

The August Community  
Assembly meeting has  
been cancelled.

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# Community Assembly Draft Minutes

*Prepared by: Office of Neighborhood Services*

**July 10, 2025, in-person at The Hive**

**Meeting called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Kelly Cruz**

**Present:** Fran Papenleur—Audubon-Downriver, Christopher Savage—Balboa South Indian Trail, Luke Tolley—Bemiss, Steven Seim – Browne’s Addition, Micayla Leyden—Chief Garry Park, Sandy Wicht-Comstock, Debby Ryan—East Central, Linda Caroll—Emerson-Garfield, Tina Luerssen-Grandview-Thorpe, Laura Johnson—Hillyard, Stephanie Watson - Latah-Hangman, Carol Tomsic—Lincoln Heights, Mary Winkes—Manito-Cannon Hill, Tyler Tamoush- Minnehaha, Sara Bauer—North Hill, Terry Deno - North Indian Trail, Ann Haggett- Peaceful Valley, Lorna Walsh – Riverside, Bill Doley—Rockwood, Kris Neely—Southgate, Kathy Hagy—West Hills, and Charles Hansen—Whitman.

**Not Present:** Cliff/Cannon, Five Mile Prairie, Logan, Nevada Heights, Northwest, Shiloh Hills, West Central.

**City Staff Present:** Amber Groe, [Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS)], Heather Hamlin, (ONS), Katie Kosanke (Urban Forestry), Council President Wilkerson (City Council President), Jacobbe Byrd (City Council Office)

**Guests:** Kelly Cruz (Facilitator), Paul Kropp (Liaison Committee), Sue Arnesen (West Hills), Elizabeth Goldsmith (Comstock), Andy Hoyer (Southgate), Scott Mills (Cliff-Cannon), Kris Hansen (Cliff-Cannon), Shawn Terjeson (Lincoln Heights, Comms Committee), Andy Hoyer (Southgate), Mel Neil (North Indian Trail), Joni Harris (Bemiss), Sara Dixit (Bemiss), and Rhett Redshaw (North Indian Trail).

## ADMINISTRATIVE:

### **1. Introductions**

**1.1 Approve Meeting Recording:** Debby Ryan moved; Lorna Walsh seconded. Motion passes. 20-approve, 0-abstain, 0-deny.

**2. Amend/ Approve Proposed Agenda:** Laura Johnson moved, Debby seconded, Motion passes. 19-approve, 1-abstain, 0-deny.

- Motion: Amend proposed agenda to add 5 minutes for agenda item 9a: CDBG Letter (Andy Hoyer) and add 10 minutes for agenda item 9b.: Comprehensive Plan – Neighborhoods Chapter Collective Response (Mary Winkes).

**3. Approve minutes:** Tina Luerssen moved, Linda Caroll seconded, motion passes, 18-yes, 2-abstain, 0-no.

### **4. Admin Committee Action Items**

- Luke Tolley: Nothing to report currently- will discuss action items during committee reports section.

## OPEN FORUM:

### **5. Updates/Announcements**

- Sandy Wicht: Shared that Development & Volunteer Citizen Advisory Committee (DVCAC) would like to have a CA representative serve on the board again. DVCAC meets at 12:00 p.m., alternating months, on the Wednesday prior to the regular Park Board meeting. Meetings are

held in-person in the Finch Arboretum Woodland Center Ponderosa Room, and virtually via WebEx. Paul Kropp and Sandy will connect about the request. More information to come. Sandy reminded neighborhood councils that if they would like to sign up to speak in front of City Council, they can contact her at [sewicht@att.net](mailto:sewicht@att.net).

- **Fran Papenleur:** Provided an update on the [Ash Place Development](#). The project went before the hearing examiner in mid-April and the hearing examiner denied the plat. Fran mentioned that the neighborhood council is reviewing an additional proposed project in Audubon-Downriver neighborhood that is anticipated to encroach on the Drumheller Springs wetlands.
- **Tyler Tamoush:** The Neighborhood Safety Committee resumed meeting in June. The meeting featured a presentation from Arielle Anderson (Community Housing and Human Services, Director). The presentation is included in the CA packet on page 40. The [Rayce Rudeen Foundation](#) also presented and the committee may partner with them on future events. More information will be shared in the future. The Safety Committee will not be meeting in July- the committee is encouraging members to attend a related event, "Re-imagining Public Safety" hosted by the Spokane Human Rights Commission on Wednesday, July 30 at 5:30 pm at the Central Library. More information about the public event can be found [here](#).
- **Luke Tolley:** Called attention to event flyers that are included at the end of the July CA packet starting on page 70. Flyers include free summer pool parties and the Audubon-Downriver Concert Series.

