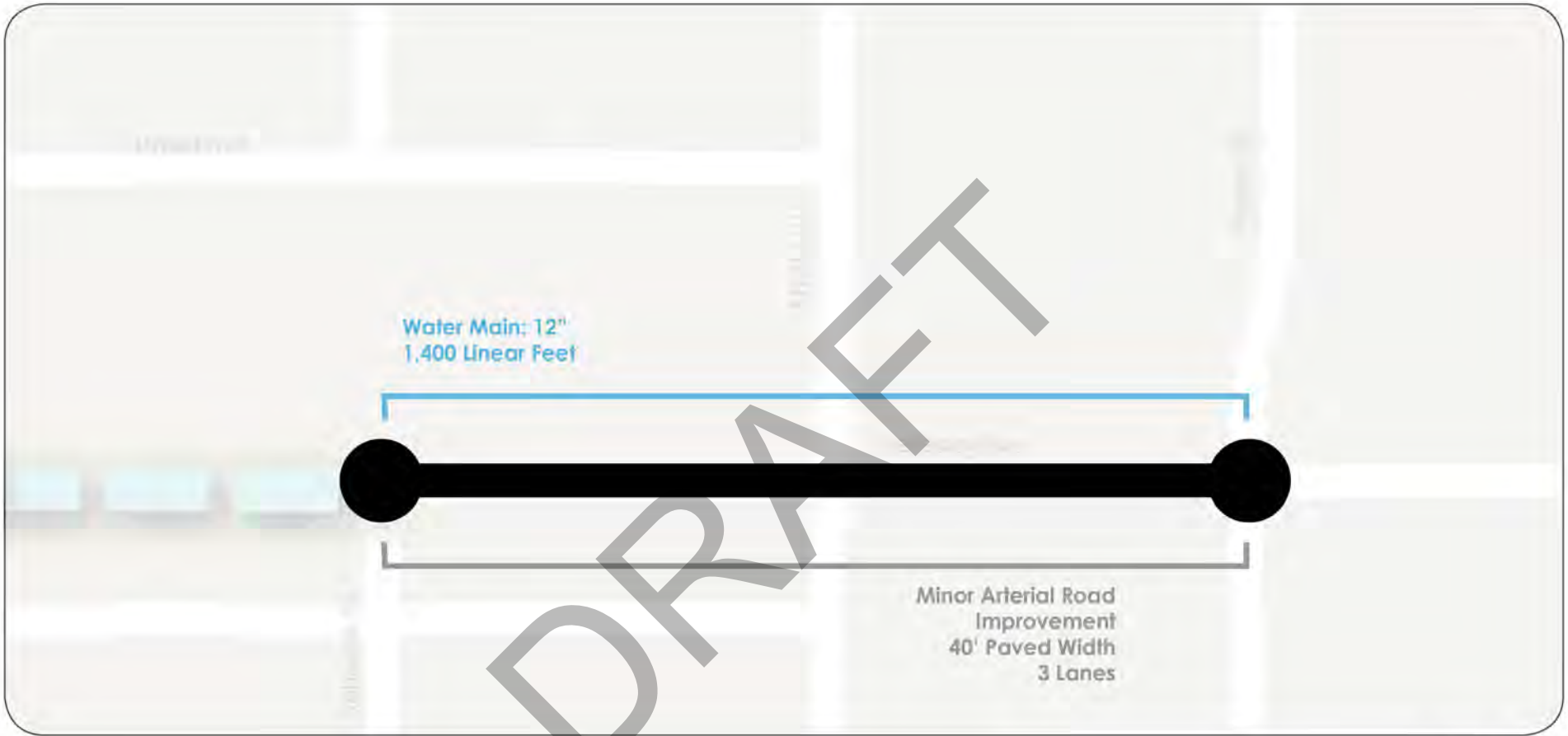
Utility Funds. The inclusion of the projects on the City's Water 20-year CIP and would allow a portion of the project to be supported by all commercial ratepayers for the water line upgrades.

Summary of Funding Sources (cont.)

FMSIB. The FMSIB will make an estimated \$10 million will be available for projects in 2016-2019. Another \$18-\$23 million is anticipated to be available in 2019-2021. State law requires projects to be on corridors that meet freight tonnage volume thresholds. Projects must be ready to go to construction between 2016-2021. Project sponsors will be asked to present their project to a selection panel for consideration after the initial scoring is completed. Statements indicating project benefits for rail, truck or port operations will need to be supported by endorsement letters from the beneficiary freight mode. A 35 percent funding match is required by statute. Higher funding matches will improve scores.

Implementation Steps

Step	Description	Timing
1. Scoping / Preliminary Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with adjacent property owners and community stakeholders Explore key design element options: ROW width, lanes, striping, pedestrian / bike access, stormwater management, water and sewer pipe sizing Preliminary design and cost estimate 	2019-2020
2. Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for grants and allocate local funding match 	2020 – until successful
3. Final Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topographic and boundary survey, engineering design, cost estimating 	Initiate after funding obtained, assume 6-9 months to complete design
4. ROW acquisition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquire additional ROW as needed to allow for construction 	Initiate after funding obtained, assume 6-12 months to acquire ROW
5. Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public bid process to select contractor. Construction of improvements 	Initiate after funding, design, and ROW acquisition. Assume 6-9 months to complete construction



5

Wellesley Phase II

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Legend

	Hillyard Boundary		Existing Force Main		Proposed Water Main		Proposed Force Main
	Proposed US 395		Project Extent		Proposed Sewer Main		Proposed Road Improvement

Project Location: To Be Determined

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$3,270,000

Purpose and Need

The YARD area does not have a centralized stormwater collection and treatment system and each property is currently required to treat and infiltrate stormwater on-site. This treatment and infiltration takes away valuable development area and may restrict the types of users and uses that development will support. Many of the heavy industrial zoned industrial properties in The YARD are on the smaller side of typical development ranges and the requirement to carve out area for stormwater treatment could prevent new development with building sizes that would have the most meaningful contribution to local economic development and job creation. There are numerous smaller properties located in central and east side of The YARD that may be well suited to development as a limited use stormwater facility that would allow large industrial projects to preserve development area by sending stormwater off-site for treatment and infiltration. The regional stormwater facility study should evaluate the value of installing collection pipes and treatment facilities to support large scale industrial development in The YARD as well as runoff from City ROW. Treatment assumptions and construction estimates include catalyst properties near the Rowan Avenue corridor.

Description

The Regional Stormwater Facility project includes a study evaluating viability of a centralized stormwater treatment facility installed to support catalyst site development for properties near the Rowan Avenue corridor. A confirmed project would include ROW acquisition, installation of necessary underground utilities and facilities necessary to collect and convey stormwater along the Rowan Avenue corridor. This improvement will support anticipated future industrial growth in Hillyard. This improvement will increase the level of service particularly for the Ranch and Former Rail Yard catalyst sites. The Stormwater Management Study should also evaluate alternative approaches, including allowing private development to manage stormwater in adjacent City ROW.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Stormwater Management Study	-	\$200,000	-	\$200,000
Site Selection Feasibility Study	-	\$300,000	-	\$300,000
Storm Sewer Collection System	3,000 feet	\$110,000	\$1,120,000	\$1,230,000
Stormwater Treatment Facility Area	6 acres	\$140,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,540,000

Funding Strategy

Funding Approach: Create a multi-layered funding strategy that relies on:

1. Community Revitalization Financing (CRF) – YARD TIF District
2. Integrated Planning Grant - *Site Selection Feasibility Study*
3. Stormwater Utility Funding

Summary of Funding Sources

Funding Source	Target	Maximum Available Funds
CRF	\$500,000	\$2,500,000
Integrated Planning Grant	\$300,000	\$300,000
Utility Funds or other Funds	\$2,470,000	N/A
TOTAL	\$3,270,000	

The assessment of funding sources will be refined based on the findings of the stormwater management study.

CRF. Community Revitalization Financing is available to the city. A district created in The YARD has the potential to generate upwards of \$2.5 million dollars (PV in 2016\$) for a district created in 2017. The city is currently contemplating the boundaries and timing of creating a district(s) in The YARD.

Integrated Planning Grant. Department of Ecology grant for planning to support cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield properties. Potential funding source for site selection and feasibility study because of relationship between brownfields and stormwater in The YARD. No local matching funds required.

