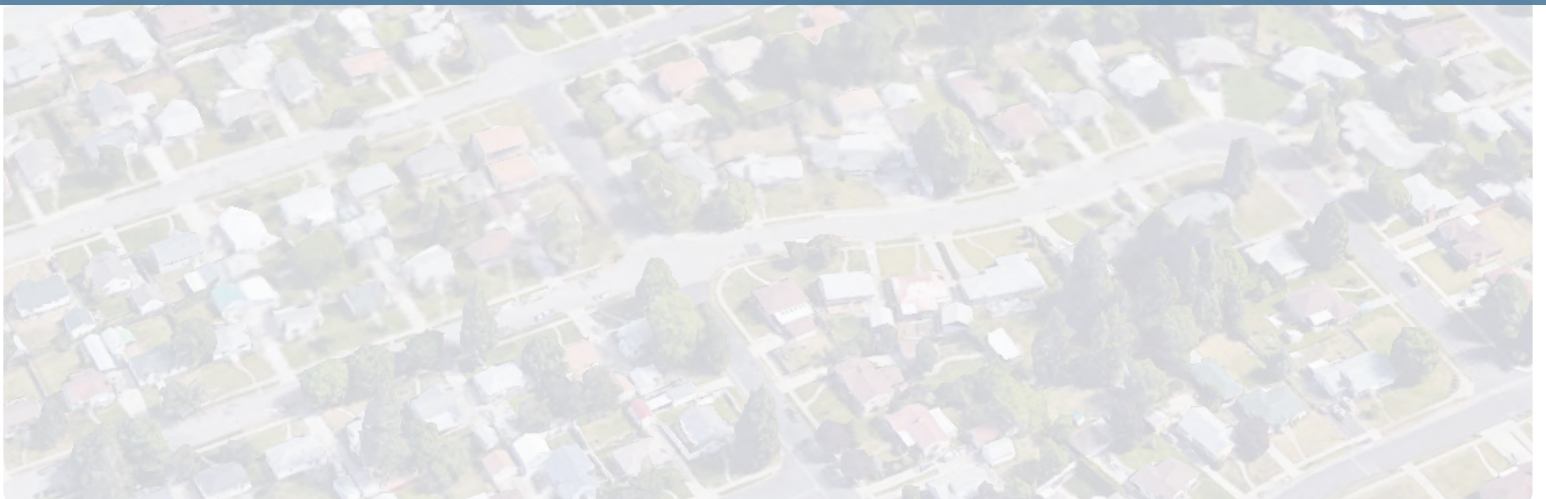




SHADLE AREA NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Audubon-Downriver/Northwest Neighborhoods | October 2019



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This plan was developed in collaboration with:



Northwest
Neighborhood Council



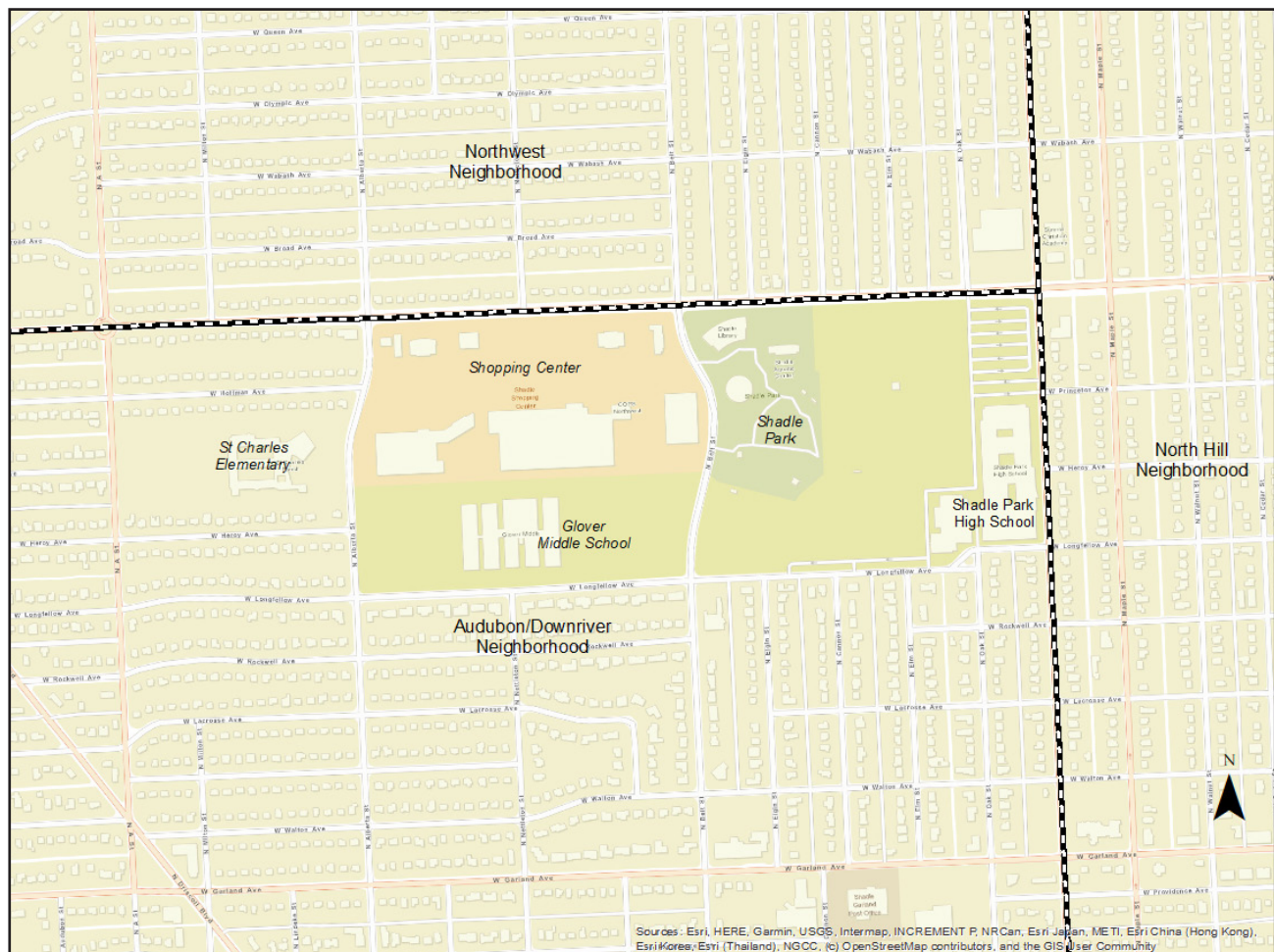


Introduction

This document serves as an executive summary for the Shadle Neighborhood Plan that was developed by the Northwest and Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Councils in Spokane, Washington in 2019.

This document provides an overview of the plan, capturing its essence and outlining its major proposals and suggestions for the neighborhood.

Figure 1: Shadle Area Map



Context and Purpose

This plan establishes a vision for the Shadle Area, providing direction to achieve that vision through action, partnership, and collaborative design. The plan is not a design in its own right. Rather, it makes the designer's task easier by providing solid conceptual direction.

History

In 2007, the City of Spokane allocated funds to each neighborhood for the purpose of developing individual neighborhood plans. In 2018, the Audubon-Downriver and Northwest neighborhood councils pooled their resources and initiated neighborhood planning efforts in 2019. This plan is the result of the cooperative effort by the neighborhood councils to reflect the residents' desires for walkability, public safety, beautification, economic development, neighborhood connectivity, and the preservation of neighborhood character.

Location and Planning Area

While the most intense focus of this effort has been on the potential for transforming the area bounded by Wellesley and Longfellow, and Alberta and Ash (see Figure 1), the planning process embraced conversation about a larger area and the range of topics associated with the entire district. The Shadle Area is defined by the Shadle Shopping Center, Shadle Park, the Shadle Aquatic Center, the Shadle Branch Library, Glover Middle School, and Shadle Park High School. This area serves a large and diverse region of northwestern Spokane.

Public Outreach

This plan is built on extensive outreach. The results came from a series of public events and efforts on behalf of the neighborhood councils to gather opinions and feedback from those that live in, work in, and regularly visit the Shadle neighborhood. These efforts included:

- *Community interviews*
- *An online community survey with more than 350 responses*
- *A 3-day planning studio held at the Shadle Branch Library*
- *A vision workshop held at Glover Middle School*
- *A scenario workshop held at the Shadle Branch Library*
- *Outreach at Concerts in the Park at Shadle and Audubon Parks*
- *A public open house to present the plan proposal*
- *A project web page*

Results from these conversations are detailed in Appendix C. These efforts shaped the following vision, planning principles, goals, and implementation strategy.





