NOTICE OF APPLICATION, SEPA REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR A SKYWALK PERMIT "Convention Center Skywalk" File No. Z1400022 SKWK

Notice is hereby given that the Spokane Public Facilities District applied for a Type III Skywalk Permit on May 6, 2014. This application was determined to be technically complete on May 29, 2014. There will be a public hearing on this proposal before the City of Spokane Hearing Examiner on <u>Thursday, July 10, 2014 at 9:00 am</u>, in the City Council Briefing Center, Lower Level of City Hall, 808 W. Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, WA. Any person may submit written comments on the proposal and/or appear at the public hearing.

For additional information contact City of Spokane Planning and Development at:

Planning and Development Services Attn: Tami Palmquist, AICP, Associate Planner 808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard Spokane, WA 99201-3329 Phone: (509) 625-6157 Email: <u>tpalmquist@spokanecity.org</u> Web: <u>www.spokaneplanning.org</u>

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

- Applicant/ Spokane Public Facility District, Attn: Kevin Twohig Convention Center Hotel, LLC, Attn: Walt Worthy
- Agent: Jim Kolva 115 S. Adams Street, #1 Spokane, WA 99201 (509) 458-5517

File Number: Z1400022 SKWK

<u>Public Comment Period</u>: Written comments may be submitted on this application by <u>June 17</u>, <u>2014</u>. Written comments should be sent via mail or email to the Planning and Development address listed above and at the end of this document.

<u>SEPA:</u> The responsible official expects to issue a DNS for the proposal on June 18, 2014; the optional DNS process is being used. This may be the only opportunity to comment on the environmental impacts of the proposal. A copy of the subsequent threshold determination for the specific proposal may be obtained upon request. The SEPA determination may be appealed on or before July 2, 2014, at 4 pm.

Description of Proposal: A request for a Type III Skywalk Permit to construct a skywalk over Spokane Falls Boulevard, west of Bernard Street, to connect the Spokane Convention Center and the new convention hotel to the south. The proposed skywalk, a structure of about 112 feet in length and 18 feet in height, will connect a new mezzanine floor within the Convention Center to the second floor of the new convention hotel. A variance is requested to exceed the 14-foot height limit (SMC 12.02.0460A). Because of the difference in floor heights between the Convention Center and the new convention hotel, the skywalk internal walkway will have a slope. Consequently, the external structure needs to be deepened from 14 feet to 18 feet meet the 1% requirement to include disguising the ramp slope to complement the aesthetics of the skywalk and receiving buildings.

To aid in way finding, the PFD is proposing a subtle graphic, "Convention Center," to be placed on the exterior wall of the skywalk. This graphic will identify the downtown's Hotel, Convention Center and INB Performing Arts Center District. The Convention Center and new convention center hotel/parking garage are major components of this district that provides lodging and public venues that host both local and out-of-town visitors.

Location Description: The subject property is located at 334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.; west of the intersection at Bernard and Spokane Falls Blvd.

Legal Description: The complete legal description is on file in the City of Spokane Development Service Center or available on request.

Current Zoning: DTG (Downtown General)

<u>Community Meeting</u>: A community meeting was held on March 26, 2014, at 5:30 pm, in the Spokane Convention Center.

Public Hearing Process Once a Community Meeting has been completed, the applicant is authorized to make application to the City of Spokane for the review of the Skywalk Permit. A combined Notice of Application, SEPA Review and Public Hearing will be posted on the property and mailed to all property owners and taxpayers of record, as shown by the most recent Spokane County Assessor's record, and occupants of addresses of property located within a four hundred foot radius of any portion of the boundary of the subject property, including any property that is contiguous and under the same or common ownership and control. This combined Notice of Application, SEPA Review and Public Hearing will initiate a 15-day public comment period in which interested person may submit written comments to the address of the City Staff. This notice will contain the date, time, and location of the public hearing. Once the public comment period has ended, staff will issue a Staff Report to the Hearing Examiner. A Public Hearing will be held in front of the City of Spokane Hearing Examiner. Written comments and oral testimony at the public hearing for this proposed action will be made part of the public record. Only the applicant, persons submitting written comments, and persons testifying at a hearing may appeal the decision of the Hearing Examiner. The Hearing Examiner's decision will then be forwarded to the City Council, which will hold a final Public Hearing. Subsequent notice will be provided when that hearing is scheduled.

Written comments should be mailed, delivered or emailed to:

Planning and Development Services Attn: Tami Palmquist, AICP, Associate Planner 808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard Spokane, WA 99201-3329 Phone: (509) 625-6157

Email: <u>tpalmquist@spokanecity.org</u> Web: <u>www.spokaneplanning.org</u>

To view more information, including plans for this project, please go to www.spokaneplanning.org