Utility Funds. The inclusion of the project on the City's utility 20-year CIP and would allow a portion of the projects to be supported by all commercial ratepayers for the utility line upgrades (Alternatively, this approach could be supplemented with local improvement district assessed on all benefiting projects in The YARD area). It might also be worth considering the creation of a city stormwater utility to help support stormwater treatment efforts.

Implementation Steps

Step	Description	Timing
1. Stormwater Management Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of demand for stormwater management in The YARD 	2017-2018
2. Site Selection Feasibility Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential locations for regional stormwater facility Conduct technical studies to evaluate feasibility of each site to support selection of a preferred site 	2017-2018
3. Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for grants and allocate local funding match 	2017 – until successful
4. Final Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topographic and boundary survey, engineering design, cost estimating 	Initiate after funding obtained, assume 6-9 months to complete design
4. Land Acquisition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquire additional property as needed to allow for construction 	Initiate after funding obtained, assume 6-12 months to acquire ROW
5. Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public bid process to select contractor. Construction of stormwater facility 	Initiate after funding, design, and property acquisition. Assume 2-4 months to complete construction

Project Extent: Rowan Avenue to Wellesley Avenue**Estimated Total Project Cost: \$1,920,000****Purpose and Need**

The Florida Street corridor between Wellesley Ave. and Rowan Ave. has recently seen investment from several light industrial businesses and has great potential for additional new private investment, particularly on the Ranch and Wellesley Corridor catalyst sites. Infrastructure improvements will be necessary in order to realize the best potential of the area including a water main connection from Wellesley to Queen Avenue and a small segment of sanitary sewer installed to provide service near the northern end of the Ranch property between Everett and Rowan. In addition, the existing street is a 2-lane local road but the increasing concentration of light industrial users along the corridor indicates that further development will warrant an upgrade to the collector road classification. Although there are some areas of newer pavement the majority of pavement surfaces appear overdue for repair or replacement and a road classification change will add width to the paved section. Similar to other areas in The YARD the existing street has areas with insufficient right-of-way (ROW) particularly in consideration of an upgraded road classification.

Description

The Florida Phase I project will include ROW acquisition, install necessary underground utilities and provide widening, and full depth reconstruction of the half of the street underlain by utilities to improve Florida. This improvement will support anticipated future industrial growth in Hillyard and improve the level of service provided, particularly at the Wellesley Corridor and The Ranch catalyst properties.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Potable Water Main	1,300 feet	\$70,000	\$300,000	\$370,000
Sanitary Sewer Main	600 feet	\$20,000	\$70,000	\$90,000
Road Improvement	2,600 feet	\$290,000	\$1,170,000	\$1,460,000

Funding Strategy

Funding Approach: Create a multi-layered funding strategy that relies on:

1. Community Revitalization Financing (CRF) – YARD TIF District
2. Enterprise funding from the city water and sewer utility
3. Local Improvement District (LID)

Summary of Funding Sources

Funding Source	Target	Maximum Available Funds
CRF YARD	\$750,000	\$2,500,000
Utility Funds	\$460,000	N/A
LID	\$750,000	N/A
TOTAL	\$1,960,000	

CRF. Community Revitalization Financing is available to the city. A district created in The YARD has the potential to generate upwards of \$2.5 million dollars (PV in 2016\$) for a district created in 2017. The city is currently contemplating the boundaries and timing of creating a district(s) in The YARD.

Summary of Funding Sources (cont.)

Utility Funds. The inclusion of the projects on the City's Water and Sewer 20-year CIPs and would allow a portion of the projects to be supported by all commercial ratepayers for the utility line upgrades (Alternatively, this approach could be supplemented with local improvement district assessed on all benefiting projects in The YARD area).

LID. Special assessment on properties within the LID that would benefit from the improvement.

DRAFT



Legend

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Hillyard Boundary | Proposed Water Main |
| Proposed US 395 | Proposed Sewer Main |
| Existing Force Main | Proposed Force Main |
| Project Extent | Proposed Road Improvement |

7

Florida Phase I

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Project Extent: Rowan Avenue to Francis Avenue**Estimated Total Project Cost: \$2,185,000****Purpose and Need**

The Florida Street corridor between Rowan Ave. and Francis Ave. has had recent investment from several light industrial businesses just north of Rowan and has room for further investment in the North Yard catalyst site area. The Phase II segment of Florida will complete an important transportation link between the Francis Ave. principal arterial and the Wellesley Avenue minor arterial. The Phase II corridor lack potable water service and a new potable main is needed between Rowan Avenue and Francis Avenue prior to investment in the transportation facilities. The existing street needs improvements similar to those planned for Phase I. The street warrants an upgrade to the collector road classification which will add width to the paved section and likely require ROW acquisition.

Description

The Florida Phase II project will include right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, install necessary underground utilities and provide widening, and full depth reconstruction of the half of the street underlain by utilities. This improvement will support anticipated future industrial growth in Hillyard, complete a street connection between a principal and minor arterial, and improve the regional level of service. The project will add significant value to the North Yard catalyst site.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Potable Water Main	2,700 feet	\$130,000	\$530,000	\$660,000
Road Improvement	2,700 feet	\$305,000	\$1,220,000	\$1,525,000

Funding Strategy

Funding Approach: Create a multi-layered funding strategy that relies on:

1. Community Revitalization Financing (CRF) – YARD TIF District
2. Enterprise funding from the city water and sewer utility

Summary of Funding Sources

Funding Source	Target	Maximum Available Funds
CRF YARD	\$750,000	\$2,500,000
Utility Funds	\$460,000	N/A
To Be Determined	\$775,000	N/A
TOTAL	\$1,985,000	

CRF. Community Revitalization Financing is available to the city. A district created in The YARD has the potential to generate upwards of \$2.5 million dollars (PV in 2016\$) for a district created in 2017. The city is currently contemplating the boundaries and timing of creating a district(s) in The YARD.

Utility Funds. The inclusion of the projects on the City's Water 20-year CIP and would allow a portion of the projects to be supported by all commercial ratepayers for the utility line upgrades (Alternatively, this approach could be supplemented with local improvement district assessed on all benefiting projects in The YARD area).



Legend

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Hillyard Boundary | Proposed Water Main |
| Proposed US 395 | Proposed Sewer Main |
| Existing Force Main | Proposed Force Main |
| Project Extent | Proposed Road Improvement |

8

Florida Phase II

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Project Location: To Be Determined

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$600,000

Purpose and Need

To provide opportunity for crossings of the BNSF rail line and NSC in the future, an easement for a utility corridor should be established between Francis Avenue and Wellesley Avenue. Uses for the utility corridor could include water, sewer and power lines as well as a pedestrian and bicyclist overpass. The existing railroad tracks and planned highway improvements will effectively cut-off pedestrian connections from Market Street to Freya street between Francis Avenue and Wellesley Avenue. Although no marked or maintained route currently exists there are several paths visible where pedestrians are crossing the rail line to get to Market Street near Rowan Avenue and other cross-streets to the south. Formalizing a connection for utilities and pedestrians will provide a safe route across the busy thoroughfare and may extend the service life of existing utilities in the central Yard area by linking to regional utilities west of the rail tracks with the central portion of The YARD.

Description

Prior to pursuing a utility corridor easement, the City may complete a Type/size/location study to site a potential pedestrian crossing in the area. Any siting and location study for a NSC Utility Corridor project should attempt to collocate with an easement for pedestrian facilities and will require easement or right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, installation of utility casements crossing the rail and highway corridors and also a water main connection to link Market and Freya water mains and loop the system.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Type, Size, Location Study for Pedestrian Crossing for NSC	-	\$100,000	-	\$100,000
Potable Water Main	1,820 feet	\$20,000	\$180,000	\$200,000
Utility Crossing Casements	600 feet	\$80,000	\$220,000	\$300,000

