

**Spokane Neighborhoods Community Assembly**

**“Provide a vehicle to empower Neighborhood Councils’ participation in government.”**



Meeting Agenda for Thursday, May 7, 2026  
 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Shadle Park Library  
 Proposed Agenda Subject to Change



Please review previous month’s minutes:  
 \*Community Assembly Minutes: April 2, 2026

**Administrative**

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. Permission to record meeting .....	1 min (5:30)	Intro	-
2. Introductions (Facilitator) .....	2 min (5:31)	Intro	-
3. Proposed Agenda (Facilitator).....	2 min (5:33)	Approve	1
• Including Core Values, Purpose, Rules of Order .....			2
4. Approve/Amend Minutes (Facilitator).....	5 min (5:35)	Approve	5
5. Admin Committee Action Items (Tina Luerssen).....	5 min (5:40)	Oral Report	13

**Updates/Announcements**

6. Up to 3 min per sign-up .....	15 min (5:45)	Oral Reports	-
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**Agenda Items**

7. City Council Update (CP Betsy Wilkerson) .....	10 min (6:00)	Oral Report	-
8. ONS Update (Heather Hamlin) .....	5 min (6:10)	Oral Report	-
9. Safe & Healthy Task Force (Emilie Cameron, Lance Beck, Zeke Smith) ....	20 min (6:15)	Presentation	16
10. Neighborhood Work Group Selection (Tina Luerssen) .....	10 min (6:35)	Presentation	-
11. P&P Standing Committee Amendment Draft Resolution (Paul Kropp) .....	5 min (6:45)	Vote	34
12. Transportation Impact Fee Restart (Tina Luerssen) .....	5 min (6:50)	Vote	-
13. Land Use NC Participation in Comp Plan (Mary Winkes) .....	10 min (6:55)	Oral Report	-
14. Other Committee Reports .....	25 min (7:05)		-
a. BSN (Tina Luerssen) .....	5 min	Oral Report	-
b. Neighborhood Safety (Elizabeth Goldsmith).....	5 min	Oral Report	-
c. Additional Reports .....	15 min	Oral Reports	-
15. Actionable Items Review/Future Considerations (Tina Luerssen).....	5 min (7:30)	Oral Report	-

**Other Written Reports**

*Committee Reports, Agendas, Minutes, etc.*

- Administrative Committee.....(met/no report)
- Budget Committee .....36
- Building Stronger Neighborhoods Committee (BSN).....37
- Communications Committee.....(met/no report)
- Community Assembly/Community Development Committee (CA/CD) .....(didn’t meet/no report)
- Land Use Committee.....(met/no report)
- Liaison Committee.....40
- Neighborhood Safety Committee.....41
- Neighborhood Work Group.....(didn’t meet/no report)
- Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation Committee (PeTT)..... 43

*Liaisons and CA Representation on Outside Boards and Committees Reports (Liaison Committee)*

- Community Housing and Human Services (CHHS) Liaison Report.....(didn’t meet/no report)
- Climate Resilience Sustainability Liaison Report .....45
- Design Review Liaison Report.....(didn’t meet/no report)
- Housing Action Subcommittee Liaison Report.....(didn’t meet/no report)
- Plan Commission Liaison Report.47
- Transportation Commission Liaison Report.....48
- Urban Forestry-Citizen Advisory Committee Liaison Report.....(met/no report)

**\*\* IF YOU CAN’T MAKE THE MEETING, PLEASE SEND YOUR ALTERNATE! \*\***

# Community Assembly Core Values and Purpose

## ***CORE PURPOSE:***

Provide a vehicle to empower neighborhood councils' participation in government.

## ***BHAG (Big Hairy Audacious Goal):***

Become an equal partner in local government.

(This will be further expounded upon in the Vivid Description. What does this mean to you?)

## ***CORE VALUES:***

- **Common Good:** Working towards mutual solutions based on diverse and unique perspectives.
- **Alignment:** Bringing together the independent neighborhood councils to act collectively.
- **Initiative:** Being proactive in taking timely, practical action.
- **Balance of Power:** Being a transparent, representative body giving power to citizens' voices.

## ***VIVID DESCRIPTION:***

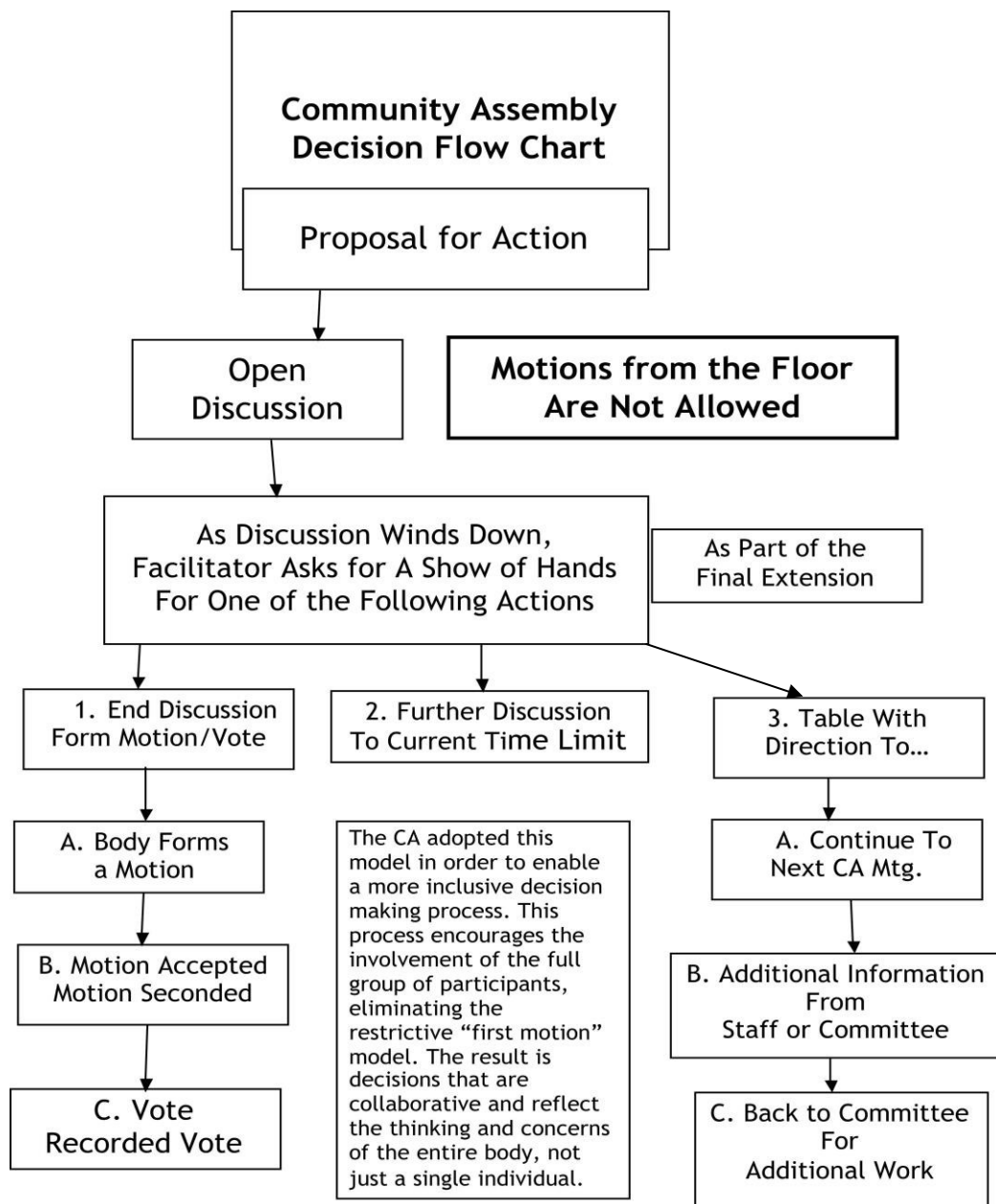
The Community Assembly fulfils its purpose, achieves its goals, and stays true to its core values by its members engaging each other and the community with honest communication and having transparent actions in all of its dealings. Community Assembly representatives are knowledgeable and committed to serving their neighborhood and their city as liaisons and leaders.

The Community Assembly initiates and is actively involved early and often in the conception, adoption and implementation of local policy changes and projects. The administration and elected officials bring ideas to the Community Assembly in the forming stages for vetting, input and participation. The Community Assembly is a valuable partner to these officials and neighborhoods in creating quality policy & legislation for the common good.

The Community Assembly stimulates participation in civic life among our residents. Citizens that run for political office will believe in the importance of partnering with the Community Assembly and neighborhood councils. Those candidates' active participation and history with neighborhoods contributes to their success, enhancing successful partnerships between the Community Assembly and local government.