#### AGENDA ITEMS:

##### **6. City Council Update (Council President Wilkerson)**

- Council President (CP) Wilkerson shared that the Mayor announced her [HOME Starts Here Initiative](#). H.O.M.E. stands for healthcare, outreach, multi-disciplinary engagement, and economic security. That initiative sets benchmarks for the city- to help reduce the number of Spokane residents who are housing cost burdened, growing the median household income, adding new housing income at all levels, expanding home ownership rates, and increase the percentage of people who have access to healthcare. CP Wilkerson mentioned that the City cannot do all these things by itself and is committed to contributing to these goals.
- As a part of the HOME Initiative, CP Wilkerson mentioned the [HEART \(Housing Equity and Attainable Residences Trust\) Fund](#). Since 2020, the City of Spokane has leveraged House Bill 1590, which authorized a 0.1% local sales and use tax for affordable housing and supportive services to expand access to housing options across Spokane. Mayor Brown's new ordinance looks to align the program with state law to help achieve the City's housing target of 22,359 new units by 2046 using these 1590 funds. HEART funds will be focused on partnering with developers to establish affordable housing. Discussion ensued related to affordable housing definitions and development.
  - **Paul Kropp:** Is the housing action subcommittee going to be a part of the 1590 discussion moving forward?
  - **CP Wilkerson:** The Housing Action Subcommittee is under City Council and the subcommittee is still in place. They are discussing options about participation.
- CP Wilkerson spoke briefly about the Spokane Parks Levy ([Together Spokane](#)).
- Mention of new court improvements in Under Hill Park in East Central Neighborhood and a new art installation at roundabout in Five Mile Prairie Neighborhood.
- Coming up in City Council is a vote on Monday, July 14 on the liaison position for the Climate Resiliency Board. Additionally, ORD 63701 which will centralize property use and maintenance

standards into one chapter of City Code. This is to help people navigate property code requirements for private and public maintenance.

- Kris Hansen: Recommended that the language around overgrown vegetation be more specific.
- City Council hosted four interviews for district 2 city council candidates on Thursday, July 10. The person selected would fill former Council member Navarrete's position and fulfil the remainder of that term. A consistent message from the candidates was communication – we are not communicating what we are doing well. Neighborhoods and the city should see communication and storytelling about successes and achievements as an opportunity.
- City Council is working with the Spokane Police Department to address safety concerns at public City Council meetings and ensure that they are as safe as possible for everyone.

## **7. ONS Update (Heather Hamlin)**

- Disposal Passes are redeemable at the Waste to Energy Facility starting on August 5. Please make sure that your neighborhood council clearly communicates where and when disposal passes will be distributed.
- Save the date for the 2025 Spokane Neighborhood Summit. The event will take place on Saturday, October 25 at the Hemmingsen Center (Gonzaga Campus) from 8 am - 1:30 pm. The event is FREE and open to any current or aspiring member of a Spokane neighborhood council. Registration will be open by next month's CA meeting so get ready to register and encourage your neighbors to register. We've got some terrific workshop proposals so far – workshop proposals are due tonight at 11:59 p.m.
- Updated neighborhood council WordPress templates will be available in September. Training will be hosted when websites are available to neighborhoods.
- Praise shared for ONS team quickly moving CA equipment to the Peaceful Valley Community Center.

## **8. Urban Forestry Liaison (Katie Kosanke, Spokane Parks Urban Forester)**

- Urban Forestry works with trees on right of ways and on city property across Spokane. Katie mentioned that Urban Forestry is currently working on a program to remove dead trees in the right-of-way and increase tree canopy across the city.
- You can find a schedule of the dead tree removal and/or sign up for a free tree on [this webpage](#).
- Urban Forestry partners with many different groups to accomplish their work, SpoCanopy and Downton Spokane Partnership.
- Spokane Conservation District has a tree canopy program called Cool Canopy which allows for trees to be planted on private property in specific areas of the city. Learn more [here](#).
- Fuels reduction program – thinning out the small trees. Nick Jefferies, Wildland Resource Planner with the Spokane Fire Department and Urban Forestry have reduced 500 acres of tree fuel so far this year. To help reduce fire risk, the City and County are providing free assessments for residents. More information can be found [here](#).
- Keep an eye out for upcoming workshops at the Finch Arboretum. Workshops include topics such as: tree identification and bark beetles. Katie mentioned that the Willow Tree at the Arboretum will be repurposed into a park-based playground. Local youth were engaged in conversations about how to repurpose the tree. Program funding and strategy are currently being worked on.
- Lorna: Mention of number of dead trees downtown. Is there a plan to address dead trees downtown.

- Katie: We are working on possible collaborative programs to support tree health downtown. Mentioned that 40 out of 53 trees reported last year were replaced via partnership between the City and the property owner.
- Kathy Hagy: Question about the impacts of fire and camping near the northwest corner at Finch Arboretum. Katie will look into this.
  - Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, first extension. Christopher Savage motioned; Linda seconded. Motion passes: 22- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
- Katie Kosanke: City staff inform residents via mail about trees in the right of way that need to be taken out and they provide a replacement tree free of charge.
- Shawn Terjeson: Do you recommend fuel reduction and thinning to private owners?
  - Katie: Nick Jefferies has worked with private property using targeted funds and outreach.
  - Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, second and final extension. Luke Tolley motioned; Tyler Tamoush seconded. Motion passes: 22- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
- CP Wilkerson: Mention that sometimes a permit is required to work on a tree on your property. Trees in right of way do need a permit. If you have questions about whether you need a permit, you can contact Katie at: 509-363-5496 or [kkosanke@spokanecity.org](mailto:kkosanke@spokanecity.org).

## 9. Policies & Procedures (P&P) Committee (Paul Kropp)

- Paul: Provided an overview of the information found on pages 15-16 of the CA agenda packet, prepared by the P&P Committee.
- Paul requested that CA members take the information provided on pages 15-16 back to their neighborhood council for consideration before participating in a vote at the August CA meeting.
- Discussion ensued about subcommittee P&Ps and best practices for voting.
- Motion to send information on page 15- 16 to neighborhood councils for review before the August CA meeting.
  - Luke made a motion and Laura seconded. Motion passes with 20-approve, 0-deny, 1- abstain.

