

ReFIVE

a community plan for fifth avenue

Draft Plan Overview

Plan Commission Workshop | May 27, 2026



PLANNING AREA MAP



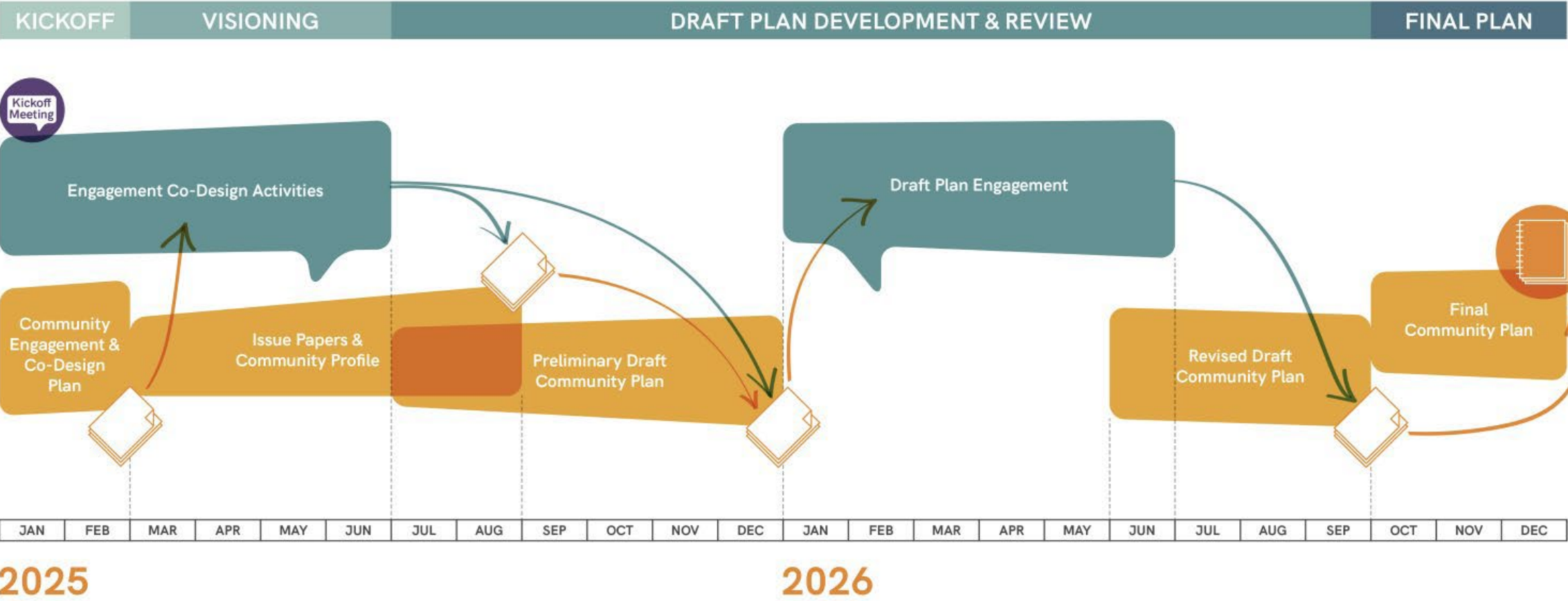
0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Miles



The **5th Avenue planning area** is focused on the area and community south of I-90 in the East Central Neighborhood centered along East 5th Avenue, a 1.75-mile corridor that connects Liberty Park to Frances Scott Elementary School and the city boundary at Havana Street.

ReFIVE Plan Project Arc



How are we listening?

Community Conversations

Interviews and Listening Sessions, Jan 2025 - Feb 2025

Property Owners & Stakeholder Outreach, March – May 2026

Community Working Group

Monthly Meetings, February 2025 - ongoing

Visioning Events

Frances Scott Elementary School Arts Gala, April 2025 & 2026

Grant Park Celebration, Juneteenth 2025

MLK Center Resource Fair, Juneteenth 2025

Community Workshop, October 2025

Black Earth Day, April 2026

Online

Project website

Blog posts, email newsletter

Discussion board & interactive map: <https://spokane5thavenue.com/>

*Spanning all engagement efforts, **co-creation, accessibility, and creativity** were key elements of our approach to best meet community members where they're at and collect a diversity of input.*

Community Working Group:

5th Avenue Forward

Carl Maxey Center

Nuestras Raíces

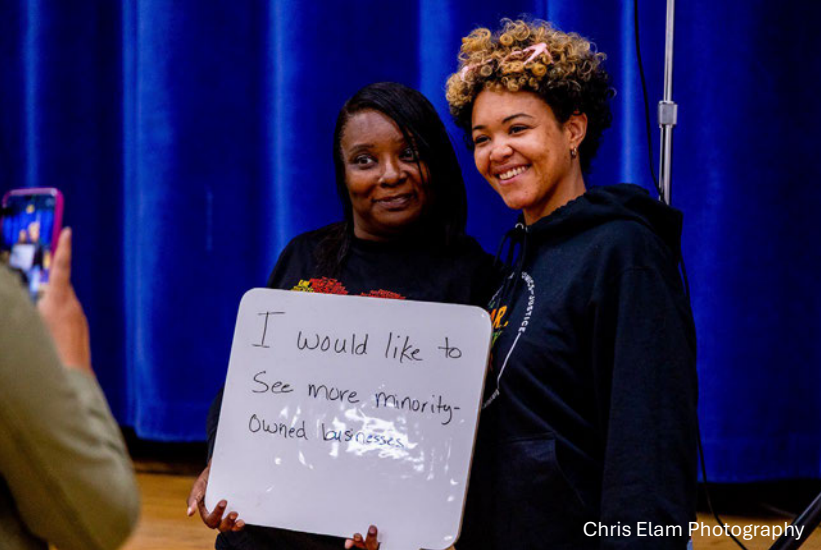
Take Up the Cause

East Central Neighborhood Council

Spokane Public Schools

Youth Representative

Engagement summary online at
<https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/fifth-avenue-plan/>



Chris Elam Photography



Chris Elam Photography



Chris Elam Photography



“I think that that's the biggest piece that we're looking for, is the restoration of the community that was once thriving.”



Chris Elam Photography



Chris Elam Photography



Chris Elam Photography



What we heard

- Deep connection to the **community's history**
- Desire for economic and cultural **empowerment**
- Commitment to preserving **Black identity** and experiences in the face of historical injustices
- Desire for **affordable housing** solutions
- Commercial and economic **opportunity**
- Improved **traffic safety** particularly for youth



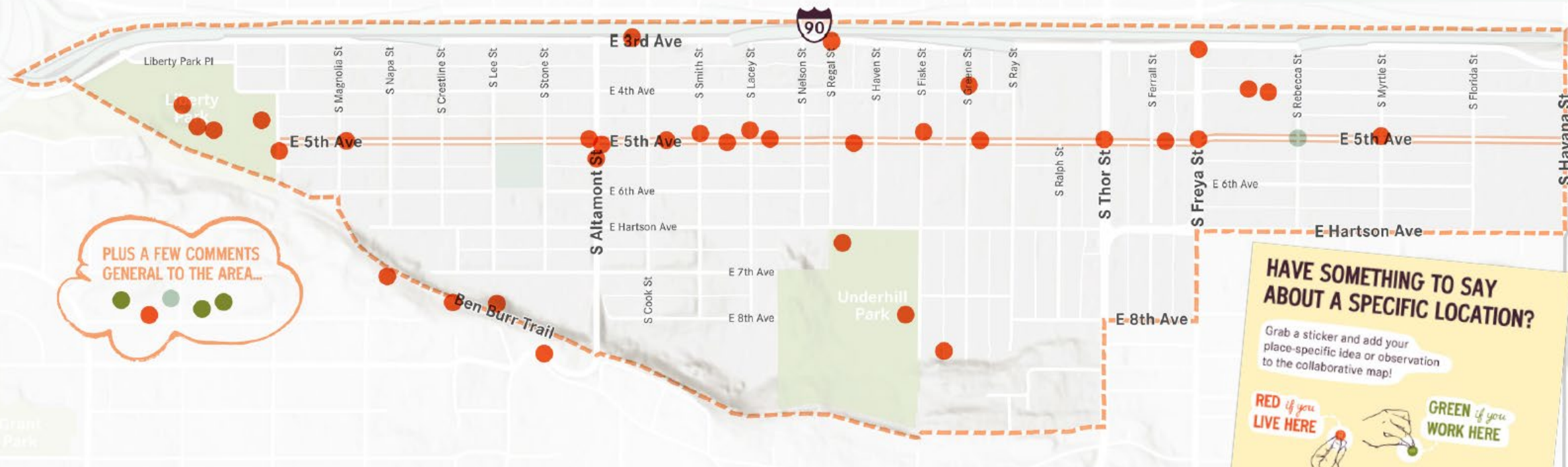
THE BIGGEST OF YOUR BIG IDEAS!