## **Presentation and decision-making process:**

1. To speak at a meeting, a person must be recognized by the facilitator. Only one person can be recognized at a time. Each speaker has two minutes. When all who wish to speak have been allowed their time, the rotation may begin again.
2. When a proposal for action is made, open discussion shall occur before a motion is formed by the group.
3. Presentation timetable protocol
  - a) When a presenter has one minute left in the time allotted, the facilitator shall raise a yellow card and give a verbal notice.
  - b) Should any representative wish to extend the time of the presentation or comment/question period, they may make a motion to extend the time by five (5) minutes.
  - c) An immediate call shall be made for a show of hands in support of the extension of time. With a simple majority (50% plus 1) concurring, the time shall be reset by the amount of time requested.
  - d) Extensions shall be limited to two (2) or until a request fails to show a simple majority approval.
  - e) When the allotted time has expired, a red card and verbal notice shall be given.
  - f) As part of a final time extension request, the facilitator shall request a show of hands by the representatives to indicate which of the following actions the group wants to take:
    - o End discussion and move into forming the motion and voting,
    - o Further discussion,
    - o Table discussion with direction,
    - o Request time to continue discussion at next CA meeting,
    - o Request additional information from staff or CA committee, or
    - o Send back to the appropriate CA committee for additional work.



# Community Assembly Draft Minutes

Prepared by: Heather Hamlin, Office of Neighborhood Services

April 2, 2026, in-person at Shadle Park Library

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Luke Tolley

## ATTENDANCE:

AFFILIATION	CA REP/CA ALT REP	ADDITIONAL GUESTS
Audubon-Downriver	Fran Papenleur	
Balboa South Indian Trail	-----	
Bemiss	Luke Tolley	
Browne's Addition	Ryan Jerman	
Chief Garry Park	Krista Anderson	
Cliff/Cannon	Helena Taavao	
Comstock	Sandy Wicht	Elizabeth Goldsmith
East Central		
Emerson-Garfield	Linda Carroll	
Five Mile Prairie		
Grandview-Thorpe	Tina Luerssen	
Hillyard	Laura Johnson	Jeff Braunschweig
Latah/Hangman	Duane Huesers	
Lincoln Heights	Carol Tomsic	Shawn Terjeson
Logan	Barbara Ann Bonner	
Manito-Cannon Hill	Mary Winkes	
Minnehaha	Tyler Tamoush	
Nevada Heights	Hilary Michaelowicz	
North Hill	Stan Woods	
North Indian Trail	Dan Knechtel	Rhett Redshaw
Northwest	Gail Cropper	
Peaceful Valley	Kathy Thamm	
Riverside	Jennifer Stalwick	
Rockwood	Bill Doley	
Shiloh Hills	Jael Stebbins	
Southgate	Andy Hoye	Paul Kropp
West Central		Brian Muegge
West Hills	Maggie Thornton	Stu Lee
Whitman	Charles Hansen	
City of Spokane		Heather Hamlin (ONS), Betsy Wilkerson (City Council President), Giacobbe Byrd (City Council Director)
Presenting Organizations		Nick Hamad (City of Spokane), Spencer Gardner (City of Spokane)

## ADMINISTRATIVE:

1. **Approve Meeting Recording:** Andy moved; Krista seconded. Motion passes. 24-approve, 0-abstain, 0-deny.

## 2. Introductions

**3. Approve Amended Agenda:** Barbara Ann moved; Dan seconded. Motion passes. 23-approve, 1-abstain, 0-deny.

- **Amendment:** Add Land Use Committee to #12a.

**4. Approve Minutes:** Tina moved; Andy seconded. Motion passes. 24-approve, 0-abstain, 0-deny.

- January minutes will be tabled for approval at the May meeting.

## 5. Admin Committee Action Items

- Luke Tolley: none

## UPDATES/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### 6. Updates/Announcements

- Mary: Land Use did not meet in March. Same date/time as the District 3 Town Hall. Land Use Committee and PeTT Committee will review next Comp Plan chapter on Transportation.
- Linda: Neighborhood Councils have not been able to comment on a few developments. All neighborhoods within 600 feet need to be notified. They need to be provided with the opportunity to make a response. Will discuss during agenda item 12.a. (Ruby Hotel dock and Iron Bridge)
- Luke: PICCE Community Engagement Institute event scheduled on 4/28/26 from 9:00am-3:30pm at Gonzaga University in the Hemmingson Center Ballroom. [www.picce.org/CEI](http://www.picce.org/CEI)
- Sandra- Four NCs have presented in front of City Council and didn't tell anyone. If your NC is going to present to City Council, let ONS know so they can share with everyone. Other NCs want to come and support.

## AGENDA ITEMS:

### 7. City Council Update (Council President [CP] Wilkerson)

- City Council Legislative Session date changing to Wednesday in July.
- Budget is tight- workgroup has been formed. Planning ahead.
- Property tax is one of the biggest funders of the general fund. We'll be looking at what funds we have to spend.
- Parking minimums. Agree that it's difficult for city to regulate public right of ways. City is looking at something to make it more ADA accessible. Parking pass idea didn't work. Agree that City Council did not look at the unintended consequences of our ordinance.
- Council of Governments met this week. It's usually an annual event but this was a new meeting for the Safe and Healthy Spokane Taskforce. (New jail, costs, would it go on ballot, etc). 40 people across Spokane County working in sub groups to bring information back to larger group.
- For senior citizens, the Governor passes a new threshold to qualify for property tax deduction. Used to be seniors with annual income below \$60,000 now \$74,000.
- No city council meeting next week because of spring break.
- April 13 Community Days at City Council. Focusing on people of all abilities. Organizations participating: Shaping Spokane Together, Inspire Soccer League, Peace NW, The Lighthouse for the Blind, Aging and Long Term Care of Eastern WA.
- April 27- Lincoln Heights giving NC presentation. Come down and support!
- Questions

- Tyler- Commercial parking tax in Olympia they get free parking after 5pm not 7pm.
  - Betsy- I agree with Happy Hour parking. We'll keep an eye on it. Submit something to City Council's Public Safety.

### 8. ONS Update (Heather Hamlin)

- Thank you for selecting locations for the mobile speed feedback trailers and attending the Community Engagement grant trainings.
- It's the season of clean-up. Curbside and roll offs events are happening now through May.
- Two programs are available for residents- residential lights and disposal passes.
- The first in a series of surveys was sent to all NC Chair and Vice Chairs.

### 9. Together Spokane Update (Nick Hamad)

- Did you know that with a bond, all the funding is available after first day it passes? But a levy gets paid out in twice a year in May and November after property taxes are collected.
- Spokane Park Board- unelected positions appointed by Mayor
  - Want to prioritize project early on. Will ramp up operations over 3 years.
  - Goal to hire 100% of Park Rangers this year.
  - For this year, expect \$7 million in capital projects and \$1.3 million in operational expenses.
- When you have 83 playgrounds to renovate or replace. How to decide which to tackle first? We look at conditions, needs of a community, equity investment zones, and opportunity for additional funding, etc.
- Jan 2026 to June 2027 goals
  - Widespread minor improvement in your park system (sports courts, playgrounds etc). Spread between all three districts all year.
  - Also plan to break ground on Meadowglen Park in North Indian Trail neighborhood this year.
  - Every playground in the city will get new mulch top off regardless of when the park will be redone.
  - Restroom Renovations: Westgate Park, Friendship Park, B.A. Clark Park, Camp Sekani (Beacon Hill), Southeast Sports Complex
  - High Bridge Park Disc Golf Course Renovation
  - Playground Renovations: Westgate Park and Friendship Park
  - Sport Court Renovations: Whittier Park and Riverfront Park
  - Maintenance & Safety Enhancements, Increased Maintenance & Ranger Staff: All 100+ parks
  - Franklin Park Pathway Improvements
  - Parking Lot Repairs: Camp Sekani (Beacon Hill), Southeast Sports Complex, Riverfront Park
  - Citywide Playground Surface and Damage Repair: citywide according to highest need
  - New Irrigation at Cannon Hill Park
  - Park Repairs: Cliff Park (upper portion), Corbin Art Center (veranda), Japanese Garden (pergola roof), Liberty Park (shelter roof), Aquatic Centers
  - Project Planning: A.M. Cannon Park, Audubon Park, Coeur d'Alene Park, Harmon Park, Lincoln Park, Minnehaha Park
  - Joint Parks & SPS Projects:
    - New All-Weather Field with Lights: Shadle Park High School, TBD other fields
    - Annual Minor Park and School Improvements
    - Major Sports Complex Expansion of Dwight Merkel Sports Complex Expansion
    - Madison School and Recreation Center at Franklin Park