Vision

Shadle's success is influenced by neighborhoods surrounding the Shopping Center and park, which suggests that the plan vision should address these neighborhoods and their access to the center, especially pertaining to walkability and the safety of crossing busy arterials such as Wellesley.

As a neighborhood plan, this project's foundation is in the neighborhoods themselves. The process reflects that with a concentration on local dialogue, a high degree of transparency, and the outcome showing direct relationships between the results of the community's engagement and the plan's final recommendations. Based on the process, this plan pursues the following vision:

In the year 2040...

Shadle is a complex, mixed-use, compact, identity-rich district center where people can live, shop, dine, attend school, work and relax, all within an easy, pleasant, and safe walk or bike ride. Recognizing that not all needed services will be located in this center alone, the district center also emerges as an important element of the public transportation system, with frequent, accessible and intuitive connections to other district centers and employment opportunities throughout Spokane. The district center's relationship to its surrounding neighborhoods are enhanced, too, with convenient and safe pedestrian crossings of Wellesley Ave and functional and safe sidewalks within the neighborhoods facilitating non-motorized travel to and from the center's core.

The Shadle area will gradually transform into a district center, with a variety of residential development types, retail at multiple scales and a close relationship to the parkland, neighborhoods, churches, and schools that ring the retail core. Since this transformation will be incremental, investment to stimulate it and shape it must also be incremental, timed, designed and located to optimize transforming efforts and entice private investment along the transformational path.



Principles

The community is eager to see an effective strategy in place to manage the coming change and realize the plan's vision. There are several principles that reflect the community's core values, with each finding a home in the Shadle vision statement and this neighborhood plan. Based on the interviews, conversations at the studio, workshop results, community input at the concert series and public rollout, this plan embraces the following principles, which are also incorporated as the plan's goals:

1. Keep the place safe
2. Embrace and enhance characteristics that shape Shadle's identity
3. Recognize the Shadle Area as a center of local and regional importance
4. Allow residents to remain in the neighborhood, even as they age
5. Provide a diversity of uses that serve the shopping, educational, social, and recreational needs of nearby residents
6. Keep retail prospering even as market conditions change
7. Allow ease of flow to, from, and within the Shadle area for all modes of transportation.

Plan and Strategy

These underpinning principles hint at actions the City and community can take to manage future changes in ways that shape Shadle's evolution.

The plan outlines policies that guide the achievement of the goals. Some policies are repeated under multiple goals due to their ability to contribute toward multiple goals. Action item numbers are also listed under each goal. These actions can be found in Table 1, with additional information about implementing those items.

This format outlines a clear path to realizing the goals of this plan. If the action items are completed, then the Shadle Area will transition into the active, diverse, neighborhood core as described in the vision for this plan.

The table also designates an agency to act as project leader, who is responsible for following up on the action. Finally, the table lists whether the action is expected to be completed in the immediate, short, medium, or long term.

The table is presented in order of priority, with immediate actions listed first and long-term actions listed last. Each action item relates to a specific area on the map in Figure 2, and each item is outlined in greater detail in the 'Plan Details' section of the plan document.



Table 1: Implementation Action Items

Action Item	Action Statement	Goal #	Project Leader	Expected Completion
<i>Wellesley Ave, north side, between Alberta and Belt</i>				
1	Zoning review to ensure a townhouse type of housing can be constructed on the north side of the street, potentially with corner retail at Alberta and at Belt. Transition zoning west of Alberta and east of Belt should allow for a tapering of intensity back to single-family residential.	2, 4	Neighborhood Councils	Immediate (Appendix E: Zoning Review)
<i>Shadle Center, regional retail</i>				
2	Zoning review to ensure regionally-scaled retail, in all its complexities, can be permitted...and even be expanded to include upper floor housing.	2, 3, 5, 6	Neighborhood Councils	Immediate (Appendix E: Zoning Review)
<i>Hastings site, Wellesley and Ash (NWC)</i>				
3	Zoning review to ensure potential to develop a senior housing project or community center, permitting adequate building height to make either one financially viable.	2, 3, 4, 5	Neighborhood Councils	Immediate (Appendix E: Zoning Review)
<i>Shadle Center, east side</i>				
4	Zoning review to ensure senior housing or other, higher-intensity housing is permitted along the Belt corridor, optimizing frontage on the park and access to the new, more social, Belt Ave.	4	Neighborhood Councils	Immediate (Appendix E: Zoning Review)
<i>Shadle Center, internal central spine</i>				
5	Zoning and development regulations review to ensure a new, mixed-use central spine can be constructed along an extension of the Nettleton axis.	3, 5, 6	Development	Immediate (Appendix E: Zoning Review)

