

Appendix 1

PlanSpokane 2046 Public Participation and Engagement

Background

This appendix represents the Public Participation Plan for PlanSpokane 2046, the Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan, and summaries of engagement that occurred throughout the development of the Plan.

- 1** Public Participation Plan
- 2** 2025 Community Engagement Summary
- 3** Community Visioning Engagement Summary
- 4** Future Growth and Guiding Policies Engagement Summary

PLAN **SPOKANE**

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2026 Periodic Update Public Participation Plan

Updated: September 10, 2024



Introduction

The City of Spokane is undertaking a major periodic review of the Comprehensive Plan as required by the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), due in 2026. In accordance with RCW 36.70A.130, an adopted Comprehensive Plan is subject to continuing evaluation and review. Spokane's Comprehensive Plan was first adopted on May 21, 2001¹, with updates in 2006, 2012, 2014, and 2017. The Department of Commerce has made available non-competitive grants of \$325,000 to fully planning cities with 100,000 population and over to conduct the update. The City of Spokane will be leveraging the available grant to fund in part the necessary periodic update work.

The GMA requires local governments to create and broadly disseminate a Public Participation Plan (PPP) during the periodic review process. This PPP supports planned community and interested party engagement that will influence the development of potential frameworks and policies to be considered for the periodic update. It provides a high-level direction for engagement, identifies values and priorities, and outlines examples of key tactics and opportunities for engagement as the process gets underway. All engagement efforts of the periodic update will follow the established goals and objectives to ensure a robust and transparent engagement effort.

Racially Disparate Impacts and Anti-Displacement

A significant component of the mandated periodic updates is to ensure compliance with newly passed legislation, including amendments to the GMA. Though the City of Spokane has already started and completed work that meets a number of the recently approved policies, including legislation focused on housing density and types, there are more regulations that must be met. One policy directive that will require significant staff analysis and community input involves racially disparate impacts and anti-displacement.

Per RCW 36.70A.020, local governments are now required to “plan for and accommodate” housing attainable to all economic segments of their community. The requirements, adopted in 2021, include:

- **Planning for sufficient land capacity for housing needs**, including all economic segments of the population (moderate, low, very low and extremely low income, as well as emergency housing and permanent supportive housing).
- **Making adequate provisions for housing for existing and projected needs for all economic segments of the community**, including documenting programs and actions needed to achieve housing availability.
- **Identifying racially disparate impacts, displacement and exclusion** in housing policies and regulations, and beginning to undo those impacts; and identifying areas at higher risk of displacement and establishing anti-displacement policies.

A portion of this work will be conducted through quantitative analysis, analyzing land size, zoning, and anticipated housing capacity. However, engagement with a diverse range of community members will be imperative to ensure the work is informed by lived experiences as well. The below guidelines and

¹ ORD C32847

opportunities will be leveraged to ensure far reaching and equitable engagement is conducted to capture the range of realities experienced in the community.

Climate Element Engagement

Another new element of the periodic update is the incorporation of climate planning as required by HB 1181. The climate planning includes a separate funding mechanism from the WA Department of Commerce, as well as a climate-focused consultant team. However, in order to streamline engagement efforts and staff resources, as well as to avoid engagement fatigue within the community, it is anticipated that public participation feedback received from the climate planning will be able to inform some level of the work completed as part of the larger periodic update.

City Council approved the initiation of climate planning and a climate-specific public engagement plan through RES 2024-0038 on April 22, 2024.

Equitable Community Engagement

Engagement conducted as part of the periodic update will follow equitable community engagement standards. Equitable engagement aims to reach and engage with as many people as possible, while centering overburdened communities or other communities not may not typically be heard during planning processes.

Guiding Principles

In order to support equitable public participation, the following guiding principles will be followed with continual evaluation, both in planning and in facilitating engagement activities.

Create Clear Expectations

Clear expectations of the purpose of each community engagement activity shall be built with the public. Whether the purpose is to inform, gain feedback, or seek suggestions, participants will be provided clear directives of how their engagement will impact the work being done.

Make it Convenient

Community engagement must be convenient if it is to avoid creating an unnecessary roadblock to open and robust communication. Not all activities will be convenient for all audiences, but an effort will be made to meet a diverse range of needs.

Foster Peer to Peer Conversations

Rather than creating a transactional form of community engagement, this principle encourages conversations between city staff and the public, but also between members of the public, to generate greater understanding and build upon each person's lived experiences. Such conversations can also help build partnerships, which can support continuing involvement in future planning and City initiatives.

Implement Accessibility Standards

Accessibility for persons with physical and/or cognitive disabilities will be a guiding principle when planning any engagement activity.

Ensure Language Access for All

According to the 2020 5-year American Community Survey, there are 16,732 Spokane residents who speak a language other than English, and Spokane's immigrant population grew by 9% since 2010. On October 16, 2023, the Spokane City Council approved [ORD C36449](#), which established a language access program. The Planning Department will evaluate language access needs and, where feasible, provide the opportunity for both language translation and interpretation, including American Sign Language.

Support Community Participation

Beyond simply providing engagement opportunities, it is imperative to actively support the participation of the community in the project. Family care commitments, flexing work schedules, or other fixed obligations can create significant barriers to public participation. While many of the prior guiding principles can support participation of various populations, it is important to directly state the intent and meaning of equitable community engagement. During the periodic review, the City will evaluate existing policies and implement best practices to ensure a more robust and equitable public participation process.

Tactics to support larger community participation may include:

- Paying a financial stipend to participants of targeted engagement opportunities
- Providing services like paid childcare and transportation support
- Hosting accessible and convenient meetings at various times and locations
- Providing food at in-person engagement events
- Offering meeting interpretation services and ensuring engagement materials are available in multiple languages and formats
- Asking what additional support members of the community need to authentically participate.

Interested Parties

Community growth and planning does not impact everyone equally, and as such the periodic update should engage a diversity of community members in equitable and meaningful ways. It is important to integrate community members into the planning process early to provide them agency in shaping and implementing policies. The periodic update planning process will seek to engage a diversity of residents, community groups, non-profit organizations, businesses, and others, with particular emphasis on identifying and engaging overburdened community organizations and members. Engagement will also seek participation from those with technical expertise, cultural perspective, and/or lived experience.

Internal Advisory Team

Initial and ongoing engagement will occur with internal City Departments, as well as with Partner Agencies. The focus includes analyzing potential growth scenarios, gaining insight from subject matter experts. The internal advisory team will provide recommendations on goals with near-term due dates; actions that can be implemented readily, strategies for longer-term actions; and a structure for ongoing monitoring and evaluation. The internal advisory team is anticipated to meet on an as-needed basis, in larger groups or as more targeted meetings.

Topic Focus Groups

The Climate Element planning is anticipated to include focus groups to identify needs and wants of the community, benefiting from subject matter expertise and lived experience. The periodic update planning

will benefit from the already planned focus groups, being able to integrate the climate and resiliency work into other comprehensive plan topics. Additional focus groups or targeted meetings will be established on an as needed basis throughout the periodic update process to ensure robust and representative community feedback.

Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations

A guiding principle around equitable engagement includes developing and deepening partnerships with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) with the goal of establishing and building trust. Through the work with CBOs, authentic engagement methods, as well as the resource needs of targeted participants, will be learned. Due to the nature of such partnerships, City staff cannot anticipate the identified events or other engagement efforts that will be determined to be appropriate through the deliberate community collaboration. As such, the periodic update engagement will incorporate flexibility to ensure capacity to be responsive.

Tribal Engagement

New changes to the Growth Management Act (GMA) implementing HB 1717 (2022) allows tribes to voluntarily participate in the city's comprehensive planning process (RCW 36.70A.040). This also requires local jurisdictions to work with tribes to coordinate urban growth. Tribes must opt-in to coordinate with the jurisdiction (RCW 36.70A.110). Urban tribal organizations and populations will also be engaged throughout the periodic update.

Engagement Opportunities

The PPP is largely framed around the strategies outlined in the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2), which include five levels of goals for engagement activities.

1. **Inform.** Provide the public with balanced and objective information.
2. **Consult.** Obtain public feedback on analysis and/or decisions.
3. **Involve.** Work directly with the public to ensure the public's concerns and ideas are understood and considered.
4. **Collaborate.** Partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.
5. **Empower.** Place final decision making in the hands of the public.

Each tool and action implemented by the City will fit within one or more of the above levels, providing engagement opportunities that range from informational outreach to decision making.

Community Engagement Strategy

The engagement strategy will be adaptively managed over the life of the project, pivoting the approach as needed to help ensure the process is learning from all the necessary perspectives. Examples of strategies that will be considered include:

- Interviews with city staff, elected officials, partner agencies, and community partners
- Workshops or listening sessions, including some in partnership with community organizations
- Public survey, meetings, workshops
- Interpretation and translation of engagement materials
- Partnering on interactive events and pop-up events (virtual and in-person meetings)

- Work with leaders of community-based organizations
- Participate in existing community arts and cultural events
- Innovative and traditional outreach methods to reach people where they are at

Engagement level: inform, consult, involve, collaborate

Project Webpage, Social Media, Newsletters

The City will establish and regularly update a webpage to document the periodic review and provide timely information throughout the process, including updates on specific elements like climate planning, housing, land use, and transportation. Documents such as the PPP, draft and final documents, and other project materials will be posted on the website. Visitors to the site will be able to view those materials, sign up for the contacts list, find contact information to submit comments, and learn about upcoming events and engagement activities. The Planning Department will also manage an interactive online engagement platform to create more integrated engagement opportunities.

Building on existing contact lists from past projects and identifying and recruiting new interest, the City will provide regular updates to individuals and organizations interested in the periodic update and planning in general. An emailed newsletter will then be generated to be sent to the list of interested parties on a regular basis. The frequency of newsletter issues will be determined at a later date. Past newsletter issues will be added to the project webpage for public access and retention.

The City's social media presence – including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Next Door – will be leveraged to build awareness of and provide information about the periodic update and planned engagement activities, including meetings, surveys, and public comment periods.

Engagement level: inform, consult

Community Survey and Workshops

A community survey and related workshops about the periodic update, climate planning, and how people experience Spokane as individuals and a community will be conducted as an initial community touchpoint. An outreach campaign will be conducted to inform the community about the survey to increase awareness and participation, including partnering with community centers and foodbanks for survey distribution.

Engagement level: consult, involve

Updates to Boards, Commissions, Committees, Councils

Staff will periodically present to and seek feedback from Plan Commission, City Council, other city commissions, boards and committees, and neighborhood councils. Such groups include, but are not limited to, the Spokane Human Rights Commission, Parks Board, Spokane Regional Transportation Council, STA Board, Spokane Public Schools' Board of Directors, and others.

Engagement level: inform, consult, involve

Youth Engagement

Youth engagement will provide a valuable lens in which to discuss topics relevant to growing and future generations. Partnership with Spokane Public Schools will be explored to bring the topic into the classroom. General events should also include youth activities to get younger generations involved while

also easing the burden of parents, guardians, and caretakers participating, such as planning-specific coloring pages.

Engagement level: inform, consult, involve

Evaluation

This PPP will be updated with deeper engagement strategies and a more detailed timeline of activities once the project is underway to incorporate additional feedback from the community. While the principles and other details outlined in this document are an important first step in planning the engagement process for the periodic review, all engagement shall be flexible and based on real-time assessment. If an activity is not working, or an activity not anticipated is recommended and found appropriate to be included, there will be periodic check-ins to update.

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PLAN SPOKANE 2046

2025 Community Engagement

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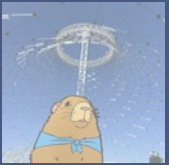
1 Community Visioning

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2 Climate Focus Groups

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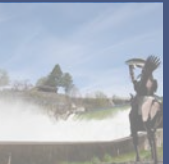
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The City of Spokane is conducting a periodic update to the City's Comprehensive Plan, dubbed PlanSpokane 2046. A "periodic update" is the state's term for a full review of a Comprehensive Plan to make sure it's in conformance with any legislative changes to state law. Due at the end of 2026, the Periodic Update will identify policies and future regulations to guide the next 20 years of our city.

2025 was a busy year for community feedback on Spokane's future vision, climate resiliency, future growth, and guiding policies, with **over 3,400 total community responses**. This document provides a summary of most of the feedback heard so far, with more engagement to occur throughout 2026.

← CONTENT

COMMUNITY VISIONING

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Spokane conducted an early visioning process to understand what the community wants for the next twenty years. **Over 300 community members participated** in the various visioning activities, providing insights into how the City should grow. Ultimately the feedback will identify the different ways the City can meet these goals for growth or put differently, how to meet Spokane's envisioned future.

Based on community feedback, a draft vision statement for the Comprehensive Plan has been identified:

"Spokane aims to foster a vibrant, resilient, and inclusive city by supporting economic growth, environmental stewardship, and the diverse needs of the whole community. The City is dedicated to ensuring access to attainable housing, safe streets, and thriving neighborhoods while inspiring innovation, cultural vitality, and connection for all Spokane residents."

Launched in early January and running through April, the PlanSpokane 2046 visioning process resulted in key themes to inform the future growth and policies for the City of Spokane. The collective themes are to the right, with each activity bringing its own insights.

The vision board highlighted a desire for nature and environmental stewardship, community connection, opportunities for housing and jobs, and improved access to public spaces. The Community Visioning Workshop Series and corresponding survey received feedback pointing towards a welcoming and livable City with a mix of uses that support thriving and connected neighborhoods. The final Spring Market pop-up reinforced these ideas, while highlighting that the City should be walkable/bikeable, healthy, equitable, and safe.



Read the full PlanSpokane Community Visioning Engagement Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/PlanSpokane-Visioning>



VISIONING THEMES

- Access to nature
- Sustainability and environmental stewardship
- Healthy and clean



NATURE

- Welcoming and diverse
- Accessible
- Family-friendly
- Connected
- Human-centered
- Safe



COMMUNITY

- Good jobs
- Culture and arts economy
- Cutting-edge
- New industries
- Reuse



INNOVATION

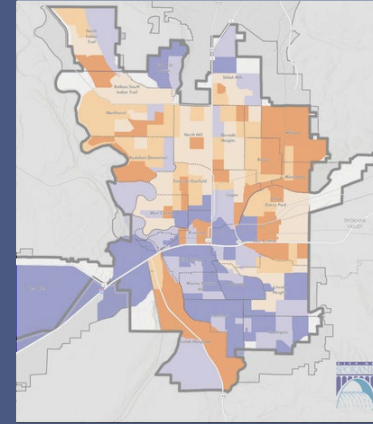
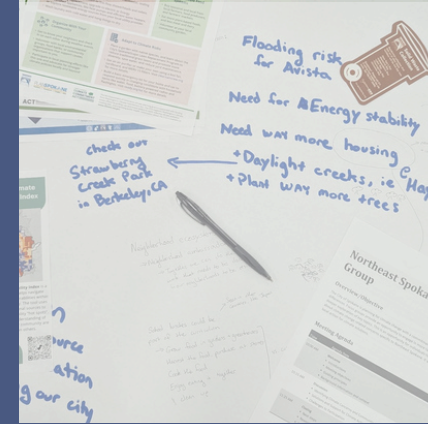
- Affordable
- Walkable and bike-friendly
- Access to neighborhood services
- Attractive



LIVABLE

CLIMATE FOCUS GROUPS

As part of PlanSpokane 2046 effort to incorporate climate and resiliency policies into the Comprehensive Plan in alignment with HB 1181, the City of Spokane held focus groups to hear from communities impacted by climate hazards. Their feedback informed the Climate Vulnerability and Risk Assessment to bring together data and lived experiences to identify climate risks and vulnerability in Spokane.



Learn more at
my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning

YOUTH FOCUS

The Youth focus group had 11 participants aged 14 to 18, providing insight from a vulnerable population still in development and who may still be dependent on adults for their safety and well-being.

Key takeaways from the focus group include:

- Empowerment through knowledge is key.
- Air quality and wildfire smoke are more immediate and disruptive climate concerns.
- Heat is isolating youth from activities and social connection.
- Strong connection between nature access and mental health.
- Growing anxiety about long-term ecological shifts and disconnection from natural world.
- Public transit and bike infrastructure are critical services for youth.
- Desire for systemic change to provide stability and not worsen social inequities.

CLIMATE JUSTICE FOCUS

The Climate Justice focus group had 8 participants from local community-based organizations representing houseless, Muslim, Asian, BIPOC, immigrant, refugee, and environmental justice communities.

Key takeaways from the focus group include:

- Unhoused individuals, elders, renters, disabled people, and non-English speakers are among the most vulnerable.
- Language access and communication gaps are major barriers.
- Housing quality and income contribute to climate vulnerability.
- Partner with local nonprofits to support community trust and cultural relevance.
- People often prioritize survival needs over long-term climate issues.
- Increase accountability.

NORTHEAST SPOKANE FOCUS

The Northeast Spokane focus group had 17 participants who all lived in Northeast Spokane, an area of the City underrepresented in public engagement while being highly impacted by climate hazards.

Key takeaways from the focus group include:

- Community connection and shared solutions can increase community resiliency.
- Poor air quality is a major concern.
- Lack of shade and extreme heat reduce access to services.
- Practical, community-based climate education is needed.
- Stigma and infrastructure gaps reduce public transit use.
- Need to align development with environmental goals.
- Center equity and accessibility.

SURVEYING FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCY



**“Biggest obstacle is feeling isolated in these attempts at conservation.
Like my efforts don’t matter.”**

- Community Climate Planning Survey Respondent

Local, state, and national data and community lived experiences are all integral in understanding how to best support local resiliency in Spokane. During key times of the climate and resiliency planning effort, two community-wide surveys were created to learn from those who live, work, and visit in Spokane.

The **Community Climate Planning Survey** asked community members to identify climate hazards and impacts in Spokane as well as future desires.



Read the full Community Climate Planning Survey Summary at
<https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Climate-Survey>



The **Community Climate Policy Survey** then built upon the prior community feedback to identify potential policy decisions.



Read the full Community Climate Policy Survey Summary at
<https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Climate-Policy-Survey>



COMMUNITY CLIMATE SURVEY

✓ 1,573 RESPONSES

✓ DECEMBER 6, 2024 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2025

✓ KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Wildfires, extreme heat, and intense storms** identified as top three hazards of concern now, with **extreme heat, wildfire, and smoke from wildfires** as top concerns for the next 20 years.
- Only 14.91% of respondents indicated having not been personally impacted by any of the identified climate hazards.
- **Rising costs of living and basic needs** and **changes to recreational activities** were the top felt impacts within the past five years.
- **Agriculture and food systems** were ranked as most at risk from extreme weather and climate impacts in Spokane.
- **Costs** and **time** were identified as primary obstacles in reducing household environmental impacts.
- Potential solutions to increase Spokane's resiliency included **water and waste reduction, incentives for more sustainable upgrades, tree management, and more trees and greenspace.**

CLIMATE POLICY SURVEY

✓ 1,419 RESPONSES

✓ JULY 21 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2025

✓ KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Water, human health, and food systems** were collectively ranked as the most important climate and resiliency topics.
- **Public investment and infrastructure** was the top ranked type of policy, with **regulations** ranked the lowest.
- Themes for future actions the City should consider include:
 - **Lead by Example**
 - **Water Conservation and Waste Management**
 - **Community Collaboration and Engagement**
 - **Urban Green Spaces**
 - **Active Transportation**
 - **Disaster Preparedness**
 - **Equal Access**
 - **Sustainable Development**
- Future policies should be prioritized based on **reduction of environment harm, community health benefits, co-benefits, feasibility, and cost considerations.**

EARTH DAY WORKSHOP



On April 22, 2025, the City of Spokane hosted an Earth Day Community Workshop to learn from and share with Spokane's community. Twenty-one community members shared their experiences with climate hazards and how we can support a more resilient Spokane.

