



Spokane Plan Commission Agenda

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

2:00 PM

Hybrid - Council Briefing Center / Microsoft Teams
808 W Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA 99201

Virtual Meeting Link - See Below for Information

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve 9/11/2024 meeting minutes 2. City Council Liaison Report 3. Community Assembly Liaison Report 4. President Report 5. Secretary Report 6. Approval of current agenda 	All CM Kitty Klitzke Mary Winkes Greg Francis Spencer Gardner
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Workshops:

2:20 – 2:45	1. Citywide CIP Workshop	Kevin Freibott
2:45 – 3:45	2. Comprehensive Plan Review and Periodic Update	Tirrell Black
3:45 – 4:00	3. Transition to Chambers	

Hearings: (All times below are approximate)

4:00 – 4:10	1. SB5290 Permitting Code Updates	Tim Thompson/Jackie Churchill
4:10 – 5:10	2. Centers & Corridors Update Study	Colin Quinn-Hurst

Adjournment: The next regularly scheduled PC meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 9, 2024.

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 Risk Management at 509.625.6221, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA, 99201; or mlovmaster@spokanecity.org. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact Risk Management through the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1. Please contact us forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting date.

Fourth Wednesday - Plan Commission Meeting Information

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Plan Commission will be held in a hybrid in-person / virtual format. Members of the public are welcome to attend in person at City Hall or online using the following information.

Microsoft Teams

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 292 403 242 162

Passcode: qN5WrW

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Meeting ID:
292 403 242 162

Passcode:
qN5WrW

Join with a video conferencing device

cityofspokane@m.webex.com

Video Conference ID: 116 367 811 8

[Alternate VTC instructions](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 323-618-1887,,595874912#](tel:+13236181887595874912) United States, Los Angeles

[Find a local number](#)

Phone Conference ID: 595 874 912#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

How to participate in virtual public testimony:

Sign up to give testimony by clicking on the button below. This will take you to an online google form where you can select the hearing item on which you wish to give testimony.

[SIGN UP](#)

The form will be open from 8:00am on 9/11/2024, until 1:00 p.m. on 9/25/2024. Hearings begin at 4:00 p.m. When it is your turn to testify, Plan Commission President will call your name and you can begin your testimony. You will have 3 minutes to speak.

Please note that public comments will be taken during the meeting, but the public is encouraged to continue to submit their comments or questions in writing to: plancommission@spokanecity.org

The audio proceedings of the Plan Commission meetings will be recorded and are available online.

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Plan Commission & Committees

Upcoming Agenda Items (All items are subject to change)

October 9, Plan Commission (90 minutes available) Hybrid		
Workshop		
Time	Item	Presenter
2:00 – 2:20	Meeting Briefing	Plan Commission
2:20 – 3:15	BOH follow-up (affects the following SMC sections: 17A.020.060 17C.111.205, 210, 220, 235, 310, 315, 320, 325, 335, 420, 450 17C.230.020, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140 17G.080.040, 065 17H.010.040)	Ryan Shea
3:45 – 4:00	Transition to Chambers	
Hearing Items		
	2024 Comprehensive Plan Amendments	Kevin Freibott
	Protection of Historic Buildings in Downtown and Center and Corridor Areas (SMC 17D.100.230)	Megan Duvall
	Citywide CIP Hearing	Kevin Freibott

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Spokane Plan Commission - Draft Minutes

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

Hybrid Meeting in Council Briefing Center & Microsoft Teams Teleconference

Meeting Minutes: Plan Commission Workshop called to order at 2:00 pm by President Greg Francis.

Public Comment: Citizens are invited to address the Plan Commission on any topic not on the agenda. 3 Minutes each. *None*

Attendance for Plan Commission Workshop:

- Board Members Present: Greg Francis (President), Ryan Patterson (Vice President), Jesse Bank, David Edwards, Amber Lenhart, Sandra Neperud, Tim Williams, Jill Yotz
- Board Members Not Present: Carole Shook (excused absence)
- Non-Voting Members Present: Mary Winkes (Community Assembly Liaison)
- Non-Voting Members Not present: Kitty Klitzke (Council Member Liaison)
- *Quorum Present: Yes*
- Staff Members Present: Spencer Gardner, Angie McCall, Kevin Freibott, Brandon Whitmarsh, Ryan Shea, Jackie Churchill, Ryan Benzie, Logan Camporeale, Megan Kapaun

Minutes: Minutes from 8/28/2024 approved unanimously with one abstention from Commissioner Williams due to absence from the last meeting.

Briefing Session:

- **City Council Liaison Report - CM Kitty Klitzke**
 - Council Member Klitzke was absent.
- **Community Assembly Liaison Report - Mary Winkes**
 - Mary stated that she has nothing to report today.
- **Commission President Report - Greg Francis**
 - President Greg Francis stated that he has nothing to report.
- **Secretary Report - Spencer Gardner**
 - Spencer Gardner made sure that everyone has received their badges. Commissioner Lenhart stated that she has not received hers because she has not attended a meeting in person to attain it although, it is ready and available for her.
 - Update on the Transportation Commission: They have concluded with the interviews and the Mayor's office is making decisions as to who to bring forward to the City Council. The expectation is to have it on the council agenda for September 23, 2024. The date may change to September 30, 2024, as some city council members want more time to consider names for the commission. Regardless, the first meeting is slated for October. They still have not finalized a time as they want to work with the new Transportation Commission members on this. They are potentially looking at the third Wednesday of the month (meeting once a month).
 - Spencer also wanted to draw attention to the upcoming agenda items with proposed hearings scheduled for the next two meetings. There is a slight change to the schedule that is currently on the agenda as there was a change since the agenda was sent out a week ago. Some of the hearings have been shifted around.
 - The Centers and Corridors Study hearing is planned to be on September 25, 2024.
 - The 2024 Comprehensive Plan Amendments are planned to be on October 9, 2024.
 - He wanted to highlight some of the items coming up today because they could be going towards hearings over the next couple of meetings. Specifically, the Historic

Preservation code (which you will hear later today). If the group decides that it is ready for hearing, then there will be a motion to do so. Just be aware that you already have hearings scheduled. You could add it to an existing hearing, or you can put it on a different date just to spread things out a bit and to not have a lengthy hearing if that is what you choose. This will be up to you all and to just be aware that you have a lot of hearings coming up.

Current Agenda: The current agenda was approved unanimously.

Workshop(s):

- Citywide CIP – Request motion for hearing
 - Kevin Freibott came to ask, respective of the Plan Commission rules, for a request for motion for hearing.
The CIP draft came out just a few days too late to be on the schedule that they wanted because they are running up against a time crunch as it has to be adopted prior to the budget cycle for the city.
 - The link to the document was in the agenda for your consideration.
 - The list of projects that may concern capacity that were talked about a few months ago have not changed.
 - There is a workshop for the CIP changes scheduled for the next Plan Commission meeting on September 25, 2024. However, due to noticing requirements, we are asking for a motion to take this to hearing even though you have not had your workshop yet on this item. The Workshop is the next meeting where the Plan Commission will be able to voice concerns, ask questions, have discussion, and get those questions answered.
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.
 - Motion was as follows: I [Ryan Patterson] would like to move that we [the Plan Commission] put the Citywide CIP on the hearing for October 9th. Jesse Bank seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Protection of Historic Buildings in Downtown and Center and Corridor Areas (SMC 17D.100.230)
 - Presentation provided by staff member Logan Camporeale.
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.
- BOH Follow-Up (affects the following SMC sections:
17A.020.060
17C.111.205, 210,220, 310, 315, 320, 325, 335, 420, 450
17C.230.020, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140
17G.080.040, 065
17H.010.040)
 - Presentation provided by staff member Colin Quinn-Hurst.
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.

Workshop Adjourned at 4:08 PM.

Next regularly scheduled Plan Commission Meeting is on Wednesday, September 25, 2024.

September 18, 2024

President Francis and Plan Commissioners
City of Spokane

**Re: September 25 Workshop on the Capital Improvement Program for 2025-2030
File Z24-306COMP, Comprehensive Plan Amendment**

Dear President Francis and Plan Commissioners,

As we approach the end of the year and as the City administration is preparing the proposed operational budget for next year, it becomes necessary to consider the next iteration of the City's six-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). To that end, we will be discussing the 2025-2030 CIP with you at your next workshop on September 25.

As you may recall, the CIP is an annual document that outlines all the expected and funded capital improvement projects for the next six years. This year's proposed CIP includes capital projects for nineteen functional departments in the City, including streets, water, wastewater, stormwater, information technology, neighborhoods, facilities, police, fire and others.

Capital projects are typically those that result in some kind of physical infrastructure or facility, but also include certain intangibles like software or professional services. This is distinct from operational budgets, which typically pay for labor and direct services.

To help understand the distinction, let us consider the average firefighter. The firefighter's labor, benefits, training, etc. are paid from operational budgets. The equipment on his or her back, the truck he or she drives, and the firehouse in which he or she sleeps when on duty are capital budget items. The CIP only concerns capital expenditures.

Naturally, the CIP is quite large (600 pages this year) and subject to a whole host of regulations, policies, guidelines, and other limitations, leading to a high level of complexity and detail. However, here are a few things to keep in mind that may help to lessen your time and effort in considering it. These include:

- The vast majority of projects have been on the CIP before and are simply being carried forward into this new CIP. You have seen those before and approved their inclusion.
- You already considered and approved the Streets projects earlier this year. They remain unchanged since then and do not require approval again.

- The focus of the Plan Commission's responsibility is to consider any projects that expand or directly affect the growth of the city, as described in the Comprehensive Plan. To help you review those aspects, our presentation at the workshop will directly highlight those projects that are related to capacity and community growth.

If you would like to review the CIP in advance of our workshop on the 25th, please use the following link:

<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/budget/2025/draft-2025-2030-citywide-capital-improvement-program.pdf>

If you would like to look specifically for the 27 projects we will discuss with you at the workshop, please refer to the table on the following pages. Please note that this is the third time I have shared this table with you, but it has now been updated to show the final budget numbers proposed in the CIP as well as the page number in the CIP where you can find the project described. The page number listed corresponds to the page number printed on the CIP itself, *not the PDF page number created by the software*.

As your review is centered on the consistency these projects have with the Comprehensive Plan, please see the individual project pages referenced in the table to find which Comprehensive Plan policies they relate to. Each project description in the CIP includes a section labeled "Comprehensive Plan Goals Met" where you will see a list of the policies involved. The full text of those policies can be found by reviewing the Comprehensive Plan itself at www.shapingspokane.org.

I look forward to discussing this year's CIP with you on the 13th. If you have any questions in advance of that, please feel free to contact me directly. Thanks, and see you then!

Sincerely,



Kevin Freibott, Senior Planner
kfreibott@spokanecity.org
509-625-6184

Project Number	Name	Page	Total Expenditures (in Dollars)							
			2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	TOTAL	
WAT-2023-1720	Wellesley from Cook to Haven Transmission Main Phase 1	344							200,000	200,000
WAT-2023-1726	Wellesley from Mayfair to Nevada Transmission Main Phase 4	348							200,000	200,000
WAT-2023-1723	Wellesley from Napa to Cook Transmission Main Phase 2	346							200,000	200,000
WAT-2023-1725	Wellesley from Nevada to Napa Transmission Main Phase 3	347							200,000	200,000
WWM-2024-1774	CSO 7 Storage Expansion	498						150,000	1,500,000	1,650,000
WWM-2024-1777	CSO Stormwater Separation Program	500			1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	4,000,000
WWM-2024-1778	Francis and Cannon Lift Station Rehab	438						500,000	6,000,000	6,500,000
WWM-2024-1765	Latah Siphon at Inland Empire Way	495			150,000	1,500,000				1,650,000
WWM-2024-1773	Riverside CSO 24, 25, 26 Pipe Improvements	497				370,000	3,700,000			4,070,000
WWM-2024-1745	Spotted Road/Hwy 2 Regional Stormwater Facility	490							2,000,000	2,000,000
WWM-2024-1767	Whistalks Way Siphon	496							300,000	300,000

BRIEFING PAPER
City of Spokane
Plan Commission
Workshop, September 25, 2024

PLAN **SPOKANE**

Resilient | Connected | Livable | 2046

Subject

The City of Spokane’s periodic update to the Comprehensive Plan is required by June 30, 2026. Planning staff will begin discussion of timeline and the overall project.

Background

The City of Spokane is commencing a periodic update to the City’s Comprehensive Plan as required by the Growth Management Act (GMA). A “periodic update” is the state’s term for a full review of a Comprehensive Plan to make sure it’s in conformance with any legislative changes to state law. The last periodic update was completed in 2017. Since the last periodic update, state law has added additional considerations especially around Climate Planning and Planning for Housing for all income levels that need to be added to the City’s plan.

Due in 2026, the periodic update will identify policies and future regulations to guide the next 20 years of our city. [The current Comprehensive Plan can be found here.](#)

The periodic update will include robust community outreach and engagement around resiliency, housing, economic development, land use, and much more to show and ensure Better Starts Here now and into the future.

Action

The Plan Commission can expect a series of workshops, especially in 2025 & 2026 for review of various elements of the Comprehensive Plan. The first key item for discussion in late 2024, early 2025 will be discussion of the SEPA Alternatives to be explored during the SEPA Environmental Impact Analysis (EIS)

Funding

WA Commerce provides a legislative appropriation/grant of \$325,000 to assist cities over 100,000 in population with Periodic Update work.



STAFF REPORT

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

To:	Plan Commission
Subject:	SB5290 Expedited Permitting Code Updates
Staff Contact:	Tim Thompson, Principal Planner, Jackie Churchill, Planner I
Report Date:	September 17, 2024
Hearing Date:	September 25 2024
Recommendation:	Approval

I. SUMMARY

The proposed draft code amendments have been developed to update Land Use Application permitting requirements in accordance with Senate Bill 5290.

II. RECOMMENDED ACTION

Planning staff recommend approval of these code text amendments, confirmation that they are compliant with the State Legislature's Senate Bill 5290 mandated amendments to Chapter 17G.061 Land Use Application Procedures, and a motion to take them to City Council for adoption.

III. BACKGROUND

In 2023, Washington State Legislature passed Senate Bill 5290 to update the Local Project Review Act in order to improve project review and permitting processes. These updates include clarification on the determination of completeness procedural requirements, new permitting deadlines, and mitigation measures to prevent the City from missing the deadline. These updates amend various sections of Chapter 17G Land Use Application Procedures of the Spokane Municipal Code. The effective date for these updates is January 1, 2025.

Senate Bill 5290 updated requirements for the determination of completeness process by stipulating that the determination must be based solely on procedural requirements. SB5290 also revised the existing 120-day time period for project review, creating multiple new time periods based on permit type. Additionally, Cities are now required to refund 10-20% of permit fees if the new time periods are not met; however, local governments do not need to refund permit fees if they adopt additional measures, provided in SB5290, to expedite permit review.

IV. PROCESS

DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

Article III Section 21, Amendments and Repeals, of the City of Spokane Charter provides for the ability of amendments of the Charter and Spokane Municipal Code through ordinances. Title 17 is known as the Unified Development Code (UDC) and is incorporated into the Spokane Municipal Code to implement the City's Comprehensive Plan, and by reference, the requirements of the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA). Section 17G.025.010 establishes the procedure and decision criteria that the City uses to review and amend the UDC. The City may approve amendments to the UDC if it is found that a proposed amendment is consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan, and bears a substantial relation to public health, safety, welfare, and protection of the environment.

ROLE OF THE CITY PLAN COMMISSION

The proposed text amendments require a review process set forth in Section 17G.025.010(F) SMC. The Plan Commission is responsible for holding a public hearing and forwarding its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the City Council. Utilizing the decision criteria in 17G.025 SMC, the Plan Commission may recommend approval, modification, or denial of the proposal. The Plan Commission may incorporate the facts and findings of the staff report as the basis for its recommendation to the City Council or may modify the findings as necessary to support their final recommendation.

ROLE OF CITY COUNCIL

As part of the Ordinance update process, the City Council will deliberate and review the proposed text amendments, public comments and testimony, the staff report, and any Plan Commission recommendation. The final decision to approve, modify, or deny the proposed amendments rests with the City Council. Proposals adopted by ordinance after public hearings are official amendments to the Spokane Municipal Code.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Plan Commission Workshop August 28, 2024

SEPA REVIEW

The proposed amendments are categorically exempt from SEPA review under WAC 197-11-800 section 19.

COMMENTS RECEIVED

No comments have been received.

V. ANALYSIS

PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The proposed draft code amendments have been developed to update 17G Land Use Application Procedures permitting requirements in accordance with Senate Bill 5290 which mandates that the permitting process shall be expedited and clarified.

Proposed amendments to Section 17G.061.120 Determination of a Complete Application comply with section 6 of Senate Bill 5290 and updates to RCW36.70B.070, which require that the determination of completeness procedural requirements be based solely on the completion of the procedural requirements as listed in the project permit application. Draft changes also clarify the City deadlines and mandates that

communication to the applicant must be written. In addition, Sections 17A.020.030 “C” Definitions, Section 17A.020.200 “T” Definitions, are amended to add definitions for “Counter Complete” and “Technically Complete” in order to clarify how these terms relate to state terminology.

Proposed amendments to Section 17G.061.130 Application Time Limits and 17G.061.150 Modification of Applications and Permits comply with SB 5290 Section 7 and updates to 36.70B.080, which create new permitting time periods that are dependent upon the type of Land Use permit that is being applied for. Exceptions to the time periods have also been proposed in these sections.

The proposed amendments to Section 17G.061.110 Application Requirements, Section 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions, Section 17G.080.060 Binding Site Plan, Section 17E.020.080 Application Submittal Requirements, Section 17E.030.060 Establishment of Development Permit, Section 17E.040.080 Application Submittal Requirements, Section 17E.070.080 Application Submittal Requirements, comply with section 8 of SB 5290 and updates to RCW 36.70B.160 which mandate that local governments adopt additional measures in lieu of refunding permitting fees if the permitting time periods are missed. These proposed amendments would change Pre-development meetings from “required” to “recommended”.

IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES

Section 17G.025.010 SMC establishes the review criteria for text amendments to the Unified Development Code. In order to approve a text amendment, City Council shall consider the findings and recommendations of the Plan Commission along with the approval criteria outlined in the Code. The applicable criteria are shown below in *bold and italic* with staff analysis following criteria. Review of the Comprehensive Plan goals and policies indicates that the proposal meets the approval criteria for internal consistency set forth in SMC 17G.025.010(G). Excerpts of the applicable goals and policies, and their Comprehensive Pla discussion points, are contained in **Exhibit C**.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ED 7 REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT AND TAX STRUCTURE

Goal: Create a regulatory environment and tax structure that encourage investment, nurture economic activity, and promote a good business climate.

POLICY: ED 7.6 - Development Standards and Permitting Process

Periodically evaluate and improve the City of Spokane’s development standards and permitting process to ensure that they are equitable, cost-effective, timely, and meet community needs and goals

Staff Analysis:

The proposed amendments implement the Comprehensive Plan Economic Development Goal 7 to nurture economic activity through the regulatory environment by complying with State law which mandates transparent and timely permitting processes. They also specifically implement policy 7.6 by creating new permitting time periods to ensure timeliness, clarify the determination of completeness process, and creating additional measures that help to expedite the Land Use Application permitting process.

FINAL REVIEW CRITERIA

2. Consistency with State law: Senate Bill 5290

Staff Analysis: The draft amendments have been proposed in order to make updates to the Chapter 17G.061 Land Use Application Procedures code in compliance with the 2023 Senate Bill 5290. SB 5290 updated the Local Project Review Act RCW 36.70B and amended various sections including RCWs 36.70B.070, 36.70B.080, and 36.70B.160. Corresponding sections of the Unified Development Code have been updated to comply with changes to the amended RCWs.

3. Consistency with the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update Requirements

Staff Analysis: Consistency with Senate Bill 5290 is a requirement on the Periodic Update Checklist for Fully-Planning Cities and advances our work on the required Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan 2026 and the required development code amendments.

4. *Public Health, Safety, Welfare, and Protection of the Environment.*

Staff Analysis: By updating requirements for the Land Use Application Procedures, the proposed amendments comply with State Law which does not adversely affect public health, safety or the welfare of the public.

VI. CONCLUSION

Based on the facts and findings presented herein, staff concludes that the requested text amendments to the Unified Development Code 17G.061 Land Use Application Procedures satisfy the applicable criteria for approval as set forth in SMC Section 17G.025.010.

VII. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Following the close of public testimony and deliberation regarding conclusions with respect to the review criteria and decision criteria detailed in SMC 17G.025.010, Plan Commission will need to make a recommendation to City Council for approval, approval with modification, or denial of the requested code amendments to the Unified Development Code.

Staff **recommends approval** of the requested amendments and recommends that the Plan Commission adopt the facts and findings of the staff report.

VIII. LIST OF EXHIBITS

- A. Summary Table of Proposed Text Amendments
- B. Proposed Draft Text
- C. Related Comprehensive Goals and Policies
- D. Findings and Conclusions

EXHIBIT A – SUMMARY TABLE OF PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENTS

**SB 5290 Expedited Permitting Process Updates
Proposed Text Amendment Tracker**

The text amendment tracking sheet provides a summary of proposed changes in each section of the Spokane Municipal Code. The text amendment tracking sheet does not replace reviewing the draft code text amendments as there may be additional details and/or minor changes that were not captured in this document.

Existing SMC Section	Corresponding sections of SB5290 and RCWs	Description of Change
<u>Section 17G.061.110</u> Application Requirements		
Subsection 3	Section 8(2) RCW 36.70B.160	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Removed subsection 3 because the reference to the Central Business District is outdated. ○ Removing 3 allows the Pre-Development Conference to be a recommendation instead of mandatory. *This is a suggested measure in SB5290 section 8 to expedite permits and 2 of 3 needed measures that can replace the mandate to partially refund fees for missing permitting deadlines.
<u>Section 17G.080.040</u> Short Subdivisions		
A. Predevelopment Meeting	Section 8(2) RCW 36.70B.160	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Removed reference to the Central Business District as reference is outdated. ○ *This is a suggested measure in SB5290 section 8 to expedite permits and 2 of 3 needed measures that can replace the mandate to partially refund fees for missing permitting deadlines.
<u>Section 17G.080.060</u> Binding Site Plan		
B. Predevelopment Meeting	Section 8(2) RCW 36.70B.160	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Removed reference to the Central Business District as reference is outdated. ○ *This is a suggested measure in SB5290 section 8 to expedite permits and 2 of 3 needed measures that can replace the mandate to partially refund fees for missing permitting deadlines.

Section 17E.020.080 Application Submittal Requirements – Fish & Wildlife Conservation Areas		
A	Section 8(2) RCW 36.70B.160	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Changed “required” to “recommended” ○ *This is a suggested measure in SB5290 section 8 to expedite permits and 2 of 3 needed measures that can replace the mandate to partially refund fees for missing permitting deadlines.
Section 17E.030.060 Establishment of Development Permit		
B	Section 8(2) RCW 36.70B.160	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Changed “required” to “recommended” ○ *This is a suggested measure in SB5290 section 8 to expedite permits and 2 of 3 needed measures that can replace the mandate to partially refund fees for missing permitting deadlines.
Section 17E.040.080 Application Submittal Requirements – Geologically Hazardous Areas		
A	Section 8(2) RCW 36.70B.160	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Changed “required” to “recommended” ○ *This is a suggested measure in SB5290 section 8 to expedite permits and 2 of 3 needed measures that can replace the mandate to partially refund fees for missing permitting deadlines.
Section 17E.070.080 Application Submittal Requirements - Wetlands		
Chapter 17E.070 Wetlands Protection Section 17E.070.080 Application Submittal Requirements (A)	Section 8(2) RCW 36.70B.160	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Changed “required” to “recommended” ○ *This is a suggested measure in SB5290 section 8 to expedite permits and 2 of 3 needed measures that can replace the mandate to partially refund fees for missing permitting deadlines.

Section 17G.061.120 Determination of a Complete Application		
(A)	Section 6 RCW 36.70B.070	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Changed all instances of “procedural” to “technical” to match current City terminology. ○ Added subsections 1 & 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Subsection 1 states how days are counted. ○ Subsection 2 states that on the 29th day after an application is submitted it is deemed technically complete if the City hasn’t issued a written statement to the contrary.
B. Procedures for Determination of Completeness (2) Component Screening	Section 6 RCW 36.70B.070	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Amended to add that applicants will receive a written determination of counter complete or incomplete. ○ New subsection (a) added to state that after 2 requests for corrections or more info., staff may schedule a meeting to resolve the issues and it must be within 14 days of the request. ○ New subsection b added to state that after 3 requests for corrections, the application must be approved or denied. *This is a measure suggested by SB5290 section 8 that the City adopt to expedite permitting. This is 3 of 3 necessary measures to avoid having to refund fees in the case of missing permitting timelines.
(3) Review by Interested Parties	Section 6 RCW 36.70B.070	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reordered and combined subsections 3 and 4. ○ 4 was changed to a subsection of 3 and renamed "Application Certification" and reworded to clarify that applicants will be notified in writing if the application is complete or not. ○ a-d were moved to be subsections under (a) Application Certification (previously 4) to clarify the chronological steps of the application process and they are renumbered to i-iv. ○ Subsection iv: removed “pursuant to paragraph D herein below” for clarity.
(4) Application Certified Complete	Section 6 RCW 36.70B.070	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New section 4 to clarify when an application is considered technically complete.
(6) Vesting	Section 6 RCW 36.70B.070	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Changed “certified” to “counter” complete and added that fees must be paid before the application can be vested. ○ Added subsection (a) to state that vested applications may expire according to each permit type expiration dates found in Table 17G.061.010-1. ○

<u>Section 17G.061.130</u> Application Time Limits		
Section A	Section 7(1)(a)-(k) RCW 36.70B.080	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Edited to include the state mandated permitting timelines.
Section B	Section 7(1)(a)-(k) RCW 36.70B.080	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Additional verbiage added to clarify exceptions to the permitting timeline. ○ B (1) amended to clarify that the timeline pause ends once the applicant has sent additional information to the City. ○ B (4) amended to add the clause that the city may add an additional 30 days to the time period if the applicant asks for a 60 day extension or if the applicant is not responsive for more than 60 days. ○ B (6) new subsection added to state that the time period restarts if substantial changes are made to the permit as outlined in 17G.061.150. ○ B (7) added to clarify that Comprehensive Plan Amendments are not subject to the timeline requirements.
Section C	Section 7(1)(a)-(k) RCW 36.70B.080	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New section to state that the City may adopt alternative timelines for different permitting scenarios and types.
<u>Section 17G.061.150</u> Modification of Applications and Permits		
Section A(1)(a)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Amended by adding the word “minor” for clarity.
Section 17A.020.030 “C” Definitions		
“C” Definitions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added a definition of “Counter Complete” to clarify that counter complete and technically complete are different.
Section 17A.020.200 “T” Definitions		
“T” Definitions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added a definition of “Technically Complete”.

