



Spokane Plan Commission Agenda

Regular Meeting
 Wednesday, December 10, 2025
 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. Roll Call 2. Approve 11/12/2025 meeting minutes 3. City Council Liaison Report 4. Community Assembly Liaison Report 5. President Report 6. Secretary Report 7. Transportation Commission Liaison Report 8. Approval of current agenda 	Planning Staff All CM Kitty Klitzke Mary Winkes Jesse Bank Spencer Gardner Ryan Patterson
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Workshops:

2:20 – 2:30	1. Development Code Modernization Project Introduction	Tim Thompson & Clarion Association
2:30 – 2:45	2. Public Engagement Report Out	KayCee Downey
2:45 – 3:35	3. PlanSpokane 2046 Draft EIS Review	Tirrell Black & BERK
3:35 – 3:45	4. Draft Transportation Chapter Review	Colin Quinn-Hurst

Adjournment: The next regularly scheduled PC meeting on 12/24/25 will be **CANCELLED for the holidays.**

*Items denoted with an asterisk may include final action taken by the Commission. Written public comments will be accepted on these items up to one hour prior to the start of the meeting. Verbal testimony may also be accepted during the meeting.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) INFORMATION: The City of Spokane is committed to providing equal access to its facilities, programs and services for persons with disabilities. The Council Briefing Center in the lower level of Spokane City Hall, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., is wheelchair accessible and also is equipped with an infrared assistive listening system for persons with hearing loss. Headsets may be checked out (upon presentation of picture I.D.) through the meeting organizer. Individuals requesting reasonable accommodations or further information may call, write, or email Human Resources at 509.625.6373, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA, 99201; or ddecorde@spokanecity.org. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact Human Resources through the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1. Please contact us forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting date.

Second Wednesday - Plan Commission Meeting Information

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

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 2nd Wednesday meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 220 747 363 981

Passcode: Sk3sc6L3

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

Meeting ID:
220 747 363 981

Passcode:
Sk3sc6L3

Join with a video conferencing device

cityofspokane@m.webex.com

Video Conference ID: 119 411 774 7

[Alternate VTC instructions](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 323-618-1887](tel:+13236181887), [215215222#](tel:+1215215222) United States, Los Angeles

Phone Conference ID: 215 215 222#

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

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. Written public comments will be accepted up to one hour prior to the start of the meeting.

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

Plan Commission & Committees

Upcoming Agenda Items (All items are subject to change)

January 14, 2026 - Plan Commission (90 minutes available) Hybrid	
Workshop	
Item	Presenter
Meeting Briefing	Plan Commission
Off-premises Signs	Adam McDaniel
Review of Attorney General memo: "Avoiding Unconstitutional Takings of Private Property"	Megan Kapaun
PlanSpokane 2046: Draft EIS, preferred alternative discussion	Tirrell Black
PlanSpokane 2046: Transportation Chapter	Colin Quinn-Hurst

January 28, 2026 - Plan Commission (90 minutes available) Hybrid Potential Joint Meeting with CRSB	
Workshop	
Item	Presenter
Meeting Briefing	Plan Commission
CRSB/PC Policy Discussion Meeting All	Staff

February 11, 2026 - Plan Commission (90 minutes available) Hybrid	
Workshop	
Item	Presenter
Meeting Briefing	Plan Commission
PlanSpokane 2046: Preferred Alternative (Draft EIS)	Tirrell Black
PlanSpokane 2046: Engagement Report Out	KayCee Downey

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Spokane Plan Commission - Draft Minutes

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Hybrid Meeting in Council Briefing Center & Microsoft Teams Teleconference

Meeting Minutes: Plan Commission Workshop called to order at 2:02 pm by President Jesse Bank.

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: Jesse Bank, Ryan Patterson, Greg Francis, Carole Shook, Kyle Madsen, Tyler Tamoush, Tim Williams, Jill Yotz
- Board Members Not Present: Amber Lenhart
- Non-Voting Members Present: None
- Non-Voting Members Not present: Mary Winkes (Community Assembly Liaison), CM Kitty Klitzke (Council Member Liaison)
- *Quorum Present:* Yes
- Staff Members Present: Spencer Gardner, Angie McCall, Tirrell Black, Ryan Shea, Megan Kapaun, Tim Thompson, Emily King, Amanda Beck, Megan Duvall, Maren Murphy, Sarah Sirott

Minutes: Minutes from 10/22/2025 approved unanimously and 10/29/2025 approved with one abstention.

Briefing Session:

- **Community Assembly Liaison Report - Mary Winkes - Absent**
No report as Mary was absent.
- **Transportation Commission Liaison Report - Ryan Patterson**
 - Ryan stated that they didn't have a meeting, but we do have the Chapter Review Subcommittee meeting on Transportation tomorrow.
- **Commission President Report - Jesse Bank**
 - President Bank stated that we have our Chapter Review Subcommittee meetings going and wanted to thank everyone for contributing to this important work.
- **Secretary Report - Spencer Gardner**
 - Spencer stated that he wanted to take a minute to discuss the Chapter Review Subcommittee groups. Spencer and Jesse will discuss this with Commissioner Madsen afterwards.
 - Tonight, we are doing our community engagement workshop for district one at Yasuhara Middle School. It starts at 5:00pm and goes until 7:00pm. He wanted to encourage the plan commissioners to make it out to these workshops as they can. Thank you for staying engaged.
- **Council Liaison Report - Kitty Klitzke - Absent**
 - No report as CM Klitzke was absent.

Current Agenda: The current agenda was approved unanimously.

Workshop(s):

- SRTC Horizon 2050 Overview
 - Presentation provided by Jason Lien, SRTC
 - Questions asked and answered.

- Discussion ensued.
- 2026/27 Plan Commission Work Plan
 - Presentation provided by staff member Spencer Gardner
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.
- Plan Spokane 2046: Report Back on Public Engagement and Draft EIS Timeline
 - Presentation provided by Tirrell Black
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.
- Introduction to the Critical Areas Ordinance Update
 - Presentation provided by staff member Ryan Shea
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.

Workshop Adjourned at 3:53 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Plan Commission meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 26, 2025 is CANCELLED for the holiday.

BRIEFING PAPER
City of Spokane
Plan Commission
Workshop, December 10, 2025



Subject

This workshop will provide an overview of the PlanSpokane 2046 community engagement efforts throughout 2025, including a full summary of the recent future growth and guiding policies community workshops that occurred in November. Key themes will be identified, as well as how existing and future community feedback can help shape the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan.

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. Since the last Periodic Update in 2017, 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 at the end of 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 most recent information on PlanSpokane 2046 is available at PlanSpokane.org.

Attachments

- PlanSpokane Future Growth and Guiding Policies Summary
- 2025 PlanSpokane Engagement Summary Booklet



PlanSpokane

Future Growth and Guiding Policies

Engagement Summary

December 2025



PLANSPOKANE

Resilient | Connected | Livable | 2046

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Background

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to its Comprehensive Plan, the City of Spokane has been seeking public feedback on the City's next twenty years throughout 2025. While regular updates to the Comprehensive Plan have occurred, this will be the **first substantial update since the Comprehensive Plan was first adopted in 2001**. With the significant population growth and changing local factors Spokane has experienced since then, this update provides the community with an opportunity to reevaluate how they want the City to grow. The goals of this update are to meet all state legislative requirements adopted since 2017, incorporate community input around changing needs and wants, and to streamline the Plan to make it more user friendly.

Being the first substantial update since 2001, the City of Spokane has determined that this proposal is likely to have a significant and potentially negative impact on the environment. As such, an **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** is required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c) and will be prepared as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 effort. The first step of the EIS process is known as "scoping". Both before and during the scoping comment period, the City of Spokane Department of Planning and Economic Development provided opportunities for the community to be engaged in the process of identifying the future vision for Spokane's next twenty years. The [Community Visioning Engagement Summary](#) provides a recap of the feedback heard.

Once the overall vision for the future is determined, the next step of the EIS process is to evaluate different ways the City can meet that vision while also accommodating future growth. To that end, the City of Spokane held a community workshop series on future growth and guiding policies in November 2025 for initial feedback on different ways the City of Spokane can grow, as well as the goals and policies to get us there.

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan is the community's vision for how the city grows and invests. It is mandated by state law requiring a "road map" for fast-growing cities, known as the Growth Management Act. Spokane must have a Comprehensive Plan to manage population growth, with goals that include reducing sprawl, supporting efficient multimodal transportation, protecting the environment, and many more.

The Comprehensive Plan establishes a vision for the city – looking at a horizon of twenty years. It guides implementation through Capital projects, City programs, and regulations.

More information about the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update can be found at PlanSpokane.org

Community Workshop Series

At the beginning of 2025, community members provided invaluable feedback to create a 20-year vision for the City of Spokane. Since then, there has been ongoing work to identify different ways to reach that vision. To present the community with those options on how the City can grow, and receive feedback on goals and policies, a community workshop series on future growth and guiding policies was held in November 2025. One workshop was held in each City Council District, with one



Figure 1. Community members participate in the District 1 Community Workshop.

community-wide workshop held downtown. **Over 100 individuals attended** one or more of the workshops, providing valuable feedback to help shape the future of the City of Spokane.

These in-person workshops included discussion, mapping exercises, and feedback opportunities related to various aspects of the Comprehensive Plan, including the new element of climate and resiliency. Each station sought reactions and comments on how community members wanted to shape the next twenty years. Kids activities and catered food was also available.

Station 1: Guiding Policies

After learning more about the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update and Environmental Impact Statement process through informational posters, the first activity station revolved around the policies of the Comprehensive Plan and the current [Chapter Review](#) process. Community members were asked to identify what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the updated Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the currently proposed amendments.

Themes from the four community workshops include:

Accessibility (housing, public spaces, “sittable” neighborhoods)	Address employment and job creation
Incentives to revitalize vacant properties	More “third places” for community connection
Bikeable streets, including protected bike lanes	Levels of service for fire safety
Art districts	Daycare centers and support
Address land speculation	Creating neighborhood identities
Indoor swimming pools	More greenways and trails
Incentives for affordable and mixed-use housing	Greater civic engagement, involvement, and transparency

Conservation/migration corridors and natural playgrounds	Create/support quality and beautiful places to live
Reduced dependency on single occupancy vehicles	Support for unhoused residents, including work programs
Context sensitive design standards	Sidewalk and pedestrian safety
Allow for more mixed uses in neighborhoods to support walkability, create local “hubs”	Coordination of road construction to prevent multiple roadway maintenance in the same direction

Station 2: Displacement

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Spokane has completed [analysis on racially disparate impacts and displacement risk](#) to meet state legislative requirements (HB 1220). After being presented with the three different types of displacement - physical, economic, and cultural - community members were asked to help brainstorm causes of housing and small business displacement, as well as how the City of Spokane could address those causes.

Causes identified included **high housing costs** and **lack of housing inventory** to keep up with population increases, **mobile home parks being replaced**, businesses leaving and/or not having patrons due to **perception of safety** or **vandalism**, **lack of inclusive and accessible transit and public spaces**, **impact of taxes**, **buildings being demolished** for parking lots or shopping centers, **vacant or underutilized lots**, increase in housing **costs due to surrounding development**, **lack of pedestrian infrastructure**, **high insurance costs/losing property insurance** due to wildfire risk, **corporate rental ownership**, and **climate risks** (heat, lack of trees).

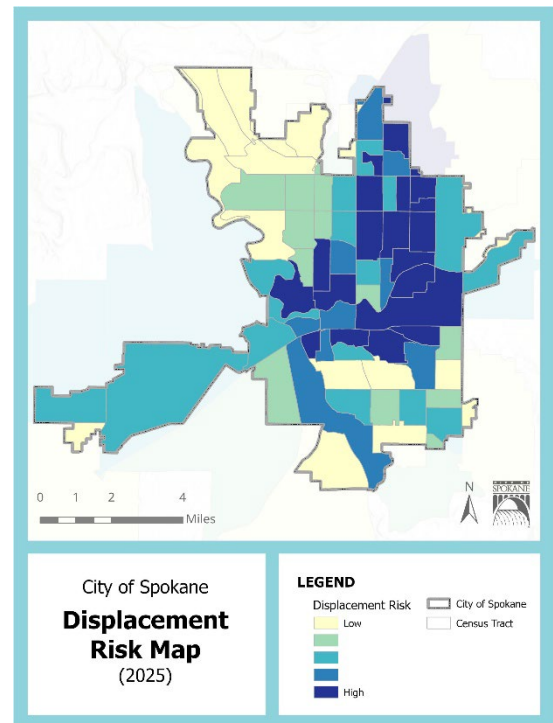


Figure 2. City of Spokane Displacement Risk Map from the Racially Disparate Impacts Analysis Report (2025).

Potential actions to address the causes included **streamlining permit processing**, the **City being involved in public housing development**, **replacing existing housing with affordable multi-family housing**, **create supportive zoning** before development is expected to occur, **wildfire risk mitigation** (to address insurance issues), **rental costs management**, **increase transportation options** (pedestrian friendly streets/bus routes/road access), and **support community resiliency** to climate hazards.

Station 3: Land Use Schema

One aspect of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update includes updating the land use schema for the City of Spokane, with the goal of reducing the number of land use categories. Land use is essentially what kinds of uses can be built where, and community members were asked to provide feedback on the proposed land use categories: Urban Agriculture, Residential Low, Residential High, Commercial, Centers & Corridors, Institutional, Downtown, Industrial, and Open Space. Community members were asked what uses they would like to see in each proposed land use and where they should be located.

Urban Agriculture

- Allow flower growers, small vegetable and fruit farmers market-style food production
- Locate to avoid impacts of potential pesticides
- Preserve agriculture in the city by only allowing agricultural uses

Residential Low

- Ensure there is human-scale and human serving design, walkable third places, a transition between low- and high-density areas, and that the scale of residential and commercial uses match
- Allow parking, community gardens, small mixed uses (cafes, ice cream parlors, bookstores, medical uses like a dentist), indoor community pools, community gathering spaces, and professional offices
- Do not allow gas stations
- Create a process of neighborhood input on project-by-project basis for non-standard uses
- Develop incentives for neighborhood businesses
- Prioritize adaptive reuse over new development
- Locate near centers and corridors and other high intensity uses

Residential High

- Ensure accessible housing (no stairs)
- Expand into existing lower scale residential, such as near transit or in close proximity to amenities
- Have a minimum density

Commercial

- Expand mixed uses
- Leverage vacant commercial areas to add business or apartments
- Establish zoning requirements for gas stations/convenience stores related to sober living and other affordable housing services

Centers & Corridors

- Allow multi-unit housing and trade/live-work makerspaces
- Do not allow drive throughs, gas stations, convenience stores, hostile architecture, or single-unit homes

- Locate throughout Division once NS Corridor is complete and traffic reduces

Downtown

- Allow taller buildings and larger business spaces

Institutional

- Incentivize apartments
- Allow community pools

Industrial

- Encourage adaptive reuse of existing spaces

Open Space

- Allow undeveloped/natural parks with trails, mountain biking, indoor community pools
- Ensure enough parks/trails for those living in dense areas/apartments to have outdoor access, as well as accessible open spaces
- The full length of the Spokane River should be a public park
- Prioritize passive natural spaces

Station 4: Growth Alternatives

A significant result of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update and Environmental Impact Statement will be the selection of a Preferred Alternative – the desired direction for growth and prioritization for the City of Spokane’s next twenty years. To identify that Preferred Alternative, the City must study different Growth Alternatives, which are different ways to address population growth, economic goals, and the community vision. More detailed analysis and comparisons will be available during the Draft Environmental Impact Statement public comment period expected to kick off in December 2025. This poster station allowed for an initial reaction to the potential options.



Figure 3. Community members participate in the District 2 Community Workshops.

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy.

Alternative 2 received the most votes with 25. **Alternative 3 came in second** with 7 votes. One vote selected a middle ground between Alternative 1 and Alternative 2. **Alternative 1 did not receive any votes** (presumably due to community understanding that it does not meet all state legislative requirements).

Rather than voting for a specific Alternative, most community members provided comments on the City of Spokane’s future growth. The Preferred Alternative can be a combination of elements of the different Growth Alternatives, with these comments providing direction on what aspects were viewed positively from each alternative.

In general, community members liked the **interconnectedness of Alternative 2**, but also saw the benefit of the **Center City focus of Alternative 3** on businesses, community safety, and more housing. *Full comments can be found in the workshop-specific memos in the appendix of this summary.*

Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City.



Figure 4. Mixed-use descriptions provided for the Map Your Future Spokane exercise. A higher resolution image can be found in the Workshop Posters appendix.

In general, **MU-TOD** was located along Division/Ruby, Market Street, Mission Avenue, North Monroe, near Shadle Library on Wellesley, in parts of downtown and Cliff-Cannon, Hamilton and the northernmost portion of Nevada Street, and in areas along 29th.

MU-1 was located in Hillyard, Nevada Heights just east of Division, the middle of Cliff-Cannon, north Five Mile Prairie, in parts of Audubon/Downriver and West Central, between Northwest and Balboa/South Indian Trail, North Monroe, near Shadle Library on Wellesley, and downtown.

MU-2 was located in Nevada Heights, the middle of Bemiss, adjacent to Chief Garry Park within the Chief Garry Park neighborhood, the northwest corner of Manito/Cannon Hill, north of Comstock, Shiloh Hills, Northwest, North Hill, along Indian Trail Road, and in areas along 29th.

MU-3 was located in the middle of Hillyard and Bemiss, multiple locations in Cliff-Cannon, on West Sunset Boulevard, Audubon/Downriver, Northwest, and along the edges of Manito/Cannon Hill.