The workshop was a drop-in style event with posters at 4 stations, where attendees engaged in activities, interacted with the Climate Vulnerability Index online mapping tool, and were able to have in-depth conversations with staff members. Feedback received during the workshop informed the Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment and will support the development of future policies for a resilient and adaptive Spokane.

Key takeaways from the drop-in workshop include:

- **Alternative transportation options** and **green space/tree protection** were ranked as the top climate pollution reduction actions.
- **Preserve, restore, and expand nature** was ranked as the top climate resilience action.
- **Supporting local, sustainable food systems** and **organizing community** received the most support as individual actions to support climate resiliency.
- Support for **increased and improved bike and pedestrian infrastructure**.
- Attendees wanted to **expand public transportation** and **promote connectivity**.
- Support for **infill and mixed-use development**.
- Promote **water conservation** throughout the City.



Read the full Earth Day Workshop Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Earth-Day>





Read the full Tribal Engagement Workgroup Summary at <https://tinyurl.com/Spokane-Tribal-Workgroup>



In early 2025, the City of Spokane launched a **Tribal Engagement Workgroup (TEW)** to ensure that Indigenous voices and knowledge systems shape its climate planning and inform the City's 2026 Comprehensive Plan. The TEW brought together regional Tribes and urban Native organizations in a culturally grounded process led by Kauffman & Associates, Inc. (KAI), a Native-owned consulting firm.

Over the course of four sessions and intervening conversations, TEW participants identified climate vulnerabilities rooted in the lived experiences of Native communities, including **loss of cultural access, urban invisibility, health disparities, water insecurity, and gaps in emergency planning**. They called for a broader definition of vulnerability that includes spiritual, cultural, and intergenerational dimensions and stressed the need for Indigenous co-governance and investment in Native-led solutions.

Recommendations for policy development:

- Prioritize funding for **Native-led** resilience hubs, food systems, and youth programs.
- **Embed cultural infrastructure** - gardens, sweat lodges, community gathering spaces - into neighborhood planning.
- Establish an **Indigenous advisory council** with co-governance authority in climate planning.
- Reframe climate indicators to include **cultural, spiritual, and relational measures of wellbeing**.
- **Expand data collection** to include Indigenous-defined metrics, oral histories, and story maps.
- Develop **tailored emergency management strategies** for Native families across Spokane.

TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT



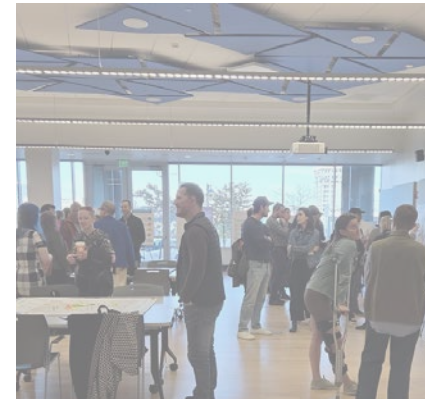
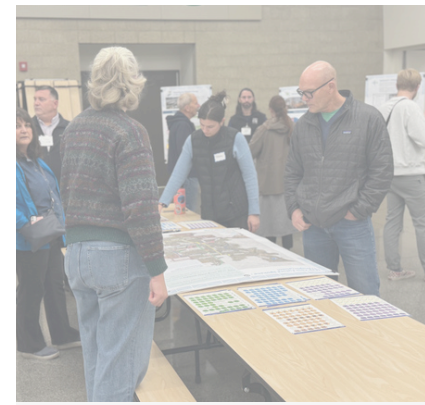
FUTURE GROWTH AND GUIDING POLICIES

The City of Spokane held a community workshop series on future growth and guiding policies in November 2025. These in-person workshops included discussion, mapping exercises, and feedback opportunities related to various aspects of the Comprehensive Plan. **Over 100 community members participated** in the workshop series, which included one meeting in each City Council District, as well as a citywide meeting downtown.

In addition to informational posters, the workshops included station activities to gather feedback from attendees. Stations included questions on guiding policies, displacement, a proposed land use schema, and the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Mapping exercises on mixed-use zoning and transportation amenities created spatial information to inform on-the-ground proposals. Climate and resiliency feedback was also received, including on City actions, important topics, environmental justice, and the prioritization of future policies.

When asked about topics of importance to be integrated into the City of Spokane's next twenty years, key themes from the community included:

- **Accessibility**
- **Employment and job creation**
- **Revitalization**
- More **third places** and **community connection**
- **Parks and access to nature**
- **Bikeable/walkable neighborhoods**
- **Affordable housing**



A full summary will be available at **PlanSpokane.org** once finalized



CONCLUSION



There's even more work ahead in 2026 . . .

In addition to the larger engagement efforts mentioned above, the City of Spokane has been busy popping up at community events, presenting before Neighborhood Councils, and meeting with organizations and partner agencies to hear from the community. Staff have also presented before City Council, Spokane Plan Commission, Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board, Transportation Commission, Housing Action Subcommittee, and numerous other City commissions and boards.

Have a group that may be interested in hearing a presentation? Does your organization want a tailored discussion about PlanSpokane 2046? Have an event where staff can attend? Reach out to the Planning Team at PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org to inquire about availability.



Opportunities for public feedback in early 2026 include the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Chapter Review processes. Feedback from these components will then result in the selection of Preferred Alternative and Final Environmental Impact Statement, as well as final goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

Final adoption of the updated Comprehensive Plan is tentatively slated for the end of 2026.



Draft Environmental Impact Statement

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement with different ways the City can grow in order to meet state requirements and the community vision will be issued in December 2025, with a 60 day public comment period. This document compares potential ways the City can grow, allowing community members to provide feedback on Spokane's future. Community input will help decisionmakers select the Preferred Alternative, which is the growth strategy for Spokane's next twenty years, in early 2026.



Chapter Review

The City's Comprehensive Plan is being updated with revised and new goals and policies to support community needs. Draft versions of chapters are available for public feedback at PlanSpokane.org under "Chapter Review". Comments can help direct language and identify potential gaps in future policy direction. New chapters and language revised based on community feedback will periodically be available throughout early 2026.

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Learn more at PlanSpokane.org

Questions or comments? Email the Planning Team at
PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org



PlanSpokane Community Visioning Engagement Summary

April, 2025



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Community Visioning Engagement **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**



Over 300 community members provided insightful feedback for Spokane's future vision.



Feedback will help direct the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update and inform the growth options of our city for the next twenty years!

COMMON THEMES :

- Access to nature
- Sustainability and environmental stewardship
- Healthy and clean



NATURE

- Welcoming and diverse
- Accessible
- Family-friendly
- Connected
- Human-centered
- Safe



COMMUNITY

- Good jobs
- Culture and arts economy
- Cutting-edge
- New industries
- Reuse



INNOVATION

- Affordable
- Walkable and bike-friendly
- Access to neighborhood services
- Attractive



LIVABLE

Background

The City of Spokane is commencing a periodic update to the City's Comprehensive Plan. A "periodic update" is the state's term for a full review of a Comprehensive Plan to make sure it's in conformance with any legislative changes to state law. The update also provides an opportunity to learn about any changes supported by the community.

The City's first Growth Management Act compliant Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2001 after a robust community engagement process. It is made up of 14 Chapters which include Housing, Land Use, Transportation, Neighborhoods, Capital Facilities, Natural Environments, and more. Minor annual amendments are processed most years, which primarily look at individual properties to adjust land use designations to meet project needs. Then, every ten years the City goes through a periodic update as required by the Growth Management Act, which takes a deeper look at the entire document. Spokane's last periodic update was in 2017, producing a plan called "Shaping Spokane".

The next periodic update is due in 2026, and is dubbed PlanSpokane 2046, as it is looking at the next twenty-year planning horizon. While regular updates have occurred, this will be the **first substantial update since the Comprehensive Plan was first adopted in 2001**. With the significant population growth and changing local factors Spokane has experienced since then, this update provides the community with an opportunity to reevaluate the vision. The goals of this update are to meet all state legislative requirements updated since 2017, incorporate community input around changing needs and wants, and to streamline the Plan to make it more user friendly.

Being the first substantial update since 2001, the City of Spokane has determined that this proposal is likely to have a significant and potentially negative impact on the environment. As such, an **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** is required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c) and will be prepared as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 effort. The Determination of Significance is the first step towards updating the Comprehensive Plan to reflect visions, goals, and legislation to support Spokane's growth into 2046, and will provide insight into how to mitigate any potential impacts of future growth.

The first step of the EIS process is known as "scoping". Ultimately, the "scope" of the EIS identifies different ways the City can meet its goals for growth or put differently, **how to meet Spokane's**

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan is the community's vision for how the city grows and invests. It is mandated by state law requiring a "road map" for fast-growing cities, known as the Growth Management Act. Spokane must have a Comprehensive Plan to manage population growth, with goals that include reducing sprawl, supporting efficient multimodal transportation, protecting the environment, and many more. The Comprehensive Plan establishes a vision for the city – looking at a horizon of twenty years. It guides implementation through Capital projects, City programs, and regulations.

envisioned future. A request for comment on the scope of the EIS was issued on February 5, 2025 and ran through April 7, 2025. Both before and during the scoping comment period, the City of Spokane Department of Planning and Economic Development provided opportunities for the community to be engaged in the process of identifying that future vision for Spokane’s next twenty years.

Feedback received during the Vision Board, Community Visioning Workshop Series, Community Visioning Survey, and Spring Market Visioning are documented below and will help inform the Environmental Impact Statement and PlanSpokane 2046 update to the Comprehensive Plan.

Vision Board

Launched on January 9, 2025 and open for three months through April 10, 2025, the City of Spokane Vision Board provided an early opportunity for community members to share their future vision for Spokane. A vision board is a collection of images and words that inspire and motivate you to reach your goals. Looking towards the Periodic Update of Spokane’s Comprehensive Plan, this vision board sought to identify the community’s goals for Spokane for the next twenty years.



Figure 1. City of Spokane Vision Board was open from January 9, 2025 through April 10, 2025.

Of the 36 individual responses to the vision board activity, the common themes revolved around **nature and environmental stewardship, community connection, opportunities** for housing and jobs, improved **access to public spaces**. The list of responses can be found below.

A roof over every head	Human-centered urban planning
Dedicated dog parks	Make Spokane more walkable
Promote a mindset and local economy of recycling and upcycling	Increased public green spaces in all neighborhoods
Improved lighting on streets	Preservation of historic architecture
Conversion of residential arterials to boulevards	Build homeownership opportunities in infill housing
Ensure public access to school playfields	Rewild Spokane
A green, wet, and cool Spokane	A Spokane River regatta
Neighborhood signs and identify	Natural spaces preserved for wildlife
Pride in a cleaner city	Neighborhood historic character preserved
Wilderness in every neighborhood	Teach Peace
A welcoming Spokane to all people	End of the housing shortage

Children own the streets	No one feels alone
Good jobs with higher wages	People-oriented streets
Third places in every neighborhood (corner stores, coffee shops, etc.)	Property crime enforced and a greater feeling of safety
Promote home ownership over workforce housing	Spaces where bicyclists and pedestrians are protected from vehicles
An ability to age in place	Attainable and accessible housing for all
Inclusive and welcoming community that caters to the needs of everyone	Robust community gardens and sharing of local crops
Public art and cultural arts economic growth	Walkable and lively neighborhoods

Community Visioning Workshop Series

To further identify the community's desires for Spokane's future, the City of Spokane hosted a Community Visioning Workshop Series in March 2025. One workshop was held in each Council District, with one community-wide workshop located in downtown. Over 150 individuals attended one or more of the workshops, providing valuable feedback to help shape the vision and future policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

These in-person workshops included discussion, mapping exercises, and feedback opportunities related to various aspects of the Comprehensive Plan and future growth options for the City. Each station sought reactions and comments on how community members envisioned the next twenty years of Spokane.



Figure 2. Community members participate in the District 2 Community Visioning Workshop.

Station 1: Vision

The current City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan – Shaping Spokane – has unique vision statements for the majority of the chapters. This station aimed to receive feedback on the general future they envisioned for Spokane while also working towards the creation of a singular vision statement for the updated Comprehensive Plan that will allow all chapters to work towards the same future.

When asked to write down one word that describes their ideal future, community members provided the following themes:

Vibrant	Affordable
Walkable	Industries/Jobs
Safe	Resilient/Sustainable
Bike-Friendly	Attractive
Diverse	Dense

Art/Culture	Family-Friendly
Access to Nature/Green	Thriving
Community/Connected	Accessible
Inclusive/Diverse/Welcoming	Livable
Healthy	Cutting-Edge/Innovation

Having thought of their ideal future for Spokane, community members were asked to rank rough drafts of vision statements derived from the existing statements found in the Comprehensive Plan. Though similar, the different statements were intended to identify the phrasing and general direction for the new vision statement. The vision statements voted on were as follows:



Figure 3. A word cloud created from the existing vision statements in the Shaping Spokane Comprehensive Plan.

Staff Vision Rewrite A: More Collaborative

“Spokane will support its vibrant and inclusive neighborhoods by balancing livability, environmental stewardship, and economic vitality, while cherishing its unique cultural and natural assets. The city will ensure safe and efficient mobility, attainable housing, access to green spaces, neighborhood services, and a high quality of life for all residents through responsible planning and community partnership.”

Staff Vision Rewrite B: More Active

“Spokane will foster livability, connectivity, and resiliency throughout the city by balancing economic vitality, environmental stewardship, and the diverse needs of residents, while cherishing its unique and vibrant neighborhoods. The city will ensure access to safe and efficient mobility, attainable housing, natural environments, and walkable neighborhood services to support a high-quality of life for all residents.”

Staff Vision Rewrite C: Preserve Existing Traits

“Spokane is a livable, connected, and resilient city that balances the needs of its diverse residents, economic vitality, and environmental stewardship to support vibrant and inclusive neighborhoods that have access to safe and efficient mobility, attainable housing, green spaces, and services that result in a high-quality of life for all residents.”

Statement B received the most votes with 33. Statement A came in a close second with 31 votes. Statement C received 20 votes.

When asked what may be missing from the rough draft statements, common themes were:

Arts and Culture	Safety/Safe Streets
Housing and Food Security	Acknowledgement of Tribal Sovereignty
Economic Mobility	Connected Community
Access to Nature	Pedestrian Focus

Station 2: Commercial Use Preference

Community members were asked to identify which commercial types they wanted to see more of throughout Spokane and within their neighborhood. Participants were asked to vote between convenience/groceries/big-box, restaurants, boutique stores, shopping/retail complex, pharmacies/clinics, mixed-use/ground-floor retail, neighborhood corner stores/cafes, and hotel/lodging. The top three selected uses were **neighborhood corner stores/cafes** (83 votes), **mixed-use/ground-floor retail** (79 votes), and **restaurants** (42 votes).



Figure 4. Community members participate in the District 3 Community Visioning Workshop.

Additional uses or considerations provided included childcare, senior housing, adaptive reuse of existing building, neighborhood groceries, community spaces, breweries, and bike repair/rentals.

Station 3: Your Spokane Mapping Exercise

Workshop participants were asked to indicate where they currently live, work, and play in Spokane to provide an understanding of who was providing comments and what areas in Spokane are currently appealing to its residents. The four workshops had a wide range of geographic input, with participants living and working throughout the city. District specific locations can be found in the attached appendices.

Comments were also received on initial thoughts about Spokane's current needs. Common themes included **increased walkability and bikeability, more frequent and expanded public transportation, fire and traffic management, and public meeting places.**



Figure 5. Community members participate in the District 2 Community Visioning Workshop.

Station 4: Your Future Spokane Mapping Exercise

Next, community members were asked to think about the future of Spokane. **Local businesses and job opportunities** were desired throughout Spokane, with specific locations identified during the

individual workshops found in the attached appendices. However, large retailers were only indicated to be desired in downtown and the North Hill Neighborhood.

Additional uses and considerations for Spokane’s future included:

Community gardens	Increased fire infrastructure
Small grocery stores	More housing types (including senior housing)
Improved pedestrian infrastructure	Use of vacant properties
More natural areas and habitats	Improved transit services
Public community spaces	Balanced development (density + open space)

Station 5: Climate Ready Spokane

While the integration of climate and resiliency policies into the Comprehensive Plan is going through a [separate engagement process](#) to gather even more feedback about the community’s experiences with climate hazards and their impacts, the visioning workshops provided an additional opportunity to reflect on ways to increase resiliency in Spokane. Specific mapped concerns or considerations can be found in the attached appendices for each workshop. Common themes to support resiliency were:

Provide more covered bus shelters	Provide electric car charging stations
Plant more trees	Increase public transit access
Reduce community water usage	Increase recycling
Further incentivize low-water landscaping	Improve walkability and bikeability
Fire management	Provide public education on resiliency

Station 6: What Did We Miss?

At the end of the workshops, community members were asked to document any other topic or theme that was missed, or any additional comments they wished to provide. Those comments can be found in the attached appendices. Larger concepts that the community wants to also be considered as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 update included **services for Spokane’s unhoused residents, food policy, urban design, connectivity, and all-age and all-ability usability of the city.**

Community Visioning Survey

In order to provide a feedback opportunity for members of the community who were unable to attend one of the in-person workshops, an online Community Visioning Survey was launched. Though only open two weeks during the beginning of April to ensure feedback was timely and able to be included in the scoping process of the PlanSpokane 2046 effort, 64 responses were received that will help direct the scope of the Periodic Update.

Survey respondents were first asked what one word describes their ideal future for Spokane. Shared themes include:

Inclusive/Diverse	Prosperous
Sustainable/Nature/Conservation	Safe/Clean
Affordable/Housed	Accessible
Community	Walkable/Bikeable
Healthy	Family-Friendly
Vibrant	Resilient

When asked to rank the available draft vision statement (reference Station 1: Visioning section above), vision statement B was ranked the most preferred. 25 votes ranked the statement the most preferred and 22 votes ranked it second most preferred. Vision station A came in second.

Vibrant, walkable neighborhoods, environmental stewardship, balanced, and affordable housing were all concepts in the draft statements that stood out to respondents. Missing terms from the vision statements were also called out, including **accessibility**, **clean**, an emphasis on **safety**, leveraging **existing investment**, and **all-age amenities**. This feedback largely mirrors the preferences of the Community Visioning Workshop Series and will help shape the final vision statement of the PlanSpokane 2046 Comprehensive Plan.



Figure 6. Scout the Marmot encourages you to get involved in PlanSpokane 2046.

To better understand desired uses throughout Spokane's neighborhoods, the Community Visioning Survey also asked about opinions on commercial uses. The majority of respondents *agreed* in some capacity that they would like more **local businesses** and **job opportunities** within their neighborhoods. Conversely, the majority of respondents *disagreed* in some capacity that they would like more **larger retailers**. When asked to rank commercial uses, **neighborhood corner stores/cafes** ranked first, followed by **restaurants** and **groceries**.

When asked what other uses they would like to see in their neighborhood, survey respondents responded with:

Child Care	Affordable Housing/Accessory Dwelling Units
Safe Sidewalks/Walking Trails	Amenities in Parks
Professional Services	Community Spaces/Maker Spaces
Farmer's Markets/Community Gardens	Bike Shops
Access to Transit	Electric Charging Stations
Neighborhood Events/Art Walk	Fire Services
Mental Health Support	Memory-Friendly Public Spaces

Spring Market Visioning

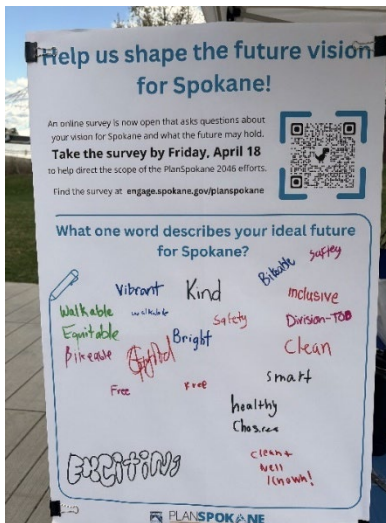


Figure 7. Comments received during the 2025 Spring Riverfront Market.