1. Title 17A Administration

Chapter 17A.020 Definitions

Section 17A.020.030 "C" Definitions

A. Candidate Species.

A species of fish or wildlife, which is being reviewed, for possible classification as threatened or endangered.

B. Carport.

A carport is a garage not entirely enclosed on all sides by sight-obscuring walls and/or doors.

C. Cellular Telecommunications Facility.

They consist of the equipment and structures involved in receiving telecommunication or radio signals from mobile radio communications sources and transmitting those signals to a central switching computer that connects the mobile unit with the land-based telephone lines.

D. Central Business District.

The general phrase "central business district" refers to the area designated on the comprehensive plan as the "downtown" and includes all of the area encompassed by all of the downtown zoning categories combined.

E. Certificate of Appropriateness.

Written authorization issued by the commission or its designee permitting an alteration or significant change to the controlled features of a landmark or landmark site after its nomination has been approved by the commission.

F. Certificate of Capacity.

A document issued by the planning and economic development services department indicating the quantity of capacity for each concurrency facility that has been reserved for a specific development project on a specific property. The document may have conditions and an expiration date associated with it.

G. Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead (CESCL).

An individual who is knowledgeable in the principles and practices of erosion and sediment control. The CESCL shall have the skills to assess the:

1. site conditions and construction activities that could impact the quality of stormwater, and
2. effectiveness of erosion and sediment control measures used to control the quality of stormwater discharges.

The CESCL shall have current certification through an approved erosion and sediment control training program that meets the minimum training standards established by the Washington State department of ecology.

H. Change of Use.

For purposes of modification of a preliminary plat, "change of use" shall mean a change in the proposed use of lots (e.g., residential to commercial).

I. Channel Migration Zone (CMZ).

A corridor of variable width that includes the current river plus adjacent area through which the channel has migrated or is likely to migrate within a given timeframe, usually one hundred years.

J. Channelization.

The straightening, relocation, deepening, or lining of stream channels, including construction of continuous revetments or levees for the purpose of preventing gradual, natural meander progression.

K. City.

The City of Spokane, Washington.

L. City Engineer.

The Director of the Engineering Services department, or their designee for approval authority.

M. Clear Street Width.

The width of a street from curb to curb minus the width of on-street parking lanes.

N. Clear Pedestrian Zone.

Area reserved for pedestrian traffic; typically included herein as a portion of overall sidewalk width to be kept clear of obstructions to foot traffic.

O. Clear View Triangle.

1. A clear view maintained within a triangular space at the corner of a lot so that it does not obstruct the view of travelers upon the streets.

KEEP CURRENT IMAGE

2. Intersection of local and arterial: A right triangle having a fifteen-foot side measured along the curb line of the residential street and a seventy-five foot side along the curb line of the intersecting arterial street, except that when the arterial street has a speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour, the triangle has a side along such arterial of one hundred twenty-two feet, or when the arterial speed limit is 40 mph or greater the dimensions of the triangle shall be determined by Street Department staff using AASHTO's A Policy on Geometric Design as a reference.

KEEP CURRENT IMAGE

3. Alleys: A right isosceles triangle having sides of seven feet measured along the right-of-way line of an alley and:
 - a. the inside line of the sidewalk; or
 - b. if there is no sidewalk, a line seven feet inside the curb line.

KEEP CURRENT IMAGE

P. Clear Zone.

The roadside area free of obstacles, starting at the edge of the traveled way.

Q. Clearing.

The removal of vegetation or plant cover by manual, chemical, or mechanical means. Clearing includes, but is not limited to, actions such as cutting, felling, thinning, flooding, killing, poisoning, girdling, uprooting, or burning.

R. Cliffs.

A type of habitat in the Washington department of fish and wildlife (WDFW) priority habitat and species system that is considered a priority due to its limited availability, unique species usage, and significance as breeding habitat. Cliffs are greater than twenty-five feet high and below five thousand feet elevation.

A "cliff" is a steep slope of earth materials, or near vertical rock exposure. Cliffs are categorized as erosion landforms due to the processes of erosion and weathering that produce them. Structural cliffs may form as the result of fault displacement or the resistance

of a cap rock to uniform downcutting. Erosional cliffs form along shorelines or valley walls where the most extensive erosion takes place at the base of the slope.

S. Closed Record Appeal Hearing.

A hearing, conducted by a single hearing body or officer authorized to conduct such hearings, that relies on the existing record created during a quasi-judicial hearing on the application. No new testimony or submission of new evidence and information is allowed.

T. Collector Arterial.

Collector arterials (consisting of Major and Minor Collectors) collect and distribute traffic from local streets to principal and minor arterials. They serve both land access and traffic circulation.

U. Co-location.

Is the locating of wireless communications equipment from more than one provider on one structure at one site.

V. Colony.

A hive and its equipment and appurtenances, including one queen, bees, comb, honey, pollen, and brood.

W. Commercial Driveway.

Any driveway access to a public street other than one serving a single-family or duplex residence on a single lot.

X. Commercial Vehicle.

Any vehicle the principal use of which is the transportation of commodities, merchandise, produce, freight, animals, or passengers for hire.

Y. Commission – Historic Landmarks.

The City/County historic landmarks commission.

Z. Community Banner.

See SMC 17C.240.015.

AA. Community Meeting.

An informal meeting, workshop, or other public meeting to obtain comments from the public or other agencies on a proposed project permit prior to the submission of an application.

A community meeting is between an applicant and owners, residents of property in the immediate vicinity of the site of a proposed project, the public, and any registered neighborhood organization or community council responsible for the geographic area containing the site of the proposal, conducted prior to the submission of an application to the City of Spokane.

A community meeting does not constitute an open record hearing.

The proceedings at a community meeting may be recorded and a report or recommendation shall be included in the permit application file.

AB. Compensatory Mitigation.

Replacing project-induced wetland losses or impacts, and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Restoration.

The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural or historic functions to a former or degraded wetland. For the purpose of tracking net gains in wetland acres, restoration is divided into re-establishment and rehabilitation.

2. Re-establishment.

The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural or historic functions to a former wetland. Re-establishment results in a gain in wetland acres (and functions). Activities could include removing fill material, plugging ditches, or breaking drain tiles.

3. Rehabilitation.

The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of repairing natural or historic functions of a degraded wetland. Rehabilitation results in a gain in wetland function but does not result in a gain in wetland acres. Activities could involve breaching a dike to reconnect wetlands to a floodplain or return tidal influence to a wetland.

4. Creation (Establishment).

The manipulations of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics present to develop a wetland on an upland or deepwater site where a wetland did not previously exist.

Establishment results in a gain in wetland acres. Activities typically involve excavation of upland soils to elevations that will produce a wetland hydroperiod, create hydric soils, and support the growth of hydrophytic plant species.

5. Enhancement.

The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a wetland site to heighten, intensify, or improve specific function(s) or to change the growth stage or composition of the vegetation present. Enhancement is undertaken for specified purposes such as water quality improvement, flood water retention, or wildlife habitat. Enhancement results in a change in some wetland functions and can lead to a decline in other wetland functions, but does not result in a gain in wetland acres. Activities typically consist of planting vegetation, controlling non-native or invasive species, modifying site elevations or the proportion of open water to influence hydroperiods, or some combination of these activities.

6. Protection/Maintenance (Preservation).

Removing a threat to, or preventing the decline of, wetland conditions by an action in or near a wetland. This includes the purchase of land or easements, repairing water control structures or fences or structural protection such as repairing a barrier island. This term also includes activities commonly associated with the term preservation. Preservation does not result in a gain of wetland acres, may result in a gain in functions, and will be used only in exceptional circumstances.

AC. Counter Complete

A land use application is counter complete if the application contains the documents and information required by SMC 17G.061.110 and required fees have been paid. This is the first step in the Land Use Application Determination of Completeness as outlined in 17G.061.120 and the department may request additional information, documents, or studies before certifying the application as technically complete.

~~((AG))~~ AD. Comprehensive Plan.

The City of Spokane comprehensive plan, a document adopted pursuant to chapter 36.70A RCW providing land use designations, goals and policies regarding land use, housing, capital facilities, housing, transportation, and utilities.

~~((AD))~~ AE. Conceptual Landscape Plan.

A scale drawing showing the same information as a general site plan plus the location, type, size, and width of landscape areas as required by the provisions of chapter 17C.200 SMC.

The type of landscaping, L1, L2, or L3, is required to be labeled.

It is not a requirement to designate the scientific name of plant materials on the conceptual landscape plan.

((~~AE~~)) AF. Concurrency Certificate.

A certificate or letter from a department or agency that is responsible for a determination of the adequacy of facilities to serve a proposed development, pursuant to chapter 17D.010 SMC, Concurrency Certification.

((~~AF~~)) AG. Concurrency Facilities.

Facilities for which concurrency is required in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. They are:

1. transportation,
2. public water,
3. fire protection,
4. police protection,
5. parks and recreation,
6. libraries,
7. solid waste disposal and recycling,
8. schools, and
9. public wastewater (sewer and stormwater).

((~~AG~~)) AH. Concurrency Test.

The comparison of an applicant's impact on concurrency facilities to the available capacity for public water, public wastewater (sewer and stormwater), solid waste disposal and recycling, and planned capacity for transportation, fire protection, police protection, schools, parks and recreation, and libraries as required in SMC 17D.010.020.

((~~AH~~)) AI. Conditional Use Permit.

A "conditional use permit" and a "special permit" are the same type of permit application for purposes of administration of this title.

((~~AI~~)) AJ. Condominium.

Real property, portions of which are designated for separate ownership and the remainder of which is designated for common ownership solely by the owners of those portions. Real property is not a condominium unless the undivided interests in the common elements are vested in unit owners, and unless a declaration and a survey map and plans have been recorded pursuant to chapter 64.34 RCW.

~~((AJ))~~ AK. Confidential Shelter.

Shelters for victims of domestic violence, as defined and regulated in chapter 70.123 RCW and WAC 248-554. Such facilities are characterized by a need for confidentiality.

~~((AK))~~ AL. Congregate Residence.

A dwelling unit in which rooms or lodging, with or without meals, are provided for nine or more non-transient persons not constituting a single household, excluding single-family residences for which special or reasonable accommodation has been granted.

~~((AL))~~ AM. Conservancy Environments.

Those areas designated as the most environmentally sensitive and requiring the most protection in the current shoreline master program or as hereafter amended.

~~((AM))~~ AN. Container.

Any vessel of sixty gallons or less in capacity used for transporting or storing critical materials.

~~((AN))~~ AO. Context Areas

Established by the Regulating Plan, Context Area designations describe and direct differing functions and features for areas within FBC limits, implementing community goals for the built environment.

~~((AO))~~ AP. Contributing Resource

Contributing resource is any building, object, structure, or site which adds to the historical integrity, architectural quality, or historical significance of the local or federal historic district within which the contributing resource is located.

~~((AP))~~ AQ. Conveyance.

In the context of chapter 17D.090 SMC or chapter 17D.060 SMC, this term means a mechanism for transporting water from one point to another, including pipes, ditches, and channels.

~~((AQ))~~ AR. Conveyance System.

In the context of chapter 17D.090 SMC or chapter 17D.060 SMC, this term means the drainage facilities and features, both natural and constructed, which collect, contain and provide for the flow of surface and stormwater from the highest points on the land down to receiving water. The natural elements of the conveyance system include swales and small drainage courses, streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands. The constructed elements of the conveyance system include gutters, ditches, pipes, channels, and most flow control and water quality treatment facilities.

~~((AR))~~ AS. Copy.

See SMC 17C.240.015.

~~((AS))~~ AT. Cottage Housing.

A grouping of residential units with a common open space.

~~((AT))~~ AU. Council.

The city council of the City of Spokane.

~~((AU))~~ AV. County.

Usually capitalized, means the entity of local government or, usually not capitalized, means the geographic area of the county, not including the territory of incorporated cities and towns.

~~((AV))~~ AW. Courtyard apartments.

Three or more attached dwelling units arranged on two or three sides of a yard or court.

~~((AW))~~ AX. Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&Rs).

A document setting forth the covenants, conditions, and restrictions applicable to a development, recorded with the Spokane County auditor and, typically, enforced by a property owner's association or other legal entity.

~~((AX))~~ AY. Creep.

Slow, downslope movement of the layer of loose rock and soil resting on bedrock due to gravity.

((AY)) AZ. Critical Amount.

The quantity component of the definition of critical material.

((AZ)) BA. Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas (CARA).

Critical aquifer recharge areas (CARA) include locally identified aquifer sensitive areas (ASA) and wellhead protection areas.

((BA)) BB. Critical Areas.

Any areas of frequent flooding, geologic hazard, fish and wildlife habitat, aquifer sensitive areas, or wetlands as defined under chapter 17E.010 SMC, chapter 17E.020 SMC, chapter 17E.030 SMC, chapter 17E.040 SMC, and chapter 17E.070.SMC.

((BB)) BC. Critical Facility.

A facility for which even a slight chance of flooding might be too great. Critical facilities include, but are not limited to:

1. schools;
2. nursing homes;
3. hospitals;
4. police;
5. fire;
6. emergency response installations; and
7. installations which produce, use, or store hazardous materials or hazardous waste.

((BG)) BD. Critical Material.

1. A compound or substance, or class thereof, designated by the division director of public works and utilities which, by intentional or accidental release into the aquifer or ASA, could result in the impairment of one or more of the beneficial uses of aquifer water and/or impair aquifer water quality indicator levels. Beneficial uses include, but are not limited to:

- a. domestic and industrial water supply,
- b. agricultural irrigation,
- c. stock water, and

d. fish propagation.

Used herein, the designation is distinguished from state or other designation.

2. A list of critical materials is contained in the Critical Materials Handbook, including any City modifications thereto.

~~((B))~~ BE. Critical Material Activity.

A land use or other activity designated by the manager of engineering services as involving or likely to involve critical materials. A list of critical materials activities is contained in the Critical Materials Handbook.

~~((B))~~ BF. Critical Materials Handbook.

The latest edition of a publication as approved and amended by the division director of public works and utilities from time to time to accomplish the purposes of this chapter.

1. The handbook is based on the original prepared by the Spokane water quality management program ("208") coordination office, with the assistance of its technical advisory committee. It is on file with the director of engineering services and available for public inspection and purchase.

2. The handbook, as approved and modified by the division director of public works and utilities, contains:

- a. a critical materials list,
- b. a critical materials activities list, and
- c. other technical specifications and information.

3. The handbook is incorporated herein by reference. Its provisions are deemed regulations authorized hereunder and a mandatory part of this chapter.

~~((B))~~ BG. Critical Review.

The process of evaluating a land use permit request or other activity to determine whether critical materials or critical materials activities are involved and, if so, to determine what appropriate measures should be required for protection of the aquifer and/or implementation of the Spokane aquifer water quality management plan.

~~((B))~~ BH. Critical Review Action.

1. An action by a municipal official or body upon an application as follows:

- a. Application for a building permit where plans and specifications are required, except for Group R and M occupancies (SMC 17G.010.140 and SMC 17G.010.150).
- b. Application for a shoreline substantial development permit (SMC 17G.061.070(B)(1)).
- c. Application for a certificate of occupancy (SMC 17G.010.170).

- d. Application for a variance or a certificate of compliance SMC 17G.061.110.
- e. Application for rezoning SMC 17G.061.110.
- f. Application for conditional permit SMC 17G.061.110.
- g. Application for a business license (SMC 8.01.120).
- h. Application for a permit under the Fire Code (SMC 17F.080.060).
- i. Application for a permit or approval requiring environmental review in an environmentally sensitive area (SMC 17E.050.260).
- j. Application for connection to the City sewer or water system.
- k. Application for construction or continuing use of an onsite sewage disposal system (SMC 13.03.0149 and SMC 13.03.0304).
- l. Application for sewer service with non-conforming or non-standard sewage (SMC 13.03.0145, SMC 13.03.0314, and SMC 13.03.0324).
- m. Application involving a project identified in SMC 17E.010.120.
- n. Issuance or renewal of franchise; franchisee use of cathodic protection also requires approval or a franchise affecting the City water supply or water system.
- o. Application for an underground storage tank permit (SMC 17E.010.210); and
- p. Application for permit to install or retrofit aboveground storage tank(s) (SMC 17E.010.060(A) and SMC 17E.010.400(D)).

2. Where a particular municipal action is requested involving a land use installation or other activity, and where said action is not specified as a critical review action, the City official or body responsible for approval may, considering the objectives of this chapter, designate such as a critical review action and condition its approval upon compliance with the result thereof.

~~((B))~~ BI. Critical Review Applicant.

A person or entity seeking a critical review action.

~~((B))~~ BJ. Critical Review Officer – Authority.

1. The building official or other official designated by the director of public works and utilities.
2. For matters relating to the fire code, the critical review officer is the fire official.
3. The critical review officer carries out and enforces the provisions of this chapter and may issue administrative and interpretive rulings.
4. The critical review officer imposes requirements based upon this chapter, regulations, and the critical materials handbook.
5. The officer may adopt or add to any requirement or grant specific exemptions, where deemed reasonably necessary, considering the purpose of this chapter.

~~((BJ))~~ BK. Critical Review Statement.

A checklist, disclosure form, or part of an application for a critical review action, disclosing the result of critical review. Where not otherwise provided as part of the application process, the critical review officer may provide forms and a time and place to file the statement.

~~((BK))~~ BL. Cumulative Impacts.

The combined, incremental effects of human activity on ecological or critical area functions and values. Cumulative impacts result when the effects of an action are added to or interact with other effects in a particular place and within a particular time. It is the combination of these effects, and any resulting environmental degradation, that should be the focus of cumulative impact analysis and changes to policies and permitting decisions.

~~((BL))~~ BM. Curb Ramp.

A ramp constructed in the sidewalk to provide an accessible route from the sidewalk to the street.

~~((BM))~~ BN. Cutbank.

The concave bank of a moving body of water that is maintained as a steep or even overhanging cliff by the actions of water at its base.

Date Passed: Monday, November 20, 2023

Effective Date: Monday, January 1, 2024

ORD C36459 Section 3

Title 17A Administration

Chapter 17A.020 Definitions

Section 17A.020.200 "T" Definitions

A. Technically Complete

A term to describe a land use application that is certified as complete. A land use application will be deemed technically complete once all steps in 17G.061.120 Land Use Application Procedures for Determination of Completeness have been satisfied and all requested information has been correctly submitted to the City. This definition applies to applications determined procedurally complete as defined by RCW 36.70B.070.

~~((A))~~ B. Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control Measures.

Erosion and sediment control devices used to provide temporary stabilization of a site, usually during construction or ground disturbing activities, before permanent devices are installed.

~~((B))~~ C. Temporary Sign.

A sign placed on a structure or the ground for a specifically limited period of time as provided in SMC 17C.240.240(G).

~~((C))~~ D. Temporary Structure.

A structure approved for location on a lot by the department for a period not to exceed six months with the intent to remove such structure after the time period expires.

~~((D))~~ E. Tenant Space.

Portion of a structure occupied by a single commercial lease holder with its own public entrance from the exterior of the building or through a shared lobby, atrium, mall, or hallway and separated from other tenant spaces by walls.

~~((E))~~ F. Through Pedestrian Zone.

The portion of a sidewalk that is intended for pedestrian travel and is entirely free of permanent and temporary objects.

~~((F))~~ G. Tideland.

Land on the shore of marine water bodies between the line of ordinary high tide and the line of extreme low tide.

((G)) H. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

A calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and non point sources. The calculation shall include a margin of safety to ensure that the water body can be used for the purposes the state has designated. The calculation shall also account for seasonable variation in water quality. Water quality standards are set by states, territories, and tribes. They identify the uses for each water body, for example, drinking water supply, contact recreation (swimming), and aquatic life support (fishing), and the scientific criteria to support that use. The Clean Water Act, section 303, establishes the water quality standards and TMDL programs.

((H)) I. [Deleted].

((I)) J. [Deleted].

((J)) K. [Deleted].

((K)) L. Tracking.

The deposition of sediment onto paved surfaces from the wheels of vehicles.

((L)) M. Tract.

A piece of land created and designated as part of a land division that is not a lot, lot of record or a public right-of-way. Tracts are created and designated for a specific purpose. Land uses within a tract are restricted to those uses consistent with the stated purpose as described on the plat, in maintenance agreements, or through conditions, covenants and restrictions (CC&Rs).

((M)) N. Traveled Way.

The area of street which is intended to carry vehicular traffic, excluding any shoulders.

((N)) O. Triplex.

A building that contains three dwelling units on the same lot that share a common wall or common floor/ceiling.

((O)) P. Type I Application.

An application for a project permit that is subject to an administrative approval and is not categorically exempt from environmental review under chapter 43.21C RCW (SEPA) and the City of Spokane Environmental Ordinance chapter 17E.050 SMC, and does not require a public hearing. Type I applications are identified in Table 17G.061.010-1 in chapter 17G.061 SMC. These applications may include, but are not limited to, building permits and grading permits.

((P)) Q. Type II Application.

An application for a project permit that is subject to an administrative decision of a department director, that may or may not be categorically exempt from chapter 43.21C RCW (SEPA), and does not require a public hearing. The Type II applications are identified in Table 17G.061.010-1 in chapter 17G.061 SMC. These applications may include, but are not limited to, short plats, binding site plans, shoreline substantial development permits, and some conditional use permits; provided, the planning director may require conditional use permits which are otherwise characterized as Type II applications under this title to be submitted and processed as Type III applications when the director issues written findings that the Type III process is in the public interest.

((Q)) R. Type III Application.

An application for a project permit that is subject to a quasi-judicial decision of the hearing examiner that may or may not be categorically exempt from chapter 43.21C RCW (SEPA) and the City of Spokane Environmental Ordinance chapter 17E.050 SMC and requires a public hearing. Type III applications are identified in Table 17G.061.010-1 in chapter 17G.061 SMC. These applications may include, but are not limited to, rezones, conditional use permits, preliminary long plats, or shoreline conditional use permits.

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ORD C36459 Section 10

Title 17E Environmental Standards

Chapter 17E.020 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Areas

Section 17E.020.080 Application Submittal Requirements

- A. A pre-development conference is recommended (~~required~~) for all regulated activities proposed in potential fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas and associated buffers per chapter 17G.061 SMC. The pre-development conference is intended to acquaint an applicant with standards, requirements, investigation procedures, best management practice and potential review procedures prior to making application.
- B. A critical areas checklist is required at the time of application for all regulated activities proposed in fish and wildlife habitat areas and associated buffers per SMC 17G.061.110(C).
- C. All activities identified in SMC 17E.020.050 shall meet the following application submittal requirements in addition to the application submittal requirements specified in other codes. The director may modify the submittal requirements based upon reasonable documentation, including BAS, needed to ensure compliance with this chapter, provided no construction activity, clearing or grading has taken place. A written summary of analysis and findings shall be included in any staff report or decision on the underlying permit.

1. Topographic Survey.

A topographic site plan, prepared and stamped by a State of Washington licensed surveyor, is required for sites that include a wetland or its buffer. The

- a. Existing topography at two-foot contour intervals on-site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements.
- b. Terrain and stormwater-flow characteristics within the site, on adjacent sites within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements.
- c. Location of areas with significant amounts of vegetation, and specific location and description of all trees with trunks six inches or greater

in diameter measured four feet, six inches above the ground, and noting their species.

- d. Location and boundaries of all existing site improvements on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements. This shall include the amounts of developmental coverage, including all impervious surfaces (noting total square footage and percentage of site occupied).
- e. Location of all grading activities in progress, and all natural and artificial drainage control facilities or systems in existence or on adjacent lands on the site, within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and in the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements.
- f. Location of all existing utilities (water, sewer, gas, electric, phone, cable, etc.), both above and below ground, on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines and in the full width of abutting public rights-of-way; and
- g. Such additional existing physical elements information for the site and surrounding area as required by the director to complete review of a project subject to the standards of this chapter.

2. Additional Site Plan Information.

The following site plan information shall also be required for sites that include landslide-prone, flood-prone, riparian corridor, wetland and steep slope areas or their buffers. Information related to the location and boundaries of critical areas and required buffer delineations shall be prepared by qualified professionals with training and experience in their respective area of expertise as demonstrated to the satisfaction of the director.

- a. Location and boundaries of all critical areas and related buffers on the site and on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, noting both total square footage and percentage of site.
- b. Location and identification of all riparian corridors and wetlands within one hundred feet of the site's property lines.
- c. Location and boundaries of all proposed site improvements on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements. This shall include the amount of proposed land

disturbing activities, including amounts of developmental coverage, impervious surfaces and construction activity areas (noting total square footage and percentage of site occupied).

- d. Location of all proposed grading activities and all proposed drainage control facilities or systems on the site or on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements.
- e. Location of all proposed utilities (water, sewer, gas, electric, phone, cable, etc.), both above and below ground, on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, in the full width of abutting public rights-of-way, and any proposed extension required to connect to existing utilities, and proposed methods and locations for the proposed development to hook-up to these services; and
- f. Such additional site plan information related to the proposed development as required by the director to complete review of a project subject to the standards of this chapter.

3. Technical Reports.

Technical reports and other studies and submittals shall be prepared as required by the director detailing soils, geological, hydrological, drainage, plant ecology and botany, and other pertinent site information. The reports, studies and submittals shall be used to condition development to prevent potential harm and to protect the critical nature of the site, adjacent properties and the drainage basin.

Date Passed: Monday, December 3, 2007

Effective Date: Sunday, January 6, 2008

ORD C34147 Section 6

[Title 17E](#) Environmental Standards

[Chapter 17E.030](#) Floodplain Management

[Section 17E.030.060](#) Establishment of Development Permit

A. Development Permit Required.

A development permit shall be obtained before construction or development begins within any area of special flood hazard established in [SMC 17E.030.050\(B\)](#). The permit shall be for all structures including manufactured homes, as defined in [chapter 17A.020 SMC](#) and for all development, including fill and other activities also as defined in [chapter 17A.020 SMC](#).

B. A pre-development conference as set forth in [chapter 17G.061 SMC](#) is recommended (~~required~~) for all development proposed in areas identified as potential critical areas within the City of Spokane, including areas of special flood hazard established in [SMC 17E.030.050\(B\)](#).