↑
MORE FREQUENTLY MENTIONED



COLLAB MAP COMMENTS *so far!*

- Residents - 35
- Employees/Business Owners - 3
- Everyone Else - 2



| 9 | Collaborative Map Comments

Image: Leah Murphy

Community ideas & input

defined the

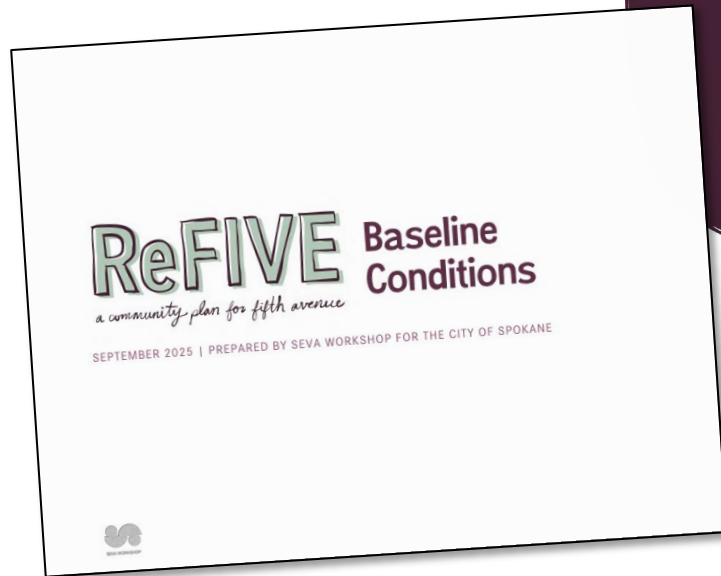
Topics for Study:

- Walkability
- Homeownership
- Community Identity
- Community Wealth Building
- Connectivity
- Restore the Land

became the

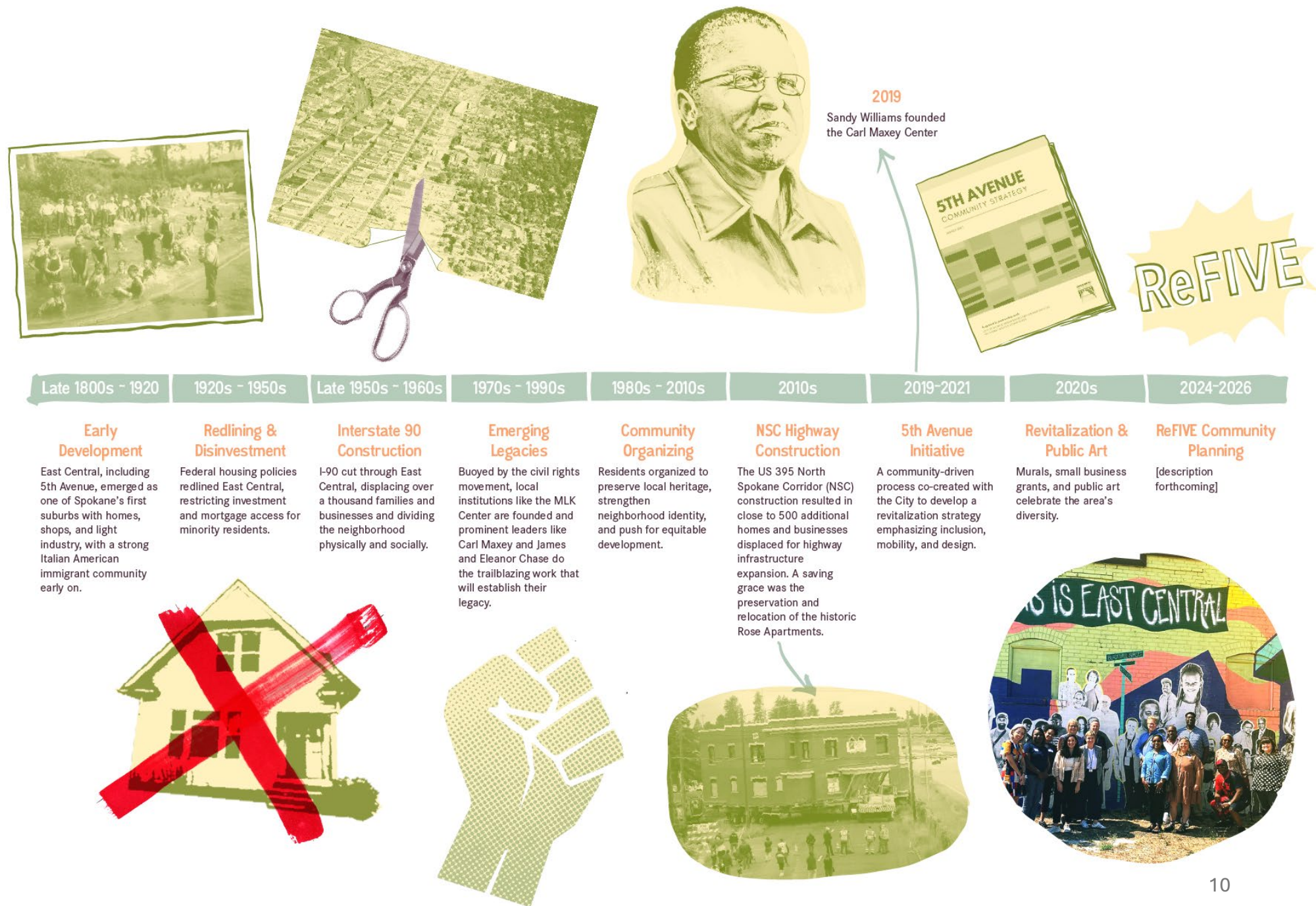
Framework of the Plan

- Goal A: Community Identity
- Goal B: Connected Neighborhood
- Goal C: Livable Neighborhood
- Goal D: Community Wealth Building
- Goal E: Home in 5th Avenue



What is the ReFIVE Plan?

