



Spokane Human Rights Commission

The Nov 7th, 2023 meeting will provide for in person attendance. The meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers–Lower Level of City Hall, 808 Spokane Falls Blvd. Members of the public, Commission members, City staff, and presenters will still have the option to participate remotely via Teams by clicking the “Meeting Link” on this page or by calling the number provided.

5:30 PM-7:30 PM

[Meeting Link](#)

+1-323-618-1887

Access code: 577 455 431#

TIMES GIVEN ARE AN ESTIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Land Acknowledgment & Public Comment Period:

5:30 - 5:35 Land Acknowledgement
Public Comment (3 minutes each). Citizens are invited to address the Commission.

Commission Briefing Session:

5:35 - 5:40 A. Roll Call & Approval of Consent Agenda Chair Peace

Standing Update(s):

5:40-6:05	“Muslims for Community Action & Support (MCAS)”	Naghmana Sherazi
6:05-6:30	SHRC Officer and Lead Elections	
6:30-7:30	Committee Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive • Outreach • Civic Impact 	

	Adjournment	
	1) Next Human Rights Commission meeting is scheduled for Jan 4th, at 5:30pm (PST)	

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 Spokane City Council Chamber 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.) at the City Cable 5 Production Booth located on the First Floor of the Municipal Building, directly above the Chase Gallery or through the meeting organizer. Individuals requesting reasonable accommodations or further information may call, write, or email Human Resources at 509.625.6363, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA, 99201; or msteinolfson@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.



Chair's Report

December 1, 2023

Dear Commissioners,

Below is a summary of activities I participated in as Chair of the SHRC, as well as additional points of interest:

❖ **Commission Updates**

- On 11/1/23 the SHRC Chair attended the "Greater Spokane Progress (GSP)" meeting for their OCREI Workgroup, in which the discussion was on the effects that the upcoming "2024 City-Budget" will have on the Office of Civil Rights, Equity & Inclusion (OCREI). During the meeting also there was a discussion about how the City plans on going forward with the City Council passing the Language Access Resolution on 10/16/23 (which will be overseen by the OCREI), and what GSP would like to see the City do on implementing the Language Access Resolution.
- On 11/2/23 the SHRC Chair attended the 2023 Human Rights Champions Awards Banquet & Celebration held at the Spokane Convention Center. This event is hosted by the Spokane County Human Rights Task Force in partnership with the SHRC, which this year the Commission paid for 2 tables at the event. Other **Commissioners & City-Staff** that attended the event at the Commissions tables were as follows; the SHRC Executive Team, Commissioner Hernandez-Peck, Commissioner Knox, City Council Manager of Housing & Homelessness Initiatives, City Council Manager of Sustainability Initiatives. Also, the Commission welcomed & invited 3 Community-Members with their +1's to be our guests at our tables, due to all the great work they have done in our community on "*protecting & championing*" the

Human Rights of all in our community. The Awards Banquet & Celebration was honoring the following people with the **"Human-Rights Champions Awards"**: [Curtis Hampton](#) - Carl Maxy Center, [La Rae Wiley](#) & [Chris Parkins](#) - Salish School of Spokane, [Renee Norris](#) - Spokane Homeless Connect, [Kiana McKenna](#) - PICA WA, and [Naghmana Sherazi](#) - Refugee & Immigrant Connections Spokane (RICS).

- The SHRC Chair reached out to [Naghmana Sherazi](#) with **"Muslims for Community Action & Support (MCAS)"**, in order to have **"Muslims for Community Action & Support"** give a presentation to the Commission at the December meeting. The presentation would be about that organizations' work in our community regarding helping to ensure *that those in our Muslim-Community here in Spokane feel welcomed & supported and advocating in order for their voices to be heard. As well as advocating for all Refugee & Immigrant Communities in Spokane by supporting & empowering refugee and immigrant communities by providing services, fostering community bonds, and advocating for refugee & immigrant rights in the Inland Northwest.* Naghmana Sherazi agreed to this presentation.
- A reporter from KLXY reached out to the SHRC Chair to do an interview and story about the **#4ThePeople: Spokane voters passing measure that restricts encampments**, about **"Proposition 1"** which would ban our Homeless-Neighbors from camping in over 65% of the city according to [Eastern Washington University Geoscience Professor Robert Sauders](#). This interview with KLXY & the Chair happened on Election-Night about an hour after the 1st Ballots had dropped, in which during the interview the SHRC Chair expressed deep concerns about how this new law would affect the emotional-wellbeing of our Homeless-Neighbors after being told they are not welcomed to live in the majority of their Community by the Spokane-Voters. During that interview the Chair talked to the Reporter about the fact that they were worried about the fact that [Police Chief Craig Meidl has said on](#)