C. Application for Floodplain Development Permit.

Application for a floodplain development permit shall be made on forms furnished by the City and may include, but not be limited to, plans in duplicate drawn to scale showing the nature, location, dimensions and elevations of the area in question: existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities and the location of foregoing. Specifically, the following information is required:

1. Elevation in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement) of all structures recorded on a current elevation certificate with Section B completed by the Floodplain Administrator;
2. Elevation in relation to mean sea level to which any structure has been floodproofed;
3. Where a structure is to be floodproofed, certification by a registered professional engineer or architect that the floodproofing methods for any nonresidential structure meet the floodproofing criteria in [SMC 17E.030.130](#);
4. Description of the extent to which a watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development;
5. A completed critical areas checklist as established at [chapter 17G.061 SMC](#);

6. A completed environmental checklist, unless the Floodplain Administrator as designated in [SMC 17E.030.070](#) has determined that the project is categorically exempt from [chapter 17E.050 SMC](#);
7. Where development is proposed in a floodway, an engineering analysis indication no rise of the Base Flood Elevation; and
8. Any other such information that may be reasonably required by the Floodplain Administrator in order to review the application, including all studies, reports and information required by reviewing departments or agencies to fully disclose potential environmental impacts of the proposal. These studies are required to demonstrate acceptance by the applicable department or agencies prior to the application being certified complete.

D. Fee Processing.

Floodplain development permits shall be processed as set forth in [chapter 17G.061 SMC](#).

E. Fee Schedule.

The fees for processing a floodplain development permit are set forth in [SMC 8.02.066\(F\)](#).

Date Passed: Monday, October 25, 2021

Effective Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021

ORD C36118 Section 3

Title 17E Environmental Standards

Chapter 17E.040 Spokane Geologically Hazardous Areas

Section 17E.040.080 Application Submittal Requirements

- A. A pre-development conference is recommended ((required)) for all regulated activities proposed in geologically hazardous areas and associated buffers per chapter 17G.061 SMC. The pre-development conference is intended to acquaint an applicant with standards, requirements, investigation procedures, best management practice and potential review procedures prior to making application.
- B. All activities identified in SMC 17E.040.050 shall meet the following application submittal requirements in addition to the application submittal requirements specified in other codes. The director may modify the submittal requirements based upon reasonable documentation, including BAS, needed to ensure compliance with this chapter, provided no construction activity, clearing or grading has taken place. A written summary of analysis and findings shall be included in any staff report or decision on the underlying permit.

1. Topographic Survey.

A topographic site plan, prepared and stamped by a State of Washington licensed surveyor, is required for sites that include a geohazard or its buffer. The topographic site plan shall include the following existing physical elements:

- a. Existing topography at two-foot contour intervals on-site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements.
- b. Terrain and stormwater-flow characteristics within the site, on adjacent sites within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements.
- c. Location of areas with significant amounts of vegetation, and specific location and description of all trees with trunks six inches or greater in diameter measured four feet, six inches above the ground, and noting their species.
- d. Location and boundaries of all existing site improvements on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements.

easements. This shall include the amounts of developmental coverage, including all impervious surfaces (noting total square footage and percentage of site occupied).

- e. Location of all grading activities in progress, and all natural and artificial drainage control facilities or systems in existence or on adjacent lands on the site, within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and in the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements.
- f. Location of all existing utilities (water, sewer, gas, electric, phone, cable, etc.), both above and below ground, on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines and in the full width of abutting public rights-of-way; and
- g. Such additional existing physical elements information for the site and surrounding area as required by the director to complete review of a project subject to the standards of this chapter.

2. Additional Site Plan Information.

The following site plan information shall also be required for sites that include landslide-prone, flood-prone, riparian corridor, wetland and steep slope areas or their buffers. Information related to the location and boundaries of critical areas and required buffer delineations shall be prepared by qualified professionals with training and experience in their respective area of expertise as demonstrated to the satisfaction of the director.

- a. Location and boundaries of all critical areas and related buffers on the site and on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, noting both total square footage and percentage of site.
- b. Location and identification of all riparian corridors and wetlands within one hundred feet of the site's property lines.
- c. Location and boundaries of all proposed site improvements on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements. This shall include the amount of proposed land disturbing activities, including amounts of developmental coverage, impervious surfaces and construction activity areas (noting total square footage and percentage of site occupied).
- d. Location of all proposed grading activities and all proposed drainage control facilities or systems on the site or on adjacent lands within

twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements.

- e. Location of all proposed utilities (water, sewer, gas, electric, phone, cable, etc.), both above and below ground, on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, in the full width of abutting public rights-of-way, and any proposed extension required to connect to existing utilities, and proposed methods and locations for the proposed development to hook-up to these services; and
- f. Such additional site plan information related to the proposed development as required by the director to complete review of a project subject to the standards of this chapter.

3. Technical Reports.

Technical reports and other studies and submittals, including the geohazard evaluation and mitigation plan described in [SMC 17E.040.090](#) below, shall be prepared as required by the director detailing soils, geological, hydrological, drainage, plant ecology and botany, and other pertinent site information. The reports, studies and submittals shall be used to condition development to prevent potential harm and to protect the critical nature of the site, adjacent properties and the drainage basin.

Date Passed: Monday, December 3, 2007

Effective Date: Sunday, January 6, 2008

ORD C34149 Section 8

Title 17E Environmental Standards

Chapter 17E.070 Wetlands Protection

Section 17E.070.080 Application Submittal Requirements

- A. A pre-development conference is recommended (~~required~~) for all regulated activities proposed in potential wetland areas and associated buffers per chapter 17G.061 SMC. The pre-development conference is intended to acquaint an applicant with standards, requirements, investigation procedures, best management practice, and potential review procedures prior to submitting an application.
- B. All activities identified in SMC 17E.070.040 shall meet the following application submittal requirements in addition to the application submittal requirements specified in other codes. The director may modify the submittal requirements based upon reasonable documentation, including BAS, needed to ensure compliance with this chapter, provided no construction activity, clearing, or grading has taken place. A written summary of analysis and findings shall be included in any staff report or decision on the underlying permit.
1. Wetlands Report. This report shall include a written assessment and accompanying maps of the impacted wetland including, at a minimum, wetland delineation and rating as determined by SMC 17E.070.100; existing wetland acreage; proposed wetland impacts; alternatives to wetlands impacts; proposed wetland buffer; vegetative, faunal and hydrological characteristics; soil and substrate conditions and topographic elevations; and shall be submitted as a part of the permit application.
 2. Topographic Survey. To the extent not provided in the wetlands report, a topographic site plan, prepared and stamped by a State of Washington licensed surveyor, is required for sites that include a wetland or its buffer. The topographic site plan shall include the following existing physical elements:
 - a. Existing topography at two-foot contour intervals on-site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements;
 - b. Terrain and stormwater-flow characteristics within the site, on adjacent sites within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements;

- c. Location of areas with significant amounts of vegetation, and specific location and description of all trees with trunks six inches or greater in diameter at breast height (dbh) measured four feet, six inches above the ground, and noting their species;
 - d. Location and boundaries of all existing site improvements on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements. This shall include the amounts of developmental coverage, including all impervious surfaces (noting total square footage and percentage of site occupied);
 - e. Location of all ongoing grading activities as well as all natural and artificial drainage control facilities or systems in existence on the site or on adjacent lands, within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and in the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements;
 - f. Location of all existing utilities (water, sewer, gas, electric, phone, cable, etc.), both above and below ground, on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines and in the full width of abutting public rights-of-way; and
 - g. Additional information on existing physical elements on the site and surrounding area as required by the director to inform a complete review of a project subject to the standards of this chapter.
3. Additional Site Plan Information. To the extent not provided in the wetlands report, the following site plan information shall also be required for sites that include wetlands and their buffers. Information related to the location and boundaries of wetlands and required buffer delineations shall be prepared by qualified professionals with training and experience in their respective area of expertise as demonstrated to the satisfaction of the director.
- a. Location and boundaries of all wetlands and wetland buffer on the site and on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, noting both total square footage and percentage of site;
 - b. Location and identification of all wetlands within one hundred feet of the site's property lines;

- c. Location and boundaries of all proposed site improvements on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements. This shall include the amount of proposed land disturbing activities, including amounts of developmental coverage, impervious surfaces and construction activity areas (noting total square footage and percentage of site occupied);
 - d. Location of all proposed grading activities and all proposed drainage control facilities or systems on the site or on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, and on the full width of abutting public and private rights-of-way and easements;
 - e. Location of all proposed utilities (water, sewer, gas, electric, phone, cable, etc.), both above and below ground, on the site, on adjacent lands within twenty-five feet of the site's property lines, in the full width of abutting public rights-of-way, and any proposed extension required to connect to existing utilities, and proposed methods and locations for the proposed development to hook-up to these services; and
 - f. Such additional site plan information related to the proposed development as required by the director to inform a complete review of a project subject to the standards of this chapter.
4. Technical Reports. To the extent not provided in the wetlands report, technical reports and other studies and submittals shall be prepared as required by the director detailing on site soils, geology, hydrology, drainage, plant ecology and botany, and other pertinent site information. The reports, studies and submittals shall be used to condition development to prevent potential harm and to protect the critical nature of the site, adjacent properties, and the drainage basin.

Date Passed: Monday, June 19, 2017

Effective Date: Sunday, July 30, 2017

ORD C35508 Section 7

Title 17G Administration and Procedures

Chapter 17G.061 Land Use Application Procedures

Section 17G.061.110 Application Requirements

A. Predevelopment Meeting.

1. Purpose.

Predevelopment meetings are not intended to be an exhaustive review of all regulations or potential issues for a given application. Predevelopment meetings have two purposes:

- a. acquaint City staff and other agencies with a proposed development and to generally advise the applicant of applicable regulations, design guidelines and design review processes, and policies impacting the proposal; and
 - b. acquaint the applicant with the applicable provisions of these procedures, minimum submission requirements and other plans or regulations which may impact the proposal.
2. The City may, when applicable, apply additional relevant laws to the application subsequent to a predevelopment meeting.
 3. ~~((Predevelopment meetings are required for any development proposal in the central business district. The Planning Director or Building Official, as appropriate, may waive this requirement.))~~
 4. Predevelopment meetings are recommended for Type II and III applications, and Type I project permit applications in the centers and corridors (CC) zones.

B. Community Meeting.

All Type III applications and Type II applications where indicated in [Table 17G.061.010-1](#) are required to hold a community meeting regarding the proposed application. The applicant or their representative shall conduct the community meeting.

1. Timing.

The meeting shall occur no more than one hundred twenty days prior to application and before the application is accepted by the City.

2. Notice.

Notice for the community meeting shall be posted fourteen days prior to the meeting. Public notice of a community meeting shall be provided as required in [SMC 17G.061.210](#).

3. Combining with Traffic Study.

When a traffic study is required as a part of an application, the scoping meeting for a traffic study may be combined with the community meeting.

4. Meeting Summary.

The applicant shall provide a summary of the meeting at the time of submission of the application. Other attendees of the community meeting may also submit a summary of the meeting issues to the decision-maker. The meeting summary shall consist of the following:

- a. A digital recording of the meeting proceedings; and
- b. List of attendees; and
- c. A copy of the notice of community meeting; and
- d. Affidavits of posting/ mailing the notice.

C. General Requirements.

Applications shall include the following:

1. Predevelopment meeting summary, if required under subsection (A).
2. Filing fees as required under [chapter 8.02 SMC](#).
3. Application documents supplied by the City, including but not limited to:

- a. General application form;
 - b. Supplemental application form;
 - c. Environmental checklist, if required under [chapter 17E.050 SMC](#);
4. A site plan drawn to scale showing:
 - a. Property dimensions;
 - b. location and dimensions of all existing and proposed physical improvements;
 - c. location and type of landscaping;
 - d. walkways and pedestrian areas;
 - e. off-street parking areas and access drives;
 - f. refuse facilities; and
 - g. significant natural features, such as slopes, trees, rock outcrops, and critical areas.
5. Required copies of documents, plans, or maps (as set forth in the application checklist).
6. Written narrative identifying consistency with the applicable policies, regulations, and criteria for approval of the permit requested.
7. Other plans, such as building elevations, landscaping plans, or sign plans, which are determined by the permitting department to be necessary to support the application.
8. Additional application information as requested by the permitting department, which may include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. geotechnical studies;
 - b. hydrologic studies;

- c. critical area studies;
- d. noise studies;
- e. air quality studies;
- f. visual analysis; and
- g. transportation impact studies.

D. Additional Requirements

The following Type II and III applications shall meet these requirements in addition to the provisions of subsection (B) of this section:

1. Shoreline – Substantial Development Permit, Conditional Use Permit and Variance.
 - a. Name, address, and phone number of the applicant. The applicant should be the owner of the property or the primary proponent of the project and not the representative of the owner or primary proponent.
 - b. Name, address, and phone number of the applicant's representative if other than the applicant.
 - c. Name, address, and phone number of the property owner, if other than the applicant.
 - d. Location of the property. This shall, at a minimum, include the property address and identification of the section, township and range to the nearest quarter, quarter section or latitude and longitude to the nearest minute.
 - e. Identification of the name of the shoreline (water body) with which the site of the proposal is associated.
 - f. General description of the proposed project that includes the proposed use or uses and the activities necessary to accomplish the project.
 - g. General description of the property as it now exists, including its physical characteristics and improvements and structures.

- h. General description of the vicinity of the proposed project, including identification of the adjacent uses, structures and improvements, intensity of development and physical characteristics.
- i. A site development plan consisting of maps and elevation drawings, drawn to an appropriate scale to depict clearly all required information, photographs and text which shall include:
 - i. the boundary of the parcels(s) of land upon which the development is proposed;
 - ii. the ordinary high-water mark of all water bodies located adjacent to or within the boundary of the project. This may be an approximate location, provided that for any development where a determination of consistency with the applicable regulations requires a precise location of the ordinary high-water mark, the mark shall be located precisely and the biological and hydrological basis for the location as indicated on the plans shall be included in the development plan. Where the ordinary high-water mark is neither adjacent to or within the boundary of the project, the plan shall indicate the distance and direction to the nearest ordinary high-water mark of a shoreline;
 - iii. existing and proposed land contours. The contours shall be at intervals sufficient to accurately determine the existing character of the property and the extent of proposed change to the land that is necessary for the development. Areas within the boundary that will not be altered by the development may be indicated as such and contours approximated for that area;
 - iv. a delineation of all wetland areas that will be altered or used as a part of the development;
 - v. the dimensions and locations of all existing and proposed structures and improvements, including but not limited to: buildings, paved or graveled areas, roads, utilities, material stockpiles or surcharge, and stormwater management facilities;

- vi. an inventory of the existing vegetation on the proposed project site, including the location, type, size, and condition, pursuant to [SMC 17E.060.240](#), Shoreline Vegetation Inventory;
- vii. a landscape plan prepared and stamped by a licensed landscape architect, registered in the state of Washington;
- viii. where applicable, plans for development of areas on or off the site as mitigation for impacts associated with the proposed project shall be included;
- ix. quality, source and composition of any fill material that is placed on the site, whether temporary or permanent;
- x. quantity, composition and destination of any excavated or dredged material;
- xi. vicinity map showing the relationship of the property and proposed development or use to roads, utilities, existing developments, and uses on adjacent properties;
- xii. where applicable, a depiction of the impacts to views from existing residential uses;
- xiii. on all variance applications, the plans shall clearly indicate where development could occur without the approval of a variance, the physical features and circumstances of the property that provide a basis for the request, and the location of adjacent structures and uses.

2. Certificate of Compliance.

- a. Site plan is to be prepared by a licensed surveyor; and
- b. Copies of building permits or other data necessary to demonstrate the building was erected in good faith and all reasonable efforts comply with the code.

3. Plans-in-lieu of Compliance.

- a. Alternative development plan designed in conformance with the applicable development regulations; and
 - b. A written narrative of how the proposed development plan is superior, or more innovative, or provides greater public benefit.
4. Preliminary Plat, Short Plat, and Binding Site Plan. As provided in [chapter 17G.080 SMC](#).
5. PUD.
 - a. Profiles of any structures more than one story, shown in relation to finished grade.
 - b. Location, dimension, and boundary of proposed open space.
 - c. Site plan demonstrating compliance with Title 17C SMC including signs, off-street parking, structure height, building coverage, yards, density, screening, buffering, and lighting.
6. Skywalk.
 - a. A legal description of airspace to be occupied.
 - b. Architectural and engineering plans.
 - c. Artist's rendering of the proposed skywalk; and
 - d. Written narrative of the access for the public from the street, other buildings, and other skywalks.
 - e. Acceptance of the final design review recommendations.
 - f. Location and design of all wayfinding signage to be placed to ensure public access.
7. Floodplain – Floodplain Development Permit and Variance.

As provided in [chapter 17E.030 SMC](#).

Date Passed: Monday, November 20, 2023

Effective Date: Monday, January 1, 2024

ORD C36459 Section 35

Title 17G Administration and Procedures

Chapter 17G.061 Land Use Application Procedures

A. Determination of Completeness.

Within twenty-eight days of receiving a project permit application, the department shall determine if the application is technically complete (RCW 36.70B.070) as outlined on the project permit application. Additional information or studies may be required, or project modifications may be undertaken subsequent to the technical review of the application by the City.

1. The number of days is measured by counting every calendar day.

2. If a written determination to the contrary is not provided by the 29th day, the application shall be deemed technically complete. However, this does not prevent the City from requesting additional information or studies after the application is deemed technically complete.

B. Procedures for Determination of Completeness.

The following steps outline the process for the department to determine that an application is complete.

1. Counter Complete.

The department shall conduct a preliminary, immediate review to determine if the application filed with the City contains the documents and information required by SMC 17G.061.110. If the department determines the application does not contain the required documents and information, the application including fees shall be returned to the applicant.

2. Component Screening.

If the application appears to contain required documents, the department shall accept the application and within seven days, conduct a detailed review and determine if any additional information is necessary to process the application. If the department determines the application is missing required components, or is inadequate in other ways, ~~the application including any fees shall be returned to~~

~~the applicant. the applicant shall be sent a written determination outlining the necessary components that are needed to make the application counter complete.~~

~~a. If the department issues a second request for corrections or information, staff may schedule a meeting to meet with the applicant to attempt to resolve the outstanding issues. The meeting must be scheduled within 14 days of the second request.~~

~~b. If a meeting does not resolve the issues and the department proceeds with a third request for additional information or corrections, the application must be approved or denied upon receiving the additional information or corrections.~~

3. Review by Interested Agencies.

If the application, after the detailed review, is found to contain the required components and supporting documents, the application and supporting documents shall be forwarded to (i) interested City departments, (ii) agencies of local, state, or federal governments that may have jurisdiction over some aspect of the application, and (iii) the individual(s) designated pursuant to SMC 4.27.010(D) to receive written notice on behalf of the neighborhood council in which the project is located and to any neighborhood council whose geographic boundaries are located within a 600-foot radius of the project, at the address for such departments, agencies, and neighborhood council designee(s) on file with the department, for review to ensure compliance with state laws, ordinances and concurrency requirements. Interested departments, agencies, and the neighborhood council shall be given fourteen days to provide comments on a permit application. All written comments will be forwarded to the applicant at the end of the fourteen day comment period. Comments submitted after the fourteen day comment period will be forwarded to the applicant, subject to RCW 36.70B.070.

~~a. If review agencies require additional information to continue processing the application, the applicant shall be notified in writing.~~

~~b. Required information must be provided within sixty days from the notification by the department. The applicant may submit a written request for additional time to the director; any time extensions shall be in writing. If the information is not received within the sixty days (or as otherwise agreed to), the application and a portion of the fees shall be returned to the applicant, pursuant to chapter 8.02 SMC.~~

~~c. Within fourteen days of the submission of the additional information identified by the review agency, the department shall notify the applicant whether the studies are adequate or what additional information is necessary.~~

~~d. If the neighborhood council submits written comments on an application, the department shall provide a written response to the chairperson, with copy to the applicant, no later than the date on which the application is certified complete pursuant to paragraph D herein below.~~

4. a. Application Certified Complete. Certification.

~~Within seven days of the expiration of the interested agency comment period, ((if no additional information was required, or the information required under subsection (3) is acceptable,)) the department shall provide a written determination stating either that the application is technically complete or that the application is technically incomplete. ((certify the application complete. Applications requiring review by the hearing examiner are forwarded to the hearing examiner upon being certified as complete.))~~

~~((a-))~~ i. If review agencies require additional information to continue processing the application, the applicant shall be notified in writing.

~~((b-))~~ ii. Required information must be provided within sixty days from the notification by the department. The applicant may submit a written request for additional time to the director; any time extensions shall be in writing. If the information is not received within the sixty days (or as otherwise agreed to), the application and a portion of the fees shall be returned to the applicant, pursuant to chapter 8.02 SMC.

~~((c-))~~ iii. Within fourteen days of the submission of the additional information identified by the review agency, the department shall notify the applicant whether the studies are adequate or what additional information is necessary.

~~((d-))~~ iv. If the neighborhood council submits written comments on an application, the department shall provide a written response to the chairperson, with copy to the applicant, no later than the date on which the application is certified complete pursuant to paragraph D herein below.

4. Technically Complete Application

1. Within seven days of the expiration of the interested agency comment period, if no additional information was required, or the information required under subsection (3) is acceptable, the department shall provide a written determination stating either that the application is certified as technically complete or still technically incomplete.

5. Notice of Application.

Within fourteen days of the issuance of a determination of a complete application, a notice of application shall be provided for Type I, II and III project permit applications in accordance with this section (RCW 36.70B.110.2), except that notice of application is not required for short subdivision applications involving minor engineering review as defined in SMC 17G.080.040(C)(2). The notice of application shall follow the public notice requirements contained in SMC 17G.061.210. The notice of application may be combined with the notice of public hearing, if a hearing has been scheduled by notice of application. The date, time, place and type of hearing, SEPA determination and SEPA appeal deadline (using the optional DNS process) are required to be added to the notice of application if this provision is used (RCW 36.70B.110(2)(f)).

6. Vesting.

Applications shall be considered vested at the time the application is ~~((certified))~~ complete and all fees have been paid, the vesting date shall be the date of application submission. If the application is not complete when filed or information is not timely provided as set forth in subsection (2) or (3), the application shall not be considered complete for purposes of vesting or other statutory compliance dates.

a. Expiration of Vested applications

1. Vested applications remain in effect unless no action is taken to complete the project and the date of expiration is reached. A list of permit expiration dates can be found in [Table 17G.061.010-1](#).

Date Passed: Monday, November 20, 2023

Effective Date: Monday, January 1, 2024

ORD C36459 Section 35

Title 17G Administration and Procedures

Chapter 17G.061 Land Use Application Procedures

Section 17G.061.130 Application Time Limits

A. A decision on permit applications subject to this chapter shall ~~((be made within one hundred twenty days of submission of a complete application as set forth in SMC 17G.061.130.))~~ not exceed the following for each type of permit (RCW 36.70B.080:

1. 65 days for permits which do not require public notice.
2. 100 days for permits which require public notice, and
3. 170 days for permits which require public notice and a public hearing.
4. The number of days is measured by counting every calendar day.
5. A summary of the application types and requirements can be found in Table 17G.061.010.

B. ~~((The following shall be excluded when calculating this time period:))~~ The number of days an application is in review with the City shall be calculated from the day the application is deemed technically complete as determined under RCW 36.70B.070 to date a final decision is issued on the project permit application. The number of days shall be calculated by counting every calendar day and excluding the following time periods:

1. Any period during which the applicant has been requested by the department to correct plans, perform required studies, or provide additional required information due to the applicant's inaccurate or insufficient information and the day when additional information is submitted by the applicant.
2. Any period during which an environmental impact statement is being prepared.
3. Any period for administrative appeals of land use permits.
4. ~~((Any extension for any reasonable period mutually agreed upon in writing between the applicant and the department (RCW 36.70B.080(1)).))~~ Time periods may be extended for 30 days in the following cases:

a. If the applicant informs the City in writing that the applicant would like to suspend the review of the project for more than 60 days; or

b. If the applicant is not responsive for more than 60 consecutive days after the additional information has been requested to further process the application.

5. If the permit requires approval of a new fully contained community as provided in RCW 36.70A.350, or a master planned resort as provided in RCW 36.70A.360, or the siting of an essential public facility as provided in RCW 36.70A.200.

6. The time periods shall start over if an applicant proposes a substantial modification to an application as described in Section 17G.061.150 Modification of Applications and Permits.

7. Annual amendments to the comprehensive plan are not subject to the requirements of this section.

C. The City may, by adoption of an ordinance or resolution, modify the time periods to add permit types, change permit names or types in each category, address how consolidated review time frames may be different than permits submitted individually and address how projects of a certain size or type may be differentiated as provided for in RCW 36.70B.140.

Date Passed: Monday, November 20, 2023

Effective Date: Monday, January 1, 2024

ORD C36459 Section 35

Title 17G Administration and Procedures

Chapter 17G.061 Land Use Application Procedures

Section 17G.061.150 Modification of Applications and Permits

A. Modification of Complete Application.

1. Proposed modifications to an application, which the department has previously found to be complete, will be treated as follows:
 - a. Minor ((M)) modifications proposed by the department to an application shall not be considered a new application.
 - b. If the applicant proposes substantial modifications to an application, as determined by the department, the application may be considered a new application. The new application shall conform to the requirements of all statutes and ordinances in effect at the time the new application is submitted. A substantial modification may include but is not limited to the following:
 - i. change in use;
 - ii. increase in density;
 - iii. increase in site area; or
 - iv. changes that increase or significantly modify the traffic pattern for the proposed development.

B. Limitations on Refiling of Application.

1. Applications for a land use permit pursuant to Title 17 SMC on a specific site shall not be accepted if a similar permit has been denied on the site within the twelve months prior to the date of submittal of the application. The date of denial shall be considered the date the decision was made on an appeal, if an appeal was filed or the date of the original decision if no appeal was filed.
2. The twelve-month time period may be waived or modified if the director finds that special circumstances warrant earlier reapplication. The director shall consider the following in determining whether an application for permit is similar to, or substantially the same as, a previously denied application:

- a. An application for a permit shall be deemed similar if the proposed use of the property is the same, or substantially the same, as that which was considered and disallowed in the earlier decision.
- b. An application for a permit shall be deemed similar if the proposed application form and site plan (i.e., building layout, lot configuration, dimensions) are the same, or substantially the same, as that which was considered and disallowed in the earlier decision; and
- c. An application for a variance, exception, or waiver shall be deemed similar if the special circumstances which the applicant alleges as a basis for the request are the same, or substantially the same, as those considered and rejected in the earlier decision. In every instance, the burden of proving that an application is not similar shall be upon the applicant.

