

Lincoln Heights District Center Workshop Survey Responses

From workshop meeting held November 20, 2013 at ESD 101 Conference Room, 4202 S. Regal

Workshop Purpose: City of Spokane Planning & Development is beginning a planning study of the Lincoln Heights District Center. The purpose of the study is to develop a vision for this key activity area that is currently zoned for commercial and higher-density residential use. This first workshop was held on November 20, 2013.

The discussion focused on existing conditions and participants were asked to identify areas and topics important to Lincoln Heights District Center. If you have additional comments you would like to add or questions or concerns about this work, please contact Ken Pelton, kpelton@spokanecity.org or Tirrell Black, tblack@spokanecity.org or call 509-625-6300.

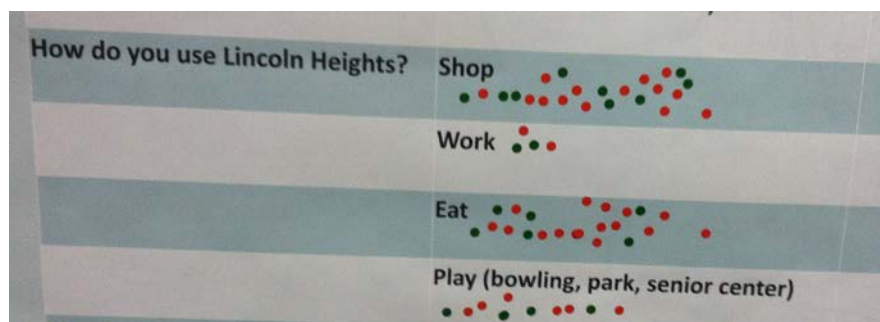


Where is Lincoln Heights?

Lincoln Heights is a neighborhood located in the southeast of the City of Spokane; a major central intersection is East 29th Avenue and Regal Street. To use the City's GIS viewer to explore the Lincoln Heights area in-depth, go to <http://www.spokanegis.org/citymap2/>

Who showed up at the Workshop?

Thirty-one people signed in for the meeting. In a self-reporting "evening demographics" dot exercise, thirteen identified themselves as living in the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood, nine as living in the City but not in Lincoln Heights, and four from Spokane County (but not the City). In response to the question "How do you use Lincoln Heights?" the most responses were for the activities "shop" and "eat".



Workshop Questionnaire Responses (12 surveys received & some comments from emails and posters at meetings):

What are your 5 top destinations in Lincoln Heights?

Place	What do you do there? Shop/eat/live?	How do you get there? Drive, walk, bike, bus?
Two Seven Public House	Eat	Drive
Southside Christian Church	Volunteer Church	Drive
Rite Aid	Shop	Drive
Dollar Store	Shop	Drive
Safeway	Shop	Drive
Trader Joe's	Shop	Walk
Safeway	Shop	Walk
Harvest Bakers	Bread	Walk
Hastings	Shop	Drive
Trader Joe's	Shop	Drive
Rosauers	Shop	Drive
18th Avenue & Fiske Street	Live	Drive
Two Seven Public House	Eat	Drive
Trader Joe's	Shop	Drive
Hastings	Shop	Drive
Petco	Shop	Drive
JoAnn Fabrics	Shop	Drive
Southside Christian Church	Attend Church	Drive
Hastings	Shop	Drive
Dollar Store	Shop	Drive
Starbucks on 29th Avenue	Eat	Walk/Drive
Safeway	Shop	Drive
McDonalds	Eat	Walk/Drive
Panda Express	Eat	Walk/Drive
South Hill Business Center	Catch Bus	Walk/Drive
Millers Hardware	Shop	Drive
Papa Murphy's	Shop	Drive
Rosauers	Shop	Drive
Safeway	Grocery	Drive
Rosauers	Grocery	Drive
UPS Store	Shipping	Drive
Home	Live	Drive
Trader Joe's	Shop	Drive and Walk
Rockwood Retirement	Visit Parents/Friends	Drive and Walk
Rosauers	Shop/Post Office	Drive and Walk
Lincoln Park	Walk dog	Walk
Dr. Hoppe	Dentist	Walk/Drive

