

Spokane Neighborhoods Community Assembly
“Provide a vehicle to empower Neighborhood Councils’ participation in government.”



Meeting Agenda for Thursday, July 9, 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: June 4, 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 (Luke Tolley).....	5 min (5:40)	Oral Report	12

Updates/Announcements

6. Up to 3 min per sign-up	10 min (5:45)	Oral Reports	-
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Agenda Items

7. City Council Update (CP Betsy Wilkerson)	10 min (5:55)	Oral Report	-
8. ONS Update (Heather Hamlin)	5 min (6:05)	Oral Report	-
9. STA Prop 1 (Carly Cortright).....	15 min (6:10)	Presentation	16
10. Commission Comments on Comp Plan (Linda Carroll)	20 min (6:25)	Presentation	24
11. Comp Plan Transportation Chapter (Land Use).....	10 min (6:45)	Presentation	41
12. CRSB Liaison Request (Santiago Rodriguez)	10 min (6:55)	Discussion	46
13. Break.....	5 min (7:05)		
14. Neighborhood Workgroup Reps/Alts (Luke Tolley).....	5 min (7:10)	Vote	-
15. Committee Reports	35 min (7:15)		-
a. Neighborhood Safety (Elizabeth Goldsmith)	10 min	Oral Report	51
b. Budget (Laura Johnson)	10 min	Oral Report	59
c. Communications (Krista Anderson)	5 min	Oral Report	-
d. Other.....	10 min		
16. Actionable Items Review/Future Considerations (Luke Tolley).....	5 min (7:50)	Oral Report	-

Other Written Reports

Committee Reports, Agendas, Minutes, etc.

• Administrative Committee.....	61
• Budget Committee.....	62
• Building Stronger Neighborhoods Committee (BSN)	64
• Community Assembly/Community Development Committee (CA/CD)	Did not meet/no report
• Land Use Committee.....	Met/no report
• Liaison Committee.....	67
• Neighborhood Safety Committee.....	See #15 above
• Neighborhood Work Group.....	Did not meet/no report
• Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation Committee (PeTT)	68

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

• Community Housing and Human Services (CHHS) Liaison Report.....	Met/no report
• Climate Resilience Sustainability Liaison Report.....	See #12 above
• Design Review Liaison Report.....	Did not meet/no report
• Housing Action Subcommittee Liaison Report.....	Did not meet/no report
• Plan Commission Liaison Report.....	See #10 above
• Transportation Commission Liaison Report.....	70
• Urban Forestry-Citizen Advisory Committee Liaison Report.....	72

**** 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:

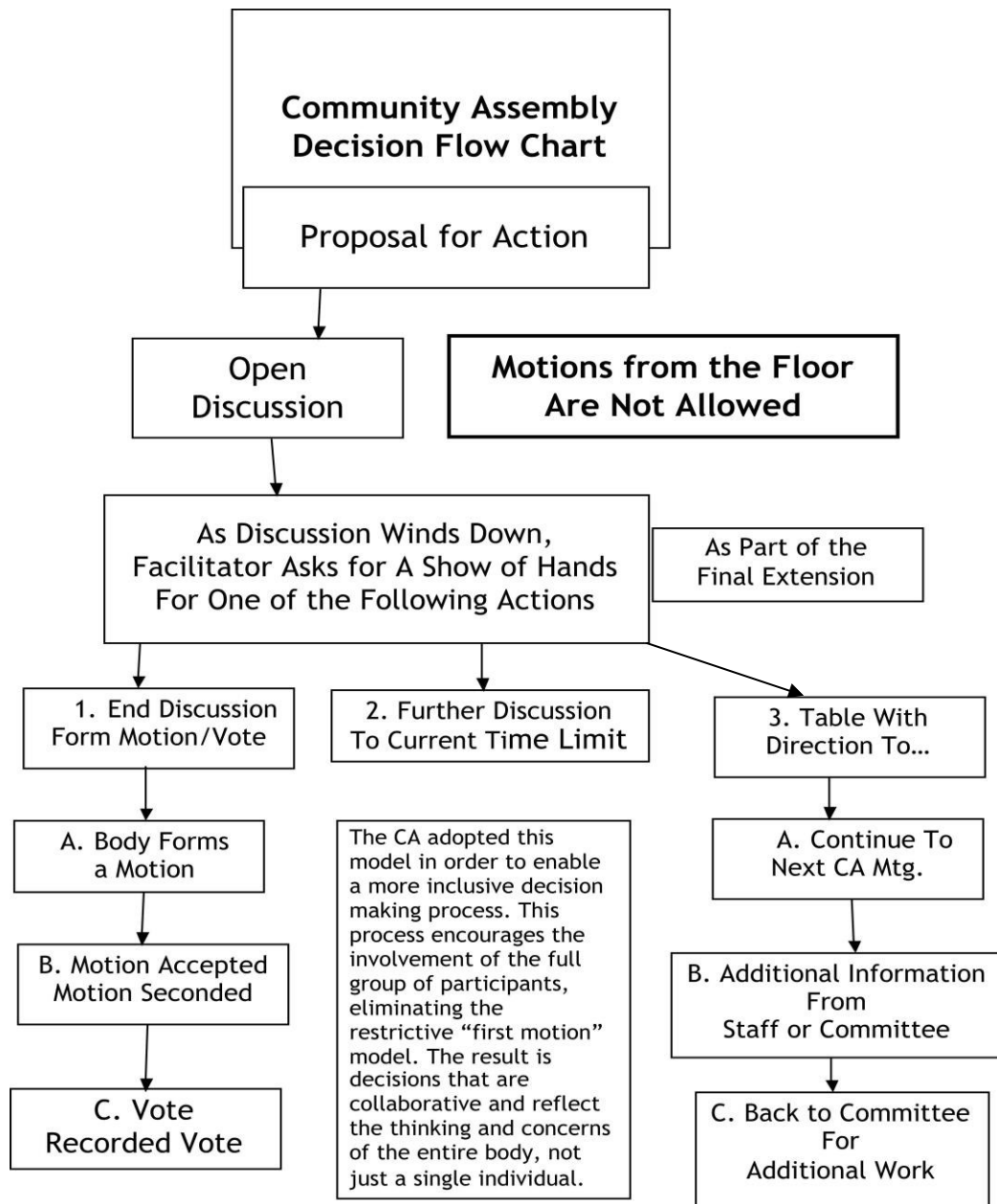
The Community Assembly fulfils its purpose, achieves its goals, and stays true to its core values by its members engaging each other and the community with honest communication and having transparent actions in all of its dealings. Community Assembly representatives are knowledgeable and committed to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

June 4, 2026, in-person at Shadle Park Library

Meeting called to order at 5:31 by Luke Tolley

ATTENDANCE:

AFFILIATION	CA REP/CA ALT REP	ADDITIONAL GUESTS
Audubon-Downriver	Fran Papenleur	
Balboa South Indian Trail	-----	Christopher Savage
Bemiss	Luke Tolley	
Browne's Addition	Steven Seim	
Chief Garry Park	Krista Andersen	
Cliff/Cannon	Helena Taavao	
Comstock	Sandy Wicht	
East Central	Debby Ryan	
Emerson-Garfield	Linda Carroll	
Five Mile Prairie	-----	
Grandview-Thorpe	Tina Luerssen	
Hillyard	Laura Johnson	Jeff Braunschweig, Angel Troutt
Latah/Hangman	Ed Bruya	Stephanie Watson
Lincoln Heights	Carol Tomsic	Shawn Terjeson
Logan	Barbara Ann Bonner	
Manito-Cannon Hill	Mary Winkes	
Minnehaha	Tyler Tamoush	
Nevada Heights	Hilary Michaelowicz	
North Hill	Todd Simmons	
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 Hoyer	Paul Kropp
West Central	-----	
West Hills	Stu Lee	
Whitman	Charles Hansen	
City of Spokane		Heather Hamlin (ONS), Betsy Wilkerson (City Council President), Jacobbe Byrd (City Council Director)
Presenting Organizations		Abigail Martin (City of Spokane), Jon Snyder, Spencer Gardner

ADMINISTRATIVE:

1. Approve Meeting Recording: Barbara Ann moved; Linda seconded. Motion passes. 22-approve, 0-abstain, 1-deny.

2. Introductions

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

4. Approve May Minutes: Dan moved; Andy seconded. Motion passes. 23-approve, 1-abstain, 0-deny.

- Add Todd Simmons (North Hill) as an attendee at May meeting
- During discussion with Zeke and Emily (before #10 at very end) edit to “egregious” not “atrocious”

5. Admin Committee Action Items

- Be sure to include your committee minutes in each months’ CA packet if you met.

UPDATES/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:

6. Updates/Announcements

- Sandi- The draft comp plan says that city will support economic growth and stewardship. What’s happening on Division and 2nd could happen here if we don’t do something. Look at the quotes in the paper from Urbanna Salon owner. Shelters have brought people into the neighborhoods. Mayor says the housing there precedes her administration.
- Tyler- His last meeting as CA rep for Minnehaha. Thank you all for the work you put in and the support you give. The next CA rep will be Tyler Kern. Minnehaha’s new Clean Up Coordinator is Tyler’s son.
- Paul- Look at the handout. One side is facts and the other is an action item for agenda item #11.
- Stu- See screen. All red circles are services/housing for homeless. There are 11 within one mile of his house. Note: Ascenda has been a great neighbor for 20 years. No complaints there.
- Fran- Audubon Park Concerts in the park happening throughout the Summer. Pool parties hosted by Molina, Make a Splash and Parks & Rec Foundation. See end of CA packet for details.

AGENDA ITEMS:

7. City Council Update (Council President CP Wilkerson)

- Acknowledge that Council President sent a formal response on parking minimums back to CA. Open to more dialogue.
- Acknowledge Elizabeth re: e-Bikes. Senate Bill 6110 about e-bikes. Outlining tiers. Will work with Chief Hall on how to implement in the City.
- Tomorrow Council will be hosting a workshop. Consultant looking at structure. Standardizing processes without impacting access to Council Members and how they show up in the community. Tomorrow 11am-2pm.
- Cooling ordinance during heat season is moving through process.
- Street racing ordinance had a first reading. Pay attention to this one.
- FIFA Fan Zone June 19 at Riverfront Park Pavilion. Celebrating Juneteenth and FIFA Watch Party.
- Carol- Avista data center in the works?
 - CP Wilkerson- Avista briefed Council recently. See what was [shared](#) with us in March.
- Mary- still working on parking minimums. What’s the plan? Is Chris working on this.
 - CP Wilkerson- Yes.
- Tyler- I haven’t read Cooling Ordinance in full. Are there any incentives in this ordinance for landlords?

- CP Wilkerson- City is convening stakeholders to see if there are incentives available. None from the City at this time. Note: temperature parameters inside were removed. Temperature noted for outside is consistent with City's policy on opening cooling centers.
- Fran- Look at the letter from editor Steve Corker. It's a good one.

8. ONS Update (Heather Hamlin)

- Community Engagement grant applications are due June 19 to Gabby Ryan at gryan@spokanecity.org.
- Spokane Neighborhood Summit date secured for November 7. We are looking for workshop proposals now. If you have ideas or interest in participating, please submit by July 26 <https://tinyurl.com/26SummitProposals>
- Volunteers are needed for [Spokane Pride](#) (June 12-13) and [Hoopfest](#) (June 26-28).
- Congrats to Spokane Neighborhood Leadership Academy (SNLA) graduates. They spent five months in this program learning new skills and resources to increase engagement and address priorities within their NCs.
 - Audubon Downriver- Liam Wrixon
 - Bemiss- Jarrell Gooler
 - Chief Garry Park- Macayla Leyden
 - Grandview/Thorpe- Molly Hoback
 - Indian Trail- Kris Layh
 - Latah-Handman- Duane Huesers & Eme Ray
 - Lincoln Heights- Roberty Reneau
 - Northwest- Melissa Maddocks
 - North Hill- Laura Newman
 - Manito/Cannon Hill- Fernando Diaz
 - Rockwood- Dana Komberec
 - West Central- Brian Muegge & Madi Allen
 - West Hills- Noah Dickens & Maggie Thornton

9. Comprehensive Plan Update (Spencer Gardner)

- Goal today is to provide an update on where we are with the Comprehensive Plan process. It's a long range planning document that sets a vision, goals and policies that guide all aspects for Spokane's growth and development over the next 20 years. State framework = growth management act.
- First major refresh of plan since 2001 though updated periodically.
- Draft chapters released now. Lots of changes incorporated- some reflect the suggested changes made by NCs and CA. See how things have been adjusted here. If you have concerns that changes haven't been incorporated, it's because the draft hadn't been released yet.
- Maps not released yet- aiming for release in July. Policy language released!
- How to read the drafts. See new icons below for helpful information on changes. See [page 19](#) of June CA packet for more information on this.
 - Relationship between certain policy aspirations. By bringing two policies together that are related we're trying to highlight the need for the City to balance some competing priorities.
- These chapters are flagged for special interest for CA and NCs.
 - Chapter 10- Community Health
 - Chapter 11- Neighborhoods

- Chapter 13- Local Governance (some aspects of NC system fit best here instead of Neighborhoods chapter. Entire set of policies called Planning through Neighborhood Councils).
- All Chapters
- Next Steps? Expecting to release another version of draft language to policy language and release the maps in July. Maps are a key cornerstone of the Comp Plan. Go to planspokane.org. Email planspokane@spokanecity.org. Please use that email address not to planners individually. This makes it easier for us to catalogue as we track comments and provide at public hearings.
- Future Land Use Map (FLUM) generally identifies what types of uses are appropriate where, with SMC providing more specific zoning regulations. Provides direction for growth of city into context of the Comp Plan by breaking it out into specific uses.
- Preferred Alternative map helps staff look to areas that need changes to what can be built, designating for mixed use, etc. The FLUM map and then the zoning map that follows.
 - Ed- Are bus routes on there too?
 - Spencer- Yes. Supporting alternative modes of getting around and supporting transit. Bus lines have been an important part of this process. STA's current plans include some form of bus service near Latah-Handman. Doesn't meet threshold of high performance transit (frequency of service). Frequent transit is a subset of all STA's bus lines.
 - Paul- You must revisit the work in five years.
 - Spencer- Chapter 2 delayed as we work through state requirements for 5-year check-in.
 - Jael- Chapter 13 LG3 planning through NCs. Did you study other places in state where NCs are active to model this? Or did you do it based on how Spokane runs currently?
 - Spencer- I believe these were adapted through existing Neighborhood and Governance chapters. Existing language just packaged differently.
 - Mary- Did we get a response to letter CA sent to Planning last month?
 - Spencer- An informal response was sent to Luke. A formal response to come soon.
 - Tyler- Spokane County is working on their comp plan too! Join the next discussion at the public works building on June 11 County in Commissioner's Chambers. Will also be shared online.
 - Spencer- Our comp plan won't include areas outside the city. We do study some outer areas in comp plan because City provides utilities. Not proposed to be included as part of City's comp plan.

10. Safe Streets for All (Abigail Martin & Jon Synder)

- Second year of new process through Transportation Commission (created by Council in 2024). Here's a preview of the process so far and where we're headed this Fall:
 - Feb-March- Call for projects was successful. Over 300 projects submitted.
 - April- 30 projects selected for further scoping with DOWL Consulting.
 - April – Consultant scoping projects
 - September- Candidate projects for Cycle 15 funding presented to Transportation Commission
 - October- Narrowed list presented to Transportation Commission
 - November- Transportation Commission makes final recommendation to Council
 - December- Council votes on Cycle 15 projects and budget
- You can still submit traffic calming projects online through 311. Remember: submissions received after 3/30/26 will not be considered for Cycle 15 projects. These will be held for future projects.