To wrap up the community engagement for the PlanSpokane 2046 visioning process, Planning staff attended the Spring Riverfront Market in early April to advertise the Community Visioning Survey and learn additional themes for Spokane’s future. Approximately 50 community members attended the tabling booth to learn about the PlanSpokane 2046 project, Climate Planning efforts, and ongoing transportation projects.

Shared themes for Spokane’s ideal future include:

Walkable/Bikeable	Equitable
Healthy	Safe/Clean
Well Known	Exciting/Vibrant

Next Steps

Feedback received during the visioning, or scoping, process will inform the next steps of the PlanSpokane 2046 effort. Based on the identified vision, potential “hows” of meeting that vision will be identified. These different ways that the City may grow, called Growth Alternatives, will be reviewed through the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. These Growth Alternatives look at different scenarios, like different job growth or different zoning and code allowances, and what impact those different scenarios may have on the environment and Spokane as a whole. Those impacts are compared and a Preferred Alternative, the selected “how” for getting to the future vision, will be selected. The Preferred Alternative, along with legislative requirements and document streamlining, will inform changes to the actual Comprehensive Plan document. Final adoption of the PlanSpokane 2046 Comprehensive Plan is expected in the later part of 2026.

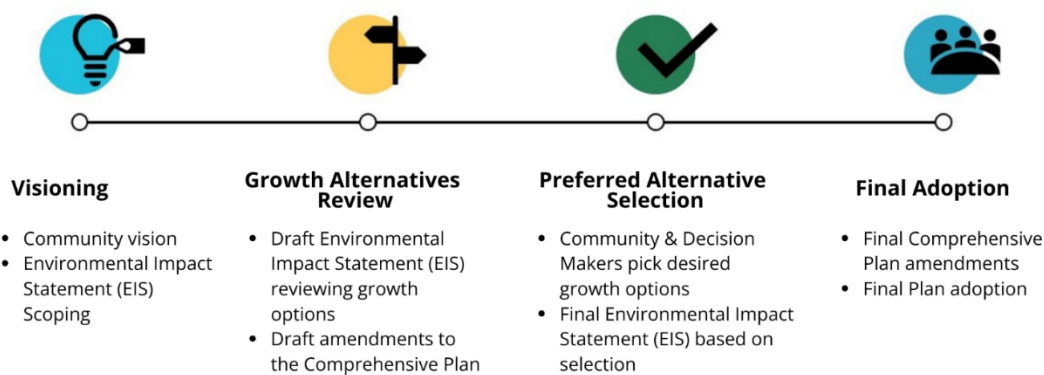


Figure 8. PlanSpokane 2046 process timeline

Community feedback will be accepted throughout the entire PlanSpokane 2046 process, from helping select the Preferred Alternative to weighing in on proposed goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

We invite your participation:

- Visit the project webpage at PlanSpokane.org to learn more about the planning process
- Learn more about the Climate Planning efforts at my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning
- [Subscribe to the PlanSpokane monthly newsletter](#) to receive timely updates
- Attend future workshops, meetings, and hearings hosted by the City of Spokane
- Provide written comments or ask questions of the Planning team by emailing PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org

Appendices –

District 1 Memo

District 2 Memo

District 3 Memo

Community-Wide Memo



Memo

Date: April 2, 2025

Re: District 1 Visioning Workshop Engagement Summary

The District 1 Visioning Workshop occurred on March 5 at the Northeast Community Center. Approximately 30 community members attended. Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full visioning engagement summary will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Vision Statement – One Word

Community members were asked to write down one word that describes their ideal future. The themes were:

- Community
- Resilient / Sustainable / Nature
- Affordable
- Walkable
- Innovation

Station 1: Vision Statement – Statement Ranking

Community members were asked to rank three similar vision statements based off themes found in the existing vision statement in the Comprehensive Plan. With 6 votes, vision statement B received the most votes: “Spokane will foster livability, connectivity, and resiliency throughout the city by balancing economic vitality, environmental stewardship, and the diverse needs of residents, while cherishing its unique and vibrant neighborhoods. The city will ensure access to safe and efficient mobility, attainable housing, natural environments, and walkable neighborhood services to support a high-quality of life for all residents.”

When asked what was missing from the sample vision statements, the themes were:

- Investment
- All-age access
- Engage / Active voice
- Open spaces access
- Emphasis on non-personal vehicle transportation
- Historic connections

Station 2: Commercial Preference

Community members were asked to identify which commercial types they wanted to see throughout Spokane.

Neighborhood corner stores/cafes received the most votes, with 14.

Mixed-use/ground-floor retail came in second, with 10 votes.

Restaurants came in third, with 9 votes.

Additional uses/considerations provided included:

- Gathering places / Community meeting spaces
- Corner stores in walkable areas
- Evening / weekend childcare
- Reuse of small-scale commercial that's currently vacant

Station 3: Your Spokane Mapping Exercise

Community members were asked to indicate where they currently live, work, and play in Spokane. Participants indicated a wide array of areas in the city, showing geographic diversity in living, working, and leisure activities. Despite the range, there were more people who live in District 1. Downtown also contained a significant number of pins indicating work and favorite places.

Comments received focused on initial thoughts about Spokane's current needs:

- Hillyard needs transit
- River access is priority
- No good N-S bike route to E Sprague
- Need indoor aquatics facilities
- Lack of connectivity & services
- West of Latah/Hangman has equestrian activities

Station 4: Your Future Spokane Mapping Exercise

Community members were asked to think about the future of Spokane. Pins indicated a desire for more **local businesses** in Chief Garry (Napa and Sprague), Bemiss, Northwest, Balboa/South Indian Trail, Shiloh Hills, and North Indian Trail. More **job opportunities** were desired in North Indian Trail/Balboa and South Indian Trail.

Additional uses/considerations provided included:

- Focus on vacant / underutilized commercial, particularly in East Central and Chief Garry
- More accessible commercial on South Hill / Cliff Cannon
- Allow hotels in more areas, makes short term rentals less desirable
- More historic activities in every neighborhood
- Community meet-ups / gathering spaces
- Bakery in Hillyard
- Jobs near schools for high schoolers
- More grocery stores, food deserts (North Hill)
- More dense middle housing balanced with open space, trees, food gardens

- Safety concern for Mission bridge crossing
- Create a pedestrian friendly downtown
- More trees, more food forests, daylighting creeks
- Expand commercial along freeway
- More local businesses in all neighborhoods
- Mixed-use on arterials
- Recapture the spirit of Expo '74 and create a community-side festival focusing on the river
- Healthy food / neighborhood grocery
- Faster bus times
- North Indian Trail traffic calming
- Scattered site shelters

Station 5: Climate-Ready Spokane

Community members were asked to reflect on ways to increase resiliency within Spokane. Suggestions included:

- Empower the community to adopt lawn-less, water-less landscaping
- Incentivize low water lawns
- Bring back increased rates for high water users
- Advocate for shift away from natural gas for homes
- Need more neighborhoods with lots of services and housing choices
- Every bike lane should be a protected bike lane
- Provide subsidies for people purchasing an e-bike / other related purchases
- Ensure housing development incorporates non-vehicle transportation to reduce burden on roads

Community members also mapped specific concerns or considerations on a map of the City of Spokane:

- Fire danger and low fire response in N Indian Trail / 5-mile prairie
- Audubon / Downriver needs more bike/ped routes to services
- Need community / neighborhood resiliency hubs
- Help people replace wood / vinyl siding with more fire-resistant materials
- What is planned for potential Yellowstone pipeline issues?
- Need more trees in Bemiss, Logan, Mission, and the City in general
- Dead street trees need replaced
- Need bike crossings at major intersections (e.g. Division / Ruby)

Station 6: What Did We Miss?

Community members were asked to document anything topic or theme that was missed, or any additional comments they wished to provide. Those comments included:

- All-age and all-ability usability of the city
- Solution for homelessness / urban camping
- Security / safety
- Lighting for more public spaces to increase safety
- Access to safe / attractive route to bike to the library, school, high-frequency transit route for all housing
- Make downtown more pedestrian friendly
- City line is great, replicate and incorporate transit-oriented development
- Address existing car parking lots and car dealerships in downtown / underutilized land
- Not enough bus shelters and safe bus stops
- Buffering between railroads / freeways / industrial development and residential
- Arterials as boundaries for neighborhoods makes it harder to advocate for better bike / ped crossings on them (funding limiting within neighborhood boundaries)



Memo

Date: April 2, 2025

Re: District 2 Visioning Workshop Engagement Summary

The District 2 Visioning Workshop occurred on March 25 at the Liberty Park Library. Approximately 45 community members attended. Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full visioning engagement summary will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Vision Statement – One Word

Community members were asked to write down one word that describes their ideal future. The themes were:

- Accessible
- Thriving
- Inclusive / Diverse
- Density
- Verdant / Sustainable
- Family-friendly
- Cutting-edge
- Safe / Clean
- Creative

Station 1: Vision Statement – Statement Ranking

Community members were asked to rank three similar vision statements based off themes found in the existing vision statement in the Comprehensive Plan. With 13 votes, vision statement A received the most votes: “Spokane will support its vibrant and inclusive neighborhoods by balancing livability, environmental stewardship, and economic vitality, while cherishing its unique cultural and natural assets. The city will ensure safe and efficient mobility, attainable housing, access to green spaces, neighborhood services, and a high quality of life for all residents through planning and community partnership.” Vision statement C had 12 votes.

When asked what was missing from the sample vision statements, the themes were:

- Commitment to expanding public transportation / bike lanes
- Safe street for pedestrians / bicyclists
- Retain the elements that distinguish neighborhoods from each other
- Commitment to not only trees, but entire ecosystem

- Connection of Spokane to nature-based building solution
- Improving health of residents
- Economic mobility
- Access to nature
- Connected community / places to gather

Station 2: Commercial Preference

Community members were asked to identify which commercial types they wanted to see throughout Spokane.

Mixed-use/ground-floor retail received the most votes, with 32 votes.

Neighborhood corner stores/cafes came in second, with 28.

Restaurants came in third, with 18 votes.

Additional uses/considerations provided included:

- Public open space
- Small neighborhood grocery stores
- Parking with rooftop gardens
- Family-friendly businesses
- Alleys – require for new development, build new ones, improve existing alleys
- Preservation of green space
- Mixed-use neighborhood
- Ensure appropriate parking for all uses

Station 3: Your Spokane Mapping Exercise

Community members were asked to indicate where they currently live, work, and play in Spokane. Most participants indicated living in West Central / Chief Garry Park and south. Downtown also contained a significant number of pins indicating work, as well as East Central and Comstock. People's favorite places were in nearby State park lands, downtown, in local parks, and along the Centennial Trail / Spokane River.

Comments received focused on initial thoughts about Spokane's current needs:

- Plan for traffic in Cliff-Cannon, Vinegar Flats, along 29th, and generally within South Hill
- Support natural environment of Lincoln Park
- Unpaved roads within Hillyard
- Pavement improvements along heavy traffic routes
- Create partnerships to reduce homelessness
- Define what density means for Spokane / avoid comparisons to other cities

Station 4: Your Future Spokane Mapping Exercise

Community members were asked to think about the future of Spokane. Pins indicated a desire for more **local businesses** in Northwest, North Hill, West Central, East Central, Lincoln Heights, Cliff-Cannon, and Manito/Cannon Hill. More **job opportunities** were desired in Northeast Spokane, downtown in Riverside, East Central, and West Central. **Large retailers** were desired in downtown.

Additional uses/considerations provided included:

- Need more natural areas and habitats in East Central
- Neighborhood park needed in east of Lincoln Heights
- Mixed-use and arts development in Comstock near 37th and Grand
- Support native habitat / bird habitat in Lincoln Heights
- More transit routes / stops needed in Vinegar Flats, Magnolia and 5th, and near MLK Center
- Neighborhood Center in lower South Hill near 6th and 7th off Maple
- Mixed use in Lincoln Heights along 29th
- Create more indoor community activities during winter
- What is the future plan for cemeteries?
- Reduce front-facing parking lots along N Division St
- Possibility of “tunneling” section s of I90 to reduce separation of neighborhoods (e.g. between Maple and Freya)

Station 5: Climate-Ready Spokane

Community members were asked to reflect on ways to increase resiliency within Spokane. Suggestions included:

- Build more shade structures at parks and over play areas
- More covered bus stops
- Plant more trees
- Incentivize meadow lawns / emphasize Water Wise efforts
- Provide electric car charging stations
- Ensure public transportation is accessible to all new development / treat public transportation like a required utility

Community members also mapped specific concerns or considerations on a map of the City of Spokane:

- Expand greenways for pedestrian connectivity downtown
- Use less water / partner with schools and community gardens to reduce water usage
- Cliff Cannon lacks bus service and considerations for commercial traffic
- Enforce watering restrictions
- Create more resiliency hubs

- Protect tree health
- Improve access and mobility at Lewis and Clark High School
- Promote new infrastructure for clean electricity
- Increase recycling / reduce amount of garbage burned
- Fire concern over Spokanescape encouraging wood mulch groundcover

Station 6: What Did We Miss?

Community members were asked to document anything topic or theme that was missed, or any additional comments they wished to provide. Those comments included:

- Need more frequent and later bus times
- Keep park bathrooms open
- Create a plan to save assets e.g. open space / habitat / water resources
- Install automated recycling at WTEF to increase recycling to 66%
- Support more winter activities within city limits
- Plan for water health / conservation
- Food policy
- Support greater system of bike lanes and transit stops
- Aesthetics of the built environments – landscaping, art, design, open space
- Narrow streets for slower and safer streets
- Photo enforced speed cameras near District 2 public schools
- Support multi-family and mixed-use development
- Reduce parking
- Increase sidewalk network



Memo

Date: April 3, 2025

Re: District 3 Visioning Workshop Engagement Summary

The District 3 Visioning Workshop occurred on March 27 at the Shadle Park Library. Approximately 37 community members attended. Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full visioning engagement summary will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Vision Statement – One Word

Community members were asked to write down one word that describes their ideal future. The themes were:

- Inclusive / Diverse / Welcoming
- Equity
- Sustainable / Green
- Fun
- Welcoming
- Thriving
- Livable
- Dense
- Bike-friendly
- Healthy
- Connected
- Affordable
- Safe
- Attractive

Station 1: Vision Statement – Statement Ranking

Community members were asked to rank three similar vision statements based off themes found in the existing vision statement in the Comprehensive Plan. With 12 votes, vision statement B received the most votes: “Spokane will foster livability, connectivity, and resiliency throughout the city by balancing economic vitality, environmental stewardship, and the diverse needs of residents, while cherishing its unique and vibrant neighborhoods. The city will ensure access to safe and efficient mobility, attainable housing, natural environments, and walkable neighborhood services to support a high-quality of life for all residents.” Statement A came in second with 9 votes.

When asked what was missing from the sample vision statements, the themes were:

- Support for arts and culture
- Housing security
- Food security
- Safety
- Acknowledgement of Tribal sovereignty
- Conservation / preservation of natural spaces

Station 2: Commercial Preference

Community members were asked to identify which commercial types they wanted to see throughout Spokane.

Neighborhood corner stores/cafes received the most votes, with 27.

Mixed-use/ground-floor retail came in second, with 26 votes.

Restaurants came in third, with 10 votes.

Additional uses/considerations provided included:

- Senior housing (Audubon-Downriver, Northwest, Balboa, South Indian Trail)
- Reuse of history buildings prior to new development
- Community spaces
- Greenway or walking path connection Division to Garland District
- Neighborhood grocery (e.g. Downriver)
- Protected bike lanes

Station 3: Your Spokane Mapping Exercise

Community members were asked to indicate where they currently live, work, and play in Spokane. Participants primarily indicated living, working, and playing within District 3 boundaries. However, participants also worked in downtown, in Chief Garry Park, and Lincoln Heights in addition to concentration of employment in West Central. Favorite places included downtown as well, in addition to areas along Northwest Boulevard, in North Hill, and within natural areas like State park lands.

Comments received focused on initial thoughts about Spokane's current needs:

- More walkability, bike-ability, and access to transit
- Protected bike lanes
- Connect sidewalks and improve crossings on Northwest Boulevard
- Ash and Grace bus stop is dangers for school students
- Need bus access to medical district
- Address high speed cars / traffic calming
- Fire management needed
- Need transit access to natural areas
- Connect northern portions of Spokane to a bike network throughout the city
- Traffic considerations from new housing in North Indian Trail

Station 4: Your Future Spokane Mapping Exercise

Community members were asked to think about the future of Spokane. Pins indicated a desire for more **local businesses** throughout North Indian Trail, Balboa/South Indian Trail,

Northwest, Audubon/Downriver, West Central, Emerson Garfield, North Hill, and Nevada Heights. More **job opportunities** were desired in Balboa/South Indian Trail along Indian Trail Road and in North Hill. **Large retailers** were desired in North Hill.

Additional uses/considerations provided included:

- More industrial in the West Hills with a job focus
- Increased fire infrastructure in Latah Valley
- Small, locally owned grocery stores throughout, in West Central
- Various housing types within each neighborhood, including senior housing
- A walkable urban center for Shadle area with connections to the neighborhood
- Pedestrian infrastructure along Northwest Boulevard
- Protective bike lanes connection Garland / Monroe / Downtown
- Park in northeast corner of North Indian Trail
- Conversion of existing homes into cafes / small businesses
- Community gardens
- Yoga studio (North Hill)
- Main Street pedestrian mall with no cars downtown
- Incentivize use of land / do not let land sit unused / vacant
- Tall mixed-use development along Northwest Boulevard
- Increase bus service (Routes 22 and 23, Northwest Boulevard, Maple to Driscoll, throughout)
- Make Northwest Boulevard more walkable

Station 5: Climate-Ready Spokane

Community members were asked to reflect on ways to increase resiliency within Spokane. Suggestions included:

- Increase frequency and number of transit routes
- Water usage – use non-potable water for irrigation, make it easier to use rainwater, reduce lawn watering, increase fees
- Support low water and other Water Wise workshops
- Invest in natural areas
- Make neighborhoods more pedestrian friendly

Community members also mapped specific concerns or considerations on a map of the City of Spokane:

- Transit access needed to recreational areas
- Create bike friendly routes on Cedar Street from Francis to downtown
- More frequent transit / support Bus Rapid Transit / consider light rail
- Provide increased incentives for Spokanescape

- Prioritize pedestrian and alternative transportation for all development
- Northwest road resident with bike lanes
- Create safe crossing points on SR 291, current separates walking and biking pathways
- Provide more “essential stores” such as groceries and pharmacies in North Hill / Garland
- Crosswalks on Ash and Maple
- Connect Children of the Sun to Centennial Trail
- Increase tree plantings for canopy cover
- Fire mitigation along Sunset and Peaceful Valley
- Make Main Street pedestrian only / create pedestrian mall downtown
- Safer bike routes in South Hill / to Garland
- Protected bike lanes needed
- More fire infrastructure in Latah Valley
- Preserve natural areas around Thorpe area
- Increase watering restrictions
- Consider land value tax
- Drop city speed limit
- Bike route to Northwest and Driscoll

Station 6: What Did We Miss?