- Safety Enhancements & Added Rangers for all 100+ parks
- Signup on [www.togetherspokane.org](http://www.togetherspokane.org) for more updates. [nhamad@spokanecity.org](mailto:nhamad@spokanecity.org)
- Parks Department will continue to report on quantity of projects and value of each. A project list will be provided each year.
- Questions
  - Laura- Will the neighborhoods with CDBG grants go first and then levy?
    - Nick- No, at the same time. Parks with CDBG funding are all happening right now. Chief Garry done, Friendship, Harmon and Ruth will be done within a month.
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, first extension. Dan motioned; Barbara Ann seconded. Motion passes: 25- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
  - Duane- For projects that didn't make 2026 list, will it be reviewed again?
    - Nick- Yes, determination made in November when city budget is adopted.
  - Brian- If my neighborhood has a potential new park site (not infrastructure improvements) how can our NC best coordinate with your office?
    - Nick- Get in touch with me at [nhamad@spokanecity.org](mailto:nhamad@spokanecity.org). We'll take requests and process them through the data cruncher.
  - Krista- The indoor pool on the school's side? When?
    - Nick- construction begins in 2028. Completion Fall 2028.
  - Elizabeth- Please talk about staffing ramp up plan for Park Rangers. What can we expect in terms of what they can do to
    - Nick- We have four now in Riverfront Park but deployed on a case by case basis (complaint driven). Concept to turn the four positions into twelve with a precinct model, NE, NW, South and Downtown. Police Chief is very supportive. Will put out notice to hire new positions in May. Hoping to have these filled and trained by Fall 2026. Limited commission officer responding to infractions within parks themselves. They respond to nuisance complaints in a park that SPD cannot give attention to.
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, second extension. Andy motioned; Linda seconded. Motion passes: 25- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
  - Tyler- Would folks call crime check to get a ranger out there?
    - Fianna and Nick- Yes, call Crime Check or 911 depending on situation.
  - Jael- How to get park lights replaced?
    - Nick- Call 311.
  - Carol- Will you inform neighborhoods on when these things will happen so we can mobilize our neighborhoods to support?
    - Nick- Yes.
  - Tina- Can neighborhoods have an information board?
    - Nick- Yes, restrooms will actually be the hub going forward. Other places will have kiosks. Thought about making it interactive but not sure. Neighborhoods should reach out and request the information board.

#### **10. City of Spokane Planning Preferred Growth Alternative (Spencer Gardner)**

- Periodic update to city's comprehensive plan started with public outreach in middle of 2025 to work on visioning to help us define what we want Spokane to be over the next 20 years.
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) you select three growth alternatives to study. We see the potential impacts of three alternatives. City selects a preferred alternative. Create EIS. Finalize draft of Comp Plan.

- Non-Technical chapters are done. These are Community Chapters (Neighborhoods, Local Governance, Community Health), Environment Chapters (Natural Environment, Parks & Rec, Shorelines), Functional Chapters (Introduction, Implementation, Glossary), How we Grow Chapters (Urban Design & Historic Preservation, Economic Development)
- Technical chapters currently being drafted: Transport, cap facilities and utilities, land use. Available mid-May for review. Can find those at [www.planspokane.org](http://www.planspokane.org) which includes a link to the chapter review page.
- What is a preferred alternative? Often mixes and matches features of other alternatives, more optimally meets proposal SEPA objectives, would be evaluated in the Final EIS, and would be a basis for specific changes to the Land Use Plan and Zoning Map.
  - Alternative 1- stay the course or status quo
    - Land use map unchanged. Development still occurs within zoning.
  - Alternative 2- frequent transit lines and growth throughout City
  - Alternative 3- focused West Plains, significant transit asset (Division BRT).
- April 14 at 2:00 at City Hall public hearing on preferred growth alternative. Staff can make modifications based on feedback. Then make formal recommendation to City Council to adopt preferred alternative.
- What are the features of the draft preferred alternative?
  - Blends features of Alternatives 1, 2, and 3
  - Focus mixed use on hubs like downtown and selected corridors
  - Areas of moderate and high-density housing and mixed use along frequent transit routes
  - Incorporates subarea plans
  - Beyond hubs and corridors, retains current growth intensity in most neighborhoods, recognizing middle housing efforts
- Questions
  - Andy- What is a housing unit? We need 21,000?
    - Spencer- Self contained units. Could contain more than one person. Not all of our housing is to house only one person. State has determined an underproduction that is leading to high housing prices.
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, first extension. Andy motioned; Laura seconded. Motion passes: 25- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
- Elizabeth- When does a public safety review come in this process? Specifically related to fire?
  - Spencer- The EIS/Capital Facilities does talk about fire service but I'll need to revisit. It's not a feature of the preferred alternative. We set those levels of service in the capital improvement plan.
- Dan- When plan goes through you and then city council, do you pause and coordinate with County?
  - Spencer- Yes, we include comments from other agencies. They have had a chance to review. Formal route for them to engage is through the EIS and the agency comment period.
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, second extension. Andy motioned; Krista seconded. Motion passes: 25- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
- Paul- Can outside organizations (like tribes) see what other agencies have commented so far.
  - Spencer- Draft documents track changes based on comments and why City went with it or not.
- Barbara Ann- Theres a growing population of senior citizens that will need housing. Have you looked into low rise housing for the senior community where a lot are on fixed income?

- Spencer- Comp plan includes policy language for these groups. For the EIS, we're looking at income types but we're not looking at end user or who is living in that housing. We don't build or operate this housing. We help build the policy language that creates incentives for that type of housing.
- Doug- Does this plan address anything about developing existing businesses?
  - Spencer- Yes, it includes policy language to support existing businesses and create opportunity for new businesses. We assume that there is some amount of commercial opportunity in all residential neighborhoods.

#### 11. Committee P&P Guidance (Paul Kropp)

- P&P doc that we operate under doesn't provide means to address amendments or revisions for P&P of standing committees. It specifically excludes them. This is an apparent issue that came up recently with CA Safety Committee. No reason for operational standards to wait once a year to update changes. Let's all remember that Standing Committees are not independent freestanding things, they are a product of the Community Assembly.
  - Small changes- update in CA packet
  - Major revisions- then it would fall into the existing process of forming a new committees.
- Luke- if you have questions or changes, please reach out to Luke and Heather. If no changes, we can ratify at May meeting.

#### OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### 12.a Land Use (Linda Carroll and Brian Muegge)

- Brian has been asking questions about how developments happen within the city- specifically around the large private dock within Ruby Hotel. Groups have brought forth concerns about safety, environmental impact, issues in process. Hearing examiner in March approved the conditional shoreline permit.
  - After this we wanted to learn more about how this process unfolded? There had not been adequate notification to NCs during the process.
  - Heather- First, neighborhood council notice did occur for all other steps of the process, including the public meeting and the hearing. The only step missed was for the formal agency comment period. Brian has incorrectly suggested that neighborhood councils were omitted from all noticing. While this error is regrettable there were many other points where neighborhood councils were properly noticed. Indeed, we received numerous comments from members of the public and these were considered during the process. The decision has already been issued and the appeal period has expired. There is no mechanism in our code for revisiting this decision at this point. Errors occur in our processing of applications from time to time.
  - Jael- If the City could understand the why it's important within the context maybe it would make a difference?
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, first extension. Luke motioned; Dan seconded. Motion passes: 24- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
  - Bill- How to remove human error in this process?
  - Paul- NCs need to always get notice.
  - Laura- How will dock at Ruby effect the Centennial Trail?
    - Brian- There will be an impact. Key concerns: notification process, impact to fish, safety on the fact that it's a private built dock for public
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, second extension. Andy motioned; Carol seconded. Motion passes: 24- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.

- Andy- Let's pick a motion!
- Motion to proceed with a letter from CA to City Council, Mayor, and select Directors on Mayor's Staff (Planning, Policy, ONS). The goal of this letter is to clearly define why there are concerns on behalf of the NCs and why it's important to review/pause the process for the Ruby dock project.
  - Bill made a motion and Jael seconded. Motion passes with 21-approve, 0-deny, 2-abstain. Motion passes.

#### **12.b. BSN (Tina Luerssen)**

- We have held two spring learning workshops. We re-recorded the CA 101 workshop and it's now available on the [ONS website](#). Last month Jael shared about language services and cultural access. It was also recorded on Zoom. April 18 from 10-11am is final event in series. We'll be at the ONS Inventory Closet to go through what's available, how to reserve and how to use items. Please RSVP by April 10 if you are planning to attend that. [RSVP here](#).
- BSN voted to put together Community Engagement grant application to register one or two folks for NUSA virtual conference. [Conferences - Neighborhoods USA](#)
  - Bill- Can NC use their CE grant for NUSA too?
  - Tina- Yes, through CE grant application!

#### **12.c. Budget (Laura Johnson)**

- Community Engagement grant trainings have been successful. We will modify the last training. Only NCs left to attend Logan, EGNC, Balboa/SIT, and Audubon Downriver.

