



2021/2022 Comprehensive Plan Amendments

PLAN COMMISSION FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT FILE Z22-097COMP

A Recommendation of the Spokane Plan Commission to the City Council to APPROVE the Comprehensive Plan Amendment proposal seeking to amend the Map TR5 in Chapter 4 of the Comprehensive Plan for bicycle facilities for various public rights-of-way citywide.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

- A. The City of Spokane adopted a Comprehensive Plan in May of 2001 that complies with the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA).
- B. Under GMA, comprehensive plans generally may be amended no more frequently than once a year, and all amendment proposals must be considered concurrently in order to evaluate for their cumulative effect.
- C. Amendment Proposal Z22-097COMP (the "Proposal") was submitted in a timely manner for review during the City's 2021/2021 amendment cycle.
- D. The Proposal seeks to amend Map TR5 in Chapter 4 of the Comprehensive Plan to update and keep current planned bikeway facility designations.
- E. The proposal seeks to update future facility designations for segments of the planned bikeway network to be consistent with available right-of-way, engineering assessment, neighborhood plans and proposals, and community feedback.
- F. On March 21, 2022, the City Council adopted Resolution RES 2022-0028 establishing the 2022 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program and included the Proposal in the Work Program.
- G. Thereafter, on April 15, 2022, staff requested comments from agencies, departments, and neighborhood councils. The City received three comment letters, one from City of Spokane Streets Department and two from the Logan Neighborhood Council.
- H. On March 17, 2022, the Land Use Subcommittee of the Community Assembly received a presentation regarding the 2021/2022 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program, including the Proposal.
- I. A Notice of Application was published on May 25, 2022 in the Spokesman Review. The Notice of Application initiated a 60-day public comment period from May 25 to July 25, 2022, during which 7 comments were received.
 1. A total of 8 public comments were received by September 27, 2022.
- J. On May 25, 2022, the Spokane City Plan Commission held a workshop to study the Proposal.

- K. On June 6, 2022, the Community Assembly received a presentation regarding the 2021/2022 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program and the Proposal and was provided with information regarding the dates of Plan Commission workshops and hearings.
- L. On August 22, 2022, a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist and Determination of Non-Significance were issued for the Proposal. The deadline to appeal the SEPA determination was September 13, 2022. No comments on the SEPA determination were received.
 - 1. Notice of the SEPA Determination for the Proposal was published in the Official Gazette on August 31 and September 7, 2022.
- M. On August 23, 2022, staff published a report addressing SEPA and providing staff's analysis of the merits of the Proposal, copies of which were circulated as prescribed by SMC 17G.020.060B.8. Staff's analysis of the Proposal recommended approval of the Proposal.
 - 1. Within the staff report, a request was made to withdraw Bike Map Modification 3, also known as the Washington bike lane.
- N. On August 31 and September 7, 2022, notice was published in the Spokesman Review providing notice of a SEPA Determination of Non-Significance and notice of the Plan Commission Public Hearing.
- O. On September 14, 2021, the Plan Commission held a public hearing on the Proposal, including the taking of verbal testimony, closed the verbal record on that date, closed the written record as of Tuesday, September 27, and postponing deliberations until the following hearing date. No public testimony was offered by those in attendance.
- P. On September 23, 2022, the Washington State Department of Commerce and appropriate state agencies were given the required 60-day notice of intent to adopt before adoption of any proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan.
- Q. On September 28, 2022, the Plan Commission conducted its deliberations on this Proposal and voted to recommend the City Council approve this Proposal, including Bike Map Modification 3, also known as the Washington bike lane, a proposal which the Streets department had requested be postponed.
- R. As a result of the City's efforts, pursuant to the requirements of SMC 17G.020.070, the public has had extensive opportunities to participate throughout the process and persons desiring to comment were given an opportunity to do so.
- S. Except as otherwise indicated herein, the Plan Commission adopts the findings and analysis set forth in the Staff Report prepared for the Proposal (the "Staff Report").
- T. The Plan Commission finds that the proposal meets the intent and requirements of the Comprehensive Plan, most specifically policies TR 1—Transportation Network for All Users; TR 5 – Active Transportation; and TR 7—Neighborhood Access.
- U. The Plan Commission finds that the proposal meets the decision criteria established by SMC 17G.020.030, as described in the Staff Report.

CONCLUSIONS:

Based upon the application materials, staff analysis (which is hereby incorporated into these findings, conclusions, and recommendation), SEPA review, agency and public comments received, and public testimony presented regarding Proposal File No. Z22-097COMP, the Plan Commission makes the following conclusions with respect to the review criteria outlined in SMC 17G.020.030:

1. The Proposal was submitted in a timely manner and added to the 2021/2022 Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program, and the final review application was submitted as provided in SMC 17G.020.050(D).
2. Interested agencies and the public have had extensive opportunities to participate throughout the process and persons desiring to comment have been given that opportunity to comment.
3. The Proposal is consistent with the goals and purposes of GMA.
4. Any potential infrastructure implications associated with the Proposal will either be mitigated through projects reflected in the City's relevant six-year capital improvement plans or through enforcement of the City's development regulations at time of development.
5. As outlined in above in the Findings of Fact, the Proposal is internally consistent as it pertains to the Comprehensive Plan, as described in SMC 17G.020.030.E.
6. The Proposal is consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies for Spokane County, the comprehensive plans of neighboring jurisdictions, applicable capital facilities plans, the regional transportation plan, and official population growth forecasts.
7. The Proposal has been considered simultaneously with the other proposals included in the 2021 Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Work Program in order to evaluate the cumulative effect of all the proposals.
8. SEPA review was completed for the Proposal.
9. The Proposal will not adversely affect the City's ability to provide the full range of urban public facilities and services citywide at the planned level of service, or consume public resources otherwise needed to support comprehensive plan implementation strategies.
10. The Proposal proposes designations that are in conformance with the appropriate location criteria identified in the comprehensive plan.
11. The proposed map amendment locations are suitable for the proposed designation.
12. The map amendment would implement applicable comprehensive plan policies better than the current map designations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

In the matter of Z22-097COMP, a request by the City of Spokane to amend Map TR5 in Chapter 4 of the Comprehensive Plan concerning bicycle facilities in various public rights-of-way citywide, based upon the above listed findings and conclusions, by a vote of **8 to 0**, the Spokane Plan Commission recommends City Council **APPROVE** *all of* the requested amendments to the Land Use Plan Map of the City's Comprehensive

Plan, including changes to Washington Street (Modification 3), and authorizes the President to prepare and sign on the Commission's behalf a written decision setting forth the Commission's findings, conclusions, and recommendation on the Proposal.

Todd Beyreuther

Todd Beyreuther (Oct 11, 2022 16:56 PDT)

Todd Beyreuther, President

Spokane Plan Commission

Date: Oct 11, 2022