Community members were asked to document anything topic or theme that was missed, or any additional comments they wished to provide. Those comments included:

- Planning for a large community aquatics center
- Improve greenways by incorporating traffic calming measures



Memo

Date: April 2, 2025

Re: Community-Wide Visioning Workshop Engagement Summary

The Community-Wide Visioning Workshop occurred on March 12 at the Central Library. Approximately 50 community members attended. Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full visioning engagement summary will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Vision Statement – One Word

Community members were asked to write down one word that describes their ideal future. The themes were:

- Industries / Jobs
- Affordable
- Walkable
- Safe
- Arts / Culture
- Diverse
- Resilient
- Dense
- Vibrant
- Multi Mobile / Good Public Transportation
- Robust
- Thriving
- Access to Nature
- Family-friendly

Station 1: Vision Statement – Statement Ranking

Community members were asked to rank three similar vision statements based off themes found in the existing vision statement in the Comprehensive Plan. With 9 votes, vision statement B received the most votes: “Spokane will foster livability, connectivity, and resiliency throughout the city by balancing economic vitality, environmental stewardship, and the diverse needs of residents, while cherishing its unique and vibrant neighborhoods. The city will ensure access to safe and efficient mobility, attainable housing, natural environments, and walkable neighborhood services to support a high-quality of life for all residents.” Statement A came in second with 5 votes.

When asked what was missing from the sample vision statements, the themes were:

- Pedestrian focus
- Community support (e.g. financial literacy and housing classes)
- Enforcement of laws
- Focus on ownership to build personal stability and wealth
- Understood and defined solution to homelessness

- How to test the benefits of proposed changes

Station 2: Commercial Preference

Community members were asked to identify which commercial types they wanted to see throughout Spokane.

Neighborhood corner stores/cafes received the most votes, with 14. Comments indicated a desire for this use in South Hill, Cliff Cannon, Minnehaha, West Hills, and around Maxwell. Some community members noted a need for design standards with the use.

Mixed-use/ground-floor retail came in second, with 11 votes, with an emphasis of the use in Neighborhood Centers, Downtown, and around Maple and Francis.

Restaurants came in third, with 5 votes. There was a desire for this use on East 5th Avenue and along Mission Avenue.

Boutiques, convenience stores, groceries, and big-box stores all received 4 votes. Mission and Napa, as well as Downtown, were noted as desired areas for those uses. Downtown has an emphasis for groceries.

Additional uses/considerations provided included:

- Small scale hotels / lodging
- Corner stores near housing, grouped with other businesses, on every corner “where it makes sense”
- Bike repair & rental
- “more of everything in Latah Valley”
- Breweries
- Retain existing businesses

Station 3: Your Spokane Mapping Exercise

Community members were asked to indicate where they currently live, work, and play in Spokane. Participants indicated a wide array of areas in the city, showing geographic diversity in living and leisure activities. Downtown contained a significant number of pins indicating work. Favorite places included areas in State parks and other recreational areas, in downtown, Manito Park, libraries, and community centers.

Comments received focused on initial thoughts about Spokane’s current needs:

- Create a hub on Northwest Boulevard near Audubon/Downriver and Emerson/Garfield border
- Bus route needed near Riverview Drive near Audubon/Downriver and West Hills border
- Need more small grocery store option in West Central

- Arts and culture events and places in West Central
- Infill development around 3rd
- Add retail / restaurants / mixed-use in University District

Station 4: Your Future Spokane Mapping Exercise

Community members were asked to think about the future of Spokane. Pins indicated a desire for more **local businesses** in Chief Garry, Nevada Heights, Minnehaha, Audubon/Downriver, Manito/Cannon Hill, East Central, and Latah/Hangman. More **job opportunities** were desired downtown in Riverside. **Large retailers** were desired downtown and Southgate.

Additional uses/considerations provided included:

- More retail in Whitworth
- More walkable bus routes throughout city / Route 28
- Small scale retail near and on Five Mile Prairie
- Support and improve existing development and infrastructure
- Encourage more use of transit / cycling / vanpools
- Small retail “like Garland” throughout, in West Central
- Avoid convenience stores
- Small / affordable grocery stores throughout
- Attract more employees to downtown to support downtown local businesses
- More businesses in western portion of Northwest
- Community gardens in East Central
- More South Hill retail due to low commercial vacancy
- Opportunity for mixed-use and pedestrian-oriented development in Lincoln Heights
- Latah / Hangman needs centers / corridors to provide services

Station 5: Climate-Ready Spokane

Community members were asked to reflect on ways to increase resiliency within Spokane. Suggestions included:

- Properties that use more water should pay more
- Do not require traditional landscaping for new construction
- Help get Spokane buildings off gas heat
- Considerations for how much water goes to Airway Heights
- Preserve green space in new developments
- Support walkability with accessible curb cuts, snow clearing
- Provide public education and awareness around low-water plants, landscaping, sustainable choices

Community members also mapped specific concerns or considerations on a map of the City of Spokane:

- Wildfire risk: Northwest and South
- Make it easier to make environment-friendly choices in north and center city
- Provide more green spaces and permeable surfaces throughout Division Street
- More density / housing in Five Mile Prairie
- Francis / Maple / Ash difficult to navigate via bike
- More trees in Hillyard / Northeast Spokane
- Conflict between street trees and sidewalks
- Concern over wood mulch promoted through Spokanescape due to fire risk
- Citywide leaf pickup
- Bike friendly routes on Highway 2

Station 6: What Did We Miss?

Community members were asked to document anything topic or theme that was missed, or any additional comments they wished to provide. Those comments included:

- No gentrification with growth
- Need small neighborhood grocery stores in downtown and in food desert areas
- Ensure continued development of East Central with green space and community gardens
- Grow Spokanescape program / increased use of Spokanescape on city-owned properties
- Maintain good job of listening to residents and departments working together
- Ensure changes are beneficial to city at large, not just those heard from
- Preserve positives in Spokane, don't change
- Increase transit access, connectivity, and frequency between neighborhoods
- Pedestrians and cyclist first policies
- East / west transit connectivity
- Rethink parking minimums
- More permeable surfaces
- All-age use of the city, including bike lanes (design focused on all-age use)
- New sidewalks need planting strip to create pedestrian separation



PlanSpokane

Future Growth and Guiding Policies Engagement Summary

December 2025



PLAN**SPOKANE**

Resilient | Connected | Livable | 2046

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Background

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to its Comprehensive Plan, the City of Spokane has been seeking public feedback on the City's next twenty years throughout 2025. While regular updates to the Comprehensive Plan have occurred, this will be the **first substantial update since the Comprehensive Plan was first adopted in 2001**. With the significant population growth and changing local factors Spokane has experienced since then, this update provides the community with an opportunity to reevaluate how they want the City to grow. The goals of this update are to meet all state legislative requirements adopted since 2017, incorporate community input around changing needs and wants, and to streamline the Plan to make it more user friendly.

Being the first substantial update since 2001, the City of Spokane has determined that this proposal is likely to have a significant and potentially negative impact on the environment. As such, an **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** is required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c) and will be prepared as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 effort. The first step of the EIS process is known as "scoping". Both before and during the scoping comment period, the City of Spokane Department of Planning and Economic Development provided opportunities for the community to be engaged in the process of identifying the future vision for Spokane's next twenty years. The [Community Visioning Engagement Summary](#) provides a recap of the feedback heard.

Once the overall vision for the future is determined, the next step of the EIS process is to evaluate different ways the City can meet that vision while also accommodating future growth. To that end, the City of Spokane held a community workshop series on future growth and guiding policies in November 2025 for initial feedback on different ways the City of Spokane can grow, as well as the goals and policies to get us there.

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan is the community's vision for how the city grows and invests. It is mandated by state law requiring a "road map" for fast-growing cities, known as the Growth Management Act. Spokane must have a Comprehensive Plan to manage population growth, with goals that include reducing sprawl, supporting efficient multimodal transportation, protecting the environment, and many more.

The Comprehensive Plan establishes a vision for the city – looking at a horizon of twenty years. It guides implementation through Capital projects, City programs, and regulations.

More information about the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update can be found at PlanSpokane.org

Community Workshop Series

At the beginning of 2025, community members provided invaluable feedback to create a 20-year vision for the City of Spokane. Since then, there has been ongoing work to identify different ways to reach that vision. To present the community with those options on how the City can grow, and receive feedback on goals and policies, a community workshop series on future growth and guiding policies was held in November 2025. One workshop was held in each City Council District, with one



Figure 1. Community members participate in the District 1 Community Workshop.

community-wide workshop held downtown. **Over 100 individuals attended** one or more of the workshops, providing valuable feedback to help shape the future of the City of Spokane.

These in-person workshops included discussion, mapping exercises, and feedback opportunities related to various aspects of the Comprehensive Plan, including the new element of climate and resiliency. Each station sought reactions and comments on how community members wanted to shape the next twenty years. Kids activities and catered food was also available.

Station 1: Guiding Policies

After learning more about the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update and Environmental Impact Statement process through informational posters, the first activity station revolved around the policies of the Comprehensive Plan and the current [Chapter Review](#) process. Community members were asked to identify what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the updated Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the currently proposed amendments.

Themes from the four community workshops include:

Accessibility (housing, public spaces, “sittable” neighborhoods)	Address employment and job creation
Incentives to revitalize vacant properties	More “third places” for community connection
Bikeable streets, including protected bike lanes	Levels of service for fire safety
Art districts	Daycare centers and support
Address land speculation	Creating neighborhood identities
Indoor swimming pools	More greenways and trails
Incentives for affordable and mixed-use housing	Greater civic engagement, involvement, and transparency

Conservation/migration corridors and natural playgrounds	Create/support quality and beautiful places to live
Reduced dependency on single occupancy vehicles	Support for unhoused residents, including work programs
Context sensitive design standards	Sidewalk and pedestrian safety
Allow for more mixed uses in neighborhoods to support walkability, create local “hubs”	Coordination of road construction to prevent multiple roadway maintenance in the same direction

Station 2: Displacement

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Spokane has completed [analysis on racially disparate impacts and displacement risk](#) to meet state legislative requirements (HB 1220). After being presented with the three different types of displacement – physical, economic, and cultural – community members were asked to help brainstorm causes of housing and small business displacement, as well as how the City of Spokane could address those causes.

Causes identified included **high housing costs** and **lack of housing inventory** to keep up with population increases, **mobile home parks being replaced**, businesses leaving and/or not having patrons due to **perception of safety** or **vandalism**, **lack of inclusive and accessible transit and public spaces**, **impact of taxes**, **buildings being demolished** for parking lots or shopping centers, **vacant or underutilized lots**, increase in housing **costs due to surrounding development**, **lack of pedestrian infrastructure**, **high insurance costs/losing property insurance** due to wildfire risk, **corporate rental ownership**, and **climate risks** (heat, lack of trees).

Potential actions to address the causes included **streamlining permit processing**, the **City being involved in public housing development**, **replacing existing housing with affordable multi-family housing**, **create supportive zoning** before development is expected to occur, **wildfire risk mitigation** (to address insurance issues), **rental costs management**, **increase transportation options** (pedestrian friendly streets/bus routes/road access), and **support community resiliency** to climate hazards.

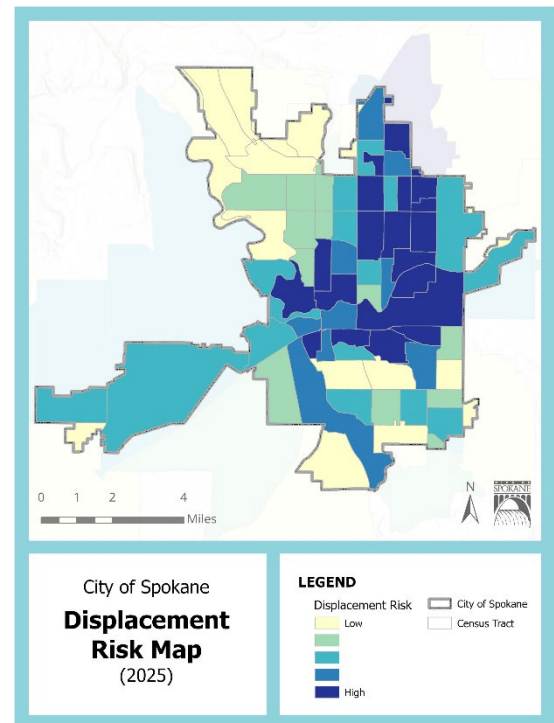


Figure 2. City of Spokane Displacement Risk Map from the Racially Disparate Impacts Analysis Report (2025).

Station 3: Land Use Schema

One aspect of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update includes updating the land use schema for the City of Spokane, with the goal of reducing the number of land use categories. Land use is essentially what kinds of uses can be built where, and community members were asked to provide feedback on the proposed land use categories: Urban Agriculture, Residential Low, Residential High, Commercial, Centers & Corridors, Institutional, Downtown, Industrial, and Open Space. Community members were asked what uses they would like to see in each proposed land use and where they should be located.

Urban Agriculture

- Allow flower growers, small vegetable and fruit farmers market-style food production
- Locate to avoid impacts of potential pesticides
- Preserve agriculture in the city by only allowing agricultural uses

Residential Low

- Ensure there is human-scale and human serving design, walkable third places, a transition between low- and high-density areas, and that the scale of residential and commercial uses match
- Allow parking, community gardens, small mixed uses (cafes, ice cream parlors, bookstores, medical uses like a dentist), indoor community pools, community gathering spaces, and professional offices
- Do not allow gas stations
- Create a process of neighborhood input on project-by-project basis for non-standard uses
- Develop incentives for neighborhood businesses
- Prioritize adaptive reuse over new development
- Locate near centers and corridors and other high intensity uses

Residential High

- Ensure accessible housing (no stairs)
- Expand into existing lower scale residential, such as near transit or in close proximity to amenities
- Have a minimum density

Commercial

- Expand mixed uses
- Leverage vacant commercial areas to add business or apartments
- Establish zoning requirements for gas stations/convenience stores related to sober living and other affordable housing services

Centers & Corridors

- Allow multi-unit housing and trade/live-work makerspaces
- Do not allow drive throughs, gas stations, convenience stores, hostile architecture, or single-unit homes

- Locate throughout Division once NS Corridor is complete and traffic reduces

Downtown

- Allow taller buildings and larger business spaces

Institutional

- Incentivize apartments
- Allow community pools

Industrial

- Encourage adaptive reuse of existing spaces

Open Space

- Allow undeveloped/natural parks with trails, mountain biking, indoor community pools
- Ensure enough parks/trails for those living in dense areas/apartments to have outdoor access, as well as accessible open spaces
- The full length of the Spokane River should be a public park
- Prioritize passive natural spaces

Station 4: Growth Alternatives

A significant result of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update and Environmental Impact Statement will be the selection of a Preferred Alternative – the desired direction for growth and prioritization



Figure 3. Community members participate in the District 2 Community Workshops.

for the City of Spokane's next twenty years. To identify that Preferred Alternative, the City must study different Growth Alternatives, which are different ways to address population growth, economic goals, and the community vision. More detailed analysis and comparisons will be available during the Draft Environmental Impact Statement public comment period expected to kick off in December 2025. This poster station allowed for an initial reaction to the potential options.

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy.

Alternative 2 received the most votes with 25. **Alternative 3 came in second** with 7 votes. One vote selected a middle ground between Alternative 1 and Alternative 2. **Alternative 1 did not receive any votes** (presumably due to community understanding that it does not meet all state legislative requirements).

Rather than voting for a specific Alternative, most community members provided comments on the City of Spokane's future growth. The Preferred Alternative can be a combination of elements of the different Growth Alternatives, with these comments providing direction on what aspects were viewed positively from each alternative.

In general, community members liked the **interconnectedness of Alternative 2**, but also saw the benefit of the **Center City focus of Alternative 3** on businesses, community safety, and more housing. *Full comments can be found in the workshop-specific memos in the appendix of this summary.*

Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City.



Figure 4. Mixed-use descriptions provided for the Map Your Future Spokane exercise. A higher resolution image can be found in the Workshop Posters appendix.

In general, **MU-TOD** was located along Division/Ruby, Market Street, Mission Avenue, North Monroe, near Shadle Library on Wellesley, in parts of downtown and Cliff-Cannon, Hamilton and the northernmost portion of Nevada Street, and in areas along 29th.

MU-1 was located in Hillyard, Nevada Heights just east of Division, the middle of Cliff-Cannon, north Five Mile Prairie, in parts of Audubon/Downriver and West Central, between Northwest and Balboa/South Indian Trail, North Monroe, near Shadle Library on Wellesley, and downtown.

MU-2 was located in Nevada Heights, the middle of Bemiss, adjacent to Chief Garry Park within the Chief Garry Park neighborhood, the northwest corner of Manito/Cannon Hill, north of Comstock, Shiloh Hills, Northwest, North Hill, along Indian Trail Road, and in areas along 29th.

MU-3 was located in the middle of Hillyard and Bemiss, multiple locations in Cliff-Cannon, on West Sunset Boulevard, Audubon/Downriver, Northwest, and along the edges of Manito/Cannon Hill.

Additional comments about mixed-uses included:

Provide more uses in proximity to housing to reduce distance/need for transportation	Trade and makerspaces in West Central
There's currently a lack of affordable and larger retail near neighborhoods, not just small	Mobility connectivity for all modes in East Hillyard is a local priority
No more drive throughs	MU-2 should be everywhere
More intensity along arterials, transition to higher commercial, and then allow residential	No mixed-use in neighborhoods, concerned over exploitative development
Need a Latah-Cannon Corridor Plan to address traffic, 195 and I-90 ramp	Need parks and trails in Hillyard
More health and transportation access in West Central	Designated business district/center/corridor down east Broadway of West Central
Encourage trades academy	Support the creation of 24-hour daycare
Increase pedestrian/bike infrastructure along Northwest Boulevard	Create protections against displacement in Chief Garry Park around City Line stops, including increasing resources for community

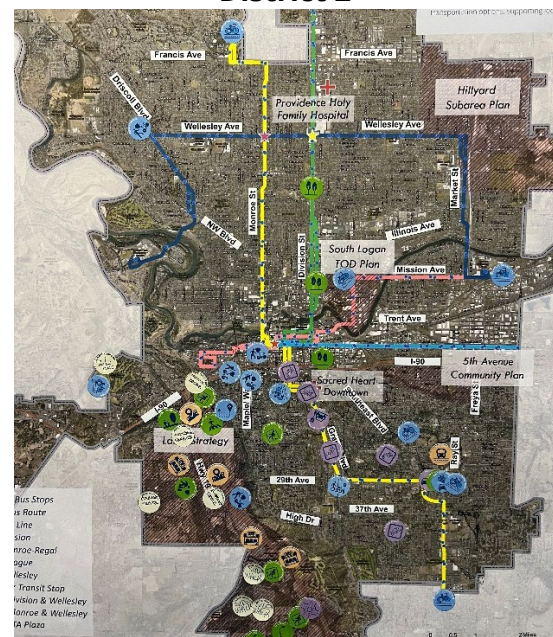
Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane – Transportation

Through a mapping exercise to indicate preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements they want to see along major transit stops, with street trees and greater connectivity being consistent themes. *Full summaries can be found in the workshop-specific memos in the appendix of this summary.*

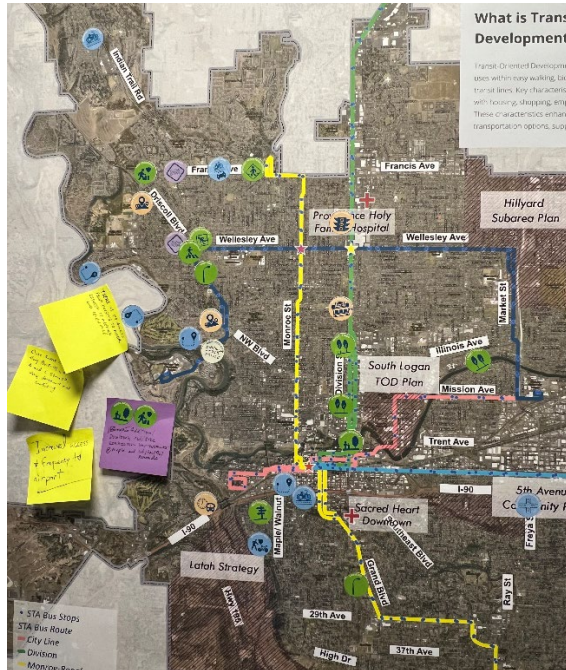
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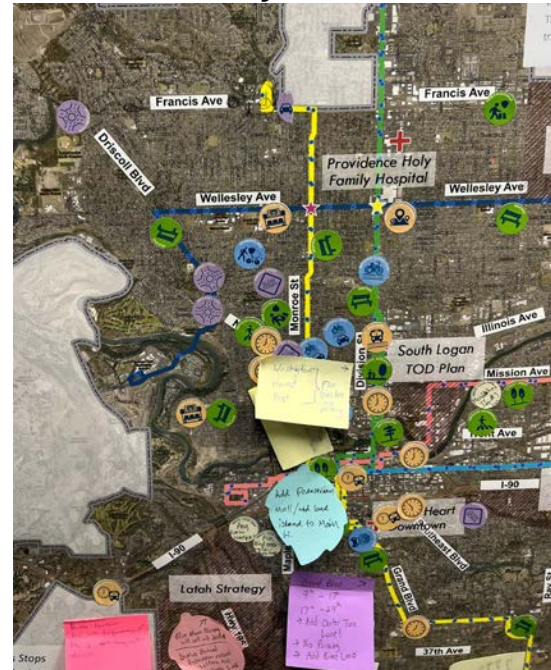
District 2



District 3



Citywide



Station 7: Planning for Climate

Another significant component of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update is the integration of climate and resiliency policies into the Comprehensive Plan to align with recent state legislation. [Climate Planning efforts](#) have been ongoing, with this workshop series providing an opportunity to bring all elements of the update together for community input. Workshop attendees were first asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency.