Additional comments about mixed-uses included:

Provide more uses in proximity to housing to reduce distance/need for transportation	Trade and makerspaces in West Central
There's currently a lack of affordable and larger retail near neighborhoods, not just small	Mobility connectivity for all modes in East Hillyard is a local priority
No more drive throughs	MU-2 should be everywhere
More intensity along arterials, transition to higher commercial, and then allow residential	No mixed-use in neighborhoods, concerned over exploitative development
Need a Latah-Cannon Corridor Plan to address traffic, 195 and I-90 ramp	Need parks and trails in Hillyard
More health and transportation access in West Central	Designated business district/center/corridor down east Broadway of West Central
Encourage trades academy	Support the creation of 24-hour daycare
Increase pedestrian/bike infrastructure along Northwest Boulevard	Create protections against displacement in Chief Garry Park around City Line stops, including increasing resources for community

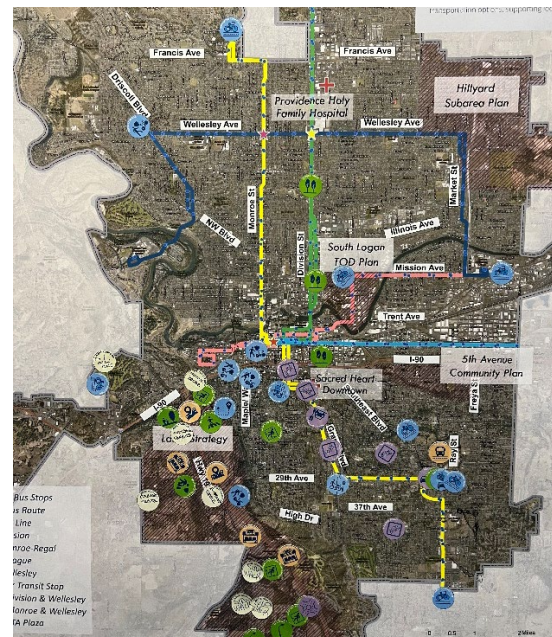
Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise to indicate preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements they want to see along major transit stops, with street trees and greater connectivity being consistent themes. *Full summaries can be found in the workshop-specific memos in the appendix of this summary.*

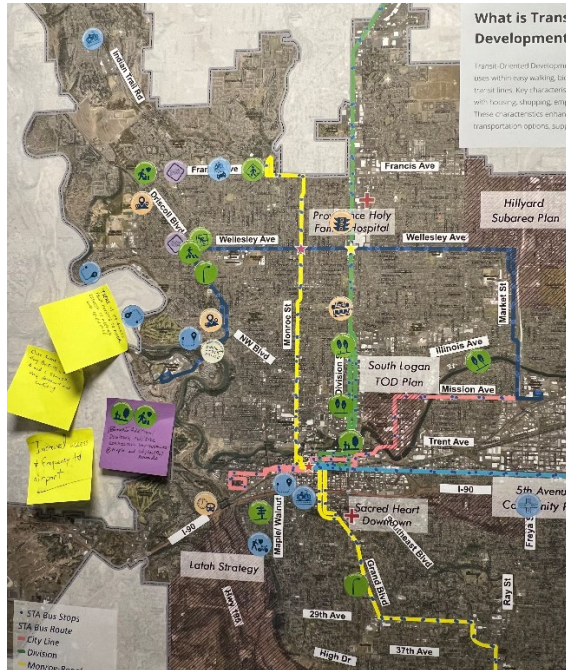
District 1



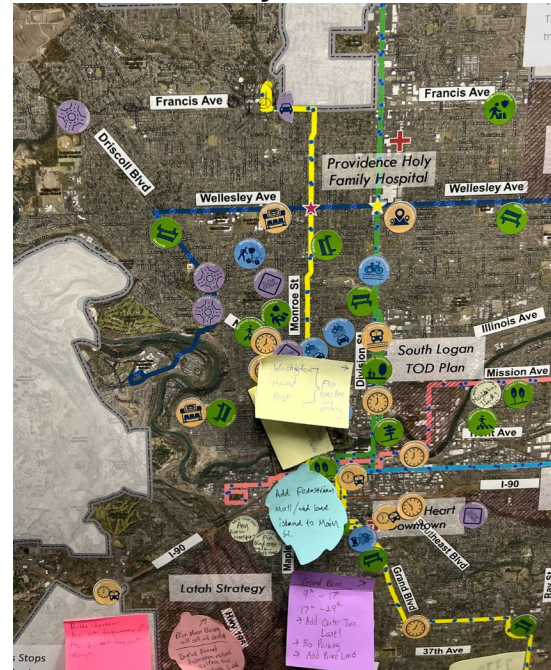
District 2



District 3



Citywide



Station 7: Planning for Climate

Another significant component of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update is the integration of climate and resiliency policies into the Comprehensive Plan to align with recent state legislation. [Climate Planning efforts](#) have been ongoing, with this workshop series providing an opportunity to bring all elements of the update together for community input. Workshop attendees were first asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency.

Key themes from the feedback include **tree canopy** expansion and protection; **resilient and equitable development**; climate resilience **education and community engagement**; **water conservation and quality**; **energy efficiency and weatherization**; **reducing car reliance**; **air quality and pollution reduction**; **fire safety and mitigation**; access and preservation to **natural spaces**; and **housing and infrastructure**.

Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement, including wildfire smoke and extreme heat, water conservation, human health, food systems, tree canopy and green spaces, transportation and infrastructure, education, collaboration, and financial barriers. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance.

Topics identified include:

Address financial barriers	Food security
Do not exclude businesses from SpokaneScape program	Local community solutions to address climate hazards and resiliency
Greater bike infrastructure and connectivity	Impact of Artificial Intelligence
Increased shade	Water conservation
Convert unused city property to green spaces	Walkable neighborhoods
Indoor spaces to escape to during weather extremes	More resources directed to conservation programs
Trees and native landscaping, including potential for fruit trees as street trees	Support creation of more efficient building construction
Balance between infill development and trees	Active role of City in tree planting programs
Green infrastructure/swales	Education programs to support local resiliency
Mental and physical health	Intersection of natural and built environment
Protect mature trees and iconic basalt rocks	Increase accountability, including for businesses
Require parking	Maintenance of street trees
Incentives for tree planting in the north of the city	Weatherization/support new windows for historic homes
Recognition of limits to growth	"Dead internet" greenhouse gas emissions
Restrict wood burning fireplaces to improve air quality	Adjust development requirements to allow more room for trees
Growth numbers should consider possibility of climate refugees	Faster and cheaper transit (including through bus-only lanes and in Latah Valley)

Station 9: Environmental Justice

Environmental justice, as defined by state law, means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. It includes addressing disproportionate health and environmental impacts. Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan.



Figure 5. Community members participate in the District 3 Community Workshops.

Workshop attendees were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice. Key themes included supporting a **safe and connected transportation**

system that does not rely on single-occupancy vehicles, **targeting heat mitigation and resiliency** to vulnerable populations, **expanding green infrastructure** and tree canopy, **neighborhood investment without displacement**, and **City-funded resiliency investments** that support impacted neighborhoods and communities.

Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process, which will help ensure that selected policies can be implemented



Figure 6. Community members participate in the Citywide Community Workshops

and align with state requirements. Presented with the options of Resilience, Equity, Climate Pollution Reduction, Logistics, and Risk, community members were asked to identify the criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others.

Resilience came in first, with 21 votes, followed by **Equity** (16 votes) and **Climate Pollution Reduction** (15 votes). **Logistics** received 8 votes, while **Risk** had a total of 4 votes.

In addition to what was listed, community members were then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

Build equity into each criterion	Legislative control to create solutions
How to reduce homelessness/outdoor sleeping to make people less vulnerable	Prioritize policies with City action rather than informational or “encouraging” resident action
Emphasize natural environment as a component of resilience criteria	Without resilience, we will have a hard time delivering on the other policies
Improvement to tree canopy	Clear out underbrush in fire risk areas
Inequitable impact of policy	Banning of wood burning fireplaces
Balancing costs and benefits to ensure prospective business ventures aren’t impacted	Spreading out of affordable housing, “stop consolidating poverty”
Tighten controls on vehicle emissions	Allowing for shelters near services

Next Steps

Feedback received during the community workshops on future growth and guiding policies will inform amendments to goals and policies in the Comprehensive Plan, as well as discussion around the chosen growth strategy (or Preferred Alternative) for Spokane’s next twenty years. Community members will have the opportunity to take a deeper dive into the details of and comparisons

between the Growth Alternatives after the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in December 2025, which will include a formal public comment period. More information about the Draft EIS will be available at PlanSpokane.org upon release. Final adoption of the PlanSpokane 2046 Comprehensive Plan is expected in the later part of 2026.



Figure 7. PlanSpokane 2046 process timeline

Community feedback will be accepted throughout the entire PlanSpokane 2046 process, from helping select the Preferred Alternative to weighing in on proposed goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

We invite your participation:

- Visit the project webpage at PlanSpokane.org to learn more about the planning process
- Learn more about the Climate Planning efforts at my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning
- [Subscribe to the PlanSpokane monthly newsletter](#) to receive timely updates
- Attend future meetings and hearings hosted by the City of Spokane
- Provide written comments or ask questions to the Planning team by emailing PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org

Appendices –

District 1 Memo

District 2 Memo

District 3 Memo

Community-Wide Memo

Workshop Posters



Memo

Re: District 1 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The District 1 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 12, 2025 at Yasuhara Middle School. **Approximately 22 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Move civic engagement
- More districts for city council members
- More government transparency
- Incentives for empty properties on Division following BRT implementation
- More third places
- Continue partnerships with housing services and neighborhood councils
- Bikeable streets.

Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Consider the impacts of housing costs because of Division BRT.
- Get ahead of zoning along the corridor for middle/multi-unit housing.

Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses

should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Residential Low:
 - Allow professional office
 - Allow MU-3 uses (like The Scoop)
- Residential High:
 - Have minimum density
- Centers and Corridors:
 - Do not allow single-unit homes
- Open Space:
 - Include intentional passive recreation

Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, Alternative 2 received 5 votes, and Alternative 3 received 1 vote.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selection, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- Evacuation routes need for Latah Valley area/Vinegar Flats
- Distribute growth to remove silos between neighborhood and connected the community.
- Capitalize on larger roads to connect centers and places people visit
- Address Division BRT fully in Alt. 2 and 3.
- Require parking for large housing developments to be located within garages/parking structure.
- Turn parking lots into garages for a better use of land, especially around gathering places (e.g. arena).
- Build up, two story buildings waste land potential
- Have services in all areas of the city.
- Lack of ability to make left turns on Division can cause vacant lots/lack of businesses/patrons.
- Alternative 2 seems to be a natural approach to what will likely occur naturally.
- Vinegar Flats has a potential for job growth (mini Hillyard).

- Vinegar Flats is separate from Latah Valley area and should be treated as having different potential
- Build up, not out; focus on downtown and where growth already exists.
- Base Latah Strategy on infrastructure findings for connectivity.

Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, respondents wanted MU-TOD along Division; MU-1 in Hillyard, Nevada Heights just east of Division, and in the middle of Cliff-Cannon; MU-2 in Nevada Heights, the middle of Bemiss, adjacent to Chief Garry Park within the Chief Garry Park neighborhood, the northwest corner of Manito/Cannon Hill, and the north of Comstock; MU-3 in the middle of Hillyard and Bemiss, the southeast corner of Bemiss, multiple locations in Cliff-Cannon, and along the edges of Manito/Cannon Hill.

In addition to pin placement, addition comments included:

- Make transportation less required (most uses in close proximity to households)
- Lack of affordable and larger retail near neighborhoods, highlighting Bemiss
- Mobility connectivity for all modes in East Hillyard is a local priority

Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting improved crosswalks and wider sidewalks along Northwest Boulevard; street trees, lighting and faster bus times around Vinegar Flats; improved crosswalks Downtown; more street trees on Market Street; separated bike lanes, improved crosswalks, lighting, and bus shelters along Division between the Ruby interchange and Wellesley; lighting and wider sidewalks in the Logan neighborhood, south of Wellesley; and improved bike connections and faster bus times in Hillyard.

In addition to sticker placement, addition comments included:

- Better crosswalks on Wellesley at Driscoll Boulevard
- Better lighting along bus routes including Route 28
- Hays Park needs sidewalks
- Bus shelter at Bridgeport and Glass

- Improve crosswalks at Glass
- Need a bus route on Freya in Wellesley area
- Fix Hairball intersection at Main/Monroe/Spokane Falls
- Pedestrian bridge is needed on Rowan to cross NSC
- Bridgeport near Division, people park half on sidewalk and half on street
- Fire access at Euclid into Minnehaha needs to be improved

Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- Facilities and accommodations for dogs/pets.
- More shade on sidewalks.
- Reduction of VMTs through denser housing and more walkability.
- Locally fund ore SpoCanopy.
- Increase LOS for active transportation, reduced LOS for cars.
- More shade on trails and bus stops.
- Non-shaded areas and sidewalks are a burn risk for kids (toys, slides, etc.).
- Water conservation should not be focused just on residents.
- More fuel reduction in WUI areas.
- Continue tree canopy program.
- More QR codes around town (like parks) so people can get connected to information.
- Less black asphalt that raises heat, more white concrete.
- More sidewalk connectivity.
- More spending on education on water usage information.
- Removed trees need to be replanted in that area (not elsewhere in the City).
- Areas with lower tree canopy need higher tree requirements.
- More lawn alternative promotion, not just SpokaneScape.
- New Hillyard there are big oil tanks that burp oil smells into homes, cause air quality issues.
- Make the things that have and have not worked known; tell residents about known issues.
- More mail fliers of education, not just online.
- More education on fire wise and fuel reduction programs the City is already doing.
- Install solar panels over parking lots.

Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- Trees:
 - Require in new development
 - Leave existing trees in new development
 - Active City involvement in tree planting (don't require residents to request trees, ask them if they want trees)
- Oversight of street trees to support maintenance and growth to ensure trees live
- Swales

Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Connect bicycle network and make e-bike traffic less dangerous.
- Expand the transportation network for bike and pedestrian connectivity.

Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 1 vote, Equity received 1 vote, Climate Pollution Reduction received 1 vote, Logistics received 1 vote, and Risk received 1 vote.

Community members were then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Prioritize policies with city action rather than informational or “encouraging” resident action.
- Improvement to tree canopy (increase oversight and assistance, reduction of water costs to water trees, tree health support)



Memo

Re: District 2 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The District 2 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 5, 2025 at Ferris High School. **Approximately 40 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Don't use broad terms in Comprehensive Plan
- Levels of service, especially for fire

Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Affordable Housing
- Address vandalism to support businesses
- Concerned about gangs for both housing and small businesses
- Lack of pedestrian infrastructure and transit
- High insurance for homes in the WUI, mitigate wildfire risk
- Corporate rental ownership
- Tree desert/heat island in certain neighborhoods
- Increase tree canopy
- Codes that require solar cooling
- Control rents
- Increase bus routes
- Create more pedestrian friendly streets
- Build roads before new development
- High housing costs

- Losing property insurance
- City should work with the State on housing costs and insurance loss

Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Urban Agriculture:
 - Preserve, no other use allowed.
- Residential Low:
 - Allow businesses catered toward people walking
 - Allow neighborhood input on a project-by-project level for other uses
 - Allow coffee shops, gathering spaces, and bookstores
 - Develop incentives for neighborhood businesses
 - Prioritize historic/adaptive reuse over new development (both commercial and residential)
 - Commercial and residential can coexist as long as the scale and auto vs pedestrian uses match each other in intensity.
 - Locate near centers and corridors and other high intensity uses.
- Commercial:
 - Zoning requirements for gas stations and convenience stores related to sober living and other affordable housing services.
- Centers and Corridors:
 - Do not allow drive-thrus, gas stations or any other auto-oriented uses.
- Open Space:
 - Should include parks and natural open space.
 - Preserve open space.
 - Protect trees during development, including on private property.

Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, one vote was cast for a middle option between Alternative 1 and Alternative 2, Alternative 2 received 6 votes, and Alternative 3 received 2 votes.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selected, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- Direct growth to Garland/Perry/Downtown/areas already with growth and not within neighborhoods with limited parking and emergency access.
- Direct growth away from mature trees and rock formations.
- Distributed housing and transportation needed.
- Alternative 2 & 3 should both focus on TOD and increased affordable housing.
- Large subdivisions should have traffic lights to exit to accommodate surrounding growth.
- Duplexes built and sold as duplexes are not selling/not affordable; concerns over affordable housing in alternatives.
- Parking requirements should be 1 space per unit.
- Need safe crossings to bus stops/park and rides.
- High intensity housing can be isolating, community hubs are needed.
- Increase housing downtown; get more people visiting downtown.
- Locate mix-use along NS Corridor interchanges.
- Address Airway Heights growth impact on access to water.
- Concerns over Division traffic and conflict of businesses, curb cuts.
- Infrastructure needs to be in place before continuing to allow new development (Freya Lower South Hill highlighted).
- More mixed-uses everywhere; less areas with single uses.
- Locate employment and industrial uses on edges of the city.
- Provide/expect commercial uses to pop up around employment.
- Provide more attractions; things for groups/teens to do together.

Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, participants had few locations they wanted mixed-uses to be located. However, MU-TOD was identified for Market Street, North Monroe, and portions of Ruby. MU-3 was identified on West Sunset Boulevard.

In addition to pin placement, additional comments included:

- MU-2 should be everywhere.
- No neighborhood businesses, there is no parking.