C. Modifications or Revisions to Shoreline Permits.

1. A permit revision is required whenever the applicant proposes substantive changes to the design, terms, or conditions of a project from that which is approved in the permit. Changes are substantive if they materially alter the project in a manner that relates to its conformance to the terms and conditions of the permit, the shoreline master program and/or the policies and provisions of chapter 90.58 RCW.
2. Changes which are not substantive in effect do not require approval of a revision. When an applicant seeks to revise a permit, the director shall request from the applicant detailed plans and text describing the proposed changes in the permit.
3. If the director determines that the proposed changes are within the scope and intent of the original permit as defined in WAC 173-27-100(2) and are consistent with the shoreline master program and the Shoreline Management Act, the director may approve a revision.
4. If the proposed changes are not within the scope and intent of the original permit, the applicant shall apply for a new permit in the manner provided for in this chapter.
5. Revisions to permits may be authorized after original permit authorization has expired under RCW 90.58.143. The purpose of such revisions shall be limited to authorization of changes which are consistent with WAC 173-27 and which would not require a permit for the development or change proposed under the terms of the Shoreline Management Act, this section and the shoreline master program. If the proposed change constitutes substantial

development then a new permit is required. This shall not be used to extend the time requirements or to authorize substantial development beyond the time limits of the original permit.

6. If the sum of the revision and any previously approved revisions under former WAC 173-14-064 or WAC 173-27-100 violate the provisions that they are “within the scope and intent of the original permit,” the director shall require that the applicant apply for a new permit.
7. The revision approval, including the revised site plans and text consistent with the provisions of WAC 173-27-180 as necessary to clearly indicate the authorized changes, and the final ruling on consistency with this section shall be filed with the department of ecology. In addition, the director shall notify parties of record of their action.
8. If the revision to the original permit was a conditional use or variance, which was conditioned by the department of ecology, the director shall submit the revision to the department of ecology for its approval, approval with conditions, or denial, indicating that the revision is being submitted under the requirements of this section. Ecology shall render and transmit to the City and the applicant its final decision within fifteen days of the date of the department of ecology’s receipt of the submittal from the director. The director shall notify parties of record of the department of ecology’s final decision.
9. The revised permit is effective immediately upon final decision by the director, or when reviewed by the department of ecology, pursuant to subsection (7), then upon final action by the department of ecology.
10. Appeals shall be in accordance with RCW 90.58.180 and shall be filed with the shorelines hearings board within twenty-one days from the date of receipt of the revision approved by the director, or when appropriate under subsection (7), the date ecology’s final decision is transmitted to the City and the applicant. Appeals shall be based only upon contentions of noncompliance with the provisions of subsection (2). Construction undertaken pursuant to that portion of a revised permit not authorized under the original permit is at the applicant’s own risk until the expiration of the appeals deadline. If an appeal is successful in proving that a revision is not within the scope and intent of the original permit, the decision shall have no bearing on the original permit.

D. Modification to a Building Permit Subject to a Type II or III Approval.

In issuing building permits for construction under an approved site plan, the building official may, with concurrence of the Planning Director , permit minor adjustments of the location and/or dimensions of buildings, parking areas, and roadways as long

as such adjustments do not change any points of ingress or egress to the site unless approved by the director of engineering services, change any perimeter setbacks, or exceed the density authorized in the permit. No modification of an approved application may be considered approved unless specifically provided in writing.

1. The Planning Director may, without public notice, modify an approved site plan, if all the following criteria are met:
 - a. The use will remain the same.
 - b. The total site coverage or total area covered by buildings will not increase.
 - c. The use will continue to comply with all conditions of approval imposed by the original decision.
 - d. The use will comply with all of the requirements of the land use regulations applicable to it and the property on which it is or will be located.
2. Any modification of an approved site plan not consistent with the standards of subsection (B)(1) of this section may be approved only pursuant to the procedures for granting the original Type II or III approval.

E. Modification of Shoreline Permit.

1. Recision and Remanding of Shoreline Permit.
 - a. After providing notice to the permittee and the public and also holding a public meeting, the Planning Director may rescind or suspend a permit if any of the conditions in RCW 90.58.140(8) exist.
 - b. Under the conditions listed in RCW 90.58.180, shoreline permits may be remanded back to the City by the Shorelines Hearings Board.
2. Other Modification of Shoreline Permit.
 - a. A permit revision is required whenever the applicant proposes substantive changes to the design, terms, or conditions of a project from that which is approved in the permit. Changes are substantive if they materially alter the project in a manner that relates to its conformance to the terms and conditions of the permit, the shoreline master program and/or the policies and provisions of chapter 90.58 RCW.

- b. Changes which are not substantive in effect do not require approval of a revision. When an applicant seeks to revise a permit, the director shall request from the applicant detailed plans and text describing the proposed changes in the permit.
- c. If the director determines that the proposed changes are within the scope and intent of the original permit as defined in WAC 173-27-100(2) and are consistent with the shoreline master program and the Shoreline Management Act, the director may approve a revision.
- d. If the proposed changes are not within the scope and intent of the original permit, the applicant shall apply for a new permit in the manner provided for in this chapter.
- e. Revisions to permits may be authorized after original permit authorization has expired under RCW 90.58.143. The purpose of such revisions shall be limited to authorization of changes which are consistent with WAC 173-27 and which would not require a permit for the development or change proposed under the terms of the Shoreline Management Act, this section and the shoreline master program. If the proposed change constitutes substantial development then a new permit is required. This shall not be used to extend the time requirements or to authorize substantial development beyond the time limits of the original permit.
- f. If the sum of the revision and any previously approved revisions under former WAC 173-14-064 or WAC 173-27-100 violate the provisions that they are "within the scope and intent of the original permit," the director shall require that the applicant apply for a new permit.
- g. The revision approval, including the revised site plans and text consistent with the provisions of WAC 173-27-180 as necessary to clearly indicate the authorized changes, and the final ruling on consistency with this section shall be filed with the department of ecology. In addition, the director shall notify parties of record of their action.
- h. If the revision to the original permit was a conditional use or variance, which was conditioned by the department of ecology, the director shall submit the revision to the department of ecology for its approval, approval with conditions, or denial, indicating that the revision is being submitted under the requirements of this section. Ecology shall render and transmit to the City and the applicant its final decision within fifteen days of the date of the department of ecology's receipt of the submittal from the director. The director shall notify parties of record of the department of ecology's final decision.

- i. The revised permit is effective immediately upon final decision by the director, or when reviewed by the department of ecology, pursuant to subsection (7), then upon final action by the department of ecology.

- j. Appeals shall be in accordance with RCW 90.58.180 and shall be filed with the shorelines hearings board within twenty-one days from the date of receipt of the revision approved by the director, or when appropriate under subsection (7), the date ecology's final decision is transmitted to the City and the applicant. Appeals shall be based only upon contentions of noncompliance with the provisions of subsection (2). Construction undertaken pursuant to that portion of a revised permit not authorized under the original permit is at the applicant's own risk until the expiration of the appeals deadline. If an appeal is successful in proving that a revision is not within the scope and intent of the original permit, the decision shall have no bearing on the original permit.

Date Passed: Monday, November 20, 2023

Effective Date: Monday, January 1, 2024

ORD C36459 Section 35

Title 17G Administration and Procedures

Chapter 17G.080 Subdivisions

Section 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions

A. Predevelopment Meeting

A predevelopment meeting (~~((is required if the proposal is located in the central business district, unless waived by the director, and))~~) is recommended for all other proposals prior to submittal of the application. The purpose of a predevelopment meeting is to acquaint the applicant with the applicable provisions of this chapter, minimum submission requirements and other plans or regulations, which may impact the proposal.

B. Preliminary Short Plat Application and Map Requirements

1. Applications for approval of a preliminary short subdivision shall be filed with the director. All applications shall be submitted on forms provided for such purpose by the department. The director may waive specific submittal requirements determined to be unnecessary for review of the application. The application shall include the following:
 - a. The general application.
 - b. The supplemental application.
 - c. The environmental checklist, if required under [chapter 17E.050 SMC](#).
 - d. Title report no older than thirty days from issuance from the title company.
 - e. The filing fees as required under [chapter 8.02 SMC](#).
 - f. The required number of documents, plans or maps drawn to a minimum scale of one-inch equals one hundred feet, on a sheet twenty-four by thirty-six inches, as set forth in the application checklist.

- g. A written narrative identifying consistency with the applicable policies, regulations and criteria for approval of the permit requested; and
- h. Additional application information which may be requested by the permitting department and may include, but is not limited to, the following: geotechnical studies, hydrologic studies, critical area studies, noise studies, air quality studies, visual analysis and transportation impact studies.
- i. One copy of the predevelopment conference notes (if applicable); and
- j. One copy of the notification district map.

2. Contents of Preliminary Short Plat Map

The preliminary short plat shall be prepared by a land surveyor and shall show the following:

- a. Plat name and the name of any subdivision to be replatted.
- b. The name, mailing address and phone number of the owner and the person with whom official contact should be made regarding the application.
- c. Surveyor's name, mailing address, and phone number.
- d. Legal description.
- e. Section, township, and range
- f. Vicinity map.
- g. North arrow, scale and date.
- h. Datum plane.
- i. Acreage.
- j. Number of lots, proposed density, and number of housing units.

- k. Zoning designation.
- l. The boundary lines of the proposed subdivision.
- m. City limits and section lines.
- n. Park or open space (if proposed).
- o. Existing topography at two-foot maximum interval.
- p. The boundaries and approximate dimensions of all blocks and lots, along with the following information:
 - i. the numbers proposed to be assigned each lot and block;
 - ii. the dimensions, square footage, and acreage of all proposed lots and tracts; and
 - iii. for residential lots zoned R1 or R2, the proposed Middle Housing types, included single-unit detached houses, and total number of proposed units on all proposed lots.
- q. Proposed names of streets.
- r. The location and widths of streets, alleys, rights-of-way, easements (both public and private), turn around and emergency access, parks and open spaces.
- s. Conditions of adjacent property, platted or unplatted, and if platted, giving the name of the subdivision. If the proposed short plat is the subdivision of a portion of an existing plat, the approximate lines of the existing plat are to be shown along with any and all recorded covenants and easement
- t. The names and address of the record owners and taxpayers of each parcel adjoining the subdivision.
- u. Indicate any street grades in excess of eight percent.
- v. The location and, where ascertainable, sizes of all permanent buildings, wells, wellhead protection areas, sewage disposal systems, water courses, bodies of water, flood zones, culverts,

bridges, structures, overhead and underground utilities, railroad lines, and other features existing upon, over or under the land proposed to be subdivided, and identifying any which are to be retained or removed.

- w. Proposed one-foot strips for right-of-way conveyed to the City, in cases where a proposed public street or alley abuts unplatted land.
- x. If a body of water forms the boundary of the plat, the ordinary high water mark as defined in chapter 90.58 RCW.
- y. Critical areas as defined in chapters [17E.020](#), [17E.030](#), [17E.070](#) and [17G.030 SMC](#).
- z. Significant historic, cultural or archaeological resources; and
- aa. If the proposal is located in an irrigation district, the irrigation district name.

C. Review of Preliminary Short Plat

1. The application shall be reviewed in accordance with the procedures set forth in chapter 17G.061 SMC for a Type II application, except an application that meets the requirements for minor engineering review as provided in subsection (2) of this section shall be excluded from the public notice requirements contained in SMC 17G.06210 and public comment period under SMC 17G.061.220.
2. Minor Engineering Review.
 - a. A preliminary short plat application may qualify for a Minor Engineering Review if it meets all of the following conditions:
 - i. The application is categorically exempt from chapter 43.21C RCW (SEPA);
 - ii. There is direct water and sewer main lot frontage on an existing and improved public right-of-way;
 - iii. No extensions of public water, sewer, or other utility services will be needed;

- iv. No public easements for water, sewer, or other utility service exists on the lot;
 - v. The lot is not situated in a Special Drainage District as defined in [SMC 17D.060.130](#); and
 - vi. Public utility mains do not exist on the lot.
- b. The City Engineer is authorized to waive conditions ii through vi of the subsection (a) if the application substantially meets the intent of the Minor Engineering Review.

D. Public Notice And Public Comment.

All public notice of the application and opportunities for public comment shall be given in accordance with the procedures set forth in [chapter 17G.061 SMC](#) for a Type II application.

1. Exceptions.

- a. A short plat that meets the requirements of Minor Engineering Review as provided in subsection (C)(2) of this section shall not require a notice of application.
- b. A short plat that is categorically exempt from SEPA and results in four or fewer lots shall not require a posted or signed notice of application.

E. Preliminary Short Plat Approval Criteria.

Prior to approval of a short plat application, the director shall find the application to be in the public use and interest, conform to applicable land use controls and the comprehensive plan of the City, and the approval criteria set forth in [chapter 17G.061 SMC](#). The director has the authority to approve or disapprove a proposed preliminary short plat under the provisions of this chapter, subject to appeal as provided in [chapters 17F.050](#) and [17G.061 SMC](#).

F. Final Short Plat Review Procedure

- 1. The subdivider shall submit to the director for review the following:

- a. A final short plat, prepared by a registered land surveyor licensed in the state of Washington, consistent with the approved preliminary short plat.
 - b. A title report less than thirty days old confirming that the title of the lands as described and shown on said plat is in the name of the owners signing the certificate or instrument of dedication.
 - c. Covenants, conditions and restrictions, if applicable; and
 - d. Fees pursuant to [chapter 8.02 SMC](#).
2. Within thirty days, unless the applicant has consented to a longer period of time, of receipt of a proposed final short plat, the director shall review the plat for conformance with all conditions of the preliminary short plat approval, the requirements of this chapter and that arrangements have been made to insure the construction of required improvements. If all such conditions are met, the director shall approve the final short plat and authorize the recording of the plat. If all conditions are not met, the director shall provide the applicant in writing a statement of the necessary changes to bring the final short plat into conformance with the conditions.
 - a. If the final short plat is required to be resubmitted, the subdivider is required to provide the following:
 - b. A cover letter addressing the corrections, additions or modifications required.
 - c. Title report no older than thirty days from issuance of a title company conforming that the title of the lands as described and shown on said plat is in the name of the owners signing the certificate or instrument of dedication; and
 - d. The required number of copies of the corrected final short plat map.
3. If the final short plat is approved, the surveyor causes the plat to be signed by the Spokane county treasurer and file of record with the Spokane county auditor. The surveyor is required to file the

appropriate number of mylar and bond copies of the recorded short plat with the director.

G. Final Short Plat Map Requirements

The subdivider shall submit to the director a final short plat in the same form and with the same content as the preliminary short plat, as provided in subsections (B)(1) and (2) of this section, with the following exceptions or additional requirements:

1. A final short plat shall contain all the information required of the preliminary plat, except the following:

- a. Show existing buildings.
- b. Show existing utility lines and underground structures.
- c. Show the topographical elevations; or
- d. Contain the names and addresses of adjoining landowners.

2. The final short plat shall include the following:

a. Surveyor's certificate, stamp, date and signature, as follows:

The following land surveyor's certificate to be shown on each sheet of the plat: "I, _____ registered land surveyor, hereby certify the plat of _____, as shown hereon, is based upon actual field survey of the land described and that all angles, distances, and courses are correctly shown and that all non fronting lot corners are set as shown on the plat. Monuments and fronting lot corners shall be set upon completion of the utility and street improvements.

Signed _____(Seal)"

b. A certification by the city treasurer, as applicable:

- i. "I hereby certify that the land described by this plat, as of the date of this certification, is not subject to any local improvement assessments. Examined and approved, this _____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Treasurer”

- ii. “I hereby certify that the land described by this plat, as of the date of this certificate, is not subject to any delinquent local improvement assessment. Future installments, if any, shall remain due and payable and it shall be the responsibility of the owners to initiate the segregation of the LID assessment. Examined and approved, this ____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Treasurer”

- iii. “A preliminary local improvement assessment exists against this property. It shall be the responsibility of the owner’s to initiate the segregation of the LID assessment. After this assessment is finalized, it shall be due and payable. Examined and approved this ____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Treasurer”

- c. The certification by the planning director, as follows:

“This plat has been reviewed on this ____ day of _____, 20__ and is found to be in full compliance with all the conditions of approval stipulated in the Hearing Examiner’s/Planning Director’s approval of the preliminary plat # - -PP/SP.

City of Spokane Planning Director”

- d. The certification by the city engineer, as follows:

“Approved as to compliance with the survey data, the design of public works and provisions made for constructing the

improvements and permanent control monuments this _____
day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Engineer”

e. The certification by the Spokane county treasurer, as follows:

“I hereby certify that the land described in this plat, as of the date
of this certification, is not subject to any outstanding fees or
assessments. Examined and approved _____ day of _____,
20__.

Spokane County Treasurer”

f. The certification by the Spokane county auditor on each page
of the final short plat including the time, date, book and page
number of the recording of the final mylar.

g. Signature of every owner certifying that:

- i. the plat is made with the free consent and in accordance
with the desires of the owners of the land;
- ii. the plat is made with the free consent and in accordance
with the desires of the owners of the land;
- iii. the owners are the owners of the property and the only
parties having interest in the land and is not encumbered
by any delinquent taxes or assessments;
- iv. the owners adopt the plan of lots, blocks and streets
shown;
- v. owner dedicates to the City and the City’s permittees the
easements shown for utilities and cable television
purposes;
- vi. owner dedicates to the City the streets, alleys and other
public places, including slope and construction easements

and waives all claims for damages against any governmental authority including, without limitation, the City which may be occasioned to the adjacent land by the establishment, construction, drainage and maintenance of any public way so dedicated; and

vii. owner conveys to the City as general City property the buffer strips adjoining unplatted property.

h. The drawing shall:

- i. be a legibly drawn, printed or reproduced permanent map;
- ii. if more than one sheet is required, each sheet shall show sheet numbers for the total sheets;
- iii. have margins that comply with the standards of the Spokane county auditor;
- iv. show in dashed lines the existing plat being replatted, if applicable;
- v. show monuments in accordance with [SMC 17G.080.020\(H\)\(1\)](#);
- vi. include any other information required by the conditions of approval; and
- vii. include any special statements of approval required from governmental agencies, including those pertaining to flood hazard areas, shorelines, critical areas and connections to adjacent state highways.

H. Filing.

Once the final plat has been reviewed, approved and signed by the applicable departments, the applicant shall file the final short plat with the county auditor within ten days of approval. No permits shall be issued for a proposed lot until the required conformed copies of the short plat have been submitted to the planning services department.

I. Redivision.

No land within the boundaries of a short subdivision may be further divided in any manner which will create additional lots within a period of five years except by subdivision in accordance with [SMC 17G.080.050](#).

Date Passed: Monday, November 20, 2023

Effective Date: Monday, January 1, 2024

ORD C36459 Section 42

Title 17G Administration and Procedures

Chapter 17G.080 Subdivisions

Section 17G.080.060 Binding Site Plan

A. Purpose.

The purpose of this section is to allow for the more flexible creation of lots within an overall development site plan.

B. Predevelopment Meeting.

A predevelopment meeting is recommended (~~required~~) if the proposal is located in the central business district, unless waived by the director, and is recommended for all other proposals prior to submittal of the application. The purpose of a predevelopment meeting is to acquaint the applicant with the applicable provisions of this chapter, minimum submission requirements and other plans or regulations, which may impact the proposal.

C. Preliminary Binding Site Plan Application and Map Requirements.

1. A binding site plan may be used for divisions of land in all zones. Applications for approval of a preliminary binding site plan shall be filed with the director. All applications shall be submitted on forms provided for such purpose by the department. The director may waive specific submittal requirements determined to be unnecessary for review of the application. The application shall be same in form and contents as a short plat as provided in SMC 17G.080.040(B)(1).
2. Contents of Preliminary Binding Site Plan.

The preliminary binding site plan shall be prepared by a land surveyor and shall be the same in form and content as a short plat as provided in SMC 17G.080.040(B)(2) with the following additions:

- a. Proposed building footprints;
- b. Proposed street accesses;

- c. Proposed parking and internal vehicle circulation;
- d. Proposed pedestrian pathways;
- e. Proposed landscaped areas; and
- f. Proposed stormwater facilities.

D. Public Notice

All public notice of the application shall be given in accordance with the procedures set forth in [chapter 17C.061 SMC](#) for a Type II application.

E. Departmental Review of Preliminary Binding Site Plan

The application shall be reviewed in accordance with the procedures set forth in [chapter 17G.061 SMC](#) for a Type II application.

F. Preliminary Binding Site Plan Decision Criteria

Prior to approval of the application, the director shall find the application to be in the public use and interest, conform to applicable land use controls and the comprehensive plan of the City, and the decision criteria set forth in [SMC 17G.080.025](#). The director has the authority to approve or disapprove a proposed preliminary binding site plan under the provisions of this chapter, subject to appeal as provided in [chapter 17G.061 SMC](#).

G. Final Binding Site Plan Review Procedure

The final binding site plan procedures shall be the same in form as the short plat review procedure as provided in [SMC 17G.080.040\(G\)](#).

H. Final Binding Site Plan Requirements.

The subdivider shall submit to the director a final binding site plan in the same form and with the same content as the preliminary binding site plan, with the following exceptions or additional requirements:

1. A final binding site plan shall contain all the information required of the preliminary plan, except the following:
 - a. Show existing buildings.

- b. Show existing utility lines and underground structures.
 - c. Show the topographical elevations; or
 - d. Contain the names and addresses of adjoining landowners.
2. The final binding site plan shall include the signatory statements as provided in [SMC 17G.080.040\(G\)\(2\)](#).

I. Filing

Once the final binding site plan has been reviewed, approved and signed by the applicable departments, the applicant shall file the final binding site plan with the county auditor within ten days of final approval. No permits shall be issued for a proposed lot until the required conformed copies of the binding site plan have been submitted to the department.

J. Creation of Additional Lots in Final Binding Site Plan

A survey may be filed following the recording of a final binding site plan to create additional lots within the boundaries of the final binding site plan, consistent with the preliminary binding site plan approval, conditions and expiration provisions ([SMC 17G.080.020\(C\)](#)). The survey shall be reviewed and approved by the director pursuant to subsections (F) and (G) of this section. In addition, the survey shall conform to the following:

1. Title shall state: "Amendment to BSP- ____ - ____."
2. The binding site plan file number shall be referenced.
3. A distinct wide boundary line shall delineate the boundary of the lot(s) being created. The boundary of the binding site plan shall be indicated and any lot(s) that have been created by filing of the final binding site plan and/or record of survey.
4. Each lot shall be numbered consecutively, and the size of each lot shall be indicated on the survey; and
5. A revision block listing all previously recorded surveys and the date of recording.

Date Passed: Monday, November 20, 2023

Effective Date: Monday, January 1, 2024

ORD C36459 Section 44

EXHIBIT C – RELATED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES

Goal ED 7 REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT AND TAX STRUCTURE

Goal: Create a regulatory environment and tax structure that encourage investment, nurture economic activity, and promote a good business climate.

Policy ED 7.6 Development Standards and Permitting Process

Periodically evaluate and improve the City of Spokane's development standards and permitting process to ensure that they are equitable, cost-effective, timely, and meet community needs and goals

**CITY OF SPOKANE PLAN COMMISSION
FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS
REGARDING SB 5290 EXPEDITED PERMITTING CODE UPDATES**

A recommendation of the City of Spokane Plan Commission to the City Council to approve amendments to amendments to Title 17 of the Spokane Municipal Code to update land use application procedures which clarify, expedite, and consolidate the land use permitting process in accordance with Senate Bill 5290. Specifically amending Section 17A.020.030 “C” Definitions, Section 17A.020.200 “T” Definitions, Section 17E.020.080 Application Submittal Requirements, Section 17E.030.060 Establishment of Development Permit, Section 17E.040.080 Application Submittal Requirements, Section 17E.070.080 Application Submittal Requirements, Section 17G.061.110 Application Requirements, Section 17G.061.120 Determination of a Complete Application, Section 17G.061.130 Application Time Limits, Section 17G.061.150 Modification of Applications and Permits, Section 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions, Section 17G.080.060 Binding Site Plan, and other matters properly related thereto.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

- A. The City of Spokane adopted a Comprehensive Plan in May of 2001 that complies with the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA) as set forth in RCW 36.70A.
- B. The proposed text amendments are mandated by State Legislature in order to be in compliance with Senate Bill 5290 which amends land use application procedures in order to expedite the land use permitting process.
- C. Consistency with Senate Bill 5290 is a requirement on the Periodic Update Checklist for Fully-Planning Cities and advances our work on the required Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan 2026 and the required development code amendments.
- D. The proposed text amendments do not significantly alter the outcome and purpose of the Unified Development Code and therefore remain consistent with the City of Spokane’s Comprehensive Plan.
- E. Public notice and communication began in August 2024 and included the following:
 1. A Plan Commission workshop on August 28, 2024.
 2. A Plan Commission Public Hearing on September 25, 2024.
- F. No public comment was received.
- G. On August 28, 2024, the City of Spokane Plan Commission held a workshop to discuss draft language, and review and evaluate with city staff alternatives to proposed text changes.
- H. On August 09, 2024, the Washington State Department of Commerce and appropriate state agencies were given the required 60-day notice before adoption of proposed changes to the Unified Development Code pursuant to RCW 36.70A.106.
- I. The proposed text amendments are categorically exempt from SEPA under WAC 197-11-8000 article 19 under procedural actions.

Findings of Fact, Conclusion, and Recommendation

- J. A legal notice of public hearing was published in the *Spokesman-Review* on September 11, 2024 and September 18, 2024.
- K. The proposed text amendments were drafted and reviewed consistent with the requirements of RCW 36.70A.370 to assure protection of private property rights.
- L. Amendments to the Unified Development Code Title 17 are subject to the review and recommendation by the City of Spokane Plan Commission.
- M. The Plan Commission held a public hearing on September 25, 2024, to obtain public comments on the proposed amendments. No comments were received.
- N. The City of Spokane Plan commission adopts the findings and analysis set forth in the staff report prepared for the proposal.
- O. The City of Spokane Plan Commission finds that the proposed text amendments meet the decision criteria established in SMC 17G.025.010(G).

CONCLUSIONS:

Based upon the draft text amendments, staff report and analysis (which is hereby incorporated into these findings, conclusions, and recommendations), SEPA review, agency and public comments received, and public testimony presented, the Spokane Plan Commission makes the following conclusions with respect to the proposed Paper Cuts Q1 2024 Code Amendments:

1. The Plan Commission finds that the proposed amendments bear a substantial relation to the public health, safety, welfare, and protection of the environment pursuant to the requirements outlined in SMC 17G.025.010(G).
2. The proposed text amendments will implement the goals and policies of the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan.
3. Interested agencies and the public have had opportunities to participate throughout the process and persons desiring to comment were given an opportunity to comment.
4. The Plan Commission finds that the proposed amendments are consistent with the applicable provisions of the Comprehensive Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

In the matter of the ordinances pertaining to the proposed text amendments, amending the Unified Development Code of the City of Spokane.

As based on the above listed findings and conclusions, by unanimous vote of - in favor to - not in favor, the Spokane Plan Commission takes the following actions:

1. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to Section 17A.020.030 "C" Definitions.
2. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to Section 17A.020.200 "T" Definitions.
3. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to [Section 17E.020.080](#) Application Submittal Requirements.