### 9a. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Letter (Andy Hoyer)

- Andy Hoyer: Mayor Brown is working in tandem with the US Conference of Mayors, to call on our congressional delegates to save CDBG funding in the 2026 budget. The US Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) will be meeting on Monday, July 14 to mark up the fiscal year 2026 HUD appropriations bill. This is when the subcommittee will consider the President's proposal to provide zero funding for CDBG.
- Andy and Luke Tolley drafted a letter (shared on screen at the meeting) in support of CDBG funding for Spokane and asked CA to vote to approve to send it to Mayor Brown along with various state and federal representatives. The City of Spokane receives **\$2,780,400** in CDBG funding each year.
  - Motion that the CA shall send an email letter as soon as possible to Senators Murray and Cantwell and Representative Baumgartner to urge them to preserve funding for Community Development Block Grants in fiscal year 2026. Text of that letter shall be finalized by the Chair of the Admin Committee (Luke Tolley) and the Chair of the CA/CD Standing Committee (Andy Hoyer).
  - Bill Doley made a motion and Laura seconded. Motion passes with 20-approve, 0-deny, 2-abstain.

- CA members expressed praise for Andy and Luke for their quick and effective work on drafting the letter.
- Heather Hamlin provided copies of Mayor Brown's letter, with support of the bipartisan US Conference of Mayors, sent to congressional delegates to advocate to save CDBG funding in the 2026 budget.

#### **9b. Comprehensive Plan – Neighborhoods Chapter Collective Response (Mary Winkes)**

- Last month, Kevin Freibott provided the neighborhoods chapter of the comp plan. He invited people to send in suggestions. Kevin reported to Mary that a few comments have been submitted.
- Discussion ensued about submitting a collective response about the Neighborhoods chapter to the City Planning Department. The target date to present a collective response would be October.
  - Motion to form an ad hoc committee to review the Comprehensive Plan Update, especially the Neighborhood Chapter and make recommendations via a collective response.
  - Sara Bauer made a motion and Laura seconded. Motion passes with 21-approve, 0-deny, 0-abstain.
- Volunteers for the committee include:
  - Linda Carroll (Emerson-Garfield), Bill Doley (Rockwood), Stephanie Watson (Latah Hangman), Mary Winkes (Manito-Cannon Hill), Laura Johnson (Hillyard). Interim ad hoc subcommittee chair to set the first meeting is Mary Winkes.

#### **10. CA Committee Updates (Committee Chairs)**

- Luke Tolley (Admin Committee): In the process of confirming volunteers to administer the digital portion of the hybrid meeting. Logistics are still being worked out. Work is also being done on CA P&Ps. Admin Committee is discussing topics such as a CA website possibilities, minute taking procedures, tracker for actions, etc.
  - Bill Doley: expressed support for a CA website.
  - Mary Winkes: Asked to include a have a bi-monthly report from the neighborhoods 3.0 meeting.
- Laura Johnson (Budget Committee): 25 neighborhoods applied for Community Engagement Grants (CEG). Four neighborhoods did not apply for the CEG leaving \$2,973.61 in remaining funds for CA to allocate. Note: this number will change based on how neighborhoods spend their allocated grant funds. The CA Inventory closet has been moved to the Peaceful Valley Committee Center (214 N Cedar St.). No impacts to the check out request form or current inventory requests.
- Tina Luerksen (Building Stronger Neighborhoods [BSN]): Spokane Neighborhood Summit is Saturday, October 25 at the Gonzaga University. So far, 14 proposals have been received and we can host 9-10 workshops in total. BSN members will be choosing workshops next week.
- Andy Hoyer (CA/CD): Discussion about who the CA will be sending their CDBG advocacy letter to. List expanded beyond Mayor Brown and state reps. Suggestions included federal leadership as well. Andy and Luke will send letter once complete.
- Sara Bauer (CHHS Liaison): Announced that CHHS will be presenting information about the annual Point in Time Count to City Council on Monday, July 14 at noon at the Urban Experience Committee. Can attend in-person in City Council Chambers or view online on Channel 5.
- Paul Kropp: Provided updates about the Climate Resilience & Sustainability Board CA Liaison position. Position information can be found on the CA website [here](#). Sandy Wicht and Paul will

connect outside of the meeting to discuss the earlier mentioned Development & Volunteer Citizen Advisory Committee (DVCAC). Paul queried the CA members about advertising more than one open CA board position at a time. Several CA members mentioned support for advertising multiple vacancies. Lorna volunteered to make a half-sheet advertisement for the DVCAC position. She will bring copies to the August CA meeting.

- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, first extension. Fran Papenleur motioned; Laura seconded. Motion passes: 21- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
- Motion to ask the Liaison Committee to begin the process of recruiting CA reps for the Climate Resilience & Sustainability Board and any vacant Parks Board committees as soon as practical.
  - Mary made a motion and Terry Deno seconded. Motion passes with 20-approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, second and final extension. Kathy Hagy motioned; Carol Tomsic seconded. Motion passes: 20- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.

#### **11. Actionable Items Review/ Future Considerations/Survey**

- Luke Tolley will:
  - Reach out to the CA Communications Committee about CA website possibilities.
  - Move the vote to record the CA meeting to the front of the following agendas.
  - Note that CP Wilkerson will not be at August CA meeting and plan accordingly for the August agenda.
  - Add CA Workgroup to every other month CA agenda for a brief update.
  - Work with Andy to send CDBG letter.