#### **12.d. Other reports**

- Admin (Luke Tolley)- share that next month we're going to address our representation on the City Council workgroup. If you are interested, reach out to a current rep to learn more.
- Plan Commission (Linda Carroll)- Linda attended March 12, March 16, March 18, March 23 meetings. Lots of learning and getting up to speed. Two quick points about preferred growth alternative. Housing units = X amount of land upon which such a dwelling can be built. This opens that question of how to incentivize builders to build the type of housing needed.
- Neighborhood Safety (Elizabeth Goldsmith)- small group met on Saturday, 3/28 to discuss goals and updates to policies and procedures. Sharing pertinent information below:
  - Please send traffic concerns to the Spokane Police Department at [spdwebmail@spokanepolice.org](mailto:spdwebmail@spokanepolice.org). These emails go directly to the Traffic Commander's office.
  - To report burned out or flickering street lights, please contact Avista here: <https://www.myavista.com/about-us/construction-services/streetlights-and-yard-lights>
  - To view the SPD Dashboard, specifically traffic data, use this link: <https://my.spokanecity.org/police/data/public-dashboard/>
  - To share concerns about pedestrian safety related to Spokane Public Schools, use the Let's Talk form: <https://www.spokaneschools.org/page/lets-talk> or email the Risk Management Team: <https://www.spokaneschools.org/page/risk-management>
  - The monthly Public Safety briefing was held on Monday, March 30th. To watch the video, use this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3yISxobuf7k>  
Chief Hall begins at 5:18.  
Chief Williams begins at 29:31.

- Elizabeth distributed the ballot for the Safety Committee Future Speakers. Results will be shared soon.
- ONS (Heather Hamlin)- A quick word to all CA standing committees. Please keep in mind that ONS staff does not work on the weekends so please do not schedule standing meetings on the weekends if avoidable. BSN is the exception to this meeting early on Saturday mornings once a month.
- Liaison (Paul Kropp)- We still have open position on the Urban Forestry Citizen Advisory Committee. The deadline to apply has passed. Please apply ASAP. Additional information and how to apply can be found at <https://my.spokanecity.org/neighborhoods/community-assembly/>
- Andy- CA/CD- 7 projects from 2019-2021. The 2025 projects are marching hard. The 2026 projects including East Central parking at Ben Burr Trail and Shiloh Hills Friendship Park sports court/ADA access. Nevada Heights asked for \$50k they got \$90k. Chief Garry Park and ADA compliant parking project was awarded \$44k.

### **13. Actionable Items Review/ Future Considerations (Luke Tolley)**

- Land Use Letter
- Connect with Giacobbe RE: parking memo from CA

***Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm. Next meeting will be held Thursday May 7.***



Luke Tolley &lt;luke.tolley@gmail.com&gt;

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## Letter from Community Assembly RE: Neighborhood Notification & the Ruby River Hotel Dock Project

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Luke Tolley <luke.tolley@gmail.com>  
To: "Gardner, Spencer" <sgardner@spokanecity.org>

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 2:03 PM

Hi Spencer,

Thank you for your detailed response. I think your strategy of working with the affected neighborhood councils is a good approach and I appreciate it.

I can attest to having received a great many neighborhood notifications from Planning over the years and I agree we have to acknowledge that we're all human and sometimes mistakes happen.

I will share your response with the Community Assembly. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help with liaising with the affected neighborhoods.

In Community,

**Luke Tolley**

*he/his*

phone: 509.221.9721

Hillyard, Spokane, Washington

On Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 4:37 PM Gardner, Spencer <sgardner@spokanecity.org> wrote:

Mr Tolley,

Thank you for your email identifying concerns with our process. As we have noted previously, the omission of neighborhood councils on the agency comment for project Z25-419SCUP was in error. We regret this oversight and are strengthening our internal controls to ensure this isn't missed in the future. Unfortunately, mistakes occasionally happen in the permitting process.

The conditional use permit was approved by the Hearing Examiner on March 12. Staff were not made aware of the noticing error until March 24. At that point, the appropriate recourse would have been to appeal the decision. As the appeal period has passed, we reached out to the Hearing Examiner's office asking for direction on how to address the situation. Based on his direction, we are coordinating with the affected neighborhood councils directly.

I would like to emphasize that inclusion of neighborhood councils in agency comment is a routine part of our process. We will continue to provide notice on projects as required and improve our processes to avoid such lapses in the future. The volume of public comment received on this project speaks to the many touchpoints the project had with the community. This does not excuse the omission, however.

Regards,

**Spencer Gardner** | Director | Planning Services

Office 509-625-6097 | Mobile 509-723-7554 | [my.spokanecity.org](mailto:my.spokanecity.org)

**From:** Luke Tolley <[luke.tolley@gmail.com](mailto:luke.tolley@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, April 6, 2026 11:03 PM

**To:** Gardner, Spencer <[sgardner@spokanecity.org](mailto:sgardner@spokanecity.org)>

**Cc:** Mayor <[mayor@spokanecity.org](mailto:mayor@spokanecity.org)>; Scott, Alexander <[ascott@spokanecity.org](mailto:ascott@spokanecity.org)>; Yates, Maggie <[myates@spokanecity.org](mailto:myates@spokanecity.org)>; MacDonald, Steven <[smacdonald@spokanecity.org](mailto:smacdonald@spokanecity.org)>; McDaniel, Adam <[amcdaniel@spokanecity.org](mailto:amcdaniel@spokanecity.org)>; Hamlin, Heather <[hhamlin@spokanecity.org](mailto:hhamlin@spokanecity.org)>; Byrd, Giacobbe <[gbyrd@spokanecity.org](mailto:gbyrd@spokanecity.org)>; City Council Members and Staff <[citycouncil@spokanecity.org](mailto:citycouncil@spokanecity.org)>; Mary Winkes <[mmcspo@yahoo.com](mailto:mmcspo@yahoo.com)>; LAURA BRAUNSCHWEIG <[wraith99@live.com](mailto:wraith99@live.com)>; Cliff Winger <[c\\_wings@yahoo.com](mailto:c_wings@yahoo.com)>; Lorna Walsh <[lornabwalsh@gmail.com](mailto:lornabwalsh@gmail.com)>; Krista Anderson <[k.ander mann@gmail.com](mailto:k.ander mann@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Letter from Community Assembly RE: Neighborhood Notification & the Ruby River Hotel Dock Project

**[CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Verify Sender]**



6 April 2026

Spencer Gardner

Planning Services

City of Spokane

808 W Spokane Falls Blvd

Spokane, WA 99201

Dear Director Gardner,

I am writing by the request of the Community Assembly per our meeting on April 2nd, 2026.

It has come to our attention that the relevant neighborhood councils were omitted from the required notification concerning two pending projects being evaluated by the planning department - the Iron Bridge Access Project and the Ruby River Hotel Dock project.

As you know, the relevant neighborhood councils are required to be notified contemporaneously with the notification of agencies ( SMC 17G.061.110 and .210). This did not occur, as City Planning Staff acknowledged in their email, dated March 24, 2026. When such oversights occur, it is essential to delay the process, and properly notify the omitted parties and allow them ample time to respond. As an example, this recently occurred on the Environmental Impact Statement draft. We, the Community Assembly, respectfully request the same consideration be given as with the EIS draft.

**The Community Assembly requests such a delay to allow for proper notification and time for response from the appropriate neighborhood councils.**

We the Community Assembly have requested the relevant neighborhood councils submit any concerns they have to you as soon as possible.

In community,



Luke Tolley

Chair, Administrative Committee

Community Assembly

Cc:

Lisa Brown, Mayor;  
Alex Scott, City Administrator;  
Maggie Yates, Deputy City Administrator  
Steven MacDonald, Director, Community and Economic Development;  
Adam McDaniel, Policy Advisor , Mayor's Office;  
Heather Hamlin, Director, Office of Neighborhood Services;  
Giacobbe Byrd, Director-City Council Office;  
Spokane City Council;  
Mary Winkes, CA Land Use Committee Committee Chair;  
Community Assembly Admin Committee;

# SAFE & HEALTHY SPOKANE

—  
May 2026 Update



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# A community is only as safe as it is healthy

And only as healthy as it is safe. Spokane has watched the same pattern repeat for years, at significant human cost and significant public cost. Until that cycle is broken, neither those caught in it nor the community around them can be safe or well.

Public safety and community health rise together, or not at all. Both depend on a justice system built for the complexity of the challenges and realities of today.