11/3/23 that if the law was passed SPD because of staffing-issues could never response to the calls about Homeless-Encampments. The Chair was concerned that with the lack of Police-Response that this in fact might indeed lead to Neighborhood-Vigilantism that was seen shortly after the Trent Shelter opened without neighborhood engagement, and at that point there was Armed-Neighborhood-Posse's that went about clearing Homeless-Encampments near the shelter that was filmed by those Posse's which they then shared their videos on Social-Media for others to duplicate in their neighborhoods. The facts about the Neighborhood-Vigilantism & the Police Chief's statement, weren't included in the KLXY news story. 8 days after the Election and 2 days after the Mayor Nadine Woodward concedes the race for Spokane Mayor, Police Chief Meidl announced his resignation as of 12/31/23. The resignation of the Police Chief happened after 234-days when it was that "26 local & state organizations" as well as the Spokane NAACP President & the SHRC Chair called on the resignation of the Chief, due to the Chief's **cozy-relationship** with the Downtown-Business-Association doing "Street-Sweeps of our Homeless-Neighbors" without working with Service-Providers and/or Community-Partners to help with that task & then the fact of the true lack of the Chief's "Community-Engagement" with the diverse community-members in Spokane.

- The SHRC Chair received a call in the morning of their Birthday from City Council Member Jonathan Bingle, who was calling the Chair to wish them a *Happy Birthday*. During that conversation the Chair was able to talk to Council Member Bingle about current issues at City Hall, as well as we were able to talk about why & what happened to shutdown the City Council Meeting on 11/6/23 and how we as a community can resolve that issue.
- On 11/14/23 the City Council Manager of Equity & Inclusion Initiatives reached out to the SHRC Chair, in order for the Chair to attend the 2nd meeting on crafting a draft City

Council Resolution "Against Antisemitism & Islamophobia" after the *Council's failed but passed Resolution by a vote of 7-0 on 10/7/23 which only supported Israeli-Position* which no Community-Stakeholder-Engagement happened nor having any public-comment on the matter before the resolution was passed. The 1st meeting happened on 10/30/23 in which the SHRC Chair attended a private-event at City Hall with Jewish & Muslim-Community-Members and 2 City Council Members, in which the meeting was about the increased *hate crimes & hate incidents* against our Jewish & Muslim community members in the City recently.

- Commissioner Koh's reappointment to the Commission was confirmed by the City Council on 11/14/23, for their 2nd term as the Youth Commissioner. It was a 7-0 vote by the City Council, which their term is from 9/1/23 to 8/31/24.
- The SHRC Chair responded to a Citizen-Inquiry about how they could file a Civil-Rights-Complaint about an employer, in which the Chair referred that person to go forward with contacting OCREI Director Jerrall Haynes about the matter and also to contact the "Carl Maxey Center Racial Justice Legal Clinics", happening every 2nd Wednesday of each month for Black, Indigenous, People of Color on Civil Rights & Discrimination in Housing, Employment, Services, Governmental-Agencies, Court-Services, Law-Enforcement, Language-Access, Civil-Law including Family-Law, Domestic-Violence, Consumer, Credit, Evictions, Post-Conviction-Relief, and all other areas *excluding Criminal-Law*. These Legal Clinics are a part of "The Sandy Williams Justice Center", which honors the fact that *back in the day*, on Wednesday afternoons, Carl Maxey opened the doors to his law office to the Black Community for Free-Legal-Advice to all who dropped in and following Carl's death in 1997 that "Drop-In-Wednesdays" event continued at "The Law Office of D.C. Cronin".
- On 11/17/23 the SHRC Chair sent an email to OCREI Director Jerrall Haynes, in order to have them assist in

getting the new updated SHRC Brochures printed (which is attached to this email are the Brochures). The Commission had gotten a quote of 500 copies for \$300, which the SHRC Chair can authorize up to \$300 without a vote of the Commission. The Chair asked that the OCREI Director help the SHRC to have printed up \$300 worth of brochures by the end of this month, and then in December do another round of printing if there are still funds available in the 2023 SHRC budget.