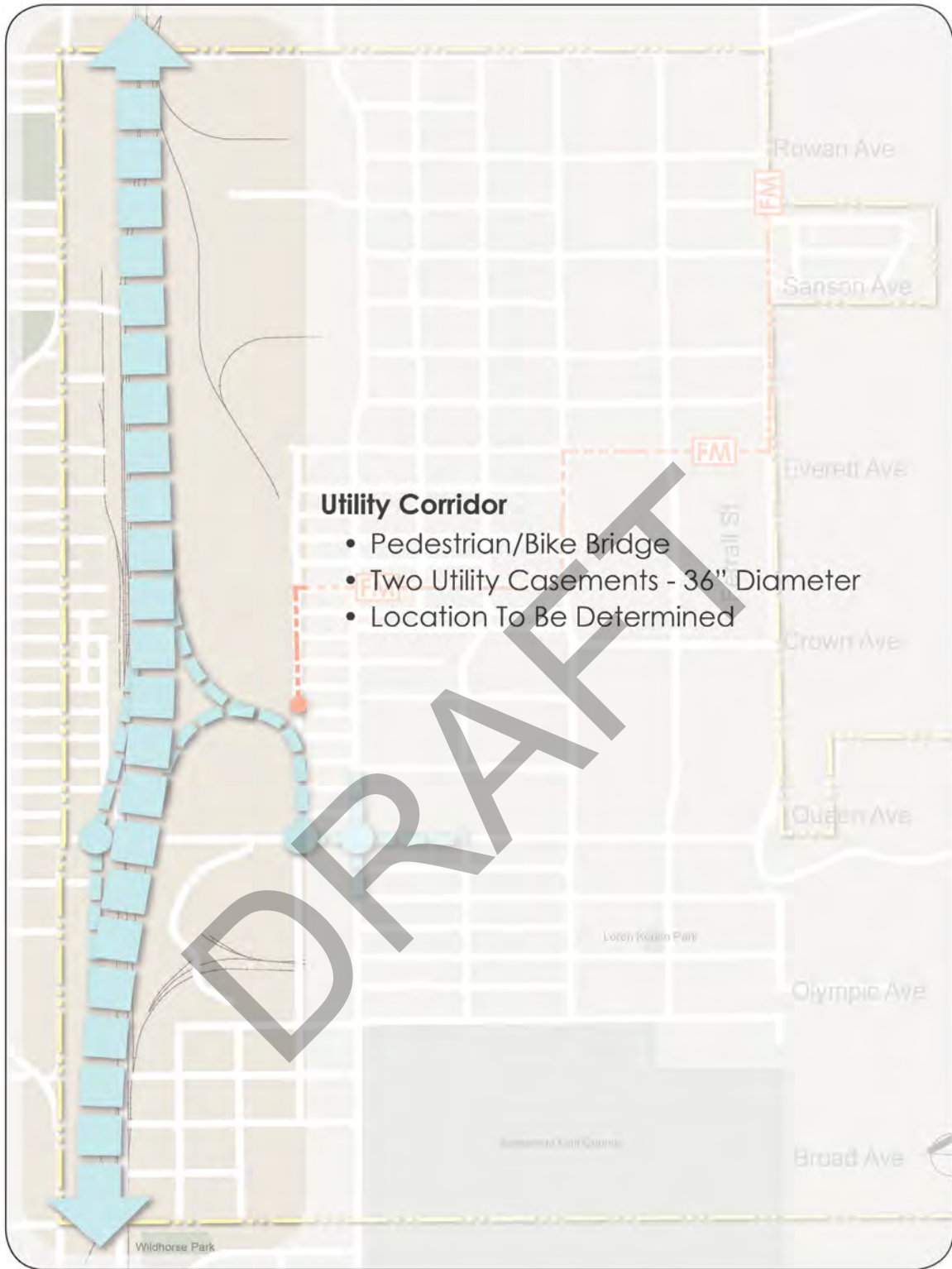
Funding Strategy

Funding for the siting study could be provided from City of Spokane funds or from outside grant programs. Potential outside funding opportunities include:

FMSIB. The FMSIB will make an estimated \$10 million will be available for projects in 2016-2019. Another \$18-\$23 million is anticipated to be available in 2019-2021. State law requires projects to be on corridors that meet freight tonnage volume thresholds. Projects must be ready to go to construction between 2016-2021. Project sponsors will be asked to present their project to a selection panel for consideration after the initial scoring is completed. Statements indicating project benefits for rail, truck or port operations will need to be supported by endorsement letters from the beneficiary freight mode. A 35 percent funding match is required by statute. Higher funding matches will improve scores.

WSDOT Bike and Pedestrian Program. The pedestrian overpass could qualify for program funding. However, as currently conceived, the project might not score as competitively as other projects funded in the past.

The city would likely need to supplement these funds with some form of local match in order to improve project-scoring competitiveness. City discretionary transportation capital funding (through road levy) could fill this need.



9

Legend

	Hillyard Boundary		Proposed Water Main
	Proposed US 395		Proposed Sewer Main
	Existing Force Main		Proposed Force Main
	Project Extent		Proposed Road Improvement

NSC Utility Corridor

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Project Extent: Freya Street to Myrtle Street

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$1,215,000

Purpose and Need

Rowan Avenue is one of the primary east-west crossings in The YARD, but there are several segments of the street that do not meet City street standards. Improvements to Rowan Avenue will enhance connectivity for both vehicles and pedestrians across The YARD. The Rowan Avenue corridor presents an opportunity to install stormwater collection and conveyance infrastructure in the Rowan Street right-of-way (ROW) to connect western areas of The YARD with a proposed regional stormwater facility (Project 6).

Description

The Rowan Phase I project will include installation of water, sewer, and stormwater underground utilities and the construction of a new road surface to meet City of Spokane street standards. This section of Rowan Avenue has segments comprised of gravel roadway with no sidewalks or stormwater facilities and areas that are improved with new pavement, sidewalk and roadside infiltration swales. Pedestrian facilities should be incorporated on one or both sides of the road in order to facilitate access from Freya to improved pedestrian facilities towards the interior of The YARD. The existing potable water pipe in the Rowan ROW is an 8 inch diameter class C pipe that was installed in 1939 which is at the end of the estimated service life. The Rowan Phase I improvement will benefit the Ranch and Former Rail Yard catalyst sites. The Rowan corridor offers a unique opportunity to collect and convey stormwater from several catalyst sites to off-site treatment and infiltration facilities located near the low-lying areas centered around Havana Street. A stormwater study performed under project 006 will evaluate viability of a central stormwater system and inform City stakeholders of costs(*) and functionality prior to completion of the Rowan Phase I project.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Potable Water Main	1,350 feet	\$80,000	\$315,000	\$395,000
Sanitary Sewer Main	1,255 feet	\$55,000	\$220,000	\$275,000
Street Improvement	960 feet	\$110,000	\$435,000	\$545,000
Stormwater Improvements	*	*	*	*

Funding Strategy

Since Rowan Phase I is a mid-long term project, a detailed funding strategy has not yet been developed. Likely funding opportunities include:

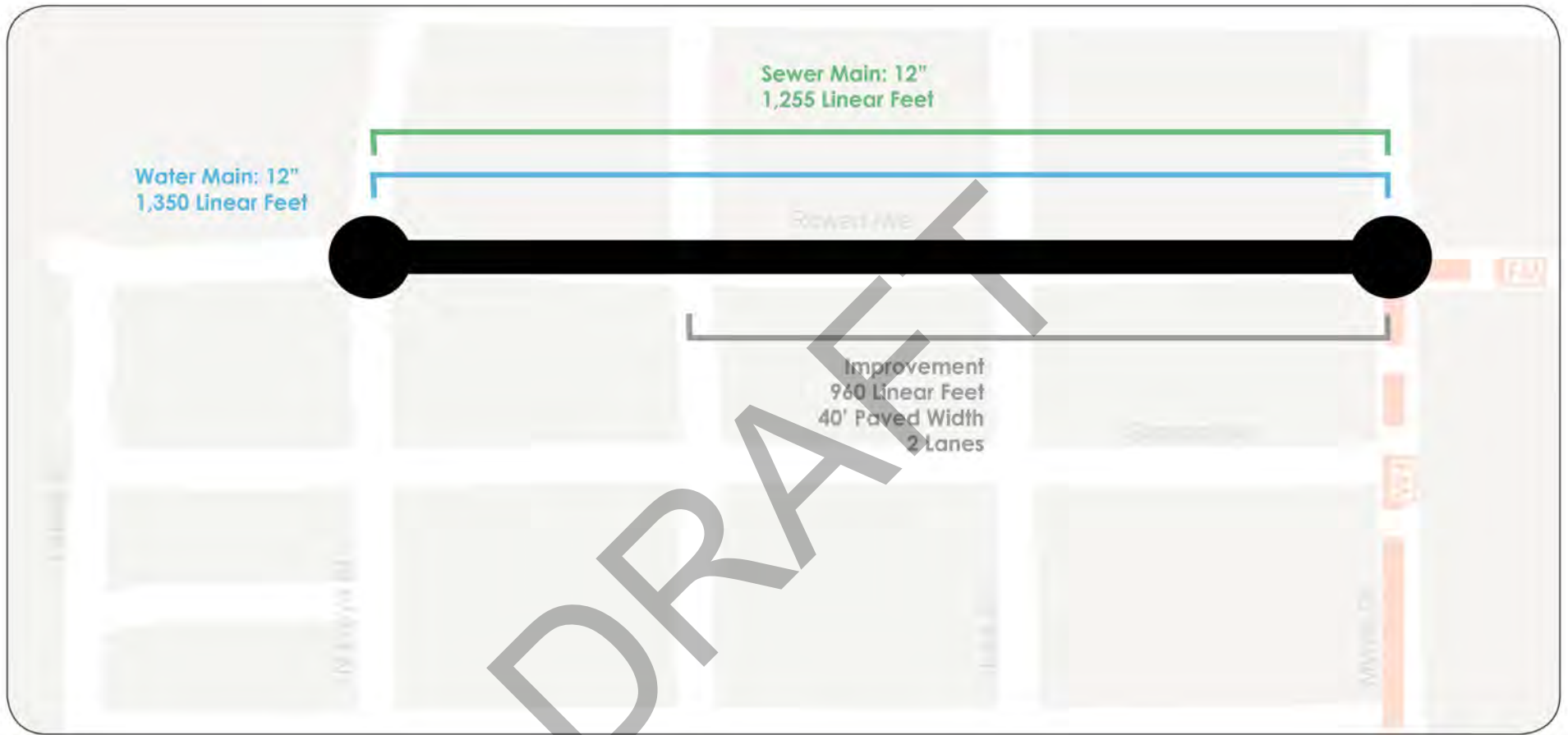
LOCAL FUNDS

Development Impact Mitigation. Implemented as property along Freya is redeveloped.

Regional Stormwater Fund. Established to account for the resources associated with the maintenance, operation, and minor construction components of the City's surface water system such as constructed elements such as pipes and catch basins.

Community Revitalization Financing (CRF). CRF is a form of tax increment financing in which the City creates a tax "increment area". By using revenues from local property taxes generated within the area, City governments can finance public improvements.

Local Improvement District (LID). Special assessment on properties within the LID that would benefit from the improvement.



10

Rowan Phase I

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Project Extent: Myrtle Street to Havana Street**Estimated Total Project Cost: \$110,000****Purpose and Need**

The area of Rowan Avenue east of Myrtle Street exhibits some of the newest paving in The YARD. The corridor is an important connection from Freya Street to the interior of The YARD. This link will become even more valuable as development along Florida Street and Myrtle Street create more demand for east-west transportation within The YARD. The existing street section is likely adequate to serve needs in the near term and the corridor only needs to make a short potable water main connection from Havana Street to a dead-end main half a block west in Rowan to provide a looped connection. This corridor also offers an opportunity to improve pedestrian facilities that will enable connectivity with the multi-modal corridor at Rebecca/Julia.

Description

The Rowan Phase II project will include right-of-way (ROW) acquisition and installation of the necessary potable water main extension to convert the dead end and complete a loop to the water main. A stormwater study performed under project 006 will evaluate viability of a central stormwater system and inform City stakeholders of costs(*) and technical requirements prior to completion of the Rowan Phase I project.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Potable Water Main	310 feet	\$20,000	\$90,000	\$110,000
Stormwater Improvements	*	*	*	*

Funding Strategy

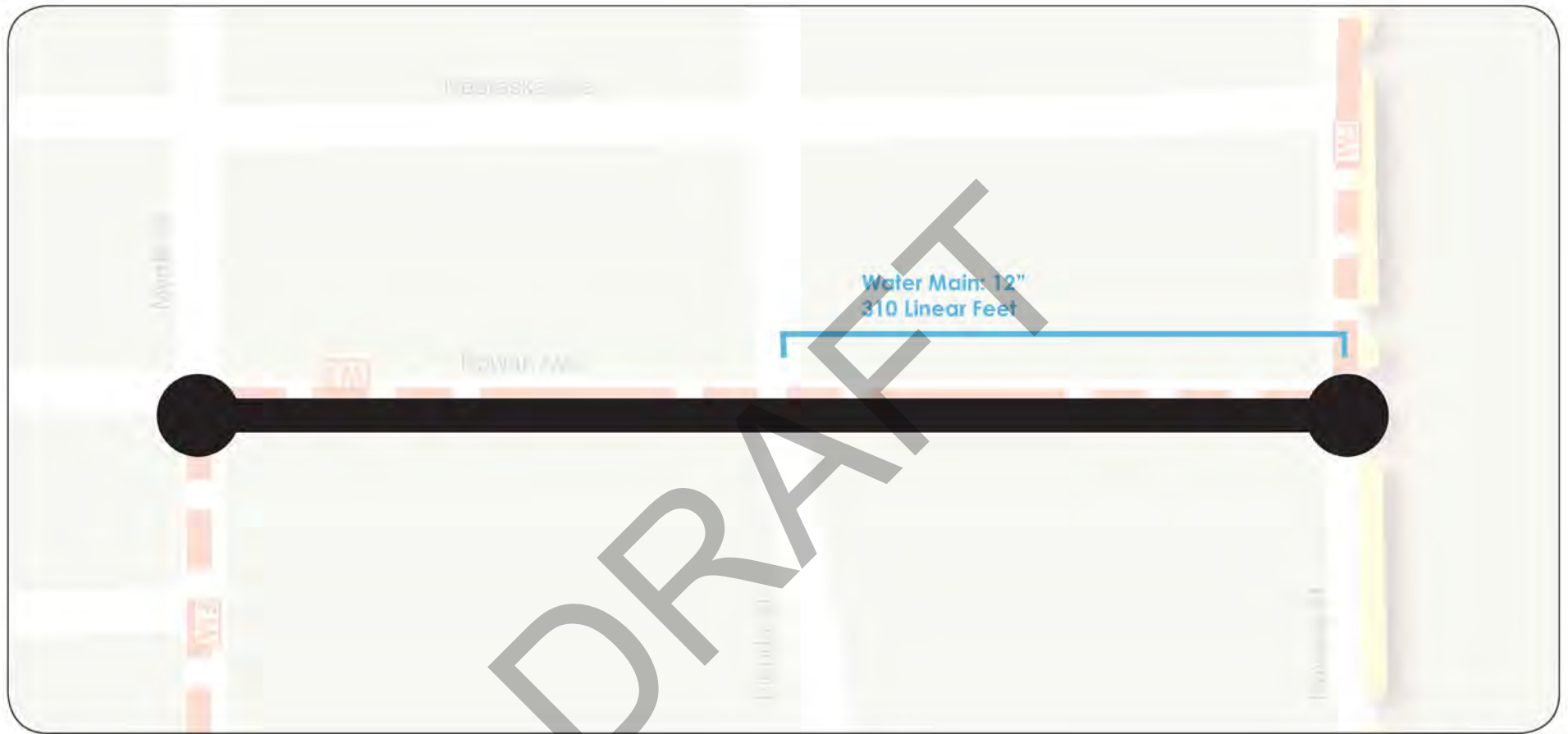
Funding Approach: Create a multi-layered funding strategy that relies on:

1. Enterprise funding from the city water and sewer utility

Summary of Funding Sources

Project Elements	Target	Maximum Available Funds
Utility Funds	\$110,000	N/A
TOTAL	\$110,000	

Utility Funds. The inclusion of the projects on the City's Water CIP and would allow the projects to be supported by all commercial ratepayers for the utility line upgrades (Alternatively, this approach could be supplemented with local improvement district assessed on all benefiting projects in The YARD area).



11

Rowan Phase II

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Legend

	Hillyard Boundary		Existing Force Main		Proposed Water Main		Proposed Force Main
	Proposed US 395		Project Extent		Proposed Sewer Main		Proposed Road Improvement

Project Extent: Garland Avenue to Princeton Avenue**Estimated Total Project Cost: \$3,340,000****Purpose and Need**

The portion of North Freya Street just south of Wellesley Avenue is comprised of frontage to a residential neighborhood, several small businesses, the Esmeralda golf course a large tract of undeveloped property. The Esmeralda catalyst site is the southernmost industrial zoned property in The YARD and has fronts eastward to the Freya Street Minor Collector Arterial. As the primary freight corridor through The YARD this street enables significant industrial development at the Esmeralda site as well as for surrounding properties. Freya Street will form an easy connection to the NSC north-south corridor upon completion of the interchange at Wellesley. The road is used as a connection for traffic from East Upriver Drive into The YARD. Improvements to the geometric design will enable the road to provide an acceptable level of service for existing and future traffic loading.