Action Item	Action Statement	Goal #	Project Leader	Expected Completion
<i>Shadle Park, entire facility</i>				
6	An updated park master plan to review recreational priorities and design access patterns to ensure safe, enjoyable access to all portions of the park.	1, 2, 3, 5	City of Spokane	Short Term
<i>Shadle Park, north-south axis</i>				
7	Revisiting the park's initial axial concept to better connect the interior of the park to residents living north of Wellesley, coordinating with the proposed HAWK signal there and transit stops to celebrate the park's importance and underscore its connections to the uses surrounding it.	1, 2, 5, 7	City of Spokane	Short Term
<i>Belt, between Wellesley and Longfellow</i>				
8	Transformation of this street to become a truly shared space, accommodating vehicular traffic while also strengthening pedestrian connections between the retail center, library, park, school, and surrounding neighborhoods, featuring a plaza-like roadway section, landscaping, narrowed travel lanes, parallel parking, a mix of pedestrian and vehicular lighting, public art, and other elements to underscore the street's relationship to the existing and anticipated land uses adjoining it.	6, 7	Neighborhood Councils	Medium Term
<i>Alberta, between Wellesley and Longfellow</i>				
9	Adaptation of the existing street to better accommodate pedestrians, including a sidewalk on the east side of the street, intersection enhancements at Wellesley consistent with the new Wellesley concept, and an RRFB crosswalk between St Charles Church and the retail center.	1, 2, 7	City of Spokane	Medium Term

Action Item	Action Statement	Goal #	Project Leader	Expected Completion
<i>Ash, between Wellesley and Longfellow</i>				
10	New street treatments to slow vehicular speed in front of the high school and facilitate pedestrian crossings into the adjoining neighborhood, including enhanced landscaping along the street edge, pedestrian bumpouts, a HAWK or RRFB crossing signal at Longfellow, and other features to add detail and a sense of enclosure to the street.	1, 3, 7	City of Spokane	Medium Term
<i>Wellesley Ave, between Alberta and Belt</i>				
11	New street design treatments to slow speeds to 30 mph, including narrowed travel lanes, street trees, expanded sidewalks, narrowed crossing distances where possible, enhanced transit stops, a HAWK or RRFB crossing signal at Nettleton, and other features intended to add detail, enclosure, a dynamic environment, and visual interest to this stretch of roadway.	1, 3, 7	Neighborhood Councils	Long Term
<i>Wellesley Ave, between Belt and Ash</i>				
12	Enhanced design treatments to accommodate flow, transition to the Maple/Ash couplet, and enhance the transit experience while also facilitating pedestrian crossing of Wellesley with a HAWK signal to access the park and transit stops. This may also include retrofitting the center median to incorporate landscaping	1, 3, 7	Neighborhood Councils	Long Term

*Figure 2: Shadle
Plan Core
Recommendations
Map*

This map identifies and locates specific actions listed in Table 3 and described in detail in the following pages.





SHADLE PARK

HIGH SCHOOL

Plan Details

The plan document describes each of the proposed changes from Figure 2 in greater detail.

- *Street Configurations*
- *Enhanced Entry and Crossings*
- *Enhanced Transit*
- *Housing Options*
- *Mixed Use/Office Retail*
- *Senior Housing*
- *Community Center*
- *Shadle Park*

Plans & Projects Underway

The plan document also outlines the plans that are already on the books to be completed in the area. These include:

- *Glover Middle School Remodel*
- *Shadle Library Expansion*
- *Crosswalk on Belt St*
- *HAWK Crossing at Cannon and Wellesley*
- *Revision of Longfellow Ave.*

Next Steps

The final section of the plan suggests some next steps that the neighborhood council can take to begin implementing the suggestions in the plan.



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