



Agenda Sheet for City Council Meeting of:
10/09/2023

Date Rec'd	9/26/2023
Clerk's File #	ORD C36448
Renews #	
Cross Ref #	
Project #	
Bid #	
Requisition #	

Submitting Dept	PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Contact Name/Phone	SPENCER GARDNER X6500
Contact E-Mail	SGARDNER@SPOKANECITY.ORG
Agenda Item Type	First Reading Ordinance
Agenda Item Name	0650 - PAPER CUTS CODE AMENDMENTS 2023

Agenda Wording
Paper Cuts Code Amendments are revisions to the Unified Development Code (UDC) identified by staff that clarify or make minor changes.

Summary (Background)
Paper Cuts Code amendments for SMC 17C.110.225 Accessory Structures; SMC 17C.120.580 Plazas and Other Open Spaces; SMC 17C.230.145 Development Standards for Residential Uses; SMC 17C.240.250 Off-premises Signs; SMC 17C25.020 Dimensional Standards; and, SMC 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions.

Lease? NO	Grant related? NO	Public Works? NO
Fiscal Impact		Budget Account
Neutral	\$	#
Select	\$	#
Select	\$	#
Select	\$	#

Approvals		Council Notifications	
Dept Head	GARDNER, SPENCER	Study Session\Other	PIES 9/25/23
Division Director	MACDONALD, STEVEN	Council Sponsor	CMs Stratton & Bingle
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For the Mayor	JONES, GARRETT	sgardner@spokanecity.org	
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		rbenzie@spokanecity.org	
		amccall@spokanecity.org	

FIRST READING OF THE ABOVE
ORDINANCE HELD ON
10/19/2023
AND FURTHER ACTION WAS DEFERRED
Leni Hoffsta
CITY CLERK

PASSED BY
SPOKANE CITY COUNCIL:
10/16/2023
Leni Hoffsta
CITY CLERK

ORDINANCE NO C36448

An ORDINANCE relating to the paper cuts code amendments 2023 project amending Spokane Municipal Code (SMC) Section 17C.110.225 Accessory Structures; Section 17C.120.580 Plazas and Other Open Spaces; Section 17C.230.145 Development Standards for Residential Uses; Section 17C.240.250 Off-Premises Signs; Section 17C.250.020 Dimensional Standards; and Section 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions.

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane adopted a Comprehensive Plan in May of 2001 that complies with the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA) as set forth in RCW 36.70A; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed text amendments do not significantly alter the outcome and purpose of the Unified Development Code and therefore remain consistent with the City of Spokane's Comprehensive Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Unified Development Code includes community goals that bears a substantial relation to public health, safety, welfare, and protection of the environment. Propose amendments to clarify or correct errors in the Unified Development Code further implement those goals; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed actions are consistent with and supported by the Spokane Comprehensive Plan as outlined in the Plan Commission Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Recommendations (Exhibit A); and,

WHEREAS, by virtue of the public process outlined in Exhibits A and B, interested agencies and the public have had opportunities to participate throughout the process and all persons wishing to comment on the amendment were given opportunity to be heard; and,

WHEREAS, the City has complied with RCW 36.70A.370 in the adoption of this Ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, on July 21, 2023, the Washington State Department of Commerce and appropriate state agencies were given the required 60-day notice before adoption of proposed changes to the Unified Development Code pursuant to RCW 36.70A.106; and,

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2023, notice of intent to adopt was issued through the City of Spokane Gazette Pursuant to SMC 17G.025.010; and,

WHEREAS, a SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance was issued by the director of Planning Services on August 30, 2023 for the amendment related to SMC Section 17C.250.020 Dimensional Standards. One comment was received; and,

WHEREAS, SEPA Categorical Exemption WAC 197-11-800(19) applies to SMC Sections 17C.110.225 Accessory Structures; 17C.120.580 Plazas and Other Open Spaces; 17C.230.145 Development Standards for Residential Uses; 17C.240.250 Off-Premises Signs; 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions; and,

WHEREAS, prior to the Plan Commission public hearing a legal notice was published in the *Spokesman-Review* on August 30 and September 6, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2023, the Plan Commission held a public hearing on the proposed amendments. No testimony was heard; and,

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2023, the Plan Commission voted to recommend the City Council adopt the proposed amendments (see Exhibit A); and,

WHEREAS, the City Council adopts the recitals set forth herein as its findings and conclusions in support of the adoption of this ordinance and further adopts the findings, conclusions, and

recommendations from the Planning Services Staff Report (Exhibit B) and the City of Spokane Plan Commission Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Recommendations (Exhibit A) for the same purposes; and,

WHEREAS, the effective date of this Ordinance shall be the date on which it is approved by the Washington State Department of Ecology as provided in RCW 90.58.090;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Spokane Does ordain:

Section 1. That Section 17C.110.225 SMC is amended to read as follows

A. Purpose.

This section regulates structures that are incidental to primary buildings to prevent them from becoming the predominant element of the site. The standards provide for necessary access around structures, help maintain privacy to adjoining lots and maintain open front setbacks.