Motion to adjourn the meeting. No formal vote to end the meeting was taken.

***Meeting adjourned at 7:31PM. Next meeting will be held Thursday August 7.***



## Administrative Committee Meeting Notes

**Tuesday, July 29th 2025, 4:00 - 5:30 pm**  
City Hall and via Zoom

**Present in person:** Luke Tolley (Bemiss - Admin Chair), Bill Doley (Rockwood - Admin Vice Chair), Tina Luerssen (Grandview/Thorpe - Admin Secretary), Paul Kropp (Southgate - CA P&P Cmte Chair), Gabby Ryan (ONS), Lorna Walsh (Riverside - Admin). **Virtual:** Sandy Wicht (Comstock - Admin), Fran Papenleur (Audubon/Downriver), Heather Hamlin (ONS).

**June 2025 minutes** M/S/P unopposed.

### City Updates:

Heather would like to liaise to CA and Admin going forward, replacing Gabby in this position. Heather will also be participating in CA/CC Workgroup. We recognize and appreciate all the work Gabby has done as our liaison over the years!

### August CA Agenda.

Discussion to table these items and cancel Aug CA meeting. Lorna moved, Bill seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

- Provide the CA packet with information distributed in lieu of meeting
- OPMA requirements - Gabby will post meeting cancellation with link to packet
- Mary prepared a summary after the ad-hoc committee met, will be included in packet
- Paul is amenable to tabling the P&P vote until September

### Deferred Agenda Requests:

1. Action items from August CA:
  - a. CA Website
    - i. Referred to Comms Committee, although they don't have capacity nor desire to be CA Archivist.
    - ii. Bill would like a document repository for CA. Historically, ONS maintained physical binders.
    - iii. This could be a topic for a CA Retreat. ONS input: City-hosted webpage is a template that can't be significantly modified.
  - b. Parks DV-CAC liaison: On Liaison Committee's radar.
  - c. CDBG letter was sent to all parties as requested.
  - d. Add vote to record as first agenda item - modified, and grouped all Administrative agenda items into a 15-minute block without individual timings.
2. P&P Vote on 4 items distributed at July CA meeting. (5 minutes, Paul Kropp)
3. Update from Comp Plan Neighborhoods ad hoc Committee. (10 minutes, Mary Winkes)
4. Climate Resiliency and Sustainability Board Liaison - Paul detailed concerns about the verbiage. Heather reached out to Giaccobe and Chris Wright about the proposed edits. There is a response in



process that will be sent tomorrow, indicating that the CA will need to adopt a formal resolution to change the SMC. Paul is concerned that the code is inconsistent and unclear for the CA. The Liaison Committee has been tasked with recruiting for this position, and will continue to do so.

### **Admin Committee Business**

1. Absent NCs: Cliff/Cannon (waiting for hybrid availability), Logan (no active leadership), Northwest (Gail indicated to Fran that she expects to attend in August). Discussion on Balboa-South Indian Trail with low participation as well. Suggestion to focus on these NCs with Spokane Neighborhood Summit marketing.
2. Hybrid meeting facilitator volunteers: Luke will put out a new “call for volunteers” with the position description, as the initial 3 have gone quiet and become non-responsive.
3. Admin Committee meetings - should we meet only virtually? In-person allows for more conversation, hybrid can be clunky, we always have virtual attendees. Suggestion to meet occasionally in-person, regularly virtual. New committee will convene in December, and may make this decision for 2026. No formal decision made at this time.
4. CA Retreat - for future discussion. With such a light agenda and expected light attendance for this August CA meeting, suggestion to revisit the idea of a CA BBQ annually, in lieu of August meeting.

### **Future CA Agenda Items Sept 4th** requests:

1. CA/CC Workgroup report
2. P&P Vote
3. Ad-hoc Plan Commission update
4. SRTC presentation request in September
5. Spokane Parks Foundation presentation? Yvonne is on the SNS workshop list.
6. Admin Nominations Committee forms in September
7. Committee P&P updates due for review in October
8. CE Grant remaining funds vote in October
9. Tirrell Black requested to return in November
10. Transportation Commission liaison - voting request? Paul will update.
11. CA Retreat?

**Annual CA calendar:** Reminders for Nominations Committee in **September**, Committee P&P updates in **October**, annual liaison update schedule.

