



Agenda Sheet for City Council:

Committee: Urban Experience **Date:** 04/08/2024

Committee Agenda type: Discussion

Date Rec'd

3/28/2024

Clerk's File #

RES 2024-0038

Renews #

Cross Ref #

ORD C36512

Council Meeting Date: 04/22/2024

Submitting Dept

PLANNING & ECONOMIC

Project #

Contact Name/Phone

MAREN X6737

Bid #

Contact E-Mail

MMURPHY@SPOKANECITY.ORG

Requisition #

Agenda Item Type

Resolutions

Council Sponsor(s)

ZZAPPONE KKLITZKE

Agenda Item Name

0650 RES. TO INITIATE CLIMATE PLANNING UNDER THE COMP PLAN PERIODIC

Agenda Wording

A RESOLUTION directing City of Spokane Planning Services to initiate climate planning that implements the requirements of HB 1181 as part of the periodic update to build community resilience and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Summary (Background)

The WA Legislature passed and signed into law HB 1181 in 2023 that adds a climate goal to the Growth Management Act (GMA) and requires local comprehensive plans to have a climate element. The resolution will initiate the Climate Planning - Phase 1 process for resiliency planning. The Public Participation Plan is included as Exhibit A to the resolution. City Council accepted \$420,000 in Commerce grant funds for Climate Planning - Phase 1 on February 26, 2024 (RES 2024-0142). This item is 2 of 3.

Lease? NO

Grant related? YES

Public Works? NO

Fiscal Impact

Approved in Current Year Budget? NO

Total Cost \$ 420,000

Current Year Cost \$ 420,000

Subsequent Year(s) Cost \$

Narrative

No grant match. Additional climate planning funds will be requested in the 2025-2027 biennium.

Amount

Revenue \$ 420,000

Select \$

Select \$

Select \$

\$

\$

Budget Account

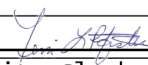
1360-94175-99999-33442-20263; 1360-94175-

Approved by Spokane City Council
on: 4/22/2024

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City Clerk



Continuation of Wording, Summary, Approvals, and Distribution

Agenda Wording

Summary (Background)

Approvals

<u>Dept Head</u>	GARDNER, SPENCER
<u>Division Director</u>	GARDNER, SPENCER
<u>Accounting Manager</u>	ORLOB, KIMBERLY
<u>Legal</u>	SCHOEDEL, ELIZABETH
<u>For the Mayor</u>	JONES, GARRETT

Additional Approvals

<u>ACCOUNTING -</u>	MURRAY, MICHELLE

Distribution List

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Committee Agenda Sheet

Urban Experience Committee

Committee Date	April 8, 2024
Submitting Department	Planning Services
Contact Name	Maren Murphy
Contact Email & Phone	mmurphy@spokanecity.org
Council Sponsor(s)	CMs Klitzke and Zappone
Select Agenda Item Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Time Requested: 15 minutes
Agenda Item Name	Climate Planning - Resolution to Initiate Climate Planning under the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update
Proposed Council Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval to proceed to Legislative Agenda <input type="checkbox"/> Information Only
Summary (Background) *use the Fiscal Impact box below for relevant financial information	<p>Planning Staff have submitted a packet to initiate Climate Planning – Phase 1, including the following items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Climate Planning - SBO for Planning Services to Accept Commerce Grant Funds 2. Climate Planning - Resolution to Initiate Climate Planning under the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update 3. Climate Planning - Approval of Consultant Contract for Climate Planning – Phase 1 <p><i>This briefing paper is 2 of 3 for climate planning.</i></p> <p>The WA Legislature passed and signed into law HB 1181 in 2023 that adds a climate goal to the Growth Management Act (GMA) and requires local comprehensive plans to have a climate element with the following: resilience sub-element to improve climate preparedness, response, and recovery efforts; greenhouse gas emissions sub-element to reduce missions and vehicle miles traveled; and must maximize economic, environmental, and social co-benefits and prioritize environmental justice in order to avoid worsening environmental health disparities.</p> <p>The resolution will initiate the Climate Planning – Phase 1 process, which includes community engagement, climate impacts analysis, policy gap analysis, and climate risk and vulnerability assessment with a focus on equity and climate justice. The Public Participation Plan is included as Exhibit A to the resolution. A deeper engagement strategy will be developed with the planning consultant team once underway; the contract with the planning consultant team is also being considered for approval by Council.</p> <p>WA Commerce has made available funding for climate planning for the 2023-2025 biennium, with the City of Spokane eligible for \$700,000 in legislative appropriation for climate planning through 2029 as part of the WA Climate Commitment Act. City Council accepted \$420,000 in Commerce grant funds for Phase 1 of climate planning on February 26, 2024 (RES 2024-0142).</p>
Fiscal Impact	
Approved in current year budget?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Total Cost: <u>\$420,000</u>	
Current year cost: \$420,000	