- Shared examples (from each district) of submitted projects selected for additional scoping.
- Will be a total of 47 projects,
 - Will only have enough funds to complete 5-8 projects off list. Why are we scoping so many projects if we can't fund them? City is good at shoehorning these already scoped projects into other opportunities. ICM does a great job looking at this list.
 - Please reach out with questions to jsnyder@spokanecity.org and amartin@spokanecity.org.
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, first extension. Tyler motioned; Andy seconded. Motion passes: 26- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
- Tyler- When I first joined my council the chair showed us plans for lane reduction on East Euclid. Is this project still under consideration?
 - Jon- Euclid has come up in conversation but I haven't heard anything that we've killed it forever.
 - Charles- It was part of the original DOWL report that they recommended reduction to three lanes with center turn lane.
 - Luke- Bemiss would be interested in a lane reduction all the way to Crestline.
- Laura- I've seen two wrecks on Foothills between Division and Hamilton.
 - Jon- That section of Foothills was scheduled for grind & overlay but we pushed it back to get time to evaluate that section. Specifically the Foothill and Division intersection..
- Andy- where can I go to find the Cycle 14 status?
 - Abbey- Here it is: [Cycle 14 Traffic Calming Projects - 2027 Safe Streets for All Resolution](#)
- Krista- I've seen candlesticks and lower cost quick builds around town, is there data to see how effective these are?
 - Jon- Will continue to try new things around quick builds and collect data.
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, second extension. Andy motioned; Jael seconded. Motion passes: 24- approve, 2- deny, 0- abstain.

11. P&P Standing Committee Amendment Draft Resolution (Paul Kropp)

- There was formerly a Design Review Board. This has been replaced by a sub committee of the plan Commission. Fernando Diaz was selected to serve on the Design Review Board and the Liaison Committee proposes that he continues to serve in this revised capacity
 - Motion to approve Fernando as CA Liaison for Design Review by Andy. Second by Bill. Motion passes: 25-approve, 0-deny, 1-abstain. Edit date on doc to today.
- Carol- is this a voting position?
 - Paul- no, Plan Commission (and sub committee) liaisons are not voting members.
 - Tyler- I'm the only conservative that will tell you the 27x27 is a good idea. If we are supporting transportation equity, please pave the roads in neighborhoods that are not paved. So many neighborhoods still have unpaid roads. Pave those first and then move on to the niceties and extras.
 - Jon- We have 50 miles of unpaid streets in the City. One of the routes we're considering is doubling the amount of transportation district funds. Extra funds would help us whittle away at these streets.
 - Stu- Forty something years ago the City had a bond issue to pave every street in Spokane. City entered lawsuit and roads weren't paid.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

12.a .Building Stronger Neighborhoods (Tina Luerssen)

- Not meeting on 3rd Saturday this month. We're meeting next Saturday, June 13 back at the Hive.

12.b. Budget (Laura Johnson)

- Eleven CE grants approved. One application waiting on meeting minutes.
- Sean- Equipment closet storage area is fantastic! Way to go ONS!

12.c. Neighborhood Workgroup (Mary Winkes)

- We've already talked about parking and neighborhood inclusion in Comp Plan.
- As discussed briefly during Workgroup meeting, Mary wants to reinstate the MOU between CA Admin and ONS.
 - Luke- Where this gets decided is at the Admin Committee meeting. This is not the process for discussion. All are encouraged to attend CA Admin on June 30.
 - Fran- I support having an MOU and view it as a protection of neighborhood leaders and neighborhood councils. The ONS Director position has been a revolving door.
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, first extension. Debby motioned; Tina seconded. Motion passes: 26- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
- Voting in D2 rep for Neighborhood Workgroup. Rhett was an alternate last year and cannot move into rep position.
 - Angel is the rep for D1. No alt rep is selected. Will vote in July.
 - Andy is the rep for D2. Bill would like to be considered for alt rep. Will vote in July.
 - There is no rep for D3. No alt rep is selected. Will vote in July.
- Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, first extension. Debby motioned; Andy seconded. Motion passes: 26- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.

12.d. PeTT (Carol Tomsic)

- One of the featured speakers at May meeting was Jon Snyder on Emergency Streets.
- LID is an interesting subject. Hoping to have a speaker on this at PeTT in June.
- Want to bring Inga in to talk about Transportation Impact Fee.
 - Carryover from 2024. Working on D1 & D3 issues. D1 rep is Laura Johnson. D2 has a rep Molly Marshall (not CA rep). We need a D3 rep. Meetings are hybrid.
 - ACTION: Heather and Luke to apologize to Inga that CA is unable to select a rep.

13. CA/CD (Andy Hoyer)- I've been involved with CA for 12 years now. The MOU is in place when things are not working. I ask you to consider the CA and NC's recent good work. All is functioning well.

- Neighborhood Safety (Elizabeth)- The next in-person Neighborhood Safety Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, June 27th at 10am at Liberty Park Library.

The June Public Safety presentations can be watched here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZCT-7PK_6o

Chief Hall - Spokane Police Department begins at 6:40

Chief Williams - Spokane Fire Department begins at 33:45

Sarah Nuss - Office of Emergency Management provides her quarterly report at 1:25:45.

The SPD Strategic Initiatives May report may be found here:

<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/police/accountability/psc-briefings/2026/psc-briefing-may-2026.pdf>

If anyone is interested in attending or joining the Spokane County Sheriff's Citizen Advisory Board, learn more here:

<https://www.spokanecounty.gov/1472/Citizens-Advisory-Review-Board>

The next meeting is September 8th/5:30pm at Felts Field as we will be viewing the Air-1 Helicopter. No meetings in July and August.

- Move to suspend the rules. Tyler motioned; Carol seconded. Motion passes: 24- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.
- Plan Commission- FLUM map would be best done if there is engagement with NCs while it is being made NOT after. Land Use would like to send a letter on behalf of CA requesting this. 19 categories are condensed down to 9. Read the Growth Strategy (no longer called Land Use). Look at the zone maps available and see where the designations are. They are large now but will be defined block by block. Planning, don't make this map and then bring this to us for comments. Have your NC write their collective responses and send to Plan Commission.
 - Move to approve FLUM letter as written. Stu motioned; Laura seconded. Motion passes: 22- approve, 0- deny, 0- abstain.

Actionable Items Review/ Future Considerations (Luke Tolley & Heather Hamlin)

- Heather to create a CA name tent for Brian Muegge (West Central), Ed Bruya (Latah Hangman) and Tyler Kern (Minnehaha).
- Luke to send FLUM letter to Spencer Gardner.
- Heather to let Inga know that no additional rep has been identified for workgroup.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm. Next meeting will be held Thursday July 9.

From: [Gardner, Spencer](#)
To: [Luke Tolley](#)
Cc: [Hamlin, Heather](#); [Black, Tirrell](#); [Downey, KayCee](#)
Subject: RE: Concerns with Comprehensive Plan Update
Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2026 11:56:18 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Hello Luke,

Thank you for submitting the below letter on behalf of the Community Assembly. I apologize for not responding earlier. We appreciate hearing from the Neighborhood Councils to help inform the ongoing periodic update to the Comprehensive Plan.

Updated drafts to the Comprehensive Plan chapters are now available, having been released on May 27. These chapters have been updated to address public feedback and state requirements, while also streamlining the document to reduce redundancies to create a document that is easier for the community to read and reference.

While there were some initial drafts of some chapters available prior to this date – including Neighborhoods, Economic Prosperity, Urban Design and Historic Preservation, Natural Environment, Community Health, Parks and Recreation, and Local Governance Through Civic Participation – those versions only contained initial edits. These new drafts more fully respond to public comments and engagement heard during the PlanSpokane 2046 process. In particular, the latest draft of the Neighborhoods chapter more fully considers the suggested edits made by the Community Assembly late last year.

Since all of the chapters work together, we encourage Neighborhood Councils to review all draft chapters and provide feedback. In particular, I wanted to highlight the draft Local Governance Through Civic Participation chapter. This chapter provides the most guidance on decision making in the City. Goal LG-3, Planning Through Neighborhood Councils, includes a number of policies that may be of interest, including a policy directly referencing the role, relationship, and responsibility of the Neighborhood Councils as expressed in the City Charter.

We welcome and encourage continued feedback and discussion as we work on additional updates to the draft chapters.

Regards,

Spencer Gardner | Director | Planning Services
Office 509-625-6097 | Mobile 509-723-7554 | my.spokanecity.org

From: Luke Tolley <luke.tolley@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2026 6:55 PM

To: Gardner, Spencer <sgardner@spokanecity.org>; Mayor <mayor@spokanecity.org>; City Council Members and Staff <citycouncil@spokanecity.org>; Byrd, Giacobbe <gbyrd@spokanecity.org>;

Hamlin, Heather <hhamlin@spokanecity.org>; Cliff Winger <c_wings@yahoo.com>; Krista Anderson <k.andermann@gmail.com>; Lorna Walsh <lornabwalsh@gmail.com>; Mary Winkes <mmcspo@yahoo.com>; LAURA BRAUNSCHWEIG <wraith99@live.com>

Subject: Concerns with Comprehensive Plan Update

[CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Verify Sender]



Community Assembly of the Neighborhoods of The City of Spokane

Spencer Gardner

Planning Services

City of Spokane

808 W Spokane Falls Blvd

Spokane, WA 99201

Dear Director Gardner,

It is becoming increasingly clear that the draft of the new comprehensive plan is deemphasizing, chapter by chapter, and in some cases, eliminating references to neighborhoods and more specifically neighborhood councils.

This is of grave concern to the Community Assembly, and it should be of equal concern to the City Council and City Administration. Neighborhood Councils are part of the city charter and have a defined role in city planning.

To quote the city charter (Section 74, A. & B.) the neighborhood councils shall:

- A. Review and recommend an action, policy, or plan to the city council neighborhood committee, the city council, the mayor, the City and any city agency, commission, or board on any matter affecting that neighborhood;
- B. Assist city agencies in determining priority needs for the neighborhood;

This neighborhood council planning role, however, is not reflected thus far in the comprehensive plan drafts. The Community Assembly respectfully requests that the neighborhood council role be reintroduced by the Planning Department in advance of the City Council's review of the drafts. This oversight must be corrected in order to comply with the city charter and it is incumbent on the Planning Department to take steps to do so.

On behalf of all the neighborhoods of The City of Spokane,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Tolley'.

Luke Tolley

Administrative Committee Chair

Cc: Lisa Brown, Mayor

Heather Hamlin, Director, Office of Neighborhood Services;
Community Assembly Admin Committee;
Community Assembly Land Use Committee Chair;
Giacobbe Byrd, Director-City Council Office;
Spokane City Council;

In Community,

Luke Tolley

he/his

phone: 509.221.9721

Hillyard, Spokane, Washington



Community Assembly of the Neighborhoods of The City of Spokane

Date: June 10, 2026

Re: Concerns with Neighborhood Council Engagement as part of the Comprehensive Plan Update

Spencer Gardner
Planning Services
City of Spokane
808 W Spokane Falls Blvd
Spokane, WA 99201

Dear Director Gardner,

Because the procedure followed in ReFIVE fully actualizes the Charter's stipulation for the role in planning of neighborhood councils, whose members have the greatest local knowledge and the most at stake, the Community Assembly respectfully urges the Planning Department to adopt the following, similar procedure in the development of the Future Land Use Map (FLUM):

- Make 'Engage' the first step,
- Begin that first, 'Engage' step by making the interactive map and discussion board available to the public and specifically to neighborhood councils,
- In the first, 'Engage' phase have a member of the Planning Department meet with each neighborhood council in a meaningful consultation

Given that the Charter-stipulated role for neighborhood councils will likely require more time, the Community Assembly further urges the Planning Department to apply to the state Department of Commerce for an extension of the December 31 deadline for the completion of the Comprehensive Plan, as other communities across the state are doing.

The Community Assembly respectfully requests a written statement from the Planning Department committing to this procedure before its work on FLUM begins.

On behalf of all the neighborhoods of The City of Spokane,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Luke Tolley'.

Luke Tolley

Administrative Committee Chair



STA Proposition 1

Maintenance and Enhancement of
Public Transportation Services Transit
Primary Election | August 4, 2026

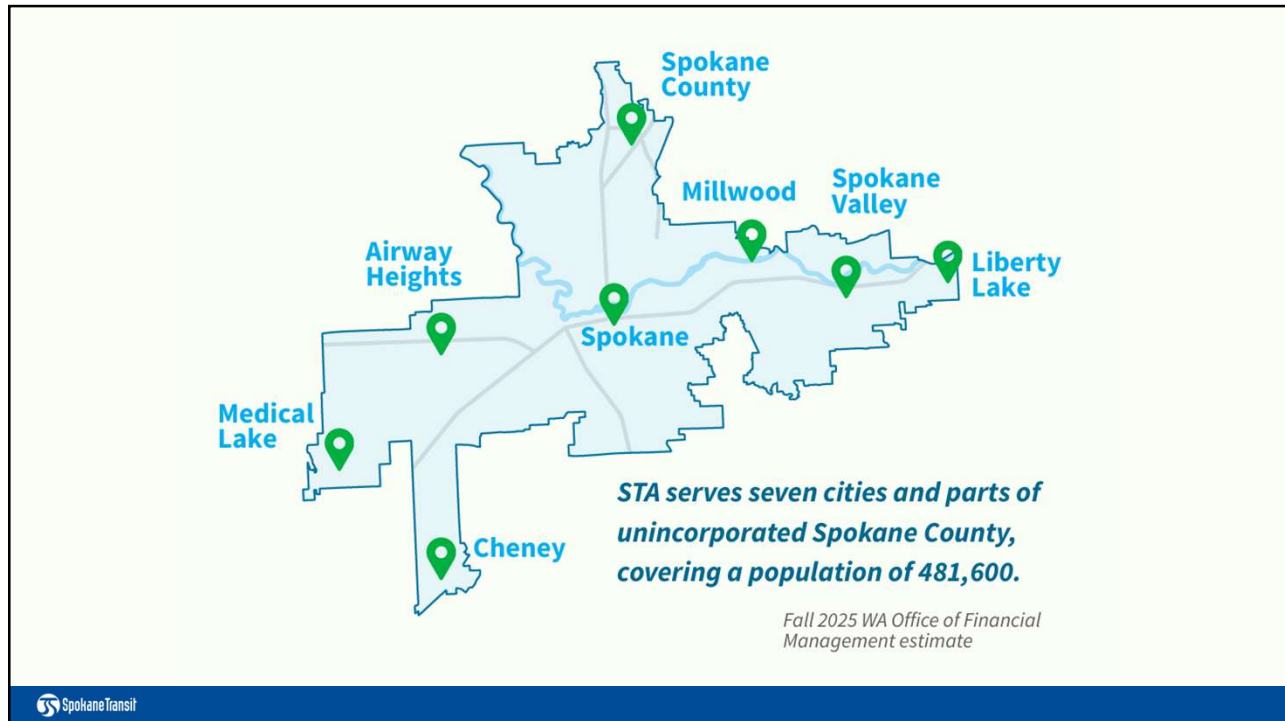
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About Spokane Transit Authority

- STA is a public transportation benefit area (PTBA) authority, established under state law by local jurisdictions to provide public transportation throughout central Spokane County
- Mission Statement
We provide safe, inclusive, convenient, and efficient public transportation services to Spokane area communities.
We are leaders in transportation and a valued partner in the region's social fabric, economic infrastructure, and quality of life.
- Vision Statement
Connecting everyone to opportunity



2



3



Spokane Transit Proposition 1

- On August 4, 2026, voters in Spokane County's transit service area will be asked whether to renew the existing local sales tax that funds public transit
- This 0.2% sales tax was approved by voters in 2016 and is set to expire on December 31, 2028

STA PROPOSITION 1
August 4, 2026

**MAINTAIN TODAY'S TRANSIT
SUPPORT TOMORROW'S GROWTH**

Spokane Transit

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This is not a new tax—it is a renewal

- The 0.2% (two-tenths of one percent) is already part of the current Spokane sales tax rate
- This measure does not increase the rate above the amount voters previously approved
- If renewed, the existing rate would continue supporting public transit through December 31, 2048, unless renewed again by voters

For every \$10 retail purchase, 2¢ would go toward supporting public transit



Most money would go toward maintaining current service

Part would be invested in improvements under the Connect 2035 plan

STA Moving Forward (2017-2026)



Projects completed: of the 27 projects, STA is delivering on 26 of them



Service grew by over 35% (passing the original goal)



City Line was completed \$14 million under budget



New transit centers were built that increased capacity and improved access



Over \$138 million in grants were secured by STA



Zero debt

How the money would be used

- Most funding from the renewed sales tax would **maintain** the improved service levels achieved over the last 10 years during STA Moving Forward
- The remaining funding would **enhance** that service over the next 10 years as outlined in the Connect 2035 plan



Connect 2035: STA's New 10-year Strategic Plan

STA Proposition 1 would fund more than 40 projects to:



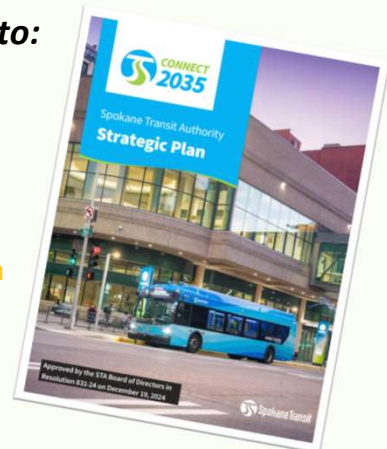
Goal 1 – Elevate the customer experience



Goal 2 – Lead and collaborate with community partners to enhance the quality of life in our region



Goal 3 – Strengthen our capacity to anticipate and respond to the demands of the region





ELEVATE THE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

Expand and improve transit options so more people can access fast, reliable service and a safe, comfortable ride from start to finish.

