NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A SHORELINE SUBSTANTIAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT "Huntington Park" FILE # Z1300025SSDP

Notice is hereby given that Avista Corporation applied for an administrative Shoreline Substantial Development Permit on April 12, 2013. The application was certified complete on May 3, 2013. This application is for improvements to Huntington Park, which is determined to be within Shoreline Jurisdiction of the Spokane River on property located just east of the Monroe Street Bridge and west of the Post Street Bridge, on the south side of the Spokane River. The project will including pathways, landscaping, interpretive signage and design improvements, as well as incorporating the existing parking lot on the north side of City Hall.

Any person may submit written comments on the proposal or call for additional information at:

Planning & Development Department Attn: Tami Palmquist, 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: Avista Corporation & City of Spokane, Parks & Recreation Department

Agent: Robin Bekkedahl, Avista Corporation,

(509)495-8657, robin.bekkedahl@avistacorp.com

File Number: Z1300025 SSDP

<u>Public Comment Period</u>: Written comments may be submitted on this application by <u>June 17, 2013 at 5 pm</u> (30 days from the posting and mailing of the Notice of Application). Written comments should be sent to the Planning & Development Department at the mail or email address listed above.

SEPA: Planning Services anticipates a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS). The optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355 is being used. This may be the only opportunity to comment on the environmental impacts of this proposal. A copy of the subsequent DNS may be obtained upon request. SEPA appeal deadline is **June 17, 2013**. SEPA Checklist and other documents available at www.spokaneplanning.org

<u>Description of Proposal</u>: Avista plans to make improvements to Huntington Park that will accommodate visitor use that has changed since the park was initially developed. These improvements consist of sidewalks, which are designed to separate pedestrian traffic from the service road, signage, planters, benches and small grassy areas. One small overlook will be developed to allow the public a safe place to enjoy views of the Upper Falls. The primary linkage is through the current City Hall parking lot from Post Street and Riverfront Park. This will be re-designed by terracing down to an overlook that leads to a new sidewalk to Huntington Park. The terraces will accommodate sitting areas with landscaping and grass where feasible. The design goal for this section is to create a plaza type atmosphere that connects the

Riverfront and Huntington Parks and that can be used for passive recreational opportunities. This plaza could accommodate programmable events such as Bloomsday, Hoop Fest, or Pig Out in the Park. It will also include a new pedestrian street crossing with a gateway architectural feature that enhances City Hall and the Post Street Substation, something that is unique to Spokane's historic downtown area, and an enhanced plaza area in front of the Post Street Substation. This will include the use of basalt, native vegetation, historic light features and interpretive facilities. Due to the elimination of off-street vehicular parking in this area, ADA compliant parking will be made available in an off-street location immediately west of City Hall and accessed by Spokane Falls Boulevard. It is anticipated that Post Street will be reconfigured to be Northbound only and angled parking will be installed to replace the lost off street parking. Site plan available at www.spokaneplanning.org

<u>Location Description</u>: Huntington Park is located on the south bank of the Spokane River between Monroe and Post Street Bridges. Parcel 35183.0053 and 35183.1508; Section, Township, Range: SW ½ 18-25N-43E.

<u>Legal Description</u>: A full legal description of the subject property is available in the Planning & Development Department, located on the 3rd Floor of City Hall, 808 West Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201-3329.

<u>Current Zoning</u>: The proposal is located in the Downtown General Zone (with a 70 foot height limitation; DTG-70) with Land Use designations of Open Space and Downtown.

<u>Environmental Designations:</u> The majority of the project boundary is located within 200-feet of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) of the Spokane River, a shoreline of statewide significance. The City of Spokane Shoreline Master Program designates this area in the Urban Intensive Environmental Designation. It is designated as located within the Downtown Shoreline Design District. It is located within the It is also in the Zone 2 Riparian Habitat Area (RHA).

Process: A Notice of Application 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. The Notice of Application will initiate a 30-day public comment period in which interested person may submit written comments to the address of the City Staff. Once the public comment period has ended, the Planning Director will issue a Decision within 10 days. This decision is appealable to the Hearing Examiner under conditions set forth in Spokane Municipal Code Section 17G.060.210. Administrative Shoreline Permit decisions after final decision by the Director have an additional appeal period to the Shorelines Hearings Board, see SMC 17G.060.210. Only the applicant and persons submitting written comments may appeal the decision of the Planning Director.

Written comments should be mailed, delivered or emailed to:

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