

# Spokane Plan Commission - Minutes

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Hybrid Meeting in Council Briefing Center & Microsoft Teams Teleconference

Meeting Minutes: Plan Commission Workshop called to order at 2:01 pm by Vice President Ryan Patterson.

**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: Ryan Patterson, David Edwards, Greg Francis, Amber Lenhart, Carole Shook, Tim Williams
- Board Members Not Present: President Jesse Bank, Tyler Tamoush, Jill Yotz
- Non-Voting Members Present: Mary Winkes (Community Assembly Liaison), Kitty Klitzke (Council Member Liaison)
- Non-Voting Members Not present: None
- *Quorum Present:* Yes
- Staff Members Present: Angie McCall, Spencer Gardner, Tirrell Black, Tim Fischer, Kevin Freibott, KayCee Downey, Brandon Whitmarsh, Tim Thompson, Jackie Churchill, Jon Snyder, Inga Note, Kevin Picanco, Nicole White

**Minutes:** Minutes from 4/23/2025 approved by majority of 4-0-2(abstentions for absences).

## **Briefing Session:**

- **Commission President Report - Jesse Bank (Absent)**
  - In lieu of the President's report, Commissioner Francis reported that long-term previous Plan Commissioner, Michael Baker, passed away.
- **Transportation Commission Liaison Report - Ryan Patterson**
  - No report as there has not been a meeting since the last Plan Commission.
- **City Council Liaison Report - Kitty Klitzke**
  - CM Klitzke stated that things that are coming to the forefront are that the Latah Valley moratorium is expiring as part of the typical public process. There is always an end date for the moratoriums. There has been some dissention regarding the process. There currently is not an expectation that there will be an extension. Council at this time does not feel that there is enough justification to have another moratorium put into place. They (council) cannot perpetually have moratoriums without justification as this would put possible liability/liabilities and/or litigation into place.
  - The steering committee of elected officials probably will not meet this month, but if they do, it will take place next week and she will report back at the next Plan Commission meeting as such.
  - Commissioner Shook asked CM Klitzke about the public process for renaming a city-owned building/street/bridge. CM Klitzke responded that CM Dillon is spearheading a more formalized process as it pertains to the following and she will need to speak with him if she has more questions.
- **Community Assembly Liaison Report - Mary Winkes**

- Mary reported that a resolution from the Community Assembly for parking and for the Latah Valley moratorium went before City Council at the Urban Experience committee meeting.
- **Secretary Report - Spencer Gardner**
  - Spencer wanted to highlight an emergency ordinance that is coming before council on Monday evening, May 19<sup>th</sup>, related to Title 17. A couple of weeks ago staff noticed that there was an error that was introduced into the language around the approval as it relates to plats in Title 17. The error technically says that we don't consider things like public health and safety, adherence with our standards and conformance with the Comprehensive Plan for certain types of plats. This was simply an inadvertent error that was caught by staff. No one has noticed up to this point. Staff felt as though this needed to be fixed immediately. So, an emergency ordinance is now proposed that would restore what has always been the case in terms of how plats are treated.
    - In the process, we worked with our legal team, and they identified a related issue. This issue is that the code that tells us how we update Title 17 (this is the code that lays out the Plan Commission process with eventually sending recommendations to City Council), was drafted for how to update the code in normal times and does not indicate one way or another on how we are to handle emergency situations. Therefore, there is a related emergency amendment not in Title 17 but in Title 4 which includes how the Plan Commission operates and is setup. This is an amendment to the Plan Commission duties that essentially states that City Council can make emergency amendments or interim zoning ordinances or moratoriums (which are both governed by the same section of the RCW), that they can make those changes, and those changes don't necessarily need to go to Plan Commission before council considers those. This is basically putting into code what is already a standard of practice.
  - June 5, 2025, at 11:00am - 12:00pm has been tentatively scheduled for the joint City Council and Plan Commission meeting. Angie will send out a placeholder invitation with more information to come.