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# The cycle Spokane is living

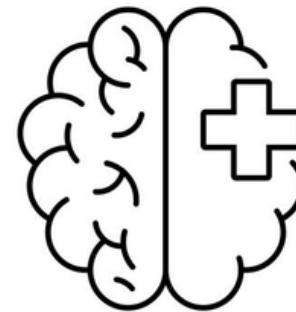
- The same people cycle through our jails, emergency rooms, and streets driven by untreated mental illness, substance use, and unstable housing.
- Jails have become de facto behavioral health providers, holding people whose untreated illness or addiction is often the driver of their repeated contact with the system.
- Emergency departments absorb psychiatric crises with no capacity for follow through; people return to the same doors.
- The cost is significant and largely invisible — and falls on the same neighborhoods, families, first responders, and taxpayers, again and again.

# Task Force Purpose

The Safe and Healthy Spokane Task Force is a community-led initiative committed to developing actionable strategies to Spokane County.



Enhance public  
safety



Support behavioral  
health



Strengthen system  
coordination

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# Task Force Vision

In Spokane County, individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders will have access to a comprehensive, effective, humane, equitable, and data-driven system of care—one that improves public safety, strengthens behavioral health, and ensures coordinated services, adequate and effective correctional facilities and crisis stabilization capacity.

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# Who's Involved



- Conveners (Avista, Downtown Spokane Partnership, Greater Spokane Inc, Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce, Waters Meet Foundation)  
Funding, strategy, leadership
- Consultants (DH, MIG, The Leifman Group)  
Project management, facilitation, technical expertise, communication strategy, public engagement
- Planning Team (Conveners + Local Jurisdictions)  
Inform strategy, align jurisdictions
- Task Force  
Co-create recommendations, champion priorities
- Advisory Committees  
Inform recommendations, champion priorities
- Public  
Inform recommendations, clarify needs and priorities

# Who's Involved

*Recommendations shaped by every sector — informed by hundreds of community voices.*

**40+**

Task Force members

co-creating recommendations

**120+**

Advisory Committee members

deep-dive feedback shaping the recommendations

**100+**

Asset Convening attendees

mapping systems, gaps & assets

**100's**

community voices engaged

in listening sessions, focus groups & targeted outreach

## 15 sectors represented on the Task Force:

● Advocacy

● Business

● Courts

● First responders

● Government

● Healthcare & public health

● Housing

● Judges & the justice system

● Labor

● Law enforcement

● Lived experience in the system

● Marginalized communities

● Nonprofit organizations

● Philanthropy

● Victim advocacy & support

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# The guiding framework

- **Data -informed.** Decisions grounded in evidence rather than anecdote.
- **Transparent and cross -system.** Working across agency and jurisdictional lines, openly and accountably.
- **Trauma -informed and culturally responsive.** Care and policy that meet people where they are, in ways that work for them.
- **Dignity and lived experience at the center.** The voices of those most affected at the table, not on the agenda.
- **Community focused.** Invest and align systems that increase safety for everyone.

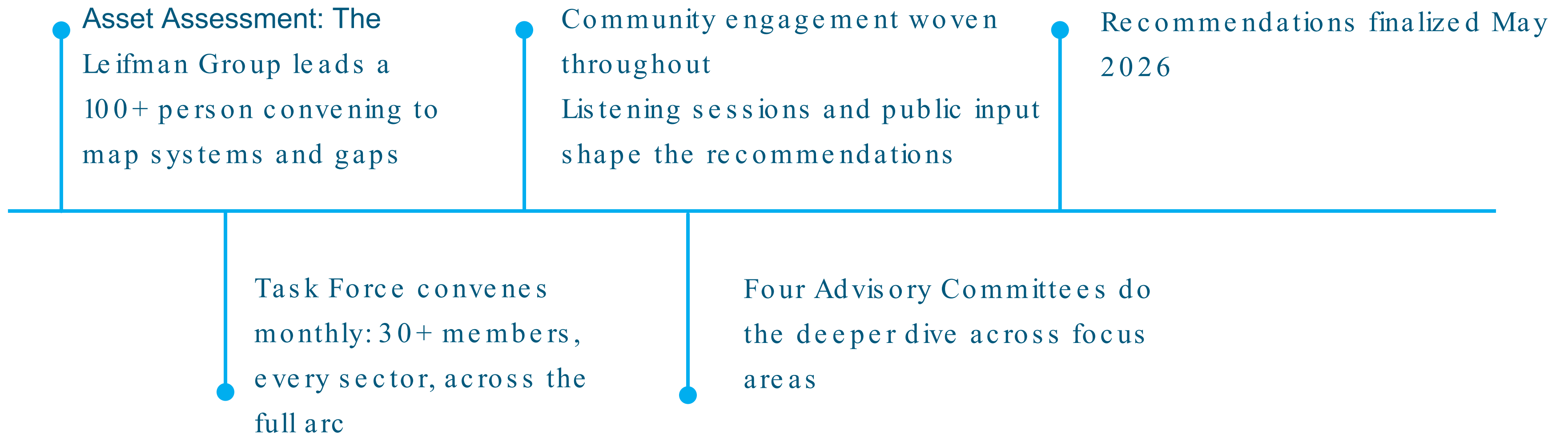
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# The central focus

**Safe and healthy must go together.**

Public safety in Spokane depends on community health, and a healthy community depends on a justice system built for the complexity of today's challenges.

# From process to recommendations



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# Foundation: Accountability & Coordination

The recommendations span agencies, sectors, jurisdictions, and funding streams. No single entity owns this work — and no single entity can deliver it alone.

**Goodwill brought these partners to the table. Shared accountability is what will be required to implement it.**

This work cannot live inside a single government entity or rise and fall with a single election cycle. It must bring together those with the expertise to know what these recommendations require, and those with the authority and resources to make them happen.

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# Strategic Direction: Cross-System Coordination

*Align public safety, behavioral health, and housing systems to function as a unified response to complex needs.*

Spokane already has many of the programs and services a high -functioning system requires — but they are operating in isolation. This direction is about turning a collection of parts into a system:

- **Shared visibility** across providers and institutions
- **Intentional coordination** operating as members of the same team with different focuses, accountable to shared outcomes
- **Earlier intervention**, before crisis becomes the only entry point
- **Formal handoffs** that replace the passive referrals where people fall through

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# Strategic Direction: New or Scaled Programs

*Expand capacity at the highest -impact pressure points in the continuum of care.*

This direction expands capacity where the system is strained and where investment changes outcomes most:

- **The right crisis response,** not just the only available one
- **Consistent intake and assessment,** no matter which door someone enters
- **Pre-trial diversion** that holds support and accountability together
- **Focused work with high utilizers:** people whose repeated system contact drives a disproportionate share of cost
- **Prevention and response systems for youth and young adults**
- **Culturally responsive supports** for the populations most affected
- **Workforce capacity** that makes all of it possible

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# Strategic Direction: Facilities

*Adequately size and improve physical infrastructure to support an integrated system.*

Facilities should be integrated to support a population at the intersection of criminal justice, mental illness, and substance use disorders. The 1986 Downtown Jail and the 1952 Geiger facility were not designed for this reality. This direction emphasizes:

- Improved and appropriately scaled correctional facilities
- A coordinated network of crisis, treatment, diversion, and reentry facilities co-located with corrections so the pieces can function as a system rather than separate stops
- Housing treated as essential infrastructure

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# Coordination already in motion

## Targeted & Coordinated Strategies

- Hot-spotter and high-utilizer initiatives; joint City –County opioid investments; new daytime navigation model

## System Improvements

- Greater system efficiencies and stronger coordination at release
- Renewed collaboration: family jail visitation, monthly provider coordination, cross-agency dialogue and problem-solving
- Alignment to protect Medicaid resources

## Facilities Evaluation

- Facilities Needs Analysis Update underway
- Essential Public Facilities Siting Process initiated

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# The path forward

This month, the Task Force will deliver its recommendations to the regional jurisdictions. That handoff is a milestone — but it is not the end of the work.

**The conversation now turns to how this work continues:**

- **Who carries it forward** across jurisdictions, sectors, and election cycles?
- **How is progress tracked** ?
- **How do the partners stay at the table** — public, private, nonprofit, philanthropic, Tribal, victim advocates and lived -experience partners, working together?
- **What gets resourced** and what immediate moves build momentum that change the system?

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# A different moment for Spokane

Spokane has done the analysis before. The community has done the work together and is ready to act.

- **Read** the report and recommendations when they are released.
- **Stay engaged** in this work as it moves from recommendation to implementation.
- **Communicate to elected officials** the importance of continuing this work.
- **Be a champion** for the recommendations and the partners carrying them forward.

# Stay Informed & Share Feedback



[SafeandHealthySpokane.org](https://SafeandHealthySpokane.org)

May 7, 2026

## RESOLUTION

Concerning the provisions of Policy X Amendments of the Community Assembly's Policies and Procedures, the Community Assembly by vote this day agrees:

BECAUSE Policy X provides for the review of its own policies and procedures for potential amendment annually but also exempts the policies and procedures of its standing committees from the annual review cycle, and

BECAUSE the members and officers of its standing committees should understand the means by which they may propose operational adjustments or more thorough revisions to their committee's policies and procedures,

THAT the following guidance for standing committee policy and procedure amendments will be used until reviewed and included in the Community Assembly's policies and procedures pursuant to the Policy X rules for amendments.