- The SHRC Vice-Chair on 11/20/23 gave testimony to the City Council about the Commissions' support for the passing of Ordinance C36458 & Ordinance C36459, which permanently relaxes regulations allowing more multiplexes & development flexibility to create more needed housing. These Ordinances were crafted by the City's Planning Department with their "Building Opportunity & Choices For All Program", which back in October the SHRC received a presentation from the Planning Department at our monthly meeting about this matter. It was after that October presentation the SHRC voted to have the Vice-Chair & Executive Committee write a *letter of support* for "Building Opportunity" on behalf of the Commission, and then to send that letter to the City Council which was sent on 11/14/23 (which attached to this email is the letter). These Ordinances were passed after much debate by the City Council by a 6-0 vote.
- On 11/22/23 the SHRC Chair was invited by EWU Provost & the EWU Faculty Organization President to attend the 12/5/23 meeting on ***EWU Strategic Planning 2nd Focus Group/Forum with Diverse Community Leaders***. Which the Chair accepted.
- Held an SHRC Executive Committee Meeting on 11/25/23.
- Regularly communicated with the SHRC Executive Committee last month about upcoming agenda items or other Commission issues.

❖ OCREI

- Regularly communicated with the OCREI Director Jerrall Haynes last month, about upcoming agenda items or other Commission issues.

❖ **Social Media (Facebook)**

- Created the December 7, 2023 SHRC meeting event. As well as posting the Agenda in the comment post section.
- Re-posted a post from the [Smith-Barbieri Progressive Fund](#), in which the post was honoring the "Trans Day of Remembrance" on 11/18/23 with an event at the Downtown Library from 2 to 4pm.



CITY OF SPOKANE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

November 14, 2023

Via Email

Spokane City Council
Attn: Council President Kinnear, Councilmember Stratton
City Council Office
City Hall, 7th Floor
808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.
Spokane, WA 99201

Re. Recommendation re. Building Opportunity for Housing, Phase 2's proposed text amendments to the Spokane Municipal Code re. residential development standards (Clerk's File Nos. ORD C36458 & ORD C36459).

Dear Members of the Spokane City Council:

For at least as far back as our institutional memory and records go, one of the central priorities of the Spokane Human Rights Commission (the "SHRC") has been working to improve conditions for, and protect the rights of, Spokane's unhoused and housing-insecure citizens.¹ We have done so because we believe that a core component of the basic human right to an adequate standard of living includes adequate housing.²

Pursuant to our mandate to "advise[] and make[] recommendations to the city council regarding issues related to human rights and unjust discrimination and the implementation of programs consistent with the needs of all residents of the City of Spokane,"³ we write in regards to the proposed

¹ See, e.g., [SHRC Resolution 23-03](#), "A resolution concerning the human rights and basic dignity of individuals experiencing homelessness" (Oct. 5, 2023) (proposing a new chapter to Title 18, SMC to protect the rights of individuals experiencing homelessness); [SHRC Proclamation 23-001](#) (July 6, 2023); [Knox & Kissler Statement re. SCSO Camp Home Response](#) (Sept. 27, 2022); [SHRC Chair's 2021 Annual Report](#) (Jan. 6, 2022); [SHRC Letter to Mayor Condon and Council President Stuckart](#) (Mar. 22, 2016); [SHRC Analysis of Homeless Criminalization Ordinances](#) (Oct. 28, 2015); [SHRC Meeting Minutes for April 28, 2015](#), at 2, 4.

² See SHRC Proclamation 23-001, *supra* note 1; see also Article 25, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, G.A. Res. 217A, U.N. GAOR, 3d Sess., 1st plen. mtg., [U.N. Doc. A/810](#) (Dec. 12, 1948) ("Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of [themselves] and of [their] family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care . . ."); accord Article 11, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, adopted Dec. 16, 1966, G.A. Res. 2200 (XXI), U.N. GAOR, 21st Sess., [U.N. Doc. A/6316](#) (1966), 993 U.N.T.S. 3 (effective Jan. 3, 1976) ("Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for [themselves] and [their] famil[ies], including adequate food, clothing and housing[.]").