- Launch **Division Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)** and other High Performance Transit corridors, including Route 33 Wellesley
- Implement **bus stop upgrades**, such as shelters, lighting, and ADA access
- Design **mobility-on-demand** pilot services in areas such as West Plains, Latah Valley, Northeast Spokane, North Spokane Valley, and Liberty Lake
- Sustain new **Transit Ambassador** program to support riders

 Spokane Transit

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LEAD AND COLLABORATE WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Work with partners to expand transit access, strengthen community benefits, and encourage development and services near high-frequency transit.

- **Expand access** for low-income riders
- Partner with cities to support **more housing near transit**
- **Include transit passes** with sporting and cultural event tickets
- Work with local businesses to improve transit access and **support the regional economy**
- **Expand EV charging** at park-and-ride locations

 Spokane Transit

10



STRENGTHEN OUR CAPACITY

Invest in staff, plan strategically for the future, and manage resources responsibly to sustain and strengthen the organization.

- Invest in bus drivers and mechanics with better facilities and support for reliable service
- Improve real-time information through technology upgrades, including Transit App
- Enhance vehicles and use data to improve safety
- Build clear, user-friendly dashboards to increase transparency and accountability

Spokane Transit

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The Goals Driving Connect 2035

Over the next decade, Spokane Transit will pursue three ambitious goals to create a more accessible, reliable, and connected transportation network. Explore the projects and core investments that will bring this vision to life.

Goal 1: Elevate the Customer Experience	Goal 2: Lead and Collaborate with Community Partners	Goal 3: Strengthen Our Organisational Capacity	Core Investments: Advance all three strategic goals and guide our next decade
Division Street BRT Operations Base Zero Emission Buses			In-Progress Division Street BRT  Division Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is a transit improvement project that will expand existing bus service between downtown Spokane and north Spokane and Spokane County.

Learn more about the plan and its projects, including Division Street BRT, at staconnect2035.com

Spokane Transit

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Proposition 1: If Passed vs. Not Passed

Topic	If Renewed (YES)	If Not Renewed (NO)
Local Sales Tax	Continues at the current voter-approved rate of 0.2%	0.2% authorization expires December 31, 2028
Transit Funding	Continues through 2048 from this tax funding source	Approximately \$30 million per year in transit funding ends after 2028
Current Service	Existing service can be maintained	STA would need to reduce service to match lower funding in the future
Projects and Plans	Major improvements, such as Division St. BRT, mobility on demand, corridor planning, and bus stop improvements, can move forward	Projects would be delayed, scaled back, or not delivered
State and Federal Funding	STA remains a strong candidate for competitive grants that leverage local dollars	STA would lose approximately \$12.6 million per year in Washington State transit support and special needs grants, and the \$82 million federal funds for Division Street BRT would be at risk



13

What About STA's Reserves?

- STA's reserves:
 - Fund one-time projects outlined in Connect 2035
 - Protect taxpayers from unexpected costs
 - Are not a funding source designed to be used for ongoing daily service
- The 0.2% sales tax:
 - Funds continued service and projects
 - Helps qualify STA for additional state and federal grants, increasing overall value of taxpayer dollars



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Questions



15

Register to Vote

**Visit sos.wa.gov/elections
to register to vote in the
primary election by
August 4, 2026**



16

Comments on the May 2026 draft chapters of the Comprehensive Plan
Linda Carroll
Community Assembly liaison to the Plan Commission

Possible actions regarding May 2026 draft Comprehensive Plan recommended in comments below:

Restore from the 2017 update of the Comprehensive Plan:

- the consistent role of citizen volunteers and Neighborhood Councils
- emphasis on quality of life and of the role of the neighborhood as a human community and of the natural world in the lives of Spokane residents
- valuing of a “well-educated citizenry” as the basis of a globally-competitive labor force and “Libraries as an Educational Resource.”
- chapter name “Land Use”

Add:

- the advisory role of the Neighborhood Council in decisions concerning larger developments and greater intensity, in the location of “Urban Hubs,” in the “Sub-Area Planning Framework” (p. 20), and in the Transportation Chapter in TR-2.2 Effective Community Engagement

Remove:

- workforce (dehumanizing)

Develop:

- the role of higher education and health care in the life and economy of Spokane
- means of compensating for the effect of building multi-family dwellings on the demolition of current housing and home ownership

Summary of Comments:

The opening statement of every chapter of the 2017 update emphasizing the important role of Spokane volunteers in the planning process has been excised. Now every chapter opens with a statement that refers to “Our team.” Nowhere is that first-person plural entity named. Numerous references in the 2017 update to the role of the public and of Neighborhood Councils that have been removed. The 2017 update’s emphasis on quality of life and of the role of the neighborhood as a human community and of the natural world in the lives of Spokane residents has been greatly reduced and even removed from many chapters of the current draft. The role of higher education and of health care in the life and economy of Spokane is completely absent. 2017’s praise for a “well-educated citizenry” as the basis of a globally-competitive labor force has been excised, as was “Libraries as an Educational Resource.” ‘Workers’ and ‘young people’ are dehumanized as ‘workforce’. In the Economic Prosperity chapter, “Quality of Life and the Environment” becomes “Tourism Promotion.” The tone of encouragement and the use of what might be termed ‘soft power’ has largely disappeared. The result is a coldly bureaucratic set of policies about how to build more.

The former “Land Use” chapter is now “Growth Strategy.” Neighborhoods, which had a prominent role in the 2017 update as one of Spokane’s “most valuable assets,” have been virtually eliminated. Now organization is by type of development. Even in Residential Low zones a “larger development” may be allowed if it provides a benefit to the neighborhood or greater intensity may be deemed “acceptable.” It is not said how large is larger or who will decide whether it provides a benefit to the neighborhood or when greater intensity is acceptable. Urban Hubs, a kind of anything-goes zone, will appear all over the city. A statement of the advisory role of the Neighborhood Council in these decisions must be added here and in places such as the “Sub-Area Planning Framework” (p. 20) and in the Transportation Chapter in TR-2.2 Effective Community Engagement.

The May draft does not deal in a serious way with how the building of multi-family dwellings that it emphasizes will affect the demolition of current housing and home ownership.

Comments

General observations

The text has been compared to the corresponding chapter of the 2017 Comprehensive Plan update, to which ‘omitted’ and ‘added’ refer.

The opening statement of every chapter of the 2017 update emphasizing the important role of Spokane volunteers in the planning process has been excised. In the May 2026 draft, instead, every chapter opens with a statement that refers to “Our team.” Nowhere is that first-person plural entity named. For transparency in a public process, ‘Our’ should be replaced with the name of the entity producing the document. In addition, all of the references in the 2017 update to the role of the public and of Neighborhood Councils that have been removed from the chapters of the current draft must be restored to effectuate public participation and particularly the Charter-mandated role of Neighborhood Councils in City decisions.

The 2017 update’s emphasis on quality of life, on the role of the neighborhood as a human community, and on the natural world in the lives of Spokane residents has been greatly reduced and even removed from many chapters of the current draft. For example, 2017’s **ED 8 Quality of Life and the Environment** becomes 2026’s **EP-9, Tourism Promotion**. Similarly, the tone of encouragement and the use of what might be termed ‘soft power’ of the 2017 draft has largely disappeared, exemplified in the dismissive statements about the eliminated policies on pp. 9-10 of chapter 7. The result is a document whose soaring initial ‘Goals’ statements are followed by a coldly bureaucratic set of policies about how to build more.

The state-imposed deadline has meant long hours and haste in the production of the draft, which shows in its uneven language, especially regarding sentence structure, stylistic fine points, and semantics. It is to be hoped that in the final draft those matters will be attended to.

In addition, the content of the sidebars should be checked to ensure that it is updated to the current draft, especially in reference to Goal and Policy numbers.

The page numbers refer to the counter in the upper left corner of the pdf. The symbol > is used to point from a current to a preferred wording.

Chapter 1 Introduction

p. 1 “Each has been discussed at the Plan Commission, by various Plan Commission subcommittees, with City Council in general, and shared with the public at various points along the way.”

Comment: Why has the role of the Planning Department not been included here?

p. 1 ‘What’s Next for Plan Spokane’ addresses the public role thus: “We’d love to hear from you along the way. If you have any comments, please engage with us” and gives the URL.

Comment: What plans are there for public outreach sessions including with neighborhood councils? Will the only opportunities for the public to comment be through this sporadic individual initiative?

p. 2 Comment: most of the items on the bulleted list of what the Comp Plan will achieve are new and vague (e.g. ‘Create a collective vision for the City of Spokane’s future’). The 2017 list of specific services to be provided to residents is gone.

p. 3 Comment: several of 2017’s sentences on Spokane’s air pollution problem and the significant contribution that automobile use makes to it have been cut.

p. 4 Comment: a lengthy section on the importance of parks, their financing, and their contribution to the beauty of the city has been cut, as has a shorter segment on housing

developments (2017 p. 5).

p. 4 Comment: lengthy sections with extensive data and statistics on the history of the region's population, acreage, geology, and climate omitted (2017 pp. 5-8)

p. 5 Comment: instead of 2017's detailed discussion of the requirements of the GMA (2017, pp. 9-11), there is a section entitled "Implementing the Community's Vision" that deals in vague terms: "After a robust visioning process, the community developed a vision statement." By contrast, 2017 (p. 11): "Spokane Horizons was the name of the City of Spokane's citizen participation process to develop the city's 2001 Comprehensive Plan. It involved all segments of the community in shaping the city's future" followed by a list of ways stimulating "broad citizen involvement" "To build affective [sic?] relationships among government, the community and neighborhoods, business and their constituents to empower citizens and provide a broader perspective on Spokane's future." and "To understand the public's expectations for growth management planning, including the content and products of the process."

pp. 6-7 "Plan for Housing" is the first item on the list of "Guiding Principles," followed by "Plan for Equity," "Plan for Climate Resiliency," "Plan for Community Well-Being," and "Plan for Economic Prosperity."

pp. 6-7 Comment: the "Plan for Climate Resiliency" contains not a single reference to reducing greenhouse gas emissions that are a major component of the climate crisis or other methods for moderating it.

p. 7 Comment: the "Plan for Community Well-Being" states that "Community connection was identified as a significant desire from community members in the development of this Comprehensive Plan" but does not cite any means of achieving it.

p. 7 Comment: the "Plan for Economic Prosperity" begins with an emphasis on industry and cites residents' interest in "local small businesses and creative industries." It makes no mention of the role of higher education or the presence of local institutions of higher education in promoting and achieving prosperity, for example through increasing the health care options in Spokane, etc.

pp. 7-8 Comment: placed here is a much shorter version of the account of the GMA and its relevance and of countywide planning that in 2017 occupied pp. 9-11; moreover, on p. 12, 2017 states,

"Under the rules of the GMA, the City Council's action to adopt the plan must be based on the 'early and continuous citizen participation' required by the GMA. This provision adds assurance that the plan represents the community's consensus about the city's growth and how that growth will promote citizens' quality of life interests." and "The plan is prepared by involved citizens, recommended by the City Plan Commission, and adopted by the City Council."

p. 8 2017's "Manage Shorelines Wisely" becomes "Shoreline management."

Comment: why was 'wisely' excised?

p. 9 Comment: the section on the regional planning including allocation of population projection is new.

p. 9 Comment: the "Who Plans and How" section contains no reference to Planning Services, and repeats the 2017 wording that the Comprehensive Plan is "prepared by involved citizens." Yet most of the outreach efforts of Planning Services have been sporadic rather than the systematic ones employed in the 2017 update. Many public input sessions were based on oral reactions by members of the public that were not recorded unless the individual attending wrote them down on a comment card.

p. 10 “Under the rules of the GMA, the City Council’s action to adopt the plan must be based on the early and continuous citizen participation required by the GMA.”

p. 10 Comment: the only reference to Planning Services is in a statement that it evaluated language access and provided opportunities for translation and interpretation, which is outside Planning Services’ area of professional expertise.

p. 11 Comment: the “extensive community feedback” mentioned is not yet publicly available.

Chapter 2 not yet available

Chapter 3 Growth Strategy [formerly Land Use]

p. 2, par. 1 Sentence in 2017 about the development of neighborhood plans omitted.

p. 2, par. 1 details about earlier plans and updates omitted

p. 2, par. 2 definition of land use omitted

p. 2, par. 3 role of citizen volunteers omitted; detailed ‘Values’ section with emphasis on natural areas and neighborhoods omitted

p. 2 “Capacity to Accommodate Growth” This section in the 2017 Update began with “Neighborhoods”; they are omitted here and relegated to p. 24 with a reduced text. The section emphasizing the importance of downtown is moved to p. 4. The actual Land Use section starts on p. 21.

pp. 3-4 Rather than 2017’s organization by type of neighborhood, this section in 2026 organizes by type of development. It is only made clear on p. 19 that all of these types of development are mixed use and that therefore mixed use will occur in all neighborhoods.

p. 7 final paragraph Given the paragraph’s initial emphasis on the evolution toward transit, the reference to the current “auto-oriented” use of corridors should be completed at the end of the paragraph by reference to the future use of transit and active transportation.

Open space. Predominant Uses.

p. 9-10 Given that the “Open Spaces” designation includes sports complexes, the recommendation that “Open Space Designations should prioritize parks or outdoor recreational facilities and opportunities, especially where views and proximity to nature provide essential benefits to the community, such as the Spokane River Gorge” could be seen as encouraging the building of a stadium atop the Spokane River Gorge and other such projects, degrading the genuine “open spaces” much valued by Spokaneites.

The second paragraph describes the inclusion in this category of lands “warranting protection from encroachment” for their value in a variety of categories. How will the distinction between lands to be protected from encroachment and lands to “provide opportunities for active and passive recreation” be made? Who will make it? Why are these two very different types of land use lumped together in one category?

Residential Low

p. 11-12 **Secondary Uses** “Allowances ... neighborhood.” Who will decide when a “larger development” will provide a “benefit to the local neighborhood” and therefore be allowed in a “Residential Low” designation? A statement that the neighborhood council will have an advisory role in this decision must be added to this text.

p. 12 **Intensity** Who will decide when greater intensity is “acceptable”? A statement that the neighborhood council will have an advisory role in this decision must be added to this text.

Residential High

p. 12 What are the dimensional criteria for “larger multi-unit developments” and “more intense middle-housing types?”

p. 13 **Location criteria** How can new Residential High areas be created without displacing current residents?

Institutional

p. 14 second sentence from top “residential density in industrial areas”--shouldn’t this be “residential density in institutional areas”?

Mixed Use

p. 15 **Secondary Uses** It is unclear how active transportation would work safely in a mixed-use zone.

p. 16 **Location Criteria** With this being the basic designation for Urban Hubs, this kind of anything-goes zone will appear all over the city.