**Next Admin Committee** meeting Tuesday, August 26th at City Hall/Zoom 4:00-5:30PM.

## **Community Assembly Committee: Building Stronger Neighborhoods**

Meeting Minutes

Saturday, July 19th 2025 9:00-10:30 AM

Hybrid on Zoom and The Hive

1. Welcome/Introductions and Committee Business
  - a. In attendance: Tina Luerssen (Grandview-Thorpe), Dan Brown (North Hill), Sandy Wicht (Comstock), Fran Papenleur (Audubon), Luke Tolley (Bemiss), Laura Johnson (Hillyard), Kris Hansen (Cliff-Cannon). City Staff: Amber Groe
  - b. Approve June 2025 Meeting Notes: Moved, seconded and approved unopposed.
  - c. Good Neighbor/CA Awards Budget Request: Still have at least \$1700 left from NCs who didn't request funds. Last year we spent \$250 on food and \$600 on awards. We may need to request a little extra because our inventory of certificates and frames is running low. Laura volunteered to put together the budget request. Tina will share last year's request and Amber will update our inventor.
2. ONS Report (Amber)
  - a. Equipment closet move to Peaceful Valley Community Center
    - i. It's a great internal layout, well set up. Has a bathroom.
    - ii. Sandy had an issue with an early morning pick up with someone visibly doing drugs on the ramp. Amber is going to try to get a contact number for a Park Ranger. Amber also mentioned the Parks Department is looking for a renter for that space.
    - iii. Laura shared her frustration that the resource closet at Neva-Wood was vacated so COPS Admin could move in when the space at the Hillyard precinct is vacant and could have been used instead. She also mentioned how inconvenient the Peaceful Valley location is.
  - b. Spokane Neighborhood Summit Planning:
    - i. Workshop Submittals
      1. Amber presented the voting ranking results spreadsheet
        - a. Had 16 votes with some clear favorites and will be inserted based on room availability.
        - b. We had more 60 minute session requests than before.
        - c. Take aways:
          - i. A lot of communications submissions and high votes
          - ii. Also a theme of working better together, deescalation, good neighborhood organizations and events.
      2. **Draft** Agenda Timing:

Time (PST)	Topic	Presenter(s)	Location	Notes
8:00 - 9:00 am	Registration / Optional Partner Resource Fair	-	Ballroom Middle & South	Please arrive during this time to check in for the day
9:00 - 9:15 am	Welcome, introduction, and review of the day's goals		Ballroom Middle & South	
9:15 - 9:25 am	Transition to Session 1			
9:25 - 10:25 am Session 1  60 MIN			Rm 201	40 w/ rounds
			Rm 314 A	40 w/ rounds
			Rm 314 B	40 w/ rounds
	N/A		Ballroom Middle	100 w/ rounds
	N/A		Ballroom South	80 w/ rounds
			Rm 312	Chilcare
10:25 - 10:35 am	Transition to Session 2			
10:35 - 11:20 am Session 2  45 MIN			Rm 201	40 w/ rounds
			Rm 314 A	40 w/ rounds
			Rm 314 B	40 w/ rounds
			Ballroom Middle	100 w/ rounds
	Maybe		Ballroom South	80 w/ rounds
			Rm 312	Chilcare
11:20 - 11:30 am	Transition to Session 3			
11:30 am - 12:15 pm Session 3  45 MIN			Rm 201	40 w/ rounds
			Rm 314 A	40 w/ rounds
			Rm 314 B	40 w/ rounds
	N/A		Ballroom Middle	100 w/ rounds
	N/A		Ballroom South	80 w/ rounds
			Rm 312	Chilcare
12:15 - 1:15 pm	Keynote/BOB/ Lunch  Topic(s):		Ballroom Middle & South	
1:15 - 1:30 pm	Closing Session		Ballroom Middle & South	Provide Resource/ Speaker List at closing.

a.

3. Childcare has been requested every year. Amber's wondering if we can use some of our left over \$500 from last year to pay for that. It was also suggested to approach NECC/The Zone and GU themselves.
4. Ranking proposals to NC membership? It was requested. Amber wanted to see what our thoughts were. There was positive feedback about opening it up a little wider like to chairs and reps, but we didn't think we would get a very balanced survey sample. We would still look critically at them at BSN to make sure the fit makes sense. Tina also suggested people do a video submission for their program instead of just written to make sure people are good presenters.

ii. Other:

1. Resource Fair: could it go longer? Do the exhibitors want/need to leave as soon as possible? What if we had the committees set up later in the day?

2. Amber is also planning to reach out to high school seniors to try to get more young people involved and it might have some additional
  3. We'll probably need some more volunteers this year so Amber's going to have a full volunteer schedule at the next meeting.
  4. We'll likely have our Sept or Aug meeting at the Hemmingson Center to make sure everyone's familiar.
  5. Amber's working on a hype video with City Cable Channel 5 for promotions
  6. Amber also suggested we have the Good Neighbor Award nominations open at the Summit. We need to be really clear about how many each person/neighborhood can submit and if we will have organizational winners.
3. Communications Committee Update (Sandy)
    - a. CA Website Discussion - The CA meeting requested BSN and Comms Committee work on a website. There's a clear need for better archiving information so we don't have to dig through old minutes for things. We don't know who exactly would update and manage it.
  4. Neighborhood Updates:
    - a. Tina and Grandview-Thorpe were the first to present to the City Council and their presentation was very well received. They were able to highlight the evolving neighborhood concerns like the recent growth in wildfire danger. Fran commended them for doing a great job thanking and crediting the City and City Council. Amber suggesting putting the presentation together with the video from Youtube and putting it out in the next newsletter.
    - b. Comstock is sponsoring a concert at Rocket Bakery on High Drive. They're going to have fliers and stickers to give out to promote the NC.
    - c. Cliff-Cannon's new leadership group is up and running. They're examining their neighborhood boundaries and hoping to move forward discussions to see if the current boundaries still make sense.
    - d. Audubon has 3 of 4 of their concerts done. They've had a great new concert coordinator that's brought a lot of energy to the effort.
    - e. Bemiss had it's first Music Under The Oaks last night and it was a big success. The yard games Laura brought were very popular and it was a great community building event. Next concert is next Friday. They're getting their mural next month.
    - f. Hillyard:
      - i. They are getting ready to finalize the new Hillyard sub area plan.
      - ii. The Hillyard Business District is organizing their creative district under the name Hillyard Alliance and hosting monthly 3rd Thursday Art Walk events.
      - iii. The Hillyard Festival parade will be happening on the first Saturday in August.
    - g. North Hill - Dan updated us on the "Jesus Fest" fiasco that has gotten the business association going again and coming together to work with the creative

district folks. They're going to do second Saturday art alley events starting in September. Their asphalt art was painted this month on the 8th. Their annual picnic is 8/14.