³ See [SMC § 04.10.010](#).

November 14, 2023

In re. Building Opportunity for Housing, Phase 2 Amendments

Pg. 2 of 5

text amendments to Spokane’s Unified Development Code:⁴ The Building Opportunity for Housing, Phase 2 amendments (Clerk’s File Nos. ORD C36458, ORD C36459) (the “Proposed Amendments”). The Plan Commission recommended the Proposed Amendments for approval on October 11, 2023, and they are currently scheduled for final reading and Council’s vote on November 20, 2023.

The purpose of the Proposed Amendments is to expand permitted housing types within residential zones to increase the available housing choices and opportunities for citizens of all income levels throughout the City. In addition to being well-intentioned, the Proposed Amendments are also thoughtful, a paradigm of technical expertise combined with hard work, and narrowly tailored to accomplish their desired goals. Most importantly: they reflect the community’s will, as they are the product of extensive engagement and input from the wide range of the many diverse perspectives, experiences, and voices that shape our community. We recommend that you vote in favor of approval.

In March 2016, the SHRC identified housing scarcity as a rising source of housing insecurity and recommended a possible way to increase housing availability and affordability: reexamine the density requirements for residential land being underutilized and “explore land use and zoning opportunities for this kind of [higher-density] housing.”⁵ We believed the policy could comport with the Comprehensive Plan by creating “opportunities to site units on [existing] land in a way that is appropriate for the area[.]”⁶

Our recommendation was not revolutionary, original, or new—cities that have prospered throughout history have recognized that sustained, healthy growth involves a common urban planning strategy: increasing housing supply by raising density. This was well understood by our letter’s recipients, one of whom—an expert in housing policy—recently wrote:

[I]f you go to cities like Prague or Budapest, or . . . Paris and you look out, you find human sized cities where there aren’t big skyscrapers. All of the buildings are 3 to 5 stories high. There are multiple people—individuals and families—living in every building and you have much denser environments than [in West Coast cities with significant populations of citizens who are unhoused, including] . . . Portland and San Francisco, San Diego and Seattle. That’s because those cities are younger and haven’t figured out density yet in order to drive prices down. In Spokane, when we saw rental prices increase by 60% over three years, what we were seeing was a lack of supply (and housing density) in the city of Spokane . . . Think of it this way: out of 100 apartments, our vacancy rates were below 2% for three years in a row. That means for every one

⁴ See Title 17, Spokane Municipal Code. The proposed ordinance would amend SMC chapters 17A, 17C, 17D, and 17G. See [Staff Report to Plan Comm’n](#), PLANNING & ECON. DEV. SERVS. DEPT., at 1, 5 (Oct. 4, 2023) (.pdf page 47).

⁵ SHRC Letter to Mayor Condon and Council President Stuckart (Mar. 22, 2016), *supra* note 1, at 7.

⁶ *Id.*

hundred apartments that exist, there were less than two available. That’s a seriously constricted supply, and when the supply of available rentals is constricted, a landlord in a market economy raises rents because the market will bear those raised rents, because there are so few available.⁷

This rental scarcity and resulting surge in rental rates (the “rental-rate crisis”) goes hand in hand with an ownership crisis—*i.e.*, too few homes being on the market results in prices that are “too high for someone to buy a home,” which is “how people build generational wealth.”⁸ These two crises, combined with a lack of low-income and/or subsidized housing, is a primary reason for the high percentages of houselessness and housing insecurity that characterizes younger, West Coast urban areas.⁹

These crises have a common, underlying origin:

[T]he most interesting fact that describes Spokane’s zoning problem is that over 70% of the land inside the City of Spokane is zoned single family.¹⁰

The solution:

[T]here are areas of Spokane zoned single family that should not be. They should be zoned multi-family.

...

There are small business districts that are really the lifeblood of small businesses, and where we should be seeing density. But 80% of [these areas, like Garland, North Monroe, and Perry] are surrounded by single-family homes[.] So, [for reasons the book explains but we can’t here,] by changing zoning code and creating density around our small business districts, you get better land use, you get a safer environment, you get healthier small businesses and you solve the housing crisis[.]¹¹

Although easy to identify, achieving this solution has been too difficult for Spokane and other West Coast cities to accomplish politically or logistically.