Subsequent year(s) cost:

Narrative: No match required; grant is deliverable based.

Funding Source One-time Recurring N/A

Specify funding source: Grant

Is this funding source sustainable for future years, months, etc? Funding for 2023-2025 Biennium

Expense Occurrence One-time Recurring N/A

Other budget impacts: (revenue generating, match requirements, etc.) N/A

Operations Impacts (If N/A, please give a brief description as to why)

- What impacts would the proposal have on historically excluded communities?
 - Climate change does not impact everyone equally. Core to climate planning is building climate resilience and developing goals and policies in the comprehensive plan that support communitywide climate resilience, environmental justice, and equity. This climate planning grant emphasizes the importance of developing a public engagement strategy and ensuring that historically underrepresented and overburdened communities are included in the early and continuous planning efforts. WA Commerce recommends that establishing a climate policy advisory team that includes leaders within overburdened communities that are most impacted by the changing climate conditions and whose insight will lead to the most equitable outcomes. There is also additional emphasis on all levels of Tribal communication, partnership, and coordination.
- How will data be collected, analyzed, and reported concerning the effect of the program/policy by racial, ethnic, gender identity, national origin, income level, disability, sexual orientation, or other existing disparities?
 - The planning work will focus on both quantitative and qualitative data through the lens of climate and equity. Quantitative data will be collected, analyzed and reported related to vulnerability risks and climate hazards, and an equitable approach will be taken to look at the intersections of race, income, gender, ability, and other disparities to understand our community’s vulnerabilities and those at highest risk for climate impacts. Data will also be collected through qualitative means through the development of a climate vision statement, and outreach will focus on engaging with community members to understand unique perspectives, asset, and climate-related challenges.
- How will data be collected regarding the effectiveness of this program, policy, or product to ensure it is the right solution?
 - Climate Planning will be integrated into the 2026 Periodic update to the City’s Comprehensive Plan, RCW 36.70A.130 now requires that the city reassess the plan every 5 years. An Implementation Progress Report will be required in 2031.
- Describe how this proposal aligns with current City Policies, including the Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Action Plan, Capital Improvement Program, Neighborhood Master Plans, Council Resolutions, and others?
 - Aligns with: Sustainability Action Plan 2021 - Land Use, Goal 4, Strategy 8. “update the Comp Plan with ...climate goals.”

Council Subcommittee Review

- Please provide a summary of council subcommittee review. If not reviewed by a council subcommittee, please explain why not.
 - This item was approved for grant acceptance by City Council on February 26, 2024 (RES 2024-0142).

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-0038

A RESOLUTION directing City of Spokane Planning Services to initiate climate planning that implements the requirements of HB 1181 as part of the periodic update by conducting community engagement, analyzing climate impacts, and developing and integrating climate goals and policies to build community resilience and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

WHEREAS, legislation passed and signed into law in 2023 (HB 1181) adds a climate goal to the Growth Management Act (GMA) under RCW 36.70A.020 and requires local comprehensive plans to have a climate element with resilience and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions mitigation sub-elements; and

WHEREAS, the WA Department of Commerce made approximately \$30 million available in statewide climate planning grants to fully planning jurisdictions under GMA for the 2023-2025 biennium; and