5. Topics for Next Meeting 8/16/25
  - a. Tina will be remote. We'll focus a lot on Neighborhood Summit details and getting the registration open.
  - b. Finalizing the budget application for the neighborhood awards
6. Adjourn.

Next Meeting, August 16, 2025, 9am at The Hive

2025 BSN Committee Officers:

Committee Chair: Tina Luerssen, Grandview-Thorpe. MacLuerssen@gmail.com.

Committee Support: Amber Groe, AGroe@spokanecity.org. (509) 625-6156

Committee Vice-Chair: Dave Lucas, Rockwood

Committee Secretary: Luke Tolley, Bemiss

BSN Committee Mission Statement:

*"Build stronger neighborhoods by promoting the growth of Neighborhood Councils through training, education, and engagement opportunities, with input from the Neighborhood Councils."*

## **Pedestrian, Traffic and Transportation (PeTT) CA Meeting**

7/22/25 at 6:00pm on Zoom

**Attendance:** Carol Tomsic-chair, Lincoln Heights, Rita Connors-Southgate, Rod Moore-Riverside, Chuck Carter-Manito/Cannon Hill, Charles Hansen-Whitman, Kris Hansen-Cliff Canyon, Jeff Mergler-Comstock, David Eagle-Chief Garry Park, Abbey Martin-City of Spokane, Cliff Winger-Shiloh Hills and Transportation Commission, Sam Guzman-STA

The meeting is called to order by Carol Tomsic.

### **Abbey Martin-City of Spokane. Transportation Benefit District Street Repair.**

[ammartin@spokanecity.org](mailto:ammartin@spokanecity.org) She provided a walk-through of relevant links/sites and a timeline moving forward. This is a transition year for the Transportation Commission by assuming the work presented to the City Council in May and June for 2024 and 2025 programs and discussion on how to approach 2026-2027. They divided up the CTAB and staff recommendations for consideration. Abbey explained there are many roads in the city that need repair considering two kinds of maintenance processes – chip seal and grind and overlay which is more extensive and used primarily. The Spokane Transportation Benefit District represents the City only and is funded by a \$20 per car annual renewal fee. Funds collected will help pay for the preservation and maintenance of the City's existing transportation improvements, facilities and programs in the six-year pavement maintenance program 2019-2025. Jeff Mergler commented on a problem area that was brought to his attention at a neighborhood meeting about the road near 30<sup>th</sup> Ave between Division and Bernard asking how these concerns should be voiced to the right people. Abbey said she knew of this issue and commented that starting at the Neighborhood Council level then the Transportation Commission is the best approach. She went over the 2024 Citizens Transportation Advisory Board Annual Report and said there is \$3.2 million dollars available for 2025 projects. She explained how to access the Commission page on the Spokane City website. The selection process for 2026 and 2027 decisions for proper treatment, and for distributing the budget between districts. Showed the Pavement Condition Index with active project names and specifics and those identified but not funded. She commented that trucks such as Ford F150 and larger don't pay the \$20 fee TBD fee. They consider those trucks work vehicles. Rita replied that larger trucks cause more damage to the roads, and many are not working. Kris Hansen asked how the voice of the CA committee translates into action by the Transportation Commission. Declaring it seems speaking in person to the commission is more effective.

**Agency Updates-STA-Spokane Transit with Sam Guzman.** Announced that Karl Otterstrom will assume the responsibility of CEO on August 10<sup>th</sup>. Karl is a longtime STA employee and transit champion. They are soliciting board positions on the STA Citizens Advisory Committee. Interested applicants should contact Yolanda Montes at [ymontes@spokanetransit.com](mailto:ymontes@spokanetransit.com) or 509-343-1733. It is a three-year term of service. Announced the new double-decker bus debut in September and explained how they had to look for potential overhead obstructions before confirming routes. Look for the emerald, green hydrogen powered bus on loan to STA.

**Agency Updates-Transportation Commission with Cliff Winger.** The next meeting of the TC is August 20<sup>th</sup>. They are covering the CTAB local access street repairs. Get in touch with your district representative for suggestions. Future meetings will be identified to coordinate better with the 29 Neighborhood Councils. Contact Cliff at [cwinger@spokanecity.org](mailto:cwinger@spokanecity.org).

**Roundtable-** Carol discussed planning for the Spokane City staircase walk and that we are waiting to hear back from Parks and the school. We will have Trey George, Spokane City Environmental

Specialist, present at the 8/19/25 PeTT's meeting to present on cement sustainability and have a discussion about David Eagle's recommendations for finding alternative solutions for use of high carbon concrete. Finally, a community update on the erecting of a byway sign recognizing Motorcycle Police Officer Frederick Germain who was killed in the line of duty in 1922 at east Trent Avenue and Regal Street where the officer was killed.