- No Latah-Cannon Corridor plan; all the traffic, no plan.
- No mixed use in neighborhoods, protect neighborhood from exploitive development.
- Want to see more intensity at arterials, then higher commercial, and finally residential.
- Want a transportation plan for Cliff-Cannon; there's no future plan considering 195 and I-90 ramp.

Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting street trees along Ruby and Division, as well as downtown; improved bike connections north of Francis Avenue in the northwest, in South Logan at Mission and Hamilton, near Spokane Community College, and near Ray Street, Regal, and other areas in South Spokane; separate bike lanes at Wellesley and Driscoll Boulevard, within Latah Valley, and in various locations near downtown and just south of I-90 in the southwest; bus route improvements near Vinegar Flats and within Latah Valley; bus shelters throughout Latah Valley and on Ray Street; speed management along Grand Boulevard; and new and improved crosswalks throughout the southwest. Additional improvements, largely in in the southwest, include emergency services, improving bridges, new sidewalks, fixing of roads, lighting, and new intersection.

Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- Create trails that are more like dog parks
- Support engaged and active citizenry for resiliency
- Expand safe bike and walking to grocery stores
- Responsible and equitable development
- Increase density and make it easier for residents to do that themselves
- More trees and shade along trails
- Ban wood burning fireplaces
- Create urban public garden inside parks
- Encourage TOD
- Encourage safe streets for bikes and pedestrians; protected bike lanes, more crosswalks
- Expand bike in infrastructure
- More walkable neighborhoods (i.e. 29th and Grand area)
- Canon area lost lots of trees, not replanted by new development
- People drink PFAS and then it moves through sewer pipes and treatment

- Sewer infrastructure in Canon is old and breaks often
- Lack of parking becomes a safety and resiliency issue
- Incentivize more tree canopy in lower areas but maintain aging tree canopy (especially in aging demographics)
- Water quality of PFAS in mystic falls/garden spring due to development
- More dense development so there is less cross through traffic to sprawling suburbs
- Enable neighborhoods to create more social capital and be able to take action and help issues
- Incentivize responsible development
- Solar on rooftops before green spaces
- Money, investment, and code is very car focuses and needs to be more holistic
- Toolkit for tactical urbanism (empower communities to improve areas themselves)
- Life flight should use major corridors to reduce residential and wildlife noise pollution
- Expand historic preservation, create culture like Canon
- Fix challenging areas for biking (hills make it impossible and dangerous to bike, even with e-bikes)
- NSC will bring more car infrastructure and needs to be more resilient and multimodal
- Development should not be in neighborhoods
- Maintain our strong tree canopies
- Need more protected bike lanes
- Extend existing bike lanes, don't just stop the bike lanes suddenly
- Development should not remove trees, plants, and Spokane's distinct environment
- Rain retention facilities requirements should be stronger
- Bike lanes with multiple lines helps enforce walking
- Ensure social capital is created during development
- Green roofs
- More walking paths
- Stronger codes to maintain tree canopy
- Need to have an acknowledgement of growth/our limits

Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- Recognize limits to growth.
- Prioritize protection of mature trees and iconic basalt rocks.
- The new infill law is destroying mature trees and neighborhoods.
- No mixed-use growth in the middle of neighborhoods.
- Bike infrastructure
- Walkable neighborhoods
- Public Transportation in Latah Valley
- Protect trees
- Require parking spaces for all units, change setbacks to 5-feet, change lots from 20 to 50 foot minimum.
- Sponsor new windows for historic homes.
- Convert unused city property to public pea patches.
- Growth numbers should consider possibility of climate refugees.

Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Plant more trees
- More bike lanes in all communities
- Community infrastructure built now to we have it when growth occurs
- Sound walls along freeways to protect housing
- Reducing pollution in low-income areas
- Walkable neighborhoods for everyone

Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 6 votes, Equity received 3 votes, Climate Pollution Reduction received 4 votes, Logistics received 1 vote, and Risk received 2 votes.

Community members there then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Without resilience, we will have a hard time delivering on the other policies
- Clear out underbrush in fire risk areas.
- Inequitable impact e.g. when you add a historic district, you reduce the value of the homes surrounding the historic district.
- Ban wood burning fireplaces.
- Tighten controls on vehicle emissions.
- Stop consolidating poverty; spread out affordable housing outside of poverty-stricken neighborhoods.
- Balancing costs and benefits to ensure prospective business ventures aren't too impacts.
- Stop allowing shelters in areas with no services.



Memo

Re: District 3 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The District 3 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 18, 2025 at Salk Middle School. **Approximately 20 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Accessibility (housing and public space)
- Mixed-use housing in neighborhoods to make more “hubs” instead of strip malls
- More greenways and trails like Centennial; need north/south connections
- Protected bike lanes, not just painted ones
- Allow for more mixed use in established neighborhoods
- Allow for more walkable neighborhoods
- Sidewalks in existing development, not just new development
- Programs for homeless residents like jobs, including helping clean up neighborhoods
- Third spaces
- For elderly and disabled residents, walkable also means sittable
- Context sensitive design standards, especially in historic centers
- Sidewalk safety (e.g. electric scoots and conflicts with pedestrians)
- Require more design variety within new developments
- Create quality and beautiful places to live
- Less dependence on vehicles
- Allow for or encourage local services, restaurants, or grocery stores in neighborhoods
- Organize road construction planning so that if a main north/south roadway is under construction, you wait on further north/south projects

- Increase pedestrian safety at uncontrolled intersections on large roads, especially one way roads

Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Lack of low friction transit
- Lack of public spaces free from oppression
- Please always consider small business impact when considering taxes
- Greater options in affordable housing (location, size, etc.)
- Density transition, no high-rise next to single unit homes
- Building getting torn down for parking lots or mall centers
- Mixed use housing can balance both
- Vacant lots/parking lots sitting unused

Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Residential Low:
 - Consider impacts of less on-site parking
 - Allow small mixed uses (cafes, etc.) and embrace being an urban area
 - Allow mixed-use spaces, community spaces, community gardens, parks, and walkable third spaces.
 - No gas stations
 - Allow for small scale medical uses (e.g. dentist) near hospital district
 - Need transition between low- and high-density areas
- Residential High:
 - Needs to be expanded into existing lower scale residential, such as near transit or in close proximity to amenities
- Commercial:
 - Mixed use needs to be expanded
 - Take advantage of vacant commercial areas to add businesses or apartments
- Centers and Corridors:

- No hostile architecture
- Locate throughout Division once NSC is complete and traffic reduces
- Downtown:
 - Allow taller buildings and bigger business spaces
- Industrial:
 - Encourage adaptive reuse of existing spaces
- Open Space:
 - Undeveloped parks with trails, not every park needs big grass fields
 - Accessible open space
 - Mountain biking
 - 100% of the river should be public park

Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, Alternative 2 received 5 votes, and Alternative 3 received 1 vote.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selected, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- Development is currently happening below bluff, create transitional uses to reinvent the area.
- Alternative 2 plus downtown revitalization preferred.
- Allow Browne's Additional uses through the city/neighborhoods.
- Alternative 2 improves already existing sprawl in city limits, Alternative 3 avoids sprawl.
- Neighborhood hubs needed throughout, create economic areas in neighborhoods.
- Alternative 2 has housing more accessible to all parts of the city and spread impacts.
- Plan around future light rail.
- Balanced alternative allows for areas to grow and revitalize more.
- Do not focus on downtown, people do not visit as often as other parts of the city.
- To change behavior, give a better alternative; carrot needed first.
- Pedestrian only streets or golf cart/scooter only streets needed.
- Need easier access to bus routes like Division.

- Downtown focus creates opportunity for more housing and revitalization/reuse of existing buildings.
- Alternative 2 preferred, but with preservation of historic buildings, revitalize or reuse buildings.
- The investment downtown of Alternative 3 is a good priority to avoid businesses leaving.
- Like the mixed uses in north Spokane but want downtown focus as well.
- Housing does not fix homeless problems, need other solutions like centralized facilities.
- Take advantage of areas already changing – vacant areas, industries that moved.
- Downtown expansion plus the connectedness along the streets and transit lines.
- Reuse abandoned commercial buildings for housing.
- Increase middle housing everywhere.
- Job growth is important; make sure we are encouraging industries and not just mixed-uses.
- Like a multi-block approach to intensities (like Alt 3 downtown) over less depth along transit lines.
- Downtown as a primary working hub allows for investments to make it a safe and appealing destination.

Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, respondents wanted MU-TOD along Hamilton, North Monroe, and along the northernmost portion of Nevada Street; MU-1 between Northwest and Balboa/South Indian Trail neighborhoods, on North Monroe, and near the Shadle Library on Wellesley; MU-2 along Indian Trail Road; and MU-3 in the southwest corner of Manito/Cannon Hill, within Audubon/Downriver, and in Northwest.

Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting more street trees along Ruby and Division, Browne's Addition, and near Illinois Avenue; wider sidewalks on Division in downtown; lighting on Grand and south of Wellesley; bus shelters along Division; increase bus times near Government Way; better connected areas in Northwest and Audubon/Downriver as well as just south of downtown; improved intersection at near Freya and 5th Avenue; wayfinding near Maple/Walnut; and reduced speeds new Wellesley and Driscoll Boulevard.

In addition to sticker placement, addition comments included:

- There is no access from housing to river between TJ Meenach and Seven Mile.
- Close some intersections along Driscoll at A and C streets, they are dangerous and confusing.
- Increased (bus?) access and frequency to airport.
- Better “barriers” needed for separated bike lanes.
- Browne’s Addition/Downtown need pedestrian and bike connection improvements at Maple and 1st/Pacific/Riverside.

Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- Provide good resilient tree types that don’t cause damage to pipes.
- Help connect homeowners with getting weatherization like insulation (both knowledge and resources).
- Discourage the purchasing of big gas guzzling trucks, SUVs, etc.
- Support the replacement of trees when they need replanted
- Make our neighborhoods more beautiful and bring community pride
- Tree maintenance subsidies
- Fire hazard mitigation for homeowners
- Ensure trees are watered, when people quit watering their yards in the summer, they also don’t water the trees
- Developers need to plant higher age and mature trees
- Equal investment opportunities into neighborhoods
- Work with local areas, including Idaho, to maintain/preserve climate
- Use more fire safe housing material in new developments
- Targeted partnerships to get better air filters for the community
- More signage about issues like heat islands, where/when they are happening
- Take a position as a city to go solar, provide information to connect to contractors or best products
- More coverage of trees throughout Spokane
- Need formal river access for non-car residents between TJ Meenach and 7-Mile
- More trail and native preservation little parks
- Look at housing ages to determine places to target aging tree replacement
- Quit encourage people to remove yards, instead of drought tolerant, most people are landscaping with rock and amplifying the problem.
- Do more than just Avista providing energy efficiency

- Urban re-forestation tree planting subsidies
- Raise subsidy help by a sliding scale
- Window upgrade help to reduce energy cost

Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- No additional power to AI facilities, it will create more pollution
- More bus only lanes to make public transit faster, cheaper, and quicker
- SpokaneScape: incentive model is helpful, but businesses are exempt
- More improvements to bike infrastructure and consistent connectivity throughout neighborhoods
- Tree and native landscaping
- Better park and transit accessibility for walkable neighborhoods
- Tree canopy
- Promotion of local community solution for addressing climate
- Address financial barriers
- Low/zero friction public transit
- Shade
- Intersection of natural and built environment
- Mental and physical health
- Low-cost improvements to support biking
- Education around benefits of tree canopy
- Incentivize tree planting on the north side of the city
- Hold businesses more accountable
- Trees as physical barriers for bike lanes to improve safety
- Greenhouse gas emissions related to “dead internet”

Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Support bicycle use and protected bike lanes
- Fruit and nut trees in public spaces, not ornamental fruit trees
- Protected bike lanes and bus only lanes
- Supporting walkable neighborhoods for community development
- Fund solar panel
- Heat mitigation in neighborhoods, especially East Central

- City should provide funding opportunities for climate change mitigation activities
- Supporting pedestrian transportation
- Leaf removal should happen in West Central, equal access to resource
- More advertising for Spokaneopy and SpokaneScape
-
- Safer roads
- Support equity in neighborhoods impacted by freeways through noise barriers, reinvestment without gentrifying
- More bus rapid transit throughout the city
- Stop watering public spaces that aren't parks

Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 8 votes, Equity received 5 votes, Climate Pollution Reduction received 7 votes, Logistics received 5 votes, and Risk received 1 vote.

Community members there then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Legislative control to create solutions
- How to reduce homelessness/outdoor sleeping to make people less vulnerable
- Build equity into each criterion



Memo

Re: Citywide Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The Citywide Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 19, 2025 at the Central Library. **Approximately 35 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Art districts
- Neighborhoods being distinct
- Overnight daycares
- Spark House
- Address land speculation
- Shopping District (Monroe, Garland)
- Indoor swimming pools for the winter
- Trails
- Action plan for incentivizing affordable, dense housing
- Daycare centers
- Conservation/migration corridors to connect to County corridors
- Promoting outdoor activities in the winter e.g. park use in the winter, SCC pool
- Addressing employment and job creation
- Ensuring adequate levels of transportation/transit opportunities to reduce single occupancy vehicles
- Aim to make all playgrounds and parks accessible
- Natural playgrounds
- Shoreline master planning

Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business

displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Faster permit processing
- City should be involved in public housing development
- High housing costs are a concern
- Mobile home park developments being replaced by affordable multi-family housing
- Business displacement due to neighborhood perception of safety
- Lack of housing inventory to keep up with population increases

Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Urban Agriculture:
 - Allow flower growers, small vegetable and fruit farmers market-type food production
 - Locate to avoid impacts of potential pesticides
- Residential Low:
 - Human-scale and human serving design
 - Allow parking
 - Allow community gardens and indoor community pools
- Residential High:
 - Accessible housing (no stairs)
- Centers and Corridors:
 - Allow multi-family as well as trade/live work makerspaces
 - Do not allow drive throughs
- Institutional:
 - Incentives apartments
 - Community pools
- Open Space:
 - Allow indoor community pools
 - Provide enough parks/trails so those in dense areas/apartments have a place to go outside

Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, Alternative 2 received 9 votes, and Alternative 3 received 3 votes.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selected, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- North/South and East/West connection in Alternative 2 is a positive
- Diversity of locations is positive for clients/investors; “diversity of options”
- Use land along Government Way/West Hills
- Alt 2 creates bridge between neighborhoods
- Protect agricultural lands; encourage regenerative agricultural practices
- Like NW mixed use proposal
- East/West supported in Alt 2 along Wellesley and Francis
- Alt 3 plus Wellesley, E/W connection
- Like mixed use along NW Boulevard in Alt 2
- Alter 2 favors more positive distribution but also add corner stores
- Neither alternative focus on connecting smaller areas
- Encourage arts through home occupation
- Alternative 2 needs the medical focus and should include better transit for shift work for medical staff
- Watch out for community displacement in West Center/Broadway
- Push heavy industrial outside of city limits
- Health impact to neighborhoods should be analyzed
- Add home occupation for mix of jobs/uses
- Need traffic calming at Broadway in West Central
- Ensure professional buildings are also part of mixed-use areas, not just retail/food
- For industrial areas where residential areas can be allowed, expand the tree canopy
- Need to address transportation
- More mixed-use and corner stores with pedestrian emphasis
- Need code enforcement for parking in Cannon
- Maintain Center and Corridors

Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, respondents wanted MU-TOD near the Shadle Library on Wellesley, along Market Street in Hillyard, on North Monroe, along Mission, in parts of downtown and Cliff-Cannon, and in areas on 29th; MU-1 in north Five Mile Prairie, in parts of Audubon/Downriver and West Central, and downtown; MU-2 in Shiloh Hills, Northwest, and North Hill and in areas along 29th; and MU-3 in multiple areas spread out through Comstock, Latah/Hangman, Lincoln Height, East Central, Cliff-Cannon, Manito/Cannon Hill, Chief Garry, Audubon/Downriver, Bemiss, and Whitman.

In addition to pin placement, additional comments included:

- No more drive throughs
- Need parks and trails in Hillyard
- Design for less disruption in displacement
- Cannon's Addition concern over privacy with height differences
- Cannon's Addition needs transportation management
- More health and transportation access in West Central
- Trades academy
- 24-hour day care
- Designated business district/center/corridor down east Broadway of West Central
- Trade and maker spaces in West Central
- "Sparkhouse" at McKinley School, various locations throughout City
- Create protections against displacement in Chief Garry around City Line stops, including increasing resources for community
- Increase Pedestrian/Bike Infrastructure along Northwest Boulevard

Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting increase bus access in downtown, along Grand Boulevard, out towards the airport, and near Northwest Boulevard; bus shelters on Wellesley in West Central; downtown wayfinding, seating along Wellesley, Northwest Boulevard, Division, Market, Grand Boulevard, and Regal; improved or new crosswalks on Northwest Boulevard and near Monroe Street, as well as near Trent Avenue and on Francis; intersections throughout northwest Spokane; street trees in East Center and downtown; and greater and safer bike connectivity along Division, between Division and Monroe, and on Grand.