Description

The Freya Phase II project may include right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, will install necessary underground utilities and will provide full depth reconstruction of the street to improve Freya to an industrial street classification. This improvement will support anticipated future industrial growth in The YARD. The potable water transmission main in this section of ROW is a 30-inch diameter steel line constructed in 1926. The water line in the LaCrosse ROW connects to Market Street and is a 24-inch diameter steel line constructed in 1911. Because of the age of these lines, they should be replaced as part of the Freya Phase II improvement project. The Esmeralda catalyst site located along the west side of Freya Street will benefit from enhancements to the Phase II section of this freight corridor.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Potable Water Main	2,580 feet	\$205,000	\$825,000	\$1,030,000
Industrial Street	2,580 feet	\$460,000	\$1,850,000	\$2,310,000

Funding Strategy

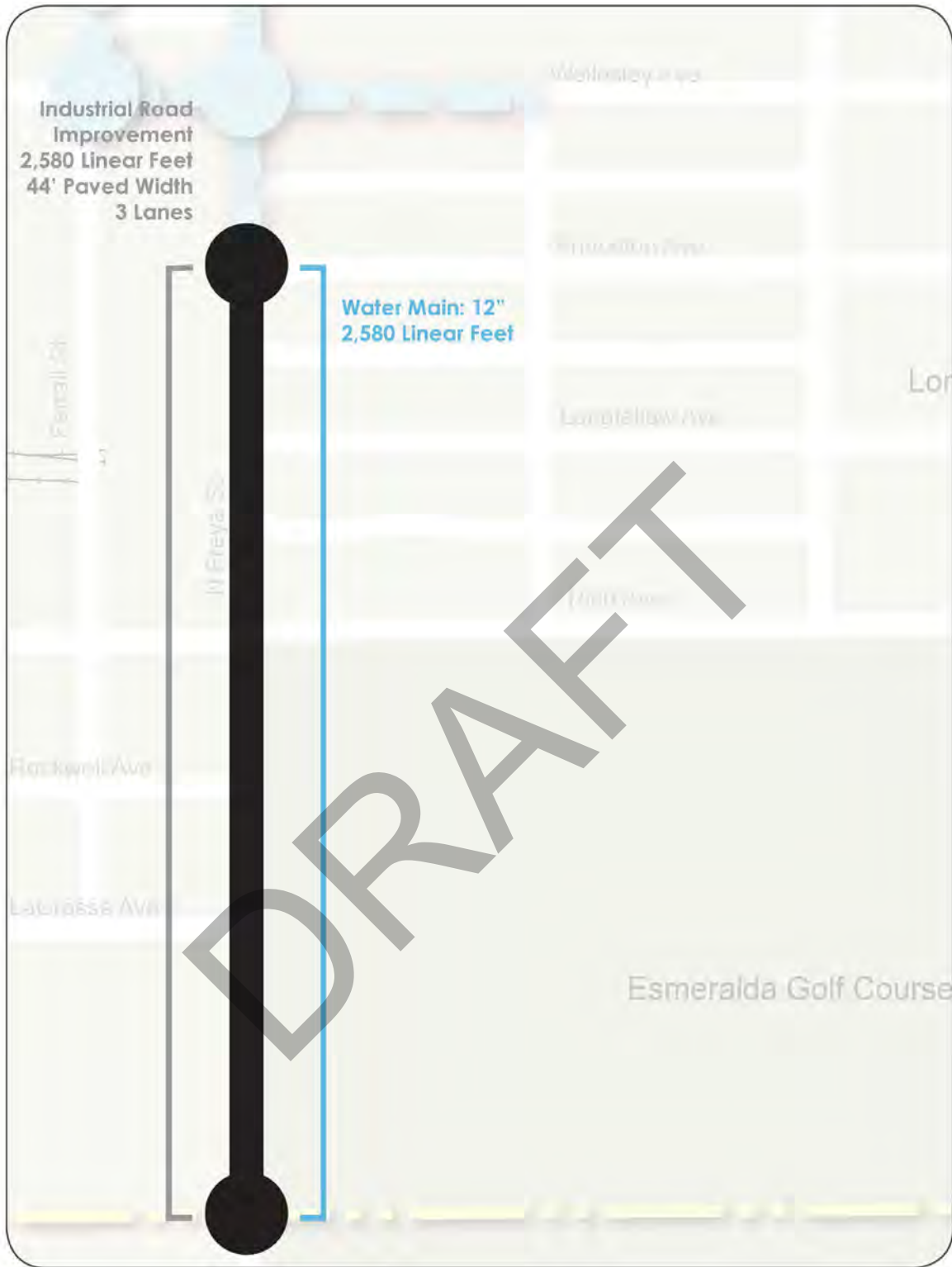
Since Freya Phase II is a mid-long term project, a detailed funding strategy has not yet been developed. With a designation as a Minor Collector Arterial, there are few state and federal award sources that would be available to the fund this project. The road reconstruction would need to be accomplished as part of a development mitigation process or through the city transportation capital planning. Likely funding opportunities include:

Development Impact Mitigation. Implemented as property along Freya is redeveloped.

Regional Stormwater Fund. Established to account for the resources associated with the maintenance, operation, and minor construction components of the City's surface water system such as constructed elements such as pipes and catch basins.

Community Revitalization Financing (CRF). CRF is a form of tax increment financing in which the City creates a tax "increment area". By using revenues from local property taxes generated within the area, City governments can finance public improvements.

Local Improvement District (LID). Special assessment on properties within the LID that would benefit from the improvement.



Legend

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Hillyard Boundary | Proposed Water Main |
| Proposed US 395 | Proposed Sewer Main |
| Existing Force Main | Proposed Force Main |
| Project Extent | Proposed Road Improvement |

12

Freya Phase II

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Based on City GIS data layers, not surveyed. All locations approximate.

Project Extent: Columbia Avenue to Dalke Avenue**Estimated Total Project Cost: \$1,525,000****Purpose and Need**

Rebecca/Julia Street provides a North-South connection from Wellesley to Francis through The YARD that presents an alternative route to Freya Street and Florida Street where higher traffic volumes are anticipated. The central location of Rebecca/Julia in The YARD represents the most viable corridor for transit and bicycling facilities. As development in The YARD progresses the potable water main in the northern section of Rebecca/Julia Street between Columbia Avenue and Francis Avenue should be replaced to install a main with sufficient size to support expected future development.

Description

The Rebecca/Julia Phase I project extends from Francis Avenue south to Columbia Avenue. Within this section, the proposed improvement will include right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, installation of necessary underground utilities, and full depth reconstruction of the street to support use for multiple transportation modes. Between Dalke Avenue and Columbia Avenue, Julia Street is a gravel road with no sidewalks or stormwater management facilities. The existing 6-inch diameter water line should be replaced with a 12-inch diameter pipe to provide sufficient capacity for full development of the North Yard area. The Phase I area, including the North Yard catalyst site, will benefit from the improvements to the potable water capacity and roadway enhancements.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Potable Water Main	1,650 feet	\$110,000	\$440,000	\$550,000
Multi-Modal Road	1,690 feet	\$195,000	\$780,000	\$975,000