# Community Assembly's PeTT Committee

*Presentation regarding  
Transportation Benefit District*

July 22, 2025

Abigail Martin  
[ammartin@spokanecity.org](mailto:ammartin@spokanecity.org)



<https://my.spokanecity.org/bcc/commissions/transportation-commission/>

Transportation Commission

<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/bcc/commissions/transportation-commission/presentations/2025/06/18/transportation-benefit-district-residential-streets-2026-project-list-and-selection-best-practices.pdf>

TBD Presentation for 2026 and 2027 projects

<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/bcc/commissions/transportation-commission/presentations/2025/05/21/citizens-transportation-advisory-board-annual-report-2024.pdf>

CTAB Annual Report for 2024→ Now the purview of the Transportation Commission for future project selection

This year is a transition year;

Transportation Commission examining recommendations from CTAB and staff and will come to August meetings with their recommendations for 2026 and 2027 street repair;

August Transportation Commission meeting: 8/20 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month), 4pm, Council Chambers;

Hearing and public comment received; Vote taken on recommendation for Council approval on 2026 and 2027 project list;

\$3.2M will be annual budget→ fund fairly flat;

Real challenge with >6,000lb vehicles;

Enter New Project Year in this Column For Calculation	Previous Year	CDist	ProjType	ProjName	AreaYd	SegMi	LnMi	AVG PCI	AVG Age	Matrix	\$/yd	Cost
2026	2026	1 - NE	Chip	Cincinatti/Dalton Et Al	18,960	1.08	2.15	73.1	42.5	2.7	\$18.00	\$341,280
2026	2027	1 - NE	Grind	Rockwell - Crestline to Cook	4,413	0.25	0.50	32.0	57.9	7.2	\$78.00	\$344,240
2026	2026	2 - S	Chip	Moran View Et Al	25,196	1.19	2.39	56.7	27.0	3.8	\$18.00	\$453,528
2026	2026	2 - S	Grind	27th from Jefferson to Lincoln	3,750	0.21	0.43	43.7	77.6	7.0	\$78.00	\$292,500
2026	2026	3 - NW	Chip	Deschutes from Tucannon to Excel Et Al	50,496	2.39	4.78	82.2	28.9	1.2	\$18.00	\$908,928
2027	2027	1 - NE	Grind	Addison - Euclid to Bridgeport	2,780	0.16	0.32	30.7	65.3	8.0	\$78.00	\$216,840
2027	2027	1 - NE	Grind	Lidgerwood - Sharp to Mission	6,044	0.15	0.30	36.0	73.4	7.6	\$78.00	\$471,467
2027	2029	2 - S	Grind	Rebecca - 4th to Hartson	3,330	0.19	0.38	23.0	83.0	9.4	\$78.00	\$259,740
2027	2027	2 - S	Grind	Tacoma - 17th to 14th	3,250	0.18	0.37	26.5	83.2	9.0	\$78.00	\$253,500
2027	2027	2 - S	Grind	11th - Southeast to Arthur	3,267	0.19	0.37	27.0	58.0	7.7	\$78.00	\$254,800
2027	2027	3 - NW	Grind	Holyoke - Taft to Indian Trail	2,178	0.09	0.19	29.0	63.8	7.8	\$78.00	\$169,867
2027	2026	3 - NW	Grind	Sinto - Oak to Maple	4,640	0.14	0.27	43.5	50.7	5.7	\$78.00	\$361,920
	2028	1 - NE	Chip	Napa - Rowan to Francis	43,871	2.45	4.91	64.5	52.0	4.6	\$18.00	\$789,680
	2029	1 - NE	Chip	Courtland/Thor Et Al	32,895	1.67	3.34	68.2	43.9	3.9	\$18.00	\$592,112
	2026	1 - NE	Grind	Sanson - Addison to Cincinnati	4,393	0.25	0.50	14.5	66.0	9.3	\$78.00	\$342,680
	2026	1 - NE	Grind	Ash - 5th to 3rd	2,080	0.14	0.27	33.5	80.6	8.2	\$78.00	\$162,240
	2028	1 - NE	Grind	Pacific - Washington to Division	8,620	0.32	0.63	39.0	86.5	7.9	\$78.00	\$672,360
	2029	1 - NE	Grind	Gordon - Crestline to Cook	5,172	0.25	0.50	34.5	76.3	7.9	\$78.00	\$403,433
	2029	1 - NE	Grind	Hoffman - Division to Addison	6,567	0.37	0.75	33.0	72.7	7.8	\$78.00	\$512,200
	2027	1 - NE	Grind	Dalton - Nevada to Morton	2,233	0.13	0.25	39.0	76.0	7.4	\$78.00	\$174,200
	2026	1 - NE	Grind	Astor - Indiana to Montgomery	9,036	0.23	0.45	40.7	77.6	7.3	\$78.00	\$704,843
	2026	1 - NE	Grind	Astor - Montgomery to Jackson	5,303	0.17	0.35	34.5	63.8	7.2	\$78.00	\$413,608
	2028	1 - NE	Grind	Cataldo - Hogan to Napa	6,167	0.35	0.70	39.4	71.8	7.1	\$78.00	\$481,000
	2028	2 - S	Chip	30th to 33rd from Freya to Havana	44,275	2.14	4.27	65.5	32.6	3.5	\$18.00	\$796,944
	2027	2 - S	Chip	9th Av from Cannon to Maple Et Al	23,680	1.20	2.41	78.8	42.3	3.3	\$18.00	\$426,236
	2029	2 - S	Chip	35th from Freya to Havana Et Al	44,922	2.52	4.03	82.8	32.2	1.9	\$18.00	\$808,600
	2026	2 - S	Grind	6th - Cedar to Monroe	4,645	0.28	0.55	29.0	95.9	9.4	\$78.00	\$362,310
	2027	2 - S	Grind	Ivory - Rockwood Pine to Rockwood	2,477	0.14	0.28	23.0	62.5	8.3	\$78.00	\$193,180
	2026	2 - S	Grind	27th from Lincoln to Bernard	6,707	0.38	0.76	53.5	60.0	5.1	\$78.00	\$523,120
	2029	3 - NW	Chip	Waverly - Post to Division	54,743	2.88	5.76	61.4	53.9	4.2	\$18.00	\$985,378
	2029	3 - NW	Grind	Milton - Garland to Lacrosse	2,627	0.15	0.30	18.3	79.8	9.7	\$78.00	\$204,880
	2028	3 - NW	Grind	Hoffman - Rustle to G	7,580	0.43	0.86	25.0	70.5	8.5	\$78.00	\$591,240
	2028	3 - NW	Grind	Queen - Assembly to Driscoll	8,671	0.48	0.96	27.4	67.7	8.1	\$78.00	\$676,303
	2028	3 - NW	Grind	Carlisle/Jackson - Hemlock to Belt	5,922	0.31	0.62	31.8	73.4	8.0	\$78.00	\$461,933
	2027	3 - NW	Grind	Central - Flemming to A	9,959	0.49	0.97	34.1	67.4	7.5	\$78.00	\$776,837
	2027	3 - NW	Grind	Cedar - Broadway to Boone	5,947	0.25	0.51	33.3	63.8	7.4	\$78.00	\$463,840