WHEREAS, the WA Department of Commerce climate planning grant is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act (CCA), which supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health, with information about the CCA available at www.climate.wa.gov; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane is eligible for up to \$700,000 in climate planning funds through 2029 as a non-competitive formula grant to support implementation of HB 1181; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane has identified \$420,000 for Phase 1 climate planning, and City Council accepted the grant funds through a contract with Commerce on February 26, 2024 (RES 2024-0142), with \$280,000 to be requested for Phase 2 climate planning in the 2025-2027 biennium and any implementation beyond; and

WHEREAS, climate planning is part of the City's general periodic update requirement for the comprehensive plan, which is due in June 2026, with the expectation that additional state resources will be appropriated for the upcoming periodic update; and

WHEREAS, the climate change and resiliency element is designed to result in reductions in overall GHG emissions, must enhance resilience to and avoid the adverse impacts of climate change, and must include efforts to reduce localized emissions and avoid creating or worsening climate impacts to vulnerable populations and overburdened communities; and

WHEREAS, the GHG emissions sub-element must include goals and policies to reduce emissions and vehicle miles traveled, including: developing a local emission inventory; conducting a Vehicle Miles Traveled Per Capita study; and, projecting emission reductions to inform the adopted comprehensive plan goals and policies; and

WHEREAS, the resilience sub-element must include goals and polices to improve climate preparedness, response and recovery efforts, including: utilizing the UW Climate Impacts Group's online tool and other resources to explore expected local climate impacts; auditing existing plans and policies for climate resilience opportunities, gaps, and barriers; assessing climate vulnerability

and risk; and, developing and prioritizing science-based climate resilience goals and policies for comprehensive plans; and

WHEREAS, climate resilience goals and policies must address natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change, and identify and protect social, economic, environmental, and cultural assets within the 11 key sectors outlined by Commerce, including buildings, infrastructure, natural resources, services, community health, transportation, and development among others; and

WHEREAS, goals and policies should, consistent with state law, equitably enhance the resilience of communities and ecological systems to climate change; be consistent with best available science, climate projections, and impact scenarios; and prioritize and benefit overburdened communities that will suffer disproportionately from environmental impacts and climate-exacerbated natural hazards; and

WHEREAS, climate elements must also maximize economic, environmental, and social co-benefits and prioritize environmental justice and climate justice to avoid worsening environmental health disparities; and

WHEREAS, the Public Participation Plan (PPP) proposes the formation of key supporting committees to analyze climate data and understand impacts, review deliverables and provide recommendations, and develop climate goals and policies, including the establishment of an internal technical advisory committee, a community- and partner-based climate policy advisory team, and a Tribal workgroup; and

WHEREAS, to support climate justice and equity, the PPP prioritizes equitable practices to ensure that historically overburdened and underrepresented communities are included in early and ongoing climate planning efforts, particularly frontline communities who experience the first and worst consequences of climate change; and

WHEREAS, Tribal engagement is an overarching term that encompasses all levels of Tribal communication and partnership, from formal government-to-government consultation to informal coordination, and the PPP directs a Tribal engagement strategy to identify collaborative planning efforts and mutual priority actions with Tribal planning at all levels; and

WHEREAS, the PPP is attached as Attachment A; and

WHEREAS, climate planning will consider related City planning efforts, including the Spokane Sustainability Action Plan adopted in 2021, Spokane Housing Action Plan adopted in 2021, Spokane Parks and Natural Lands Master Plan adopted in 2022, Building Opportunity for Housing adopted in 2023, and ongoing utility, transportation planning, and water system planning; and


WHEREAS, the City has selected a consultant team through an RFQ process to lead the Phase 1 climate planning process and engagement through 2025, with optional expansion that will be evaluated for Phase 2 climate planning and to align with the periodic update and environmental impact statement due in 2026; and

WHEREAS, Planning Services is collaborating with Integrated Capital Management for the initial project scoping and Phase 1, and will continue to proactively partner with all City departments throughout the process.

NOW, THEREFORE,

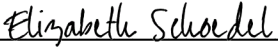
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPOKANE that staff are directed to initiate climate planning aligned with the requirements of HB 1181 to build community resilience and reduce greenhouse gas emissions that create a more just, healthy, and equitable future for Spokane.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 22nd day of April, 2024.