Why now?





Three **VISION THEMES**, distilled from thoughtful community conversations, are **THREADED** throughout ReFIVE's ideas.

Each of these themes have **TIE-INS** across the plan's five recommendations chapters, **INTERWEAVING** the community's values with the plan's goals and strategies

VISION THEMES

VISION THEMES

Respect

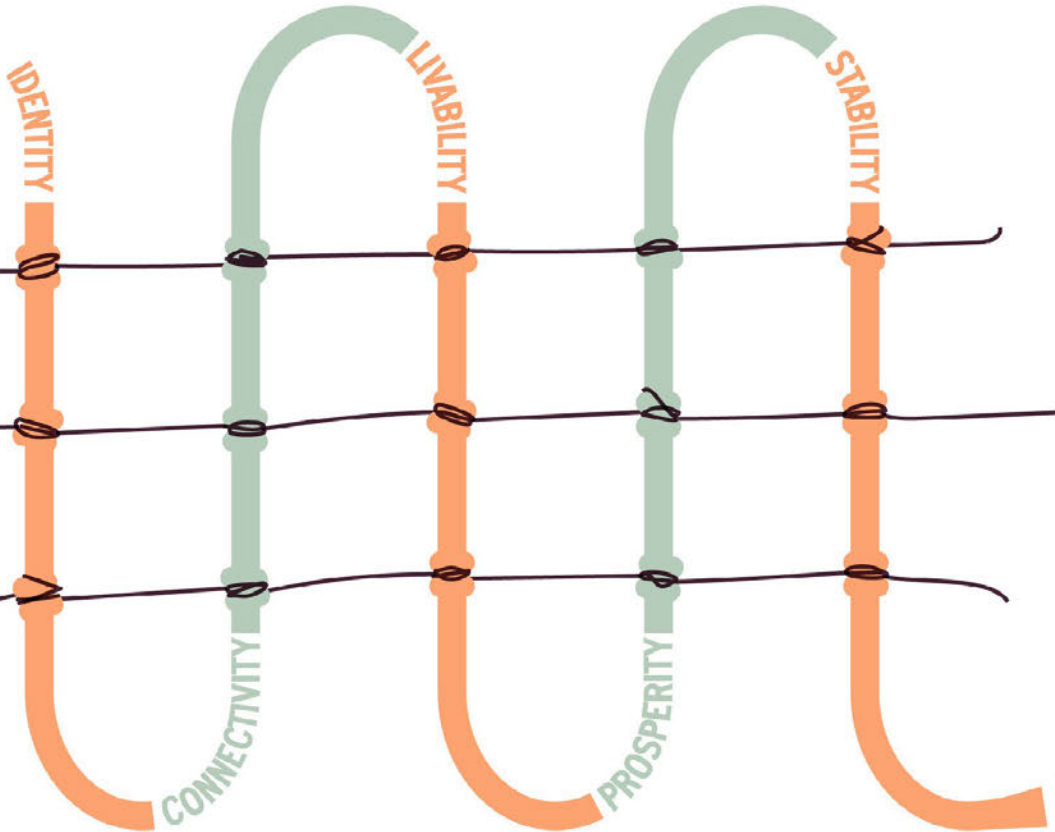
Rebalance **EQUITY** issues through economic opportunity, affordability, and environmental justice.

Resilience

Prioritize **SUSTAINABILITY** and climate adaptation in infrastructure, policy, and programming decisions.

Resourcefulness

Foster **PARTNERSHIPS** between the City and social commons; strengthen and leverage nonprofit and community infrastructure.