Funding Strategy

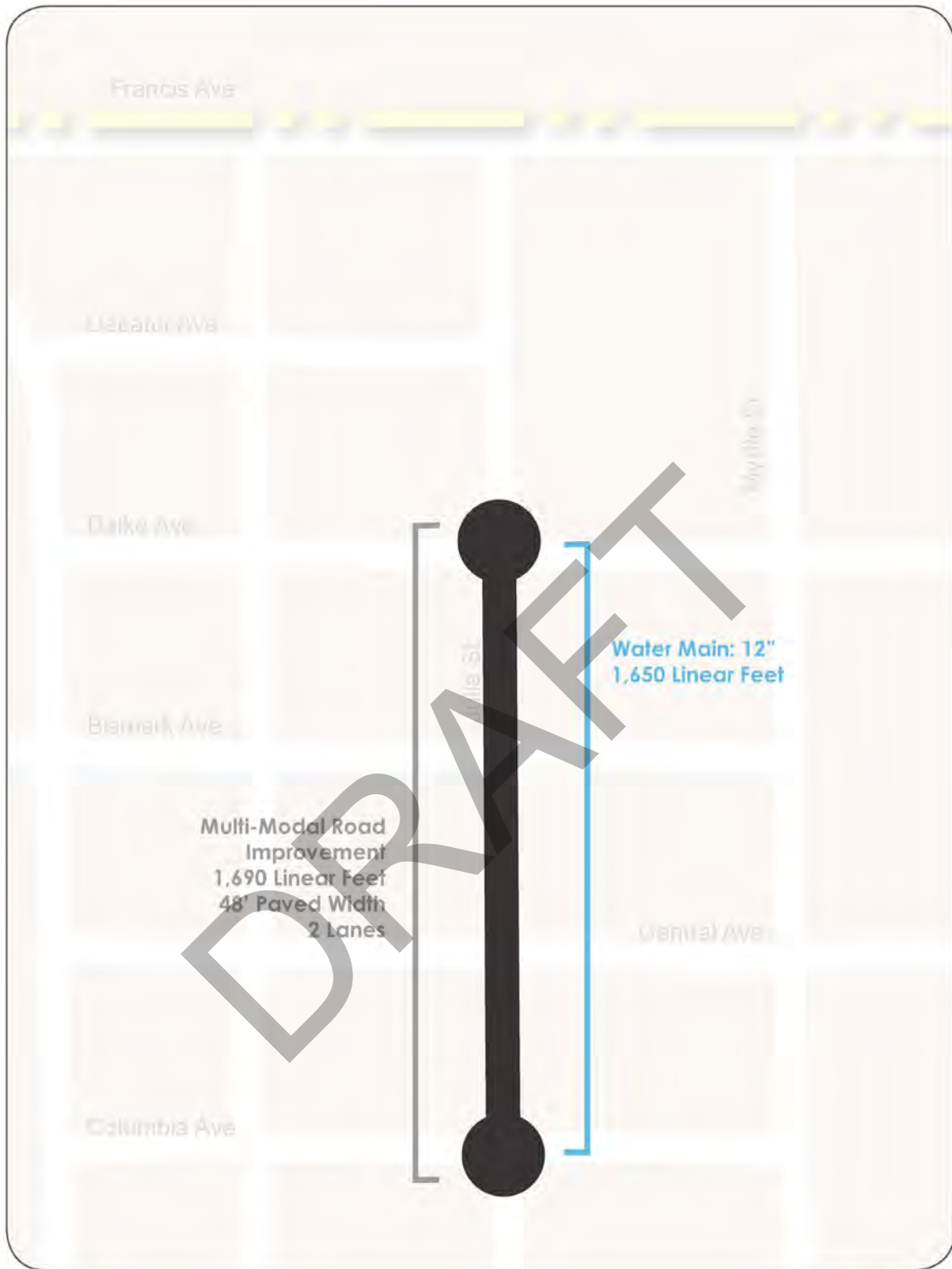
Since Rebecca/Julia Phase I is a mid-long term project, a detailed funding strategy has not yet been developed. Since it is not designated as an Arterial, there are few state and federal award sources that would be available to the fund this project. The street reconstruction would need to be accomplished as part of a development mitigation process or through the city transportation capital planning. Likely funding opportunities include:

Development Impact Mitigation. Implemented as property along the road is redeveloped.

Community Revitalization Financing (CRF). CRF is a form of tax increment financing in which the City creates a tax "increment area". By using revenues from local property taxes generated within the area, City governments can finance public improvements.

Utility Funds. The inclusion of the project on the City's utility CIP and would allow a portion of the projects to be supported by all commercial ratepayers for the utility line upgrades.

Local Improvement District (LID). Special assessment on properties within the LID that would benefit from the improvement.



13

Rebecca/Julia Phase I

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington

Legend

	Hillyard Boundary		Proposed Water Main
	Proposed US 395		Proposed Sewer Main
	Existing Force Main		Proposed Force Main
	Project Extent		Proposed Road Improvement



Project Extent: Wellesley Avenue to Columbia Avenue

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$1,645,000

Purpose and Need

Rebecca/Julia Street provides a North-South connection from Wellesley to Francis through The YARD that presents an alternative route to Freya Street and Florida Street where higher traffic volumes are anticipated. The central location of Rebecca/Julia in The YARD represents the most viable corridor for transit and bicycling facilities. This second phase of improvement to the Rebecca/Julia corridor should incorporate input from the Spokane Transit Authority and provide for installation of bus stops where appropriate. Improvements to pedestrian facilities will encourage use of the multi-modal corridor where pedestrian safety is best accounted for.

Description

The Rebecca/Julia Phase II project will include right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, provide full depth reconstruction of the street to improve Freya to a multi-modal road classification. This project should also include coordination with Spokane Transit Authority and a study of siting and design options for a bus stops along this corridor.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Transit Facility Study	-	\$100,000	-	\$100,000
Multi-Modal Road	3,675 feet	\$305,000	\$1,240,000	\$1,545,000

Funding Strategy

Since Rebecca/Julia Phase II is a mid-long term project, a detailed funding strategy has not yet been developed. Since it is not designated as an Arterial, there are few state and federal award sources that would be available to the fund this project. The street reconstruction would need to be accomplished as part of a development mitigation process or through the city transportation capital planning. Likely funding opportunities include:

Development Impact Mitigation. Implemented as property along the road is redeveloped.

Community Revitalization Financing (CRF). CRF is a form of tax increment financing in which the City creates a tax "increment area". By using revenues from local property taxes generated within the area, City governments can finance public improvements.

Local Improvement District (LID). Special assessment on properties within the LID that would benefit from the improvement.

City Discretionary Transportation Capital Funding. Implemented through a road levy.



Legend

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Hillyard Boundary | Proposed Water Main |
| Proposed US 395 | Proposed Sewer Main |
| Existing Force Main | Proposed Force Main |
| Project Extent | Proposed Road Improvement |

14

Rebecca/Julia Phase II

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington



Project Extent: Nebraska Avenue to Francis Avenue**Estimated Total Project Cost: \$2,590,000****Purpose and Need**

North Freya Street is currently designated as a Minor Collector Arterial and is the primary freight corridor through The YARD. This T3 freight route is a significant street parallel to NSC that comprises frontage for several important regional employers and industrial properties. The northern portion of North Freya Street has been recently improved to add concrete curb and sidewalk and to widen the paved travel surface. The road presently supports heavy freight transport to a food service warehouse and other businesses that would benefit from a robust industrial road section hardened to support heavy truck traffic. North Freya Street lacks the geometric design to adequately service existing traffic and requires expansion and mitigation to provide an acceptable level of service for existing and future traffic loading.

Description

The Freya Phase III project may include right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, install necessary underground utilities and provide full depth reconstruction of the street to improve Freya to an industrial street classification. This improvement will support anticipated future industrial growth in Hillyard. The adjacent industrial businesses and North Yard catalyst site located along Freya will benefit from enhancements to the heavy freight corridor in the Phase III area.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Potable Water Main	2,350 feet	\$135,000	\$545,000	\$680,000
Industrial Street Section	2,100 feet	\$380,000	\$1,530,000	\$1,910,000

Funding Strategy

Funding Approach: Create a multi-layered funding strategy that relies on:

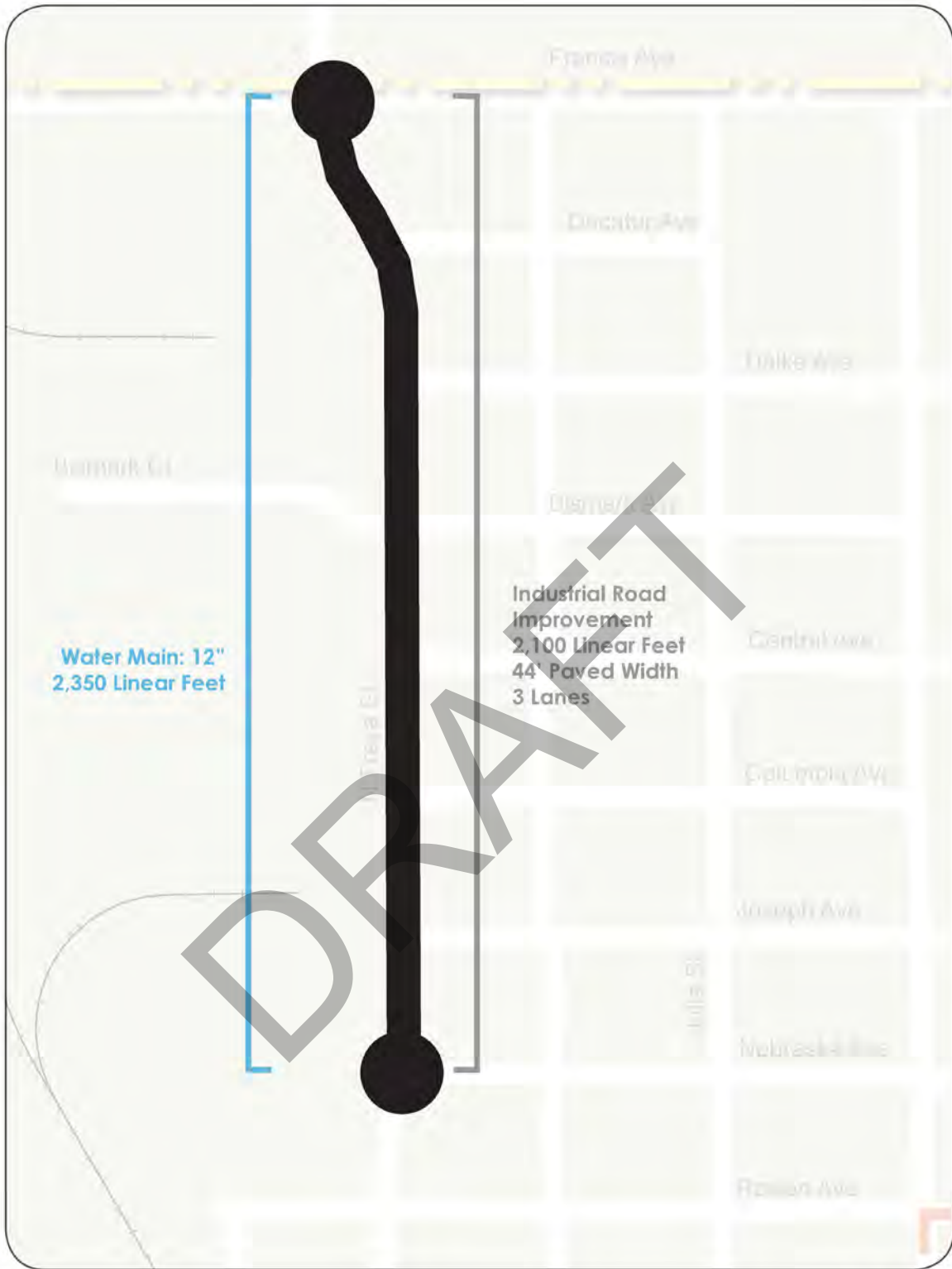
1. Enterprise funding from the city water and sewer utility
2. Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) – Urban Arterials Project

Summary of Funding Sources

Project Elements	Target	Maximum Available Funds
Utility Funds	\$680,000	N/A
TIB	\$1,910,000	N/A
TOTAL	\$2,590,000	

Utility Funds. The inclusion of the projects on the City's Water CIP and would allow a portion of the project to be supported by all commercial ratepayers for the water line upgrades.

TIB Urban Arterials Program. The Urban Arterial Program funds projects in the areas of safety, growth and development, mobility, and physical condition. There is a 15 percent local match requirement for Spokane. UAP funds work in design and construction phases. The minor arterial classification for Freya would qualify under the program.



15

Freya Phase III

City of Spokane
Spokane, Washington

Legend

	Hillyard Boundary		Proposed Water Main
	Proposed US 395		Proposed Sewer Main
	Existing Force Main		Proposed Force Main
	Project Extent		Proposed Road Improvement



Project 019: Infill Street Improvements | Broad, Queen (1&2), Central, Dalke Avenues

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$9,841,000

Purpose and Need

The YARD is bracketed by arterial streets, rail lines, and soon a major north-south highway. There are many important capital projects programmed for The YARD industrial corridors and main transportation links. In addition to these primary capital projects there are numerous smaller connecting roads that may become important to traffic circulation as development in Hillyard progresses. These smaller connectors have been termed “infill street improvement” and will be projects of opportunity where development efforts may trigger the need to construct one or more of these infill streets to enable efficient site access.

Description

The Infill Street Improvements projects will include right-of-way (ROW) acquisition and construction of local roads along Broad, Queen, Central, and Dalke Avenues, and Myrtle and Havana Streets.

Project Elements	Quantity	Design Costs	Construction Costs	Total Cost
Local road – Broad Avenue	680 feet	\$80,000	\$310,000	\$390,000
Local road – Queen 1 Avenue	535 feet	\$60,000	\$240,000	\$300,000
Local road – Queen 2 Avenue	1,350 feet	\$115,000	\$470,000	\$585,000
Local road – Central Avenue	1,325 feet	\$145,000	\$590,000	\$735,000
Local road - Myrtle Street	5,450 feet-road 2,300 feet- water main	\$750,000	\$2,986,000	\$3,736,000
Local road - Havana Street	5,450 feet-road 3,120 feet- water main	\$745,000	\$3,350,000	\$4,095,000

Funding Strategy

Since it is not designated as a local road, there are few state and federal award sources that would be available to the fund this project. The street reconstruction would need to be accomplished as part of a development mitigation process or through the city transportation capital planning. Likely funding opportunities include:

Development Impact Mitigation. Implemented as property along the road is redeveloped.

Community Revitalization Financing (CRF). CRF is a form of tax increment financing in which the City creates a tax “increment area”. By using revenues from local property taxes generated within the area, City governments can finance public improvements.

Local Improvement District (LID). Special assessment on properties within the LID that would benefit from the improvement.

City Discretionary Transportation Capital Funding. Implemented through a road levy.

P&ED and Plan Commission Updates
City of Spokane
2017 MFTE Update Committee
April 17 and April 26, 2016

Subject

2017 MFTE Update Committee members' briefing/discussion on the update process thus far. Committee Members: Council President Stuckart, Council Members Mumm and Beggs and Plan Commission Members John Dietzman, Chris Batten, and Todd Beyreuther.

Background

Planning Economic Development staff and the 2017 MFTE Update Committee have begun a public process with the intent to request that City Council reaffirm and extend the Multi-Family Tax Exemption SMC 08.15 prior to it sun setting on its expiration date of December 31, 2017.

Work thus far:

Review attached—all available on the website <https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/multi-family-tax-exemption-2017-incentive-evaluation/>

- 2017 MFTE Evaluation Process Outline & Committee Notes
 - Draft Charter Created
 - Document Review
 - Questions & Concerns identified
 - FAQs
 - First Public Open House 20 attendees good discussion and comments gathered
 - Programmatic Data Reviewed and Confirm by Assessor's Annual Report
 - Review of Real-estate Trends
 - Questions
 - Charter updates
- Second Draft Charter
- Project Data

Action for Today:

Preliminary Recommendations to Discuss:

- Continue with 5 yr. sunset of SMC
- No Zone Changes (unless Infill map identifies areas to consider)
- MFTE isn't a low-income housing tool, it is an economic development tool that helps implement the Comp Plan and GMA goals.
- Bring back the previous up to 115% of AMI affordability provision. The 50% AMI rental requirement hasn't created any new rental units. Use it to provide for more affordable housing. HUD defines 50% of AMI as Very Low-Income. The change will not preclude the use of the tool for very-low income housing.

For more information contact: Teri Stripes, 509-625-6597 tstripes@spokanecity.org,
Planning & Development Services Department

Multi-Family Tax Exemption Evaluation **Second** Draft Charter

A useful project charter contains three key elements:

1. *Vision: The vision defines the “Why” of the project. This is the higher purpose, or the reason for the project’s existence.*

The City of Spokane offers a variety of multifamily housing options affordable to all income levels. The evaluation of the efficacy of the Multi-Family Tax Exemption (MFTE) tool is necessary to accomplish this vision.

2. *Mission: This is the “What” of the project and it states what will be done in the project to achieve its higher purpose.*

A team of City Council members, Plan Commission members, and staff will seek the community’s assistance in crafting recommendations for changes in the MFTE tool. The team will seek recommendations for change that

- **implement the City’s Comprehensive Plan and growth strategies; and**
- **align public investments in neighborhood planning, community development and infrastructure development with private sector investments**

3. *Success Criteria: The success criteria are management tests that describe effects outside of the solution itself.*

The evaluation of the efficacy of the MFTE tool will result in

- **recommendations for legislative changes (locally and at the state level)**
- **increased inventory of multifamily housing options for all income levels**
- **increased property values**
- **a better utilization of existing public infrastructure**
- **implementation of the community goals defined in the Comprehensive Plan**
- **a predictable, transparent, and accountable incentive that achieves outcomes important to the community**

The Multi-Family Tax Exemption (MFTE) Incentive is one of the Economic Development tools we use. . .