City Clerk

Approved as to form:



Assistant City Attorney



2026 Spokane Periodic Update
Public Participation Plan Addendum

Climate Element Public Participation Plan

Updated: March 28, 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. The last periodic review occurred in 2017, known as Shaping Spokane. The GMA requires local governments to create and broadly disseminate a Public Participation Plan (PPP) during the periodic review process. Legislation passed and signed into law through [HB 1181](#) in 2023 added a climate goal to the GMA and requires local comprehensive plans to have a Climate Element with resilience and greenhouse gas emissions mitigation sub-elements. The City of Spokane is eligible for up to \$700,000 in grant funding from the WA Department of Commerce for climate planning efforts through 2029, with an emphasis on the periodic update due in 2026.

The WA Department of Commerce climate planning grant 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.

The Climate Element Public Participation Plan (referred to herein as the Climate PPP) will support the more general Periodic Update process by emphasizing engagement discussions around the Climate Element. This document recognizes the nuances required for successful and equitable engagement around climate impacts and environmental justice. All engagement efforts of the climate planning will follow the established goals, objectives, and framework of established in the Periodic Update to ensure a robust and transparent engagement effort.

To implement the requirements of HB 1181, a consultant team has been hired to lead the development of the climate element, including community engagement. A deeper engagement strategy will be developed for climate planning upon the City Council's approval of the consultant contract, expected in April 2024. This PPP provides a high-level direction for climate engagement, identifies values and priorities, and outlines examples of key tactics and opportunities for engagement as the process gets underway.

Climate Element

Climate is a foundational part of the periodic update as an organizing principle and value throughout the process. The Climate PPP includes a specific focus on climate planning and outcomes related to the Climate Element as necessary for the HB 1181 requirements. HB 1181 adds a GMA climate change and resiliency goal to: *"ensure that comprehensive plans, development regulations, and regional policies, plans, and strategies under RCW 36.70A.210 and chapter 47.80 RCW adapt to and mitigate the effects of a changing climate; support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled; prepare for climate impact scenarios; foster resiliency to climate impacts and natural hazards; protect and enhance environmental, economic, and human health and safety; and advance environmental justice"* (RCW 36.70A.020(14)). The WA State Department of Commerce (referred to herein as Commerce) provides the [climate program website](#) outlining all requirements for the climate element.

The climate change and resiliency element is designed to result in reductions in overall greenhouse gas emissions and that must enhance resilience to and avoid the adverse impacts of climate change, which must include efforts to reduce localized greenhouse gas emissions and avoid creating or worsening localized climate impacts to vulnerable populations and overburdened communities. The new climate element includes two sub-elements:

- **GHG emissions sub-element:** must include goals and policies to reduce emissions and vehicle miles traveled, including: developing a local emission inventory; conducting a Vehicle Miles Traveled Per Capita study; and, projecting emission reductions to inform the adopted comprehensive plan goals and policies.
- **Resilience sub-element:** must include goals and policies to improve climate preparedness, response and recovery efforts, including: utilizing the UW Climate Impacts Group’s online tool and other resources to explore expected local climate impacts; auditing existing plans and policies for climate resilience opportunities, gaps, and barriers; assessing climate vulnerability and risk; and, developing and prioritizing science-based climate resilience goals and policies for comprehensive plans.

Commerce provides the [Climate Element Planning Guidance](#), which outlines the requirements and best practices for developing the climate element to address GHG emissions and resilience. Climate goals and policies must address natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change, and identify and protect social, economic, environmental, and cultural assets within 11 key sectors identified by Commerce, including buildings, infrastructure, natural resources, services, community health, transportation, and development among others. Goals and policies should, consistent with state law, equitably enhance the resilience of communities and ecological systems to climate change; be consistent with best available science, climate projections, and impact scenarios; and prioritize and benefit overburdened communities that will suffer disproportionately from environmental impacts and climate-exacerbated natural hazards.