Findings of Fact, Conclusion, and Recommendation

4. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to [Section 17E.030.060](#) Establishment of Development Permit.
5. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to [Section 17E.040.080](#) Application Submittal Requirements.
6. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to [Section 17E.070.080](#) Application Submittal Requirements.
7. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to [Section 17G.061.110](#) Application Requirements.
8. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to [Section 17G.061.120](#) Determination of a Complete Application.
9. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to [Section 17G.061.130](#) Application Time Limits.
10. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to [Section 17G.061.150](#) Modification of Applications and Permits.
11. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to [Section 17G.080.040](#) Short Subdivisions.
12. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to [Section 17G.080.060](#) Binding Site Plan.

13. Authorizes the President to prepare and sign on the Commission's behalf a written decision setting forth the Plan Commission's findings, conclusions, and recommendations on the proposed amendments.

Greg Francis, President

Spokane Plan Commission

Date:

BRIEFING PAPER
Spokane Plan Commission
Centers & Corridors Update Study Workshop
September 25, 2024

Subject: Planning Services staff is working with a consultant team to assess the City of Spokane's Centers and Corridors growth strategy. The consultant team consists of MAKERS Architecture & Urban Design, SCJ Alliance, and Leland Consulting Group. This study assesses the Centers and Corridors growth strategy as established in the 2001 Comprehensive Plan and expanded since adoption.

This study has produced regulatory recommendations to assist in updating the Comprehensive Plan as part of the 2026 Periodic Update. These regulations have been tested for application in selected four representative Focus Area locations in existing designated Centers. This study produced recommendations for addressing the interim Center and Corridor code updates established through the Building Opportunity and Choices for All interim zoning ordinance. These have since been moved forward for adoption by Spokane City Council with other code updates as part of the South Logan Transit-Oriented Development Project implementation.

At the September 25 public hearing of the Plan Commission, Planning Services staff will provide an abbreviated overview of the Final Report along with a Resolution adopting the recommendations of the study as guidance for consideration in the City's upcoming Comprehensive Plan update

Background: This Resolution recognize the work of this study that included:

- Assessment of the Centers and Corridors as identified in the Land Use Map, and
- A series of public engagement meetings, surveys and interviews, and
- A series of regulatory recommendations for future consideration in the upcoming update of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Next Steps: Following this public hearing at Plan Commission, the Resolution recognizing the recommendations of the Final Report will be brought to City Council in October 2024 for their consideration of the Resolution.

More information is available on the project website at:
<https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/centers-and-corridors-study/>

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-

A resolution adopting the Centers and Corridors Update Study as a guide for developing updates Centers and Corridors policies and development regulations as adopted in the City of Spokane's Comprehensive Plan and the Spokane Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane has adopted a Comprehensive Plan that complies with the requirements of the Washington State Growth Management Act, including a Land Use element meeting the requirements set forth in RCW 36.70A.070(1) and a Transportation element meeting the requirements set forth in RCW 36.70A.070(6); and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane undertook the Spokane Horizons community planning process between 1996 and 2001 to develop the City's first Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Spokane Horizons process led to community selection of the "Focused Growth, Mixed-Use Centers Scenario" as the preferred growth scenario to concentrate future growth in mixed-use district centers, neighborhood centers, employment centers, and along mixed use transportation corridors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane's adopted Comprehensive Plan Land Use element contains policies supporting implementation of this focused-growth strategy by encouraging a mix of employment, residential, and commercial uses in designated centers; and

WHEREAS, a team led by MAKERS Architecture & Urban Design, and including SCJ Alliance and Leland Consulting Group, with expertise in Washington State comprehensive planning as well as expertise in the creation of supportive development regulations and design standards; and

WHEREAS, the Centers and Corridors Update Study will guide future zoning code and land use planning strategies to accommodate new mixed-use development in the City of Spokane; and

WHEREAS, the process for the Centers and Corridors Update Study included public engagement including two public open houses, presentations to local Neighborhood Councils, a Real Estate and Development Professionals public meeting, an online survey, four steering committee meetings with community organizations and institutions, and four Plan Commission workshops, and

WHEREAS, public meetings were held on October 26, 2023, November 7, 2023, April 23, 2024, and May 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, public engagement opportunities were held at local community gathering spaces, including cafes and coffee shops, on four weekends in October and November 2023; and

WHEREAS, public engagement opportunities were held at local community gathering spaces, including cafes and coffee shops, on four weekends in October and November 2023; and

WHEREAS, presentations at meetings of the North Hill Neighborhood Council, East Central Neighborhood Council, and East Spokane Business Association were held in Fall 2023 and Spring 2024; and

WHEREAS, a Technical Advisory Committee meeting was held on August 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Spokane City Plan Commission workshops were held August 23, 2023; November 8, 2023; January 24, 2024; April 10, 2024, and July 24, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Centers and Corridors Update Study includes recommendations for establishing a new family of Mixed-Use (MU) zones to replace the existing Centers & Corridors zoning hierarchy; and

WHEREAS, the associated recommendations, if furthered, will be subject to a separate planning process that includes additional engagement with the community; and

WHEREAS, as prescribed in SMC 04.12.010, this resolution is not an action to amend the City's Comprehensive Plan or development regulations by recommendation of the Plan Commission; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Spokane City Council adopts the Centers and Corridors Update Study, shown in Attachment XXX, as a guiding document for future actions and further consideration of recommendations to update the City's focused-growth, mixed-use development strategy.

Passed by the City Council this _____ day of _____, 2024.

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Assistant City Attorney

CITY OF SPOKANE

CENTERS & CORRIDORS STUDY



MAKERS
architecture • planning • urban design

 **SCJ STUDIO**

 **LELAND
CONSULTING
GROUP**

June 2024

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Spokane Centers and Corridors Study

Executive Summary

This memo evaluates the City of Spokane's Centers and Corridors framework and recommends changes to the role centers play in the City's land use policy and regulatory structure, including changes to Comprehensive Plan policies, zoning and design standards in the interest of better achieving the City's goals for amenity-rich, walkable, mixed-use centers. These changes will affect how Centers and Corridors are designated, types of Center and Corridor designations, policy guidance for public investment in Centers and Corridors, and the rules that govern building in Centers and Corridors. It is accompanied by a market study appendix analyzing development potential in Center and Corridor areas in general and identifying regulations that create barriers to development.

Important policy recommendations include:

- Eliminating the Employment Center designation and folding those Centers into other Center typologies (page 15).
- Clearly designating implementing zones for each of the Centers and Corridors typologies (see pages 27-32).
- Updating how Centers and Corridors land use designations are mapped (page 33).

A key regulatory change is the introduction of a new family of **mixed-use zones** (see page 43) to replace the existing Center and Corridor zones:

- **MU-TOD**: emphasizes uses that support walking activity and high-intensity development, to be applied near high-capacity transit stops.
- **MU-1**: the "base" mixed-use zone that allows a broad mix of uses and high-intensity development, intended primarily for District Centers and Corridors.
- **MU-2**: oriented towards a narrower range of walking-friendly uses and moderate-scale development, intended primarily for Neighborhood Centers and Mini-Centers
- **MU-3**: oriented towards smaller-scale development, intended for peripheral areas at the end of centers. This is intended to replace both the CC4 and NMU zones.

Other notable regulatory proposals include increased height limits (page 47), relaxation of zone edge transition standards, maximum block length/through-block connection standards (page 54), and updates to block frontage standards (provisions for Pedestrian-designated streets and other block frontages, page 59).

Short- and Long-term recommendations

In spring of 2024, staff developed interim updates to Center and Corridor zones to implement recommendations of the South Logan Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Subarea Plan and EIS. These updates build on expiring interim Center and Corridor zoning passed as part of the Building Opportunities and Choices for All (BOCA) Initiative. The new short-term interim updates will provide a bridge to long-term changes to the Center and Corridor designation/zoning scheme included in the 2026 Comprehensive Plan update.

Height

Short-term: Update height limits to 55' and 75' for Neighborhood Centers and District Centers respectively.

Long-term: Allow 90-150' heights in MU-TOD, 75-150' in MU-1, 55-75' in MU-2, and 40' in MU-3 zones.

Transitions

Short and long-term: Update transition standards to allow 40' outright and allow an additional 2' height for each 1' (60°) from the adjacent Residential zone property line.

Parking

Short- and long-term: Remove parking requirements from CC/MU zones.

Floor Area Ratio (FAR)

Short-term: Reduce minimum FAR to 0.5 for District Centers and 1.0 for Employment Centers.

Long-term: Maintain minimum FAR of 1.0 for MU-TOD zone only.

Drive-Throughs

Short-term: Prohibit new drive-throughs in CC1 zone.

Long-term: Prohibit new drive-throughs in all MU zones on pedestrian streets and in the MU-TOD and MU-3 zones, and limit drive-through placement in MU-2 zone.

Centers and Corridors Analysis

The process of getting to policy and regulatory recommendations included an in-depth analysis of the Centers and Corridors planning, policy, physical, development, and regulatory findings by a consultant team led by MAKERS architecture and urban design. This included an assessment of the:

- Planning history of the Centers and Corridors.
- Policy framework, including an examination of the Centers and Corridors concept, individual goals and policies, applicable land use designations, and the mapping of those designations.
- Physical and regulatory conditions in each of the Centers and Corridors. This included the land use development context (land uses, built form and conditions, and recent development activity), transportation and public infrastructure context (including the street grid, traffic levels, transit access, streetscape conditions, and the presence of public facilities, open space, and amenities), and applicable land use designations and zoning.
- Centers and Corridors typologies plus related land use designations.

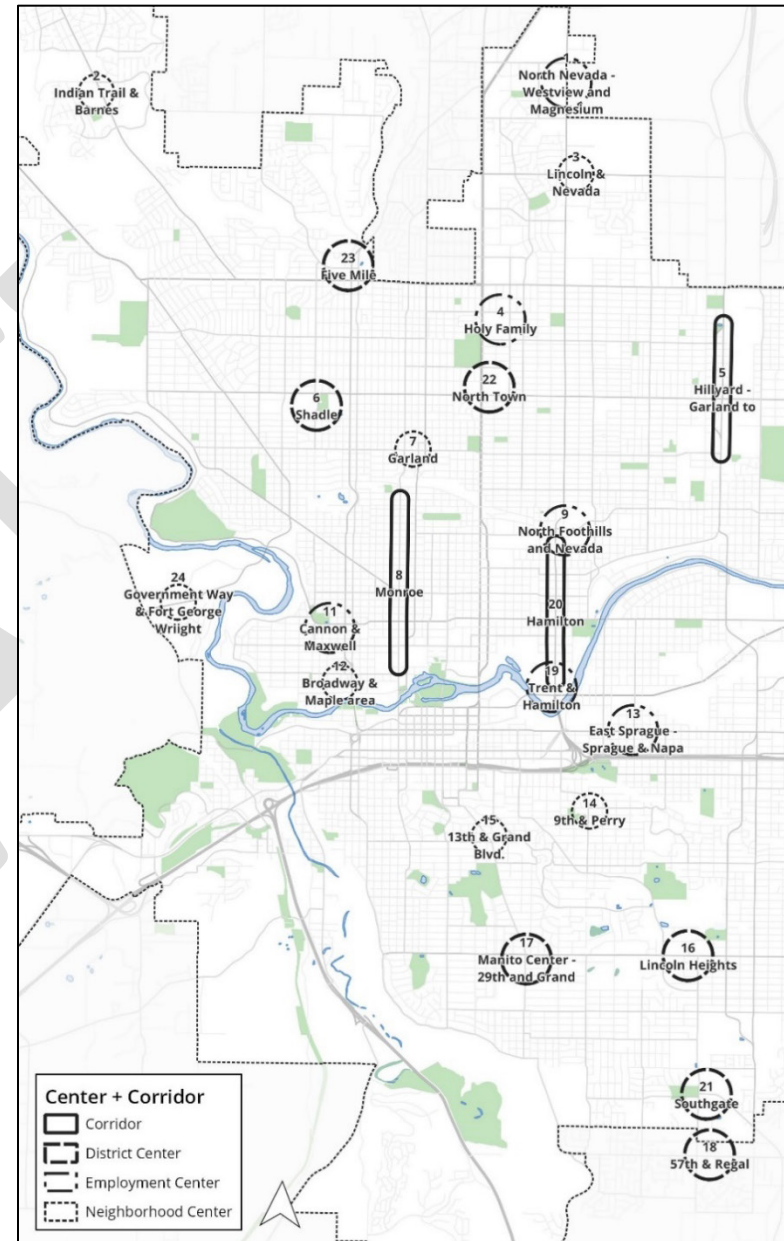


Figure 1. Designated Centers and Corridors as of June 2024

Planning Context

The City has prepared several neighborhood and subarea plans addressing specific policy recommendations for designated Centers and Corridors. Plans and studies for the following Centers and Corridors inform policy conversation and set the stage for an overall look at how comprehensive plan policy may adapt to achieve mixed-use development objectives.

- [Hamilton Corridor](#)
- [Shadle District Center](#)
- [Lincoln Heights District Center](#)
- [Whistalks Way \(formerly Fort George Wright Drive\) and Government Way Neighborhood Center](#)
- [North Monroe Corridor](#)
- [South Logan TOD Project](#)
- [Grand Boulevard Transportation and Land use Study](#)
- [Emerson Garfield Neighborhood Plan](#)
- [North Hill Neighborhood Action Plan including the Garland Neighborhood Center](#)

In addition, the City and partner agencies have conducted planning for broader areas that include both Centers and Corridors as well as areas not designated as a Center or Corridor in the Comprehensive Plan:

- North Bank via the [Downtown Plan Update](#)
- [South University District Subarea Plan](#)
- South Hill neighborhood connectivity ([Connectivity and Livability Strategic Plan](#), [South Hill Coalition 2014](#)) including Southgate District Center, Lincoln Heights District Center, Grand Boulevard – 12th to 14th Neighborhood Center, South Perry Neighborhood Center, and Grand District Center
- City Line BRT corridor via the [TOD Framework Study](#)
- Division BRT via the [DivisionConnects Phase 2 Vision and Implementation Strategy](#), including the North Town District Center and Holy Family Employment Center
- [East Central Neighborhood Plan Update](#) including the East Sprague Employment Center
- [West Central Neighborhood Action Plan](#) including the West Broadway Neighborhood Center and the Maxwell and Elm Employment Center



Figure 2. South Logan subarea plan cover

- The City's neighborhood and subarea planning efforts have demonstrated different areas have different needs and opportunities. For example, the DivisionConnects, Phase 2 study proposed the classification of mixed-use center types by the classifications of the streets serving them and the type of BRT station proposed to be located there. The North Bank concepts in the Downtown Plan Update and South University District plans envision an urban landscape investing heavily in walking and rolling infrastructure and focusing less on accommodating vehicles. Both the West Hills and Shadle Park planning efforts emphasize access to transit, while suggesting minimal changes to retrofit the existing, auto-centric design of the transportation system. These planning processes inform new policy suggestions recommending a practical approach to achieving mixed-use development while acknowledging the context variability between various Centers and Corridors.

Despite these area-by-area differences, the City's various plans and studies all agree on achieving six objectives, regardless of the Center or Corridor's setting:

- **Connectivity**, where street, sidewalk, and trail connections to and through the mixed-use centers are emphasized, both to improve access for all modes of travel and to impose a sense of more intimate scale to larger centers.
- **Residential infill**, where increases in residential density within and surrounding mixed-use centers facilitates walking and rolling access to retail and services within the center and creates a transition to low intensity residential neighborhoods nearby.
- **Public realm improvements**, where streets, drives, parks, and plazas are treated to create environments attractive to pedestrians, motorists, cyclists, people using mobility aids, business owners, residents, and others who will fuel development demand adjoining the public realm consistent with overarching land use strategies.
- **Speed reduction**, slowing vehicular traffic in mixed-use areas, and more closely balancing design priority between people walking, bicycling, rolling or driving.
- **Pedestrian safety**, emphasizing the importance of street crossings and vehicular separation between walking and rolling travelers and those in cars or moving freight.
- **Edge permeability**, where the distinction between what is the mixed-use center and what is a residential neighborhood is somewhat blurred, encouraging



Figure 3. Examples of desired characteristics of Centers.

convenient walking and rolling to, through, and between mixed-use centers.

- **Transit access**, facilitating and encouraging access to STA's BRT or high-capacity network and supporting a more compact mixed-use center development design less reliant on parking.

Development Eras

One of the key factors that determines opportunities and challenges in different Centers is development era. There are three general categories with some broad similarities in conditions:

- **Pre-war main-street Centers**, like South Perry, Grand Boulevard, or Garland, will likely need help with building retrofits and renovations, infill-friendly regulation (limited or no parking requirements and setbacks), and, where appropriate, parcel consolidation. City support for community events, public art, activation of vacant storefronts, and upgrades to aging infrastructure will be most important to set the stage for community-led revitalization and investment in these traditional Centers and Corridors.
- **Post-war Centers**, like Manito, North Town, Shadle, and Five Mile have aging buildings and infrastructure, and environments hostile to walking, bicycling, and rolling. Some of these places are well-positioned for mixed-use redevelopment in some respects, though land values, construction costs, and expectant rents are still not at the levels necessary to make vertical mixed-use development pencil. The existing mix of CC zoning, design standards, and pedestrian street designations provide a good starting point, but some strategic adjustments (see Regulatory Changes below) can provide enhanced guidance toward economic and community design objectives for these Centers and Corridors.
- **Contemporary Centers**, like Southgate and Indian Trail, are seeing new development with some community design improvements over the post-war Centers noted above. They will likely need help in traffic safety improvements such as crosswalks, signal timing that is friendly to people walking and bicycling, protected bike lanes, shared-use paths, through-block connections, and parking lot design that supports people walking, bicycling, and rolling. These areas also likely need support for green stormwater infrastructure, tree planting, and heat-



Figure 4. Centers developed during different periods exhibit different development patterns, opportunities and challenges.

reflective roofs to combat heat island effects.

Proposed zoning and design guidance, particularly related to land use, building height, connectivity requirements, and walking and rolling facilities will need to be sensitive to these different typologies in the community's existing Centers, allowing some flexibility in the application of the rules to facilitate incremental change or wholesale transformation. The Neighborhood Center and District Center designations may still apply, but zoning – and complementary investment in the public realm – will be key to encouraging the development of a compact, mixed-use form.

Policy Gaps and Issues

When conceived, the City attempted to implement Centers and Corridors land use designations through a series of zoning districts, generally applied to existing commercially zoned land and subsequently appended to support attributes that are more friendly to people walking and rolling. The concept of Centers and Corridors is somewhat abstract, with fuzzy edges that may or may not conform to the implementing zones.

This application of policy and zoning has resulted in some gaps between City wishes to achieve and the policy put in place to achieve it. Current policy may not reflect the land use diversity existing in Centers and Corridors, the appropriateness of the expectations for development, the size of Centers, the treatment of land just outside of center boundaries, the requirement to prepare subarea plans, the relevance of "Employment Centers," the treatment of "non-center" mixed-use areas, and the relationship between street design and mixed-use Centers and Corridors.

Diversity of Development Conditions

Center and Corridor designations are applied in a wide range of conditions. As a result, zoning and design standards struggle to account for all situations and development contexts. The Comprehensive Plan also applies similar expectations for lively walkable, mixed-use spaces, regardless of the area's existing or potential development patterns.

Conditions within individual Centers and Corridors also vary. Land use goals may not apply to all areas of a Center or Corridor. For example, not all areas of a Center or



Figure 5. Policy, development regulations, and market conditions must align to see desired outcomes realized.

Corridor may be appropriate for prioritizing storefronts oriented toward people walking, and there is little policy guidance currently on where to concentrate certain types of activities.

Unrealistic Development Expectations

Centers and Corridors policy expectations may overstate the market’s likely development response, with existing development patterns or transportation facilities inducing development differing from policy intent. For example, while policy may anticipate mid-or high-rise mixed-use development, the real estate economics may only support single-use multi-family or strip-style commercial development.

Size of Centers

Comprehensive plan policies loosely discuss center size, with District Centers the largest, with large floor plates for large-format retail, department stores and grocery stores. However, it is unclear from policy language how many acres such Centers should be cover. Policy language also indicates multifamily residential uses as favored “adjacent” to District Centers in the policies, but there is no definition of “adjacent,” creating ambiguity. The intent appears to present some degree of land use transition between the more intense center or corridor and the less intense neighborhoods surrounding it. The way in which this policy is to be interpreted and applied is unclear.

Subarea Planning

The Comprehensive Plan relies on subarea planning for each designated Center or Corridor to interpret policy and apply meaningful zoning designations. However, recent subarea planning for each Center has focused primarily on localized concerns and enjoyed only limited funding. Subarea plans have not consistently satisfied the land use objectives in the Comprehensive Plan, mostly because the resources available to support these planning efforts have limited their scope. Subarea planning is costly and can be a multi-year process.

Without applicable subarea plans, Centers and Corridors rely on a system of CC zoning districts and overlays, most of which do not match Centers and Corridors Comprehensive Plan map extents. In some cases, permitted uses or required development types are not compatible with the goals in the Comprehensive Plan, although implementation of the

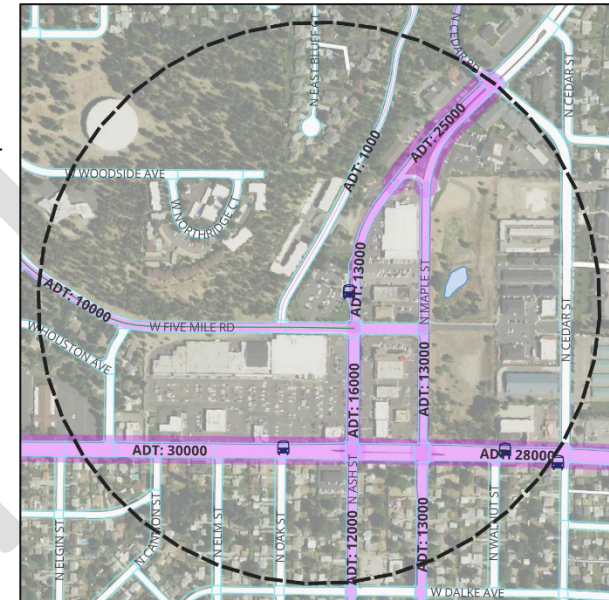


Figure 6. Five Mile District Center serves an important retail center for the surrounding neighborhoods but resides in a challenging transportation context surrounded and bisected by busy arterials and couplet.

South Logan Transit-Oriented Development project will facilitate some near-term changes to allowed development approaches.

Employment Centers

The “Employment Centers” serve a vague purpose, offering little benefit beyond recognition of a relatively concentrated workforce. The areas included as Employment Centers leave out some important industrial, institutional, and logistics sites with greater and more concentrated employment than contained within designated Centers. Additionally, the landscape of employment is changing, with office occupancy decreasing and business park types of development on decline. The Employment Center designation may now be obsolete.

Undesignated Centers and Use Mix in Other Areas

The Plan’s existing policy anticipated mixing of uses in the designated Centers and Corridors as well as areas not currently designated, such as Neighborhood Mini-Centers and General Commercial segments along Division Street.

There are areas in the city, such as segments of Division Street, which may qualify as Centers or Corridors due to planned public investments, but which are not included as such. Current zoning in these areas may perpetuate development conditions in conflict with the Centers and Corridors concept.

Streets and Public Infrastructure

Many centers lack a connected street system, hindering all mobility options including walking, bicycling, rolling, and vehicular movement. This is most prevalent in post-war and contemporary centers. The design of existing streets in these Centers, including heavy, fast-moving traffic, no on-street parking, narrow sidewalk widths, and limited street trees. These factors significantly reduce the attractiveness of sites in these Centers for mixed-use development oriented toward people walking.

Policy guidance now exists to create a more Center and Corridor type of environment, even though its implementation may not always result in the ideal streetscape. Policies TR-2, TR-3, and TR-6 establish connectivity provisions to enhance walking, rolling, and vehicular connections between sites and uses within Centers and Corridors, both in new

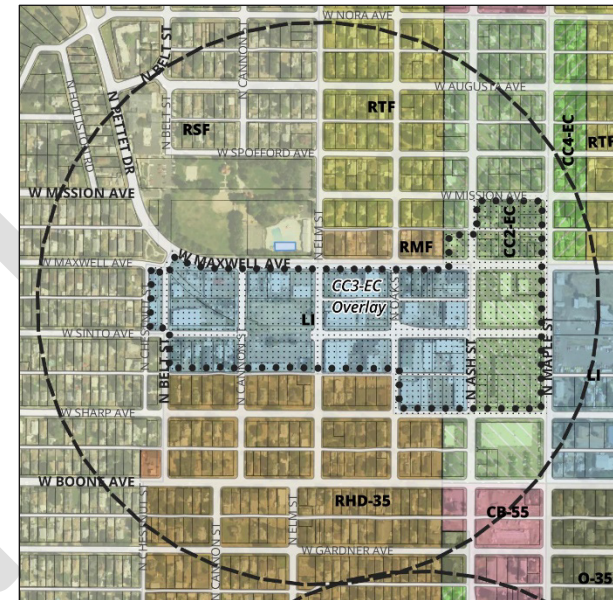


Figure 7. Cannon and Maxwell Employment Center is centered on legacy industrial uses that are surrounded on three sides by residential uses. It has potential to function as a Neighborhood Center if and when those industrial properties redevelop. The current conditions, however, present notable challenges to attracting urban mixed-use and multifamily redevelopment on these sites.

development and redevelopment contexts. What now is needed is a clear vehicle to link policy direction to implementation.

This may include identifying specific and conceptual connections within Centers and Corridors or providing for maximum block lengths between public streets and between public streets and private through-block connections. This need not be expressed as lines on a map. It can be built into policy and zoning, ensuring project designs and street improvement plans enhance the public realm in ways compatible with mixed-use, compact forms.

DRAFT

Typology Findings

While the Comprehensive Plan land use typologies are frequently mismatched with the zoning code, with land use map designations that may not align precisely with implementing zones, the fundamental distinction between Center types and Corridors still has value. The framework can be improved, however, by respecting typological distinctions and their essentially different functional expectations or physical characteristics.

District and Neighborhood Centers

These designations, if mapped differently, work well. They establish a clear concept calling for the integration of mixed uses or the transformation of potential development sites to create a more compact, dynamic, walkable, and transit-oriented space. They differentiate scale and intensity, an appropriate policy distinction to confirm compatibility with surrounding uses and define transportation facility and public service needs. But they should be applied more broadly, encompassing other potentially mixed-use areas. Some areas now with downtown or general commercial zones might qualify for inclusion here.



Figure 8. Examples of typical Centers: left, Southgate; right, South Perry.

Corridors

The Corridor designation is intuitive. It communicates a linear, mixed-use environment, with storefronts along an arterial street, on-street parking, lower traffic speeds, and easy pedestrian access, all set in a relatively narrow strip of intensity. This designation seems to work well, but it may also need to be applied more broadly, wherever this development type is sought. It implies specific physical components, though, and places designated as Corridors may also rely on significant retrofitting of the public realm and arterial streets to accomplish overall development objectives – a serious policy consideration when selecting areas for Corridor designation. East Sprague, Market Street, and North Monroe are examples of this type of arterial transformation and are consistent with proposed policy and discussion revisions to Policy LU 3.2.