ReFIVE

ReFIVE Draft Plan Goals



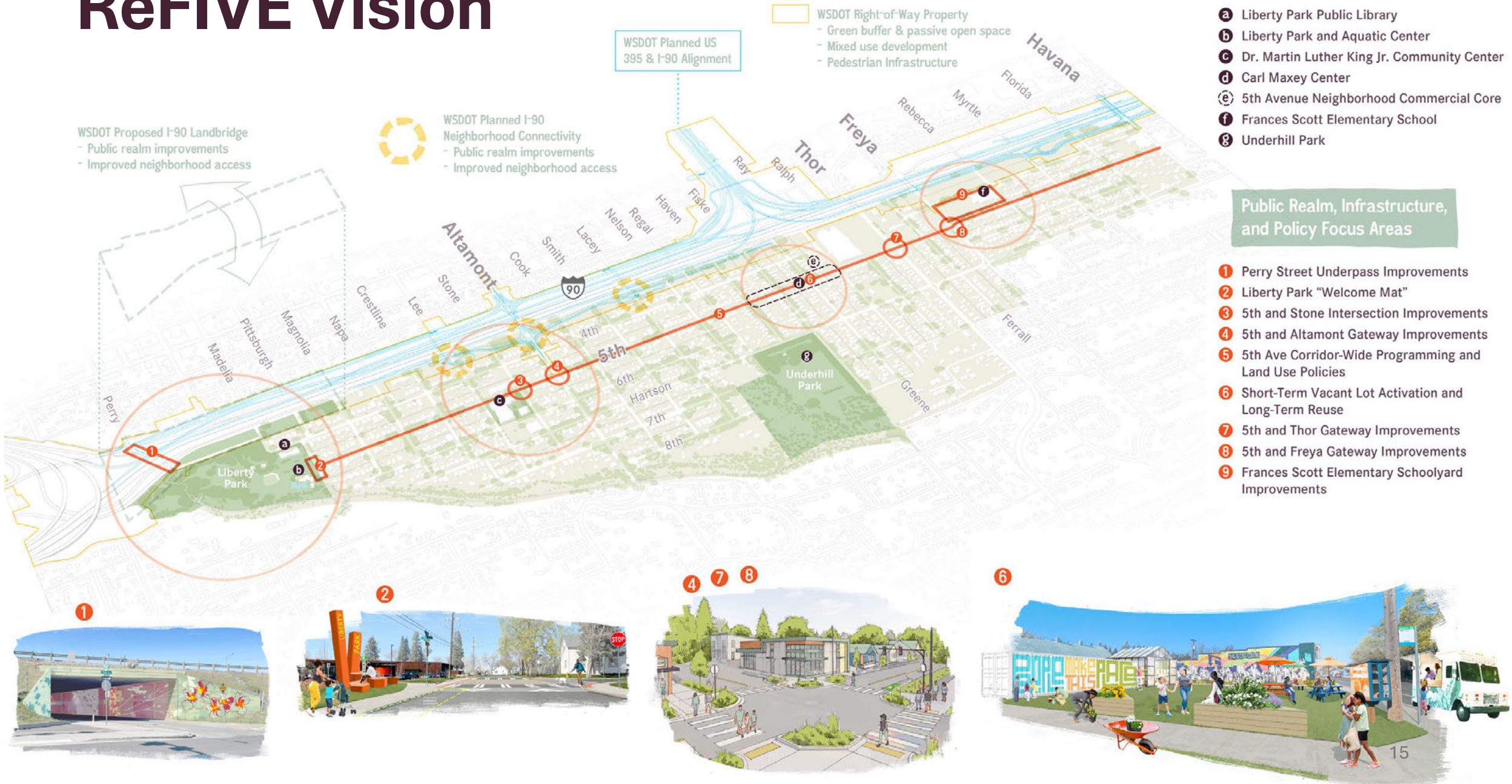
Goals and Strategies At a Glance

GOAL	STRATEGIES
IDENTITY Cement and honor the legacy of the neighborhood’s history, fill the environment with art and color, and celebrate today’s community	1.1: Celebrate 5th Avenue’s rich history as the heart of Spokane’s Black community 1.2: Beautify 5th Avenue 1.3: Organize shared experiences that reflect today’s diversity
CONNECTIVITY Improve the experience of the neighborhood for those who are walking, biking, rolling, or accessing transit.	2.1: Make the neighborhood more accessible 2.2: Make streets and sidewalks safer and more comfortable 2.3: Support neighborhood and district connectivity 2.4: Enhance access to transit
LIVABILITY Make the 5th Avenue neighborhood a welcoming and comfortable space for people of all ages and abilities.	3.1: Encourage safe, active, and playful community spaces 3.2: Create and expand programs that increase active living 3.3: Increase the community’s access to healthy food and water 3.4: Build neighborhood resilience to urban heat 3.5: Mitigate heat, extreme cold, and other climate change impacts