### A. Annual and Interim Revisions:

- Standing committees are encouraged to review, consider and propose adjustments to their policies and procedures every year no later than the end of October in alignment with the timing for the consideration of amendment proposals to the Community Assembly's policies and procedures that is specified in Policy X.
- Interim adjustments to a standing committee's policies and procedures dictated by changed circumstances or to facilitate the committee's operation may be adopted by committee resolution and employed after the resolution and its revisions are documented in a committee report included in the agenda packet of a Community Assembly meeting.
- Any such interim modifications are subject subsequently to the Community Assembly's yearly policy and procedure amendment review and evaluation specified in Policy X.

### B. Major Revisions:

- A standing committee's proposal for a major restatement or revision of its policies and procedures in may be considered by the Community Assembly at any meeting:

Provided that

- The proposal's text and a petition for review and approval is presented to the Community Assembly's Administrative Committee for the scheduling of its consideration by the Community Assembly that has been either
  - Approved by a vote at a regular monthly meeting of the committee and the meeting's agenda and the text of the proposal was noticed at least a week in advance to all neighborhood council leadership and Assembly representatives and alternates,
  - or
  - Endorsed and signed by members of at least three different neighborhood councils,

And

- The proposal has been reviewed by an ad-hoc review committee appointed by the Community Assembly to assess the proposal's consistency with the standards for the elements of a standing committee's governing document as provided in the Community Assembly's policies and procedures, and is recommended for approval as proposed or with modifications.

**X. Amendments**

- A. Establish an ad hoc CA Policies and Procedures (P&P) Review Committee in November of each year.
- B. Present a written report including any amendments to the approved policies and procedures to the CA in February of each year.
- C. A vote to approve any amendments shall occur at the following regularly scheduled meeting.
- D. Amendments require a 2/3 affirmative vote.
- E. The formal amendment process described herein **does not apply** to the Committee P&P documents.

## **Draft Notes – Budget Committee Meeting – April 27, 2026 – WCCC and Zoom**

Present: Laura Johnson, Hillyard, Chair; Jeff Braunschweig, Hillyard; Dan Brown, North Hill; Linda Carroll, Emerson-Garfield; Andy Hoye, Southgate, notetaker; Gabby Ryan, ONS; Heather Hamlin, ONS

Meeting called to order at 6:09PM. Quorum noted.

Rockwood NC Application: Approved with the exception of the request for roll speakers – they are “equipment” and prohibited on Page 3 of the Guidelines. We felt there are sufficient speakers now in the Resource Closet. – Approval MSC. (Neighborhood was notified on 4/28/26.)

Hillyard NC: Approved – there was a technical problem transmitting a pdf file of the NC minutes to Gabby. – Approval MSC

BSN Application: Approved 2 NUSA licenses, early/cheaper rate. – it was noted that no specific location for either event and no identity of the recorder/reporters were provided. Approval MSC. (Tina was notified on 4/28/26.)

Final in-person training will be Saturday, June 6, at the Shadle Library at 10:30AM. Logan and Audubon/Downriver will be present and the dark neighborhood S Indian Trail may have a delegate. Other neighborhoods who have already sent attendees in the past may send someone additional to the final training.

We confirmed that the processing of reimbursements begins as soon as receipts are presented to Gabby. Final delivery schedule of the reimbursement check is determined by City Accounting.

We discussed the possibility of a single “Enterprise license” for Zoom, for use by all neighborhoods – Gabby and Heather were working on this. We did feel that 29 X \$175 = \$5,075 was excessive. There were no motions on this topic as research continues.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25PM.

- Draft submitted by Andy Hoye, reviewed by the Chair, Laura Johnson



# COMMITTEE REPORT

## BUILDING STRONGER NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

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**Meeting Date: 4/18/2026, 9am, Yokes Fresh Market**

**Meeting called to order by: Tina Luerssen**

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Tina Luerssen (Grandview-Thorpe), Dan Brown (North Hill), Fran Papenleur (Audubon-Downriver), Luke Tolley (Bemiss), Laura Johnson (Hillyard), Jeff Braunschweig (Hillyard), Charles Hansen (Whitman), Linda Carroll (Emerson-Garfield) Staff: None.

### PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES VOTE:

Motion to approve meeting minutes, made by Laura Johnson. Motion carries, 8- Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstain

### MINUTES:

1. Welcome/Introductions and Committee Business:
  - a. CE Grant/NUSA Plan
    - i. Tina submitted and the Budget committee approved our application.
    - ii. Need to register by 4/30 for early registration pricing.
    - iii. 6am-2:30 on Thurs (May 28) & Friday (May 29), start, where? We need 2 “owners” to lead the spaces for 2 days. Luke with “own” one, and we’ll ask ONS if one of the coordinators can be the other “owner.”
    - iv. Laura will ask the Gathering House if that would work. Luke will look for good locations. The Hive might not work because it’s often so booked and they sometimes have internet issues. Luke asked if City Hall’s first floor potentially be used?
    - v. Laura moved to secure a location, to try to get an email address from ONS, and if possible take to CA reps (in person or via email) to see if someone can take on the “ownership.” Tina seconded.
      1. We will try to use the ONS card to make things easier avoiding need for reimbursement.
      2. Motion passed unopposed.
2. ONS (Submitted by Amber Groe via email):
  - a. Spokane Neighborhood Summit:
    - i. I spoke with Cyndi D. on Tuesday of this week about the status of the Summit reservation. She let me know that there are still two levels of approval that the event request has to go through at Gonzaga before getting approved fully. Right now, the reservation request is for Saturday, Nov. 7 since that had more room availability than our October date.
    - ii. I am working on marketing materials and presenter request information in the background so as soon as we get the venue secured, we’ll be ready to launch.

- iii. ASK FOR BSN: Please be thinking about presenters for the Summit. As soon as we are able to open presenter requests please help assist folks in submitting their presentation topics/summaries. Thank you!
- b. BSN Toolkit:
  - i. The City is currently reviewing and updating all webpages to align with new [federal ADA guidelines](#). The webpage with the BSN toolkit has been flagged by our City Web team as a page that needs to be updated to meet guidelines. They have asked ONS to update or remove links that do not meet guidelines by April 24. What does this mean for the page: I (Amber) will review documents that meet the standards. Any that do not, will be downloaded to the CA Google Drive for updating by the BSN Committee. Amber will share a toolkit from the City Web team designed to help with updating to meet ADA Compliance with BSN executive team next week along with a link to downloaded documents.
  - c. NC websites Update:
    - i. ONS has been working diligently to transition Wordpress websites. 11 have been updated so far. NCs are contacted when their website is ready.
- 3. Current BSN Work and Next Steps:
  - a. We will help Amber with the ADA update as needed.
  - b. Updating the BSN Toolkits--It has been both BSN and Communications Committee trying to work on it, but it looks like it's going to be up to us working with ONS
    - i. Fran asked about the [CA handbook](#) as well. We presume it could use some updating, but we're not certain. Previously it had been updated by a Retreat ad-hoc committee subcommittee. Fran is willing to review for needed updates.
      - 1. It's a good training tool when there's a mentor to go over it with someone. It's not a good option for just handing it to someone new. We could do a monthly cohort open meeting and divide the work up for no agenda question answering.
      - 2. A "welcome kit" might be a good tool, but it is difficult because of the constant turn over. It would be good to have the opportunity available
      - 3. Committee please review the [Handbook](#) prior to our next meeting.
  - c. Tina will ask at CA what would be the best way to be onboarded/mentored when one is new. Tina also wonders if BSN committee members could make it a standard practice to identify new people around the table and reach out to them to ask if they would like mentorship. We could divide that work by district. Tina will make it a regular part of her committee report each month.
  - d. Helping Struggling Neighborhoods that have gone dark or are on the brink:
    - i. Dan shared that two of the neighborhoods he works with as Budget Committee have either gone dark or close to. We discussed multiple ideas but did not come to a conclusion of what we can do.
- 4. Neighborhood Updates:
  - a. Whitman: Still working on the art crosswalk at Pittsburg and Wellesley and they will be at their May meeting.