In addition to sticker placement, addition comments included:

- On Grand Boulevard from 9th to 29th, add center turn lane, remove parking, and add bike lanes.
- Increase separated protected bike connectivity north/south away from Centennial Trail
- Double decker bus cut frequency of the 6, not frequent enough
- Slow down one-way couplets or remove them
- No in-town highways
- Potential for strong transit connectivity with Valley-BRT or light rail on Sprague Avenue
- Add pedestrian mall/mid lane island to Main Street
- Create school streets and shared streets
- Finish the envisioned boulevard plan for Regal Steet through Southgate District Center
- On Washington, Howard, and Post flip bike lane and parking
- Push Monroe Road Diet down to Kendall Yards
- Recommended bus routes, including to natural areas like Mt. Spokane, Little Spokane River, and Bowl and Pitcher
- Slow default neighborhood speeds to 20 MPH
- Climate town videos like park(ing) day
- Grand should have a different type of arterial status
- Micromobility designated spaces/use for daylighting off sidewalk parking
- Blue Moon Nursery will sell and develop
- Develop planned pedestrian natural surface trail along Latah Creek
- Make a one hour bus loop down to Latah through Cliff-Cannon
- Pedestrian path buried in park development
- Trail easement at 11th Ave and bridge

Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- Climate resilience education
- End wood burning fireplaces
- Real penalties for water use abuse
- Park and ride/multimodal transportation system
- Incentivize public transit use
- Encourage water conservation and restrict water use in dry months
- Extreme weather even shelters
- Adon't rely on air conditioners as they just displace heat, use good design

- Increase accessibility of recycling and composting
- Stop logging forests to make room for development, planting street trees does not replace natural forests
- Address growth at the edge of the UGA
- Stop over building lots and not leaving space for trees
- Park and ride as entry way into public transit use

Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- Indoor spaces to escape to during weather extremes
- Water conservation
- More resources directed to conservation programs
- Street trees, including maintenance
- Food security
- Allow fruit trees near street/sidewalks
- City should partner with property owners to maintain trees to offset costs
- Support creation of more efficient building construction
- Restrict wood burning fireplaces to improve air quality

Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Low-income renters and homeowners can't easily afford maintenance of sidewalks/trees/bioswales, but these improve their environment; city needs to support neighborhoods by maintaining these elements
- Reduce light pollution
- Protecting elders from heat impacts through tree canopy and programs to reduce costs for AC units
- Land bridge for wildlife crossing (Thorpe and 195); don't just plan for humans
- Increase public indoor pools for year-round use for social and health benefits for kids and elderly
- Amenities like parks and other public places need to be designed to allow vulnerable populations to access during high temperatures

Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 6 votes, Equity received 7 votes, Climate Pollution Reduction received 3 votes, Logistics received 1 vote, and Risk received 0 votes.

Community members there then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Emphasize natural environment as a component of resilience criteria

Welcome!



The City of Spokane is working on a periodic update to the City's Comprehensive Plan as required by the State's Growth Management Act (GMA). This "periodic update" ensures the plan aligns with any changes to state law. The last periodic update was completed in 2017. Since then, the State has added new requirements, especially around climate and housing. Due in June 2026, the periodic update will identify policies and future regulations to guide the next 20 years of our city.

2024

- Climate Planning Kickoff
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Scoping - Growth Alternative Identification

- Review of Growth Alternatives
- Draft EIS
- Draft Plan

- Growth Alternative Selection
- Refine Plan

2026

- Final EIS
- Final Plan

FINAL ADOPTION

Continual Community Outreach and Engagement Throughout

What We're Planning For

Population

Based on growth forecasts for Spokane County, the City of Spokane is expected to gain at least **23,357 new residents between 2023 and 2046**, bringing the City's total population to just over 256,000.



23,357

projected new residents by 2046

Housing Needs

As part of the periodic update, the City of Spokane is seeking to better understand how to support existing housing while addressing future housing needs.

Per state requirements and County allocations, the City of Spokane is expected to need **22,359 additional permanent housing units** between 2020 and 2046. 13,415 of those units are to accommodate new residents, while the remaining units are intended to meet past housing underproduction needs. In addition to a total number of housing units, the City of Spokane is also required to plan for housing by affordability bracket.



22,359

additional permanent housing units needed between 2020 and 2046



Learn more at PlanSpokane.org



PLAN SPOKANE
Resilient | Connected | Livable | 2046



Environmental Impact Statement

Background

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 process, the City of Spokane is developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), an informational document that provides the City, public, Tribes, and agencies with environmental information to be considered in the decision-making process.

An EIS is required under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) for larger projects, such as significant updates to Comprehensive Plans. An EIS describes potential environmental impacts, reasonable alternatives, and ways to avoid or minimize negative impacts that could result from implementation of policies, informing the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update.



Draft EIS

The Draft EIS presents three alternatives to test different growth patterns and policies. The City of Spokane will then create a “preferred alternative” based on public input and the Draft EIS evaluation of the range of the alternatives.


The preferred alternative may include any features of the studied alternatives, including a combination of various elements from all of the alternatives. The preferred alternative will be evaluated in the Final EIS.

Final EIS

After public feedback and the selection of a preferred alternative, a Final Environmental Impact Statement will be written that analyzes the chosen path forward.

The Final EIS will also respond to comments received on the Draft EIS.


EIS Topics

 Earth, water quality, and water resources

 Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions


 Plants and animals, including critical areas and habitat


 Land use patterns and urban form, including historic and cultural resources

 Population, employment, and housing

 Relationship to plans, policies, and regulations

 Transportation, including multiple modes and city and state facilities

 Public services: police, fire and emergency medical services, parks, schools, libraries, solid waste

 Utilities: power, water, wastewater, and stormwater



Growth Alternatives

The City is studying three alternatives in the Draft EIS. Each alternative describes different growth strategies.

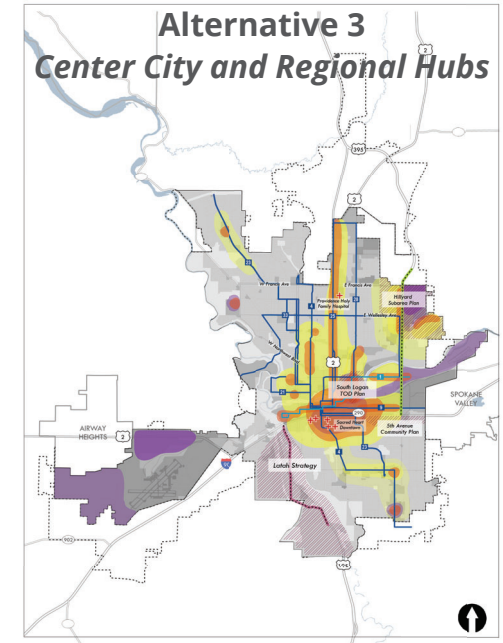
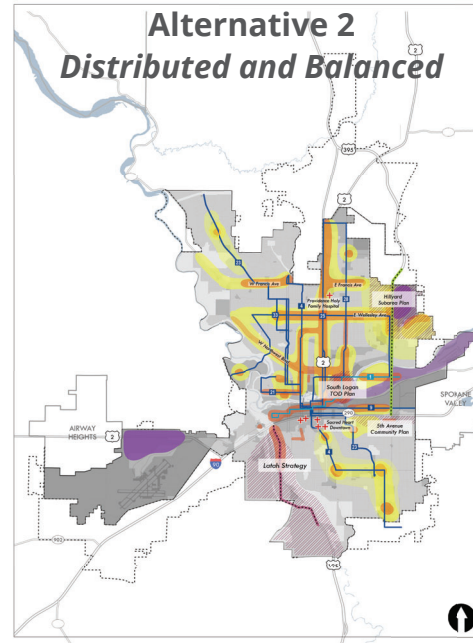
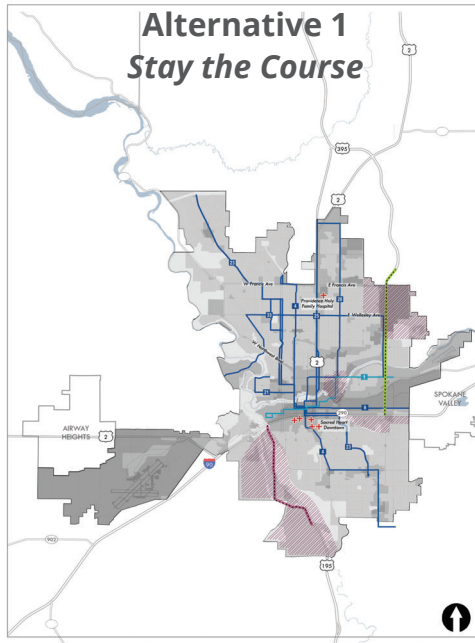
Legend

Growth Intensity (Alternative 1)

- Low
- Moderate
- Moderate-High
- High

Growth Intensity (Alternatives 2 and 3)

- High Density Housing
- Moderate Density Housing
- Mixed Use / Commercial
- Employment/ Industrial Light
- Employment/ Industrial Heavy



High Density Housing



Moderate Density Housing



Mixed Use / Commercial



Employment/ Industrial Light



Employment/ Industrial Heavy



Alternatives Comparison *(Preliminary)*

This board shares preliminary environmental impact evaluation results on the natural and built environment. Each table has a table or “report card” with comparison symbols. Impacts may be greater or lesser, or there can be potential beneficial impacts/mitigation measures. The results may change with the completion of the Draft EIS.

There will be a public comment opportunity to weigh in on the alternatives and the Draft EIS evaluation. That will help the City of Spokane create a Preferred Alternative that mixes and matches alternative features and adds mitigation measures that can reduce impacts on the natural and built environment.

Objectives

OBJECTIVES	ALT. 1	ALT. 2	ALT. 3
Meet Periodic Update Requirements	x	✓+	✓+
Accommodate Growth: Housing at All Affordability Levels	✓	✓+	✓+
Accommodate Growth: Jobs	✓	✓	✓+
Clarify the Plan	x	✓+	✓+
Simplify the Plan and Codes	x	✓+	✓+
Protect Critical Areas	✓	✓+	✓+
Fast-Track Desired Growth	x	✓+	✓+
Alignment with Vision Statement	x	✓+	✓+

Ability to Meet Objectives
 x Less ✓ More ✓+ Most

Report Card - Built Environment

BUILT ENVIRONMENT	ALT. 1	ALT. 2	ALT. 3
Land Use Patterns and Urban Form			
Land use and Urban Form compatibility: Changes in use type between adjacent areas and potential incompatibility.	▽	▼	▼
Environmental Justice: Increased exposure of overburdened populations to light or noise pollution, environmental hazards, or urban heat island effects	▼	▽	▽
Population, Employment, and Housing			
Capacity for Housing and Population Targets	▲	▲	▲
Housing Variety and Affordability	▼	▲	▲
Implementation of Housing Action Plan	△	▲	▲
Growth in Housing Displacement Risk Areas / Increased Housing Supply that Reduces Economic Displacement Pressure	▽,▼	▼,△	▼,△
Job types and quantity and ability to advance City and regional economic development strategies	▲	△	▲
Commercial business economic displacement	▼	▽	▼
Relationship to Plans, Policies, and Regulations	▼	△	△
Public Services			
Citywide demand for police, fire/emergency medical services, schools, parks, libraries, and solid waste	▼	▼	▼
Schools – Spokane School District	▽	▼	▼
Schools – Mead School District	▼	▽	▽
Environmental Justice – Growth in Areas with Health and Social Disparities and Greater Service Demand	▽	▼	▼,▼
Utilities			
Power, Water, Wastewater Demand	▼	▽	▽
Power, Water, Wastewater Infrastructure Upgrades	▽	▼	▼
Stormwater Generation	▼	▽	▽
Strength of Mitigation Potential – Plan and Code Updates	-	▲	▲

Report Card - Natural Environment

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	ALT. 1	ALT. 2	ALT. 3
Earth, water quality, and water resources: Potential for increased pollution and potential for increased rainfall runoff flows based on housing density distribution.	▼,▼	▼	▽
Plants and animals: Potential for habitat conversion, or loss of habitat connectivity			
Center City	△	△	▲
Northwest	▼,▼	▼	▼
Northeast	▼	▽	▽
South	▼,▼	▼,▼	▼,▼
West Plains	▼	▼	▼
Strength of Mitigation – Plan and Code Updates.	-	▲	▲

Adverse Impacts | **Potential Beneficial Impacts/Mitigation**
 ▽ Less Impacts ▼ More Impacts ▼,▼ Most Impacts | - Neutral Impacts △ Moderately Positive ▲ Positive

Your Ideas

What features of the different growth options do you like best? What could be improved?



Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation!

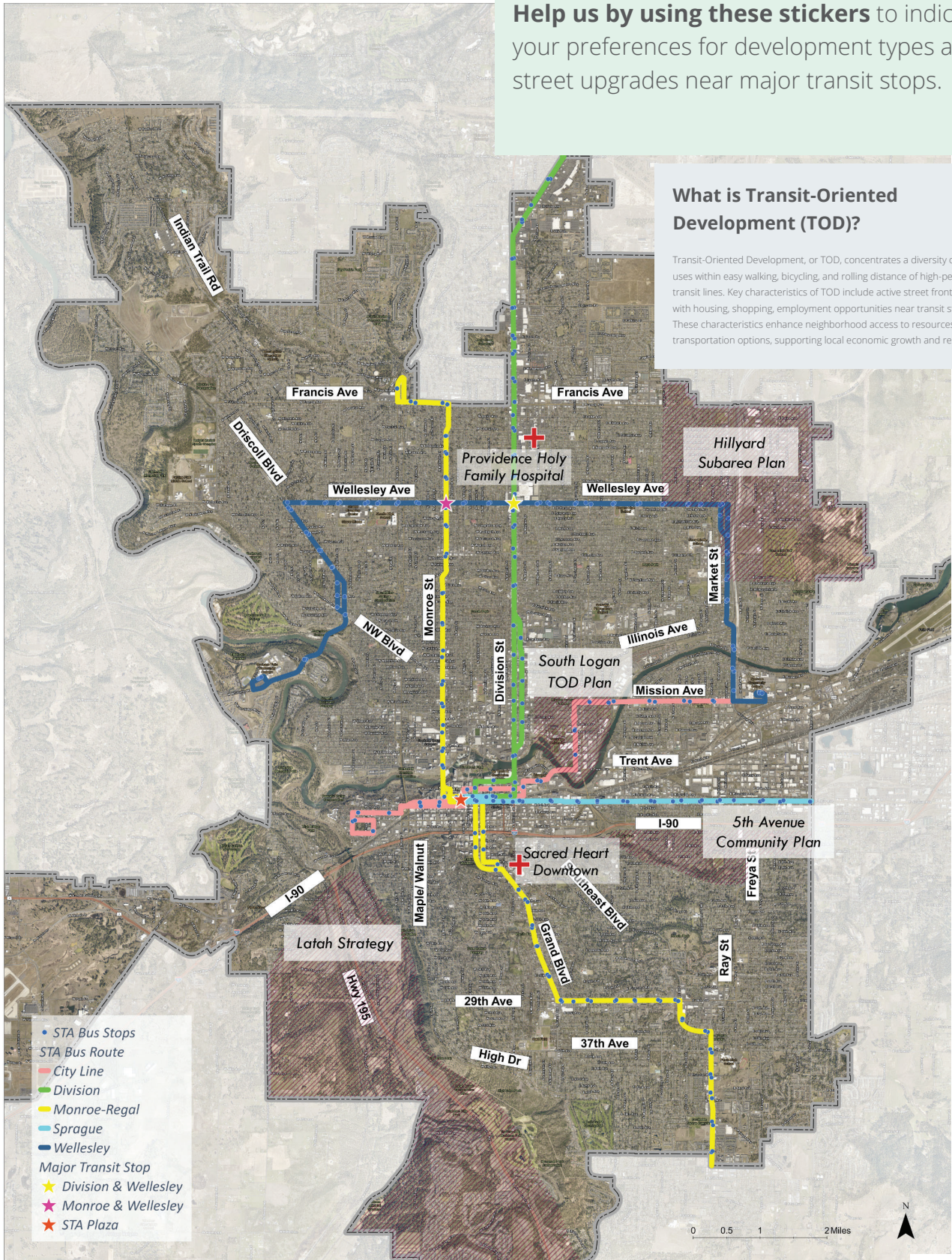


What type of street improvements and destinations do you want to see near transit throughout Spokane?

Help us by using these stickers to indicate your preferences for development types and street upgrades near major transit stops.

What is Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)?

Transit-Oriented Development, or TOD, concentrates a diversity of land uses within easy walking, bicycling, and rolling distance of high-performance transit lines. Key characteristics of TOD include active street frontages with housing, shopping, employment opportunities near transit stations. These characteristics enhance neighborhood access to resources and transportation options, supporting local economic growth and resiliency.