Goals and Policies

p. 18 **Goal GS-1, Uses of Land** The corresponding Goals and Policies section of the 2017 update was located at the beginning of the document. Its first point (LU 1.1, pp. 8-9) setting forth neighborhoods as the basic feature of Land Use has been excised. LU 1.3 (p. 9) opens the ‘Discussion’ portion: “The city’s residential neighborhoods are one of its most valuable assets.” That statement and the paragraph that develops it have been excised.

p. 19 **GS-1.4, Industry & Employment** This section makes no reference to professional sectors that are important to the local economy: health care and post-secondary education.

p. 19 **GS-1.6 Urban Agriculture** 2017’s reference to determination of this land in consultation with Natural Resource Conservation Service and expectation that it remain agricultural for at least 20 years omitted.

p. 19 **GS-1.7 Parks & Open Spaces** The subsuming of the freestanding Open Spaces Policy (LU 6.2) to the Parks Policy caused the loss of: “Conservation Open Space includes areas that are publicly owned, not developed, and designated to remain in a natural state. It is intended to protect areas with high scenic value, environmentally sensitive conditions, historic or cultural values, priority animal habitats, and/or passive recreational features. It is expected that improvements in these areas would be limited to those supporting preservation or some passive recreation activities, like soft trails and wildlife viewpoints.”

p. 20 **GS-2.7 Sub-Area Planning Framework** To the existing initial phrase in bold should be added: “Undertake sub-area and neighborhood planning in collaboration with **neighborhood councils**, local residents and impacted community members...”

p. 21 **GS-2.11 Neighborhoods** The displacement of the consideration of neighborhoods to near the end of the document and the omission of the discussion are a real loss relative to 2017’s emphasis on Spokane as a place where people live.

p. 21 **GS-3.1 Addressing Housing Displacement** This section should add a consideration of the reduction in home ownership when homes are demolished and replaced by rental property.

p. 23 **GS-6.1 Transit Oriented Development** 2017’s considerations of reducing through traffic and block length (LU 4.3, 4.5, p. 27) have been excised.

p. 26 **GS-8.4 Siting Essential Public Facilities** The omission of 2017’s examples of the types of facilities involved makes this section vague.

p. 27 **GS-10.1 Annexation Boundaries** The omission of the “Discussion” section of the corresponding section of 2017 (LU 9.1, pp. 36-37) results in the loss of “preservation of natural neighborhoods and communities” as a criterion for decision-making.

p. 27 **GS-10.4, Land Use and Zoning Designations upon Annexation** The phrase in 2017's corresponding section (LU 9.6, p. 38), "Recognize the interests of the residents of the annexing area" has been excised.

p. 27 2017's **9.4 Community Impacts** (p. 37) has been excised.

pp. 28-29 Policies Removed from the Text.

The following removed policies should be reinstated in the 2026 Comprehensive Plan:

Policy: **LU-2.1, Public Realm Features** Encourage features that improve the appearance of development, paying attention to how projects function to encourage social interaction and relate to and enhance the surrounding urban and natural environment.

Policy: **LU-2.2, Performance Standards**

Employ performance and design standards with sufficient flexibility and appropriate incentives to ensure that development is compatible with surrounding land uses.

Policy: **LU-4.3, Neighborhood Through-Traffic**

Create boundaries for new neighborhoods through which principal arterials should not pass.

Policy: **LU-4.5, Block Length**

Create a network of streets that is generally laid out in a grid pattern that features more street intersections and shorter block lengths in order to increase street connectivity and access.

Goal: **LU-5, Development Character**

Promote development in a manner that is attractive, complementary, and compatible with other land uses.

Policy: **LU-5.4, Natural Features and Habitat Protection**

Ensure development is accomplished in a manner that protects significant natural features and wildlife habitat.

Chapter 4 Transportation

The broad and deep differences between the 88-page 2017 version and the 17-page May 2026 version exclude a line-by-line comparison; therefore most comments focus on the 2026 version. Features of 2017's "Vision and Values" statement (p. 12) that do not appear in the present version are "Maintaining the ability to access quickly the outdoors from the city"; "Decreasing north-south congestion"; and "Developing convenient access to the downtown area, increasing parking, bus service, light rail, and satellite parking with shuttles, and improving the pedestrian environment."

The chapter in general shows a laudable shift of emphasis from personal vehicles to active and public transportation, emphasizing the benefits to safety and health and the reduction of climate-warming greenhouse gas emissions. It also shows a laudable emphasis on community, both in the life of the community as a central focus of transportation planning and in planners' seeking the community's preferences when developing plans.

p. 2 sidebar refers to appendices. When will these appear?

p. 6 **TR-2.2 Effective Community Engagement** Add the phrase in bold to the text: "Prioritize the input of **neighborhood councils**, community partners and leaders representing gathering places, destinations, and community bodies, as well as residents and regular users of affected facilities."

TR-2.4 Natural Environment Restore the following sentence to the text: Maintain the ability to quickly reach the outdoors beyond the urban area.

p. 13 **TR-9, Achieve Climate Goals** Specifics must be added here, given that the Draft EIS envisions a total combined increase of only .03% in active and public transportation, nowhere near enough to begin to achieve climate goals.

p. 16 **TR-11.3 Infrastructure Design** Spell out the following acronyms: MUTCD, NAACTO, AASHTO

p. 17 (and p. 6 for TR 2.3) sidebar says that former TR Goal E

Respect Natural and Community Assets

Protect natural, community, and neighborhood assets to create and connect places where people live their daily lives in a safe and healthy environment.

has been removed because redundant with information in policies TR 1.8 and 2.3 but this draft has no policy TR 1.8. Moreover, TR 2.3 should have restored to it the 2017 vital phrase “to create and connect places.” Finally, TR 2.3 does not define the “objective criteria” that will be used to evaluate the impact of transportation projects on natural and community assets, which have many intangible benefits.

Chapter 5 Capital Facilities and Utilities

Comments on this chapter’s technical subject matter require professional expertise.

Chapter 6 Housing

Current emphasis is almost entirely on adding housing. Removed from the 2017 update is its emphasis on quality of life.

p. 2 Housing Strategy

The meaning of “Adopted through regional planning efforts, the City of Spokane anticipates a population growth of 23,357 between 2020 and 2046” is unclear. Is what is meant: “Regional planning efforts (studies?) predict a population growth of 23,357 between 2020 and 2046 for the City of Spokane”?

A sentence should be added between the current first and second sentences of this paragraph giving statistics about the current housing shortage.

p. 5 **H-1.3 Regional Fair Share Housing, H-1.7, Housing Goal Monitoring**

“Participate in a process that monitors and adjusts the distribution of lower-income housing throughout the region, promoting equitable distribution and access to housing everywhere.”

What will this process consist of?

p. 6 **H-2.3, Homeownership**

Support the expansion of diverse homeownership opportunities

What policy or policies will the City use to expand such opportunities?

p. 6 **H-2.6 Accessory Dwelling Units**

“Promote the development” of ADUs “that can be sold individually”

How will this be handled in terms of the ownership of the land as well as the dwelling? Will this result in situations such as in mobile home parks, where the owner of the land can charge rent from the owner of the ADU? What happens if the owner sells the land?

p. 8 **H-4.6 City Owned Property**

“Partner with local housing providers, developers, and other applicable organizations and agencies to identify City owned property that may be appropriate for new development that provides housing units, and update policy and regulations to allow for the transfer or use of those properties.”

Will this policy allow publicly-owned property to be “transferred” to private, for-profit entities or individuals?

p. 9 H-4.8 Short-term rentals

“Ensure that short-term rental regulations balance the needs of visitors and residents of the city against impacts on the cost and supply of long-term housing.”

The needs of residents should come first.

p. 9 H-4.11 Vacant, Condemned, and Real Estate Owned Buildings

removed from 2017: additional community-related facilities

p. 9 H-5 Housing Equity and Opportunity

How will the Growth Strategy chapter's emphasis on Urban Hubs and multi-family (generally rental) housing affect the achieving of this goal?

Chapter 7 Economic Prosperity

p. 2 Is the removal from the Introduction of the roles of the downtown and of various industries in Spokane’s economic life a wise change? Similarly, is there wisdom in removing the contents of the Vision Statement

“Spokane will enjoy a quality of life for everyone that includes a diversified economic base that provides a livable wage, a healthy natural environment, and an economically vibrant downtown. Spokane’s quality of life will be built on a partnership of diverse interests, including education, business, government, and neighborhoods.”

and the Values statement

Encouraging economic development that values the environment as a component of our quality of life.”

p. 3 Goal: EP-2, Development and Redevelopment of Land and Structures

Ensure the supply of industrial and commercial properties is sufficient to meet the future economic needs of the City.

compared with 2017’s ED 2.1

Ensure opportunities for locating a variety of desirable, livable wage industries in Spokane that are environmentally compatible with adjacent land uses and support a range of employment types.

The 2026 draft eliminates the human considerations of “desirable, livable-wage industries” and “range of employment types” along with “environmenta[l] compatib[ility] with adjacent land uses.” Do these eliminations serve the “improved well-being and quality of life” of the Spokane community that the May 2026 Introduction sets as its goals?

p. 3 Policy: EP-2.1, Land Supply and Site Selection

Remove barriers to entry for new, expanding, and relocating industries by providing various site-by-site analytics and feasibility information, and implementing incentives.

compared with 2017’s ED 2.1

The City of Spokane encourages development of economic enterprises in locations suited for those uses based upon available public facilities, land capability, neighboring uses, and an orderly development pattern.

Does the 2026 draft’s elimination of “land capability, neighboring uses, and an orderly development pattern” serve the “improved well-being and quality of life” of the Spokane community that the Introduction sets as its goals?

p. 3

nothing

compare with 2017's ED 2.1

a detailed list of specific steps for the City to take concerning land and new income-producing uses

Does the 2026 draft's elimination of this list serve the Spokane community?

p. 3

2026

nothing

compare with 2017 ED 2.3 Reusable Buildings Inventory

Continue to maintain an inventory of historic and significant older buildings that could be redeveloped for economic activities rather than demolished.

Why was this section eliminated? Is this kind of inventory not a helpful tool in promoting re-use?

p. 4

EP-3.6, Home-Based Businesses

The 2017's detailed list of potential negative impacts of home-based businesses on the surrounding community to be minimized by development regulations has been eliminated. Why?

p. 5

EP-3.11 Development Standards and Permitting Process

customer-focused permitting process

The 2017 ED 3.7 and 7.6 recognized the importance of development standards that protect the surrounding community from the negative impacts of businesses in line with the City's responsibility is to act on behalf of the community.

ED 7.6 Development Standards and Permitting Process

Periodically evaluate and improve the City of Spokane's development standards and permitting process to ensure that they are equitable, cost-effective, timely, and meet community needs and goals.

Focussing development standards and the permitting process on the customer should be balanced with the good of the community.

EP-3.12-14 These are welcome new policies that address the importance of local production and of reducing waste.

EP-4, Living Wage Jobs and Income Disparity

"workforce development"

compare with 2017

"education and training of workers"

A signal example of how the 2026 draft dehumanizes.

pp. 5 and 9

removal of ED-4.2, Benchmark Indicators

While the sidebar states that this activity is "already conducted by the City," the policy's removal opens the possibility that once it is no longer required by the Comprehensive Plan, the City may cease to conduct it.

p. 6

Goal: EP-5, Education and Workforce Development

"Improve Spokane's economy through a qualified, competitive, and diverse labor force"

Compare with 2017:

"Improve Spokane's economy through a well-educated citizenry and a qualified labor force that is globally competitive"

The deletion of “a well-educated citizenry” as the basis of a globally-competitive labor force is perhaps the clearest example of how the 2026 draft removes education and civic participation from Spokane’s community life.

pp. 5 and 9

p. 9 sidebar relative to removal of policies ED-5.1, 5.4 (p. 5)

“The City is unable to influence school curricula. Other policies remaining in the chapter allow for interaction with students.”

This statement confuses ‘support’ with ‘control’. The two policies recommend that the City “work cooperatively with local schools to help maintain and enhance the quality” of education and “[s]upport efforts to introduce new, high-quality programs into the curricula,” which the City is entirely able to do by setting a tone and other indirect methods. Moreover, the sidebar statement refers solely to students, whereas the school system is composed of students, teachers, and administrators and is funded by the same voters who vote for city leadership. As the daughter of someone who taught for thirty years in a Spokane high school, I can attest that the attitude toward education of the city’s leadership influences the school system.

Note also the entirely different view expressed in EP-3.5’s recommendation to “Promote incubator and accelerator programs that provide support such as mentorship, training and education” and EP-3.7 “Assist the development of advanced and emerging technology-based industries by supporting education.”

p. 6

EP-5.1, Youth Programs

2017’s “young people” here are dehumanized to “workforce.”

EP-5.5, Libraries as an Educational Resource

The omission of the extensive discussion in the corresponding 2017 policy greatly impoverishes this iteration.

p. 7

EP-6, Infrastructure Development and Maintenance, EP-6.1 Investment in Public Infrastructure

2026’s elimination of 2017’s “the city’s quality of life” as the first goal of public infrastructure projects is a striking example of the dehumanizing of the Spokane community in this draft.

p. 8

EP-8 Creative Economy

“workforce development,”

Remove the dehumanizing “workforce,” which in any case is not needed because the entire section is about the Creative Economy.

EP-9, Tourism Promotion

compare with 2017’s

ED 8 Quality of Life and the Environment

The change in title gives a clear idea of the draft’s emphasis.

p. 9

Policy: EP-9.1, Promote Regional Natural Resources

“Promote the region’s outdoor amenities, recreational opportunities, and agritourism as features of both social benefit and economic growth, while protecting the natural resources for the future”

compare with 2017’s

ED 8.1 Quality of Life Protection

Protect the natural and built environment as a primary quality of life feature that allows

existing businesses to expand and that attracts new businesses, residents, and visitors. The 2026 draft has excised the quality of life and degraded nature from the natural environment to something for humans to make a profit from.

p. 10

sidebar relative to removal of policy ED-5.6

“The City does not have the ability/tools necessary to directly influence how employers train their staff.”

The policy does not recommend an effort to directly influence but to “encourage employers to support continuing education and training for their employees.” And it ignores this draft’s own recommendation for training (EP-3.5).

Chapter 8 Urban Design and Historic Preservation

The chapter’s increased articulation of ‘people-oriented’ design and of the value of historic preservation and the addition of sustainability, climate, and accessibility considerations are welcome. The extensive excising of neighborhoods is not and should be reversed.

p. 3

DP-1.3 Significant Views and Vistas

providing protection from encroachment or adverse impacts.

How will this protection be provided? The vagueness of this statement contrasts with the clear measures of the **2017 statement**:

protect them by establishing appropriate development regulations for nearby undeveloped properties

DP-1.6 Design Review Process

“Apply design guidelines to significant projects through a review process, such as the Design Review Board,”

How will ‘significant’ be defined? What review processes beyond that of the Design Review Board exist and could be utilized?

DP-1.9 Design Principles for Public Projects and Structures

“Design and construct public facilities and structures using the highest design principles to maximize public benefit and encourage similar improvements to the built environment.”

Compare with 2017’s consideration of “neighborhood compatibility,” which has been deleted:

DP 2.3 Design Standards for Public Projects and Structures

Design all public projects and structures to uphold the highest design standards and **neighborhood compatibility**.

Discussion: The development of public projects and structures can have an impact on surrounding areas. The perception that this has not been considered has resulted in neighborhood opposition to projects, in spite of potential benefits. In order to mitigate the perceived negative impacts on a neighborhood, the city must serve as an example by building its facilities to make a positive visual and functional contribution to the neighborhood, rather than just trying to mitigate negative impacts.

p. 4

DP-1.11, Building and Site Design

2026 deletes 2017’s “intensity of use” as among the features to be considered to ensure that new projects are “compatible with the visual character of the surrounding environment.”

2017’s DP 2.14 Town Squares and Plazas has been eliminated from 2026 but not included in the list of policies removed.

DP-1.17, Urban Trees and Landscaping in All Development

the addition of a requirement “that new development incorporate natural elements where appropriate” is welcome, though ‘appropriate’ will need to be defined for the requirement to be enforced.

p. 5

DP-2, Historic Preservation

How will the new draft plan’s emphasis on Urban Hubs be coordinated with historic preservation?

p. 7

DP-2.15, Rehabilitation Education and Assistance

The introduction of education into rehabilitation is welcome but the excising of “provide” (DP-3.9) from incentives is not.

DP-2.16, Historic Districts

compare with 2017:

DP 3.13 Historic Districts and Neighborhoods

A signal instance of the excising of neighborhoods from the Comprehensive Plan. It should be reversed.

p. 10

The following two excised sections should be re-introduced because the other sections cited in the sidebar as addressing the issues do not address them adequately.