Goals and Strategies At a Glance

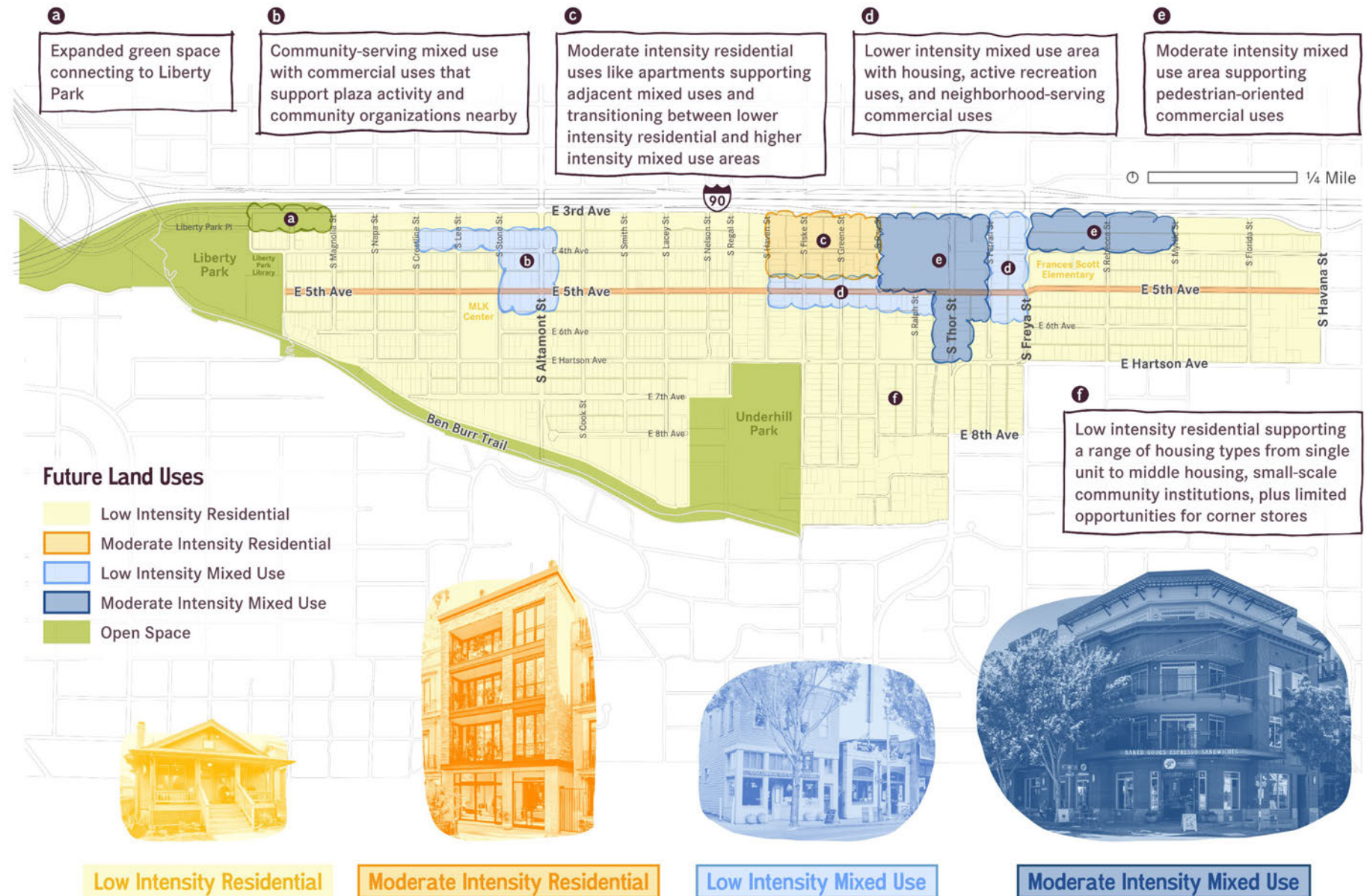
GOAL	STRATEGIES
PROSPERITY Foster more resilient, equitable, and sustainable economies by recognizing and nurturing local community assets such as small businesses, non-profits, and cultural organizations.	4.1: Nurture and expand commercial activity and economic development along 5th Avenue 4.2: Support new development that advances community goals 4.3: Encourage partnerships to connect residents to good jobs and supportive services 4.4: Offer technical assistance and funding support to small businesses and entrepreneurs
STABILITY Ensure the future of 5th Avenue is affordable, racially diverse, and inclusive for a wide range of household types.	5.1: Increase housing options and affordability levels 5.2: Promote homeownership, especially for first-time buyers 5.3: Sustain homeownership for community members 5.4: Use creative tools and strategies to acquire sites for affordable housing

