Spokane Human Rights Commission

Thursday, May 7, 2026

5:30-7:30

The Thursday, May 7, 2026 meeting will provide for in person attendance. The meeting will be held in the City Council briefing room–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.*

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Access Code: 577 455 431#

Mission Statement/Purpose: The Human Rights Commission advises and makes 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.

T I M E S G I V E N A R E A N E S T I M A T E A N D A R E S U B J E C T T O C H A N G E

5:30 - 5:40 Land Acknowledgement

Public Comment. Citizens are invited to address the Commission. (3 min each)

5:40 - 5:45 Roll Call & Approval of Agenda (McFadden)

5:45-6:15 Transitional living process, encampment teams (Catholic charities)

- Can we help advocate to streamline the process?

6:15-6:45 Let's grow our commission—and diversify its geography

6:45-7:00 —What we've been up to:

- Courageous conversations part 3—Both sides of the badge debrief (Robinson)
- A recap of our second Conversation, July 30, 2025 https://www.spokanepublicradio.org/regional-news/2025-07-31/spokane-police-chief-the-sanctity-of-life-should-be-our-guiding-light
    - "Sometimes we forget in both policy and training the sanctity of human life. The sanctity of human life is and should be our guiding light. And that means we slow down, we take more time, we use our critical decision-making skills." ~~Chief Kevin Hall, 2nd Courageous Conversation, July 30, 2025

7:00-7:30—Future planning:

- Housing Issues for Older Adults in Spokane (follow up from Lynn Kimball)
- Pride Spokane—How do we want to participate?
    - June 12-13
- Police accountability update (Debbie Novak, Washington Coalition for Police Accountability)
    - Update 2026 legislative session
    - State-wide initiatives
    - Local issues
        - What has been hopeful?
        - What was disappointing? Infuriating?
        - What can the Commission do to help? Next steps…

What we believe—what do we want to add?

December start:

- We believe in a transparent, public-facing city budget that prioritizes the needs of our most marginalized residents.

Next Human Rights Commission meeting is scheduled for **June 4, 2026**

We are what we imagine. Our very existence consists in our imagination of ourselves. Our best destiny is to imagine, at least, completely, who and what, and that we are. The greatest tragedy that can befall us is to go unimagined.

~~N. Scott Momaday, Kiowa poet