Key themes from the feedback include **tree canopy** expansion and protection; **resilient and equitable development**; climate resilience **education and community engagement**; **water conservation** and **quality**; **energy efficiency** and **weatherization**; **reducing car reliance**; **air quality** and **pollution reduction**; **fire safety** and **mitigation**; access and preservation to **natural spaces**; and **housing and infrastructure**.

Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement, including wildfire smoke and extreme heat, water conservation, human health, food systems, tree canopy and green spaces, transportation and infrastructure, education, collaboration, and financial barriers. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance.

Topics identified include:

Address financial barriers	Food security
Do not exclude businesses from SpokaneScape program	Local community solutions to address climate hazards and resiliency
Greater bike infrastructure and connectivity	Impact of Artificial Intelligence
Increased shade	Water conservation
Convert unused city property to green spaces	Walkable neighborhoods
Indoor spaces to escape to during weather extremes	More resources directed to conservation programs
Trees and native landscaping, including potential for fruit trees as street trees	Support creation of more efficient building construction
Balance between infill development and trees	Active role of City in tree planting programs
Green infrastructure/swales	Education programs to support local resiliency
Mental and physical health	Intersection of natural and built environment
Protect mature trees and iconic basalt rocks	Increase accountability, including for businesses
Require parking	Maintenance of street trees
Incentives for tree planting in the north of the city	Weatherization/support new windows for historic homes
Recognition of limits to growth	"Dead internet" greenhouse gas emissions
Restrict wood burning fireplaces to improve air quality	Adjust development requirements to allow more room for trees
Growth numbers should consider possibility of climate refugees	Faster and cheaper transit (including through bus-only lanes and in Latah Valley)

Station 9: Environmental Justice

Environmental justice, as defined by state law, means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. It includes addressing disproportionate health and environmental impacts. Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan.



Figure 5. Community members participate in the District 3 Community Workshops.

Workshop attendees were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice. Key themes included supporting a **safe and connected transportation**

system that does not rely on single-occupancy vehicles, **targeting heat mitigation and resiliency** to vulnerable populations, **expanding green infrastructure** and tree canopy, **neighborhood investment without displacement**, and **City-funded resiliency investments** that support impacted neighborhoods and communities.

Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process, which will help ensure that selected policies can be implemented



Figure 6. Community members participate in the Citywide Community Workshops

and align with state requirements. Presented with the options of Resilience, Equity, Climate Pollution Reduction, Logistics, and Risk, community members were asked to identify the criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others.

Resilience came in first, with 21 votes, followed by **Equity** (16 votes) and **Climate Pollution Reduction** (15 votes). **Logistics** received 8 votes, while **Risk** had a total of 4 votes.

In addition to what was listed, community members were then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

Build equity into each criterion	Legislative control to create solutions
How to reduce homelessness/outdoor sleeping to make people less vulnerable	Prioritize policies with City action rather than informational or “encouraging” resident action
Emphasize natural environment as a component of resilience criteria	Without resilience, we will have a hard time delivering on the other policies
Improvement to tree canopy	Clear out underbrush in fire risk areas
Inequitable impact of policy	Banning of wood burning fireplaces
Balancing costs and benefits to ensure prospective business ventures aren’t impacted	Spreading out of affordable housing, “stop consolidating poverty”
Tighten controls on vehicle emissions	Allowing for shelters near services

Next Steps

Feedback received during the community workshops on future growth and guiding policies will inform amendments to goals and policies in the Comprehensive Plan, as well as discussion around the chosen growth strategy (or Preferred Alternative) for Spokane’s next twenty years. Community members will have the opportunity to take a deeper dive into the details of and comparisons

between the Growth Alternatives after the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in December 2025, which will include a formal public comment period. More information about the Draft EIS will be available at PlanSpokane.org upon release. Final adoption of the PlanSpokane 2046 Comprehensive Plan is expected in the later part of 2026.



Figure 7. PlanSpokane 2046 process timeline

Community feedback will be accepted throughout the entire PlanSpokane 2046 process, from helping select the Preferred Alternative to weighing in on proposed goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

We invite your participation:

- Visit the project webpage at PlanSpokane.org to learn more about the planning process
- Learn more about the Climate Planning efforts at my.spokanecity.org/climateplanning
- [Subscribe to the PlanSpokane monthly newsletter](#) to receive timely updates
- Attend future meetings and hearings hosted by the City of Spokane
- Provide written comments or ask questions to the Planning team by emailing PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org

Appendices –

District 1 Memo

District 2 Memo

District 3 Memo

Community-Wide Memo

Workshop Posters



Memo

Re: District 1 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The District 1 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 12, 2025 at Yasuhara Middle School. **Approximately 22 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Move civic engagement
- More districts for city council members
- More government transparency
- Incentives for empty properties on Division following BRT implementation
- More third places
- Continue partnerships with housing services and neighborhood councils
- Bikeable streets.

Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Consider the impacts of housing costs because of Division BRT.
- Get ahead of zoning along the corridor for middle/multi-unit housing.

Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses

should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Residential Low:
 - o Allow professional office
 - o Allow MU-3 uses (like The Scoop)
- Residential High:
 - o Have minimum density
- Centers and Corridors:
 - o Do not allow single-unit homes
- Open Space:
 - o Include intentional passive recreation

Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, Alternative 2 received 5 votes, and Alternative 3 received 1 vote.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selection, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Evacuation routes need for Latah Valley area/Vinegar Flats | around gathering places (e.g. arena). |
| • Distribute growth to remove silos between neighborhood and connected the community. | • Build up, two story buildings waste land potential |
| • Capitalize on larger roads to connect centers and places people visit | • Have services in all areas of the city. |
| • Address Division BRT fully in Alt. 2 and 3. | • Lack of ability to make left turns on Division can cause vacant lots/lack of businesses/patrons. |
| • Require parking for large housing developments to be located within garages/parking structure. | • Alternative 2 seems to be a natural approach to what will likely occur naturally. |
| • Turn parking lots into garages for a better use of land, especially | • Vinegar Flats has a potential for job growth (mini Hillyard). |

- Vinegar Flats is separate from Latah Valley area and should be treated as having different potential
- Build up, not out; focus on downtown and where growth already exists.
- Base Latah Strategy on infrastructure findings for connectivity.

Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, respondents wanted MU-TOD along Division; MU-1 in Hillyard, Nevada Heights just east of Division, and in the middle of Cliff-Cannon; MU-2 in Nevada Heights, the middle of Bemiss, adjacent to Chief Garry Park within the Chief Garry Park neighborhood, the northwest corner of Manito/Cannon Hill, and the north of Comstock; MU-3 in the middle of Hillyard and Bemiss, the southeast corner of Bemiss, multiple locations in Cliff-Cannon, and along the edges of Manito/Cannon Hill.

In addition to pin placement, addition comments included:

- Make transportation less required (most uses in close proximity to households)
- Lack of affordable and larger retail near neighborhoods, highlighting Bemiss
- Mobility connectivity for all modes in East Hillyard is a local priority

Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting improved crosswalks and wider sidewalks along Northwest Boulevard; street trees, lighting and faster bus times around Vinegar Flats; improved crosswalks Downtown; more street trees on Market Street; separated bike lanes, improved crosswalks, lighting, and bus shelters along Division between the Ruby interchange and Wellesley; lighting and wider sidewalks in the Logan neighborhood, south of Wellesley; and improved bike connections and faster bus times in Hillyard.

In addition to sticker placement, addition comments included:

- Better crosswalks on Wellesley at Driscoll Boulevard
- Better lighting along bus routes including Route 28
- Hays Park needs sidewalks
- Bus shelter at Bridgeport and Glass

- Improve crosswalks at Glass
- Need a bus route on Freya in Wellesley area
- Fix Hairball intersection at Main/Monroe/Spokane Falls
- Pedestrian bridge is needed on Rowan to cross NSC
- Bridgeport near Division, people park half on sidewalk and half on street
- Fire access at Euclid into Minnehaha needs to be improved

Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- Facilities and accommodations for dogs/pets.
- More shade on sidewalks.
- Reduction of VMTs through denser housing and more walkability.
- Locally fund ore SpoCanopy.
- Increase LOS for active transportation, reduced LOS for cars.
- More shade on trails and bus stops.
- Non-shaded areas and sidewalks are a burn risk for kids (toys, slides, etc.).
- Water conservation should not be focused just on residents.
- More fuel reduction in WUI areas.
- Continue tree canopy program.
- More QR codes around town (like parks) so people can get connected to information.
- Less black asphalt that raises heat, more white concrete.
- More sidewalk connectivity.
- More spending on education on water usage information.
- Removed trees need to be replanted in that area (not elsewhere in the City).
- Areas with lower tree canopy need higher tree requirements.
- More lawn alternative promotion, not just SpokaneScape.
- New Hillyard there are big oil tanks that burp oil smells into homes, cause air quality issues.
- Make the things that have and have not worked known; tell residents about known issues.
- More mail fliers of education, not just online.
- More education on fire wise and fuel reduction programs the City is already doing.
- Install solar panels over parking lots.

Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- Trees:
 - o Require in new development
 - o Leave existing trees in new development
 - o Active City involvement in tree planting (don't require residents to request trees, ask them if they want trees)
- Oversight of street trees to support maintenance and growth to ensure trees live
- Swales

Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Connect bicycle network and make e-bike traffic less dangerous.
- Expand the transportation network for bike and pedestrian connectivity.

Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 1 vote, Equity received 1 vote, Climate Pollution Reduction received 1 vote, Logistics received 1 vote, and Risk received 1 vote.

Community members were then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Prioritize policies with city action rather than informational or “encouraging” resident action.
- Improvement to tree canopy (increase oversight and assistance, reduction of water costs to water trees, tree health support)



Memo

Re: District 2 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The District 2 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 5, 2025 at Ferris High School. **Approximately 40 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Don't use broad terms in Comprehensive Plan
- Levels of service, especially for fire

Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Affordable Housing
- Address vandalism to support businesses
- Concerned about gangs for both housing and small businesses
- Lack of pedestrian infrastructure and transit
- High insurance for homes in the WUI, mitigate wildfire risk
- Corporate rental ownership
- Tree desert/heat island in certain neighborhoods
- Increase tree canopy
- Codes that require solar cooling
- Control rents
- Increase bus routes
- Create more pedestrian friendly streets
- Build roads before new development
- High housing costs

- Losing property insurance
- City should work with the State on housing costs and insurance loss

Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Urban Agriculture:
 - o Preserve, no other use allowed.
- Residential Low:
 - o Allow businesses catered toward people walking
 - o Allow neighborhood input on a project-by-project level for other uses
 - o Allow coffee shops, gathering spaces, and bookstores
 - o Develop incentives for neighborhood businesses
 - o Prioritize historic/adaptive reuse over new development (both commercial and residential)
 - o Commercial and residential can coexist as long as the scale and auto vs pedestrian uses match each other in intensity.
 - o Locate near centers and corridors and other high intensity uses.
- Commercial:
 - o Zoning requirements for gas stations and convenience stores related to sober living and other affordable housing services.
- Centers and Corridors:
 - o Do not allow drive-thrus, gas stations or any other auto-oriented uses.
- Open Space:
 - o Should include parks and natural open space.
 - o Preserve open space.
 - o Protect trees during development, including on private property.

Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, one vote was cast for a middle option between Alternative 1 and Alternative 2, Alternative 2 received 6 votes, and Alternative 3 received 2 votes.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selected, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- Direct growth to Garland/Perry/Downtown/areas already with growth and not within neighborhoods with limited parking and emergency access.
- Direct growth away from mature trees and rock formations.
- Distributed housing and transportation needed.
- Alternative 2 & 3 should both focus on TOD and increased affordable housing.
- Large subdivisions should have traffic lights to exit to accommodate surrounding growth.
- Duplexes built and sold as duplexes are not selling/not affordable; concerns over affordable housing in alternatives.
- Parking requirements should be 1 space per unit.
- Need safe crossings to bus stops/park and rides.
- High intensity housing can be isolating, community hubs are needed.
- Increase housing downtown; get more people visiting downtown.
- Locate mix-use along NS Corridor interchanges.
- Address Airway Heights growth impact on access to water.
- Concerns over Division traffic and conflict of businesses, curb cuts.
- Infrastructure needs to be in place before continuing to allow new development (Freya Lower South Hill highlighted).
- More mixed-uses everywhere; less areas with single uses.
- Locate employment and industrial uses on edges of the city.
- Provide/expect commercial uses to pop up around employment.
- Provide more attractions; things for groups/teens to do together.

Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, participants had few locations they wanted mixed-uses to be located. However, MU-TOD was identified for Market Street, North Monroe, and portions of Ruby. MU-3 was identified on West Sunset Boulevard.

In addition to pin placement, additional comments included:

- MU-2 should be everywhere.
- No neighborhood businesses, there is no parking.

- No Latah-Cannon Corridor plan; all the traffic, no plan.
- No mixed use in neighborhoods, protect neighborhood from exploitive development.
- Want to see more intensity at arterials, then higher commercial, and finally residential.
- Want a transportation plan for Cliff-Cannon; there's no future plan considering 195 and I-90 ramp.

Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting street trees along Ruby and Division, as well as downtown; improved bike connections north of Francis Avenue in the northwest, in South Logan at Mission and Hamilton, near Spokane Community College, and near Ray Street, Regal, and other areas in South Spokane; separate bike lanes at Wellesley and Driscoll Boulevard, within Latah Valley, and in various locations near downtown and just south of I-90 in the southwest; bus route improvements near Vinegar Flats and within Latah Valley; bus shelters throughout Latah Valley and on Ray Street; speed management along Grand Boulevard; and new and improved crosswalks throughout the southwest. Additional improvements, largely in in the southwest, include emergency services, improving bridges, new sidewalks, fixing of roads, lighting, and new intersection.

Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Create trails that are more like dog parks | • Create urban public garden inside parks |
| • Support engaged and active citizenry for resiliency | • Encourage TOD |
| • Expand safe bike and walking to grocery stores | • Encourage safe streets for bikes and pedestrians; protected bike lanes, more crosswalks |
| • Responsible and equitable development | • Expand bike in infrastructure |
| • Increase density and make it easier for residents to do that themselves | • More walkable neighborhoods (i.e. 29 th and Grand area) |
| • More trees and shade along trails | • Canon area lost lots of trees, not replanted by new development |
| • Ban wood burning fireplaces | • People drink PFAS and then it moves through sewer pipes and treatment |

- Sewer infrastructure in Canon is old and breaks often
- Lack of parking becomes a safety and resiliency issue
- Incentivize more tree canopy in lower areas but maintain aging tree canopy (especially in aging demographics)
- Water quality of PFAS in mystic falls/garden spring due to development
- More dense development so there is less cross through traffic to sprawling suburbs
- Enable neighborhoods to create more social capital and be able to take action and help issues
- Incentivize responsible development
- Solar on rooftops before green spaces
- Money, investment, and code is very car focuses and needs to be more holistic
- Toolkit for tactical urbanism (empower communities to improve areas themselves)
- Life flight should use major corridors to reduce residential and wildlife noise pollution
- Expand historic preservation, create culture like Canon
- Fix challenging areas for biking (hills make it impossible and dangerous to bike, even with e-bikes)
- NSC will bring more car infrastructure and needs to be more resilient and multimodal
- Development should not be in neighborhoods
- Maintain our strong tree canopies
- Need more protected bike lanes
- Extend existing bike lanes, don't just stop the bike lanes suddenly
- Development should not remove trees, plants, and Spokane's distinct environment
- Rain retention facilities requirements should be stronger
- Bike lanes with multiple lines helps enforce walking
- Ensure social capital is created during development
- Green roofs
- More walking paths
- Stronger codes to maintain tree canopy
- Need to have an acknowledgement of growth/our limits

Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- Recognize limits to growth.
- Prioritize protection of mature trees and iconic basalt rocks.
- The new infill law is destroying mature trees and neighborhoods.
- No mixed-use growth in the middle of neighborhoods.
- Bike infrastructure
- Walkable neighborhoods
- Public Transportation in Latah Valley
- Protect trees
- Require parking spaces for all units, change setbacks to 5-feet, change lots from 20 to 50 foot minimum.
- Sponsor new windows for historic homes.
- Convert unused city property to public pea patches.
- Growth numbers should consider possibility of climate refugees.

Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Plant more trees
- More bike lanes in all communities
- Community infrastructure built now to we have it when growth occurs
- Sound walls along freeways to protect housing
- Reducing pollution in low-income areas
- Walkable neighborhoods for everyone

Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 6 votes, Equity received 3 votes, Climate Pollution Reduction received 4 votes, Logistics received 1 vote, and Risk received 2 votes.

Community members there then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Without resilience, we will have a hard time delivering on the other policies
- Clear out underbrush in fire risk areas.
- Inequitable impact e.g. when you add a historic district, you reduce the value of the homes surrounding the historic district.
- Ban wood burning fireplaces.
- Tighten controls on vehicle emissions.
- Stop consolidating poverty; spread out affordable housing outside of poverty-stricken neighborhoods.
- Balancing costs and benefits to ensure prospective business ventures aren't too impacts.
- Stop allowing shelters in areas with no services.