ReFIVE Vision



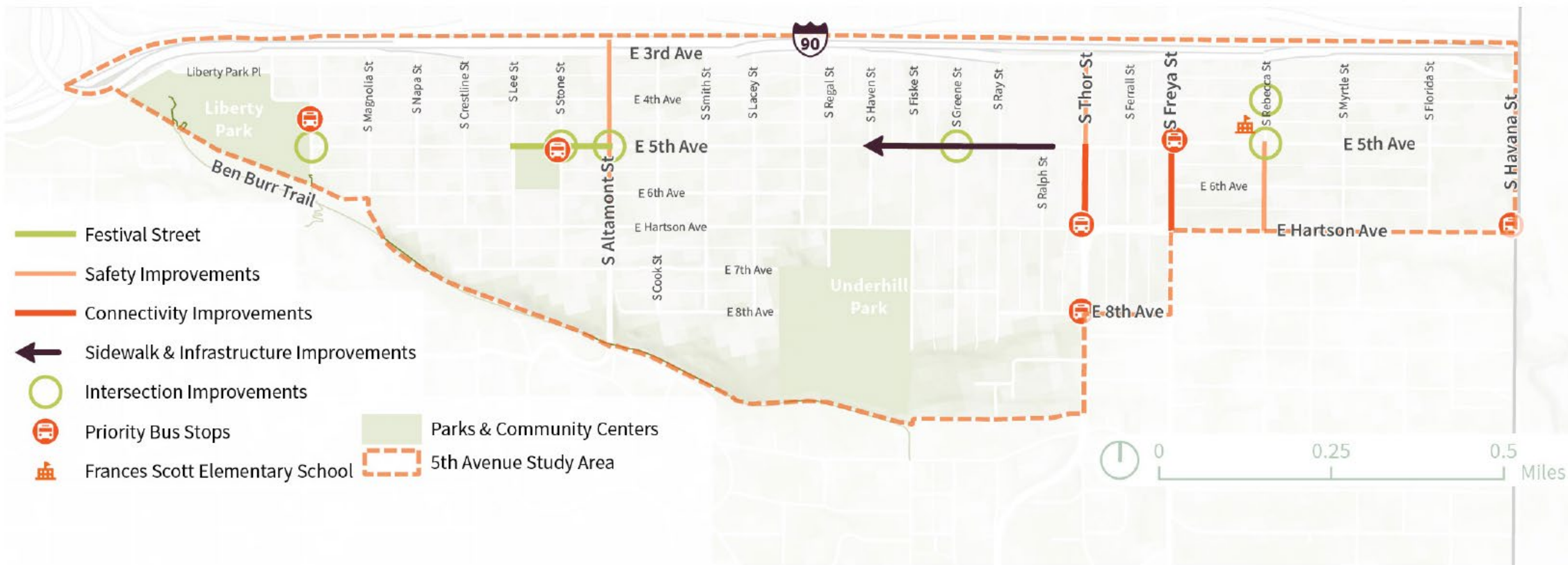
Land use changes to support mixed use development with neighborhood-serving commercial, balancing housing opportunities with homeownership, and expanded green space

Land use changes to support mixed use development with neighborhood-serving commercial, balancing housing opportunities with homeownership, and expanded green space



Connectivity Improvements

Desired improvements to multimodal transportation and safety to support neighborhood connectivity.



Liberty Park Welcome Mat Concept

Public realm improvements at Liberty Park to better connect neighbors and visitors to the civic spaces and amenities of the library, park, and aquatic center, and create a more welcoming entrance and pedestrian environment for walking, biking, rolling, and transit.