Figure 9. Monroe, an example of a typical Corridor.

Employment Centers

The vagueness and inconsistent application of Employment Centers indicates limited value as a land use designation. There are six of them in Spokane, and a different designation applied to each may serve them just as well and alleviate confusion about what to expect and how to zone them. This report recommends removing Employment Center as a designation, and redesignating each of the existing Employment Centers as outlined below.

Redesignation Recommendations for Existing Employment Centers

- Cannon & Maxwell** – This Employment Center is unique as a small, legacy site close to Spokane’s first-ring suburbs. Its existing light industrial zoning also has a mixed-use overlay. It can be reclassified as a Neighborhood Center, adjusting the boundary to incorporate the Oak and Ash intersection with Maxwell. Removing the Employment Center designation and retaining the LI zoning in the rest of the area accommodates additional remaining development potential. The park and pool across the street serve as a great amenity.
- East Sprague/Sprague & Napa** – Given the industrial land to the north and freeway impacted land to the south, this stretch is functioning more like a Corridor. While there are industrial jobs in the vicinity, the entire landscape north of Sprague is industrial, making this site less distinct as an Employment Center. The designation is also less important now that the Altamont industrial sites are developed. Redesignating this as a Corridor would better match the function of East Sprague and clarify development expectations.
- Holy Family** – Set along the Division Street corridor, this Employment Center designation may be better served as another type of Center evolving as part of the emerging BRT vision. Alternatively, the Center designation can be removed, allowing a Neighborhood or District Center designation to take its place.
- North Foothills and Nevada** – The benefit of having this area designated as a Center of any type is unclear. However, now that the developed form of the district is taking shape, it may make sense to designate it as a Neighborhood Center to reflect recent housing development and retain a

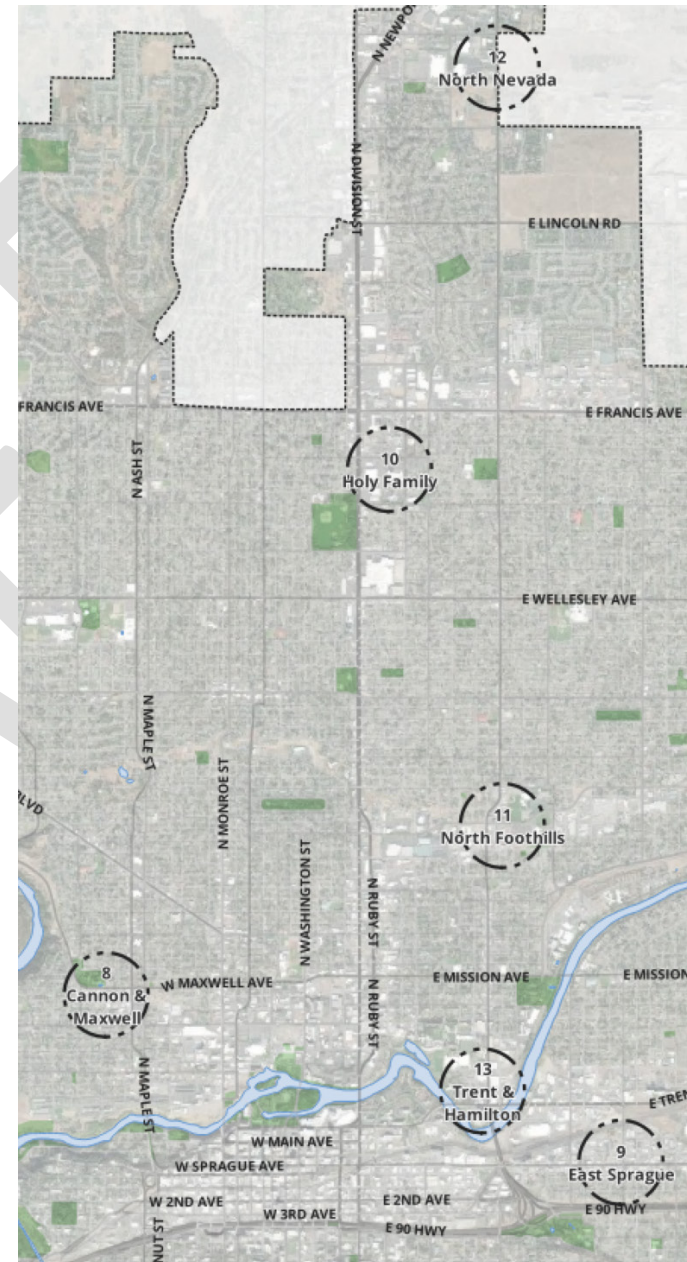


Figure 10. Designated Employment Centers as of June 2024.

portion of the area for industrial and institutional uses.

- **North Nevada** – This area appears to have little potential to emerge as a Center as envisioned in the Comprehensive Plan. Creation of a Center – possibly a District Center – would require close collaboration with the County to encourage a transformation of land use and reconfiguration of the transportation network to be compatible with either industrial or mixed-use center type development.
- **Trent & Hamilton** – This area is a portion of the northern University District, partially served by the new City Line BRT. It is also part of the study area for the South Logan TOD plan, examining how the space may transform as a result of the new BRT line and increasing development pressure associated with the universities and planned housing. It is recommended to transition to a District Center.

Mini-Centers and Neighborhood Retail

These areas are both currently zoned as Neighborhood Retail (NR) – with 35' height limit and allowing single-purpose residential. Their neighborhood context and mixed-use pattern align with a smaller vision of the Neighborhood Center concept. If the Centers and Corridors approach applies to Mini-Centers and Neighborhood Retail, the Neighborhood Center designation should be scalable to apply to mixed-use development smaller than one acre or single street corner parcels.



Figure 11. Wisconsin Burger near the South Perry Center is a good example of neighborhood-scale retail.

Policy Recommendations Table

Proposed policy text changes are shown in the right column with **additions** and ~~deletions~~ shown as such.

Topic	Existing policies	Notes	Proposed policies
Residential density	<p>LU 1.4: Higher Intensity Residential Areas</p> <p>Direct new higher intensity residential uses to areas in and around Centers and Corridors designated on the Land Use Plan Map and to areas where existing development intensity is already consistent with development of this type</p>	<p>Relies on spatially determined C&C geography and excludes single-family areas from consideration. Also does not define “higher density” to clarify which types or intensities qualify, even in the “discussion” section.</p>	<p>LU 1.4: Higher intensity residential areas</p> <p>Direct new higher intensity residential uses a variety of housing types to areas in and around Centers and Corridors designated on the Land Use Plan Map and to areas where existing development intensity is already consistent with development of this type.</p>
Offices	<p>LU 1.5: Office Uses</p> <p>Direct new office uses to Centers and Corridors designated on the Land Use Plan Map</p>	<p>Somewhat of hollow policy, as the C&C zones are no more permissive of office than other commercial zones. We’ve found that in this environment where there’s been an increase in the amount of remote office work, the best approach to encourage office development is to create a vibrant environment where office workers have access to a mix of services and amenities. Secondly, recommendations promote adaptable ground floor designs that Discussion introduces design suggestions to fine-tune office design and incorporate residential.</p>	<p>LU 1.5: Office uses</p> <p>Foster a walking-oriented environment in Centers and Corridors that encourages the integration of offices with retail, dining, service, and residential uses through use permissions, development standards, and design provisions that emphasize pedestrian-oriented development and strategic public investment.</p> <p>Emphasize adaptable ground floor spaces on key street frontages in Centers and Corridors through tall floor to ceiling heights that can accommodate offices and a wide range of retail and commercial uses.</p>

Topic	Existing policies	Notes	Proposed policies
Small retail	<p>LU 1.6: Neighborhood Retail Use</p> <p>Direct new neighborhood retail use to Neighborhood Centers designated on the Land Use Plan Map</p>	<p>Cements small neighborhood retail uses of less than two acres in place, permitting no new such development except as infill. Encourages new commercial use to be in C&C spaces.</p> <p>Also, similar to the suggested office policy, emphasizes that in order to successfully encourage neighborhood-scaled retail, it's important to create a good physical and regulatory environment that supports such uses.</p>	<p>LU 1.6: Retail in neighborhoods</p> <p>Encourage the integration of retail, dining, and service uses within a neighborhood context, particularly designated Neighborhood Centers, through use permissions, development standards, and design provisions that emphasize pedestrian-oriented development and strategic public investment.</p> <p><u>Place limitations on the intensity of retail commercial uses in neighborhoods to emphasize uses that serve the neighborhood scale.</u></p>
Neighborhood retail	<p>LU 1.7: Neighborhood Mini-Centers</p> <p>Create a Neighborhood Mini-Center wherever an existing Neighborhood Retail area is larger than two acres</p>	<p>Establishes two- to five-acre commercial development category outside of C&C space, encouraged to integrate residential uses. New mini-centers can be established through neighborhood planning.</p>	<p>No change to policy. An update to the discussion section associated with this policy is recommended, including removing language about establishing new Mini-Center locations through a neighborhood planning process and softening or removing language regarding the separation from other neighborhood-serving businesses by at least one mile.</p>
Small Scale Commercial	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Suggest adding a new policy on this topic that has been generating local and statewide interest lately.</p>	<p>LU 1.X: Corner stores and small scale commercial</p> <p>Allow for the establishment of small-scaled retail commercial uses on corner lots that support daily needs in all residential zones.</p> <p>Establish size limitations and use and design provisions that minimize impacts to adjacent residences.</p>

Topic	Existing policies	Notes	Proposed policies
Commercial	<p>LU 1.8: General commercial uses Direct new General Commercial uses to Centers and Corridors designated on the Land Use Plan Map</p>	<p>There is land in the GC designation not within C&C space. Is this policy hinting at doing away with it? Otherwise, it may invite creating new Corridors to absorb existing GC zoning districts.</p>	<p>LU 1.8: General commercial uses Foster an environment that encourages the integration of general commercial uses with residential and mixed-use development through use permissions, development standards, and design provisions. In Centers & Corridors designated on the Land Use Map, establish permissions, standards and provisions for general commercial uses that emphasize strategic public investment and development oriented toward walking, rolling and active transportation.</p>
Transformation	<p>LU 1.14: Nonconforming uses Avoid the creation of large areas of nonconforming uses at the time of adoption of new development regulations</p>	<p>Transformation might create nonconforming development, but land uses may still be conforming. Does this policy make the distinction? The discussion may warrant amending to clarify.</p>	<p>No change to policy. Update to discussion needed.</p>
Public spaces	<p>LU 2.1: Public realm features Encourage features that improve the appearance of development, paying attention to how projects function to encourage social interaction and relate to and enhance the surrounding urban and natural environment</p>	<p>The discussion relates this to the architecture and siting of private development and not to the character of highways, roads, and streets and the impact they have on what land uses develop alongside them.</p>	<p>No change</p>

Topic	Existing policies	Notes	Proposed policies
Development strategy	<p>LU 3.1: Coordinated and efficient land use</p> <p>Encourage coordinated and efficient growth and development through infrastructure financing and construction programs, tax and regulatory incentives, and by focusing growth in areas where adequate services and facilities exist or can be economically extended</p>	<p>This policy seems to lay a foundation for strategic application of incentives to generate desired development.</p>	<p>No change</p>
Designation	<p>LU 3.2: Centers and Corridors</p> <p>Designate Centers and Corridors (neighborhood scale, community or district scale, and regional scale) on the Land Use Plan Map that encourage a mix of uses and activities around which growth is focused</p>	<p>The policy is brief, with most of the interpretation direction and applicable guidance on standards incorporated in the “discussion.” Not sure how a policy amendment might help clarify, or if changes would only inform how policy is interpreted. This points to a spatial designation and does not help align the Land Use Plan Map circles and ovals to conditions on the ground. The discussion warrants review and revision to capture findings of this analysis.</p>	<p>Combine with LU 3.3 and update discussion(see below).</p> <p>LU 3.2: Centers and Corridors</p> <p>Designate Centers and Corridors (neighborhood scale, community or district scale, and regional scale) on the Land Use Plan Map that encourage a mix of uses and activities around which growth is focused. <u>Designate new Centers or Corridors through the Comprehensive Plan amendment process or other city-approved planning process.</u></p>
Designation	<p>LU 3.2: Centers and Corridors</p> <p>Centers designation discussion.</p>	<p>Discussion section should be updated to provide more flexibility for designation of new centers.</p>	<p>Suggested Centers and Corridors are designated where the potential for Center or Corridor development exists. Final determination is subject to a sub-area planning process <u>or other planning or design process, as appropriate to facilitate Center or Corridor development consistent with Comprehensive Plan policy.</u></p>

Topic	Existing policies	Notes	Proposed policies
Designation	LU 3.2: Centers and Corridors Neighborhood Center discussion.	Discussion section should be updated to emphasize importance of streetscape and street facing development edges. See District and Neighborhood Centers on page 13.	Buildings in the Neighborhood Center are oriented to the street, <u>and street designs are compatible with storefront and residential uses anticipated to locate along street edges, contributing to the quality of the Center experience and serving active transportation needs.</u>
Designation	LU 3.2: Centers and Corridors District Center discussion.	Discussion section should be updated to emphasize importance of streetscape and street facing development edges. See District and Neighborhood Centers on page 13.	As with a Neighborhood Center, new buildings are oriented to the street, <u>and street designs are compatible with storefront and residential uses anticipated to locate along street edges, contributing to the quality of the Center experience and serving active transportation needs.</u>
Designation	LU 3.2: Centers and Corridors Employment Center.	The Employment Centers offer little benefit as a special designation, and their mapping excludes several areas of concentrated employment, like Riverpoint, the South Hill hospital district, and the industrial area near the fairgrounds and rail corridors. It may be time to eliminate the special employment center designation and incorporate those areas into other centers or corridors where they are adjacent or simply use zoning to implement industrial land use designations. See Employment Centers on page 15.	Remove Employment Center designation.

Topic	Existing policies	Notes	Proposed policies
Designation	<p>LU 3.3: Designating Centers and Corridors</p> <p>Designate new Centers or Corridors in appropriate locations on the Land Use Plan Map through a city-approved planning process</p>	<p>This requires an “approved” subarea planning process for the siting of new Centers and Corridors, something which may be expensive. Consider integrating an option outside of the subarea plan process to establish a new Center or Corridor, provided the area meets specified criteria.</p>	<p>Delete policy and integrate with LU 3.2.</p>
Identification, scale, and location	<p>LU 3.4: Planning for Centers and Corridors</p> <p>Conduct a city-approved subarea planning process to determine the location, size, mix of land uses, and underlying zoning within designated Centers and Corridors. Prohibit any change to land use or zoning within suggested Centers or Corridors until a subarea planning process is completed</p>	<p>This policy appears redundant to LU 3.3. Revision can easily incorporate the essence of LU 3.3. Subarea planning is a complex process to require before land use or zoning changes. See Subarea Planning on page 10.</p>	<p>Delete policy.</p>
Interdependence	<p>LU 3.5: Mix of uses in Centers</p> <p>Achieve a proportion of uses in Centers that will stimulate pedestrian activity and create mutually reinforcing land uses</p>	<p>Policy language seems appropriate. Table LU 1 assigns land use mix targets which may need revisiting but may not warrant policy action. Housing site area targets for neighborhood centers seems high. Is the omission of “Corridors” intentional?</p>	<p>No change</p>
Form	<p>LU 3.6: Compact residential patterns</p> <p>Allow more compact and affordable housing in all neighborhoods, in accordance with design guidelines</p>	<p>Policy appears to mandate design guidelines for small-lot or attached housing types, requiring the City to have them in place in advance of development occurring.</p>	<p>LU 3.6: Compact residential patterns</p> <p>Allow more compact and affordable forms of housing in all neighborhoods, in accordance with design guidelines.</p>
Parking	<p>LU 3.8: Shared parking</p> <p>Encourage shared parking facilities for business and commercial establishments that have dissimilar peak use periods</p>	<p>Sharing with residential uses may also be appropriate. There may also be opportunities to advocate for having no required parking under certain circumstances.</p>	<p>LU 3.8: Shared parking</p> <p>Encourage shared parking facilities for residential, business, and commercial establishments.</p>

Topic	Existing policies	Notes	Proposed policies
Streets and land use	<p>LU 4.1: Land use and transportation</p> <p>Coordinate land use and transportation planning to result in an efficient pattern of development that supports alternative transportation modes consistent with the Transportation Chapter and makes significant progress toward reducing sprawl, traffic congestion, and air pollution</p>	<p>This seems to focus on high-level, capacity-based transportation/land use coordination but does not introduce the character of transportation improvement types to complement the desired types of land use along transportation facility edges.</p>	<p>LU 4.1: Land use and transportation</p> <p>Coordinate land use and transportation planning and design to result in an efficient pattern of development that supports alternative transportation modes consistent with the Transportation Chapter and makes significant progress toward reducing sprawl, traffic congestion, and air pollution <u>multiple transportation options, including walking, rolling, accessing transit, or driving.</u></p> <p><u>Land use policy and transportation decisions should prioritize walking, rolling, bicycling and public transit, consistent with the Transportation Chapter, balancing the transportation mode emphasis and approach based on land use designation and development mix.</u></p>
Land use diversity and compactness	<p>4.2: Land uses that support travel options and active transportation</p> <p>Provide a compatible mix of housing and commercial uses in Neighborhood Centers, District Centers, Employment Centers, and Corridors</p>	<p>This policy encourages land use diversity and compactness, creating a land use context to support alternative modes.</p>	<p>Provide a compatible mix of residential and commercial uses in Neighborhood Centers, District Centers, Employment Centers, and Corridors <u>Centers and Corridors.</u></p>
Connectivity	<p>LU 4.4: Connections</p> <p>Form a well-connected network which provides safe, direct and convenient access for all users, including pedestrians, bicycles, and automobiles, through site design for new development and redevelopment</p>	<p>This policy argues for safety and convenience of alternative modes. We suggest that it's important to emphasize that the network includes more than just streets.</p>	<p>LU 4.4: Connections</p> <p>Form a well-connected network <u>of streets and through block connections</u> which provides safe, direct, and convenient access for all users, including pedestrians, bicycles, and automobiles, through site design for new development and redevelopment.</p>

Topic	Existing policies	Notes	Proposed policies
Connectivity	<p>LU 4.5: Block length</p> <p>Create a network of streets that is generally laid out in a grid pattern that features more street intersections and shorter block lengths in order to increase street connectivity and access</p>	<p>This sounds good, but there aren't currently any implementing standards. It also only references streets, whereas the diverse context of the centers, particularly those platted Mid-Century or later, would benefit from a more dynamic and flexible set of block standards that encourages the integration of private through-block connections. These could include a mixture of private streets, alleys, woonerfs (curbless routes shared by vehicles, walkers, and rollers), and non-vehicular routes.</p>	<p>LU 4.5: Block length</p> <p>Create and apply a dynamic set of maximum block length standards that provides a maximum distance between public streets and a shorter maximum distance between public streets and a through-block connection that create a well-connected street and pathway network that supports all types of travel.</p>
Land use diversity and compactness	<p>LU 4.6: Transit-supported development</p> <p>Encourage transit-supported development, including a mix of employment, residential, and commercial uses, adjacent to high-performance transit stops</p>	<p>The policy is generally consistent with the findings of this analysis, but the discussion appears to require subarea planning to implement special treatment. The discussion may need revision to eliminate the subarea planning requirement.</p>	<p>No change to policy. Update to discussion needed.</p>
Compatibility	<p>LU 5.5: Compatible development</p> <p>Ensure that infill and redevelopment projects are designed to be compatible with and complement surrounding uses and building types</p>		<p>No change to policy.</p>
Streets	<p>TR 2: Transportation Supporting Land Use</p> <p>Maintain an interconnected system of facilities that allows travel on multiple routes by multiple modes, balancing access, mobility and place-making functions with consideration and alignment with the existing and planned land use context of each corridor and major street segment.</p>	<p>This policy mentions placemaking, and the discussion references Centers and Corridors and provides support for multi-modal transportation. Proposed updates to Policy LU 4.5 Block Length provide a strategic implementing element.</p>	<p>Policy guidance on transportation issues related to Centers and Corridors is located in the transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan. This leaves a great deal up to interpretation by staff. These transportation policies provide a foundation for modifying the transportation system priorities and facility designs within Centers and</p>

Topic	Existing policies	Notes	Proposed policies
Streets	<p>TR 3: Transportation Level of Service (LOS) Set and maintain transportation level of service standards that align desired growth patterns with optimal choices of transportation modes.</p>	<p>This policy accommodates increased traffic congestion in designated Centers and Corridors anticipating lower vehicle speeds, focusing on the movement of people and not just vehicles.</p>	<p>Corridors, but there is little in the existing Land Use Element to suggest ways in which they can be effectively employed or how specific facility designs can be made more compatible with the types of land uses the Centers and Corridors policy encourages.</p>
Streets	<p>TR 6: Commercial Center Access Improve multi-modal transportation options to and within designated district centers, neighborhood centers, employment centers, corridors, and downtown as the regional center.</p>	<p>This policy offers flexibility in design to accommodate the unique needs of Centers and Corridors, enhancing the pedestrian realm, encouraging reduced vehicle speeds, and accommodating high-intensity transit service.</p>	

DRAFT

Recommendations for Land Use Designation Descriptions

The Land Use Element's Section 3.4 (not to be confused with Policy 3.4) includes descriptions of the City's full list of land use designations. For the Centers and Corridor designations, these descriptions replicate the discussion sections for each land use policy. The land use policy discussion sections should better coordinate with the land use designation descriptions to avoid conflicting guidance.

Secondly, this study recommends adding implementing zones for each land use designation, particularly those related to Centers and Corridors, to better sync the proposed zoning provisions with the land use designations.

Thirdly, this study recommends calling out the Centers and Corridors typologies different than the other land use designations, as they are mapped differently (shown as an overlay feature) and function more as a unique overlay feature.

Below are recommended modifications to the Land Use Designation section of the Comprehensive Plan integrating the recommendations above, with **additions** shown in bold and ~~deletions~~ with strikethrough text. Implementing zoning provisions are all new content, as noted below.

Neighborhood Center

The Neighborhood Center contains the most intensive activity area of the neighborhood. In addition to businesses that cater to neighborhood residents, activities such as a daycare center, church, or school may be found in the Center. Size and composition of the Center varies depending upon location, access, neighborhood ~~context~~**character**, ~~local desires~~, and market opportunities. Important elements to be included in the Center are a civic green, square or park, and a transit stop. ~~Buildings fronting on the square or green should be at least two or three stories in height with housing located above ground floor retail and office uses.~~ **Modest building height step-downs are integrated at the edge of mixed-use zones where adjacent to lower intensity residential zones** ~~is stepped-down and scale of housing is lower as distance from the Center increases.~~ The circulation system is designed to facilitate pedestrian access between residential areas and key neighborhood components **and to facilitate land use and development types consistent with the Center's vision.**

Implementing zones include (new text):

- MU-2 for those areas suitable and desirable for a mix of commercial and residential development.
- Residential zones for those areas currently developed with applicable residential uses.
- LI for those areas with legacy light industrial uses that are desirable to retain for employment purposes, but due to their location may in the long term be reconsidered for mixed-use or multifamily redevelopment as development trends change.

District Center

District Centers are similar to Neighborhood Centers except they are larger in scale and contain more intensive residential and commercial activities. Size and composition of the Center vary depending upon location, access, neighborhood ~~context~~ character, local ~~desires~~, and market opportunities. District Centers are usually located at the intersection of principal arterial streets or major transit hubs. To enhance the pedestrian environment, plazas, green space, or a civic green serve as an integral element of the **District Center. Modest building height step-downs are integrated at the edge of mixed-use zones where adjacent to lower intensity residential zones.** Higher density housing is found both within and surrounding the District Center to help support business and transit. A circulation system, which facilitates pedestrian access between residential areas and the District Center, is provided. District Centers and downtown Spokane are linked by frequent transit service, walkways, and bikeways.

Implementing zones include (new text):

- MU-TOD for those areas within walking distance of existing or planned high-capacity transit stations.
- MU-1 for those areas suitable and desirable for a mix of commercial and residential development.
- MU-3 for those areas that function as a transition between low-intensity residential areas and mixed-use areas, which are also designated as Center and Corridor Transition.
- Residential zones for those areas currently developed with applicable residential

uses.

- LI for those areas with legacy light industrial uses that are desirable to retain for employment purposes, but due to their location may be reconsidered in the long term for mixed-use or multifamily redevelopment.

(remove designation)

Discussion: The Employment Center designation is unnecessary, particularly as designated in the Land Use Plan Map. It can be eliminated. Where the existing 150' maximum building height is necessary to retain, apply that height with the MU-1 zone.

~~Employment Centers have the same mix of uses and general character features as Neighborhood and District Centers but also have a strong employment component. The employment component is expected to be largely non-service-related jobs incorporated into the Center or on land immediately adjacent to the Center. Employment Centers vary in size from thirty to fifty square blocks plus associated employment areas.~~

Corridor

The Corridor concept focuses growth along transportation corridors, such as a major transit line. It is intended to allow improved transit service to daily activities. Housing and employment densities are increased along the Corridor to support frequent transit service and business. Usually, Corridors are no more than two blocks in depth along either side of the Corridor. Safe, attractive transit stops, and walking or bicycling ways are provided. A variety of housing types— including apartments, condominiums, townhouses, and houses on smaller lots—are located in close proximity to the Corridor. Important elements include multi-story buildings fronting on wide sidewalks with street trees, attractive landscaping, benches, and frequent transit stops **with roadway design and performance expectations compatible with the Corridor land use concept**. A full range of services are provided including grocery stores serving several neighborhoods, theaters, restaurants, drycleaners, hardware stores, and specialty shops.

Implementing zones include:

- MU-TOD for those areas within walking distance of existing or planned high-capacity transit stations.
- MU-1 for those areas suitable and desirable for a mix of commercial and

residential development.

- MU-3 for those areas that function as a transition between low-intensity residential areas and mixed-use areas, which are also designated as Center and Corridor Transition.
- Residential zones for those areas currently developed with applicable residential uses.
- LI or HI for those areas with legacy industrial uses that are desirable to retain for employment purposes, but due to their location may be reconsidered in the long term for mixed-use or multifamily redevelopment as development patterns and market demands shift.

Center and Corridor Core

Discussion: Center and Corridor Core functions as the joint mapped designation that applies for all Centers and Corridors typologies. At first glance, it's somewhat confusing to add another term to the Centers and Corridors typology mix. However, it functions reasonably well as a parcel specific designation whereas the Centers and Corridors typologies are mapped in a conceptual overlay manner. No text changes to the existing description are necessary:

This designation allows commercial, office, and residential uses in designated Centers and Corridors. The type, intensity, and scale of uses allowed **and the type, scale, and character of streets** shall be consistent with the designated type of Center or Corridor. This Comprehensive Plan designation will be implemented with the Land Use Code for Centers and Corridors.