- b. Emerson-Garfield: Plan Commission is, for the first time (that Linda knows about), about historic preservation due to Jess Walters writing a comment about the historic character in West Central. The updated plan calls for more minute land use designations instead of the big swaths of colors. Linda is going to ask them to require consulting the neighborhood councils.
  - c. Hillyard, 5/23 at NECC. This might be their last dumpster clean up because it looks like in the future the City is going to require insurance. (ONS Note: the City is not requiring insurance for roll off/ dumpster events. This is recommended by the Gonzaga Law Clinic following questions from neighborhood councils who experienced damage to personal vehicles at their event in 2025.)
5. May Meeting = SNLA Graduation May 16th (No Tina): Tina will let Cyndi know who plans to attend. She will also request the list of cohort members and the agenda for graduation day to share as well.
    - a. Next Regular BSN meeting 6/13/26 at The Hive/Zoom
  6. Adjourn for CA Inventory Workshop 10-11AM at Self Storage of Spokane

2026 BSN Committee Officers:

Committee Chair: Tina Luerksen, Grandview-Thorpe. [MacLuerksen@gmail.com](mailto:MacLuerksen@gmail.com)

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

Committee Vice-Chair: Dan Brown, North Hill

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."*

## Draft Notes from the LC Meeting April 7, 2026

Location – S Hill Library and Zoom – 2:00 PM start

Present: Paul Kropp, Chair, Southgate; Andy Hoye, Recorder, Southgate; Angel Troutt, Logan; Bonnie McInnis, West Central; Lorna Walsh, Riverside; Heather Hamlin, ONS; Linda Carroll, liaison to the PC (guest) – Quorum present

The Notes from the March meeting were approved as revised by Paul as the committee minutes of record.

We reviewed the attendance record for March and noted that all liaisons had attended their respective meetings. There were some omissions from the CA Packet, particularly the CRS Board, HAS and UFCAC. Andy said he would contact Santiago re CRS Board, noting that he had attended the recent meeting.

We reviewed the one-page liaison recruitment flyer “brochure” and approved it pending a change to the title wording.

We discussed the change in the Design Review Board noting that it was to become a subcommittee of the Plan Commission. Linda Carroll declined to assume both roles – we felt that Fernando should remain as the CA liaison to the position on the new Design Review Subcommittee – Paul agreed to review the protocol of that renomination with ONS.

We had our “check-in” with Linda in her relatively new role as liaison to the Plan Commission. She mentioned that she had attended study sessions and the CA Land Use Committee in addition to the regular PC meetings. She felt the Commission members had been cordial, but that she was careful to “choose her battles” where she felt the Committee was missing some things, especially as related to the EIS and Comp Plan 2026 update. She expressed concern that the Comp Plan projected the same 1.7% of transit to be on busses in 2046, the same percentage as today. She was also concerned about transfer of public property to private ownership in general.

Notes submitted by Andy Hoye

Edited by Paul Kropp



# COMMITTEE REPORT

## NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY COMMITTEE

Hello, Community Assembly. I will not be in attendance at the May CA meeting, but wanted to provide you with relevant updates that we hope you find helpful. Please let me know if you have any questions or if there is anything we can assist you with as you continue to champion safety in your neighborhoods.

Public Safety Update - May 4, 2026 - Council Chambers

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Abl0NFrif\\_M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Abl0NFrif_M)

Chief Hall begins at 5:06

Chief Williams begins at 38:55, immediately followed by a CARES update

CM Dillon on Street Racing at 1:29:40

There are many other interesting updates throughout the entire presentation.

The new public safety alert system ReGroup is available. Please consider signing up. This app, in addition to Watch Duty, is an excellent tool to use for receiving emergency notifications. Here is the link:

<https://www.spokanecounty.gov/m/newsflash/home/detail/6025>

The ballot results for the public safety speakers are below. We will work on coordinating presentations to the CA with the Admin Committee.

	#1 Rank	#2 Rank	#3 Rank	#4 Rank	#5 Rank	Totals	NOTE		
<b>Traffic Department</b>	10	3	5	3	1	22	#5 rank vote was for PETT		
<b>Spokane Police Department</b>	8	7	6	2	1	24			
<b>Spokane Fire Department</b>	5	7	6	3	0	21			
<b>Sheriff's Office</b>	2	2	2	12	2	20			
<b>Other</b>									
Park Rangers	1	0	1	1	1	4			
Code Enforcement	1	1	0	0	1	3			
NRO Commander	1	0	1	0	0	2			
Homeless Services/Outreach	0	1	0	0	1	2			
Planning Department	0	1	0	0	0	1			
EMS/Ambulance Services	0	0	1	0	0	1			
Released Offender	0	0	0	0	1	1			
Mayor	0	0	0	0	1	1			
COPS	0	0	0	0	1	1			
Crime Stats							1 vote not ranked		
Neighborhood Clean Up							2 votes not ranked		

Additionally, Sandy and I have been working on various safety related requests from the community ranging from crosswalks to school speed zones, road access for ingress/egress, and connecting to NROs.

The Office of Emergency Management completed the evacuation drill in the Latah Valley. An After Action Report will be available soon and we will share the highlights at a future meeting.

We are still working on our P&Ps and meeting schedule. I am meeting with ONS next week - May 11 - and look forward to identifying a schedule, meeting structure and procedures that work well for everyone.

Thank you. Please let us know how we can support you.

**Elizabeth Goldsmith**

**Cell 949.599.4396**

**Chair - Comstock Neighborhood Council**

**Chair - Citizen's Advisory Committee/Spokane Parks Department**

**Chair - Neighborhood Safety Committee/Community Assembly**

**Member - Citizen's Advisory Board/Spokane County Sheriff's Office**

## **Pedestrian, Traffic and Transportation (PeTT) CA Meeting 4/28/26 at 6:00pm on Zoom**

**Attendance:** Carol Tomsic-Chair-Lincoln Heights, Mary Winkes-Manito/Cannon Hill, Jeff Mergler-Comstock, Bill Meeks-Grandview Thorpe, Brian Muegge-West Central, Paul Kropp-Southgate, Gene Brake-Emmerson Garfield, Ryan Jerman-Browne's Addition, Chuck Carter-Manito/Cannon Hill, Heather Hamlin-City of Spokane Neighborhood Services, Cliff Winger-Shiloh Hills & Transportation Commission, Drew Redman-STA

Carol Tomsic called the meeting to order

Attendees introduced themselves and their neighborhood affiliations.

Carol explained that the speaker for controlled intersections/crosswalks will be pushed to next month's meeting. Jon Snyder will assist in finding a speaker. Carol suggested we focus the meeting on a roundtable discussion of traffic safety projects, upcoming Transportation Commission decisions and proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan (land use and transportation).

Cliff explained that the Transportation Commission presented a large candidate list of 227 projects which will be narrowed down to 30 and then to 6 in total for actual funding. They will be spread out by council districts and not by neighborhoods. Selection criteria include connectivity, safety including injury history and high injury network. There is tight funding of \$3.5m. Some targeted items like high visibility crosswalks will rely on grants of about \$1.7m. Mary commented that the Neighborhood Councils are not recognized in the planning and growth strategy. She wants to make reviews of the transportation and land-use chapters a high priority. Carol noted that neighborhoods should be proactive now addressing priorities to Jon Snyder and Abbey Martin as the Transportation Commission will reduce their list at the May meeting.

Comprehensive Plan-Transportation and Land Use Chapters. Mary voiced concern that the draft revisions appear to downplay the term "neighborhood" reducing the neighborhood council visibility in planning chapters and risk losing neighborhood influence. The comp plan is aspirational but forms the basis for development of priorities and regulations that may not protect the neighborhood's character. The transportation chapter is expected to be released at the end of May. She recommends the neighborhood councils identify 1-2 priority projects with strong safety and connectivity justification.

### Agency Updates

Drew Redman – STA discussed potential addition of the Public Transit renewal tax on the August ballot. He will know more soon. Service adjustments and construction are planned over the coming months including notable items such as Bloomsday shuttle options and detours downtown during the event. Temporary service expansions during the FIFA World Cup times – June 1-July 25 with more frequent service on certain routes.

Cliff commented that the city will install high-visibility crosswalks, aka piano key crosswalks, mainly along Francis with the high visibility design rather than thinly painted lines. The reported cost of that crosswalk package was \$1.7m. The crosswalk locations and an interactive GIS map are available on the city website at <https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/high-visibility-crosswalks/>. Several crosswalks will be implemented if the projects are advanced. The funding source appears to be a grant not guaranteed reoccurring camera revenue. He will attend the CA meeting next Thursday.

The Transportation Commission has rebranded some initiatives as “Safe Streets for All”. With a scope including bike, micromobility, arterials, neighborhood streets, schools and senior facilities. Paul and Jeff asked about what is included in the traffic calming “toolkit” and would like clarification from Jon Snyder. With neighborhood influence, the “toolkit” will be better for the city. Discussion of curb bump-outs, bump/hump tables, European style speed cushions as viable options to consider.

Carol reminded everyone that the near-term window is critical as the Transportation Commission will whittle their project lists this month and that neighborhoods should submit evidence now to be considered.