In approaching the climate element, it is essential to reject “one-size-fits-all” approaches. Rather, processes must effectively engage impacted communities through models of public facilitation that elevate community voices and priorities, and adjust based on the needs, perspectives, and realities of community members and the organizations that represent them. Climate is fundamentally an issue of equity, and the PPP incorporates equity, environmental justice, and climate justice as foundational lenses in the planning process. The climate element must also maximize economic, environmental, and social co-benefits and prioritize environmental justice and climate justice to avoid worsening environmental health disparities. Climate planning engagement in particular will work to ensure that historically underrepresented and overburdened communities are included in the early and continuous planning efforts, specifically within communities most impacted by climate change.

Climate planning will also align with the [Healthy Environment for All Act](#) (SB 5141), or the HEAL Act, where appropriate. The City’s climate planning work will take proactive approach to integrate the HEAL Act framework, principles, and analysis into the development of the Climate Element. This includes a key focus on environmental justice and climate justice:

- Environmental justice means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, rules, and policies. (HEAL Act)
- Climate justice is focused on addressing the unequal impacts of climate change by prioritizing the health and safety of those who face the greatest risk as we prepare for and recover from climate events. ([WA Department of Health Climate Justice](#))

Climate Justice Principles

In addition to the guiding principles found within the PPP, the Climate Element engagement will implement the following climate justice focused principles to ensure appropriate and equitable public participation.

WA Department of Commerce provides guidance for climate justice in the [Summary Report: Climate Justice in Growth Management](#). Aligning with this guidance, the City should identify the overburdened communities and vulnerable populations in their scopes of work to determine if proposed Climate Element measures are equitable. The climate justice guidance outlines four principles in the Just Transition Framework for climate strategies that will guide the City's engagement efforts.

Center Those Disproportionately Impacted in Governance

New models of participatory governance — or “co-governance” between government leaders and agencies and impacted communities — are necessary to meaningfully address these gaps in community leadership and shared governance. Key cornerstones of co-governance include: a) establishing government commitment to the self-determination of communities; b) supporting communities to build their capacity to effectively participate (in government processes); c) developing shared governing power in principles and in process; and, d) demonstrating equitable processes and results.

Restore Community Connections to Place

A place-based approach focuses policy, programmatic interventions, and innovations in specific geographic areas that are suffering from environmental and social injustices to ensure no community is sacrificed to climate impacts or to suffer emissions disproportionately. This priority is integrated by placing greater value on and by centering in public engagement processes the values, cultures, aspirations, hopes, and experiences of the communities impacted by their plans and actions.

Create Livelihoods within a Healthy Environment

A regenerative economy is one that prioritizes sustainable living and work within ecological limits. Support movement toward a regenerative economy by prioritizing the needs of communities.

Transition to Renewable Resources and Energy

A key cornerstone of a Just Transition is enabling strategies to ensure energy is first conserved, and that energy generation is renewable and equitable. Planning for the use of renewable energy sources and transitioning away from non-renewable sources can reduce social and environmental harms.

Equitable Community Engagement

Climate engagement will follow equitable community engagement in alignment with the Periodic Update PPP. Equitable engagement aims to reach and engage with as many people as possible, while centering people who experience the first and worst consequences of climate change.

Guiding Principles

In order to support equitable public participation, the following guiding principles will be a 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.

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.

Compensate Public Efforts

As stated by the Washington Office of Equity in their [guidance on community compensation](#), compensation can help remove a significant barrier to public participation for populations for which participation in public meetings may be a significant economic burden due to work schedules, family care commitments, or other fixed obligations. Compensation can include stipends, but also wrap-around services like paid childcare and transportation support. During the periodic review, the City will evaluate existing compensation policies and implement the guidance of the Office of Equity to ensure a more robust and equitable public participation process.

Build Partnerships

Community based organizations (CBOs) and representatives of these organizations can be particularly helpful partners and collaborators because of their roles as trusted partners throughout the community. They also bring broader community perspectives, not only the perspectives of individual community members.

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).

Stakeholders

Climate change does not impact everyone equally, and climate planning 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.

Climate planning and environmental justice are key components relevant to a wide range of periodic review topics. As such, the Climate Element public participation 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 — people who experience the first and worst consequences of climate change. Engagement will also seek participation from those with technical expertise, cultural perspective, and/or lived experience.