DP 4 Downtown Center Viability

Goal: Create a vital, livable downtown by maintaining it as the region’s economic and cultural center and preserving and reinforcing its historic and distinctly urban character.

DP 5 Local Determination

Goal: Make neighborhoods attractive, safe places by encouraging residents to express their design and development values.

DP 5.1 Neighborhood Participation

Encourage resident participation in planning and development processes that will shape or re-shape the physical character of their neighborhood.

DP 5.2 Neighborhood Involvement in the City Design Review Process

Encourage neighborhoods to participate in the city’s design review process.

Chapter 9 Natural Environment

The extensive additions to this chapter and articulation of various issues are welcome developments.

p. 2

Introduction

2017’s “Not many other cities have the amount of nature space” has been removed from the corresponding paragraph of 2026. Why? Will Spokane retain that distinction under the proposed Comprehensive Plan?

NE-1.2 Stormwater Techniques and Best Practices

sidebar: This policy was added > This policy was expanded

comment: a similar policy existed in 2017, here expanded with “Best Practices”

p. 3

NE-1.5 Mining Activities

2017's "Prohibit open pit mining..." has become "Prohibit or severely limit open pit mining..."
Why? What kind of open pit mining would this change allow?

NE-1.8 Toxic Dumping Regulations

2017's "Retain and enforce laws against dumping toxic fluids..." has become "Develop and enforce restrictions and fines for the dumping of toxic fluids... consistent with state and federal law." Why? Are there any criminal penalties that have been dropped by this change from enforcing laws to enforcing restrictions and fines?

NE-1.9 Sewer Requirement

sidebar: "The original mention of the urban growth area was made more specific, limiting this policy to the City's service area."

comment: What sewer requirements are there for the urban growth area outside the City's service area? If there are none, does that create a risk of contamination reaching the aquifer?

pp. 3-4

NE-2 Water Conservation

The strengthening of this goal and its policies is a welcome and needed development.

NE-4.3 Vegetation that Improves Air Quality

sidebar: This policy was rewritten ... to better understand the relationship with air quality. > This policy was rewritten ... to better **explain** vegetation's relationship with air quality.

members of the public > **residents**

p. 7

NE-6 Natural Landforms

including landforms of cultural significance > including landforms of cultural **and ecological** significance

views of Mount Spokane, > the Mount Spokane skyline,

NE-6.2, Landform Preservation

sidebar: This policy ... may move there in future reviews. > this policy ... may be moved there in future reviews.

p. 8

NE-9, Natural Areas

sidebar: This goal exhibits close relationships to Chapter 12, Parks and Recreation. At a minimum, a cross-reference will be provided.

comment: While a cross-reference to Chapter 12 is appropriate, this goal should remain located in this chapter because this chapter prioritizes the natural world and non-human species, whereas Chapter 12, Parks and Recreation prioritizes humans.

NE-9.1, Identification of Natural Areas

The list of natural areas no longer contains floodplains. Why?

NE-9.2 Natural Corridor Links and Connections

2017's 'between natural areas' has become between undisturbed natural areas,

comment: the qualifier 'undisturbed' may be used to exclude from protection some natural areas that, while somewhat disturbed, still provide a corridor of movement, possibly a vital one, to species. Its removal would best serve the purpose of this chapter.

p. 13

NE-9.7 Spokane's Youth and Green Economy Careers

sidebar: the policy has been removed due to it being implementation actions to address other policies

comment: meaning unclear; is the intended meaning “because it recommends actions implementing other policies”?

p. 15

NE-17.6, Public Awareness and Education

sidebar: Policy ... was not selected to keep. > Policy ... was not selected to be kept.

The sidebar says that the topic is addressed in the Governance chapter but it concerns residents living within flood plains (see 2017 version). Retaining it here reinforces the City’s role in educating the public about natural disasters and how to avoid them.

Chapter 10 Community Health

p. 2

CH-1, Funding Mechanisms to Support Community Health

The substantial role of the arts and cultural programs that 2017 recognized in what was then termed ‘social health’ is here made vanishingly small, as is 2017’s commitment of regular city funding to them. That represents a loss to the entire community as well as to the artistic and cultural communities.

p. 3

CH-1.4, Community Awareness

The phrase ‘and access to’ has been removed from 2017’s SH 1.4 Accessibility (“communication with **and access to** public recreational, cultural, and educational facilities or programs”) as has “For those in need, reduced rates should be available via private sponsorship or public subsidy for one-time access or membership cards.” Renamed CH-1.4, Community Awareness, this policy now deals exclusively with communicating information to the public.

p. 5

CH-3.1, Support for the Arts

2017’s “Encourage public and private participation in and support of arts and cultural events” is narrowed to “public art.” This narrowing typifies a confusion between ‘art’ and ‘the arts’ that recurs in this section. The term ‘public art’ is understood to mean works of visual art such as murals, sculptures, etc., whereas “arts and cultural events” covers the broader spectrum enumerated in 2017’s discussion: “written, visual, musical, traditional, and performing arts.”

CH-3.3, Public Funding for the Arts

Explore and adopt funding mechanisms that can support local art, such as direct grants, while leveraging existing tools including but not limited to the dedicated percentage for the arts in public projects

comment: despite retaining “the Arts” in the title, what seems to be meant here is better referred to with “art” in the meaning of visual or sculptural art, which also seems to be the referent of “the arts in public projects...”

p. 12

Policies Removed from the Text

Policy: SH-3.4, One Percent for Arts

Encourage private developers to incorporate an arts presence into buildings and other permanent structures with a value of over \$25,000 by allocating one percent of their project’s budget for this purpose.

sidebar: SH-3.4 was removed because it is more appropriately addressed as an implementation strategy, not a policy.

comment: This policy should be retained as an indication of the City’s commitment.

Policy: SH-5.3, Space for Public Benefit Uses

Provide regulatory and tax incentives and flexibility that encourage builders, developers, and businesses to make space available in their project for public benefit uses.

sidebar: The sharing of facilities is captured in other policies.

comment: The sharing of facilities may be captured in other policies but not the overt call to builders, developers, and businesses. This policy should be restored to indicate their role in developing space for public benefit uses.

Policy: SH-6.6, Neighborhood Role

Encourage neighborhood residents to apply CTPED principles in their consideration of development issues within their own particular neighborhood.

sidebar: The topic of SH-6.6 is covered in Urban Design and Historic Preservation (e.g. people-oriented design) and Neighborhoods (e.g. safe mobility).

comment: This policy should be retained in this chapter because it specifically involves CTPED principles and it demonstrates an important way in which residents can become involved in their neighborhood and participate in addressing neighborhood issues.

Chapter 11 Neighborhoods

This draft contains three additional instances of “Neighborhood Council[s]” relative to the April draft.

- The Introduction on p. 2 adds a cross-reference to the description of the role of Neighborhood Councils in the Local Governance Through Civic Participation Chapter.
- “Neighborhood Councils” has been added to N 7-2 Neighborhood Planning on p. 6
- A cross-reference to the role of Neighborhood Councils in the Local Governance Through Civic Participation Chapter in the marginal notes on p. 6

p. 6

N-6.3 Maintenance of City-Owned Open Space and Amenities

Add “neighborhood councils”: “Coordinate and partner with neighborhood groups **including neighborhood councils** in the maintenance and operation of City property,

N-7 Neighborhood Planning

April: Coordinate and partner with Neighborhood Councils

May: Coordinate and partner with neighborhoods and Neighborhood Councils

comment: How can a city department partner with neighborhoods? ‘Neighborhoods’ is an amorphous term. It can partner with neighborhood institutions.

Chapter 12 Parks and Recreation

Comments: The greater attention to the preservation of the natural environment in much of the chapter is a welcome development. There are some concerns, however. Policy 2.3 Connecting the River and Adjacent Uses could easily come into conflict with the mandate to preserve the natural environment. A feature that will be important to the actualization of the policies in this chapter is the definition in the Growth Strategy chapter (pp. 9-10 in the current draft) that includes indoor, as well as outdoor, recreational facilities as “open space.”

p. 3

Policy: PR 2.3, Connecting the River and Adjacent Uses

“Study and develop ways to enhance the river by coordinating access and use of the waterways in Spokane with access to adjacent uses and opportunities, such as providing river access for both people and watercraft adjacent to shops and restaurants.”

Comment: Policy PR 2.3 is likely to give rise to two issues. Is “access” defined as public or private (e.g. a privately-owned marina or dock)? If private, will it be allowed to interfere with public forms of access, such as the Centennial Trail? There is likely to be conflict between 2.3 and Policy: PR-1.2, River Corridors, which mandates maintaining consistency with habitat preservation and protection standards. Any conflict between the application of these two policies must be resolved in favor of PR-1.2.

p. 8

Policies Removed from the Text:

PR-3.7, Outdoor Recreational Facilities

Provide facilities and programs that allow the public the opportunity to participate in a broad range of outdoor recreational activities, including expanding the hours and dates these locations are available where feasible.

sidebar: Policy PR-3.7 (originally PRS-5.6) being removed as it is redundant with Policy 1.2.

PR-1.2, River Corridors

Recognize, enhance, and preserve access to the Spokane River and various waterways for the recreational enjoyment and use of the public, recognizing the health, social, and cultural benefits access to the waters of Spokane provides, while maintaining consistency with habitat preservation and protection standards.

Comment: It is not clear in what way PR-3.7, Outdoor Recreational Facilities is redundant with the preservation of and access to river corridors.

PR-7.7, Public Participation

Ensure that decisions regarding the city’s park and open space system encourage the full participation of Spokane’s citizenry [residents].

Comment: This policy should be restored, as in every chapter, as a means of effectuating the Charter-mandated role of residents and Neighborhood Councils in the range of City decisions.

Chapter 13 Governance

p. 2

Introduction

2017’s statement of the “tremendous impacts” made by community members’ participation in local government has been excised. Why?

p. 3

General comment: The addition of details to the section on Neighborhood Councils and the addition of Goals LG-7 and LG-8 and policies are welcome.

Chapter 4 Transportation

The broad and deep differences between the 88-page 2017 version and the 17-page May 2026 version exclude a line-by-line comparison; therefore most comments focus on the 2026 version. Features of 2017's "Vision and Values" statement (p. 12) that do not appear in the present version are "Maintaining the ability to access quickly the outdoors from the city"; "Decreasing north-south congestion"; and "Developing convenient access to the downtown area, increasing parking, bus service, light rail, and satellite parking with shuttles, and improving the pedestrian environment."

The chapter in general shows a laudable shift of emphasis from personal vehicles to active and public transportation, emphasizing the benefits to safety and health and the reduction of climate-warming greenhouse gas emissions. It also shows a laudable emphasis on community, both in the life of the community as a central focus of transportation planning and in planners' seeking the community's preferences when developing plans.

A careful reading of this draft also brings up several general questions, including:

- 1) Although there is considerable emphasis on active and public transportation, this does not square with the EIS projection of less than one percent growth in that sector. Why the emphasis in this chapter if little growth is expected? What can be done to move the needle and increase use? Is it sufficient to think if you build it they will come?
- 2) There is little mention of outside entities such as STA with which the city must collaborate and cooperate to provide seamless regional transportation options for the residents of Spokane. What about cooperation with private entities such as Zip Cars?
- 3) The City's no minimum parking will move cars to parking on the streets; it is difficult to see how the desire for fewer parked cars on streets will be achieved although this is stated as a desired outcome.
- 4) Given the emphasis on active and public transportation, at present the City is creating new neighborhoods that are car dependent. This seems at cross-purposes.
- 5) More attention should be paid to worn out and crumbling infrastructure, including bridges, tunnels, etc., some of which will require cooperation and coordination with other public entities.
- 6) There is some consideration of vehicle miles traveled. However, there is no consideration of vehicles transitioning to hybrid and electric vehicles. Less emissions not because of less miles traveled necessarily but because of less gas and diesel burned. How does the transition affect how roads and street maintenance is funded? How will it affect climate change?

p. 2 in Introduction

Paragraph 3 below makes no mention of the expected growth in public and active transportation use within the next 20 years, which the Draft EIS estimates to be at most .03% (Draft EIS compare p. 386 with pp. 390, 393). How does extensive high frequency transit align with this extremely modest growth?

p. 2 sidebar refers to appendices. When will these appear?

p. 3 in Enhancing Safety and Public Health

the phrase “public, vetted” to be inserted before “objective criteria”

Spokane recognizes the importance of evaluating transportation projects using **public, vetted** objective criteria.

correct the grammar of the following phrase as suggested

disproportionately **impacting** the environmental and human health

p. 3 in TR-1.1 Traffic Calming

How are “safe speeds” defined

p. 4 in TR-1.2, Eliminate Serious and Fatal Injuries

insert indicated phrase

prioritization of safety as the primary factor in infrastructure design **and speed limits** to enable rapid implementation of safety improvements.

p. 4 TR-1.3, Maintain Safe Streets plans

make the several suggested changes

produce planning documents as needed and according **to** best practices, ensuring safe,

p. 4 TR-1.7, Law Enforcement & Emergency Management

Partner with law enforcement and foster new partnerships between **and among**

departments and agencies to bolster enforcement **of the laws, including speed limits**, that protect the

p. 5 **TR-2** Promoting **and Maintaining** a Sense of Place

Question concerning the first paragraph: How can these characteristics be maintained with the development that Plan Spokane prescribes?

p. 5 Goal TR-2.1

Promote **and maintain** a sense of community and identity through the provision of context- sensitive design features, recognizing the impact of these choices on the way people interact and experience their community, both while traveling within neighborhoods and while traveling between **and among** different parts of the city.

TR-2.1, Activation

Maintain and build (reverse the order) Build and maintain complete streets and public spaces in the right-of-way featuring unique design features and promoting economic vitality and a sense of place. **(with a focus on areas prioritized for urban mixed-use investment, such as Urban Hubs. Coordinate investments with anti- displacement strategies and affordable housing policies while focusing investments in previously marginalized or under-served areas of the city.) Delete the words in parentheses.) Instead: Avoid investments that would cause displacement.)**

p. 6 TR-2.2, Effective Community Engagement

Prioritize the input of **Neighborhood Councils**, community partners and leaders...

p. 6 TR-2.3, 2.4

Make TR-2.3 about Cultural Heritage and TR-2.4 about Natural Environment

TR-2.3, (Natural Environment and) **delete** Cultural Heritage

Preserve and enhance natural, community, and cultural assets in places where people live their daily lives to support a rich sense of place and identity. Evaluate the impact of transportation projects on natural and cultural community assets using **published** objective criteria **and with the same engagement describe in TR2.2.**

Policy: TR-2.4, Natural Environment

Preserve and enhance natural features and assets in places where people live their daily lives to support a safe and healthy environment. Promote healthy communities by providing a transportation system that protects and improves environmental quality. Improve livability by encouraging landscaping and natural features on transportation facilities in targeted areas to support the safety and health of the community. **Maintain the ability to access quickly the outdoors beyond the urban area.**

p. 6

In Providing Transportation Choices

insert indicated word

However, travel behavior and mode choice are determined by a broader set of factors.

p. 7 in TR-3.1

make the indicated substitution [there is no Complete Streets Ordinance]

in line with **complete streets standards**,

p. 7 in TR-3.3

make the indicated changes

Develop and apply guidelines (**delete standards**) in alignment with the **complete streets standards**

Standardize design (**delete final -s of designs**) details

p. 8 in Accommodating Access to Daily Needs

make indicated changes

Creating prosperous and walkable neighborhoods with opportunities for people to meet and connect requires thinking **that streets are also** places for people. **Question: How does this statement square with the “no minimum” parking policy that means that more and more vehicles will be parked on the streets.**

p. 8

the following is a sentence fragment, needs completion:

When land uses are planned in a way that reduces the distance between daily needs,

p. 9

Setting Transportation Level of Service (no hyphens)

in text on first instance: Level of Service (LOS)

p. 9 TR-5.2

make the indicated changes

Establish and maintain level of service standards for clearance of **the transportation system** throughout **the** four seasons.

p. 10

spell out the following acronym:

HSS

p. 10 in Promoting Economic Opportunity

Public right of way (**no hyphens**)

a pleasant environment for people to spend time **in** increase

p. 11 TR-6.2

designated for **more intense** growth.

p. 11 TR 6.4

right of way (**no hyphens**)

p. 12

The City recognizes that street repair requires **continual** investment

p. 13 **TR-9, Achieve Climate Goals** Specifics must be added here, given that the Draft EIS envisions a total increase of only .03% in active and public transportation, nowhere near enough to begin to achieve climate goals.

p. 14 TR-9.5, Parking Management Develop and administer vehicle parking policies that reduce excess parking that deters non-motorized transportation users. **City parking policies are consistent with state parking requirements.**

p. 16 **TR-11.3 Infrastructure Design** Spell out the following acronyms: MUTCD, NAACTO, AASHTO

p. 17 (and p. 6 for TR 2.3) sidebar says that former TR Goal E

Respect Natural and Community Assets

Protect natural, community, and neighborhood assets to create and connect places where people live their daily lives in a safe and healthy environment.

has been removed because redundant with information in policies TR 1.8 and 2.3 but this draft has no policy TR 1.8. Moreover, TR 2.3 should have restored to it the 2017 vital phrase “to create and connect places.” Finally, TR 2.3 does not define the “objective criteria” that will be used to evaluate the impact of transportation projects on natural and community assets, which have many intangible benefits.

