



# General Application

Rev.20180104

## DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

A Comprehensive Plan text amendment to add a discussion of railway crossing safety into Chapter 4, Transportation, and listing various known crossings potentially needing update and improvement in the City.

Address of Site Proposal (if not yet assigned, obtain address from Public Works before submitting application):

Text Amendment - No Address

## APPLICANT

Name: Inga Note, Senior Traffic Planning Engineer, City of Spokane

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 509-625-6331 Email: inote@spokanecity.org

## PROPERTY OWNER

Name: City of Spokane Public Streets Rights-of-Way

Address: 808 W Spokane Falls Blvd

Phone: 509-625-6331 Email: inote@spokanecity.org

## AGENT

Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor's Parcel Numbers: NOT APPLICABLE

Legal Description of Site: NOT APPLICABLE





# Comprehensive Plan Amendments

## Threshold Review

### **Pre-application:**

*The first step in applying for an amendment to the City's Comprehensive Plan is to submit a threshold review application. Prior to submitting this application, a private applicant is required to schedule a no-fee pre-application conference with staff. In the case of a map amendment, the applicant is also required to make reasonable efforts to schedule a meeting with the appropriate neighborhood council(s) and document any support or concerns expressed by the neighborhood council(s). Applications are accepted through October 31 each year, during business hours. Applicants are strongly encouraged to make an appointment with Planning Department staff prior to submitting an application.*

### **Description of the Proposed Amendment:**

- In the case of a proposed text amendment, please describe the proposed amendment and provide suggested amendment language.
- In the case of a map amendment, please describe using parcel number(s), address, and a description including size, and maps.

***In addition to describing the proposal, please describe how your applications satisfies the threshold review criteria in SMC 17G.020.026, which are restated below. You may need to use a separate piece of paper.***

1. Describe how the proposed amendment is appropriately addressed as a Comprehensive Plan Amendment.  
*This amendment would add language regarding safety improvements for at-grade railroad crossings in the city. By highlighting railway safety in the Comprehensive Plan it is more likely that the City will be able to secure funding for physical improvements in the future.*
2. The proposed amendment does not raise policy or land use issues that are more appropriately addressed by an ongoing work program approved by the City council or by a neighborhood or subarea planning process.  
*There is no work program currently planned for this.*
3. The proposed amendment can be reasonably reviewed within the resources and time frame of the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program.  
*Yes it can. Adequate time and materials are available within the affected departments' work plans for the year to develop this text amendment within the required timeframe.*
4. In the case of a private application for a land use map change, nearby properties may also seem to be candidates for amendment. At the time of docketing or during plan commission review, expansion of the geographic scope of an amendment proposal may be considered, shared characteristics with nearby, similarly situated property may be identified and the expansion is the minimum necessary to include properties with those shared characteristics. Has the applicant had any outreach to surrounding property owners whose property may be so situated?  
*Not applicable.*
5. Describe how the proposed amendment is consistent with current general policies in the comprehensive plan for site-specific amendment proposals. The proposed amendment must be consistent with policy implementation in the Countywide Planning policies, the GMA, or other state or federal law, and the WAC.  
*The Comprehensive Plan does not include any policies that would be affected by this proposal.*
6. The proposed amendment is not the same as or substantially similar to a proposal that was considered in

the previous year's threshold review process, but was not included in the Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program, unless additional supporting information has been generated.

*This is a new proposal, not one previously considered.*

7. If this change is directed by state law or a decision of a court or administrative agency, please describe.

*There are no known local, state, or federal laws calling for this change.*

8. Please provide copy of agenda or other documentation of outreach to neighborhood council made prior to application.

*This was discussed briefly at the Council study session on 2/13/2020 and all neighborhoods were notified via email of its general aspects in an email from the Department of Neighborhood and Planning Services on February 17, 2020 (attached).*

Planning & Development Services, 808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, WA 99201-3336  
[my.spokanecity.org](http://my.spokanecity.org) | Phone: 509.625.6300

(Rev Sept 2017)



# Comprehensive Plan or Land Use Code Amendment

Pre-Application

Rev.20180102

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

*(Please check the appropriate box(es))*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Plan Change | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Designation Change |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory Code Text Change          | <input type="checkbox"/> Area-Wide Rezone            |

**Please respond to these questions on a separate piece of paper. Incomplete answers may jeopardize your application's chances of being reviewed during this amendment cycle.**

### 1. General Questions *(for all proposals):*

- a. Summarize the general nature of the proposed amendment.
- b. Why do you feel this change is needed?
- c. In what way(s) is your proposal similar to or different from the fundamental concepts contained in the comprehensive plan?
- d. For text amendments: What goals, policies, regulations or other documents might be changed by your proposal?
- e. For map amendments:
  1. What is the current Land Use designation and zoning for each affected parcel?
  2. What is the requested Land Use designation and zoning for each affected parcel?
  3. Describe the land uses surrounding the proposed amendment site(s); e.g. land use type, vacant/occupied, etc.
- f. Do you know of any existing studies, plans or other documents that specifically relate to or support your proposal?
- g. Why did you decide to pursue a comprehensive plan amendment rather than address your concern through some other aspect of the Development Services department's work program (e.g. neighborhood planning, public input on new regulations, etc.)?
- h. Has there been a previous attempt to address this concern through a comprehensive plan amendment?  
☐ Yes                      ☐ No
- i. If yes, please answer the following questions:
  1. When was the amendment proposal submitted?
  2. Was it submitted as a consistent amendment or an inconsistent amendment?
  3. What were the Plan Commission recommendation and City Council decision at that time?
  4. Describe any ways that this amendment proposal varies from the previously considered version.