Implementing zones include:

- MU-TOD for those areas within walking distance of existing or planned high-capacity transit stations.
- MU-1 for those other areas suitable and desirable for a mix of commercial and residential development and are within a designated District Center or Corridor.
- MU-2 for those other areas suitable and desirable for a mix of commercial and residential development and are within a designated Neighborhood Center.

Center and Corridor Transition

Discussion: There are only a handful of such designations within the City, and they tend to be primarily single-family detached homes, some of which have been converted to businesses. Their location between Center and Corridor Core areas and low-density residential areas leads to the transitional “tag”. While eliminating this designation was considered (absorb applicable properties into the Center and Corridor Core designation), connecting these properties with the proposed MU-3 zone (updated version of the current CC4 zone) is a reasonable solution given the sizeable increase in height to the proposed MU-1 or MU-2 zone. Nevertheless, adding the MU-2 zone as an additional implementing zone is recommended to allow future opportunities to accommodate urban multifamily and mixed-use development within these areas.

These areas are intended to provide a transition of mixed uses (office, small retail, and multi-family residential) between the Center & Corridor Core designations and existing residential areas. Office and retail uses are required to have residential uses on the same site. ~~This Comprehensive Plan designation will be implemented with the Land Use Code for Centers and Corridors, Center and Corridor Type 4.~~

Implementing zones include:

- MU-3 for areas characterized by detached low-rise residential development character but located between MU-1 or MU-2 zoned property and a low-density residential designation.
- MU-2 for those sites adjacent to a MU-1 or MU-2 zoned property and both suitable and desirable for development consistent with MU-2 zone provisions.

Non-Center and Corridor Designations

There are a number of designations that are closely related to the Centers and Corridors designations and proposed implementing Mixed-Use zones. They warrant a close review followed by recommendations in support of the City's Center and Corridors strategy.

Below are a combination of recommendations and considerations that should be tied in with the larger comprehensive plan update:

- Combine and adjust Neighborhood Retail and Neighborhood Mini-Center Designations. These designations are largely identical, and both employ the same NR as the implementing zone. The policies for both restrict new such designations and prohibit the expansion of existing designations but allow for infill development. Similar to Centers and Corridors, policies promote uses oriented toward walking and rolling. At minimum, this study recommends considering the proposed MU-2 zone as an optional implementing zone (in addition to NR), provided the low end of the 55-75-foot height range is used.
- The Office designation and corresponding Office and Office Residential zones should be evaluated during the comprehensive plan update. Most of these designations and zones reside outside of current Center and Corridor boundaries. At minimum, consider approving the proposed MU-2 as implementing zones for Office designated properties, if the Office designation remains.
- The General Commercial designation covers a more extensive set of areas than the Centers and Corridors. These designations are largely located along arterial street corridors such as W Northwest Boulevard, E Sprague Avenue, N Market Street and N Division Street, and within larger commercial districts such as the South University District. The two key implementing zones are the GC and CB zones, which are largely identical, but have varying height limits. Consider the implications of allowing the proposed MU zones to be implementing zoning options for the GC designation to allow more flexibility to promote development that emphasizes the goals and policies of Centers and Corridors in larger areas of the City as desired.

Mapping Centers and Corridors

Considerable project team discussions during this study revolved around mapping the Centers and Corridors. The Center and Corridor current typologies use large circles for District and Employment Centers (approximately 2,400 feet wide), smaller circles for Neighborhood Centers (approximately 1,600 feet wide), and oblong circles for the Corridors (approximately 800 feet wide). These circles and oblong circles were clearly intended to serve more as a conceptual purpose rather than function as site specific land use designations. But the framework has been a cause of some confusion as to the boundaries and application of Center and Corridor policies and implementing zoning provisions.

Recommended Mapping Approach

This study's proposed updates to the Centers and Corridors land use designations, most notably the implementing zoning recommendations, help to solve perhaps the largest shortcoming of the current designation and mapping system. This includes retaining a conceptual overlay approach to the Center and Corridor typologies. This study, however, recommends changing how these typologies are delineated on the map to an intersection-based system rather than simple circles or oblong circles.



Figure 12. Key intersections provide the structural core of every center.

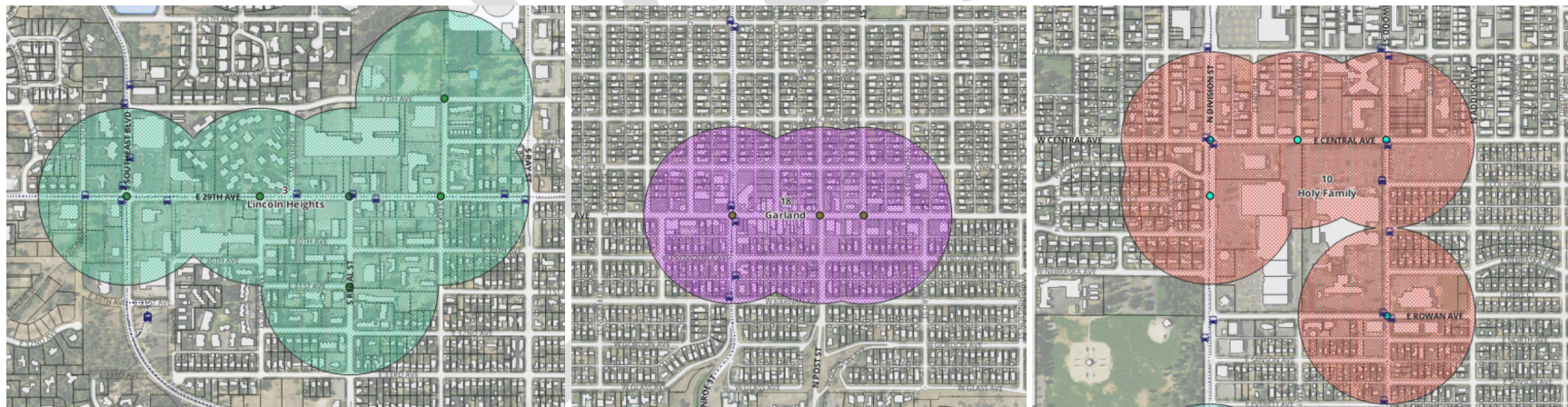


Figure 13. Example mapping application at Lincoln Heights District Center, Garland Neighborhood Center, and Holy Family Employment Center.

Unlike the existing system, which applies a circular boundary around a single center point, this approach would provide flexibility for the variety in shapes and sizes of

different centers. This approach also emphasizes the fundamental role of that street intersections play in creating centers and corridors, where the interaction of public rights of way and private land creates economic, social, and cultural opportunities. Important intersections are relatively easy to identify for each center based on traffic patterns, land values, existing infrastructure and development patterns.

We recommend drawing a one-eighth-mile conceptual buffer around street and other key intersection points for each Center. One-eighth mile is equivalent to one block length and two block widths in many parts of the city. Parcels that fall within this boundary would be within the applicable Center or Corridor land use designation. This approach recognizes the variability in both size and shape of centers while empowering planners to make reasonable judgments about application of appropriate designations and corresponding implementing zoning.

Any mapping approach will have some drawbacks. In this case, the one-eighth-mile buffer is appropriate and intuitive for parts of the city with a traditional street grid but will be somewhat more challenging to apply in newer centers, such as Indian Trail, with widely spaced intersections. In these cases, this study recommends treating major driveway entrances to shopping centers as key intersections.

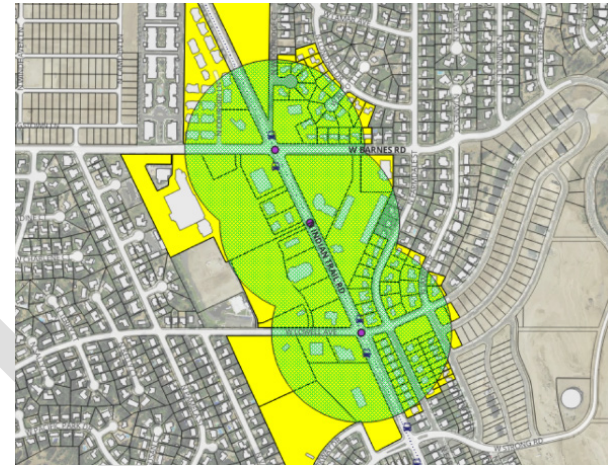


Figure 14. Indian Trail Neighborhood Center, with parcels falling within the one-eighth-mile buffer highlighted.

Regulatory Changes: A Policy Lens

Revisions to the policies, policy discussions and land use descriptions described earlier in this section point to a variety of regulatory changes, many of which are described in more detail in the proposed zoning changes.

Housing Affordability

The City's Building Opportunity for Housing (BOH) project produced a recent set of zoning amendments adjusting lot size, parking, and intensity requirements to facilitate housing construction. This strategy aimed to reduce costs and barriers to new housing production, leading to improved affordability through increased housing supply.

In addition, the City's [Multifamily Tax-Exemption](#) (MFTE) program does provide tax exemptions to new multifamily developments that include units affordable to low and moderate income households. By increasing zoning capacity for multifamily housing through BOH the City expanded the potential use of the MFTE to encourage new affordable units. Similarly, increased zoning capacity in Center and Corridor areas increases the potential of MFTE to bolster affordability in walkable, amenity rich area.

Other possible approaches not yet part of the City's policy discussion could include mandatory inclusionary housing requirements, whereby density and/or other development capacity increases are coupled with a requirement that a percentage of new units meet certain affordability levels.

Building Height

Increasing building height can offer attractive development incentives, but, once in place, it is difficult to roll back. If the City commits to the Centers and Corridors approach, targeted increases in building height limits can be effective. Revised height thresholds should account for the economics of high-rise construction (elevators, seismic design, and materials), the aesthetics and function of street-level floor-to-ceiling heights (adaptability to retail, residential, or office use), and the aesthetics and functions of rooftops (equipment, access, and stormwater treatment). The City should carefully consider targeting locations where increased building height will strategically contribute to the vitality of mixed-use districts. Increased building heights should be used with restraint, and primarily near the area of highest intensity within these Centers and Corridors.

Floor Area Ratio

Full commitment to the Centers and Corridors approach may require the adoption of a minimum floor area ratio in the core areas of the Centers and Corridors, particularly in those locations served by BRT. New policy and zoning can underscore the need for more intensity within a quarter mile of these bus stations, requiring minimum bulk and intensity and reducing or eliminating off-street parking requirements. Coupled with maximum height restrictions, minimum FAR requirements can drive the highest levels of intensity in locations served by enhanced transit.

Surface Commercial Parking

The current Centers and Corridors regulations allow some types of development that may be incompatible with the City's long-term goals for Center and Corridor areas. In some contexts, surface commercial parking may create a void in the urban fabric that acts as a detriment to the success of the area. In other contexts, surface commercial parking may be necessary for the success of nearby businesses. Regulatory tools that address both situations and the ability to apply them where appropriate is important for the success of the strategy.

Historic Preservation

There are currently few protections against the demolition of historic buildings within the urban fabric of some historic Centers. Placing appropriate controls on demolition of historic structures in Centers and Corridors and standards that support adaptive re-use can help ensure historic structures support the development of a sense of place in centers, linking these areas past and its future.

Transitions

An important element of the initial Centers and Corridors strategy was to minimize the impacts of increased height on adjoining residential areas. New mixed-use zoning will still need to respect this, but the scale and type of transitions may need to be managed a bit differently. The strict transition requirements have made it difficult to realize Center and Corridor potential, limiting the ability of smaller zone edge parcels to attain the development intensity necessary to support redevelopment. A new policy and zoning framework that changes the way Centers and Corridors are mapped, adjusts implementing zoning provisions, and adjusts the transition's specific height stepback

requirements to achieve an appropriate balance between Center and Corridor development capacity and compatibility.

Internal Connectivity

In addition to street connectivity, providing good internal connectivity (pedestrian at a minimum, but ideally vehicular too) within the site and between sites (notably when lots are more than 120' deep) can be essential to create a truly pedestrian-friendly and dynamic Center. Design standards can address the frequency and design of such connections, and the design of development frontages facing those connections, to best ensure that those connections are inviting and contribute to the function of a Center.

Block Frontages

The City's current system of Pedestrian Streets establishes an initial street typology framework based on more than just vehicular capacity. Standards and guidelines for designated Pedestrian Streets and undesignated streets address permitted parking lot locations, the location, orientation, and window transparency of buildings, curb cuts, and streetscape elements. New policy should emphasize refining current provisions for Pedestrian Streets and undesignated streets to enhance the character, function, and economic viability of Centers and Corridors, while accommodating strategic flexibility.

Design Standards

Design standards tend to be more uniformly successful when they incorporate objective criteria, are implemented consistently, and serve a recognizable purpose. Recent State legislation will essentially require this. By clearly stating the importance of design in the success of a mixed-use center and the need to incorporate connectivity, create a pedestrian-friendly street environment, and establish identity, policy updates can support and guide the City's refinement of its design standards. These standards need not be an impediment to investment and development. Rather, they clarify what is appropriate in mixed-use areas, establish a template within which development can fit, and create a new set of expectations to shape individual projects and reinforce district identity.



Figure 15. Conceptual rendering of development under updated zoning and design standards.

Zoning and Design Standards Recommendations

Crafting a New Family of “Mixed-Use” Zones for Centers and Corridors

This study recommends replacing the existing Center and Corridor (CC) zones with a family of new “Mixed-Use” zones crafted to implement the proposed policy changes above. There are several reasons to make this change, including:

- A “mix of uses” is the obvious objective for these zones and the term is easy to understand.
- Such mixed-use zones could also apply to areas outside of designated Centers and Corridors, where the use and dimensional provisions match the conditions and aspirations for particular areas. While all of the existing commercial zones allow for residential uses, most of these areas look and function like commercial “zones”. But given the housing supply and affordability challenges faced by the city, the concept of these other zones evolving more into “mixed-use” places over time is an important subject. Simply including the name “mixed-use” in the zone name is a good start in communicating objectives and opportunities.
- The current CC zoning framework includes an awkward relationship between the CC typology land use designations, applicable zones, and development regulations (notably maximum building height). Also, development and local market trends have evolved considerably since the CC zoning provisions were established. This study and the larger comprehensive planning process provides an opportunity to overhaul the system with new zones crafted both to meet policy objectives and work in sync with development and market trends.

This concept starts with creating a base mixed-use zone (MU1) that applies broadly – allowing a wide mix of commercial uses, including modest-scaled light industrial, where all uses are conducted indoors. Regarding auto sales, it could make sense to permit modest scale uses, where most of the use and activity occurs within a building with minimum acreage devoted to outdoor car parking. It is recommended to continue allowing single-purpose residential uses outright.

Specialization recommendations:

Use mix:

- Develop a TOD-focused zone that emphasizes uses that help activate the pedestrian environment over auto-oriented and land consumptive uses.
- The smaller scale neighborhood-scaled mixed-use areas warrant some extra limitations on use types, including:
 - New retail floor area construction: Allow grocery stores with no more than 60,000 square feet of total floor area. Limit other retail uses to 20,000 square feet in total floor area.
 - Prohibit regional oriented uses that don't promote activity, like storage uses.
 - Prohibit light industrial uses, even those conducted entirely indoors.

Pedestrian Street designations:

- Continue use of the current Pedestrian Street designations and standards but provide adjustments to the standards. Most notably:
 - Rename "Pedestrian Street" to "Storefront Street" to better describe the desired built form and land use.
 - Designating more streets, including adding a mechanism to integrate a minimum amount of storefront proportional to the size of large mixed-use zoned sites in conjunction with redevelopment.
 - Providing some strategic limitations on ground floor uses to ensure that such users contribute to the envisioned pedestrian-oriented character and activity.
 - Adjusting minimum façade transparency standards.
 - Adding strategic weather protection requirements.

Scale (Height) of MU zones.

- Height can likely be handled simply by extensions to the MU zone that emphasize the maximum height. Ideally, there are only five different maximum heights.
 - 150 feet for TOD Mixed-Use Centers: This height allows the market to catch up and allow for unique developments or construction types (including mass timber).
 - 90 feet to allow for seven-story mixed-use buildings or six-story office or research buildings. This assumes an allowance for 20-foot concrete-framed

ground floor and 10-foot, 6-inch floor-to-floor heights for wood-framed upper floors, with some built-in flexibility. Apply this to all CC zones that included 55-foot limits and were raised up to 70 feet in the interim housing code.

- 75 feet to allow for five-story mixed-use buildings. This allows for 20-foot ground floor and 10-foot, 6-inch upper floors with some extra flexibility. Apply this to all CC zones that included 40-foot limits and were raised up to 55 feet in the interim housing code.
- 55 feet to allow for four-story mixed-use buildings and up to five-story residential buildings. This height is an important mid-way point between 40 and 75-foot thresholds and provides a good option for increasing the height allowances for those zones currently capped at 35 feet.
- 40 feet to allow for three-story walkups, live-work units, or mixed-use buildings at a height limit that matches the newly adopted R1 zone. This would apply just to the smallest neighborhood commercial areas that reside in a low-density residential context (surrounded by the R1 zone).
- Floor area ratio (FAR). Since the Interim Housing Ordinance steered sharply away from the FAR approach, future mixed-use zones should also employ a simplified approach that avoids maximum FAR along with the current incentive-based FAR-bonus systems.

Parking

- The recent Parking Regulations for Housing effectively eliminated off-street parking requirements for housing in all Centers and Corridors. The South Logan Transit-Oriented Development Plan includes policies to remove minimum off-street parking requirements within the study area or within ¼ mile of BRT stations as a general approach. An MU-TOD zone should employ this same approach. Otherwise, the current off-street parking requirements for commercial uses in the CC zones are relatively minimal. Sticking with the current standards (at most) is recommended for the other mixed-use zones.



Figure 16. Conceptual rendering of development in a MU zone adjacent to lower intensity residential zones.

Recommended Mixed-Use Zones

MU-TOD – The mixed-use zone that emphasizes transit-oriented development.

Create a mixed-use zone that emphasizes uses that support pedestrian activity over auto-oriented uses and land intensive uses. This applies to mixed-use areas around BRT stations close to Downtown, including South Logan Subarea, where new auto-oriented uses and land intensive uses, such as mini-storage, should be prohibited.

MU-1 – The “base” mixed-use zone, which accommodates maximum use flexibility.

Create a base mixed-use zone that applies broadly and allows a wide range of commercial uses, including modest-scaled light industrial, where all uses are conducted indoors. Permit modest scale auto sales uses, where most of the use occurs within a building. Permit drive-through uses, except on streets where the block-frontage designation specifically disallows it, and apply strategic spacing requirements to avoid concentration of auto-oriented facilities. Continue to allow single-purpose residential uses outright.

MU1 concept should apply to all District Centers, Corridors and areas formerly designated as Employment Centers.

MU-2 – The small neighborhood-scaled mixed-use zone

This is intended for existing Neighborhood Centers that warrant some commercial use size limitations. This also should be the destination zone for those areas currently zoned Neighborhood Retail. While that zone does not currently have floor area limitations for commercial uses, the location and purposes of the zone would be consistent with an approach having some limitations.

MU-3 – The residential mixed-use zone

This study recommends replacing the current CC4 and NMU (which is codified but not mapped) zones with this zone. It allows residential, offices, and small-scale retail sales and service uses (up to 3,000 square feet in stand-alone form, but without a floor area cap when in mixed-use structures that feature residential units).

The detailed use and form recommendations for each of these zones are set forth below.

Use Provisions

Table 1 below documents the current CC zone use permissions and adds proposed Mixed-Use (MU) zones and corresponding use permissions. The right column adds commentary on the suggested approach and provides some specific conditions.

Table 1. Current and proposed use permissions. Table key: P = permitted; L = permitted with limitations; N = not permitted; For footnote letters and numbers, refer to applicable notes in the right column.

Key Use	Existing Zoning			Proposed Zoning				Current & Recommended Use Provisions and Conditions
	CC1	CC2	CC4	MU-TOD	MU-1	MU-2	MU-3	
Residential	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	<p>Continue the approach of maximum flexibility to accommodate single purpose residential uses in these zones. Use the suggested block frontage provisions to limit ground floor residential uses on existing/planned “storefront” blocks.</p> <p>ALSO: Recommend prohibiting “new” detached single-unit residential uses in the MU-TOD zone and perhaps in the MU-1 and 2 zones.</p>
Commercial, financial, retail, services	P _x	P _x	L ₁	P	P	P _y	P _z	<p>For MU-TOD and MU-1, no area limitations are recommended on such uses. Recommended limitations for the construction of new uses in the MU-2 and MU-3 zones as reflected below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> y Grocery stores are limited to 60,000sf and other uses are limited to 20,000sf. z Uses are limited to 3,000sf in the MU-3 zone, except that larger floor areas are permitted where such uses are integrated into a mixed-use building with residential units. <p>Existing CC zone use conditions not proposed for new MU zones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> x Use limited to 40,000sf for designated Neighborhood Centers in the Comprehensive Plan. L₁ Residential uses are required to be mixed on the same parcel as proposed office & retail uses. Nonresidential uses are limited to 3,000sf/parcel. In Neighborhood Centers, nonresidential uses are only allowed on parcels with frontage on an arterial street. Nonresidential uses in the CC4 zone are not allowed within 60’ of a single-family and two-family residential zone or further than

Key Use	Existing Zoning			Proposed Zoning				Current & Recommended Use Provisions and Conditions
	CC1	CC2	CC4	MU-TOD	MU-1	MU-2	MU-3	
								300' (Neighborhood Center only) from a CC core comprehensive plan designation.
Eating & drinking establishments	P _x	P _x	N	P	P	P _x	P _y	Remove the 5,000sf limitation in the base Mixed-Use zone, but keep it in the MU2, and reduce to 3,000sf in the MU3. _x Limited to 5,000sf (in Neighborhood Centers for existing CC zones). _y Uses are limited to 3,000sf in the MU-3 zone, except that larger floor areas are permitted where such uses are integrated into a mixed-use building with residential units.
Restaurants without cocktail lounges	P	P	L1	P	P	P	P _x	_x Uses are limited to 3,000sf in the MU-3 zone, except that larger floor areas are permitted where such uses are integrated into a mixed-use building with residential units. Existing CC zone use condition not proposed for new MU zones: _{L1} Residential uses are required to be mixed on the same parcel as proposed office & retail uses. Nonresidential uses are limited to 3,000sf/parcel. In Neighborhood Centers, nonresidential uses are only allowed on parcels with frontage on an arterial street.
Professional & medical offices	P	P	L1	P	P	P	P _x	_x Uses are limited to 3,000sf in the MU-3 zone, except that larger floor areas are permitted where such uses are integrated into a mixed-use building with residential units. Existing CC zone use condition not proposed for new MU zones: _{L1} Residential uses are required to be mixed on the same parcel as proposed office & retail uses. Nonresidential uses are limited to 3,000sf/parcel. In Neighborhood Centers, nonresidential uses are only allowed on parcels with frontage on an arterial street. Nonresidential uses in the CC4 zone are not allowed within 60' of a single-family and two-family residential zone or further than 300' (Neighborhood Center only) from a CC core comprehensive plan designation.
Entertainment	P	P	N	P	P	P	N	Retain current approach – with entertainment banned only in the smallest Neighborhood Center areas (MU3)

Key Use	Existing Zoning			Proposed Zoning				Current & Recommended Use Provisions and Conditions
	CC1	CC2	CC4	MU-TOD	MU-1	MU-2	MU-3	
Limited industrial (if entirely within a building)	P _x	P _x	N	P _x	P _x	P _x	N	Retain current approach. x Limited to 20,000gsf.
Drive through businesses	P _x	P _x	P _x	N	P _{x,y}	P _{x,y}	N	Recommend prohibiting them entirely in TOD areas but continuing current approach elsewhere (except MU-3). x Prohibited on designated storefront/pedestrian streets and TOD overlay areas. y Limited to one drive through lane and cannot be placed within 300 ft of another drive through.
Motor vehicle sales, rental, repair, or washing	N	P	N	N	P _x	P _{x,y}	N	Recommend allowing these in MU1 and MU2 if they are conducted entirely indoors, with some size limitations in the MU2. x Use must be conducted entirely indoors (Outdoor display, storage, or use of industrial equipment, such as tools, equipment, vehicles, products, materials, or other objects that are part of or used for the business operation is prohibited). y Limited to 20,000gsf
Gasoline sales	P _x	P	P _x	N	P _y	P _{x,y}	N	Suggest an approach similar to drive-through businesses noted above. Retain the current six pump limitation in the MU2. x Limited to six pumps in CC1, MU2 and CC4. y Prohibited on designated storefront streets and TOD overlay areas.
Self-storage	N	P	N	N	P _x	N	N	Retain the current approach but note prohibitions on storefront streets and TOD overlay areas. x Prohibited on designated storefront streets and TOD overlay areas
Winery and Microbreweries	P	P	N	P	P	P	N	Retain the same approach here. Microbreweries are likely too much for the smallest corner store/cross roads in a Neighborhood Center.

Key Use	Existing Zoning			Proposed Zoning				Current & Recommended Use Provisions and Conditions
	CC1	CC2	CC4	MU-TOD	MU-1	MU-2	MU-3	
Commercial Parking Lot	P	P	N	P _x	P _y	P _y	N	<p>Recommend renaming to Commercial Parking and differentiate between surface and structured parking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> x Surface commercial parking lots are prohibited. y Surface commercial parking should not cause the total amount of parking on properties within a 500 ft radius to exceed 4 stalls per 1,000 sq ft of commercial floor area.

Dimensional Standards

Table 2. Current and proposed dimensional standards. Note: The black underlined standards reflect those of the interim housing regulations.

Standard	Existing Zones			Proposed Zones				Current & Recommended Use Provisions and Conditions
	CC1	CC2	CC4	MU-TOD	MU1	MU2	MU3	
HEIGHT – based on center designation type (feet)								
General				90-150 _x	75-150 _x	55-75 _x	40	<p>X Zone provides for variable height limits within the range as specified on the Zoning Map. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 150' for those areas currently designated as Employment Centers and other current zones that allow 150'. • 90' for those areas currently designated as District Centers. • 75' for those areas currently designated as Neighborhood Centers.
Neighborhood Center	40 <u>55</u>	40 <u>55</u>	40 <u>55</u>	These designations would no longer impact MU zone height standards				
District Center	55 <u>70</u>	55 <u>70</u>	40 <u>55</u>					
Employment Center	150	150	70					

Standard	Existing Zones			Proposed Zones				Current & Recommended Use Provisions and Conditions
	CC1	CC2	CC4	MU-TOD	MU1	MU2	MU3	
								<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 55' for those areas currently designated as Neighborhood Retail, Neighborhood Mini-Center, and Office. _____
Building Height Transition Requirement	For all development within 150' of any single-family or two-family residential zone, height limit starts at 30' at the residential zone boundary and additional building height is added at a ratio of 1' vertical to 2' horizontal. <u>The interim housing ordinance revised the ratio of 1:1.</u>			For development on properties adjacent to lower intensity residential zones, height limit starts at 40' at the residential zone boundary and additional building height is added at a ratio of 2:1.				Recommend adjusting the standard to start at 40" and then go up at the 2:1 ratio.