CRSB Community Assembly Liaison Report — June 11, 2026

Spokane Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board | Hybrid Meeting | 2:00-5 PM

Santiago Rodriguez-Anderson

CRSB Community Assembly Liaison

srodriguezanderson@spokanecity.org

Briefing Session

- **Chair Report – Brian Henning**

On June 22, the City Council agenda will include the Renter’s Right to Cooling Ordinance for first reading; the ordinance has been amended since CRSB last reviewed it.

- **Secretary Report – Maren Murphy**

Maren Murphy filled in as secretary for Jon Snyder and confirmed that the July CRSB meeting is canceled.

Nicole White provided a brief update on low-income assistance and rebate programs for weatherization and cooling: Washington State University’s Community Energy Efficiency Program is not currently accepting applications; SNAP is no longer participating in that program; and awards under the Department of Commerce Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate Program have not yet been announced.

The Tree Preservation Ordinance has been delayed until August, and board member Hala Zahalqa has resigned; appointments are in progress to fill the vacancy.

Workshop Items

1. Water Efficiency and Green Grass Done Right

Presenters: Water Wise Spokane staff / Parks & Facilities staff

Staff provided an overview of Spokane’s water efficiency work, with a focus on irrigation as one of the city’s largest conservation opportunities. The program emphasizes “watering correctly” rather than scarcity, through every-other-day watering, avoiding irrigation between 10 AM and 6 PM, and tuning systems so water reaches the root zone instead of being lost to evaporation or deep percolation.

Using local evapotranspiration data, irrigated area, plant type, and an assumed 70% system efficiency, staff develop “water budgets” that are compared with actual water use. Many Spokane properties currently use roughly three to four times the water required for healthy

landscapes; program goals are to move sites toward approximately 130% of budget (need plus a modest buffer).

Case studies from city parks, commercial properties, and fire stations highlighted savings from fixing controller programming, repairing mechanical issues on water-cooled equipment, and addressing distribution problems (clogged nozzles, tilted heads, blocked spray). Spokane Parks and city golf courses were noted as top performers in regional benchmarking, and fire stations are being used as “Green Grass Done Right” demonstration sites with smart controllers and ordinance-compliant schedules.

2. East Central Participatory Budgeting / Decarbonization

Presenters: Jerrell Haynes / Sarah Nuss

The City received Washington Department of Commerce funding to pilot a decarbonization-focused participatory budgeting process, centered on East Central residents, workers, and students. Through this process, community members will propose and vote on projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support local climate resilience, while City staff provide administrative support and ensure alignment with state criteria.

Potential projects include building retrofits and electrification, urban forestry and canopy expansion, and investments that strengthen resilience hubs and climate-ready community facilities. Two limited-term staff positions are being hired to manage outreach, a steering committee, proposal development, and a spring 2027 community vote before final project packages are submitted to Commerce and considered by the Legislature for funding.

3. Inclement Weather Response, Cooling / Cleaner Air Spaces, and Resilience Hubs

Presenters: Emergency Management / Office of Civil Rights, Equity & Inclusion staff

Staff briefed the Board on Spokane’s current approach to extreme heat, smoke, and cold events, including code-based activation thresholds for cooling spaces, warming spaces, and safer air centers. Examples included 2021 cooling operations at Riverfront Park facilities, a 2020 convention-center safer air center that cost approximately \$42,000 over six days, and 2024 use of extended library hours and free pool access funded by a one-time state grant.

4. Plan Spokane 2046 – Climate and Environmental Justice Integration

Presenters: Planning Services staff

Planning staff reported that updated Plan Spokane 2046 chapter drafts are posted online, with climate and resilience policies integrated across the plan instead of in a stand-alone chapter. Many CRSB-recommended climate policies have been incorporated, and an environmental justice review led to revisions intended to reduce disproportionate burdens and strengthen

implementation guidance on anti-displacement, infrastructure investment, and inclusive engagement.

Board members raised questions about readability, the renaming of the “Land Use” chapter to “Growth Strategy,” and how the public will navigate multiple detailed chapters. Staff indicated that more user-friendly materials, including maps, graphics, and potentially interactive tools, are planned ahead of final adoption by the end of 2026.

5. Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) Review and SAPW Update

Presenters: Jon Snyder / Nicole White / SAP Workgroup

Staff and SAP Workgroup members provided an update on the SAP 5-Year Review and progress tracking. A large internal spreadsheet is being used to track completion status for hundreds of actions, but Board members noted that the tool is difficult to read and suggested developing a more accessible public-facing scorecard or dashboard.

The Board generally favored treating the SAP as a living document that highlights completed actions, identifies gaps, and informs implementation work such as Build Spokane and pilot efforts on biochar applications and community food scrap drop-off.

6. State Legislative Agenda Discussion

Presenter: Jon Snyder

The Board revisited potential recommendations for the City of Spokane’s 2027 State Legislative Agenda, building on prior April and May discussions. A draft resolution and emphasis areas were reviewed, covering topics such as active transportation and sidewalk investments, climate resilience and inclement-weather response, clean energy upgrades for city facilities, and support for East Central decarbonization projects.

Rather than voting immediately, the Board indicated a preference to bring back a revised resolution for action at the August meeting, still within Council’s legislative agenda timeline. *(See following 2 pages).*

CA Liaison is soliciting feedback from the CA. If there is any, please e-mail srodriguezanderson@spokanecity.org

Adjournment

Next regularly scheduled CRSB meeting: Thursday, August 13, 2026 (July meeting canceled).

CLIMATE RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY BOARD RECOMMENDATION
NO. 2026-003

A Resolution adopting the City of Spokane's Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board (CRSB) legislative emphasis areas for the coming 2027 state legislative session.

WHEREAS, Spokane Municipal Code section 02.03.030 provides that the “legislative agenda to be advocated for by the City of Spokane at the state or federal level shall be adopted, and may be amended by resolution of the City Council, after consultation with the Mayor, as the official legislative agenda of the City of Spokane”; and

WHEREAS, Spokane Municipal Code section 04.41.010 provides that “the purpose of the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board is to provide advice and recommendations to the Mayor, City Council, and community on the actions necessary to achieve the community’s sustainability and climate goals consistent with the City’s Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Action Plan, environmental stewardship policies of the City as adopted by the City Council, and within the requirements and parameters set forth in state law”; and

WHEREAS, the CRSB has identified a list of legislative emphasis areas for the coming session of the Washington Legislature to advance climate action identified in the attached exhibit; and

WHEREAS, the CRSB requests the Spokane City Council consider inclusion of the items identified in the attached exhibit in its 2027 legislative agenda or pursue opportunities to advocate for them during the legislative session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Spokane City CRSB hereby adopts its CRSB 2027 State Legislative Emphasis Areas, as specified in Exhibit A to this Resolution.

ADOPTED by the City of Spokane CRSB this _____day of __, 2026.

Brian Henning, Chair

Exhibit A

City of Spokane

Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board

2027 State Legislative

Emphasis Areas

Heat Pumps and Weatherization

Support state funding for the installation of heat pumps, weatherization improvements, and energy-efficiency measures that help underserved communities reduce costs and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Sidewalk Funding and Infrastructure

Support the creation of a sidewalk utility program or other sustainable funding mechanisms for sidewalk construction, maintenance and improvements to the pedestrian environment that make walking a safer, more accessible and viable alternative to vehicle trips.

Microgrids and Community Solar

Support increased access to microgrids and community solar projects through enhanced state support, reduced regulatory barriers and expanded funding opportunities.

Plug-in Solar

Support policies and incentives that expand access to plug-in solar technologies and distributed renewable energy systems.

Clean Energy Economy and Workforce Development

Support investments in clean energy industries, workforce training, and job development opportunities that strengthen the clean energy economy.

Construction Funding for Key Clean Energy Upgrades for City Buildings

Support capital funding for the City of Spokane to assist with compliance under the Washington Clean Buildings Performance Standard and to advance municipal clean energy projects, including improvements at City Hall and Northeast Community Center.



COMMITTEE REPORT

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY COMMITTEE

July 9, 2026

Please see the following approved minutes from the March and June Neighborhood Safety Committee (NSC) meetings. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 22 at 6pm. The location is not yet determined.

Also following are the draft policies and procedures for the committee. Note that this document includes both the old text (approved in February, 2026) and the new, proposed text. Please let Elizabeth know of any questions you have. This proposed text has been reviewed and approved by the NSC.

Over the past several months, the NSC has responded to a wide range of inquiries and requests for assistance. Please continue to share your concerns and ideas – we always enjoy hearing from you.

Thank you.

Elizabeth



NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Saturday, March 28, 2026 – 1:45 to 3pm
Liberty Park Library

Attendees: Elizabeth Goldsmith – Chair – Comstock
Sandy Wicht – Secretary – Comstock
Debra Howard – Manito/Cannon Hill
Kathy Hagy – West Hills
Sue Arnesen – West Hills
Carol Tomsic – Lincoln Heights
Jake Walters – Cliff/Cannon

Elizabeth called the meeting to order at 1:45pm.

Elizabeth shared opening comments about her vision for the committee and reviewed the items that will be discussed in this meeting: future speaker ballot for the upcoming Community Assembly (CA) meeting, the goals for the committee and the P&P document revision.

Tyler, past Chair of the committee, and the body as a whole was thanked for their commitment to public safety and their investment of time. Moving forward, the committee has a blank slate, and an opportunity to emerge as a leader within the community. There is a great deal of support for the work this group will be undertaking.

The group was asked if they had any opening comments or concerns to share. A memo of concern previously shared with the county commissioners regarding Indian Canyon Drive was shared with the Chair. The group then discussed the speaker ballot for the CA. Everyone agreed that the format was acceptable and shared their speaker preferences. The ballot will be shared at the April CA meeting, and the results will be subsequently tabulated and shared with the safety committee. The results will then be shared with the CA to obtain feedback, with scheduling to follow.

The discussion then shifted to the committee's goals for the year. Recognizing that every neighborhood is unique and has different needs, it is important that the goals of this committee

be such that they will benefit all or the vast majority of the city/county. Suggested topics included revitalizing the Neighborhood Watch program, arson, juvenile crime, retail crime, sidewalks and speeding/street racing.

The group was reminded that as ideas or suggestions come up for goals, or any topic related to the work of the committee, please share them with Elizabeth and/or Sandy. There is no topic that is off limits, and the committee will always offer a forum to share ideas and concerns.

After the goals discussion, the group spent the remainder of the meeting discussing the Policy and Procedures (P&P) document updates. Suggested revisions are represented in the revised draft attached separately.

At the end of the meeting, the group was reminded that we will be voting on approval of the minutes remotely/by email as we will not be meeting again in person until later in the summer.

In conclusion, a future topic of how we will communicate with the CA, neighborhood councils and anyone interested in our work. A newsletter that can also be part of the CA meeting agenda packets may be an option.

The next meeting date, time and location will be announced in the coming weeks. Elizabeth will take the lead on proposing dates. Weekend morning meetings were suggested.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.



NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Saturday, June 27, 2026 – 10am – 11:15am
Liberty Park Library

Attendees: Elizabeth Goldsmith – Chair – Comstock
Sandy Wicht – Secretary – Comstock
Debra Howard – Manito/Cannon Hill

Elizabeth called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Elizabeth shared opening comments related to the goals of the meeting, which were to finalize the draft version of the policy and procedure document and generally, to agree on the goals/theme of the committee.

It was requested that for all meeting documents, that acronyms be written out fully and then abbreviated thereafter. The group agreed.

Elizabeth shared a series of important updates with the group on the following topics:

Indian Canyon Road Follow Up

Sheriff's Citizen's Advisory Board (CAB)

<https://www.spokanecounty.gov/1472/Citizens-Advisory-Review-Board>

National Night Out Events

Staffing Updates

C36883 – Street Racing Ordinance

EBikes/EMotos – June 11th

SREC to SUN Migration

Traffic Unit

Traffic Concerns Reporting Checklist – email Elizabeth if you would like an e-copy

Real Time Crime Lab – ALPR

Avista Requests

<https://www.myavista.com/about-us/construction-services/streetlights-and-yard-lights>

Cameras in County Parks

After Action Report – Latah Valley Evacuation Drill

<https://my.spokanecity.org/emergencymanagement/>

Fire Department – Latah Valley

Fire Signs – Bluff/Other Locations

Fire Preparedness Information (see above emergency management link)

Ballot Results – Speaker at CA

Elizabeth will follow up on the status of SPD's review of machine issued citations and the review process.

The policies and procedures document was reviewed and includes minor changes from the prior version:

- Mission and purpose statement shortened

- Participation/voting requirements – discussed and confirmed

- Officer clarification – leaving at 2 for now

- Meeting frequency/dates – minimum of 3 meetings per year (Spring, Summer Fall) – days and times to be varied.

Elizabeth was asked to confirm the policy and procedure document submission and approval process.

The group discussed the committee's goals and theme. Several topics were discussed and the group agreed that pedestrian safety (sidewalks, crossing guards, speed humps) and increased communication (newsletters, emails, print, social) would be the primary themes/goals.

A question was asked about what the specific process is for a resolution that is created by the safety committee. Elizabeth will research. The group agreed that our efforts and therefore, our goals, need to be for things that are actionable, measurable and achievable.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15am.

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 22nd at 6pm. Location TBD.



NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY COMMITTEE
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
JUNE, 2026 – DRAFT FOR REVIEW

NOTE: The OLD text is from the current P&P document approved in February, 2026. The NEW text is from June, 2026 and has been approved by the Neighborhood Safety Committee for the Community Assembly's consideration.

OLD:

Mission / Purpose Statement: *The Community Assembly Neighborhood Safety Committee will research issues involving neighborhood safety as directed by the Community Assembly and requested by city departments or committee members, and provide recommendations and resources on these issues to the Community Assembly, the neighborhood councils and the community.*

NEW:

Mission and Purpose

The purpose of the Community Assembly's Neighborhood Safety Committee (NSC) is to be a reliable resource for information and education on matters related to public safety.

Through collective action, the NSC's overarching objective is to have a positive impact on the community by connecting residents to resources and providing accurate, prompt and thorough information both proactively and reactively.

OLD:

Membership: *Committee participation is open to members of neighborhood councils in good standing with the Community Assembly, as well as interested community residents, property owners, and representatives of government agencies, businesses, and private organizations.*

Meeting attendance will be taken in meeting records and the names of individuals attending committee meetings will be recorded according to their city neighborhood council area and listed as either self-identified neighborhood council representative or alternate, or other.

NEW:

Participation

Participation in the NSC is open any member of the public.

OLD:

Voting and Quorum: *A minimum representation from three separate neighborhood councils will constitute a quorum for voting purposes.*

A quorum being present, the text for an official committee action, position statement or recommendation to the Community Assembly will be formulated and agreed to by a majority of all those attending a meeting before the chair proceeds to a vote.

Once the text for an action, statement or recommendation to the Community Assembly is determined, it is then put to a vote of those individuals in attendance who are neighborhood council members. A majority vote passes the recommendation; a tie vote fails. The number of yeas and nays will be included with the text that is passed.

NEW:

Attendance, Voting and Quorum

Meeting attendance will be taken and recorded in the meeting minutes. First and last name, neighborhood, and any relevant role within the City or County will be noted.