⁷ Ben Stuckart, *Homelessness is a Housing Problem*, in *A PLACE TO EXIST: THE TRUE AND UNTOLD STORY OF CAMP HOPE AND HOMELESSNESS IN SPOKANE* 175, 176 (Maurice Smith ed., 2023).

⁸ *Id.* at 175.

⁹ *See Id.* (citing Gregg Colburn & Clayton Page Aldern, *HOMELESSNESS IS A HOUSING PROBLEM: HOW STRUCTURAL FACTORS EXPLAIN U.S. PATTERNS* (Univ. of Cal. Press 2022) (summarizing data analysis showing that factors such as poverty rates, age, etc. are not correlated housing insecurity—“the only correlation they found was that high rental rates equaled an increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness.”)

¹⁰ *Id.* at 179.

¹¹ *Id.* At 179-180.

November 14, 2023

In re. Building Opportunity for Housing, Phase 2 Amendments

Pg. 4 of 5

Until now.

After extensive collaboration by and between the Mayor’s Office, the Council President, Councilmembers Wilkerson and Cathcart, the Plan Commission, the Spokane Planning & Economic Development Services Department, other critical City departments, and numerous community organizations, stakeholders, and agency partners¹²—all of which you’re well-aware—the Proposed Amendments are before Council for your consideration. Pursuant to the SHRC’s mandate to advise and make recommendations to City Council on matters relating to the fundamental human rights of Spokane citizens—and the implementation of programs consistent with those needs—we endorse and strongly encourage Council to vote in favor of adopting them.

The shortage of available housing supply has led to many citizens being priced out of the housing market and becoming unhoused and/or insecurely housed. Spokane’s housing crisis disproportionately affects the BIPOC community, which has been historically and systemically excluded from generational wealth accumulation via property ownership within our City.¹³ Moreover, low-density zoning increases racial segregation in urban residential areas by specifically reducing the quantity of available housing in predominantly white areas through various land use requirements (minimum lot sizes, set-backs, etc.).¹⁴ The housing crisis also disproportionately burdens people who have physical disabilities and/or mental illnesses, who are transgender or gender nonconforming, who are domestic violence survivors, and who are refugees, seeking asylum, or are displaced.¹⁵

The SHRC is optimistic that the Proposed Amendments will allow for development renovations that will alleviate the housing crisis and its myriad negative impacts on our community. The Proposed Amendments will help to eliminate regulatory barriers which—intentionally or unintentionally—have contributed to the decline of affordable middle housing. For example, setback requirements have historically served as a tool to enforce larger lot sizes and maintain predominantly single-family housing, which maintains racial and economic housing stratification. Removing the setback averaging requirement in SMC 17C.111.235—as the Proposed Amendments would do—will allow for greater flexibility in locating multiple units on a lot. Moreover, the overall relaxation on density restrictions will give residents access to more housing choices into different areas, rather than leading to de facto segregation due to anachronistic and unnecessary building restrictions.

¹² See City of Spokane, [HOUSING ACTION PLAN: HOUSING OPTIONS FOR ALL](#), at ii-iv (adopted July 26, 2021).

¹³ See, e.g., [1929 Map of Spokane](#), U.S. APPRAISAL DEPARTMENT HOME OWNERS’ LOAN CORPORATION, Division of Research and Statistics (Feb. 1, 1938) (“Residential Security Map Legend: ... A, First Grade...”). The communities of Hillyard, East Central, and Liberty Park were most affected. See *id.*; accord Julianna Amante, [Redlining’s Lingerings Shadows](#), SPOKANE HISTORICAL.

¹⁴ See Jonathan Rothwell & Douglas S. Massey, [The Effect of Density Zoning on Racial Segregation in U.S. Urban Areas](#), 44(6) URBAN AFFAIRS JOURNAL 779-806 (Jul. 1, 2009).

¹⁵ See, e.g., [2022 Point-in-Time Count WA-502 Spokane City & County](#) (May 5, 2022).