## Comprehensive Plan Amendment – Pre-Application At-Grade Rail Crossing Improvements – 2020

### 1. General Questions:

a. Summarize the general nature of the proposed amendment.

*This amendment would add language regarding safety improvements to at-grade rail crossings in the City.*

b. Why do you feel this change is needed?

*This will make the grade crossing improvement projects more competitive for funding under certain grant programs.*

c. In what way(s) is your proposal similar to or different from the fundamental concepts contained in the comprehensive plan?

*Not applicable.*

d. For text amendments: What goals, policies, regulations or other documents might be changed by your proposal?

*The proposed text not likely to include or modify any goals or policies, though it might list certain crossings in the City requiring update or improvement.*

e. For map amendments:

1. What is the current Land Use designation and zoning for each affected parcel? *Not Applicable*

2. What is the requested Land Use designation and zoning for each affected parcel? *Not Applicable*

3. Describe the land uses surrounding the proposed amendment site(s); e.g. land use type, vacant/occupied, etc. *Not Applicable*

f. Do you know of any existing studies, plans or other documents that specifically relate to or support your proposal?

*No.*

g. Why did you decide to pursue a comprehensive plan amendment rather than address your concern through some other aspect of the Development Services department's work program (e.g. neighborhood planning, public input on new regulations, etc.)?

*Discussion of this topic in the Comprehensive Plan is an important first step towards improving safety at these crossings throughout the City.*

h. Has there been a previous attempt to address this concern through a comprehensive plan amendment?

*No.*

i. If yes, please answer the following questions: *Not Applicable*

1. When was the amendment proposal submitted?

2. Was it submitted as a consistent amendment or an inconsistent amendment?

3. What were the Plan Commission recommendation and City Council decision at that time?

4. Describe any ways that this amendment proposal varies from the previously considered version.



# Z20-045COMP

## (Text Amendment - Chapter 4 - Railway Crossing Safety)

2019/2020 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Proposals

Application **Z20-045COMP**

Drawn: 2/18/2020

THIS IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT

The information shown on this map is compiled from various sources and is subject to constant revision. Information shown on this map should not be used to determine the location of facilities in relationship to property lines, section lines, streets, etc.

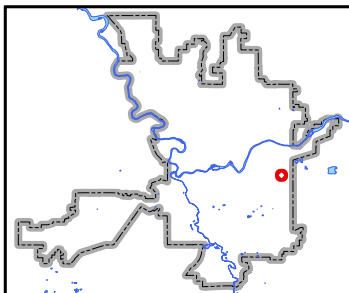
### Legend

- +— Railroad
- Curb Line

The proposed amendment is only to the text of the Comprehensive Plan. The railroad crossing in this figure is provided for informational purposes only. The effect of the text amendment would be citywide, concerning any crossing that may require additional safety improvements.

All photographs were taken in 2018.

### PHOTOGRAPH LOCATION

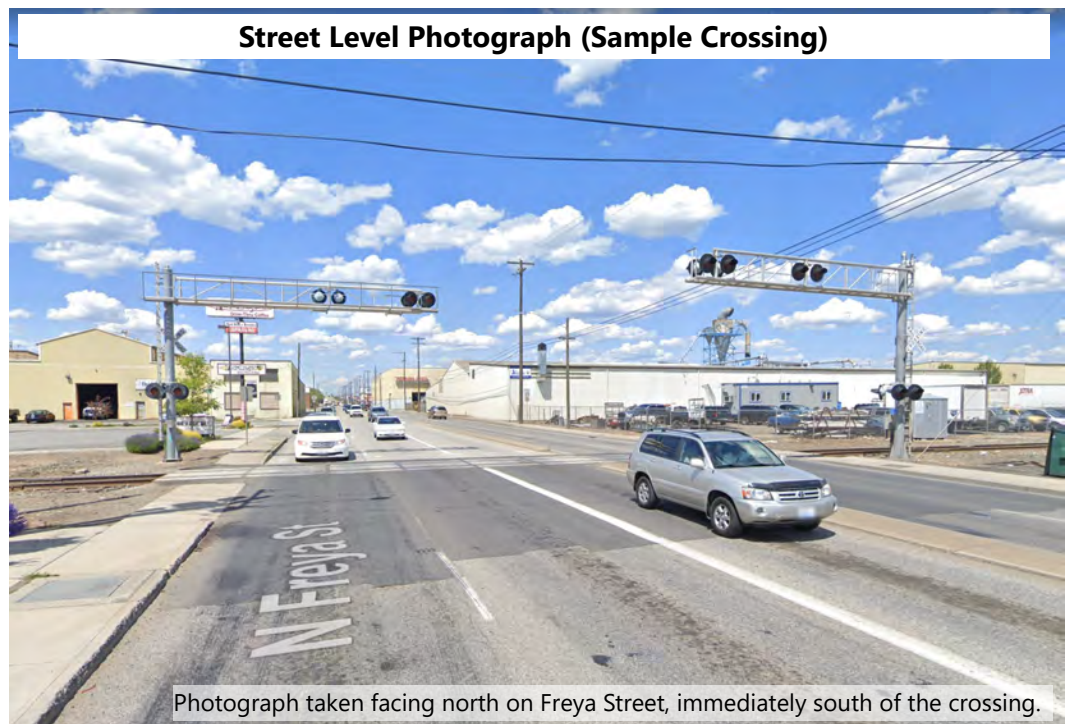


Neighborhood and Planning Services  
Drawn By: Kevin Freibott

### Aerial Overview (Sample Crossing)



### Street Level Photograph (Sample Crossing)



Photograph taken facing north on Freya Street, immediately south of the crossing.