There is no minimum requirement for attendance at a prior meeting to cast an official vote. For the purposes of official voting, a quorum is required, which is defined as representation from three different neighborhoods within the City of Spokane.

In person attendance is not required to cast an official vote. Official votes may be communicated with the Chair directly by phone or email. Proxy votes will not be accepted.

A simple majority vote passes, a tie vote fails. The number of yeas and nays will be recorded in the minutes and with the text in question.

OLD:

Officers and Terms: *The committee may have up to two officers in addition to an elected Chair: Vice-Chair and Secretary. Elections will be in October for a term of one year beginning at the end of the meeting at which the election is held.*

NEW:

Officers and Terms

The NSC may have multiple officers as needed beyond the minimum requirement of two (Chair and Secretary or Vice Chair). Elections will be held in October, with a term of one year, or at a date as determined by the Chair based on the needs of the committee.

OLD:

Meeting Schedule: *The committee meets the last Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise notified. Additional meetings may be called as necessary.*

NEW:

Meeting Schedule

The NSC will meet a minimum of 3 times per year in person, and more frequently as needed in a remote, individual, in person, or small group setting. The NSC meetings may be conducted as part of another larger meeting or event.

OLD:

Reports: *The committee's chair will report once per quarter, or more often, to the Community Assembly.*

NEW:

Reports

The Chair or designee will report to the Community Assembly in writing (as part of the agenda packet or in email form), or verbally, approximately once per quarter, or more often as needed or requested.

2026 CE Grant Status					
<i>Neighborhood/Committee</i>	<i>Grant Approval</i>	<i>Requests</i>	<i>Amt. Requested</i>	<i>Amt. Spent</i>	<i>Reimbursed</i>
<i>Audubon/Downriver</i>	X	Marketing	825		
<i>Bemiss</i>	X	Band fees, Marketing, Food	850		
<i>Browne's Addition</i>	X	Band fees	850		
<i>CA Admin Committee</i>	X	Food	300		
<i>CA Building Stronger Neighborhoods</i>	X	NUSA Registrations	250	250	
<i>Chief Garry Park</i>	X	Marketing, Food, Zoom	850		
<i>Cliff Cannon</i>	X	Marketing, Food	850		
<i>Comstock</i>	X	Marketing, Food	850		
<i>East Central</i>	X	Marketing, Food, Zoom, Event Supplies	850		
<i>Emerson/Garfield</i>	X	Band fees, Zoom	850		
<i>Grandview Thorpe</i>	Pending Clarification	Marketing, Food, Space Rental	850		
<i>Hillyard</i>	X	Banners, Marketing, Food	850		
<i>Latah Hangman</i>	X	Marketing, Food, Space Rental	850		
<i>Lincoln Heights</i>	X	Marketing, Food, Zoom, Event Supplies	710		
<i>Manito Cannon Hill</i>	X	Banners	850	822.64	
<i>Minnehaha</i>	X	Food, Event Supplies	850		
<i>North Hill</i>	X	Band fees, Marketing, Food	850		
<i>North Indian Trail</i>	X	Band fees	850		
<i>Northwest</i>	X	Marketing, Zoom	850		
<i>Peaceful Valley</i>	X	Marketing, Entertainment, Food, Zoom, Event Supplies	850		
<i>Riverside</i>	X	Mailables, Marketing, Food	850		
<i>Rockwood</i>	X	Band fees, Marketing, Food	850		
<i>Shiloh Hills</i>	X	Marketing, Food, Zoom	850		
<i>Southgate</i>	Pending Clarification	Food, Tabling fee, Zoom	375		
<i>West Central</i>	X	Marketing, Food, Zoom, Event Supplies	850		
<i>West Hills</i>	X	Marketing, Food, Movie, Event Supplies, Space Rental	850		
<i>Balboa/South Indian Trail</i>	Inactive				
<i>Five Mile Prairie</i>	Not applying				
<i>Logan</i>	Not applying				

<i>Nevada Heights</i>	Not Applying				
<i>Whitman</i>	Not applying				
<i>CA Budget Committee</i>		\$600 for 2 canopies, asking for \$800 for speakers and games			
			20310	1072.64	
		Remaining (Unrequested & Unspent)	4690	23927.36	

Guide for color coding:
App approved
Rolling requests throughout Program Year
Not applying



COMMITTEE REPORT

ADMIN COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: 6/30/26 Meeting called to order by: Luke Tolley

IN ATTENDANCE: Luke Tolley, Cliff Winger, Lorna Walsh, Laura Johnson, Krista Anderson; non-committee members Paul Kropp, Elizabeth Goldsmith, and Fran Papenleur; Heather Hamlin represented the Office of Neighborhood Services

Prior minutes: No vote to approval, no formal minutes distro'd

June agenda setup, CA General Meeting

1. June follow-up
 - a. FLUM letter to Planning – waiting on response to June letter
 - b. TIF committee – Terry Deno volunteered, District 3
2. Continued items
 - a. Workgroup reps: D1 alt, D3 primary
 - b. Guest items, big things:
 - i. STA Prop 1 – Carly Cortright – chosen for July due to time-sensitive nature of topic & dissemination of information ahead of voting
 - ii. Code enforcement – Luis Garcia – deferred
 - iii. City of Spokane Solid Waste – Jill Reeves – deferred
 - iv. DSP – Emily Cameron, upcoming events – deferred
3. Committee & Liaison Reports for July general meeting
 - a. Admin – as needed
 - b. Safety – P&P Draft, clarification of roles of different LEOs, survey results, scheduling – 10 mins
 - c. Budget
 - d. Communications
 - e. BSN
 - f. Land Use
 - g. Liaison
4. New items for CA General – none
5. Agenda approved as drafted with new stretch break built in

Admin Committee Business

1. Old business
 - a. MOU: Discussion on status, any actions, clarification of understanding
 - b. Prior MOU: still in force? No official response from city legal yet. Where is it available to read?
 - c. Spokane Municipal Code - Section 04.27.040 A.2
 - i. Discussion on flexibility, what relationship between CA, CC, ONS, and general City of Spokane entities looks like
 - ii. Current good working relationship highly valued
2. New business- None

Meeting adjourned 5:30 pm



COMMITTEE REPORT

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: 06/29/2026

Meeting called to order by: Laura Johnson

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

Meeting called to order at 6:16PM. Quorum noted.

CE Grant Reviews. We approved by unanimous or majority voting the applications from 12 neighborhoods without confirmation or revision required, although minor discrepancies were noted:

West Central, Chief Garry Park, North Hill, Peaceful Valley, Audubon-Downriver, Latah-Hangman, East Central, Browne's Addition, Emerson-Garfield, Lincoln Heights, Minnehaha and West Hills.

The Southgate application was tentatively approved, pending revision in the grant to split up the requests into three different line items, and to make the minutes more cohesive.

The Grandview-Thorpe application was approved pending date correction via email or phone call with Gabby.

One neighborhood's application was approved after a long discussion about the purchase of generic promotional or event items that could be considered "equipment", and whether it should be put in the Resource Closet and made available to all. The Committee was worried that the rules which barred the purchase of "equipment" might be broken here. The Committee was **told** that such individually requested items could in fact be purchased by a specific neighborhood for their exclusive use and were not required to be placed in the closet. After this discussion we realized that there would be a need to relook at the Grant/Resource closet rules in a future meeting with the goal of making it easier for the neighborhoods to get the grants filled out and use the funds for events to help promote their neighborhood councils.

We observed that a few neighborhoods did not ask for enough money to renew the Zoom Pro license which we noted to be \$190; however their applications either were for less than \$850 total or had flexible provisions in other line items to allow purchase of the license at a slightly higher price.

Depending on the final application from Southgate, the *approximate* unspent/unrequested balance of the \$25,000 CA total allocation was approximately \$4690. We noted that five neighborhoods were either dark or did not apply for CE grants this year. Gabby was prepared to put a preliminary summary of the neighborhood requests into the July CA meeting packet.

We noted that two canopies were damaged from and need to be replaced – we authorized replacement of them for a total not to exceed \$600 with equipment that was more robust. We did this without approval from the CA because they are replacement canopies that the CA had already approved money spent for.

Laura is preparing to speak at the July CA meeting to present a request for seven more games and two portable Bluetooth speakers as suggested by Gabby. (We have found that the Resource Closet is a robust working system that everyone wants to use which leads to not enough items in it at times hence the need for more) with the total not to exceed \$800 -- these items were unanimously approved by the Committee at this meeting. She also planned to ask the CA members for their recommendations. The Committee further noted that \$600 for the November Neighborhood Summit and \$750 for Good Neighbor Awards were priorities for the unspent money. The committee suggested the possibility of printing more Zines to give out at community events and extending the term of the contract for the storage closet also to be good examples of what the unspent money could be used for.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

- **Draft submitted by Andy Hoyer**



COMMITTEE REPORT

BUILDING STRONGER NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: 6/13/2026, 9am, The Hive

Meeting called to order by: Tina Luerssen

IN ATTENDANCE:

Tina Luerssen (Grandview-Thorpe), Fran Papenleur (Audubon-Downriver), Luke Tolley (Bemiss), Laura Johnson (Hillyard), Jeff Braunschweig (Hillyard), Charles Hansen (Whitman), Staff: Amber Groe

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES VOTE:

Motion to approve meeting minutes, made by Laura Johnson. Motion carries, 7- Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstain

MINUTES:

1. Happy Pride!
2. Welcome/Introductions and Committee Business:
 - a. Approve April Minutes - Approved
 - b. SNLA Graduation Recap -
 - i. There was some feedback that some folks didn't feel welcome because it didn't feel like their kids were welcome. They were shushed multiple times, though others in this meeting who attended said the children were not disruptive or loud.
 - ii. The food was very good.
 - iii. The projects were very good, though only one has applied for the grant.
 - iv. Molly from Grandview-Thorpe had some minor technical difficulties.
 - v. Amber envisions potentially highlighting some of the projects and other tools that are very helpful.
 - vi. Some of the presenters could have used a dress rehearsal to get feedback about the most effective way to present.
 - c. NUSA Recap - Those that attended NUSA were rather disappointed with the presentations.
 - i. The recordings are available: Day 1 (<https://bit.ly/NUSA26Day1>) & Day 2 (<https://bit.ly/NUSA26Day2>)
 - ii. Here's the [conference presentation information](https://monroeballard.com/nusa/run-of-show.html) (<https://monroeballard.com/nusa/run-of-show.html>) to check out what you might want to watch.
 - iii. Laura gave a good run down of what was valuable and what wasn't. The room at the Catalyst Building was really amazing.
 - iv. Amber shared that Bellevue and Boise both have really cool city neighborhood conferences that we could potentially try to attend - as a part of larger discussion on how the money for professional development for neighborhoods could be used strategically.



3. Spokane Neighborhood Summit

- a. Confirmed Sat. Nov 7th at GU Hemmingson Center.
- b. Call for Workshops - We need all hands on deck to recruit workshop presenters. The deadline is July 26th. We have one so far about the Waste Ambassadors program. Amber also encouraged CM Dixit to do another Civics 101 presentation because it was really good.
- c. The big change from last year is timing. Last year we had 90 minute workshops and 45 minute workshops. This year it will only be 45 and 60 minutes. It will also start at 9am and go until 3:30pm. Those changes are directly from suggestions from the feedback forms.
- d. PLEASE HELP RECRUIT WORKSHOP PREPOSALS -
<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/neighborhoods/programs/summit/2026/2026-spokane-neighborhood-summit-call-for-proposals.pdf>
- e. Ideas for proposals:
 - i. NSC update
 - ii. Reach out to our liaisons and see if they might have
 - iii. More traffic calming discussions

4. CA Handbook Review

- a. Identified changes needed:
 - i. Neighborhoods Workgroup should be added in to how we fit into City government.
 - ii. Pg 15 - the Retreat Committee no longer exists and hasn't been used in years. Remove.
 - iii. Update Liaisons list
 - iv. CA P&P shouldn't be printed in the handbook, it should be a link so it can be updated without updating the handbook. BSN will look as a committee at the P&P for potential changes we might suggest.
 - v. Need to update acronyms.
 - vi. Add:
 - 1. Spokane Neighborhood Summit
 - 2. Spokane Neighborhood Leadership Academy
 - 3. Process for Resolution
 - 4. Community Engagement
 - 5. Inventory Closet
 - vii. Future discussion: BSN Toolkit

5. Neighborhood Updates:

- a. North Hill - new town house projected near the Milk Bottle. Homes will be removed and more dense housing will be put in. They were not notified. They found out from a newspaper announcement.
- b. Audubon-Downriver - The neighborhoods hired an ecological firm hired to study wetlands, endangered species, etc. at the long running challenge area in their neighborhood where developers want to build. The City countered with their studies that were not the same.
- c. Whitman - crosswalk art design at Pittsburg and Wellesley was picked. Rogers High School students submitted art and the neighborhood picked.
- d. Grandview-Thorpe - had their quarterly meeting this week with 20 neighbors, CM Dillon and an SPD rep. They are planning a block party in September and hope to use the attendees to

crowdsource the voting on elements of a neighborhood logo that they then hope to produce decals.

- e. West Central - Fran reported on last week's Neighbor Days. The event was very successful.
- f. Bemiss - Music Under the Oaks is 7/17 and 7/24 at Hays Park.
- g. Hillyard - Spokane in Bloom Garden Tour this weekend. The Hillyard Pool is having a pool party next month. The Hillyard Creative District is still hosting Third Thursday and other promotions and events. Info at hillyardspokane.org. August 8th will be the 28th Annual ChalkArtWalk in the streets of Downtown Hillyard. It's a fun, free, family friendly sidewalk chalk event. The Hillyard Hi-Jinks Parade will be the first Sat in Aug and they're starting to take parade entry applications. Find them on Facebook.
- h. Fran is going to join the Board at the Parks Foundation.

6. July Meeting

- a. Next Regular BSN meeting 7/18/26 at The Hive/Zoom

7. Adjourn

2026 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: 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 CA Liaison Committee Meeting Notes – June 9, 2026

Location: South Hill Library and Zoom

Present: Paul Kropp, Chair, Southgate; Andy Hoyer, Recorder, Southgate; Bonnie McInnis, West Central; Angell Trout, Shilo Hills; Heather Hamlin, ONS; Santiago Rodriguez-Anderson, Liaison to the Spokane Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board, guest; Lorna Walsh, Riverside, absent-excused

We noted that a quorum was present. We noted that the meeting Agenda as presented was satisfactory.

We approved the draft notes as edited as the minutes of record for the May 2026 meeting.

Santiago felt that the business community was not well-represented at the CRSB, and that a diversity of opinion was not present. We noted that the CRSB had members on the chapter review committee for the 2026 draft comprehensive plan Land Use chapter. Recent meeting notes from the CRSB were present in the recent CA packet. The CRSB had discussed the Comprehensive Plan revision in terms of sustainability and greenhouse gas reduction and the draft EIS. The Sustainability Action Plan was being reviewed for eventual update. We noted that there is a state-required five-year “check-in” for the effectiveness of the 2026 changes to the Comprehensive Plan. We encouraged Santiago to use his best judgment regarding the two-way responsibility for communication to and from the Board to the CA/neighborhoods and thanked him for his attention and work so far.

We noted that liaison attendance at the various Boards and Committees for the last month was 100%. We hoped that Linda Carroll would introduce Fernando Diaz at the Plan Commission meeting. He has been selected by the CA as the Liaison to the Design Review Subcommittee of the Plan Commission. We noted that the mission and plans for the activity of this subcommittee was still being put together, although traditional focus has been for design and appearance of publicly funded and downtown development projects.

We noted that there was no review of the liaisons’ CA-packet-report submissions for this meeting.

We noted that Angell will chat with Paul regarding the final edits to the Liaison Committee “brochure.”

We discussed the disappointment we had with the lack of transparency and timeliness of the Agendas and Minutes from the CHHS Board.

We decided to promote and “advertise” the vacancy for position #2 on the UF-CAC at a future CA meeting.

The August meeting of the Liaison Committee may be cancelled, pending further discussion by the members.

Draft notes submitted by Andy Hoyer
Edited by Paul Kropp

MINUTES

Pedestrian, Traffic and Transportation (PeTT) Committee

Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at 6 p.m.

