SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE/AGENDA OF THE SPOKANE CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025, 10:00 A.M. – CITY COUNCIL BRIEFING CENTER

A special meeting of the Spokane City Council will be held at **10:00 A.M. on Thursday, July 10, 2025,** in City Council Briefing Center - City Hall 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd. The meeting can also be accessed by calling 408-418-9388 and by using access code 2494 678 0637 and password 0320, if needed.
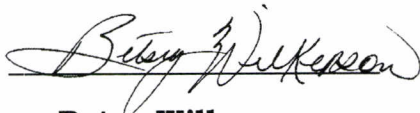
The meeting will be conducted in a study session format and will be open to the public both by phone and in person. No legislative action will be taken. No public testimony will be taken, and discussion will be limited to appropriate officials and staff.
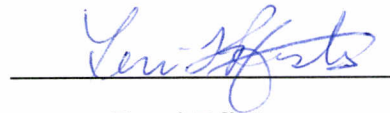
Executive Session
At any time during or after the special Study Session Agenda, the City Council may choose to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing privileged legal matters. This portion of the meeting would be closed to the public pursuant to RCW 42.30.110.

Agenda:

Council Interviews of District 2, Position 2 Candidates – City Council Members and Candidates (~3 hours)

Betsy Wilkerson
Council President

Terri Pfister
Spokane City Clerk

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.

Candidates for District 2, Position 2 Spokane City Council Member who will be Interviewed at 7/10/2025 Council Special Study Session

Ryan Oelrich
Kris Neely
Shelby Lambdin
Kristina Sabestinas

Interview Questions for District 2, Position 2 Spokane City Council Member Candidates

- Given that this is a four-month position, what are your specific priorities and what do you think you can accomplish during this time?

- What's your view of the separation of powers—not as theory, but in practice? Do you see the friction between branches as a flaw in the system, or a deliberate feature meant to guard against government overreach? Which is the greater threat to our democracy: occasional gridlock caused by strong checks and balances, or the slow erosion of those protections in the name of short-term political wins? And in today's climate of extreme partisanship, how will you handle the real-world pressure to toe the party line—even when it risks undermining sound policy, responsible governance, or the independence of the City Council itself?

- One of our main responsibilities is to approve the budget proposed by the Mayor and her Administration. Share your understanding of budgeting principles necessary to shape a good municipal budget. What, if anything, did we get wrong in our last budget and how should we correct that? What did we get right and how should we improve upon that?

- Community Workforce Agreements can help ensure larger construction projects are completed on time and on budget while emphasizing the need to hire workers historically excluded from construction. Would you support the Spokane City Council moving forward with a local Community Workforce Agreement for public works projects over $5M?

- What hours will you be available to work with Council and attend important meetings? And how do you plan to use the City of Spokane's motto in your work?

- If there was one aspect of the City of Spokane that you could immediately change, what would it be and why? What is one aspect you would keep the same?