Memo

Re: District 3 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The District 3 Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 18, 2025 at Salk Middle School. **Approximately 20 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Accessibility (housing and public space)
- Mixed-use housing in neighborhoods to make more “hubs” instead of strip malls
- More greenways and trails like Centennial; need north/south connections
- Protected bike lanes, not just painted ones
- Allow for more mixed use in established neighborhoods
- Allow for more walkable neighborhoods
- Sidewalks in existing development, not just new development
- Programs for homeless residents like jobs, including helping clean up neighborhoods
- Third spaces
- For elderly and disabled residents, walkable also means sittable
- Context sensitive design standards, especially in historic centers
- Sidewalk safety (e.g. electric scoots and conflicts with pedestrians)
- Require more design variety within new developments
- Create quality and beautiful places to live
- Less dependence on vehicles
- Allow for or encourage local services, restaurants, or grocery stores in neighborhoods
- Organize road construction planning so that if a main north/south roadway is under construction, you wait on further north/south projects

- Increase pedestrian safety at uncontrolled intersections on large roads, especially one way roads

Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Lack of low friction transit
- Lack of public spaces free from oppression
- Please always consider small business impact when considering taxes
- Greater options in affordable housing (location, size, etc.)
- Density transition, no high-rise next to single unit homes
- Building getting torn down for parking lots or mall centers
- Mixed use housing can balance both
- Vacant lots/parking lots sitting unused

Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Residential Low:
 - o Consider impacts of less on-site parking
 - o Allow small mixed uses (cafes, etc.) and embrace being an urban area
 - o Allow mixed-use spaces, community spaces, community gardens, parks, and walkable third spaces.
 - o No gas stations
 - o Allow for small scale medical uses (e.g. dentist) near hospital district
 - o Need transition between low- and high-density areas
- Residential High:
 - o Needs to be expanded into existing lower scale residential, such as near transit or in close proximity to amenities
- Commercial:
 - o Mixed use needs to be expanded
 - o Take advantage of vacant commercial areas to add businesses or apartments
- Centers and Corridors:

- o No hostile architecture
 - o Locate throughout Division once NSC is complete and traffic reduces
- Downtown:
 - o Allow taller buildings and bigger business spaces
- Industrial:
 - o Encourage adaptive reuse of existing spaces
- Open Space:
 - o Undeveloped parks with trails, not every park needs big grass fields
 - o Accessible open space
 - o Mountain biking
 - o 100% of the river should be public park

Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, Alternative 2 received 5 votes, and Alternative 3 received 1 vote.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selected, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development is currently happening below bluff, create transitional uses to reinvent the area. • Alternative 2 plus downtown revitalization preferred. • Allow Browne's Additional uses through the city/neighborhoods. • Alternative 2 improves already existing sprawl in city limits, Alternative 3 avoids sprawl. • Neighborhood hubs needed throughout, create economic areas in neighborhoods. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative 2 has housing more accessible to all parts of the city and spread impacts. • Plan around future light rail. • Balanced alternative allows for areas to grow and revitalize more. • Do not focus on downtown, people do not visit as often as other parts of the city. • To change behavior, give a better alternative; carrot needed first. • Pedestrian only streets or golf cart/scooter only streets needed. • Need easier access to bus routes like Division. |
|--|---|

- Downtown focus creates opportunity for more housing and revitalization/reuse of existing buildings.
- Alternative 2 preferred, but with preservation of historic buildings, revitalize or reuse buildings.
- The investment downtown of Alternative 3 is a good priority to avoid businesses leaving.
- Like the mixed uses in north Spokane but want downtown focus as well.
- Housing does not fix homeless problems, need other solutions like centralized facilities.
- Take advantage of areas already changing – vacant areas, industries that moved.
- Downtown expansion plus the connectedness along the streets and transit lines.
- Reuse abandoned commercial buildings for housing.
- Increase middle housing everywhere.
- Job growth is important; make sure we are encouraging industries and not just mixed-uses.
- Like a multi-block approach to intensities (like Alt 3 downtown) over less depth along transit lines.
- Downtown as a primary working hub allows for investments to make it a safe and appealing destination.

Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, respondents wanted MU-TOD along Hamilton, North Monroe, and along the northernmost portion of Nevada Street; MU-1 between Northwest and Balboa/South Indian Trail neighborhoods, on North Monroe, and near the Shadle Library on Wellesley; MU-2 along Indian Trail Road; and MU-3 in the southwest corner of Manito/Cannon Hill, within Audubon/Downriver, and in Northwest.

Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting more street trees along Ruby and Division, Browne's Addition, and near Illinois Avenue; wider sidewalks on Division in downtown; lighting on Grand and south of Wellesley; bus shelters along Division; increase bus times near Government Way; better connected areas in Northwest and Audubon/Downriver as well as just south of downtown; improved intersection at near Freya and 5th Avenue; wayfinding near Maple/Walnut; and reduced speeds new Wellesley and Driscoll Boulevard.

In addition to sticker placement, addition comments included:

- There is no access from housing to river between TJ Meenach and Seven Mile.
- Close some intersections along Driscoll at A and C streets, they are dangerous and confusing.
- Increased (bus?) access and frequency to airport.
- Better “barriers” needed for separated bike lanes.
- Browne’s Addition/Downtown need pedestrian and bike connection improvements at Maple and 1st/Pacific/Riverside.

Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- Provide good resilient tree types that don’t cause damage to pipes.
- Help connect homeowners with getting weatherization like insulation (both knowledge and resources).
- Discourage the purchasing of big gas guzzling trucks, SUVs, etc.
- Support the replacement of trees when they need replanted
- Make our neighborhoods more beautiful and bring community pride
- Tree maintenance subsidies
- Fire hazard mitigation for homeowners
- Ensure trees are watered, when people quit watering their yards in the summer, they also don’t water the trees
- Developers need to plant higher age and mature trees
- Equal investment opportunities into neighborhoods
- Work with local areas, including Idaho, to maintain/preserve climate
- Use more fire safe housing material in new developments
- Targeted partnerships to get better air filters for the community
- More signage about issues like heat islands, where/when they are happening
- Take a position as a city to go solar, provide information to connect to contractors or best products
- More coverage of trees throughout Spokane
- Need formal river access for non-car residents between TJ Meenach and 7-Mile
- More trail and native preservation little parks
- Look at housing ages to determine places to target aging tree replacement
- Quit encourage people to remove yards, instead of drought tolerant, most people are landscaping with rock and amplifying the problem.
- Do more than just Avista providing energy efficiency

- Urban re-forestation tree planting subsidies
- Raise subsidy help by a sliding scale
- Window upgrade help to reduce energy cost

Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- No additional power to AI facilities, it will create more pollution
- More bus only lanes to make public transit faster, cheaper, and quicker
- SpokaneScape: incentive model is helpful, but businesses are exempt
- More improvements to bike infrastructure and consistent connectivity throughout neighborhoods
- Tree and native landscaping
- Better park and transit accessibility for walkable neighborhoods
- Tree canopy
- Promotion of local community solution for addressing climate
- Address financial barriers
- Low/zero friction public transit
- Shade
- Intersection of natural and built environment
- Mental and physical health
- Low-cost improvements to support biking
- Education around benefits of tree canopy
- Incentivize tree planting on the north side of the city
- Hold businesses more accountable
- Trees as physical barriers for bike lanes to improve safety
- Greenhouse gas emissions related to “dead internet”

Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Support bicycle use and protected bike lanes
- Fruit and nut trees in public spaces, not ornamental fruit trees
- Protected bike lanes and bus only lanes
- Supporting walkable neighborhoods for community development
- Fund solar panel
- Heat mitigation in neighborhoods, especially East Central

- City should provide funding opportunities for climate change mitigation activities
- Supporting pedestrian transportation
- Leaf removal should happen in West Central, equal access to resource
- More advertising for Spokaneopy and SpokaneScape
-
- Safer roads
- Support equity in neighborhoods impacted by freeways through noise barriers, reinvestment without gentrifying
- More bus rapid transit throughout the city
- Stop watering public spaces that aren't parks

Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 8 votes, Equity received 5 votes, Climate Pollution Reduction received 7 votes, Logistics received 5 votes, and Risk received 1 vote.

Community members there then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Legislative control to create solutions
- How to reduce homelessness/outdoor sleeping to make people less vulnerable
- Build equity into each criterion



Memo

Re: Citywide Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop

The Citywide Future Growth and Guiding Policies Community Workshop occurred on November 19, 2025 at the Central Library. **Approximately 35 community members attended.** Feedback received at each station activity is summarized below. A full engagement summary of the workshop series will be developed at a later date.

Station 1: Guiding Policies

Community members were asked to write down what topics they want to make sure are addressed in the Comprehensive Plan to help identify potential gaps in the proposed amendments:

- Art districts
- Neighborhoods being distinct
- Overnight daycares
- Spark House
- Address land speculation
- Shopping District (Monroe, Garland)
- Indoor swimming pools for the winter
- Trails
- Action plan for incentivizing affordable, dense housing
- Daycare centers
- Conservation/migration corridors to connect to County corridors
- Promoting outdoor activities in the winter e.g. park use in the winter, SCC pool
- Addressing employment and job creation
- Ensuring adequate levels of transportation/transit opportunities to reduce single occupancy vehicles
- Aim to make all playgrounds and parks accessible
- Natural playgrounds
- Shoreline master planning

Station 2: Displacement

After being told about three different types of displacement (physical, economic, and cultural), community members were asked what causes to housing and small business

displacement are they most concerned about. Additionally, how could the City address them?

The comments included:

- Faster permit processing
- City should be involved in public housing development
- High housing costs are a concern
- Mobile home park developments being replaced by affordable multi-family housing
- Business displacement due to neighborhood perception of safety
- Lack of housing inventory to keep up with population increases

Station 3: Land Use Schema

Community members were asked to provide feedback on proposed land use designations to implement the future growth of the Spokane. Specifically, they were asked what uses should be allowed in the different land uses and where should the land use be located. Participants reflected on the following land uses:

- Urban Agriculture:
 - o Allow flower growers, small vegetable and fruit farmers market-type food production
 - o Locate to avoid impacts of potential pesticides
- Residential Low:
 - o Human-scale and human serving design
 - o Allow parking
 - o Allow community gardens and indoor community pools
- Residential High:
 - o Accessible housing (no stairs)
- Centers and Corridors:
 - o Allow multi-family as well as trade/live work makerspaces
 - o Do not allow drive throughs
- Institutional:
 - o Incentives apartments
 - o Community pools
- Open Space:
 - o Allow indoor community pools
 - o Provide enough parks/trails so those in dense areas/apartments have a place to go outside

Station 4: Growth Alternatives

Community members were presented with the three Growth Alternatives being evaluated as part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update process. Alternative 1 (Stay the Course) represents the current growth strategy. To address recent state legislation, Alternative 2 (Distributed and Balanced) and Alternative 3 (Center City and Regional Hubs) were developed out of earlier visioning and scoping engagement. After reviewing the proposed maps and a snapshot of environmental impact evaluation comparisons between the three alternatives, community members were asked to vote on their preferred growth strategy. Alternative 1 received 0 votes, Alternative 2 received 9 votes, and Alternative 3 received 3 votes.

Participants who did not fully prefer one alternative over another, as well as those who did make a selected, were asked to identify their likes and dislikes of potential growth options, as well as other considerations for future growth. Those comments included:

- North/South and East/West connection in Alternative 2 is a positive
- Diversity of locations is positive for clients/investors; “diversity of options”
- Use land along Government Way/West Hills
- Alt 2 creates bridge between neighborhoods
- Protect agricultural lands; encourage regenerative agricultural practices
- Like NW mixed use proposal
- East/West supported in Alt 2 along Wellesley and Francis
- Alt 3 plus Wellesley, E/W connection
- Like mixed use along NW Boulevard in Alt 2
- Alter 2 favors more positive distribution but also add corner stores
- Neither alternative focus on connecting smaller areas
- Encourage arts through home occupation
- Alternative 2 needs the medical focus and should include better transit for shift work for medical staff
- Watch out for community displacement in West Center/Broadway
- Push heavy industrial outside of city limits
- Health impact to neighborhoods should be analyzed
- Add home occupation for mix of jobs/uses
- Need traffic calming at Broadway in West Central
- Ensure professional buildings are also part of mixed-use areas, not just retail/food
- For industrial areas where residential areas can be allowed, expand the tree canopy
- Need to address transportation
- More mixed-use and corner stores with pedestrian emphasis
- Need code enforcement for parking in Cannon
- Maintain Center and Corridors

Station 5: Map Your Future Spokane – Mixed-Uses

Through a mapping exercise where different color pins represented different types of mixed-use designations, community members were asked to identify where they thought different sizes and scales of mixed-use development should be located throughout the City. In general, respondents wanted MU-TOD near the Shadle Library on Wellesley, along Market Street in Hillyard, on North Monroe, along Mission, in parts of downtown and Cliff-Cannon, and in areas on 29th; MU-1 in north Five Mile Prairie, in parts of Audubon/Downriver and West Central, and downtown; MU-2 in Shiloh Hills, Northwest, and North Hill and in areas along 29th; and MU-3 in multiple areas spread out through Comstock, Latah/Hangman, Lincoln Height, East Central, Cliff-Cannon, Manito/Cannon Hill, Chief Garry, Audubon/Downriver, Bemiss, and Whitman.

In addition to pin placement, additional comments included:

- No more drive throughs
- Need parks and trails in Hillyard
- Design for less disruption in displacement
- Cannon's Addition concern over privacy with height differences
- Cannon's Addition needs transportation management
- More health and transportation access in West Central
- Trades academy
- 24-hour day care
- Designated business district/center/corridor down east Broadway of West Central
- Trade and maker spaces in West Central
- "Sparkhouse" at McKinley School, various locations throughout City
- Create protections against displacement in Chief Garry around City Line stops, including increasing resources for community
- Increase Pedestrian/Bike Infrastructure along Northwest Boulevard

Station 6: Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation

Through a mapping exercise that included stickers that indicated preferred development types and street upgrades, community members were asked to identify what type of street improvements and destinations they want to see along major transit stops throughout Spokane. In general, community members indicated wanting increase bus access in downtown, along Grand Boulevard, out towards the airport, and near Northwest Boulevard; bus shelters on Wellesley in West Central; downtown wayfinding, seating along Wellesley, Northwest Boulevard, Division, Market, Grand Boulevard, and Regal; improved or new crosswalks on Northwest Boulevard and near Monroe Street, as well as near Trent Avenue and on Francis; intersections throughout northwest Spokane; street trees in East Center and downtown; and greater and safer bike connectivity along Division, between Division and Monroe, and on Grand.

In addition to sticker placement, addition comments included:

- On Grand Boulevard from 9th to 29th, add center turn lane, remove parking, and add bike lanes.
- Increase separated protected bike connectivity north/south away from Centennial Trail
- Double decker bus cut frequency of the 6, not frequent enough
- Slow down one-way couplets or remove them
- No in-town highways
- Potential for strong transit connectivity with Valley-BRT or light rail on Sprague Avenue
- Add pedestrian mall/mid lane island to Main Street
- Create school streets and shared streets
- Finish the envisioned boulevard plan for Regal Steet through Southgate District Center
- On Washington, Howard, and Post flip bike lane and parking
- Push Monroe Road Diet down to Kendall Yards
- Recommended bus routes, including to natural areas like Mt. Spokane, Little Spokane River, and Bowl and Pitcher
- Slow default neighborhood speeds to 20 MPH
- Climate town videos like park(ing) day
- Grand should have a different type of arterial status
- Micromobility designated spaces/use for daylighting off sidewalk parking
- Blue Moon Nursery will sell and develop
- Develop planned pedestrian natural surface trail along Latah Creek
- Make a one hour bus loop down to Latah through Cliff-Cannon
- Pedestrian path buried in park development
- Trail easement at 11th Ave and bridge

Station 7: Planning for Climate

Community members were asked to identify what actions they want the City of Spokane to take to support local climate resiliency. Those comments included:

- Climate resilience education
- End wood burning fireplaces
- Real penalties for water use abuse
- Park and ride/multimodal transportation system
- Incentivize public transit use
- Encourage water conservation and restrict water use in dry months
- Extreme weather even shelters
- Adon't rely on air conditioners as they just displace heat, use good design

- Increase accessibility of recycling and composting
- Stop logging forests to make room for development, planting street trees does not replace natural forests
- Address growth at the edge of the UGA
- Stop over building lots and not leaving space for trees
- Park and ride as entry way into public transit use

Station 8: Developing Climate Policies

In order to help develop climate and resiliency policies, community members were presented with top themes heard throughout the earlier phase of climate planning engagement. With those in mind, participants were then asked to identify any other topics of importance:

- Indoor spaces to escape to during weather extremes
- Water conservation
- More resources directed to conservation programs
- Street trees, including maintenance
- Food security
- Allow fruit trees near street/sidewalks
- City should partner with property owners to maintain trees to offset costs
- Support creation of more efficient building construction
- Restrict wood burning fireplaces to improve air quality

Station 9: Environmental Justice

Community members were presented with the definition and ways to assess environmental justice, in order to support state required policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Participants were then asked to provide ideas on how the City of Spokane can support environmental justice:

- Low-income renters and homeowners can't easily afford maintenance of sidewalks/trees/bioswales, but these improve their environment; city needs to support neighborhoods by maintaining these elements
- Reduce light pollution
- Protecting elders from heat impacts through tree canopy and programs to reduce costs for AC units
- Land bridge for wildlife crossing (Thorpe and 195); don't just plan for humans
- Increase public indoor pools for year-round use for social and health benefits for kids and elderly
- Amenities like parks and other public places need to be designed to allow vulnerable populations to access during high temperatures

Station 10: Prioritizing Climate Policies

In addition to identifying potential climate and resiliency policies, the climate planning effort will include a prioritization process. Community members were asked to identify the top criteria they believed should be weighted more heavily than others. Resilience received 6 votes, Equity received 7 votes, Climate Pollution Reduction received 3 votes, Logistics received 1 vote, and Risk received 0 votes.

Community members were then asked to identify any other criteria that should be considered:

- Emphasize natural environment as a component of resilience criteria

Welcome!



The City of Spokane is working on a periodic update to the City's Comprehensive Plan as required by the State's Growth Management Act (GMA). This "periodic update" ensures the plan aligns with any changes to state law. The last periodic update was completed in 2017. Since then, the State has added new requirements, especially around climate and housing. Due in June 2026, the periodic update will identify policies and future regulations to guide the next 20 years of our city.



What We're Planning For

Population

Based on growth forecasts for Spokane County, the City of Spokane is expected to gain at least **23,357 new residents between 2023 and 2046**, bringing the City's total population to just over 256,000.



23,357
projected new residents by 2046

Housing Needs

As part of the periodic update, the City of Spokane is seeking to better understand how to support existing housing while addressing future housing needs.

Per state requirements and County allocations, the City of Spokane is expected to need **22,359 additional permanent housing units** between 2020 and 2046. 13,415 of those units are to accommodate new residents, while the remaining units are intended to meet past housing underproduction needs. In addition to a total number of housing units, the City of Spokane is also required to plan for housing by affordability bracket.



22,359
additional permanent housing units
needed between 2020 and 2046



Learn more at PlanSpokane.org



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Environmental Impact Statement

Background

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 process, the City of Spokane is developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), an informational document that provides the City, public, Tribes, and agencies with environmental information to be considered in the decision-making process.

An EIS is required under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) for larger projects, such as significant updates to Comprehensive Plans. An EIS describes potential environmental impacts, reasonable alternatives, and ways to avoid or minimize negative impacts that could result from implementation of policies, informing the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update.



Draft EIS

The Draft EIS presents three alternatives to test different growth patterns and policies. The City of Spokane will then create a “preferred alternative” based on public input and the Draft EIS evaluation of the range of the alternatives.

The preferred alternative may include any features of the studied alternatives, including a combination of various elements from all of the alternatives. The preferred alternative will be evaluated in the Final EIS.

Final EIS

After public feedback and the selection of a preferred alternative, a Final Environmental Impact Statement will be written that analyzes the chosen path forward.

The Final EIS will also respond to comments received on the Draft EIS.

EIS Topics



Earth, water quality, and water resources



Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions



Plants and animals, including critical areas and habitat



Land use patterns and urban form, including historic and cultural resources



Population, employment, and housing



Relationship to plans, policies, and regulations



Transportation, including multiple modes and city and state facilities



Public services: police, fire and emergency medical services, parks, schools, libraries, solid waste



Utilities: power, water, wastewater, and stormwater



Growth Alternatives

The City is studying three alternatives in the Draft EIS. Each alternative describes different growth strategies.