The City of Spokane's Multi-Family Tax Exemption (MFTE) program offers a short-term partial property tax exemption for new improvements that create multi-family housing. The exemption period is 8 years for market rate projects, and 12 years for projects that target at least 20% of the units to low and moderate income households. The short-term partial property tax exemption facilitates the creation of additional long-term housing alternatives for all income levels (owners and renters) also increasing urban densities and the efficient use of urban facilities. The program is based on state law (RCW 84.14) and described in the Spokane Municipal Code (SMC 08.15).

RCW 84.14.007 Purpose: It is the purpose of this chapter to encourage increased residential opportunities, including affordable housing opportunities, in cities that are required to plan or choose to plan under the growth management act within urban centers where the governing authority of the affected city has found there is insufficient housing opportunities, including affordable housing opportunities. It is further the purpose of this chapter to stimulate the construction of new multifamily housing and the rehabilitation of existing vacant and underutilized buildings for multifamily housing in urban centers having insufficient housing opportunities that will increase and improve residential opportunities, including affordable housing opportunities, within these urban centers. To achieve these purposes, this chapter provides for special valuations in residentially deficient urban centers for eligible improvements associated with multiunit housing, which includes affordable housing.

Chapter 08.15 Multiple-family Housing Property Tax Exemption Purpose:

A. The purposes of this chapter are to:

1. encourage more multi-family housing opportunities, including affordable housing opportunities, within the City;
2. stimulate the construction of new multifamily housing and the rehabilitation of existing vacant and underutilized buildings for multi-family housing;
3. increase the supply of mixed-income multifamily housing opportunities within the City;
4. accomplish the planning goals required under the Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A RCW, as implemented from time to time by the City's current and future comprehensive plans;
5. promote community development, neighborhood revitalization, and availability of affordable housing;
6. preserve and protect buildings, objects, sites and neighborhoods with historic, cultural, architectural, engineering or geographic significance located within the City; and
7. encourage additional housing in areas that are consistent with planning for public transit systems.

B. Any one or a combination of these purposes may be furthered by the designation of a residential targeted area under this chapter.

Affordable Housing Definitions

RCW 84.14.010 Definitions . . .

- (3) "Affordable housing" means residential housing that is rented by a person or household whose monthly housing costs, including utilities other than telephone, do not exceed thirty percent of the

household's monthly income. For the purposes of housing intended for owner occupancy, "affordable housing" means residential housing that is within the means of low or moderate-income households.

SMC 08.15.020 Definitions

- A. "affordable housing" means residential housing that is rented by a person or household whose monthly housing costs, including utilities other than telephone, do not exceed thirty percent of the household's monthly income.

For the purposes of housing intended for owner occupancy, "affordable housing" means residential housing that is within the means of low or moderate-income households;

- G. "low-income" means a single person, family or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is at or below eighty percent of the median family income adjusted for family size, for the county where the project is located, as reported by the United States department of housing and urban development.

For cities located in high-cost areas, "low-income household" means a household that has an income at or below one hundred percent of the median family income adjusted for family size, for the county where the project is located;

- H. "moderate-income household" means a single person, family or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is more than eighty percent but is at or below one hundred fifteen percent of the median family income adjusted for family size, for the county where the project is located, as reported by the United States department of housing and urban development.

For cities located in high-cost areas, "moderate-income household" means a household that has an income that is more than one hundred percent, but at or below one hundred fifty percent, of the median income adjusted for family size, for the county where the project is located;

2017 MFTE Evaluation Process Outline & Committee Meeting Notes

Month	Work	Outcome & Notes
✓ Jan 6	<p>Draft project vision, mission, set success criteria & timelines</p> <p>Document review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor's Housing Taskforce Report (PDF 27.3 MB) • Infill Development Project Summary Report and Recommendations (PDF 7.7 MB) • 2010 WA State update (PDF 260 KB) • 2012 MFTE Process & Timeline (PDF 42 KB) • 2012 MFTE Data & Code Guide (PDF 1.7 MB) • SMC 08.15 MFTE (PDF 128 KB) • RCW 84.14 MFTE (PDF 142 KB) • Draft MFTE Agile Charter • 2016 County Annual Report (PDF 2.6 MB) • Review past studies & Documents 	<p>Draft Charter Timelines</p> <p>Questions: Real-estate trends, vacancy rates, availability, gaps economic ripple effect, what can we change without changing RCW</p> <p>Concerns: greenfield vs infill, rehab vs new, Workforce housing needed Middle housing, CCL & TOD support <i>Defining:</i> Low Income, Affordable, Workforce, Market Rate...</p> <p><i>Homework:</i> Report Review</p>
✓ Feb 3	<p>Public Open House Mtg: Share Draft Charter & Gather Concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Charter (Vision, Mission, and Success Criteria) (PDF 110 KB) • Map Economic Development Layer: select MFTE • FAQs/Q&A (PDF 141 KB) • Feedback/Comments (PDF 151 KB) • MFTE Projects sans Kendal Yards, MFTE Kendal Yards, Expired 	<p>Committee Members Present: John Dietzman, Chris Batten, Breean Beggs</p> <p>Total Attendees: 20</p> <p>Comment Sheets Submitted: 5</p>
✓ Mar 8 email	<p>Review Comment Sheets</p> <p>Review all program & project data in 2017 values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated 2012 to 2017 MFTE Data (projects, where, construction values, 2017 total value, taxable values, values exempt, units 10, 8 & 12yr) <p>Review all program & project data in 2017 values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MFTE Multi-Family Draft Charter (PDF 115 KB) • 2017 MFTE Final Database (PDF 141 KB) • Spokane County Assessors 2017 Annual Report (PDF 2.1 MB) • Kiemle & Hagwood Spokane Market Review (PDF 119 KB) • NAI Black Market Report (PDF 251 KB) 	<p>Meeting was Cancelled and details shared via email</p> <p>identify additional needed data and modify Charter</p> <p>Questions: Can Cottage or tiny housing complexes qualify—requires RCW changes</p>
✓ Apr 7	<p>Prepare for P&ED Committee Briefing: charter review, data review, and code review Council</p>	<p>Committee Members Present: John Dietzman, Chris Batten, and Kandice Watkins (for Council Member Mumm and others)</p> <p>Second Draft Charter</p> <p>Added RCW & SMC Purposes and Affordability Definitions</p> <p>P&ED Prep Apr 17 Discussion on Update</p> <p>PC Prep Apr 26 Discussion on Update</p>

Commented [ST1]: Attached to email

Commented [ST2]: Attached to email

		<p>Questions: If affordability criteria changes how that does affect current conditional contracts? <u>What are the Rent Rates based upon AMI Incomes?</u> What are Spokane FMRs? Can we change application costs? Need the Infill map https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/projects/infill-housing-strategies-infill-development/infill-report-appx-a-maps-and-tables.pdf ? # of MFTE 12yr projects that had to switch to 8yr?</p> <p>Preliminary Recommendations to Discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with 5yr sunset of SMC • No Zone Changes (unless Infill map identifies areas to consider) • MFTE isn't a low-income housing tool, it is an economic development tool that helps implement the Comp Plan and GMA goals. • Bring back the previous up to 115% of AMI affordability provision. The 50% AMI rental requirement hasn't created any new rental units. Use it to provide for more affordable housing. HUD defines 50% of AMI as Very Low-Income. The change will not preclude the use of the tool for very-low income housing.
May 5	Review Programmatic Goals & Measurements in light of other incentive programs	set benchmarks align Goals and Charter with ED Strategy
June 2	Make final modifications to Charter Workshop Possible Changes to Code and/or Boundaries	Final Charter
July 7	Workshop Possible Changes to Code and/or Boundaries	draft of proposed changes
Aug 4	Public Mtg: Share Proposed Changes & Gather Concerns	modify proposed changes
Sept 1	Workshop Proposed Changes in Light of Charter	confirm Success Criteria Agreement Plan Commission Sept 27 MFTE Evaluation Update
Oct 6	Public Hearings	adjustments
Nov	Adoption	

Commented [ST3]: Attached to email