Year	Project Budget	North East Cost	South Cost	North West Cost	Infill Sidewalk	Total	Over/Under
2026	\$3,200,000	\$685,520	\$746,028	\$908,928	\$1,000,000	\$3,340,476	(\$140,476)
2027	\$3,059,524	\$688,307	\$768,040	\$531,787	\$1,000,000	\$2,988,133	\$71,391
	Totals:	\$1,373,827	\$1,514,068	\$1,440,715			
		32%	35%	33%			

#### Revenue

TBD

2026	\$3,200,000
2027	\$3,200,000

Thanks for reaching out! The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) is an excellent opportunity for community members to provide valuable input on public transportation planning and operations. The CAC serves as a focused and informed forum for public input, where members bring their personal perspectives and those of the groups they represent. During their term, they learn about the complexities of public transportation and participate in thoughtful discussions with STA staff.

As CAC members, individuals are expected to share information back with their networks, acting as an educational arm of STA, and reaching out to the broader community. They serve as a bridge between the public and STA by bringing community suggestions and feedback directly to the organization. This helps STA stay connected to the people it serves and adapt its services to better meet community needs.

We are currently recruiting new members for the CAC, with a particular emphasis on including at least one high school member. The terms for CAC members are three years, and they must reside within the PTBA service area. However, the residency requirement may be waived if the applicant or member can demonstrate in their application that they are a consistent user of STA's fixed route buses, paratransit, or rideshare service.

If you have any further questions or need additional information, please feel free to reach out.

Thank you,

**Yolanda Montes**

**Customer Service Administrative Assistant**

Office: (509) 343-1733

Email: [ymontes@spokanetransit.com](mailto:ymontes@spokanetransit.com)

[The Plaza, 701 W Riverside Ave, Spokane WA 99201](#)

[spokanetransit.com](http://spokanetransit.com)

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## **Plan Commission (PC) Liaison Report**

**Community Assembly Report, August 7, 2025**

**Filed by Mary M. Winkes, CA Liaison to the Plan Commission**

### **Plan Commission, July 9, 2025, 2:00 p.m., in person and via Microsoft Teams**

1. Excelsior Wellness Development Agreement Workshop \*Request for Hearing - Excelsior Wellness

<https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/2023-2024-proposed-comprehensive-plan-amendments/indian-trail/>

After discussion, the Plan Commission voted to send the development agreement to hearing

2. Housing by Income Bracket (PlanSpokane 2046)

Housing for those who are low income (80% AMI) is what is most needed in Spokane.

### **Plan Commission, July 23, 2025, 2:00 p.m., in person and via Microsoft Teams**

1. Racially Disparate Impacts and Housing (PlanSpokane 2046)

Planning dept. study of racially disparate impacts and housing nearly ready for publication, in advance of the comp plan.

Here's a study of redlining in Spokane. The map in this study was used in the city's study.

[Facing the Legacy of Redlining in Spokane | YWCA Spokane](#)

2. Cannon Hill Park Addition Historic District

Those who live within the confines of the proposed district have already voted in enough numbers to approve the proposal, although voting has not ended. After a presentation, the Plan Commission voted to recommend the proposal forward. Several commissioners voiced dissent. Less than 1 percent of the city land lies within historic districts.

3. Off-Premises Signs

Discussion about signs such as billboards.

**Plan Commission Hearing, July 23, 2025, 4:00 p.m., in person and via Microsoft Teams**

1. \*Addressing Code Revisions
2. \*Streets, Alleys, and Driveway Adjustments

Both of these recommendations passed. Both of these recommended changes seemed to be tied to the Ash Project that the hearing examiner rejected. (FILE NO. Z23-587PPLT)

<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/hearingexaminer/decisions/2025/z230587pplt-decision.pdf>

**For Plan Commission complete information, including agendas, minutes and other documents see:** <https://my.spokanecity.org/bcc/commissions/plan-commission/>

For complete information regarding the city's progress toward the development of the 2026 Comprehensive Plan see:

<https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/about/>

The current comprehensive plan can be found at:

<https://my.spokanecity.org/shapingspokane/comprehensive-plan/>