

Spokane Human Rights Commission



Thursday, July 2, 2026

5:30-7:30

The Thursday, July 2, 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.*

+1-323-618-1887

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.

TIMES GIVEN ARE AN ESTIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

5:30 - 5:40 Land Acknowledgement

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

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—Equitable budgeting ordinance proposal (Alex Gibilisco & the City of Spokane Equity sub-committee)

- How can the HRC help with this process?
- Are there other ways that we (the HRC & the Equity subcommittee) work together?
  - December’s “what do we believe?": *We believe in a transparent, public-facing city budget that prioritizes the needs of our most marginalized residents.*

**“There is nothing new about poverty. What is new, however, is that we have the resources to get rid of it.”**

~  
~Dr.  
Martin  
Luther  
King,  
Jr.,  
1964

6:30-6:45—New member update

- Mackenzie Driscoll

7-7:15—HRC Movie night proposal (Foral)

- Consider building community with periodic movie nights highlighting human rights issues

7:15-7:30 Review of 2026 work plan, developed November 2025 work-day

- What we believe—Review of United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. Would this document be a guide for setting our priorities?
  - For this evening: Equitable budgeting Articles highlighted
  - From December: *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 **August 6, 2026**

Don't tell me what you value. Show me your budget & I'll tell you what you value.

~~Joe Biden

I am fairly certain that our budget deficit was not caused by children with autism or 90-year-old grannies in nursing homes,

so why take it out on them by cutting services?

~~Lois Frankel, US Congressperson Florida

#### **City of Spokane Human Rights Commission Work plan 2026**

- Strengthen *Title 18* to clarify the HRCs role in supporting community members who experience discrimination (See above Title 18.01.050, B, 6)
- Focus on helping all residents know their rights
- Participate in Community meetings (at City Hall and the broader community) when decisions are likely to impact marginalized residents
- Fill the commission (we will have 6 open seats in January, including 3 youth)
- Focus on issues surrounding AGING—What meaningful action can we take to protect those who are aging & vulnerable in Spokane?
- Develop a “What We Believe/Where We Stand” document for a communal voice when commissioners are at community events’;
  - Living document that will grow and be edited at every meeting to help guide & empower our collective voice
  - The City of Spokane Human Rights Commission empowers every commissioner to speak on behalf of the commission when referencing the “What We Believe/Where We Stand” list.

## **United Nations International Declaration of Human Rights**

*~Adopted by the UN Assembly December 10, 1948*

*Article 1:* All human beings are born free and equal.

*Article 2:* Everyone is equal regardless of race, color, sex, language, religion, politics, or where they were born.

*Article 3:* Everyone has the right to life (and to live in freedom and safety).

*Article 4:* Everyone has the right to be free from slavery.

*Article 5:* Everyone has the right to be free from torture.

*Article 6:* Everyone has the right to be recognized before the law.

*Article 7:* We are all equal before the law.

*Article 8:* Everyone has the right to seek justice if their rights are violated.

*Article 9:* Everyone has the right to freedom from arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

*Article 10:* Everyone has the right to a fair trial.

*Article 11:* Everyone has the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty.

*Article 12:* Everyone has the right to privacy and freedom from attacks on their reputation.

*Article 13:* Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and to be free to leave and return to their own country.

*Article 14:* Everyone has the right to seek asylum from persecution.

*Article 15:* Everyone has the right to a nationality.

*Article 16:* Everyone has the right to marry and to have a family.

*Article 17:* Everyone has the right to own property.

*Article 18:* Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

*Article 19:* Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

*Article 20:* Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

**\*\*Article 21: Everyone has the right to take part in government and to have equal access to public service.**

*Article 22:* Everyone has the right to social security.

**\*\*Article 23: Everyone has the right to work, to equal pay, to protection against unemployment and the right to form and join trade unions.**

*Article 24:* Everyone has the right to rest and leisure.

**\*\*Article 25: Everyone has the right to a decent standard of living, including food, clothing, housing, medical care and social services.**

*Article 26:* Everyone has the right to education.

*Article 27:* Everyone has the right to participate in and enjoy culture, art and science.

*Article 28:* Everyone has the right to a social and international order where the rights in this Declaration can be fully realized.

**\*\*Article 29: We have a duty to other people and we should protect their rights and freedoms.**

*Article 30:* Nobody can take away these rights and freedoms from us.