Place	What do you do there? Shop/eat/live?	How do you get there? Drive, walk, bike, bus?
Rosauers	Shop	Drive
Petco	Shop	Drive
JoAnn Fabrics	Shop	Drive
Safeway	Shop	Drive
Zips	Eat	Drive
Safeway	Shop	Drive
Rosauers	Shop	Drive
Petco	Shop	Drive
Papa Murphy's	Eat	Drive
Trader Joe's	Shop	Drive
Rosauers	Shop	Walk, Bike
Petco	Shop	Walk, Drive
Baskin-Robbins	Eat	Walk
Trader Joe's	Shop	Walk
Wheel Sport	Shop	Bike

What businesses or other services are lacking in Lincoln Heights?

- Social Activities; Entertainment Activities
- Garden Shop/Gifts; Small Business Shops
- Entertainment other than seed bars; More Street Trees
- Sit-down Restaurants near shopping center; Clothing Stores near shopping center; Safe crosswalks to the Thornton-Murphy Park on 27th Avenue
- Specialty coffee shop (like Revel77 on 57th Avenue); Discount clothing: TJ Maxx or nice used clothing like Echo downtown; Food Carts (interesting, inexpensive) instead of fast food chains!; Garden Center/Nursery/Gift Shop (Stanek's); Home Depot-maybe further south on Regal Street; Farmers' Market and Community Crafts Pavilion; Gym or Studio-Cross Fit/Yoga, etc.
- Arby's Roast Beef; Noodle Express
- Whole Foods; Nursery (miss Stanek's); Department Store (probably not appropriate)
- Movie Theater; I leave LH for services that are similar to what is available in LH, but more expansive – local government meetings, author readings at Auntie's, knitting supplies at specialty stores, clothing stores.

Where do you think commercial redevelopment/expansion should occur?

- Infill in the parking lots
- Stanek's - Garden Shop or Restaurant
- 27th Avenue between Mt. Vernon Street and Ray Street (Southside)
- Within open parking lots that exist, directly on street front
- Block from Regal Street o Mt. Vernon Street; 29th Avenue to 31st Avenue
- 29th Avenue from Freya Street to Perry Street/Regal Street from 29th Avenue to 57th Avenue

- All corners; 29th Avenue and Ray Street
- Between Applebee's and Ray Street along 29th Avenue; must have much better pedestrian ways!
- Fill in some of the empty and desolate looking areas, i.e., parking lots; make the area look fresher and more up-to-date; between Pittsburg Street and Ray Street on 29th Avenue.
- Infill, a couple of locations have been empty for awhile. The approved Sonneland Development as approved (9 acres not expanded/street proposal). Infill on large parking lots. I like the idea of parking buildings.
- North of 29th Avenue and Regal Street in large parking lot.

Where do you think mixed-use development should occur?

- Taller building to accommodate residential space on top of commercial buildings that already exist...maybe?
- 29th Avenue west of Southeast Boulevard or along 27th Avenue
- 27th Avenue between Mt. Vernon Street and Ray Street (Southside); Between 29th Avenue and 31st Avenue and Mt. Vernon Street and Ray Street
- In the centers and corridors zone as established on 29th Avenue
- Ray Street to Fiske Street; 27th Avenue to 29th Avenue
- Within one block of Regal Street on 29th Avenue
- Below 27th Avenue
- Near 29th Avenue-bulldoze corners at 29th Avenue and Regal Street and construct a mixed use village with bridges for pedestrians (maybe close end of Regal Street to cars); vacant land behind Rockwood Clinic with single-family buffer to existing neighborhoods; on 28th Avenue near Park
- On South Regal Street and down the 29th Avenue Strip to Ray Street. Anything else that does get built needs to be carefully coordinated so that the buildings have similar (not exact) styling to create a more cohesive clean look.
- The new Sonneland Development. Any new buildings along 29th Avenue in current shopping center.
- Close to main shopping area.

Where do you think there are dangerous intersections in Lincoln Heights? What's the difficult traffic movement?