Location: Online via Zoom*

Chair: Carol Tomsic, (509) 535-3424, carol_tomsic@yahoo.com

Staff Liaison: Heather Hamlin, Office of Neighborhood Services, neigh.svcs@spokanecity.org

6:00 – 6:05 p.m.

Introductions

Attendees Include: Cliff Winger/Shiloh Hills, Charles Hansen/Whitman, Gene Brake/Emerson Garfield, David Eagle/Chief Garry Park, Deb Greel/West Hills, Carol Tomsic/Lincoln Heights, Jeff Mergler/Comstock, Carly Hoffman/?, Anna Vamvakias/Chief Garry Park, Drew Redman/STA, Annie Deasy/City, Colin Quinhurst/City, Ryan Jerman/Browne's Addition, Paul Kropp/Southgate, Heather Hamlin/City.

6:05 – 6:35 p.m.

Colin Quinn-Hurst – Principal Planner

Transportation Chapter draft now available [here](#). While reviewing the draft, check the notes on the far right to see what has changed since the last Comp plan. There are new icons throughout (exclamations points are revisions!)



Maple Street Bridge is opening up! Join City on Thursday from 4-6pm to celebrate- it's a car free route for that time frame.

Though growth is forecasted throughout County, many will work within City of Spokane- this puts emphasis on other strategies to reduce vehicle miles traveled (paying people to carpool, distributing bus passes, etc).

New draft goals include: TR-1 Enhance Safety and Public Health, TR-2 Promote a Sense of Place, TR-3 Provide Transportation Choices for All Users, TR-4 Accommodate Access to Daily Needs and Destinations, TR-5 Managing Transportation Level-Of-Service, TR-6 Promote Economic Opportunity, TR-7 Maximize Public Benefits with Integration, TR-8 Ensure Sustainable Funding for Operations and Maintenance, TR-9 Achieve Climate Goals, TR-10 Enhancing Resiliency in the Transportation Network, TR-11 Achieve Context Sensitive Design

6:35 – 6:55 p.m.

Annie Deasy – Construction Relations Manager

Find the city's obstruction notices are listed each week at the top of the site here: [Street Notices and Closures - City of Spokane, Washington](#). New info is in red!

Regional partners (WADOT, County, City, Spokane Valley, etc) are all sharing projects here. This is a great new tool: [Spokane Region Travel Information Map](#). It's real time with road work, detours, live camera feeds and more. Note: if it's a very quick project it may not be added here.

6:55 – 7:15 p.m.

TBD- TABLED FOR ANOTHER MONTH

LID—Local Improvement District

7:15 – 7:30 p.m.

Agency Updates

Drew Redmon – STA

Follow STA Alerts here in case there are impacts to your commute:

<https://www.spokanetransit.com/alerts/>

This weekend there are Hoopfest Shuttles available for \$2 to ride any route all day. Operates under the Jefferson lot on I-90. City Line connections at the University District are also available.

Team Egypt and the Fan Zone has brought in visitors to the area as they celebrate FIFA. Increased to City Line route every 10 minutes (including Saturday) Route 7 increased to every 30 minutes on night and weekends.

This Fall, there's a pilot program like Uber. Can reserve a ride. It's called STA Link and operating in areas on Latah Valley and North Spokane Valley before expanding to other regions as well.

Cliff Winger – Transportation Commission

City of Spokane installed new High Visibility Crosswalks on major arterials. Learn more here: [High Visibility Crosswalks - City of Spokane, Washington](#).

ReFive is the 5th Ave Plan. Goal is for it to be bike and pedestrian friendly. Other NCs should take note.

Transportation Benefit District is considering doubling car tab fee from \$20 to \$40 just to keep up with doing local street improvements. Program should stay relatively unchanged.

City is renewing the Lime scooter/bike contract. Tried to improve parking of bikes and safety. There's a new item called a Glider- it's like a bike without pedaling.

NEXT Zoom PeTT Committee Monthly Meeting | Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at 6 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82027371964?pwd=Sk9xSDNNOEZXa3hPZjF6eUxtRW5rQT09>



Transportation Commission (TC) Report June 2026 by Cliff Winger <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/2026/06/transport-agenda-2026-06-17.pdf>>

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

► EMAIL: <transportationcommission@spokanecity.org> or <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; District 2: Grant Shipley, President gshipley@spokanecity.org; District 3: Kaylee Jackman 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).

Public comment: The City has invested significant public funds in building bike lanes, yet many remain obstructed by broken glass, debris, parked vehicles, and even bus stop conflicts. If we are going to spend taxpayer dollars on bicycle infrastructure, we should also ensure these bicycle facilities are maintained, kept clear, and safe for the cyclists they were designed to serve.

Transportation Commission Meeting Date Changed to **THIRD THURSDAYS** Each Month

■ **ReFive: 5th Ave Plan Update** The 5th Avenue planning area is focused on the area and community south of I-90 in the East Central Neighborhood along East 5th Avenue, a 1.75-mile corridor that connects Liberty Park to Frances Scott Elementary School. The goals of ReFive are to preserve and honor the legacy of its rich history, while enhancing the experience for those who walk, bike, roll, or use transit within the area. It wishes to create a welcoming and comfortable environment that fosters inclusivity. Additionally, the neighborhood aims to support resilient, equitable, and sustainable economic development. Ensuring that the future of 5th Avenue remains affordable, racially diverse, and inclusive is a fundamental priority. Take the [survey!](#) - [Agenda](#) Page 5; Project page <<https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/fifth-avenue-plan/>> See [Presentation](#) - Contact: Maren Murphy (mmurphy@spokanecity.org)



■ **Lime Micro-Mobility Contract** [Agenda](#) pages 6-21; The proposed amendments to Spokane's shared micromobility contract with Lime would add seated "Glider" scooters, increase the fleet from 1,800 to 2,000 vehicles, and extend service through winter at reduced fees. Additional improvements include enhanced sidewalk-riding detection, expanded parking controls, and technology upgrades to improve reliability and support safer, year-round transportation options. See Presentation [Here](#). Contact: Colin Quinn-Hurst (cquinnhurst@spokanecity.org)



Lime 'Glider' & scooter



TBD Tab Funds are used on local access streets

■ **Transportation Benefit District (TBD) Increase considerations: Car Tab Enforcement and Compliance** [Agenda](#) page 22; [Fee increase presentation](#) -The Spokane Transportation Commission reviewed information on compliance and enforcement of vehicle registration requirements tied to the City's Transportation Benefit District (TBD) fee. The current TBD fee is \$20 annually per eligible vehicle. TBD funds support street maintenance, sidewalks, traffic calming, Complete Streets, and multimodal transportation projects. City Council may increase the fee to \$40 without voter approval, and future discussions will explore potential uses for additional revenue. About 800 vehicles have expired tabs greater than 2 months. See Report [Here](#). Contacts: Nicole White (nwhite@spokanecity.org) and Abigail Martin (ammartin@spokanecity.org)

■ **Transportation Commission Annual Report** [Agenda](#) page 23; **Skipped to July meeting** Spokane's [2025 Transportation Commission Annual Report](#) will outline the city's transportation priorities and reporting responsibilities. It will track project status, Complete Streets implementation, expenditures, revenues, construction schedules, transportation studies, and data analytics. Will Appear on July Meeting Agenda! Contacts: Jon Snyder (jsnyder@spokanecity.org) and Abigail Martin (ammartin@spokanecity.org)

Hearing:

■ **TBD 2027 Final Project List & Vote** [Agenda](#) pages 24-29 with maps; [Presentation](#) -The Spokane Transportation Commission held a hearing to select residential street projects for the 2027 construction season using (TBD) funds. Projects will be chosen from the City's Six-Year Streets Plan based on street condition and cost-effectiveness, with funding distributed across council districts. Improvements may include pavement preservation, sidewalk work, and safety upgrades supporting Vision Zero and multimodal transportation goals.

District 1 (NE)		District 2 (S)		District 3 (NW)	
Type	Project Name	Type	Project Name	Type	Project Name
Chip	Cincinatti/Dalton <i>Et Al</i>	Chip	9th Av from Cannon to Maple <i>Et Al</i>	Grind	Braeburn/Midwick <i>Et Al</i>
Grind	Astor - Indiana to Montgomery	Chip	35th from Freya to Havana <i>Et Al</i> ‡	Chip	Waverly-Post to Division ‡
Grind	Gordon - Crestline to Cook ‡	Grind	Rebecca - 4th to Hartson ‡	Grind	Lincoln F to 5 mile
Grind	Lidgerwood - Sharp to Mission ‡	Grind	26th - Garfield to Ivory	Sidewalks Districts 2&3 ▶ 11th Ave-Arthur to Perry (primary) ▶ Francis-Assembly to Sutherlin south-side of Francis (primary) ▶ Pittsburg-34-37 and Arthur 38-43 ‡	
		Grind	Cowley - 13th to 12th		

‡ **Alternate**

Contacts: Jon Snyder (jsnyder@spokanecity.org) & Clint Harris (ceharris@spokanecity.org)



Trans Comm.



SS4A

Next Meeting: Thursday, July 16, 2026, 1600 hours at City Hall, Council Chambers

You may email the Transportation Commission at <transportationcommission@spokanecity.org>



**Special Meeting Agenda
City of Spokane Park Board
Urban Forestry Tree Committee &
UF Citizen Advisory Committee**

3:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, 2026

In-person: Finch Arboretum
Woodland Center Ponderosa Room
3404 W Woodland Blvd.
Spokane, WA 99224

WebEx virtual meeting:

Call-in: 408-418-9388; Access code: **2481 135 5636**

Katie Sorensen - Urban Forester

UFTC Committee Members:

Lindsey Shaw – Chair

Lee Williams

Kris Neely

UFCAC Committee Members:

Kris Neely - Chair

Tim Kohlhauff

Guy Gifford

Cindy Deffe

Matt Stewart

Justyce Brant

Ben Kappen

Logan Callen

Kathryn Alexander

Kelsi Caston

Eduardo Castillo

The special combined meeting of the City of Spokane Park Board Urban Forestry Tree Committee and Urban Forestry Citizen Advisory Committee will be held in-person in the Woodland Center Ponderosa Room at the Finch Arboretum, 3404 W Woodland Blvd. and virtually via WebEx at 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, 2026. Committee members, staff, and presenters still have the option to participate virtually via WebEx during all meetings.

The public may listen to the meeting by calling 408-418-9388 and entering access code **2481 135 5636** when prompted.

Written public comment may be submitted via email or mail. Comments must be received no later than 11:00 a.m. June 30 by email to: spokaneparks@spokanecity.org or mail to: Spokane Park Board Urban Forestry Tree Committee, 5th floor City Hall, 808 West Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, Washington 99201. Submitted public comments will be presented to committee members prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call

Public Comment

Action item: [Heritage Tree Nomination Review – 34 W 18th Ave.](#)

Ceremonies, Appointments, Announcements:

Committee and Reports:

- Community Assembly
- Staff Report

Old Business

-

New Business – Discussion items:

- Sekani Fire Damage – Katie Sorensen
- Field Trip for August meeting (discussion) – Katie Sorensen

Standing report items:

- Urban Forestry Monthly Update – Katie Sorensen
- Urban Forestry financial report – Katie Sorensen

Other Program and Partnership Ideas

-

Adjournment

Agenda Subject to Change

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) INFORMATION: The City of Spokane is committed to providing equal access to its facilities, programs and services for persons with disabilities. Individuals requesting reasonable accommodations or further information may call, write, or email Human Resources at 509.625.6373, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA, 99201; or ddecorde@spokanecity.org. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact Human Resources through the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1. Please contact us forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting date.



Heritage Tree Nomination Form

Nominator Information

Name: Virginia Lemmex
Address: 34 W 18th Ave
Spokane, 99203
Phone: (Day) 425-283-3978
(Eve) 425-283-3978
Email Address glemmex@gmail.com

(Property owner must agree to nomination)

Name: Virginia Lemmex
Address: 34 W 18th Ave.
Spokane 99203
Phone: (Day) 425-283-3978
(Eve) 425-283-3978

Property/Tree Owner Information

Designated Neighborhood: Manito/Cannon Hill

Location (Street Address): 34 W 18th Ave

Species of Tree (Common or Botanical Name): Catalpa speciosa

Single/Collection of trees (If Collection, How Many Trees): Single tree

Size: Height (approx.) 60 (feet)

Crown (approx.) measure distance of total spread from one side to other: 50 to 60 (feet)

Circumference (distance around trunk at 4.5 feet from ground): 158 (inches)

Age of Tree (If Known/Estimate): c. 113 yrs

Condition (check all that apply and explain any issues on back of page:

☒

Healthy

☐

Diseased

☐

Pruning/Structural problems

List any historical fact About the Tree (Documented/Estimated)

Was planted during the development of Manito/Cannon Hill neighborhood in 1913

What is most noteworthy about the tree/trees that meets the criteria (check all that apply).

☒

Size

☒

Public

☒

Visibility

☐

Rare Horticultural Value

☒

Aesthetic Qualities

☒

Historical

Explain why you think the tree/trees should be nominated for heritage distinction - use another piece of paper, if necessary. Please include a photograph (black & white or color) and a simple tree location map.

Please see enclosed page.

Submit Nomination Form and Owner's Consent to the Spokane Urban Forestry Program

Spokane Urban Forestry Program • 808 W Spokane Falls Blvd • Spokane, WA 99201 • 509.363.5495

www.spokaneurbanforestry.org

Reasons for Nominating *Catalpa speciosa* for Heritage Distinction

First, the tree has lived through quite a bit of Spokane's growth and development. It was planted c.1913 when our neighborhood was first being established to bring Spokaneites to the Manito Park area. The tree continues to flourish and stands to welcome locals as well as visitors to the Park at the Northwest corner of W18th Ave and Browne St.

The Catalpa is in full view of everyone who drives or walks down the street or is strolling around the Duck Pond. It is stunning when in full bloom- a tree filled with large heart-shaped leaves and fragrant clusters of white, orchid-like flowers. Those who walk by or come to visit the Park often snap a photo and stop to ask, "What kind of tree is this? I've never seen a tree like this before". This tree adds priceless beauty to our street that residents and visitors appreciate and enjoy.

A large tree like this contributes to better air quality, provides shade, shelters birds and squirrels, for example, and helps lower the ambient temperature. In all, a valuable contributor to our health and wellbeing as well as the ecosystem in which we live.

While it may not be a rare tree in the Spokane area, this particular specimen is quite large and is in good health. It is an example of living history—one can only imagine all this tree has witnessed and survived throughout its life.

Thank you for considering our nomination of *Catalpa speciosa* as a Spokane Heritage Tree.

Property Owner Agreement Form

HISTORIC AND HERITAGE TREE PROGRAM

In exchange for the City's designation of the subject tree as a Heritage Tree, the Property Owner agrees to protect, maintain and care for the Heritage Tree located on his or her property. Property Owner agrees to abide by conditions set forth in the City of Spokane Code, Section 12.02.916, particularly:

- A. "A Heritage Tree or collection of trees is retained by the property owner and does not become the property or responsibility of the City – unless the tree(s) are city owned."
- B. "The property owner is responsible for all maintenance and liability issue pertaining to the tree or trees."
- C. Prior to removal of a Heritage Tree, a property owner must notify the Urban Forest Tree Committee/Urban Forest Program. The City **strongly encourages** all Heritage Tree property owners to retain these significant tree(s)
- D. If a property owner removes a heritage Tree or collection of trees, the plaque or identification marker shall be returned to the Urban Forest Program.

Property Owner understands that sponsorships or assistance for care of the tree may be available from the City's Urban Forestry Program. In addition, if the Property Owner may want any advice, it can be offered at no cost by the City Urban Forestry Program (509.363.5495).

Property Owner as owner of the Catalpa speciosa (species) tree now being considered for this distinction, hereby consent to its being designated a Heritage Tree by the Urban Forestry Committee of Spokane, Washington.

Tree Location (Address, Tax Lot): 34 W. 18th ave Spokane 99203

Signed: Virginia Hemmex, Property Owner

Date: 5/22/26

Submitted by Urban Forestry Tree Committee: _____ (Date)

Approved by Urban Forestry Program: _____ (Date)

Approved by Director, Parks and Recreation: _____ (Date)

Filed with Urban Forestry Program and Website: _____ (Date)

Submit Nomination Form and Owner's Consent to the Spokane Urban Forestry Program

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www.spokaneurbanforestry.org