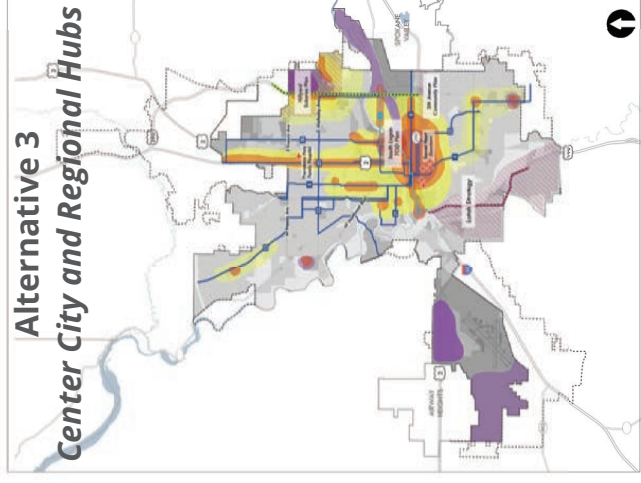
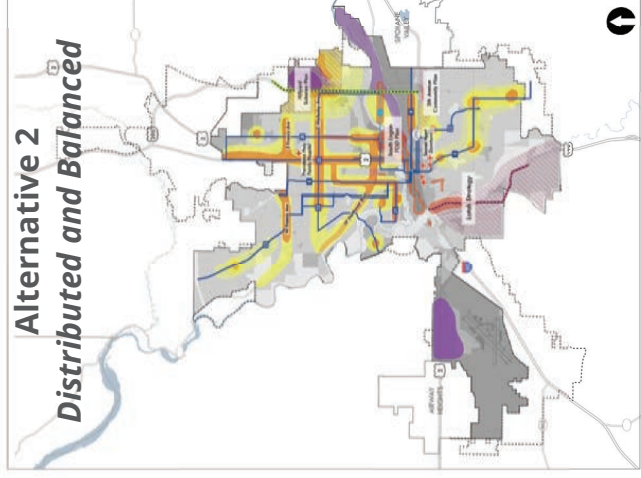
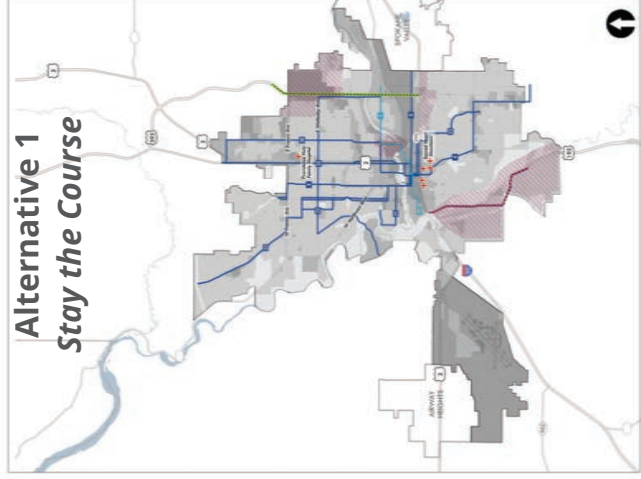
Legend

Growth Intensity (Alternative 1)

- Low
- Moderate
- Moderate-High
- High

Growth Intensity (Alternatives 2 and 3)

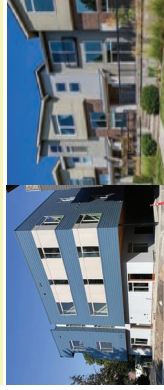
- High Density Housing
- Moderate Density Housing
- Mixed Use / Commercial
- Employment/ Industrial Light
- Employment/ Industrial Heavy



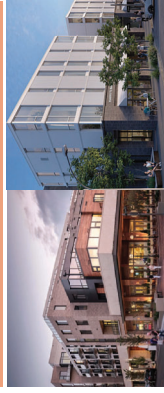
High Density Housing



Moderate Density Housing



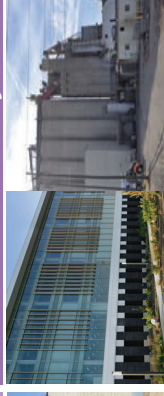
Mixed Use / Commercial



Employment/ Industrial Light



Employment/ Industrial Heavy



Alternatives Comparison *(Preliminary)*

This board shares preliminary environmental impact evaluation results on the natural and built environment. Each table has a table or “report card” with comparison symbols. Impacts may be greater or lesser, or there can be potential beneficial impacts/mitigation measures. The results may change with the completion of the Draft EIS.

There will be a public comment opportunity to weigh in on the alternatives and the Draft EIS evaluation. That will help the City of Spokane create a Preferred Alternative that mixes and matches alternative features and adds mitigation measures that can reduce impacts on the natural and built environment.

Objectives

OBJECTIVES	ALT. 1	ALT. 2	ALT. 3
Meet Periodic Update Requirements	x	✓+	✓+
Accommodate Growth: Housing at All Affordability Levels	✓	✓+	✓+
Accommodate Growth: Jobs	✓	✓	✓+
Clarify the Plan	x	✓+	✓+
Simplify the Plan and Codes	x	✓+	✓+
Protect Critical Areas	✓	✓+	✓+
Fast-Track Desired Growth	x	✓+	✓+
Alignment with Vision Statement	x	✓+	✓+

Ability to Meet Objectives

x Less ✓ More ✓+ Most

Report Card - Natural Environment

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	ALT. 1	ALT. 2	ALT. 3
Earth, water quality, and water resources: Potential for increased pollution and potential for increased rainfall runoff flows based on housing density distribution.	▼▼	▼	▽
Plants and animals: Potential for habitat conversion, or loss of habitat connectivity			
Center City	△	△	▲
Northwest	▼▼	▼	▼
Northeast	▼	▽	▽
South	▼▼	▼▼	▼▼
West Plains	▼	▼	▼
Strength of Mitigation – Plan and Code Updates.	-	▲	▲

Adverse Impacts

▽ Less Impacts ▼ More Impacts ▼▼ Most Impacts

Potential Beneficial Impacts/Mitigation

- Neutral Impacts △ Moderately Positive ▲ Positive

Report Card - Built Environment

BUILT ENVIRONMENT	ALT. 1	ALT. 2	ALT. 3
Land Use Patterns and Urban Form			
Land use and Urban Form compatibility: Changes in use type between adjacent areas and potential incompatibility.	▽	▼	▼
Environmental Justice: Increased exposure of overburdened populations to light or noise pollution, environmental hazards, or urban heat island effects	▼	▽	▽
Population, Employment, and Housing			
Capacity for Housing and Population Targets	▲	▲	▲
Housing Variety and Affordability	▼	▲	▲
Implementation of Housing Action Plan	△	▲	▲
Growth in Housing Displacement Risk Areas / Increased Housing Supply that Reduces Economic Displacement Pressure	▽, ▼	▼, △	▼, △
Job types and quantity and ability to advance City and regional economic development strategies	▲	△	▲
Commercial business economic displacement	▼	▽	▼
Relationship to Plans, Policies, and Regulations	▼	△	△
Public Services			
Citywide demand for police, fire/emergency medical services, schools, parks, libraries, and solid waste	▼	▼	▼
Schools – Spokane School District	▽	▼	▼
Schools – Mead School District	▼	▽	▽
Environmental Justice – Growth in Areas with Health and Social Disparities and Greater Service Demand	▽	▼	▼▼
Utilities			
Power, Water, Wastewater Demand	▼	▽	▽
Power, Water, Wastewater Infrastructure Upgrades	▽	▼	▼
Stormwater Generation	▼	▽	▽
Strength of Mitigation Potential – Plan and Code Updates	-	▲	▲

Your Ideas

What features of the different growth options do you like best? What could be improved?



Map Your Future Spokane - Transportation!

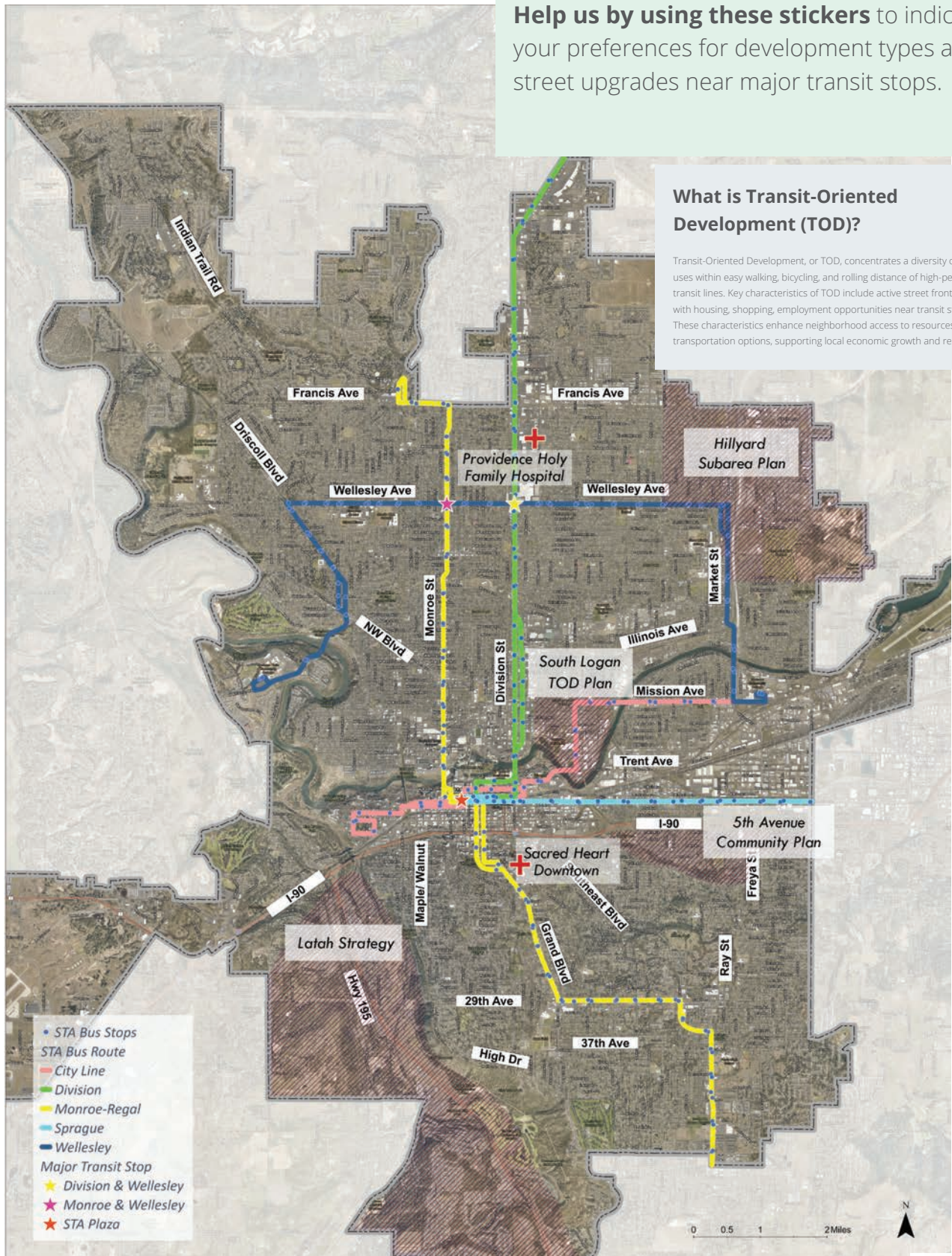


What type of street improvements and destinations do you want to see near transit throughout Spokane?

Help us by using these stickers to indicate your preferences for development types and street upgrades near major transit stops.

What is Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)?

Transit-Oriented Development, or TOD, concentrates a diversity of land uses within easy walking, bicycling, and rolling distance of high-performance transit lines. Key characteristics of TOD include active street frontages with housing, shopping, employment opportunities near transit stations. These characteristics enhance neighborhood access to resources and transportation options, supporting local economic growth and resiliency.



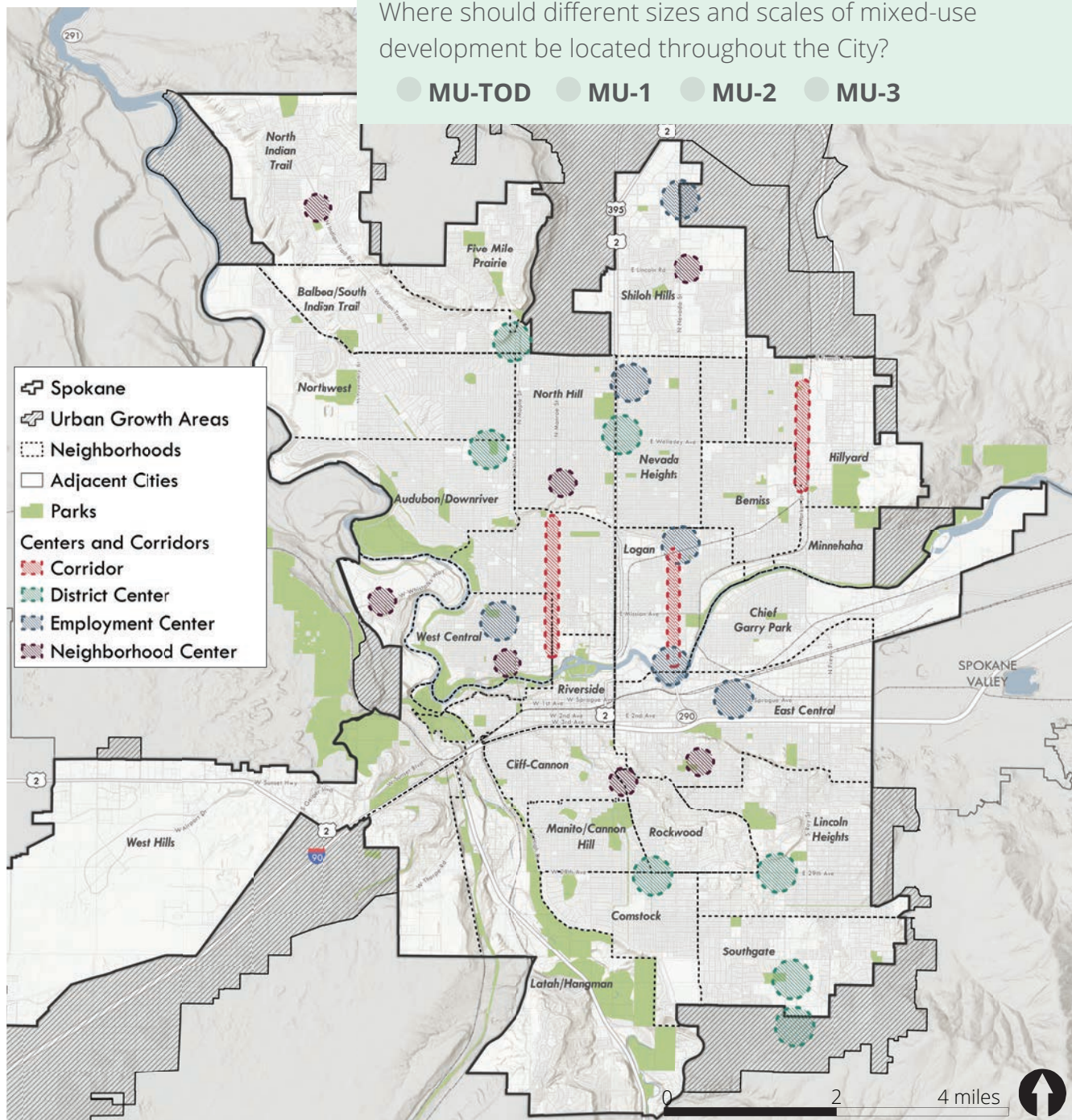
Map Your Future Spokane!



Earlier community feedback indicated a desire for more mixed-uses throughout Spokane.

Where should different sizes and scales of mixed-use development be located throughout the City?

● MU-TOD ● MU-1 ● MU-2 ● MU-3



MU-TOD

Transit-Oriented

- Targeted towards vicinity of major transit stops (within 1/4 mile).
- Tallest heights (150).
- Avoids vehicle-serving uses (no drive-thrus, commercial parking lots, etc.).
- No mini-storage
- Greatest provisions for people walking, bicycling, or rolling with assistive devices to access transit.

MU-1

Maximum Flexibility

- "Base" type for Centers and Corridors.
- Maximum amount of land use flexibility.
- Taller heights (90).
- Allow industrial zones where uses are currently industrial.
- Greatest amount of accommodation for people driving (drive-thrus permitted).
- Entirely residential buildings allowed.

MU-2

Small Neighborhood Scale

- Smaller scale and lower intensity than MU-1 zone.
- High amount of land use flexibility, but no self storage
- Moderate heights (75).
- Moderate support for people driving, but no drive-thrus on storefront streets
- Replaces some areas currently zoned Neighborhood Retail.

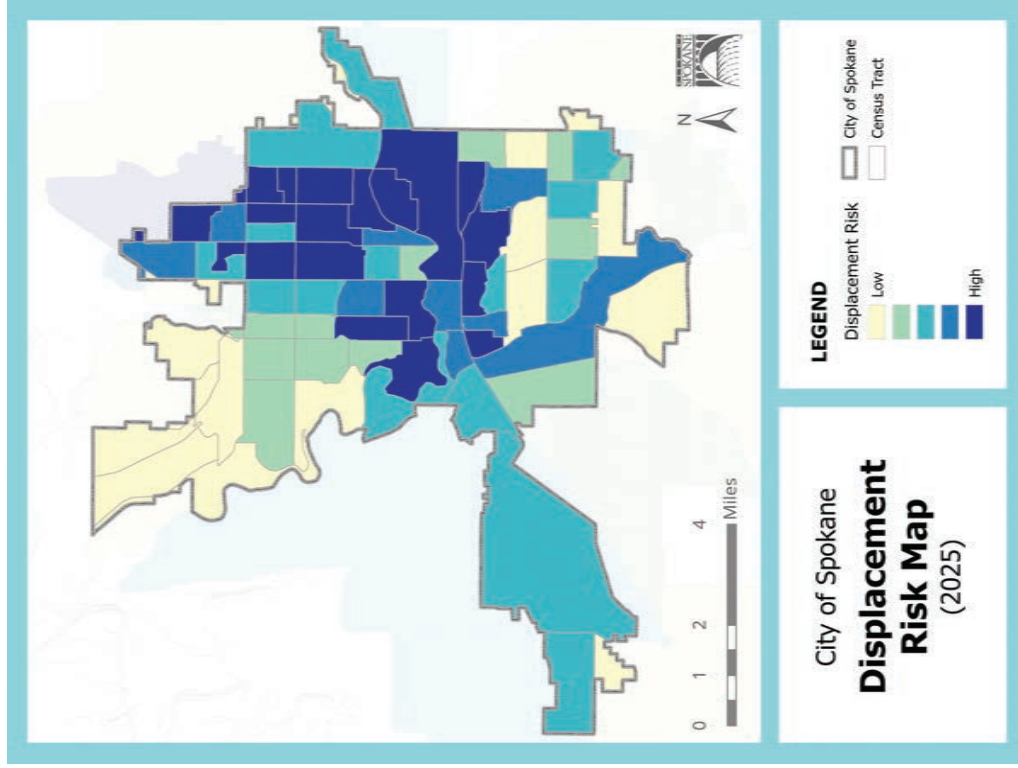
MU-3

Residential Mixed-Use

- Smallest scale and intensity, targeted towards neighborhood serving uses.
- Can be placed both inside Centers and in residential neighborhoods (limits on driveway spacing, street access)
- Heights similar to neighborhoods (40).
- Large-scale retail/services allowed but only in structures that also provide residential units.
- Focused on accommodating people walking, bicycling, rolling with assistive devices, and accessing transit.



Displacement



Your Ideas



What causes to housing and small business displacement are you most concerned about? How could the City address them?

As part of the PlanSpokane 2046 Periodic Update, the City of Spokane has completed analysis to understand displacement risk as we grow. As directed by recent state legislation (HB 1220), the City is working to establish anti-displacement policies.

Common anti-displacement policies include inclusionary zoning, tenant protections, public/private partnerships, tax incentives, community land banks, and development agreements.