- STA Bus Stops
- STA Bus Route
- City Line
- Division
- Monroe-Regal
- Sprague
- Wellesley
- ★ Major Transit Stop
- ★ Division & Wellesley
- ★ Monroe & Wellesley
- ★ STA Plaza



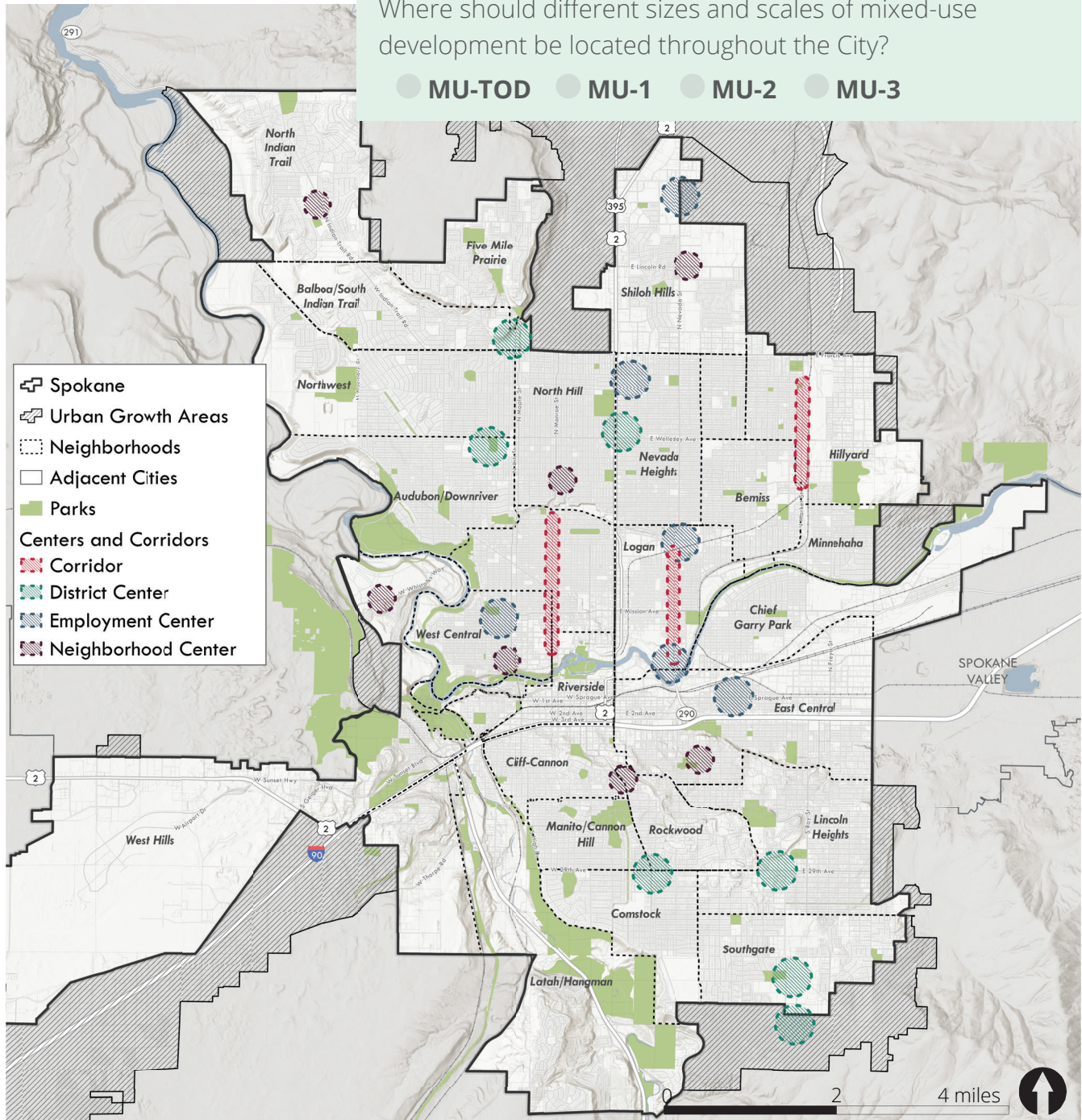
Map Your Future Spokane!



Earlier community feedback indicated a desire for more mixed-uses throughout Spokane.

Where should different sizes and scales of mixed-use development be located throughout the City?

● MU-TOD ● MU-1 ● MU-2 ● MU-3



MU-TOD

Transit-Oriented



- Targeted towards vicinity of major transit stops (within 1/4 mile).
- Tallest heights (150).
- Avoids vehicle-serving uses (no drive-thrus, commercial parking lots, etc.).
- No mini-storage
- Greatest provisions for people walking, bicycling, or rolling with assistive devices to access transit.

MU-1

Maximum Flexibility



- "Base" type for Centers and Corridors.
- Maximum amount of land use flexibility.
- Taller heights (90).
- Allow industrial zones where uses are currently industrial.
- Greatest amount of accommodation for people driving (drive-thrus permitted).
- Entirely residential buildings allowed.

MU-2

Small Neighborhood Scale



- Smaller scale and lower intensity than MU-1 zone.
- High amount of land use flexibility, but no self storage
- Moderate heights (75).
- Moderate support for people driving, but no drive-thrus on storefront streets
- Replaces some areas currently zoned Neighborhood Retail.

MU-3

Residential Mixed-Use



- Smallest scale and intensity, targeted towards neighborhood serving uses.
- Can be placed both inside Centers and in residential neighborhoods (limits on driveway spacing, street access)
- Heights similar to neighborhoods (40).
- Large-scale retail/services allowed but only in structures that also provide residential units.
- Focused on accommodating people walking, bicycling, rolling with assistive devices, and accessing transit.

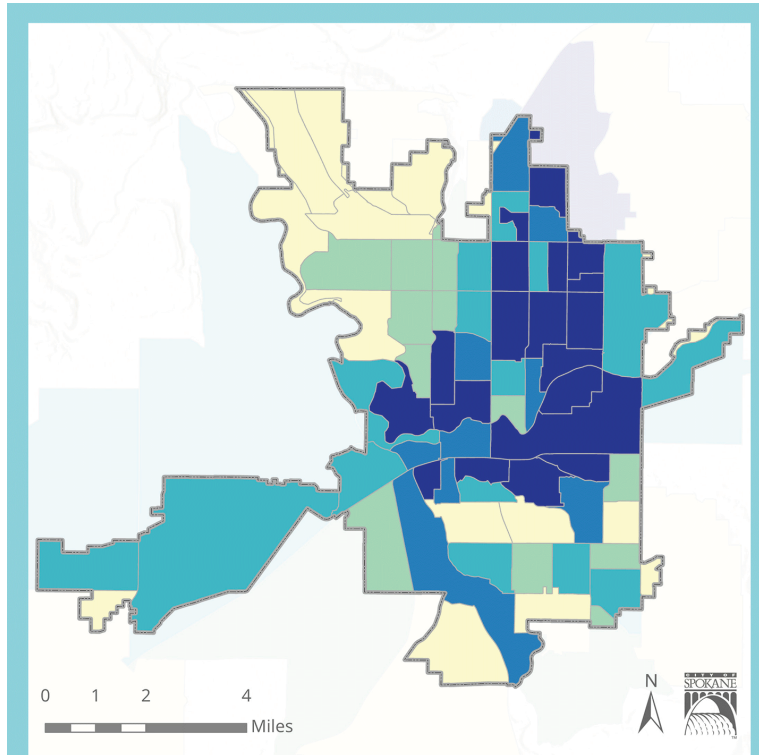


PLAN SPokane

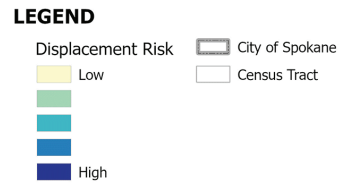
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Displacement



City of Spokane
**Displacement
Risk Map**
(2025)



As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update, the City of Spokane has completed analysis to understand displacement risk as we grow. As directed by recent state legislation (HB 1220), the City is working to establish anti-displacement policies.

Common anti-displacement policies include inclusionary zoning, tenant protections, public/private partnerships, tax incentives, community land banks, and development agreements.

There are three primary types of displacement:

- **Physical displacement**, which occurs when a project — such as building demolition, renovation, or infrastructure — creates such adverse conditions that a resident can no longer physically stay in their unit.
- **Economic displacement**, which occurs when increasing housing costs create pressure, forcing a household or business to move to a less expensive location.
- **Cultural displacement**, which occurs when changes render a neighborhood quite different, as many cultural institutions leave, creating a sense of isolation for long-term residents.

(Source: MRSC)



Your Ideas

What causes to housing and small business displacement are you most concerned about? How could the City address them?



Scan here



More information about the displacement analysis, as well as racially disparate impacts, can be found at the Housing Needs webpage



What Can Be Built Where?











Provide feedback on proposed land use designations that will implement the future growth of our city.

What uses should be allowed and where?

What is Land Use?

Land use is essentially **what kinds of uses can be built where**. It guides which uses are compatible in different parts of the City while ensuring the whole City has the right mix of residential, commercial, and industrial uses needed to support a thriving city and economy. For example, an area designated for “mixed use” can have an office, a restaurant, or living units on the same street, while an industrial land use will allow mostly manufacturing or warehouses. Each land use allows different zoning categories within it. Zoning determines the rules and regulations that apply for uses and development for each property.

Land use type	What uses should or should not be allowed?	Where should the land use be or not be located?
 Urban Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low intensity residential with agricultural uses Intended for small portions of the City already with agricultural operations 		
 Residential Low <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single-unit homes and middle housing Small scale businesses and other public-serving uses allowed 		
 Residential High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle housing and taller/wider buildings with more units Larger commercial uses than Residential Low 		
 Commercial <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-residential uses for living, working, and shopping Mixed-uses and multi-unit residential in some areas 		
 Centers & Corridors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core or “heart” of each Center or Corridor Other designations will likely be mixed in and around the core area 		
 Institutional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More intense residential and commercial uses to support colleges, medical centers, and other institutions 		
 Downtown <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taller buildings and higher density Range of uses 		
 Industrial <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Range of industrial uses including light industrial like maker spaces and rapid prototyping 		
 Open Space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active parks and open space protection in some areas 		



Chapter Review

Non-Technical Chapters Available for Public Comment

While there are many studies and projects in progress that will inform Comprehensive Plan updates through PlanSpokane 2046, a big part of any periodic update is a review and assessment of the many existing goals and policies. To this end, the City is undertaking a review of the current Comprehensive Plan, known as the Chapter Review process. Edits to the Community, Environment, and How We Grow Chapters have been made based on legislative requirements, direction from the Spokane Plan Commission, and community engagement.



All comments and recommendations on the non-technical chapters can be sent to PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org.

We encourage the public to include the Chapter name and Goal/Policy number(s) as applicable.

NON-TECHNICAL CHAPTERS

Community Chapters + *Climate*



Neighborhoods



Governance & Participation



Community Health

Environment Chapters + *Climate*



Natural Environment



Parks and Recreation



Shorelines
*

"How We Grow" Chapters + *Climate*



Urban Design

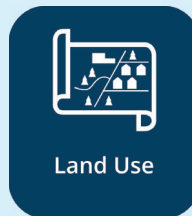


Historic Preservation

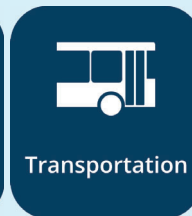


Economic Prosperity

Technical Chapters + *Climate*



Land Use



Transportation



Housing



Capital Facilities & Utilities

Climate will be addressed throughout the update.

**Per state regulations, Shorelines is not due to be updated until 2031.*



Learn more at the Chapter Review webpage



Guiding Policies

As part of the Chapter Review process, seven non-technical chapters have been reviewed and updated to meet state legislative requirements, recent plans and studies, direction from the Spokane Plan Commission, and ongoing community engagement. These chapters are now out for public comment, with additional changes to each chapter are likely to occur as public feedback is collected, additional analysis is conducted, and a preferred alternative is selected for the final Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).



Your Ideas

As the chapters of the draft Comprehensive Plan continue to evolve based on community feedback, what topics do you want to make sure are addressed?

Report cards summarizing the current edits to the non-technical chapters indicate how many new, removed, or changed policies are in each chapter.

Learn more at PlanSpokane.org.

Urban Design and Historic Preservation REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	8
Removed Goals & Policies	3
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	8

Community Health REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	7
Removed Goals & Policies	2
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5

Economic Prosperity REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	9
Removed Goals & Policies	8
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5

Local Governance REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	4
Removed Goals & Policies	0
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	2

Natural Environment REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	5
Removed Goals & Policies	3
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	6

Neighborhoods REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	1
Removed Goals & Policies	4
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5

Parks REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	4
Removed Goals & Policies	2
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5





Planning for Climate Change in the City of Spokane



The City of Spokane is embarking on a transformative journey to support community resiliency to growing climate hazards. As part of this effort, we're undertaking a major update to our Comprehensive Plan, a foundational document guiding the city's growth. This update, mandated by law and due in 2026, presents a unique opportunity to integrate climate considerations into every aspect of our city's future.

What will the City of Spokane's climate planning do?

The City of Spokane's climate planning effort focuses on two main areas: reducing climate pollution and building local resiliency to climate impacts.



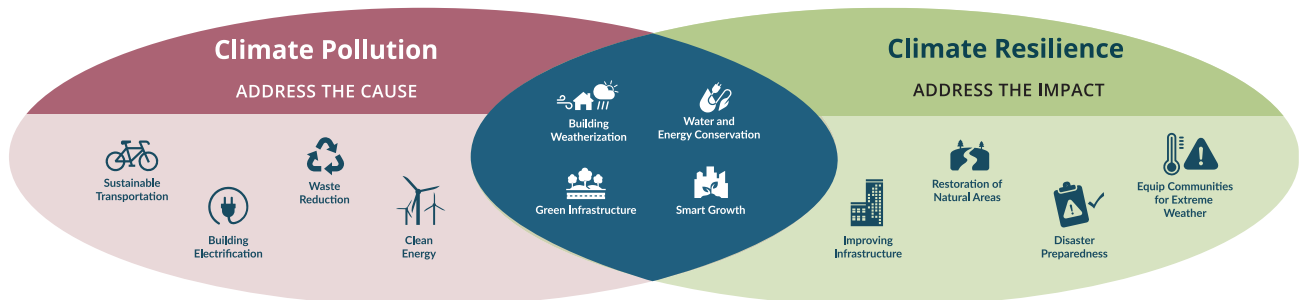
Reduce Climate Pollution

- 1 Cut pollution from transportation, buildings, and other sources without shifting pollution elsewhere.
- 2 Expand walkable neighborhoods, bike infrastructure, and reliable public transit to reduce the need for driving.
- 3 Focus on pollution reductions that prioritize and benefit overburdened communities most impacted.



Build Climate Resilience

- 1 Prepare for climate hazards like flooding, extreme heat, drought, and wildfire smoke.
- 2 Protect and enhance green spaces and natural areas.
- 3 Help everyone prepare and stay safe from the impacts of climate hazards, especially those who are most vulnerable and will feel the effects first and worst.



What actions do you want the City to take to support local climate resiliency?

Write your ideas on a sticky note and place it below.





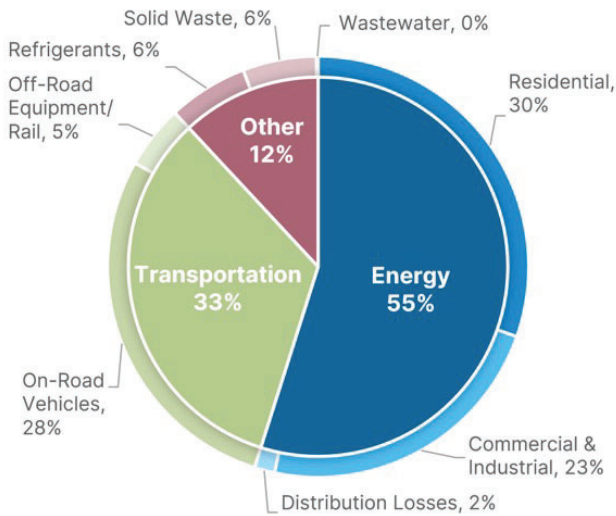
Climate Pollution in Spokane



What is Climate Pollution?

Climate pollution refers to the release of greenhouse gases and other pollutants that can affect the climate. It can cause serious effects on the environment, human health, farming, water supplies, and economies.

Climate Pollution Here in Spokane



In 2022, the City of Spokane community emitted about 2.28 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂e), a measure of climate pollution. This is equivalent to the smoke emissions released from 240 square miles of Washington forest burned! The pie chart below shows where this pollution comes from.

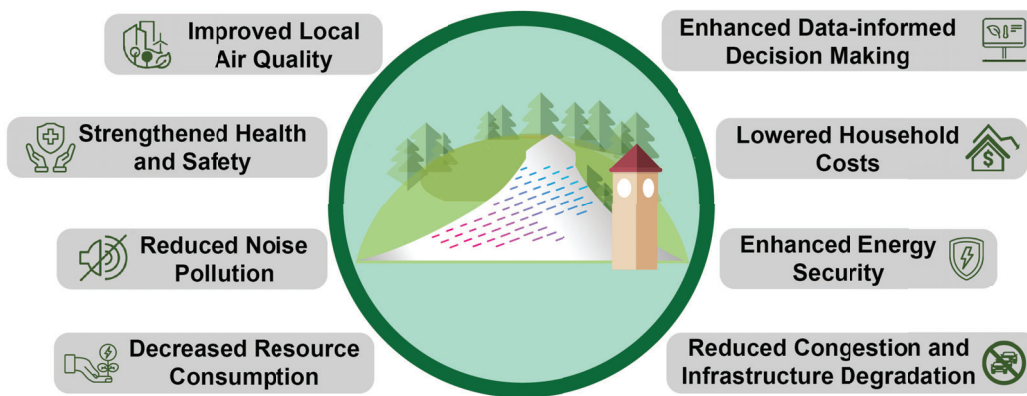
This information and your feedback will help Spokane set goals and create plans to reduce pollution from the biggest sources.



Scan the QR Code for more information about the City of Spokane's greenhouse gas emissions.

<https://my.spokanecity.org/publicworks/environmental/>

Benefits of Reducing Climate Pollution



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City of Spokane climate planning is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at www.climate.wa.gov.



Spokane's Climate Vulnerability

The City of Spokane created a Climate Vulnerability Index mapping tool to better understand which areas, people, and resources are most at risk from climate impacts like extreme heat and wildfire smoke. The tool looked at over 30 factors, such as exposure to climate hazards and the ability to adapt.