Intersection Improvements Concepts

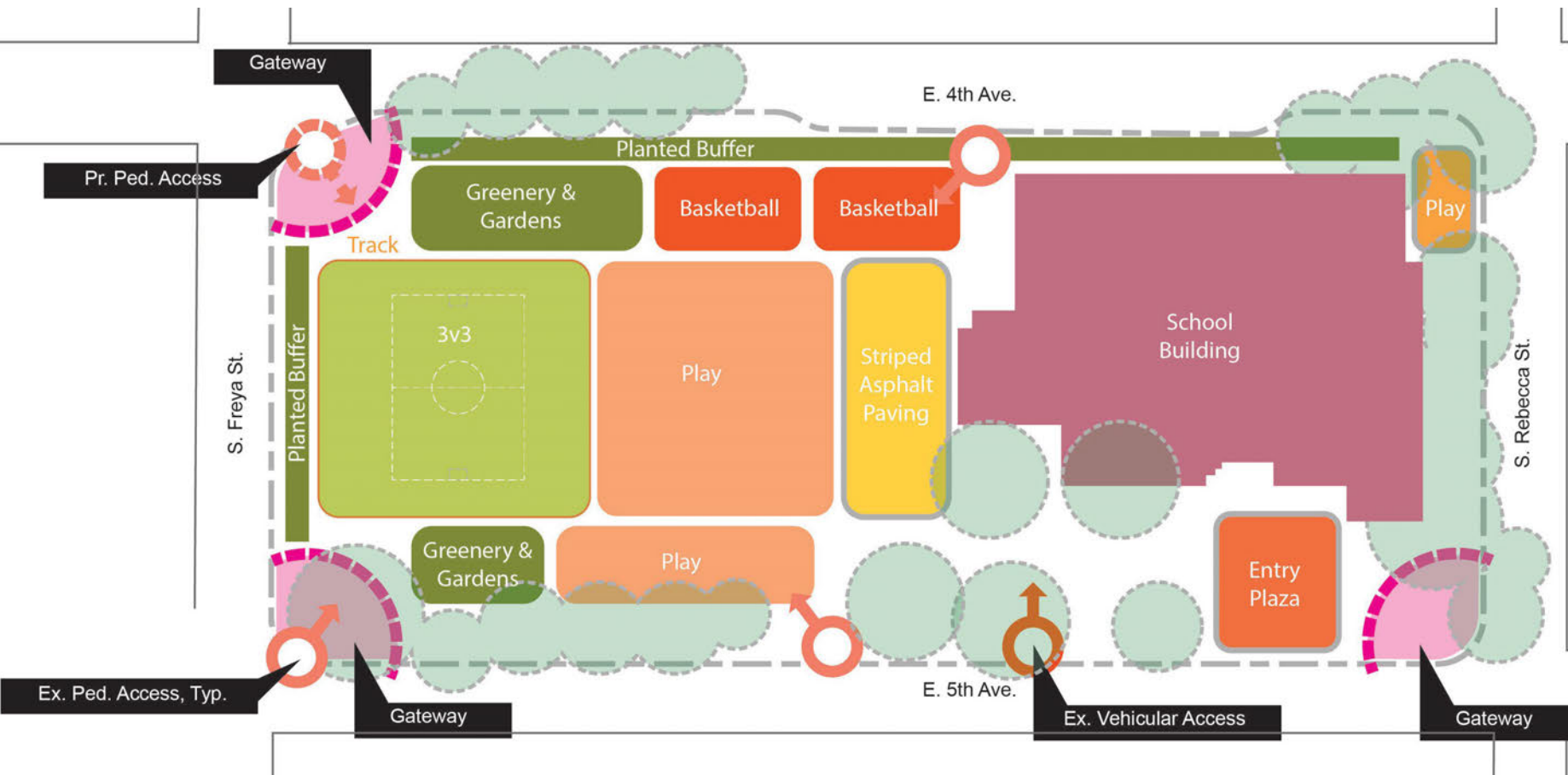
Expanded traffic calming concepts at intersections:

- ▶ Improves neighborhood safety and livability
- ▶ Advances equity by improving access to transportation for all
- ▶ Enhances sustainability by reducing vehicle miles traveled
- ▶ Improves health by upgrading facilities for people walking, rolling, and biking



Community Schoolyard Concept: Frances Scott Elementary School

Reimagine the schoolyard to encourage both student recreation and public open space during non-school hours.



Garden Classroom Example



Trust for Public Land

Early Wins/Day One Projects

The Early Wins listed below have been identified by the Working Group as steps that can be taken immediately due to opportunities such as available funding or existing relationships.

Actions	Lead & Partners
1. Pursue the designation of a cultural district for the neighborhood	Fifth Avenue Forward
2. Create a partnership agreement between the Spokane Public Schools, City of Spokane Parks Department and the Trust for Public Lands and seek funding for a pilot project on a greening schoolyard program for Frances Scott Elementary School	Spokane Public Schools, City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department, and Trust for Public Lands
3. Improvements to Rebecca St. and 4th Ave/5th Ave to support neighborhood connectivity by Frances Scott Elementary School.	City of Spokane, Spokane Public Schools
4. Intersection improvements at 5th Ave and Altamont St and traffic calming at 5th Ave and Stone St near the Martin Luther King Jr. Family Outreach Center.	City of Spokane, MLK Jr. Family Outreach Center
5. Intersection improvements at 5th Ave and Green St . Coordination with STA on bus stop improvements would also benefit transit riders.	City of Spokane, STA
6. Extending the infrastructure improvements from the commercial businesses along 5 th Ave to include in front of Carl Maxey Center.	City of Spokane, Carl Maxey Center
7. Completing sidewalk improvement on 5th Ave between Fiske St and Haven St .	City of Spokane
8. Improvement projects around Thor St/Freya St couplet between 5th Ave and Hartson St to support connectivity across Thor St/Freya St	City of Spokane

Draft Plan Engagement

May 19:
East Central NC

May 27:
PC Workshop

May – July: Draft Plan Survey

May – July: Online Discussion Wall & Interactive Map

June TBD: Community Tabling

June 11: Draft Plan
Virtual Workshop



SAVE THE DATE!

Draft Plan Virtual
Workshop
Thursday, June 11
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Visit online for complete schedule:
[https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/
fifth-avenue-plan/](https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/fifth-avenue-plan/)



June 19-20: Juneteenth
Community Events

June/July TBD: Cultural
Small Group Discussions