There are three primary types of displacement:

- **Physical displacement**, which occurs when a project — such as building demolition, renovation, or infrastructure — creates such adverse conditions that a resident can no longer physically stay in their unit.
- **Economic displacement**, which occurs when increasing housing costs create pressure, forcing a household or business to move to a less expensive location.
- **Cultural displacement**, which occurs when changes render a neighborhood quite different, as many cultural institutions leave, creating a sense of isolation for long-term residents.

(Source: MPSC)



More information about the displacement analysis, as well as racially disparate impacts, can be found at the Housing Needs webpage

Scan here



What Can Be Built Where?



Provide feedback on proposed land use designations that will implement the future growth of our city.

What uses should be allowed and where?

What is Land Use?

Land use is essentially **what kinds of uses can be built where**. It guides which uses are compatible in different parts of the City while ensuring the whole City has the right mix of residential, commercial, and industrial uses needed to support a thriving city and economy. For example, an area designated for “mixed use” can have an office, a restaurant, or living units on the same street, while an industrial land use will allow mostly manufacturing or warehouses. Each land use allows different zoning categories within it. Zoning determines the rules and regulations that apply for uses and development for each property.

Land use type	What uses should or should not be allowed?	Where should the land use be or not be located?
 Urban Agriculture - Low intensity residential with agricultural uses - Intended for small portions of the City already with agricultural operations		
 Residential Low - Single-unit homes and middle housing - Small scale businesses and other public-serving uses allowed		
 Residential High - Middle housing and taller/wider buildings with more units - Larger commercial uses than Residential Low		
 Commercial - Non-residential uses for living, working, and shopping - Mixed-uses and multi-unit residential in some areas		
 Centers & Corridors - Core or “heart” of each Center or Corridor - Other designations will likely be mixed in and around the core area		
 Institutional More intense residential and commercial uses to support colleges, medical centers, and other institutions		
 Downtown - Taller buildings and higher density - Range of uses		
 Industrial Range of industrial uses including light industrial like maker spaces and rapid prototyping		
 Open Space Active parks and open space protection in some areas		



Chapter Review

Non-Technical Chapters Available for Public Comment

While there are many studies and projects in progress that will inform Comprehensive Plan updates through PlanSpokane 2046, a big part of any periodic update is a review and assessment of the many existing goals and policies. To this end, the City is undertaking a review of the current Comprehensive Plan, known as the Chapter Review process. Edits to the Community, Environment, and How We Grow Chapters have been made based on legislative requirements, direction from the Spokane Plan Commission, and community engagement.



All comments and recommendations on the non-technical chapters can be sent to PlanSpokane@spokanecity.org.

We encourage the public to include the Chapter name and Goal/Policy number(s) as applicable.

NON-TECHNICAL CHAPTERS

Community Chapters

+ *Climate*



Neighborhoods



Governance & Participation



Community Health

Environment Chapters

+ *Climate*



Natural Environment



Parks and Recreation



Shorelines
*

"How We Grow" Chapters

+ *Climate*



Urban Design



Historic Preservation



Economic Prosperity

Technical Chapters

+ *Climate*



Land Use



Transportation



Housing



Capital Facilities & Utilities

Climate will be addressed throughout the update.

**Per state regulations, Shorelines is not due to be updated until 2031.*



Learn more at the Chapter Review webpage



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Guiding Policies

As part of the Chapter Review process, seven non-technical chapters have been reviewed and updated to meet state legislative requirements, recent plans and studies, direction from the Spokane Plan Commission, and ongoing community engagement. These chapters are now out for public comment, with additional changes to each chapter are likely to occur as public feedback is collected, additional analysis is conducted, and a preferred alternative is selected for the final Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).



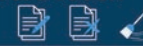
Your Ideas

As the chapters of the draft Comprehensive Plan continue to evolve based on community feedback, what topics do you want to make sure are addressed?

Report cards summarizing the current edits to the non-technical chapters indicate how many new, removed, or changed policies are in each chapter.

Learn more at PlanSpokane.org.

Urban Design and Historic Preservation REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	8
Removed Goals & Policies	3
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	8

Community Health REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	7
Removed Goals & Policies	2
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5

Economic Prosperity REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	9
Removed Goals & Policies	8
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5

Local Governance REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	4
Removed Goals & Policies	0
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	2

Natural Environment REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	5
Removed Goals & Policies	3
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	6

Neighborhoods REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	1
Removed Goals & Policies	4
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5

Parks REPORT CARD



Action	Number of Policies
New Goals & Policies	4
Removed Goals & Policies	2
Changed Goals & Policies (Moved, Change in Direction)	5





Planning for Climate Change in the City of Spokane



The City of Spokane is embarking on a transformative journey to support community resiliency to growing climate hazards. As part of this effort, we're undertaking a major update to our Comprehensive Plan, a foundational document guiding the city's growth. This update, mandated by law and due in 2026, presents a unique opportunity to integrate climate considerations into every aspect of our city's future.

What will the City of Spokane's climate planning do?

The City of Spokane's climate planning effort focuses on two main areas:
reducing climate pollution and building local resilience to climate impacts.



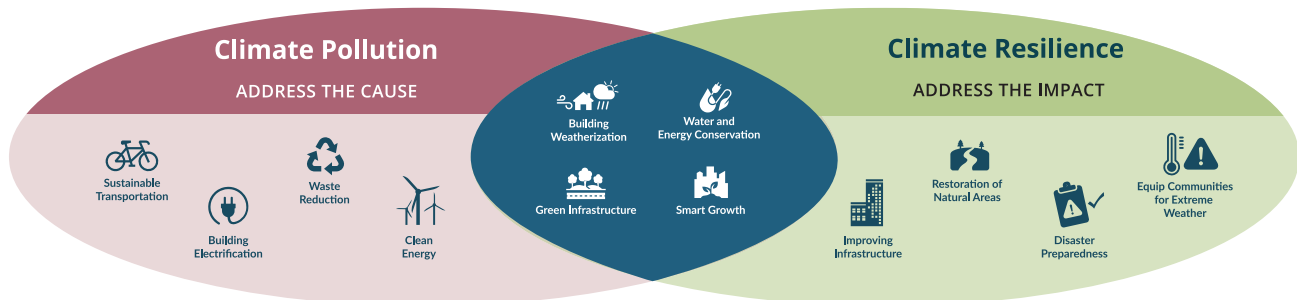
Reduce Climate Pollution

- 1 Cut pollution from transportation, buildings, and other sources without shifting pollution elsewhere.
- 2 Expand walkable neighborhoods, bike infrastructure, and reliable public transit to reduce the need for driving.
- 3 Focus on pollution reductions that prioritize and benefit overburdened communities most impacted.



Build Climate Resilience

- 1 Prepare for climate hazards like flooding, extreme heat, drought, and wildfire smoke.
- 2 Protect and enhance green spaces and natural areas.
- 3 Help everyone prepare and stay safe from the impacts of climate hazards, especially those who are most vulnerable and will feel the effects first and worst.



What actions do you want the City to take to support local climate resiliency?

Write your ideas on a sticky note and place it below.



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City of Spokane climate planning is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at www.climate.wa.gov.



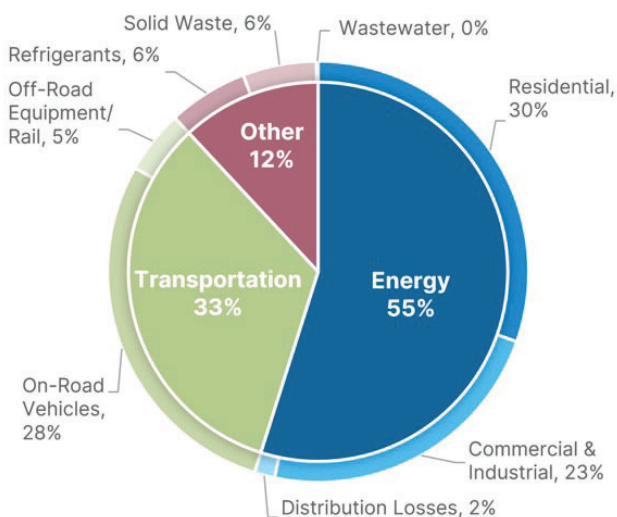
Climate Pollution in Spokane



What is Climate Pollution?

Climate pollution refers to the release of greenhouse gases and other pollutants that can affect the climate. It can cause serious effects on the environment, human health, farming, water supplies, and economies.

Climate Pollution Here in Spokane



In 2022, the City of Spokane community emitted about 2.28 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂e), a measure of climate pollution. This is equivalent to the smoke emissions released from 240 square miles of Washington forest burned! The pie chart below shows where this pollution comes from.

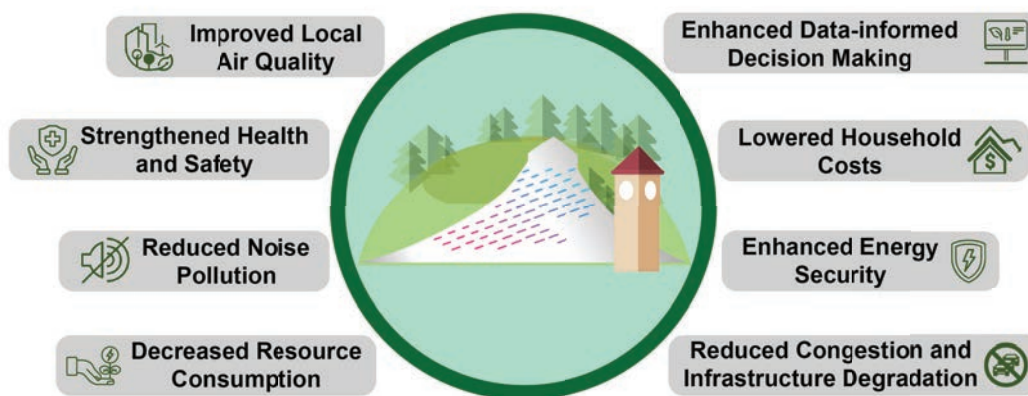
This information and your feedback will help Spokane set goals and create plans to reduce pollution from the biggest sources.



Scan the QR Code for more information about the City of Spokane's greenhouse gas emissions.

<https://my.spokanecity.org/publicworks/environmental/>

Benefits of Reducing Climate Pollution



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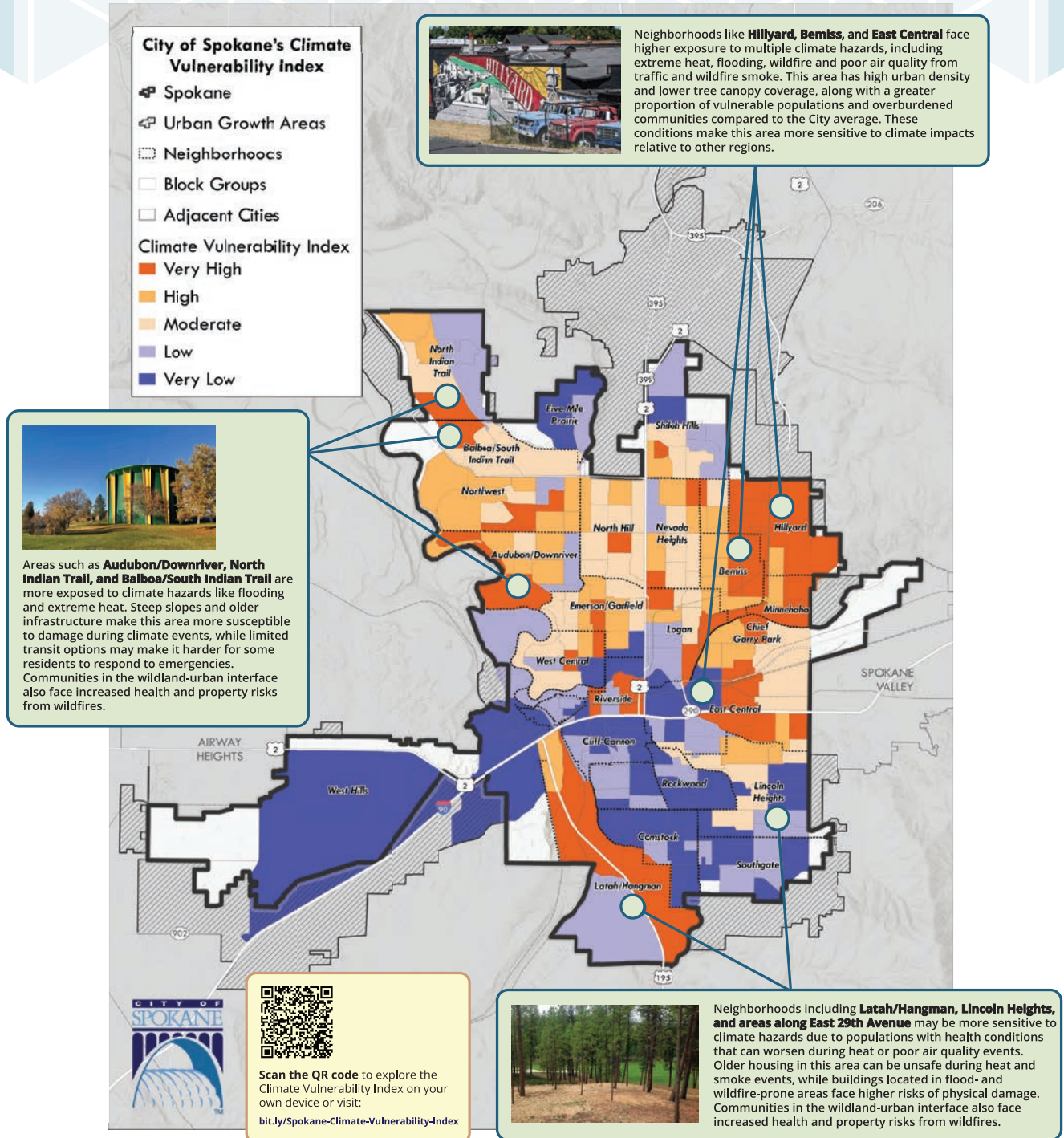
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Spokane's Climate Vulnerability

The City of Spokane created a Climate Vulnerability Index mapping tool to better understand which areas, people, and resources are most at risk from climate impacts like extreme heat and wildfire smoke. The tool looked at over 30 factors, such as exposure to climate hazards and the ability to adapt.

The map shows that some parts of Spokane, like in Northeast Spokane and along the I-90 corridor, have higher overall climate vulnerability relative to other parts of the City. Meanwhile, some areas south of I-90 and on the north end of Spokane have lower vulnerability compared to other parts of the city. This can help inform the City about how to prioritize its resilience actions.





Developing Climate Policies with Community Input

The City of Spokane is integrating climate considerations into its Comprehensive Plan—the guiding document for how the city grows and develops. The first phase of this work focused on listening to community experiences, assessing how climate change may affect Spokane, reviewing existing plans and policies, and evaluating the city's climate risks and vulnerabilities. The current phase builds on that foundation by revising, adapting, and developing new climate policies to include in the Comprehensive Plan. Your input today will help shape these policies!

Steps to Integrate Climate into the Comprehensive Plan

Phase 1: June 2024–June 2025

Step 1

Cut pollution from transportation, buildings, and other sources without shifting pollution elsewhere.

Step 2

Audit Plan and Policies.

Step 3

Assess Risk and Vulnerability.

Public Engagement: Survey, focus groups, public workshop, tabling at events, meetings with community-based organizations, online Climate Vulnerability Index tool.

Phase 2: June 2025–June 2026

Step 4

Revise, adapt, and develop new Climate Policy.

We Are Here!

Step 5

Integrate goals and policies.

Public Engagement: Survey, focus groups, public workshops, tabling at events, meetings with community-based organizations.

What We've Heard from the Spokane Community So Far

To date the City has heard from community members about how climate change is affecting Spokane and what actions they want the City to take in response. Here's a summary of what we've heard so far:

- **Wildfire smoke and extreme heat** are the most immediate and concerning climate impacts for the Spokane community.
- **Some community members are especially vulnerable** to climate hazards, including low-income residents, unhoused individuals, elders, youth, people with disabilities and chronic health conditions, renters, outdoor workers, Urban Native American and Tribal communities, communities of color, and those with language barriers.
- **Financial barriers** limit residents' ability to prepare for and respond to climate impacts. Community members strongly support incentives, assistance, and equitable access to resilience programs.
- **Water conservation, human health, and food systems** are top community priorities.
- **Green spaces, urban tree canopy, and City-led pilot programs** are valued by community members as important public investments that model climate resilience.
- **Public transit, bike infrastructure, and active transportation options** are supported by community members as ways to reduce emissions and improve access.
- **Community collaboration, education, engagement, and disaster preparedness** are emphasized by community members as key to building local resilience.



What other topics are important to you?

Tell us on a sticky note and leave it below.



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Environmental Justice

The City of Spokane will conduct an environmental justice assessment of draft land use and transportation policies being considered for the Comprehensive Plan update. This assessment will focus on avoiding the creation or worsening of environmental health disparities.

What is Environmental Justice?

As defined by state law, environmental justice means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Environmental justice includes addressing disproportionate environmental and health impacts in all laws, rules, and policies with environmental impacts by prioritizing vulnerable populations and overburdened communities and the equitable distribution of resources and benefits. (RCW 36.70A.030)



Why Assess Environmental Justice?

A changing climate impacts everyone, but some people face greater risks. These risks are influenced by where they live, their health, income, language barriers, and limited access to resources—factors often shaped by inequality. Environmental justice is a key part of efforts to ensure a clean and healthy environment for all, especially for communities of color and low-income households who are more likely to live near sources of pollution and other environmental burdens.

The City is required by law to address environmental justice in the Comprehensive Plan by:



Identifying, protecting, and enhancing community resiliency to climate impacts, including social, economic, and built environment factors, in ways consistent with **environmental justice**.



Prioritizing reductions that benefit overburdened communities, maximizing co-benefits such as reduced air pollution and **environmental justice**.



Giving special consideration to achieving **environmental justice** in Land Use goals and policies, including efforts to prevent creating or worsening environmental health disparities.



Using transportation and active transportation system standards as a gauge to measure system performance and success in supporting **environmental justice** goals.



What can the City do to support environmental justice? ?

Write your thoughts on a sticky note and place it below.



PLAN SPOKANE
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City of Spokane climate planning is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at www.climate.wa.gov.



Prioritizing Climate Policies

The City is using a prioritization process to select key climate policies. This will help ensure that policies can be implemented and align with state requirements.

Prioritizing Climate Policies

1

Pre-screening

Does the City have a **clear role?** (*lead, partner, communicator, or regulator*)

2

Scoring

- **Resilience**
- **GHG Reduction**
- **Equity**
- **Logistics** (*including cost, co-benefits, and feasibility*)
- **Degree of Certainty** (*including unintended impacts, public support, and momentum*)

3

Review

- Remove **redundancies**
- Ensure the list meets **State requirements**, addresses **key hazards**, and includes a **variety of topics, time frames, and responsible groups**.

After policies are prescreened, the City will score and rank policies using a set of evaluation criteria.

The criteria may include:



Resilience

- Reduces risks from climate hazards
- Prepares communities and infrastructure to withstand and adapt to climate hazards
- Enhances natural environments

Place stickers here.



Equity

- Builds community power
- Improves community health and well-being
- Holds institutions accountable for inequitable impacts
- Prioritize benefits for overburdened populations

Place stickers here.



Climate Pollution Reduction

- Reduces climate pollution (greenhouse gas emissions)
- Conserves resources
- Improves air quality

Place stickers here.



Logistics

- Considers cost and cost-savings
- Provides additional social, economic, or environmental benefits
- Level of administrative and staff capacity

Place stickers here.



Risk

- Avoids unintended impacts
- Addresses level of community support

Place stickers here.



Which criteria are most important to you?

Place a sticker next to the **top 3** criteria you think should be weighted more heavily.



Are there other criteria we should consider? Write your ideas on a sticky note and place it below.