- Regal Street and 29th Avenue - there are no friendly pedestrian paths. Lacking vegetation/human scale design makes it unappealing to walk.
- 37th Avenue and Regal Street; 27th Avenue and Ray Street
- 29th Avenue and Southeast Boulevard; turning
- 29th Avenue and Regal Street; lots of people crossing the double yellow line along 29th Avenue to access shopping.
- Freya Street and 29th Avenue—stop signs; 27th Avenue turning onto Ray Street either way; 27th Avenue to Thornton Murphy near Fiske Street/Mt. Vernon Street-speedy drivers
- 29th Avenue and Regal Street; 37th Avenue and Regal Street poor visibility school traffic

- 29th Avenue and Regal Street
- Anywhere! ?reroute arterials around new development; 29th Avenue west of Southeast Boulevard-very hard to cross (as pedestrian) or to turn onto/off side streets; Pittsburg Street and 29th Avenue should be opened up and signal controlled somewhere for pedestrian and bike to cross.
- Regal Street and 29th Avenue – especially attempting a left into McDonalds from an eastbound approach; Ray Street and 29th Avenue – need a Red Light Camera to catch speeding light-runners; the speed limit on 29th Avenue from Southeast Boulevard to Ray Street needs to be 25 and enforced. Too much action in too little space, and too fast.
- Freya Street and 29th Avenue; Regal Street and 29th Avenue; Regal Street and Southeast Boulevard
- 29th Avenue and Regal Street – very difficult going north into shopping area if walking; 27th Avenue and Ray Street – going to Senior Center or Thornton Murphy Park, or from Thornton Murphy to Shopping Center; 29th Avenue and Fiske Street – if walking across street to shopping; four lanes, busy and distracted drivers.

Where would you recommend walking in Lincoln Heights? Do you walk to run errands?

- As of right now, I always drive. The vast parking lot with not friendly pedestrian traffic paths make it hard to walk from place to place.
- 27th Avenue; Yes
- Nowhere; not pedestrian friendly
- Between the retail and restaurants at 29th Avenue and Regal Street (ex: Trader Joe's to Maggie's). I drive to all errands because sidewalks on 29th Avenue are too close to traffic.
- Thor Street, Fiske Street; I used to walk on 29th Avenue but it's not friendly.
- Walk to Starbucks on 57th Avenue, 29th Avenue, Grand Boulevard and 37th Avenue; 37th Avenue is best walk
- NO
- I live in SW corner of 29th Avenue/Southeast Boulevard intersection and would love to walk to Rosauers, TJ's more often. Crossings are noisy and inconvenient, and walking along arterials unpleasant. A bike/ped trail that is separated from car traffic would be ideal.
- I do not feel safe to walk there, especially near streets. People are speeding and too reckless. Too much traffic in too small of a space moving way too fast. I only walk on the sidewalk by Petco and Rite Aid.
- Should be able to walk into the large lot bordered by Baskin-Robbins; McDonalds and Second Look Books; Exit at McDonalds with primarily car traffic, some pedestrian, it's very dangerous. I would walk more if more accessible.
- I either walk or bike to all errands. I use side streets and sometimes detour to lights to get across Regal Street and 29th Avenue.

Where would you recommend riding a bike in Lincoln Heights?

- See above – same problem with bike riding as walking.
- Southeast Boulevard; 27th Avenue

- Nowhere; not bike friendly.
- Along 29th Avenue to Southeast Boulevard if it had a lane. As it stands currently, I would not recommend riding a bike in the area.
- Fiske Street, Thor Street (dirt is difficult)
- Not at present
- Nowhere. All existing paving is for convenience of vehicles. Create trails/paths for peds and bikes separated from arterials. Protect crossings.
- The parking lot that faces Stanek's. The streets are too busy and people would just as soon run you over as look at you. Most people are so much on their own mission that they don't notice anyone else.
- 35th Avenue and 27th Avenue; Ray Street and Regal Street
- I like the bike lane on Southeast Boulevard. The best riding (fewest busy, high-speed streets) is northeast and southeast of Freya Street, but not on Freya Street. There is easy access via quiet streets to Ben Burr Park and Trail, also easy access to Lower South Hill via Myrtle Street and Dearborn Street/Havana Street.