# CRSB Community Assembly Liaison Report — April 9, 2026

Spokane Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board | Hybrid Meeting | 2:00-4:25 PM

Santiago Rodriguez-Anderson

CRSB Community Assembly Liaison

srodriguezanderson@spokanecity.org

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## Hearing: Renters' Right to Cooling (CM Paul Dillon)

Action item — CRSB Recommendation No. 2026-002

- Landlords must keep bedroom temps at or below 80°F; non-compliance = uninhabitable unit and risk of rental license loss
  - Existing units must comply by January 1, 2031; new construction (permitted after Jan 1, 2027) must comply upon completion
  - Tenants may install portable cooling devices and deduct cost from rent with 24-hour notice
  - City may offer rebates for heat pumps and weatherization in partnership with utilities; savings must be passed to tenants
  - Timeline: CRSB recommendation to Council by April 26; PIES Committee May 11
  - Context: Spokane temps up ~2°F since 1950; 2021 heat dome killed 19 locally; extreme heat is the #1 weather-related cause of death nationally
- 

## Public Testimony

In support: Abigail Saks (tenant with no AC, landlord refused to act), Jimmy Young (health and safety of vulnerable residents), Ryan Drobny MPH (nighttime heat as serious as daytime; cooling is a basic habitability right), Jered Sweeney-Demezas and Kara Odegard of Measure Meant (cited 2021 heat dome; upper temp limit is the counterpart to heating requirements).

Conditional support — Spokane Housing Authority (758 units, 366 in pipeline):

- Per-bedroom cooling would add \$7,000-\$10,000+ per unit in new construction; retrofits are costly and complex
  - Added electrical loads may conflict with Clean Buildings Performance Standard (CBPS) compliance
  - SHA recommends requiring cooling in at least one room per unit rather than each bedroom, and community cooling spaces
  - SHA submitted 8 open questions to the board on effective dates, grid capacity, landlord liability, and compliance measurement
- 

## Workshops

**HB 2416 — Waste to Energy (Marlene Feist):** Governor signed; ~\$14M in ratepayer savings over 4 years. City must now develop a GHG Reduction Plan and a Waste Reduction/Materials Recovery Plan by 2030. CRSB will serve as advisory board on both.

**West Plains PFAS Interim Actions (Marlene Feist):** SIA, City, and County submitted an emergency plan to Ecology for PFAS contamination on the West Plains. Focus is immediate clean water access for affected residents. Long-term plan with permanent treatment solutions due early May.

**Septic to Sewer Conversion (Marlene Feist):** ~180 city properties still on septic within 200 ft of municipal sewer. Failing systems are a risk to Spokane's sole-source aquifer. A Sewer Connection Incentive Program will be detailed at the May meeting.

**Development Code Modernization / BuildSpokane (Tim Thompson):** Full rewrite of Title 17 (zoning, land use, development standards) tied to the 2026 PlanSpokane Comprehensive Plan update. Goals: simplify code language,

remove barriers to housing, streamline permitting. Draft code due in 2026; City Council adoption targeted by year-end.

Invite Tim Thompson to speak at a Community Assembly meeting to solicit public feedback while the rewrite is in draft. Contact: [tthompson@spokanecity.org](mailto:tthompson@spokanecity.org) | 509.625.6893.

**Legislative Wrap-Up (Nicole White):** 2026 WA session ended in March. Board should begin identifying priorities for the City's 2027 legislative agenda. Council begins that process in late summer.

**SAPW Update (Amanda Parrish):** Brief update on Sustainability Action Plan work.

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## May 14 Preview

Master Water Conservation Plan | Neighborhood Composting | SAP 5-Year Review | State Legislative Agenda | Sewer Connection Incentive Program

Written comments: [eracrsb@spokanecity.org](mailto:eracrsb@spokanecity.org)

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## Source Documents and References

- [Full CRSB Agenda Packet — April 9, 2026 \(PDF\)](#)
- [CRSB Board Page — City of Spokane](#)
- [BuildSpokane / Title 17 Code Modernization](#)
- [PlanSpokane — 2026 Comprehensive Plan Update](#)
- [WA ESSB 6200 — Renter Cooling Rights \(2026 Session\)](#)
- [WA Commerce — Clean Buildings Performance Standard \(CBPS\)](#)
- [HB 2416 — Waste to Energy Legislation](#)
- [Submit Public Comment to CRSB](#)

Report to the Community Assembly  
May 7, 2026

At its meeting on April 14, the Spokane Plan Commission voted to approve the draft Preferred Alternative, recommending it to City Council. In the very near future, City Council will formulate its resolution on the Preferred Alternative. Maps of the Preferred Alternative showing area uses, including changes to them, may be found at the <PlanSpokane Story Map page> link at: [PlanSpokane 2046](#)

General Plan Spokane Info: <https://my.spokanecity.org/planspokane/about/>

Spokanites are encouraged to review the maps. Comments and questions may be addressed to the Plan Commission at

[PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org](mailto:PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org)

or

509.625.6500

or

EngageSpokane

and to City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Carroll

Liaison to the Plan Commission



## Transportation Commission (TC) Report April 2026 by Cliff Winger <[cwinger@spokanecity.org](mailto:cwinger@spokanecity.org)>

Link to TC's web page is at: <<https://easyurl.net/SPK.TranCom>>

**TC April Agenda** <<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/bcc/commissions/transportation-commission/agendas/2026/04/transport-agenda-2026-04-15.pdf>>

**ALL PRESENTATIONS** are listed on the TC web page linked [above](#).

► EMAIL: <[transportationcommission@spokanecity.org](mailto:transportationcommission@spokanecity.org)> or <[erabdsadmin@spokanecity.org](mailto:erabdsadmin@spokanecity.org)> ◀

Subscribe to TC Notices: <<https://spokanecity.wufoo.com/forms/transportation-commission-email-notification-list/>>

**TC representatives:** District 1: Joni Harris - [joniharris@spokanecity.org](mailto:joniharris@spokanecity.org); District 2: Grant Shipley, President [gshipley@spokanecity.org](mailto:gshipley@spokanecity.org); District 3: Kaylee Jackman [kjackman@spokanecity.org](mailto:kjackman@spokanecity.org).

Interested in submitting a traffic calming project request? [Submit your request to 311](#) using the Safe Streets Survey (Traffic Calming) option, these will be considered for Cycle 16 (2029).

### ■ **Transportation Benefit District (TBD) 2027 Project Selection** Agenda Pages 5-10

Presentation [here](#): Local access (neighborhood) streets 2026 projects on page 2. Commissioners will go to field for 2027 street selections on page 6. Possible future decisions on license tab enforcement or increase in fee.

Contact: Chris Cafaro ([ccafaro@spokanecity.org](mailto:ccafaro@spokanecity.org))

### ■ **Sidewalk Project Selection** Agenda Page 11

Presentation [here](#): Ten percent of TBD funds go to new sidewalks each year. Completed projects on pages 5 & 6. Potential citywide page 7. In 2027 District 2 will be considered; possibilities page 8.

Contact: Kevin Picanco ([kpicanco@spokanecity.org](mailto:kpicanco@spokanecity.org))'s



SS4A

### ■ **Cycle 15 (2028) Traffic Calming Community Submissions** Agenda Pages 12 & 13

All possible 227 projects listed in this [spreadsheet](#); 142 projects are from the 3-1-1 survey.

**A list of the 3-1-1 projects by neighborhoods, AI generated, with map is at** <<https://exi.link/2028TC>>.

Presentation & results are [here](#). Timeline page 2; evaluation process page 5. Only 30 projects will be chosen!

Contact: Jon Snyder ([jsnyder@spokanecity.org](mailto:jsnyder@spokanecity.org)) or Abbey Martin ([ammartin@spokanecity.org](mailto:ammartin@spokanecity.org))

Hearings:

■ **6-Year Street Plan Consistency Review** Presentation [here](#) (same as March). Approved by commissioners. May 11 City Council – PIES; June 16 City Council Hearing & Program Adoption; July Submit Adopted program to WSDOT and SRTC. Contact: Kevin Picanco ([kpicanco@spokanecity.org](mailto:kpicanco@spokanecity.org))

### ■ **Shared Streets Ordinance** Agenda Pages 18-23

Presentation [here](#): Two change in wording (p 2 & 3) Wall from Main to Spokane Falls Blvd. Was chosen. Approved by commissioners.

Contacts: Jon Snyder ([jsnyder@spokanecity.org](mailto:jsnyder@spokanecity.org)), Inga Note ([inote@spokanecity.org](mailto:inote@spokanecity.org)), Colin Quinn-Hurst ([cquinnhurst@spokanecity.org](mailto:cquinnhurst@spokanecity.org))

**Next Meeting:** May 20, 2026, 1600 hours at City Hall, Council Chambers

You may email the Transportation Commission at <[transportationcommission@spokanecity.org](mailto:transportationcommission@spokanecity.org)>



Trans Comm.