Standard	Existing Zones			Proposed Zones				Current & Recommended Use Provisions and Conditions
	CC1	CC2	CC4	MU-TOD	MU1	MU2	MU3	
Comparing Height Transition Requirements								
<p>Pre-BOCA/BOH standard 30'+1:2 55' height limit</p> <p>Interim standard (current) 30'+1:1 70' height limit</p> <p>Recommended standard 40'+2:1 90' height limit</p>								
FLOOR AREA RATIO (FAR)								
Minimum FAR	None <u>1.0</u> _x	None <u>1.0</u> _x	None <u>0.5</u> _x	1.0 _y	None	None	None	Retain the 1.0 minimum FAR only in the MU-TOD zone and apply to all development types except civic/public uses. Suggest exempting small lot development from this standard. x Applies only to development where a minimum of 50% of the floor area is residential. y Development on lots under 20,000sf are exempt
Maximum basic allowable FAR by use								
Non-residential	0.5	0.2	_x None	None	None	None	None	Avoid FAR limitations, similar to most recent zoning ordinance changes.
Residential	1.0 <u>None</u>	0.5 <u>None</u>	1.0 <u>None</u>	None	None	None	None	

Standard	Existing Zones			Proposed Zones				Current & Recommended Use Provisions and Conditions
	CC1	CC2	CC4	MU-TOD	MU1	MU2	MU3	
Combined	1.5 <u>None</u> _γ	0.7 <u>None</u> _γ	1.0 <u>None</u> _γ	None	None	None	None	<p>x In the CC4 zone the FAR for all nonresidential uses may not be greater than the FAR for the residential uses located on the same parcel. Nonresidential uses are limited to a maximum of three thousand square feet per parcel.</p> <p>γ Applies only to development where a minimum of 50% of the floor area is residential.</p>
Maximum FAR by use with public amenities								
Non-residential	1.0	0.8	None	None	None	None	None	
Residential	2.0 <u>None</u>	1.5 <u>None</u>	1.5 <u>None</u>	None	None	None	None	
Combined	3.0 <u>None</u> _γ	2.3 <u>None</u> _γ	1.5 <u>None</u> _γ	None	None	None	None	
SETBACKS (minimum feet)								
Street lot line	0	0	x	0 _γ	0 _γ	0 _γ	0 _γ	<p>Suggest pointing to proposed block frontage standards, which emphasize that the form (possibly the use too) dictates the minimum setback.</p> <p>x When abutting RSF and RTF zoned lots, the minimum structure setback from street lot line is the same as the abutting residential zoning district for the first 60 ft. from the boundary of the abutting residential zoning district.</p> <p>γ Buildings are subject to block frontage standards as set forth in Table 5.</p>
Setbacks from Curb/Sidewalk Width	12	12	12	12 _γ	12 _γ	12 _γ	12	Continue current standard until more specific streetscape standards can be developed. The footnote allows for limited cantilevering out to or close to the ROW edge.

Standard	Existing Zones			Proposed Zones				Current & Recommended Use Provisions and Conditions
	CC1	CC2	CC4	MU-TOD	MU1	MU2	MU3	
								γ The upper floors may cantilever out to the ROW edge, up to a maximum of 4'.
R1 and R2 zoned lots (adjacent to)	10	10	10	5	5	5	5	Use a basic 5', as the building height transition requirement addresses the biggest compatibility component between these two zones.
Interior lot line	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	For MU-3, the setback should be consistent to the permanent changes associated with the interim housing ordinance (it's currently 5').
CC, O, NR or similar zones	0'	0'	0'					
Front lot line	10'	10'	10'					Correct this. It should be same as street lot line.
LANDSCAPING (minimum width in feet)								
Street trees and planting strips	5' between curb and sidewalk in all CC zones with 25-30' spacing depending on form							Good base standard.
Adjacent to a street	5' of L2 planting							Doesn't apply for zero setback buildings
Interior property lines	5' of planting strip							Doesn't apply for zero setback buildings or where parking is adjacent to another parking lot; Doesn't specify what type of landscaping; Recommend allowing options for shared open space, pathways, access drives, or parking facilities along property line.
Interior property lines adjacent to residentially zoned property	8' of L1 planting strip, except 8' of L2 planting strip for RHD zone							Code allows director discretion to waive or reduce this and the above requirement based on: No useable space for landscaping exists between the proposed new structure and existing structures on adjoining lots or alleys because of inadequate sunlight or inadequate width. Three other options exist, but this is the most notable. This study agrees that some flexibility here is important, but the current factors (criteria) used by the director to make those decisions have room for improvement. For

Standard	Existing Zones			Proposed Zones				Current & Recommended Use Provisions and Conditions
	CC1	CC2	CC4	MU-TOD	MU1	MU2	MU3	
								<p>example, the 8' planter strip requirement typically equates to a minimum 8' building setback, but that doesn't appear to be the case here based on one of the factors. Also, xeriscape landscaping may be desirable, but it appears that it could be provided elsewhere on the site.</p> <p>Consider modifying the criteria to consider onsite topography, building heights, setbacks and disposition, fence design, and landscaping characteristics.</p>

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Parking Standards

Table 3: Parking Standards and Comments. Note: The underlined text indicates 2023 Building Opportunity for Housing interim housing regulations and proposed regulations. ~~Strikethrough~~ text indicates expired elements of 2022 Building Opportunity and Choices for All interim standards.

Standard		Existing Zones				Proposed Zones MU-TOC, MU-1, MU-2, MU-3	Comments
		CC1	CC2	CC3	CC4		
Minimum Parking: Residential	All	<u>1 per 1,000 gross sq. ft. or 1 per dwelling unit plus one per bedroom after 3 bedrooms</u>		<u>1 per 1,000 gross sq. ft. or 1 per dwelling unit, whichever is less</u>		None	Preferred direction is no required parking for MU zones. This will support adaptive re-use and rehabilitation of existing structures, new business formation, and property development.
	0-30 units	None					
	31-40 units	0.2 per unit					
	41-50 units	0.25 per unit					
	51+ units	0.31 per unit					
Minimum Parking: Non-residential		<u>1 per 1,000 gross sq. ft.</u>		<u>1 per 1,000 gross sq. ft. 2 per 1,000 gross sq. ft.</u>			
Maximum parking: all uses		<u>4 per 1,000 gross sq. ft</u>				4 per 1,000 gross sq. ft	This matches the parking maximum policy in the draft SLTOD plan.

Block Size and Connectivity Standards

This study recommends applying reduced block size and enhanced connectivity standards for large lot development (including redevelopment). The proposed concept is dynamic in form, allowing some flexibility for traditional blocks bound by public streets, provided blocks are divided by through-block connections. This idea is important for improving connectivity and repurposing former large commercial areas such as shopping malls that may need improved connectivity. This may be easier to achieve when there is aggregated ownership, but the City should look for tools, such as master plans or development agreements, that can allow for improved block size and connectivity standards. Such through-block connections may be a combination of vehicular and pedestrian routes that are privately owned and maintained within a public access easement. For context, here are some typical block sizes for selected Centers:

- Cannon and Maxwell: 330 feet by 280 feet.
- Garland 612 feet by 280 feet (longest block)
- Shadle: 680 feet by 280 feet (blocks on north side of Wellesley Avenue). Note that the Shadle Shopping Center property is more than 1,500 feet long.
- Holy Family: 615 feet by 280 feet (blocks surrounding the hospital)
- Manito: 514 feet by 260 feet (probably the most average sized lot, as the lot sizes in the area are quite variable).
- Lincoln Heights: 600 feet by 280 feet.
- South Perry: 630 feet by 280 feet.

Downtown Spokane blocks, however, are typically around 300 feet long. The 200-300-foot range in blocks is ideal for creating a connected pedestrian environment that helps to reduce the distance between destinations.

Those Centers and Corridors that were developed prior to World War II already have smaller block sizes along with a small lot development pattern. Those Centers and Corridors that could benefit from reduced block size and enhanced connectivity standards are those that were developed after World War II. Most of these include superblock shopping center sites with 600-1,500 long blocks that are often just as wide.

Urban forms of development that feature reduced or structured forms of parking equate to much smaller block sizes in the 200-300-foot range. While breaking up such superblock

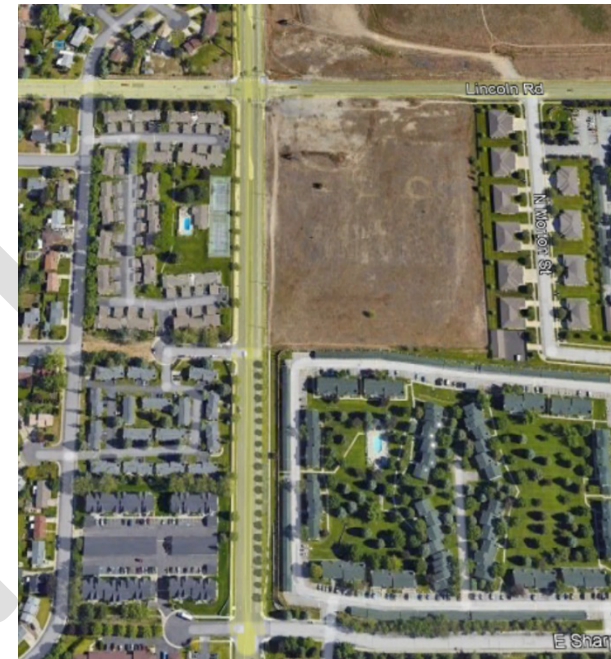


Figure 17. The Lincoln Nevada Neighborhood Center site (vacant property upper center in image) is poorly connected to adjacent residential uses due to the inward facing design of each residential development. The intent of providing stronger connectivity standards is to prevent disconnected development patterns like this, particularly in Centers and Corridors.

sites with public streets at such intervals is one attractive option, integrating options for larger blocks, provided they integrate through-block connections, accommodates much needed flexibility.

Proposal: Maximum block length standards.

These standards would apply to new large-lot development (sites with blocks more than 300 feet long) or major redevelopment activity on such sites.

Table 4: Maximum block length standards.

Zone	Maximum block face length		Maximum block (bound by public streets) perimeter length
	Between public streets and TBC's or between TBC's	Between public streets	
Any MU zone	300'	500'	2,000'

Example street/through-block connection network in the MU zone

The concept would require some exceptions to account for topography or other physical constraints (such as a large school or park on adjacent sites or an active railroad line). Wider blocks between streets and through-block connections might better match the surrounding context or line up better with current arterial traffic signals. Furthermore, some flexibility might be granted for special permitted uses that require larger block sites or integrate special community amenities.

Proposal: Through-block connection standards.

Through-block connections may include private streets, shared pedestrian and vehicular access routes, and other walking and rolling routes. Such connections are encouraged to be integrated into the design of developments to comply with the proposed maximum block size standards and enhance pedestrian circulation in the area, while also providing an option for vehicular access to on-site parking, functioning as a design amenity to new development, and breaking up the massing of buildings on long blocks. Specific regulation suggestions for through-block connections:

- A. Public access easement. Where a through-block connection is necessary to meet the maximum block size standards, such connections shall be provided within a public access easement.
- B. Alignment. Specific alignments for the through-block connections will be developed during the development review process for applicable sites.
- C. Accessibility. Through-block connections must be physically accessible to the public at all times and built to meet all ADA standards, in terms of materials, slope, widths. And other related standards. Connections may take a variety of forms, depending on the block size and use mix.
- D. Alternative designs. Adjustments to the through-block connection regulations may be approved by the City provided the design:
 - 1. Creates a safe and welcoming pedestrian-route.
 - 2. Provides an effective transition between the shared lane or path and adjacent uses (e.g., enhances privacy to any adjacent ground-level residential units).
 - 3. Functions as a design amenity to the development.

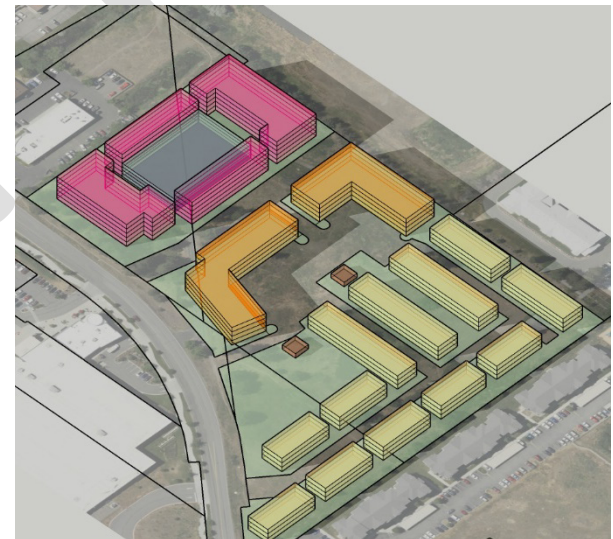


Figure 18. Conceptual development layouts employing block size and connectivity standards at large sites.

- E. Cantilever design. Buildings may project or cantilever into minimum required easement areas on building levels above the connection for up to a maximum of 100 feet in length, provided a 13-foot, six-inch vertical clearance is maintained, and all other regulations are met.
- F. Through-block connection types. Unless otherwise noted, required through-block connections may take any of the following forms set forth herein. A combination of designs set forth above may be used for each connection.
 - 1. Private street.
 - a. Applicability: The private street option may apply to any through-block connection.
 - b. Design: Private streets shall meet City's Public Works Standards.
 - 2. Alley design.
 - a. Applicability: The traditional alley design option may apply to any through-block connection.
 - b. Design: Alleys shall meet City's Public Works Standards.
 - 3. Shared-Street or "Woonerf" design.
 - a. Applicability: The "woonerf" – or shared multi-modal lane, mixing people walking, bicycling, and rolling with vehicles as guests - may apply to any through-block connection.
 - b. 32-foot minimum public access easement.
 - c. 20-foot-wide two-way shared travel lane.
 - d. Landscape planters with a mixture of trees, shrubs, and ground cover must be integrated on at least one side of the shared-lane.
 - e. Apply those same proposed ground level/façade block frontage standards above that apply to undesignated streets.
 - 4. Landscaped passageway design.
 - a. Applicability: Optional design when vehicular access to the site is provided elsewhere on the site.
 - b. 30-foot minimum public access easement.
 - c. Eight-foot minimum walking path in commercial, multifamily, and civic contexts and five feet minimum in single unit and duplex subdivisions.
 - d. Six-foot minimum landscaping strips (with a mixture of trees, shrubs, and ground cover) on each side of the walking path.



Figure 19. A through-block connection featuring a cantilevered building extending over a portion of the connection.

- e. Apply those same proposed ground level/façade block frontage standards above that apply to undesignated streets.
 - f. Apply lighting standards to support visibility in the narrower passageways.
5. Urban passage design.
- a. Applicability: Optional design for commercial or mixed-use areas when vehicular access to the site is provided elsewhere on the site and active ground level uses are provided along frontages.
 - b. Twelve-foot minimum public access easement.
 - c. Apply those same proposed ground level/façade block frontage standards above that apply to undesignated streets.

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Block Frontage Standards Recommendations

Table 5 below illustrates suggested changes to the current standards that apply to Pedestrian designated streets plus changes that apply to other non-designated streets.

Table 5: Suggested changes to Pedestrian Streets and undesignated street standards. Additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck~~.

Topic	Standard	Comments and Recommendations
PEDESTRIAN STREETS (SUGGEST CHANGING THE NAME TO "STOREFRONT STREETS")		
<u>Application of new Pedestrian Street designations</u>	Legislative process (similar to a code or map amendment).	Consider designating new streets as part of the Comprehensive Plan update process or through future subarea planning efforts. Recommend applying a minimum length of designated Pedestrian Street on MU-zoned sites in conjunction with large site redevelopment (over 2 acres). The minimum length of onsite Pedestrian Street designation must be equivalent to 33% of the lot's arterial street frontage. The designation may be located anywhere on the site, provided it's within 1/8 mile of a transit stop.
<u>Permitted ground level uses fronting a Pedestrian Street</u>	<u>All ground level uses allowed in the applicable zone, except:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Motor vehicle sales, rental, repair, or washing, gasoline sales, and self-storage</u> <u>For residential uses, only lobbies and common areas are permitted</u>	Considering that Pedestrian Streets should be carefully selected, there should be a prohibition on uses that are not helpful in terms of streetscape activation. Ground level dwelling units built up to the sidewalk edge are more often harmful to the streetscape due to the permanently closed blinds look. Such units are typically the least livable units in a building due to privacy challenges and lack of solar access as a result of the closed blinds. Allow apartment building lobbies, common areas and other shared amenities to provide a good compromise option that's worked reasonably well elsewhere.
Building entrances	The primary entrance to the building shall be visible from and fronting on a Pedestrian Street.	Yes, clear enough.
Maximum setback	Along Pedestrian Streets, buildings shall be placed at the back of the required sidewalk (see Setbacks section of Land Use Code for <u>Mixed-Use zones Centers and Corridors</u>) or adjacent to a <u>pedestrian oriented space (term to be defined, functions like a plaza) that fronts onto the street, except for a setback up to 10 ft. for the purpose of providing a publicly accessible "plaza," "courtyard," or recessed entrance.</u>	Remove limits on width of a plaza space. Use the term Pedestrian-Oriented Space and define it.

Topic	Standard	Comments and Recommendations
Façade transparency	<p>A minimum of 60% of the ground floor transparency zone (area between 2-10 vertical feet above the sidewalk level) shall be comprised of windows with clear, “vision” glass allowing views into the interior. Display windows may be used to meet half of this requirement provided they are at least 16” deep and not simply attached to the façade.</p>	<p>This draws from some of the transparency standards for buildings along arterial streets in Centers and Corridor zones (not specifically called out for Pedestrian Streets) but makes adjustments to clarify the transparency zones and adds a protection for display windows.</p>
Weather protection	<p>Required weather protection may be accommodated in two ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>At least 3’ deep along at least 50% of the building’s façade; and/or</u> • <u>Recessed building entrances featuring weather protection at least 3’ deep along the width of the building entrance.</u> 	<p>Most pre-war storefront buildings use the second option, but it makes sense to offer both and stick to the same width. 6’ wide canopies are desirable for larger buildings (in terms of proportion) and allow a couple to walk underneath out of the rain. But given the historic pattern in Spokane and the more limited rainfall, the 3’ standard is appropriate for designated Storefront Streets.</p>
Ground level details	<p>Façades of commercial, residential, and mixed-use buildings that face Pedestrian Streets shall be designed to be pedestrian- friendly through the inclusion of at least three of the following elements:</p>	<p>While there might be consideration of requiring such details on more than just storefront buildings, including a prescriptive list, and requiring three options is a reasonable approach. Since the above proposal addresses ground level uses, there’s no need to clarify uses here.</p>
Parking lot location	<p>Parking lots shall not be located between a building and a Pedestrian Street.</p>	<p>This concept allows parking to be located along the street frontage provided it’s to the side of a building. Simply prohibiting any surface or structured parking adjacent to a Pedestrian Street is ideal, but given the large range of contexts, it makes sense to stick with the current approach. Also, the curb cut prohibition below makes it quite difficult to place any parking lots adjacent to a Pedestrian Street.</p>
Curb cuts	<p>Curb cuts shall not be located along a designated Pedestrian Street.</p>	<p>No changes suggested.</p>
Streetscape elements	<p>Publicly-usable site furnishings such as benches, tables, bike racks and other pedestrian amenities shall be provided at building entrances, plazas, open spaces, and/or other pedestrian areas for all buildings larger than 10,000 sf. Buildings less than this size are encouraged to include such amenities. Specific types of site furnishings shall be approved by the City</p>	<p>The threshold makes sense for requiring some integrated amenities, but the situation likely requires a more clear and measurable standard/options.</p>

Topic	Standard	Comments and Recommendations
Pedestrian-oriented sign	Signs shall be oriented to pedestrians, rather than people in vehicles.	This should be updated to be much more specific and measurable.
Sign integration with architecture	The design of buildings and sites shall identify locations and sizes for future signs. As tenants install signs, such signs shall be in conformance with a future recommended overall sign program that allows for advertising which fits with the architectural character, proportions, and details of the development. When developed, a future sign program shall indicate location, size, and general design.	The concept is good. Further collaboration with design review staff is warranted to determine whether this language is working well or needs adjustments.
Creative graphic sign design	Various "guidelines" encouraging signs highly graphic in form, expressive, and individualized.	Good, except such encouraged components may no longer be appropriate in objective standards integrated into SMC.
Unique landmark signs	New landmark signs should correspond to the location, setting and type of businesses, and shall be approved by the Planning Director.	Good – but very challenging language if we’re trying to be objective. Perhaps this can be addressed in approach to design departures/alternative compliance provisions.
Ground signs	Pole signs shall be prohibited. All freestanding signs shall be prohibited. Ground signs no higher than 5 feet total. The base of any ground sign shall be planted with shrubs and seasonal flowers.	With buildings built up to the sidewalk edge, it’s best to simply locate signage on the buildings in these contexts.
OTHER STREETS (UNDESIGNATED)		
Buildings along street	New development shall not have parking between buildings and the street and at least 30% of the frontage of the site shall consist of building facades.	<p>Retaining the current block frontage approach for undesignated streets is the first recommendation. It provides plenty of flexibility while ensuring that some buildings are located close to the street. One other component of the current approach that works is that the building standards increase as buildings get closer to the street. See related suggestions and comments on that issue below.</p> <p>Two alternative approaches were considered but not chosen:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Eliminate this standard to simplify the code and provide more flexibility. This would only work if the City was very aggressive in designating Pedestrian Streets. But ultimately it provides too much flexibility in design (by allowing more parking along street fronts). 2) Create a more dynamic system of block frontages with three or more designations (one for Storefronts, one for flexible design, and something in between). The challenge for Spokane

Topic	Standard	Comments and Recommendations
		is that it requires mapping all applicable streets in the Centers and Corridors with one of the three or more designations. That complexity likely renders that option untenable.
Buildings along intersection corners	Buildings shall hold the street corner, although setbacks that accommodate plazas, seating areas, landscaping, clear view triangles (for traffic safety) and prominent entrances are acceptable.	Keep this – at least in concept. Other standards cover the details.
Façade transparency	For commercial or mixed-use building facades visible and within 1020 feet of a an arterial or pedestrian-street (front property line) , a minimum of 50% of the ground floor <u>transparency zone (area between 2-10 vertical feet above the sidewalk level)</u> shall be comprised of windows with clear, “vision” glass allowing views into the interior. Display windows may be used to meet half of this requirement.	Apply the 50% standard just to buildings within 10’ of the street. The transparency zone details will assist in measuring. Delete the display windows for anything other than storefronts directly adjacent to sidewalks.
	For commercial or mixed-use building facades visible and located within 60 feet of a street an arterial or pedestrian street , a minimum of 30% of the ground floor <u>transparency zone (area between 2-10 vertical feet above the sidewalk level)</u> shall be comprised of windows with clear, “vision” glass allowing views into the interior. Display windows may be used to meet half of this requirement.	Keep this standard intact, with some similar adjustments as made above.
	For other commercial or mixed-use buildings and all residential buildings, a minimum of 15% of any ground floor façade that is visible from and fronting on any abutting street shall be comprised of windows with clear, “vision” glass allowing views into the interior.	Agree with the 15% rule for “other” building facades.
	<u>For residential uses, a minimum of 15% of the entire building façade* that is visible from and fronting on any abutting street shall be comprised of windows.</u>	Need a standard for the entire residential façade – similar to what will be required in residential zones under the interim housing ordinance.
<u>Building entrances</u>	<u>For building facades located within 60 feet of a street, the primary entrance to the building shall</u>	This wasn’t addressed for non-designated streets.

Topic	Standard	Comments and Recommendations
	face the street or be within 45-degree angle of a street frontage.	
<u>Weather protection</u>	<u>Weather protection at least 3' deep is required over all business, public, and private residential building entries.</u>	A simple but necessary standard for livability and building integrity.
Curb cut limitations	A curb cut for a nonresidential use should not exceed 30 feet for combined entry/exits. Driveway width where the sidewalk crosses the driveway should not exceed 24 feet in width.	No changes here unless design review and engineering have experienced problems with these standards.
Drive-through lanes	Any lanes serving drive-through businesses shall not be located between the building and any adjacent street.	Keep



Figure 20. Concept rendering of redevelopment featuring “storefront street” (left) and “other streets” (right) block frontage treatments.

Other Updated Design Standards Concept

In addition to the block size and connectivity and block frontage standards noted above, below are recommended updates to the existing Centers and Corridors Design Standards and Guidelines:

- Updated standards should be codified and integrated within the Spokane Municipal Code, rather than the current freestanding, adopted-by-reference form. By moving these standards into the code, they can be more integrated with other zoning provisions and easier to access.
- Pursuant to Washington House Bill 1293 involving design review, the existing design “standards and guidelines” should be updated to only include clear and objective development regulations. This means that the provisions should emphasize prescriptive and measurable standards over vague guidelines that are more challenging to interpret.
- Retain but modify options for alternative compliance. Design provisions in the code and in the Centers and Corridors Design Standards and Guidelines include a complex web of provisions that allow flexibility in how designs comply with guidelines. While HB 1293 effectively bans the use of guidelines, it does not specifically prohibit options for alternative compliance designs for clear and objective standards. Thus, when updating current provisions to such clear and objective standards, options to allow for alternative designs should be strategically integrated, provided they meet the defined purpose for particular standards and any special compliance alternative criteria associated with a particular standard. This approach integrates some much-needed flexibility to objective design standards.
- While all sections warrant a full review and update, these sections need special attention:
 - Service element siting and design warrants a comprehensive update given evolving best practices, particularly for urban development forms that feature structured parking.
 - The section Transition between Commercial and Residential Development should be eliminated, as these current provisions don’t qualify as objective design standards. However, the separate building height transition requirement between higher intensity Mixed-Use zones and lower intensity

residential zones should be retained but refined as provided for in the Interim Housing Ordinance.

- Materials section also warrants a full update given evolving construction practices.
- Massing section also warrants a full update given evolving construction practices. Integrate standards that allow choices in how designers can further articulate the building massing and architectural expression as a means to provide for secondary scales and patterns that are smaller than the entire façade.
- Seek ways to provide standards for encouraging integration of public art, universal design and greenery, such as climbing trellises, to meet design element requirements.

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