The map shows that some parts of Spokane, like in Northeast Spokane and along the I-90 corridor, have higher overall climate vulnerability relative to other parts of the City. Meanwhile, some areas south of I-90 and on the north end of Spokane have lower vulnerability compared to other parts of the city. This can help inform the City about how to prioritize its resilience actions.

City of Spokane's Climate Vulnerability Index

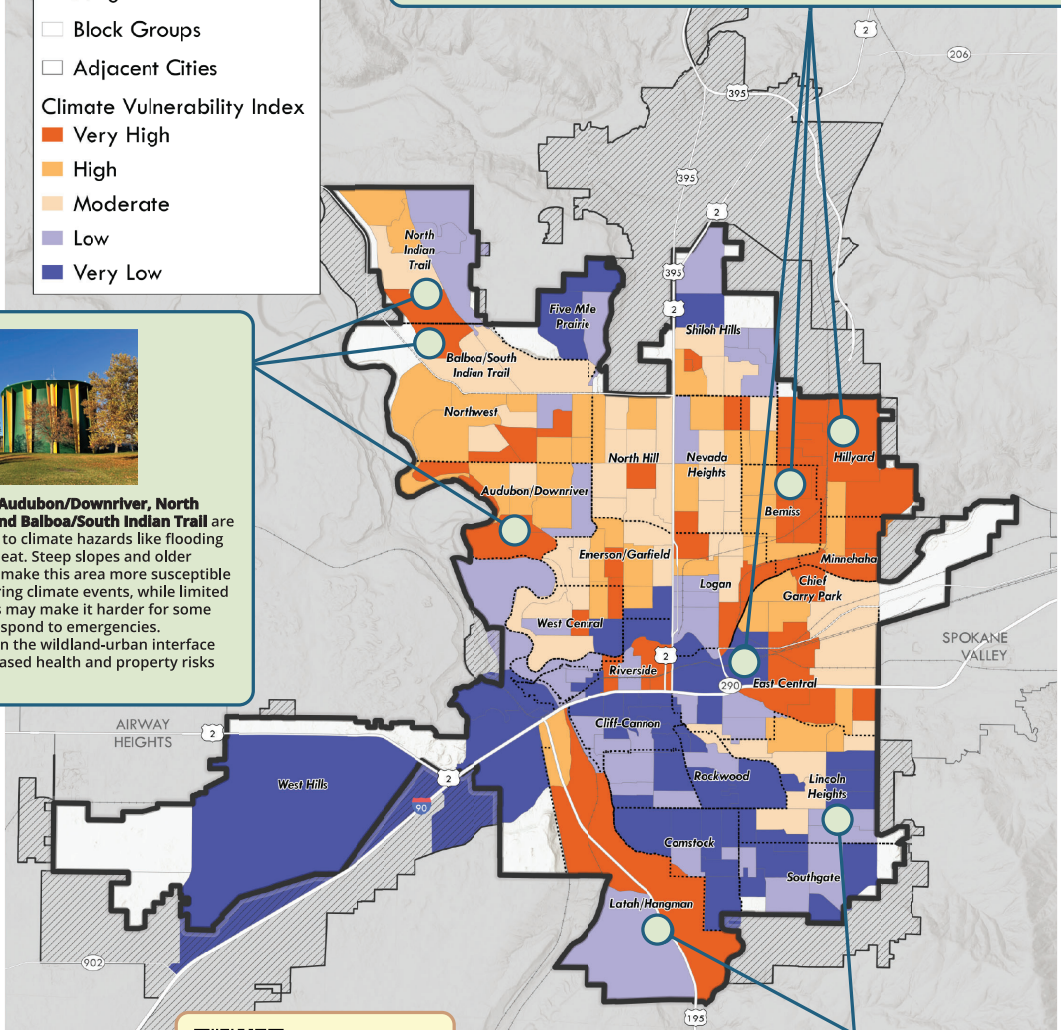
- ☒ Spokane
 - ☒ Urban Growth Areas
 - ☒ Neighborhoods
 - ☐ Block Groups
 - ☐ Adjacent Cities
- Climate Vulnerability Index
- Very High
 - High
 - Moderate
 - Low
 - Very Low



Neighborhoods like **Hillyard, Bemiss, and East Central** face higher exposure to multiple climate hazards, including extreme heat, flooding, wildfire and poor air quality from traffic and wildfire smoke. This area has high urban density and lower tree canopy coverage, along with a greater proportion of vulnerable populations and overburdened communities compared to the City average. These conditions make this area more sensitive to climate impacts relative to other regions.



Areas such as **Audubon/Downriver, North Indian Trail, and Balboa/South Indian Trail** are more exposed to climate hazards like flooding and extreme heat. Steep slopes and older infrastructure make this area more susceptible to damage during climate events, while limited transit options may make it harder for some residents to respond to emergencies. Communities in the wildland-urban interface also face increased health and property risks from wildfires.



Scan the QR code to explore the Climate Vulnerability Index on your own device or visit: bit.ly/Spokane-Climate-Vulnerability-Index



Neighborhoods including **Latah/Hangman, Lincoln Heights, and areas along East 29th Avenue** may be more sensitive to climate hazards due to populations with health conditions that can worsen during heat or poor air quality events. Older housing in this area can be unsafe during heat and smoke events, while buildings located in flood- and wildfire-prone areas face higher risks of physical damage. Communities in the wildland-urban interface also face increased health and property risks from wildfires.



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City of Spokane climate planning is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at www.climate.wa.gov.



Developing Climate Policies with Community Input

The City of Spokane is integrating climate considerations into its Comprehensive Plan—the guiding document for how the city grows and develops. The first phase of this work focused on listening to community experiences, assessing how climate change may affect Spokane, reviewing existing plans and policies, and evaluating the city's climate risks and vulnerabilities. The current phase builds on that foundation by revising, adapting, and developing new climate policies to include in the Comprehensive Plan. Your input today will help shape these policies!

Steps to Integrate Climate into the Comprehensive Plan

Phase 1: June 2024–June 2025

Step 1

Cut pollution from transportation, buildings, and other sources without shifting pollution elsewhere.

Step 2

Audit Plan and Policies.

Step 3

Assess Risk and Vulnerability.

Public Engagement: Survey, focus groups, public workshop, tabling at events, meetings with community-based organizations, online Climate Vulnerability Index tool.

Phase 2: June 2025–June 2026

Step 4

Revise, adapt, and develop new Climate Policy.

We Are Here!

Step 5

Integrate goals and policies.

Public Engagement: Survey, focus groups, public workshops, tabling at events, meetings with community-based organizations.

What We've Heard from the Spokane Community So Far

To date the City has heard from community members about how climate change is affecting Spokane and what actions they want the City to take in response. Here's a summary of what we've heard so far:

- **Wildfire smoke and extreme heat** are the most immediate and concerning climate impacts for the Spokane community.
- **Some community members are especially vulnerable** to climate hazards, including low-income residents, unhoused individuals, elders, youth, people with disabilities and chronic health conditions, renters, outdoor workers, Urban Native American and Tribal communities, communities of color, and those with language barriers.
- **Financial barriers** limit residents' ability to prepare for and respond to climate impacts. Community members strongly support incentives, assistance, and equitable access to resilience programs.
- **Water conservation, human health, and food systems** are top community priorities.
- **Green spaces, urban tree canopy, and City-led pilot programs** are valued by community members as important public investments that model climate resilience.
- **Public transit, bike infrastructure, and active transportation options** are supported by community members as ways to reduce emissions and improve access.
- **Community collaboration, education, engagement, and disaster preparedness** are emphasized by community members as key to building local resilience.



What other topics are important to you?

Tell us on a sticky note and leave it below.





Environmental Justice

The City of Spokane will conduct an environmental justice assessment of draft land use and transportation policies being considered for the Comprehensive Plan update. This assessment will focus on avoiding the creation or worsening of environmental health disparities.

What is Environmental Justice?

As defined by state law, environmental justice means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Environmental justice includes addressing disproportionate environmental and health impacts in all laws, rules, and policies with environmental impacts by prioritizing vulnerable populations and overburdened communities and the equitable distribution of resources and benefits. (RCW 36.70A.030)



Why Assess Environmental Justice?

A changing climate impacts everyone, but some people face greater risks. These risks are influenced by where they live, their health, income, language barriers, and limited access to resources—factors often shaped by inequality. Environmental justice is a key part of efforts to ensure a clean and healthy environment for all, especially for communities of color and low-income households who are more likely to live near sources of pollution and other environmental burdens.

The City is required by law to address environmental justice in the Comprehensive Plan by:



Identifying, protecting, and enhancing community resiliency to climate impacts, including social, economic, and built environment factors, in ways consistent with **environmental justice**.



Prioritizing reductions that benefit overburdened communities, maximizing co-benefits such as reduced air pollution and **environmental justice**.



Giving special consideration to achieving **environmental justice** in Land Use goals and policies, including efforts to prevent creating or worsening environmental health disparities.



Using transportation and active transportation system standards as a gauge to measure system performance and success in supporting **environmental justice** goals.



What can the City do to support environmental justice? ?

Write your thoughts on a sticky note and place it below.





Prioritizing Climate Policies

The City is using a prioritization process to select key climate policies. This will help ensure that policies can be implemented and align with state requirements.

Prioritizing Climate Policies

1 Pre-screening

Does the City have a **clear role?** (*lead, partner, communicator, or regulator*)

2 Scoring

- **Resilience**
- **GHG Reduction**
- **Equity**
- **Logistics** (*including cost, co-benefits, and feasibility*)
- **Degree of Certainty** (*including unintended impacts, public support, and momentum*)

3 Review

- Remove **redundancies**
- Ensure the list meets **State requirements, addresses key hazards,** and includes a **variety of topics, time frames, and responsible groups.**

After policies are prescreened, the City will score and rank policies using a set of evaluation criteria. **The criteria may include:**



Resilience

- Reduces risks from climate hazards
- Prepares communities and infrastructure to withstand and adapt to climate hazards
- Enhances natural environments

Place stickers here.



Equity

- Builds community power
- Improves community health and well-being
- Holds institutions accountable for inequitable impacts
- Prioritize benefits for overburdened populations

Place stickers here.



Climate Pollution Reduction

- Reduces climate pollution (greenhouse gas emissions)
- Conserves resources
- Improves air quality

Place stickers here.



Logistics

- Considers cost and cost-savings
- Provides additional social, economic, or environmental benefits
- Level of administrative and staff capacity

Place stickers here.



Risk

- Avoids unintended impacts
- Addresses level of community support

Place stickers here.



Which criteria are most important to you?

Place a sticker next to the **top 3** criteria you think should be weighted more heavily.

Are there other criteria we should consider? Write your ideas on a sticky note and place it below.



PLANSPOKANE 2046

2025 Community Engagement

S U M M A R Y



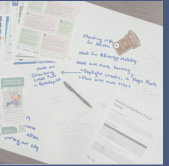
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1 Community Visioning

PAGE 02



2 Climate Focus Groups

PAGE 03



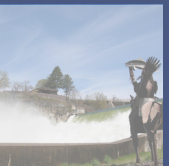
3 Surveying for Climate Resiliency

PAGE 04



4 Earth Day Workshop

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5 Tribal Engagement

PAGE 07



6 Future Growth and Guiding Policies

PAGE 08



7 Conclusion

PAGE 09

The City of Spokane is conducting a periodic update to the City's Comprehensive Plan, dubbed PlanSpokane 2046. 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. Due at the end of 2026, the Periodic Update will identify policies and future regulations to guide the next 20 years of our city.

2025 was a busy year for community feedback on Spokane's future vision, climate resiliency, future growth, and guiding policies, with **over 3,400 total community responses**. This document provides a summary of most of the feedback heard so far, with more engagement to occur throughout 2026.

← CONTENT

COMMUNITY VISIONING

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Spokane conducted an early visioning process to understand what the community wants for the next twenty years. **Over 300 community members participated** in the various visioning activities, providing insights into how the City should grow. Ultimately the feedback will identify the different ways the City can meet these goals for growth or put differently, how to meet Spokane's envisioned future.

Based on community feedback, a draft vision statement for the Comprehensive Plan has been identified:

“Spokane aims to foster a vibrant, resilient, and inclusive city by supporting economic growth, environmental stewardship, and the diverse needs of the whole community. The City is dedicated to ensuring access to attainable housing, safe streets, and thriving neighborhoods while inspiring innovation, cultural vitality, and connection for all Spokane residents.”

Launched in early January and running through April, the PlanSpokane 2046 visioning process resulted in key themes to inform the future growth and policies for the City of Spokane. The collective themes are to the right, with each activity bringing its own insights.

The vision board highlighted a desire for nature and environmental stewardship, community connection, opportunities for housing and jobs, and improved access to public spaces. The Community Visioning Workshop Series and corresponding survey received feedback pointing towards a welcoming and livable City with a mix of uses that support thriving and connected neighborhoods. The final Spring Market pop-up reinforced these ideas, while highlighting that the City should be walkable/bikeable, healthy, equitable, and safe.



Read the full PlanSpokane Community Visioning Engagement Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/PlanSpokane-Visioning>



VISIONING THEMES

- Access to nature
- Sustainability and environmental stewardship
- Healthy and clean



NATURE

- Welcoming and diverse
- Accessible
- Family-friendly
- Connected
- Human-centered
- Safe



COMMUNITY

- Good jobs
- Culture and arts economy
- Cutting-edge
- New industries
- Reuse



INNOVATION

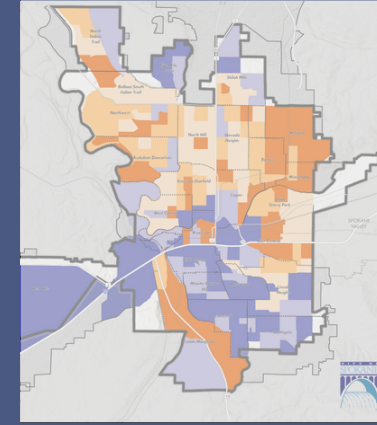
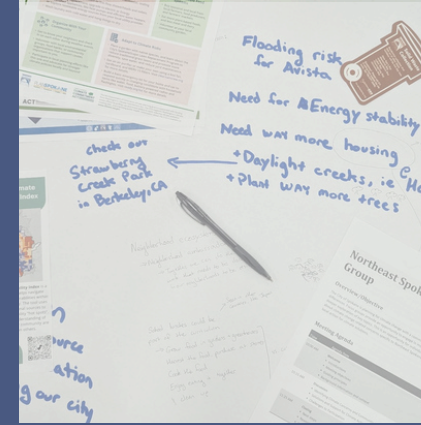
- Affordable
- Walkable and bike-friendly
- Access to neighborhood services
- Attractive



LIVABLE

CLIMATE FOCUS GROUPS

As part of PlanSpokane 2046 effort to incorporate climate and resiliency policies into the Comprehensive Plan in alignment with HB 1181, the City of Spokane held focus groups to hear from communities impacted by climate hazards. Their feedback informed the Climate Vulnerability and Risk Assessment to bring together data and lived experiences to identify climate risks and vulnerability in Spokane.



Learn more at my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning

YOUTH FOCUS

The Youth focus group had 11 participants aged 14 to 18, providing insight from a vulnerable population still in development and who may still be dependent on adults for their safety and well-being.

Key takeaways from the focus group include:

- Empowerment through knowledge is key.
- Air quality and wildfire smoke are more immediate and disruptive climate concerns.
- Heat is isolating youth from activities and social connection.
- Strong connection between nature access and mental health.
- Growing anxiety about long-term ecological shifts and disconnection from natural world.
- Public transit and bike infrastructure are critical services for youth.
- Desire for systemic change to provide stability and not worsen social inequities.

CLIMATE JUSTICE FOCUS

The Climate Justice focus group had 8 participants from local community-based organizations representing houseless, Muslim, Asian, BIPOC, immigrant, refugee, and environmental justice communities.

Key takeaways from the focus group include:

- Unhoused individuals, elders, renters, disabled people, and non-English speakers are among the most vulnerable.
- Language access and communication gaps are major barriers.
- Housing quality and income contribute to climate vulnerability.
- Partner with local nonprofits to support community trust and cultural relevance.
- People often prioritize survival needs over long-term climate issues.
- Increase accountability.

NORTHEAST SPOKANE FOCUS

The Northeast Spokane focus group had 17 participants who all lived in Northeast Spokane, an area of the City underrepresented in public engagement while being highly impacted by climate hazards.

Key takeaways from the focus group include:

- Community connection and shared solutions can increase community resiliency.
- Poor air quality is a major concern.
- Lack of shade and extreme heat reduce access to services.
- Practical, community-based climate education is needed.
- Stigma and infrastructure gaps reduce public transit use.
- Need to align development with environmental goals.
- Center equity and accessibility.

*A second round of climate focus groups occurred in November and December 2025, with results not yet available by the time of this publication. A summary of these focus groups (youth, climate justice, food access, and resource constrained) will be available at PlanSpokane.org in early 2026.

SURVEYING FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCY



“Biggest obstacle is feeling isolated in these attempts at conservation.

Like my efforts don’t matter.”

- Community Climate Planning Survey Respondent

Local, state, and national data and community lived experiences are all integral in understanding how to best support local resiliency in Spokane. During key times of the climate and resiliency planning effort, two community-wide surveys were created to learn from those who live, work, and visit in Spokane.

The **Community Climate Planning Survey** asked community members to identify climate hazards and impacts in Spokane as well as future desires.

The **Community Climate Policy Survey** then built upon the prior community feedback to identify potential policy decisions.