STA is considering improvements to bus service in Lincoln Heights. Please rate the following improvements (scale 1-5):

	1 Not Important	2	3 Neutral	4	5 Very Important
Greater frequency	XXX		XXXX	XX	XX
Better Weekend Service	XXX		XXXX	X	XX
Late night service	XXX		XXXX	XXXX	
Improve bus stations, including lighting and real-time schedule information	XX	X	XXXX		XXXX
Connections to more places			XXXXX	XX	XXX

- The bus is not something I use. No comment.
- Since I don't use the bus after retirement, I am not aware of weekend service and connections. I do see buses in the Park-N-Ride frequently.

Other stuff you want us to know:

- Great bus route; bus stop on 28th Avenue and Freya Street has lots of trash in residential yard, maybe add a trash can? Would be appreciated by owners.
- Why do all routes originate Downtown? Why not satellite terminals in Valley, Medical Lake and Cheney?

- Lots of single-family residences in LH mean lots of dogs – plan for dog walking destinations. Small contained park for off-leash play could be big incentive for walkers.
- I have nothing against further development as long as it is well thought out. The LH District could use a big overhaul for sure. The only part that looks good is the New Trader Joe's section. Remember the traffic flow and its control needs to be carefully considered.
- Probably the most poorly developed business district between Airway Heights and (uh!) Montana. I am very excited about the potentials for Lincoln Heights pedestrian and bicycle traffic and is high on my list for change.
- Comments/Complaints from Lincoln Heights Council attendees: No left turn arrow at 29th Avenue and Regal Street on west side of signal; traffic overflows at left turn lane on 29th Avenue and Ray Street (west side); traffic stacks up for blocks at 29th Avenue and Freya Street during rush hours; pavement on Freya Street south of 44th Avenue is in bad shape and a ditch rather than shoulder.

How did you find out about this meeting? (Thanks for taking the time to attend!)

- Was referred by my company.
- Neighborhood Council
- School
- Someone who works at the City.
- Kerry Brooks and City Neighborhood Council website
- Email and post mail
- Newspaper
- Notice in the mail
- Received postcard invite – Thank you! P.S. Very nicely structured meeting agenda and layout.
- I had been at the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council meeting the night before and the planning meeting was mentioned.
- Sally Phillips is Lincoln Heights Council liaison – informed me by email.
- I was notified by City planning staff.

Additional Suggestions:

- Uncontrolled crosswalks on 29th Avenue are difficult to use.
- Would like to see a stronger connection between Thornton Murphy Park and the Lincoln Heights Shopping Center; enhanced crosswalks, etc.
- Traffic calming on 27th Avenue would be good; narrowing the street, traffic circles, etc.
- Ray Street is difficult to cross if you aren't at the signal; speeds are high.
- 29th Avenue/Regal Street signal does not function well.
- The queue for NB Freya Street/Hartson Avenue backs up to the base of the hill.
- Crossing Ray Street below 29th Avenue for those that walk/commute
- People use 30th Avenue between Regal Street and Ray Street as alternate to 29th Avenue – can we block/limit access?
- Ray Street merges to southbound lanes near 30th Avenue

- Fiske Street and 29th Avenue – traffic cannot see pedestrians due to left lane traffic
- Crossing Ray Street, traffic issues from 29th Avenue and Freya Street stop signs; fast speeds from 27th Avenue to Southeast Boulevard – safety issue for kids
- Crossing 29th Avenue, the attempted left turns into Regal Street entrance of McDonalds; need a left turn arrow for eastbound traffic
- Need a traffic signal at 29th Avenue and Freya Street, 37th Avenue and Freya Street, 37th Avenue and Ray Street into Ferris
- 37th Avenue and Ray Street – traffic circle needs property?
- 29th Avenue and Ray Street needs left turn signals from Ray Street onto 29th Avenue

Important Places: Where are the gateways? What makes it Lincoln Heights?

- Shopping Center and Park behind (need lighting)
- Rosauers/Hastings Shopping Center
- No Power of 10
- 29th Avenue and Ray Street – two lanes merge southbound next to 30th Avenue – causes conflict and dangerous situations for pedestrians and those turning west onto 30th Avenue
- No public ‘gathering’ space/hardscape
- 27th Avenue is best right now
- Total lack of positive pedestrian environment

If you would like to be put on the email list for this project, please contact Tirrell Black at tblack@spokanecity.org or call 509-625-6300. Updates on this project will be posted to www.spokaneplanning.org