

[Title 04 Administrative Agencies and Procedures](#)
[Chapter 04.41 Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board](#)
[Section 04.41.010 Purpose](#)

The purpose of the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board is to provide advice and recommendations to the Mayor, City Council, and community on the actions necessary to achieve the community's sustainability and climate goals consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Action Plan, environmental stewardship policies of the City as adopted by the City Council, and within the requirements and parameters set forth in state law.

[Section 04.41.020 Membership](#)

- A. The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board shall consist of up to fifteen (15) voting members committed to achieving the goals of SMC Chapter 15.05 and implementing the policies and recommendations of the Sustainability Action Plan and the Climate Component of the Comprehensive Plan.
- B. The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board membership will consist of diverse and broad representation including but not limited to:
 - 1. members of impacted communities facing disproportionate environmental and health disparities;
 - 2. individuals with expertise in public health, emergency management, climate planning, or sustainability and resiliency initiatives;
 - 3. business leaders and entrepreneurs with experience implementing sustainability and resiliency initiatives; and
 - 4. students of secondary and postsecondary education institutions within the city of Spokane.
- C. Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board members shall be at least sixteen years of age.
- D. The City Council may appoint a city council member to serve as a liaison to the Board.

[Section 04.41.030 Appointment and Term](#)

- A. Term
 - 1. Board members are nominated by the Mayor and appointed by the City Council.
 - 2. The term of office shall be two years.
 - 3. The terms of eight of the Board members shall expire in odd-numbered years.
 - 4. The terms of seven of the Board members shall expire in even-numbered years.
 - 5. Initial and subsequent Board members may be appointed to such shorter and/or longer terms as are necessary to achieve this term cycle.
 - 6. No Board member shall serve more than four consecutive full terms.
- B. Vacancy
 - 1. Any vacancy may be filled for an unexpired term in the same manner as for an original appointment under this section as amended.
 - 2. Appointment to fill the balance of an unexpired term where more than half of the unexpired term remains shall be considered a full term.
- C. To achieve broad representation, city residency shall not be required to serve on the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board; provided, however, a majority of the Board members shall consist of residents of the city, students of secondary or post-secondary institutions located within the city of Spokane, or business owners or non-profit employees located within the city limits of Spokane.

Section 04.41.040 Officers

- A. The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board shall select a Chair and Vice Chair of the Board from voting members appointed through the process outlined in [SMC 04.41.030](#) for a term of two years. No person shall serve as chair for more than two consecutive two-year terms. The chair shall preside over meetings and the vice chair shall preside over meetings in the absence of the chair.
- B. The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board may appoint other officers as it deems necessary.

Section 04.41.050 Ancillary Powers

The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board shall have the power to:

- A. Adopt internal rules of procedure to accomplish its duties;
- B. Use administrative support and staff as well as technical support from appropriate City departments and offices as necessary to assist the Board in the performance of its functions, maintenance of its records, and preparation of official correspondence;
- C. Organize itself, establish workgroups, committees, or subcommittees, establish annual work programs in consultation with the appropriate City staff, and delegate duties to such subordinate groups for the performance of its work.
- D. Access all relevant City of Spokane data and develop productive analytics and metrics;
- E. Host joint meetings with the City Council, Plan Commission, Transportation Commission and other relevant boards and commissions; and
- F. Host public events that encourage and support community engagement.

Section 04.41.060 Duties and Responsibilities

The Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board shall provide advice and recommendations to the Mayor, City Council, and community on the actions necessary to achieve the community's sustainability and climate goals consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Action Plan, environmental stewardship policies of the City as adopted by the City Council, and within the requirements and parameters set forth in state law. Specifically, the Board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- A. Serve as the Climate Policy Advisory Team for the state-required Climate Element in addition to the Comprehensive Plan, reviewing climate information gathered through engagement processes and providing recommendations on areas of focus and ensuring that climate goals and strategies are addressed in the housing, land use, transportation, public facilities, and other Comprehensive Plan elements;
- B. Consult with all City divisions and departments and relevant boards, committees, and commissions to recommend to the Mayor and Council funding opportunities and policy changes that advance resiliency, sustainability, and the policies that make up the Climate Element of the Comprehensive Plan;
- C. Identify opportunities for the City to collaborate with tribal, regional and statewide partners to advance the goals, principles, and strategies of the Sustainability Action Plan and Climate Element of the Comprehensive Plan;
- D. Provide recommendations and guidance for incorporating environmental and climate justice into City operations to limit the impacts of climate change in vulnerable and overburdened communities and reduce the cost-burden to low-income citizens as a result of implementing the Climate Element of the Comprehensive Plan;
- E. Consider research and best practices to make recommendations on climate and sustainability policies, programs, and projects as determined by the Board's annual work plan and upon request by City Council, City staff, and community members; and

- F. Establish an annual work plan in consultation with the appropriate City staff designated by the Mayor which shall be adopted by the City Council.

Section 04.41.070 Environmental Justice Considerations

- A. In making and approving appointments to the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board, the Mayor and City Council shall seek adequate representation from impacted community members and from historically underrepresented geographic areas or marginalized communities, including communities of color and areas of the city of Spokane that are subject to disproportionate environmental and health disparities.
- B. In performing its duties under SMC 4.41.070, the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board shall consider the effect of its policy and recommendations on impacted community members and shall consider the effect on historically underrepresented geographic areas or marginalized communities, including low-income and communities of color and areas of the city of Spokane that have been subject to disproportionate environmental and health disparities.

Section 04.41.080 Removal of Board Members

Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board members shall not be removed from office by the City Council before the expiration of their terms except for cause based upon a determination of incapacity, incompetence, the presence of irreconcilable conflicts of interest, neglect of duty, or malfeasance, and upon the affirmative vote of five (5) Council members. No Board member shall be removed without written notice of the intent to remove and an opportunity to provide a written response to the notice.