**Current Agenda:** The current agenda was approved unanimously.

**Workshop(s):**

- PlanSpokane 2046: Summary of Visioning Engagement
  - Presentation provided by staff member Tirrell Black.
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.
- Complete Streets Ordinance and Request for Hearing
  - Presentation provided by staff member Jon Snyder.
  - Questions asked and answered.
  - Discussion ensued.

**Motion**

- *I [Commissioner Francis] move that we [Plan Commission] advance the Complete Streets Ordinance in a request to go to hearing. Commissioner Shook seconded the motion.*
- Discussion: Commissioner Francis noted that they would incorporate some minor language adjustments as long as it does not change the content of the ordinance. Jon Snyder replied with his notes of two areas that were brought to his attention during this workshop. VP Patterson noted to the group that they will still have time to review the ordinance prior to the hearing.
- **Motion passes by voice vote unanimously 6-0-0.**
- Staff will find an appropriate date for the hearing.

Workshop Adjourned at 3:22PM.

## Hybrid Meeting in Council Briefing Center & Microsoft Teams Teleconference for Plan Commission Hearing

Meeting Minutes: Plan Commission Hearing called to order at 4:00 pm by Vice President Ryan Patterson.

### Attendance for Plan Commission Hearing:

- Board Members Present: Vice President Ryan Patterson, David Edwards, Greg Francis, Amber Lenhart, Carole Shook, Tim Williams
- Board Members Not Present: President Jesse Bank, Tyler Tamoush, Jill Yotz
- *Quorum Present: Yes*
- Non-Voting Members Present: Mary Winkes (Community Assembly Liaison)
- Non-Voting Members Not Present: CM Kitty Klitzke
- Staff Members Present: Angie McCall, Spencer Gardner, Tim Thompson, Kevin Picanco, Tim Fischer

### Hearings:

- Six Year Streets Capital Improvement Plan Update

- Presentation provided by Kevin Picanco.
- Questions asked and answered.
- Discussion ensued.
- No public testimony.

#### **Motion**

- *I [Commissioner Greg Francis] move to recommend approval to City Council of the 2026-2031 Six Year Streets Capital Improvement Plan. Seconded by Commissioner Amber Lenhart.*
- No further discussion.
- **Motion passes unanimously 6-0-0.**

- ADU Updates ([HB 1337](#)) [SMC 17C.300](#), [17H.010.040](#)

- Presentation provided by staff member Tim Thompson.
- Questions asked and answered.
- Discussion ensued.
- No public testimony.

#### **Motion**

- *I [Commissioner Greg Francis] move to recommend approval to City Council for the Accessory Dwelling Unit updates to SMC 17C.300 and 17H.010.040 to comply with House Bill 1337. Seconded by Commissioner Tim Williams.*
- No additional discussion.
- **Motion passes unanimously 6-0-0.**

- Honorary Naming of Post Street Bridge

- Presentation provided by staff member Tim Thompson.
- Questions asked and answered.
- Discussion ensued.
- Public Testimony: Rick Hastings

#### **Motion**

- *I [Commissioner Greg Francis] move to recommend approval to City Council to add the honorary name of Friends of the Falls Memorial Bridge to the Post Street Bridge. Seconded by Commissioner David Edwards.*
- Discussion ensued regarding the term memorial.

- *Commissioner Tim Williams proposed that we [Plan Commission] amend the proposal to simply be Friends of the Falls. Seconded by Commissioner David Edwards. Commissioner Francis asked for clarification on the amendment to state Friends of the Falls Bridge? Commissioner Williams agreed that the amendment would state: Friends of the Falls Bridge not simply Friends of the Falls.*
- **Voice vote on the amendment: Vote passes unanimously 6-0-0.**
- Some additional discussion ensued.
- *Commissioner Greg Francis, in honor of Michael Baker, called to question.*
- **Voice vote on the call to question passed unanimously 6-0-0.**
- *VP Ryan Patterson stated (in clarification) to vote as amended to support the honorary naming of the Post Street Bridge to the Friends of the Falls Bridge.*
- **Motion passes unanimously 6-0-0, as amended.**

Hearing Adjourned at 5:16 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Plan Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, 2025.