Climate Policy Advisory Team

Engagement for the Climate Element in the Periodic Update will prioritize a **Climate Policy Advisory Team (CPAT)** to support co-creation in climate planning. The focus includes analyzing climate information, reviewing key deliverables, providing recommendations on climate focus and equity, and developing climate goals and policies. The CPAT could also 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 CPAT is anticipated to meet bi-monthly, though could meet more frequently as needed. The proposed timeline for establishment is Q2 2024.

CPAT Expertise and Members

Members of the CPAT should include a diverse group of community members and agency partners in addition to planners and public works professionals. The focus of the CPAT will be to collaboratively create a Climate Element in accordance with the WA Dept. of Commerce guidelines that centers equity and co-creation in policy development and implementation. A key focus of the process will identify and build partnerships with overburdened community organizations and members — people who experience the first and worst consequences of climate impacts, along with others to share their technical expertise, cultural perspective, and lived experience.

The team should include a variety of members with the following expertise considerations:

- developing and implementing zoning, land use, housing policy;
- expertise with a climate nexus in:
 - transportation and public works;
 - hazard mitigation and emergency management;
 - sustainability, environment, and natural resources;
 - public health;
 - other areas of expertise as prioritized;
- community members and leaders within overburdened and frontline communities;
- environmental justice, climate justice, and resilience expertise and lived experience;
- Tribal governments;
- Indigenous communities and organizations, such as urban Native organizations;
- community engagement specialists;
- public schools and youth engagement;
- economic and community development specialists;

- businesses and minority entrepreneurs;
- interested residents and neighborhood representatives;
- legal advisors to make sure goals and policies are consistent with state and local laws; and,
- elected officials who will provide oversight and can champion the project from beginning to end.

Alignment and coordination with the City Council Sustainability Action Subcommittee and Environmental Justice & Equity Workgroup, as well as the Equity Subcommittee, will be prioritized to ensure collaboration and efficiency in City engagement across the Council Office and the Mayor's Office.

Tribal Engagement

Special emphasis in climate planning guidance includes Tribal Engagement. Tribal engagement encompasses all levels of Tribal communication and partnership, from formal government-to-government consultation to informal coordination. Formal outreach should be emphasized for Tribes that have reservation lands, ancestral lands and waters, and/or "usual and accustomed areas." Climate planning will also work to conduct Tribal engagement and coordination with Tribal communities through conversations focused on information sharing with Tribal staff. This includes working with Indigenous groups that are not Tribal governments, such as urban Native American organizations.

Collaborative planning efforts with Tribal planning at all levels can help identify mutual priority actions and strategies that can inform and integrate climate planning efforts. The city will establish a tribal engagement strategy to define working relationships, identify common goals and similar efforts, develop culturally appropriate outreach opportunities, and consult with Tribes to voluntarily participate in the city's climate planning. Working with the Mayor's Office to identify both formal and informal Tribal engagement strategies early on is critical to developing relationships, building trust, and fostering collaboration.

Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations

A guiding principle around climate engagement includes developing and deepening partnerships with 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 Climate Element engagement will incorporate flexibility to ensure capacity to be responsive.

Support Community Participants

Climate planning acknowledges equity in participation as a critical component and will consider supporting people who serve on the advisory team and Tribal engagement, namely those whose participation is not a paid position within an organization:

- Pay a stipend for participation in and travel to meetings.
- Host accessible and convenient meetings, and provide food and childcare.
- Offer meeting translation services, and ensure engagement materials are available in multiple languages and formats.
- Ask what support they would need to authentically participate.

Community-based organizations (CBOs) and representatives of these organizations can be particularly helpful partners and collaborators because of their roles as trusted partners in overburdened

communities. They also bring broader community perspectives, not only the perspectives of individual community members. Partnerships with CBOs should also consider compensating organizations to participate meaningfully in development, implementation, and evaluation of engagement efforts.

Climate 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.

The Climate Element will integrate with engagement around the periodic update. However, specific engagement around the topic of climate, climate justice, and environmental justice warrants more targeted efforts. Strategies will include efforts to embrace co-governance and establish a commitment to uphold the self-determination of communities, supporting communities to build their capacity to effectively participate in government processes, and in the process to develop shared governing power in principles, processes, and results.