Read the full Community Climate Planning Survey Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Climate-Survey>



Read the full Community Climate Policy Survey Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Climate-Policy-Survey>



COMMUNITY CLIMATE SURVEY

✓ 1,573 RESPONSES

✓ DECEMBER 6, 2024 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2025

✓ KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Wildfires, extreme heat, and intense storms** identified as top three hazards of concern now, with **extreme heat, wildfire, and smoke from wildfires** as top concerns for the next 20 years.
- Only 14.91% of respondents indicated having not been personally impacted by any of the identified climate hazards.
- **Rising costs of living and basic needs** and **changes to recreational activities** were the top felt impacts within the past five years.
- **Agriculture and food systems** were ranked as most at risk from extreme weather and climate impacts in Spokane.
- **Costs** and **time** were identified as primary obstacles in reducing household environmental impacts.
- Potential solutions to increase Spokane's resiliency included **water and waste reduction, incentives for more sustainable upgrades, tree management, and more trees and greenspace.**

CLIMATE POLICY SURVEY

✓ 1,419 RESPONSES

✓ JULY 21 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2025

✓ KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Water, human health, and food systems** were collectively ranked as the most important climate and resiliency topics.
- **Public investment and infrastructure** was the top ranked type of policy, with **regulations** ranked the lowest.
- Themes for future actions the City should consider include:
 - **Lead by Example**
 - **Water Conservation and Waste Management**
 - **Community Collaboration and Engagement**
 - **Urban Green Spaces**
 - **Active Transportation**
 - **Disaster Preparedness**
 - **Equal Access**
 - **Sustainable Development**
- Future policies should be prioritized based on **reduction of environment harm, community health benefits, co-benefits, feasibility, and cost considerations.**

EARTH DAY WORKSHOP



On April 22, 2025, the City of Spokane hosted an Earth Day Community Workshop to learn from and share with Spokane's community. Twenty-one community members shared their experiences with climate hazards and how we can support a more resilient Spokane.

The workshop was a drop-in style event with posters at 4 stations, where attendees engaged in activities, interacted with the Climate Vulnerability Index online mapping tool, and were able to have in-depth conversations with staff members. Feedback received during the workshop informed the Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment and will support the development of future policies for a resilient and adaptive Spokane.

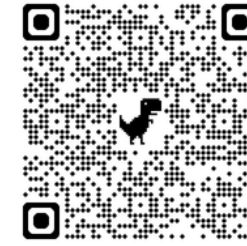
Key takeaways from the drop-in workshop include:

- **Alternative transportation options** and **green space/tree protection** were ranked as the top climate pollution reduction actions.
- **Preserve, restore, and expand nature** was ranked as the top climate resilience action.
- **Supporting local, sustainable food systems** and **organizing community** received the most support as individual actions to support climate resiliency.
- Support for **increased and improved bike and pedestrian infrastructure**.
- Attendees wanted to **expand public transportation** and **promote connectivity**.
- Support for **infill and mixed-use development**.
- Promote **water conservation** throughout the City.



Read the full Earth Day Workshop Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Earth-Day>





Read the full Tribal Engagement Workgroup Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Tribal-Workgroup>



In early 2025, the City of Spokane launched a **Tribal Engagement Workgroup (TEW)** to ensure that Indigenous voices and knowledge systems shape its climate planning and inform the City's 2026 Comprehensive Plan. The TEW brought together regional Tribes and urban Native organizations in a culturally grounded process led by Kauffman & Associates, Inc. (KAI), a Native-owned consulting firm.

Over the course of four sessions and intervening conversations, TEW participants identified climate vulnerabilities rooted in the lived experiences of Native communities, including **loss of cultural access, urban invisibility, health disparities, water insecurity, and gaps in emergency planning**. They called for a broader definition of vulnerability that includes spiritual, cultural, and intergenerational dimensions and stressed the need for Indigenous co-governance and investment in Native-led solutions.

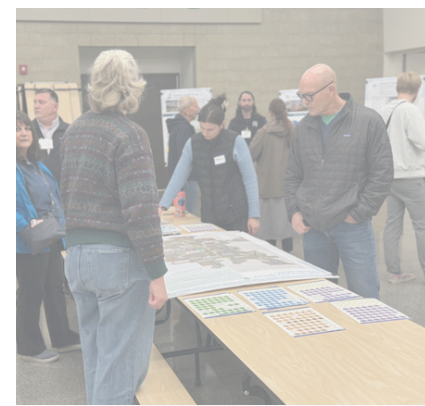
Recommendations for policy development:

- Prioritize funding for **Native-led** resilience hubs, food systems, and youth programs.
- **Embed cultural infrastructure** - gardens, sweat lodges, community gathering spaces - into neighborhood planning.
- Establish an **Indigenous advisory council** with co-governance authority in climate planning.
- Reframe climate indicators to include **cultural, spiritual, and relational measures of wellbeing**.
- **Expand data collection** to include Indigenous-defined metrics, oral histories, and story maps.
- Develop **tailored emergency management strategies** for Native families across Spokane.

TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT



FUTURE GROWTH AND GUIDING POLICIES



The City of Spokane held a community workshop series on future growth and guiding policies in November 2025. These in-person workshops included discussion, mapping exercises, and feedback opportunities related to various aspects of the Comprehensive Plan. **Over 100 community members participated** in the workshop series, which included one meeting in each City Council District, as well as a citywide meeting downtown.

In addition to informational posters, the workshops included station activities to gather feedback from attendees. Stations included questions on guiding policies, displacement, a proposed land use schema, and the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Mapping exercises on mixed-use zoning and transportation amenities created spatial information to inform on-the-ground proposals. Climate and resiliency feedback was also received, including on City actions, important topics, environmental justice, and the prioritization of future policies.

When asked about topics of importance to be integrated into the City of Spokane's next twenty years, key themes from the community included:

- **Accessibility**
- **Employment and job creation**
- **Revitalization**
- More **third places** and **community connection**
- **Parks and access to nature**
- **Bikeable/walkable neighborhoods**
- **Affordable housing**



A full summary will be available at PlanSpokane.org once finalized



CONCLUSION



There's even more work ahead in 2026 . . .

In addition to the larger engagement efforts mentioned above, the City of Spokane has been busy popping up at community events, presenting before Neighborhood Councils, and meeting with organizations and partner agencies to hear from the community. Staff have also presented before City Council, Spokane Plan Commission, Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board, Transportation Commission, Housing Action Subcommittee, and numerous other City commissions and boards.

Have a group that may be interested in hearing a presentation? Does your organization want a tailored discussion about PlanSpokane 2046? Have an event where staff can attend? Reach out to the Planning Team at PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org to inquire about availability.



Opportunities for public feedback in early 2026 include the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Chapter Review processes. Feedback from these components will then result in the selection of Preferred Alternative and Final Environmental Impact Statement, as well as final goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

Final adoption of the updated Comprehensive Plan is tentatively slated for the end of 2026.



Draft Environmental Impact Statement

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement with different ways the City can grow in order to meet state requirements and the community vision will be issued in December 2025, with a 60 day public comment period. This document compares potential ways the City can grow, allowing community members to provide feedback on Spokane's future. Community input will help decisionmakers select the Preferred Alternative, which is the growth strategy for Spokane's next twenty years, in early 2026.



Chapter Review

The City's Comprehensive Plan is being updated with revised and new goals and policies to support community needs. Draft versions of chapters are available for public feedback at PlanSpokane.org under "Chapter Review". Comments can help direct language and identify potential gaps in future policy direction. New chapters and language revised based on community feedback will periodically be available throughout early 2026.

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Learn more at PlanSpokane.org

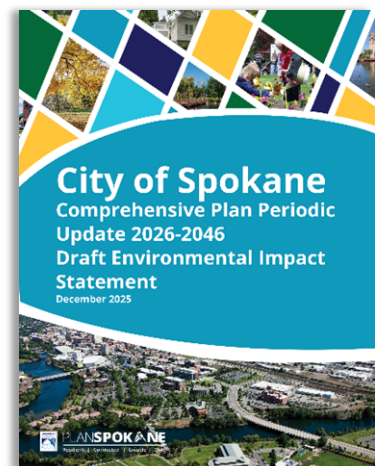
Questions or comments? Email the Planning Team at
PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org

Draft EIS Summary

Background

The City of Spokane is working on a periodic update to the City's Comprehensive Plan as required by the State's Growth Management Act (GMA). The last periodic update was completed in 2017. Since then, the State has added new requirements, especially around climate and housing. Due in June 2026, the periodic update will identify policies and future regulations to guide the next 20 years of our city.

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 process, the City is developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), an informational document that provides the City, public, Tribes, and agencies with environmental information to be considered in the decision-making process.



What We're Planning For

The City of Spokane is expected to gain at least 23,357 new residents between 2023 and 2046, bringing the City's total population to just over 256,000.

Based on state requirements, the City is expected to need 22,359 additional housing units between 2020 and 2046. In addition to the total number housing units, the City is also required to plan for housing by affordability bracket.



23,357

Projected new residents by 2046

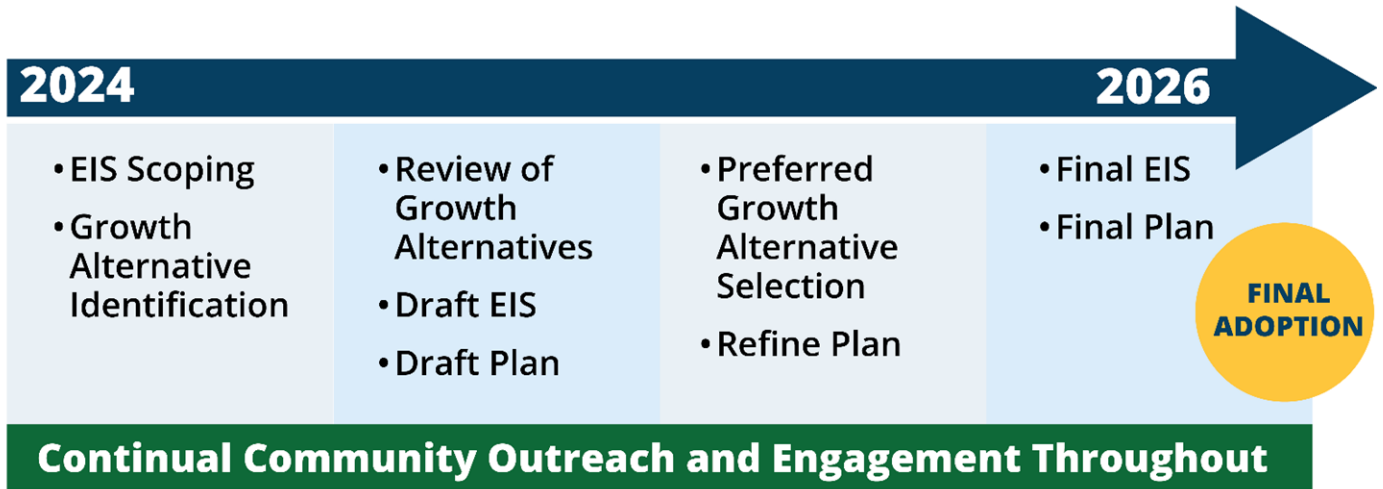


22,359

Additional housing units needed between 2020 and 2046

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Purpose and Process

An EIS is required under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) for larger projects such as a significant update to the Comprehensive Plan. **An EIS describes the potential environmental impacts, reasonable alternatives, and ways to avoid or minimize negative impacts of policies.**



The Draft EIS presents three alternatives to test different growth patterns and policies. The City will then create a “preferred alternative” based on public input and the Draft EIS evaluation. The preferred alternative may include any features of the studied alternatives. The preferred alternative will be evaluated in the Final EIS and will inform the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update.

The EIS studies the following topics:

- Earth, water quality, and water resources**
- Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions**
- Plants and animals, including critical areas and habitat**
- Land use patterns and urban form, including historic and cultural resources**
- Population, employment, and housing**
- Relationship to plans, policies, and regulations**
- Transportation, including multiple modes and city and state facilities**
- Public services: police, fire and emergency medical services, parks, schools, libraries, solid waste**
- Utilities: power, water, wastewater, and stormwater**

Objectives

This EIS compares alternatives for their ability to meet these objectives:

- ▶ **Meet Periodic Update Requirements**, including providing capacity for more housing types and affordability levels, increasing resiliency to climate impacts, evaluating tree canopy coverage, increasing opportunities for active transportation, reducing vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions, addressing needs of overburdened communities, increasing green infrastructure, planning for jobs and economic development, and more.
- ▶ **Accommodate Growth** through 2046 based on State projections and County allocations.
- ▶ **Clarify the Plan** to remove policies that are inconsistent, outdated, duplicative, or unclear.
- ▶ **Simplify the Plan and Codes** including future land use map categories and zoning districts and reflect any new designations.
- ▶ **Protect Critical Areas** by updating critical area regulations to reflect best available science.
- ▶ **Fast-Track Desired Growth** in priority locations through permit streamlining.

The City's proposed draft vision statement for the periodic update is also considered an objective:

Spokane aims to foster a vibrant, resilient, and inclusive city by supporting economic growth, environmental stewardship, and the diverse needs of the whole community. The City is dedicated to ensuring access to attainable housing, safe streets, and thriving neighborhoods while inspiring innovation, cultural vitality, and connection for all Spokane residents.

Proposed Alternatives

Alternative 1 "Stay the Course" would maintain the current comprehensive plan and code. It was developed in prior years with different growth targets and different state expectations.

Alternatives 2 and 3 are designed to meet current state requirements (including new housing, climate, and other requirements), create the opportunity for housing at all income levels, accommodate jobs, and update policies and codes to streamline them and facilitate growth.

Alternatives Summary

		Alternative 1 Stay the Course	Alternative 2 Distributed & Balanced	Alternative 3 Center City & Regional Hubs
Same for all alternatives	<i>Housing / population growth</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 21,739 new housing units from 2022-2046 (about 21% more housing units than present)* ▶ 25,157 new residents from 2022-2046* 		
Varies by alternative	<i>Plan and code update</i>	▶ Maintains current comprehensive plan and code	▶ Updates the comprehensive plan and code	▶ Updates the comprehensive plan and code
	<i>Focus areas for growth</i>	▶ Focuses growth in Downtown and Centers and Corridors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Focuses growth in mixed-use, transit-oriented development ▶ Allows more neighborhood-serving commercial uses ▶ Simplifies Land Use Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Focuses growth in downtown, regional hubs, and areas with greatest investment in transit and transportation ▶ Allows more neighborhood-serving commercial uses ▶ Simplifies land use plan
	<i>Housing mix</i>	▶ 63% of the City's total housing as single unit housing	▶ 59% of the City's total housing as single unit housing	▶ 59% of the City's total housing as single unit housing
	<i>Housing affordability</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Would provide enough housing capacity at incomes above 80% of the median* ▶ Would not provide enough housing capacity at incomes less than 80% of the median** 	▶ Would provide enough housing capacity affordable at all income levels	▶ Would provide enough housing capacity affordable at all income levels
	<i>Job projections</i>	▶ 34,850 new jobs***	▶ 24,939 new jobs***	▶ 38,848 new jobs***

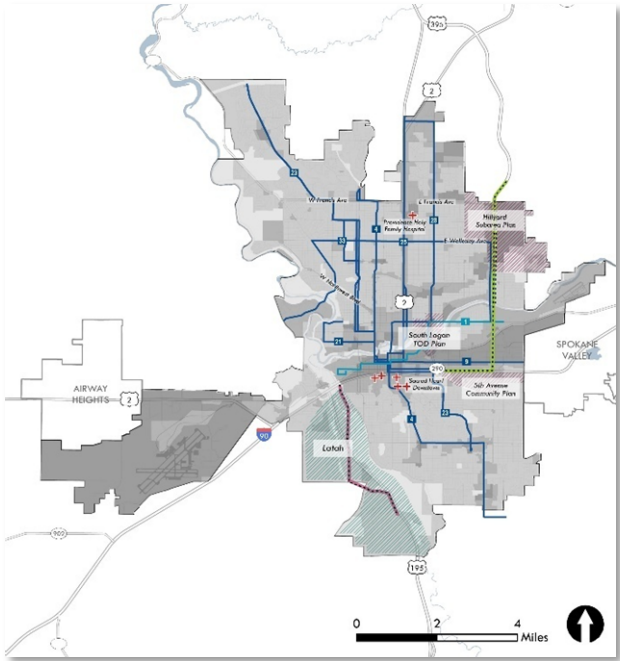
*This is the 2020-2046 housing growth target minus the units already added from 2020 to 2022. Population is adjusted to 2022-46 instead of 2023-46 using state data for a consistent 2022 base year.

**Area median income is \$70,600 for a one-person household, \$80,700 for a two-person household, \$90,800 for a three-person household, or \$100,800 for a four-person household as of 2025.

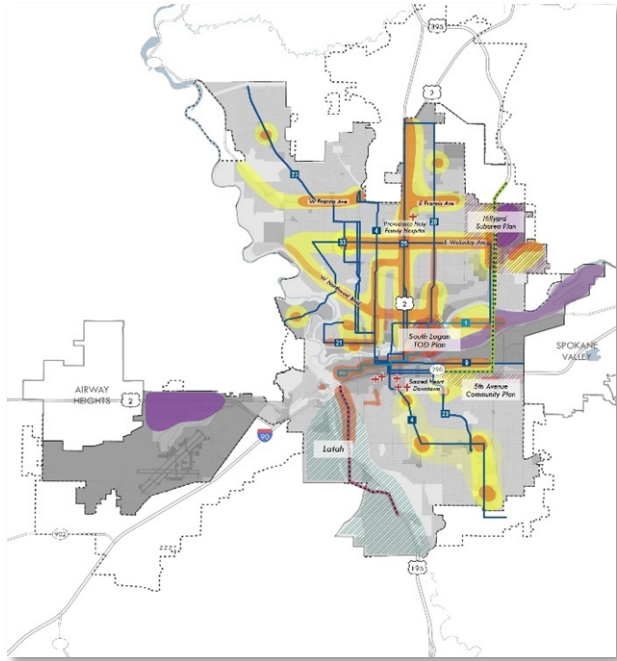
***Each alternative studies a job projection from a different data source. The different numbers are not based on an alternative's likelihood to produce more or fewer jobs.