November 14, 2023

In re. Building Opportunity for Housing, Phase 2 Amendments

Pg. 5 of 5

Increasing zoning density will increase housing accessibility and affordability. The location of affordable housing will be enhanced by allowing multifamily housing in neighborhoods in places that have traditionally only allowed single-family homes. Increasing the availability of multifamily housing will also lead to more housing security, as individuals and families previously priced out of homeownership will have greater access to purchase their homes, allowing them to build wealth and have greater security in tenure. This is a well-established urban planning method used by world-class cities as a way of protecting and fulfilling their citizens' right to adequate housing, which has been endorsed by the United Nations:

[Signing nations] should, for instance, regulate the housing and rental markets in a way that promotes and protects the right to adequate housing . . . [Signing nations] must, for instance, adopt a . . . housing plan that: defines the objectives for the development of the housing sector, with a focus on disadvantaged and marginalized groups; identifies the resources available to meet these goals; [and] specifies the most cost-effective way of using them.¹⁶

Spokane is a world-class city. And thanks to the hard work and expertise of the Planning & Economic Development Services Department during Phase 2,¹⁷ the Proposed Amendments will create the lasting policy changes necessary for more City residents to take meaningful steps towards renting or owning permanent, secure housing. They are a welcome step in the right direction for Spokane's community members, especially those who are unhoused, insecurely housed, and who have been historically marginalized and excluded from housing opportunities.

We are optimistic for the change the Phase 2 Amendments can bring to the City, and recommend that Council vote in favor of approval. Doing so isn't just run-of-the mill updates to technical definitions and standards—it represents a substantial, tangible, and important step to making Spokane a place where we all belong.

In Unity,

THE CITY OF SPOKANE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



By:¹⁸ Brennan "Boone" Schreibman, Vice Chair
Anwar Peace, Chair
Hayley Harrison, Secretary/Treasurer

¹⁶ [Fact Sheet No. 21 \(Rev.1\): The Right to Adequate Housing](#), OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, at 33-34 (Nov. 2009).

¹⁷ Particularly Tim Thompson, Principal Planner, and KayCee Downey, Planner II.

¹⁸ At its October 5, 2023 regular meeting, the SHRC voted to approve the issuance of this letter and designated its Vice Chair and Executive Committee to draft and send the foregoing document expressing views not inconsistent with that action.

MISSION STATEMENT

THE HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION ADVISES AND
MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS
TO CITY COUNCIL REGARDING
HUMAN RIGHTS, UNJUST
DISCRIMINATION, AND THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF
PROGRAMS CONSISTENT WITH
THE NEEDS OF ALL RESIDENTS
OF THE CITY OF SPOKANE.

CITY OF SPOKANE
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



GET INVOLVED

ATTEND A MEETING

Public meetings are held once a month at City Hall.



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

facebook.com/spokanehumanrightscommission

EMAIL US

Anwar Peace, Chair
apeace@spokanecity.org



REQUEST TO PRESENT

Contact the Chair to present during our public meeting.

JOIN THE COMMISSION

my.spokanecity.org/bcc/vacancies



SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SHRC!

ABOUT US

The City of Spokane Human Rights Commission (SHRC) was established in 1992, as authorized by the City Council in Title 4 of the Spokane Municipal Code.

The SHRC actively participates in local events, facilitates public forums, and conducts community outreach to drive awareness, education and advocacy around human rights issues affecting our community.

TITLE 18: HUMAN RIGHTS

In 2017, **“Title 18: Human Rights”** was adopted into the Spokane Municipal Code (SMC), outlining protections in and governances of the following types of discrimination:

- **Equal Opportunity in Employment**
- **Housing Practices**
- **Public Accommodation**

If you live within Spokane’s municipal boundaries and believe your rights under Title 18 have been violated, you may submit a complaint form located on the Commission’s website at:

<https://my.spokanecity.org/bcc/commissions/spokane-human-rights-commission/>

THE HATE REPORT

To better understand hate and discrimination in our area, our friends at Human Rights Spokane, have created a way to report incidents of hate bias and discrimination. You can choose to remain anonymous, it doesn’t have to be something illegal, and you can report incidents that you experience or that you are witness to.

This helps to identify patterns and determine the most effective ways to focus attention and direct resources to combat biases where they’re most prevalent.

Visit www.reportheatebias.org



SCAN TO REPORT HATE.

OFFICE OF CIVIL, RIGHTS, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

Connect with the OCREI Director, Jerrall Haynes, today!

jhaynes@spokanecity.org