Community Engagement Strategy

A deeper engagement strategy and more detailed tactics and timeline will be developed with the climate planning consultant team. Together, Planning staff and the consultant team will create an engagement strategy that is informed by the Climate Policy Advisory Team and community-based partners. 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. Environmental justice will be a key principle, and the project team will work to identify and recruit overburdened community organizations and members — people who experience the first and worst consequences of climate change.

Examples of strategies that will be considered include:

- Interviews with city staff, elected officials, partner agencies, and community partners
- Workshops or listening sessions in partnership with community and Tribal organizations
- Public survey, meetings, workshops
- Interpretation and translation of engagement materials
- Focus groups with frontline communities and Tribal leaders
- Partnering on interactive events and pop-up events (virtual and in-person meetings)
- Participate in issue-specific forums to discuss their nexus with climate change
- 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 look into interactive online platforms 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 climate planning. 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 climate planning 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 specific to the Climate Element and how people experience climate as individuals and a community will be conducted as an initial community touchpoint. Key topics explored will include issues faced by households due to changing climate, hazards and risks that cause concern and climate anxiety, and establishing community climate priorities. 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

While youth engagement is a valuable endeavor for any planning topic, environmental justice and climate justice is a key concern of interest for younger generations who will bear the impacts of today's decisions. Youth engagement will provide a valuable lens in which to discuss other relevant topics. Partnership with Spokane Public Schools will be explored, including engaging the Spokane Student Advisory Council on Climate Change and working to discuss climate planning topics in classrooms. Youth representation on the Climate Policy Advisory Team will be additional formal avenues for youth engagement. Other ideas include

conducting planning “game nights” at community centers, libraries, and youth groups to discuss climate and play design-your-city activities. 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

Arts and Culture

Art is a powerful form to help communicate, interpret, expand awareness and understanding, and invite exploration from the community to engage in climate discussions and solutions. Thurston Regional Planning Council has previously partnered with local library and partners to host “Art of Change,” an event that merged climate literacy, art, science, and policy. Staff hosted a pop-up library where visitors could sign up for a card and check out climate books, films, and other resources. Boston’s Metropolitan Area Planning Council has prepared the [Cool it with Art Guide](#) as a resource guide for local governments, community-based organizations, and artists interested in working together to promote creative approaches to address climate-driven extreme heat impacts and to promote healthy, climate resilient communities. Innovative ideas and partnerships with local arts organizations will be explored as a focus in climate engagement. Such creative engagement efforts can counter the often negative or distressing connotation of climate discussions. The City will seek partnership with local organizations to support art and culture as part of the Climate Element discussion.

Engagement level: consult, involve, empower

Expo 74 50th Celebration

In 2024, Spokane will celebrate the 50th celebration of the 1974 Expo, which was the first environmentally-themed world’s fair. From May 4th to July 4th, hundreds of community events will be taking place through the Spokane region in commemoration of [Expo 74's 50th Anniversary](#), including transforming Riverfront Spokane into Expo Village. Planning staff will work together with other City divisions and departments and partner agencies to collaborate on participating in the 50th Anniversary events, including tabling to share information, build awareness, generate interest, and seek community feedback in the climate planning process.

Engagement level: inform, consult

Earth Day 2025

Earth Day happens every April 22, and 2025 will be the 55th Anniversary of Earth Day. Earth Day provides a thematic event to reach residents when they are thinking about climate and the environment. Planning staff will identify community events to coordinate with or create a community event to coincide with the event. The Spokane Library typically hosts events and the [Spokane Climate Cup](#), hosted by Gonzaga, may provide the opportunity to engage with youth. The Climate Element project team will investigate the opportunity to partner with an event to table, seek community feedback, or share information about the periodic review climate work.

Engagement level: inform, consult

Evaluation

This PPP will be updated with deeper engagement strategies and a more detailed timeline of activities once the project is underway in collaboration with the consultant team. 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 feedback. 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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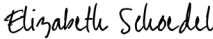
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Screen Resolution:	800 x 600 minimum
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