Alternative Concepts

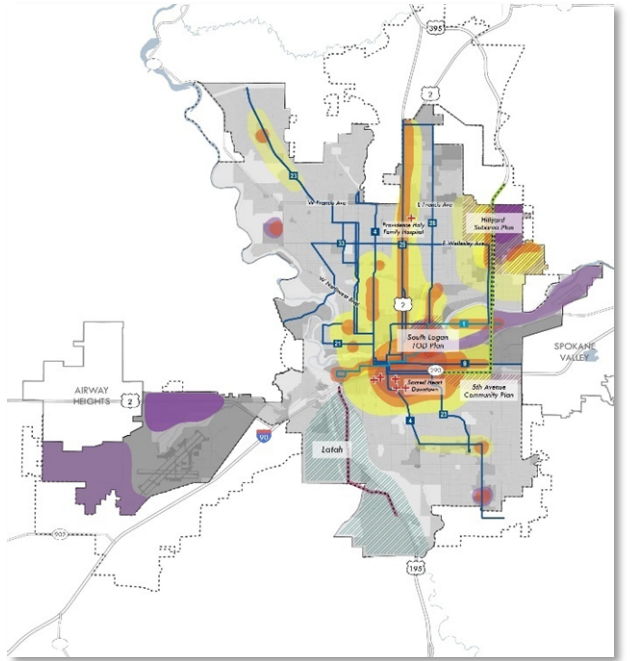
Alternative 1: Stay the Course










Alternative 2: Distributed and Balanced










Alternative 3: Center City and Regional Hubs



Key Features

-  Subarea Planning
-  Additional Infrastructure Study
-  Transit Routes, Selected
-  North Spokane Corridor/US 395
-  Children of the Sun Trail
-  Inland Empire Way + connections
-  Hospitals

Growth Intensity

-  Low
-  Moderate
-  Moderate-High
-  High
-  High Density Housing
-  Moderate Density Housing
-  Mixed-use/Commercial
-  Employment/Industrial Light
-  Employment/Industrial Heavy

Source: City of Spokane, BERK, 2025.

Alternatives 2 and 3 would better meet the objectives for the plan update than Alternative 1.

Ability to Meet Objectives

Objectives	Alternative 1: Stay the Course	Alternative 2: Distributed and Balanced	Alternative 3: Center City and Regional Hubs
Meet Periodic Update Requirements	Less	Most	Most
Accommodate Growth: Housing at All Affordability Levels	More	Most	Most
Accommodate Growth: Jobs	More	More	Most
Clarify the Plan	Less	Most	Most
Simplify the Plan and Codes	Less	Most	Most
Protect Critical Areas	More	Most	Most
Fast-Track Desired Growth	Less	Most	Most
Alignment with Vision Statement	Less	Most	Most

Source: City of Spokane, BERK, 2025.

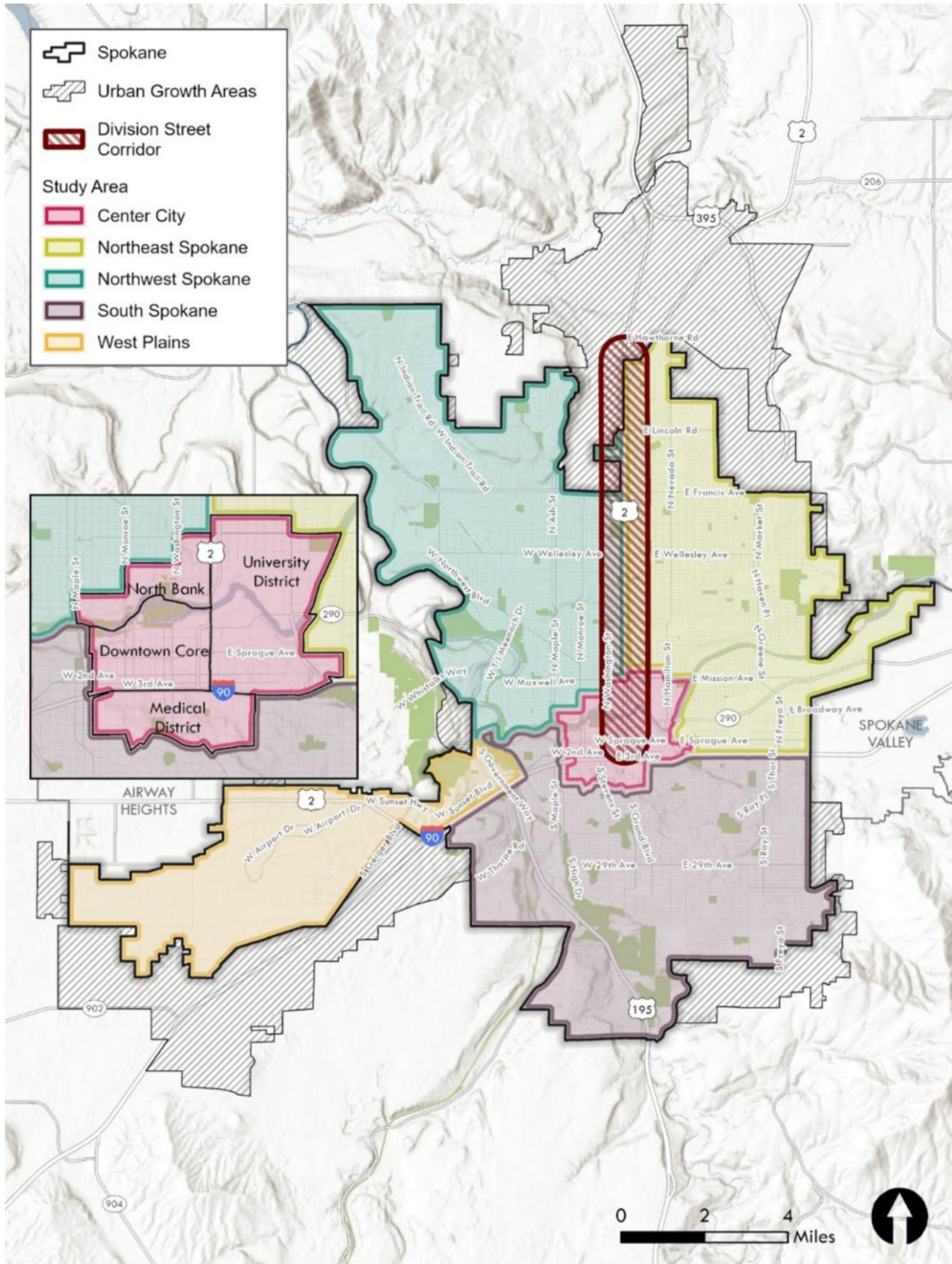
Study Area

This EIS primarily focuses on the Spokane city limits. These city study areas are referenced in the EIS:

- ▶ Northwest Spokane
- ▶ Northeast Spokane
- ▶ South Spokane
- ▶ West Plains
- ▶ Center City, overlapping several study areas, including Downtown Spokane
- ▶ Division corridor, straddling Northwest and Northeast Spokane

Within these broad study areas, the EIS also mentions Neighborhood Council boundaries.

Spokane Study Areas



Sources: City of Spokane, BERK, 2025.

Abbreviated Summary of Impacts (see Draft EIS for full context)

Earth, Water Quality, and Water Resources



No significant adverse impacts expected with mitigation.

Likely Impacts

- ▶ Impacts from construction (soil disturbance, erosion, water pollution, and soil contamination)
- ▶ Increased pollution and rainfall runoff due to growth and increased hard surfaces
- ▶ **Alternative 1 has the highest impacts** (more growth on undeveloped land)

Mitigation Options

- ▶ Stormwater runoff best management practices
- ▶ Increased density (reduces sprawl)
- ▶ New climate policies and updated critical areas regulations in Alternatives 2 and 3
- ▶ Potential measures:
 - Updated stormwater controls
 - Critical area buffer restoration
 - Protecting tree canopy
 - Review Spokane Municipal Code Section 17E.010 Critical Aquifer Recharge Area for additional protections, such as addressing demands on aquifer as temperatures increase

Air Quality/Greenhouse Gases



No significant adverse impacts expected with mitigation.

Likely Impacts

- ▶ All alternatives see a net decrease in transportation emissions
- ▶ Emissions from non-transportation sources would be highest under Alternatives 1 and 3
- ▶ Differences among alternatives are small at the citywide scale

Mitigation Options

- ▶ New climate policies in Alternatives 2 and 3
- ▶ Potential measures:
 - Investments in multi-modal transportation infrastructure
 - Fees that reduce traffic congestion
 - Mixed uses and density
 - Electric vehicle adoption
 - Building electrification and energy efficiency incentives
 - Designated truck routes
 - Tree canopy protection
 - Street sweeping to reduce dust
 - Development standards for buildings and air filtering near air pollution sources like freeways
 - Education on air pollutants

Plants and Animals



No significant adverse impacts expected with mitigation.

Likely Impacts

- ▶ New development in currently vegetated areas, impacting fish and wildlife habitats
- ▶ Increased impervious surfaces affecting aquatic habitats (runoff, heat, less shade)
- ▶ Construction could impact habitat through runoff of soils and sediments, equipment spills, and noise
- ▶ **Alternative 1 has the highest impacts** due to location of growth and more growth on undeveloped land

Mitigation Options

- ▶ New climate policies and updated critical areas regulations in Alternatives 2 and 3
- ▶ Potential measures:
 - More program resources for tree canopy cover
 - Incentives for habitat conservation
 - Land acquisition in key areas
 - Adaptive management policies for critical areas and shorelines
 - Code that limits clearing and soil disturbance

Land Use Patterns and Urban Form



All the alternatives have the potential for significant adverse impacts to cultural resources.

No unavoidable significant adverse impacts expected to land use, urban form, and environmental justice.

Likely Impacts

- ▶ Highest levels of growth in areas that are already higher intensity
- ▶ Greater development intensity over time due to infill
- ▶ More middle housing types and ADUs
- ▶ Some tree, noise, shadow, view, potential historic and archeological resource impacts
- ▶ Alternatives 2 and 3 update neighborhood and urban design policies, and add climate policies, to address development compatibility, investments in amenities, and climate resilience

Mitigation Options

- ▶ Spokane Municipal Code regulations for land use, urban form, and historic preservation
- ▶ Potential measures:
 - Apply cultural resources discovery policies to full city limits
 - Construction noise rules and other noise standards
 - Additional development standards for light and shading
 - Investments to reduce heat and noise

Population, Employment, and Housing



No significant adverse impacts expected with mitigation.

Likely Impacts

- ▶ Some housing policy and code changes from the Housing Action Plan
- ▶ More jobs in Northeast Spokane and Center City
- ▶ Inadequate housing capacity to meet targets for lower income bands (under 80% Area Median Income) under Alternative 1
- ▶ More opportunities for moderate and high intensity residential and mixed-use development in Alternatives 2 and 3
- ▶ More housing displacement impacts under Alternatives 2 and 3, but greater housing production and diversity
- ▶ Higher jobs to housing ratio than current in Alternatives 1 and 3
- ▶ **Alternative 1 has the highest impacts**

Mitigation Options

- ▶ Updates to comprehensive plan under Alternatives 2 and 3 to address housing targets for all incomes, displacement, racially disparate impacts, and housing barriers
- ▶ Spokane Housing Action Plan strategies
- ▶ StartUp Spokane program for business resources
- ▶ Potential measures:
 - Rental Assistance Fund
 - Public Development Authority
 - Land banking
 - Use of development agreements
 - Minimum density requirements
 - Incentives for affordable commercial tenant space
 - Other measures as detailed in DEIS section 3.5.3

Relationship to Plans, Policies, and Regulations



No significant adverse impacts expected with mitigation.

Likely Impacts

- ▶ All alternatives accommodate citywide growth targets
- ▶ **Alternative 1 has the highest impacts** due to inadequate housing capacity for lower income bands (under 80% Area Median Income)
- ▶ Alternatives 2 and 3 are better aligned with state requirements and regional, county, and local plans

Mitigation Options

- ▶ Alternatives 2 and 3 meet housing targets at all income levels and address other state requirements for the periodic update, including housing and climate planning

Transportation



No significant adverse impacts expected with mitigation.

Likely Impacts

- ▶ All alternatives would continue making pedestrian improvements but Alternatives 2 and 3 may accelerate them
- ▶ All alternatives would continue making bicycle improvements
- ▶ Alternative 1 has the highest vehicle miles traveled per capita
- ▶ Alternatives 2 and 3 would be expected to have a slightly higher share of walking
- ▶ All alternatives would have impacts on road intersection levels of service

Mitigation Options

- ▶ Planned roadway and transit improvements
- ▶ Current transportation impact fee program
- ▶ Potential measures:
 - Transportation Demand Strategies to encourage carpooling, vanpooling, transit, walking, biking, and telework
 - Transportation Systems Management and Operations and signal timing
 - Agency partnerships

Public Services



No significant adverse impacts expected with mitigation.

Likely Impacts

- ▶ Increased demand for police, fire/emergency medical services, schools, parks, libraries, and solid waste
- ▶ Alternative 1 would increase demand in the Center City, existing centers and corridors, and less developed areas
- ▶ Alternatives 2 and 3 would reinforce growth in already developed areas
- ▶ Mead School District would see more student growth under Alternative 1 and Spokane School District would see less

Mitigation Options

- ▶ Adopted Comprehensive Plan, Capital Facilities Plan, and other policies support capital facilities and public services planning
- ▶ An increased local sales and use tax to support a Public Safety Tax became effective April 1, 2025
- ▶ New climate policies under Alternatives 2 and 3
- ▶ New Capital Facilities Plan under Alternatives 2 and 3
- ▶ Potential measures:
 - Impact fees for schools, parks, or fire
 - Parks fee-in-lieu program
 - Parkland dedication opportunities in key locations
 - Partnerships for education and childcare spaces and parks and natural lands

Utilities



No significant adverse impacts expected with mitigation.

Likely Impacts

- ▶ Increased demand for utilities due to growth
- ▶ Increased concentration of utility users under Alternatives 2 and 3 (better efficiency, but potential upgrades needed for energy, water, and sewer)
- ▶ Specific upgrades needed would vary by alternative based on location of growth

Mitigation Options

- ▶ City water conservation programs
- ▶ Ongoing planning for water and wastewater systems to address growth and changing demand
- ▶ Regular energy planning with Avista
- ▶ Potential measures:
 - More local energy resources
 - Energy-efficiency infrastructure
 - Upgraded stormwater infrastructure
 - Minimizing runoff
 - Protection of critical aquifer recharge areas

Next Steps

The City of Spokane is requesting comments from the public, agencies, Tribes, and all interested parties on the Draft EIS from December 18, 2025, to February 18, 2026. Comments are due by **5:00 PM, February 18**. All written comments should be directed to:

Tirrell Black, Assistant Planning Director

City of Spokane

808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd

Spokane, WA 99201

509.625.6185 | PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org

**Submittal of comments by email is preferred.
Please include in the subject line "PlanSpokane
2046 Draft EIS Comments."**



A series of public and agency workshops are planned during the Draft EIS comment period. For the latest information on the workshop topics and times, please see the project website at: my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/. After public feedback and the selection of a preferred alternative, a Final Environmental Impact Statement will be written that analyzes the chosen path forward. The Final EIS will also respond to comments received on the Draft EIS.

BRIEFING PAPER: Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update – Chapter 4: Transportation
City of Spokane
Plan Commission
12/10/2025

Subject:

Staff will provide the Plan Commission with an overview of a draft update of Chapter 4: Transportation of the City’s Comprehensive Plan as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 update.

Background:

The [PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update](#) includes an update of [Chapter 4 – Transportation](#). Last updated in 2017, the [existing transportation chapter](#) identifies priorities and projects that have guided community investment for the past ten years. This chapter outlines the primary transportation goals, policies and actions that will allow Spokane to accommodate forecasted population growth in a manner consistent with community priorities.

Current Topic:

At the December 10, 2025 meeting of the Plan Commission, Planning staff will provide an overview the updated draft of Chapter 4: Transportation.

Primary components of the update include:

- Aligning goals with related policies
- Updating introductory language to provide current context
- Moving specific action recommendations to appendices and related planning and project documents that are updated on a regular basis
- Adding climate-focused goals and policies emerging from the ongoing Climate Planning process
- Addressing new state requirements included in HB1181, the Washington State climate bill that now requires local comprehensive plans to include:
 - o Strategies for reducing greenhouse gas (GHT) emissions
 - o Strategies for reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
 - o Incorporating climate resilience strategies
 - o Addressing the impacts of climate change.

Relationship to Plans/Actions:

This update aligns with the Growth Management Act of Washington State, which mandates periodic updating of the City’s 20-year vision for accommodating forecasted growth and development.

Timeline/ Further Action:

Staff plans to provide a completed draft of the updated Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan by January of 2026, for adoption by City Council by June of 2026.

Project website: <https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/>

Staff Contact: Colin Quinn-Hurst, 509-625-6804, cquinnhurst@spokanecity.org