B. General Standards.

1. Accessory structures are allowed on a lot only in conjunction with a primary building, and may not exist on a lot prior to the construction of the primary structure, except as allowed by subsection (B)(2) of this section.
2. An accessory structure that becomes the only structure on a lot as the result of a land division may remain on the lot if the owner has submitted a financial guarantee to the City for the cost of demolition and removal of the structure. The financial guarantee will be used by the City if the owner has not removed the accessory structure if, within one year of final plat approval or boundary line adjustment (BLA), a primary structure has not been built and received final inspection. The financial guarantee must be accepted by the City prior to approval of the final plat or boundary line adjustment.
3. An accessory structure shall not contain a kitchen or space for living, sleeping, eating, or cooking unless it is approved as an accessory dwelling unit under chapter 17C.300 SMC.

C. Setbacks.

1. Mechanical Structures.

Mechanical structures are items such as heat pumps, air conditioners, emergency generators, and water pumps.

a. Front Setback Standard.

Mechanical structures are not allowed in required front building setbacks.

b. Side and Rear Setback Standard.

Mechanical structures are allowed inside and rear building setbacks if the structure is no more than forty-eight inches high.

2. Vertical Structures.

Vertical structures are items such as flagpoles, trellises and other garden structures, radio antennas, satellite receiving dishes and lampposts. Fences are addressed in SMC 17C.110.230. Sign standards are in chapter 17C.240 SMC, Signs.

a. Setback Standard.

Vertical structures are allowed in required side and rear building setbacks if they are no larger than four feet in width, depth or diameter and no taller than seven feet. If they are larger or taller, they are not allowed in required building setbacks. Trellises and other gate features are allowed in front yard if they are no larger than four feet in width,

depth or diameter and no taller than seven feet and do not conflict with the clear view triangle provisions under SMC 17C.110.230, Fences.

3. Uncovered Horizontal Structures.

Uncovered horizontal structures are items such as decks, stairways, entry bridges, wheelchair ramps, swimming pools, hot tubs, tennis courts, and boat docks that are not covered or enclosed.

a. Setback Standard.

i. Projection Allowed.

The following structures are allowed in required building setbacks, as follows:

- A. Structures that are no more than two and one-half feet above the ground are allowed in side and rear building setbacks. Handrails required by the IBC/IRC are not included in the maximum height.
- B. On lots that slope down from the street, vehicular or pedestrian entry bridges that are no more than two and one-half feet above the average sidewalk elevation are allowed in all building setbacks; and
- C. Stairways and wheelchair ramps that lead to one entrance on the street-facing facade of a building are allowed in street setbacks.

4. Covered Accessory Structures.

Covered accessory structures are items such as greenhouses, storage buildings (not used to cover motor vehicles), sheds, covered decks, covered porches, gazebos, and covered recreational structures.

a. Setback Standard.

i. Front Setback

Covered accessory structures are not allowed in the required front building setbacks.

ii. Side Setback

Covered detached accessory structures are not allowed in the required side building setback without a signed waiver from the neighboring property owner.

Covered attached accessory structures are not allowed in the required side building setback.

5. Detached Accessory Structures.

Detached accessory structures are garages, carports, and other structures utilized to cover motorized vehicles.

a. Setback Standard.

A detached accessory structure is not allowed in the front building setback. A detached accessory structure is not allowed in the required side building setback without a signed waiver from the neighboring property owner. A detached accessory structure that has an entrance, which faces a street, is required to be setback twenty feet from the property line or from the back of the sidewalk, as stated in Table 17C.110-3.

- b. Detached accessory structures may be built to the rear property line, unless parking in front of the structure is proposed, then the structure is required to be built a minimum of eighteen feet from the edge of the alley tract, easement, or right-of-way.

6. Attached Accessory Structures.

Accessory structures are garages, carports or other structures utilized to cover motorized vehicles that are connected by a common wall to the primary structure.

- a. Setback Standard.

An attached accessory structure is not allowed in the front building setback. An attached accessory structure that has an entrance which faces a street is required to be setback twenty feet from the property line as stated in Table 17C.110-3.

- b. Attached accessory structures may be built to within five feet of the rear property line, unless parking in front of the structure is proposed, then the structure is required to be built a minimum of eighteen feet from the edge of the alley tract, easement or right-of-way.

D. Building Coverage.

1. Except as provided in subsection (2) of this subsection (D), the combined building coverage of all detached accessory structures and covered accessory structures may not exceed fifteen percent of the total area of the site, and when combined with all other structures on-site shall not exceed the maximum building coverage of the base zone.
2. On lots smaller than five thousand five hundred square feet with an accessory dwelling unit, combined building coverage of all detached accessory structures and covered accessory structures may not exceed twenty percent of the total area of the site, and when combined with all other structures on-site shall not exceed the maximum building coverage of the base zone.

E. Building Height.

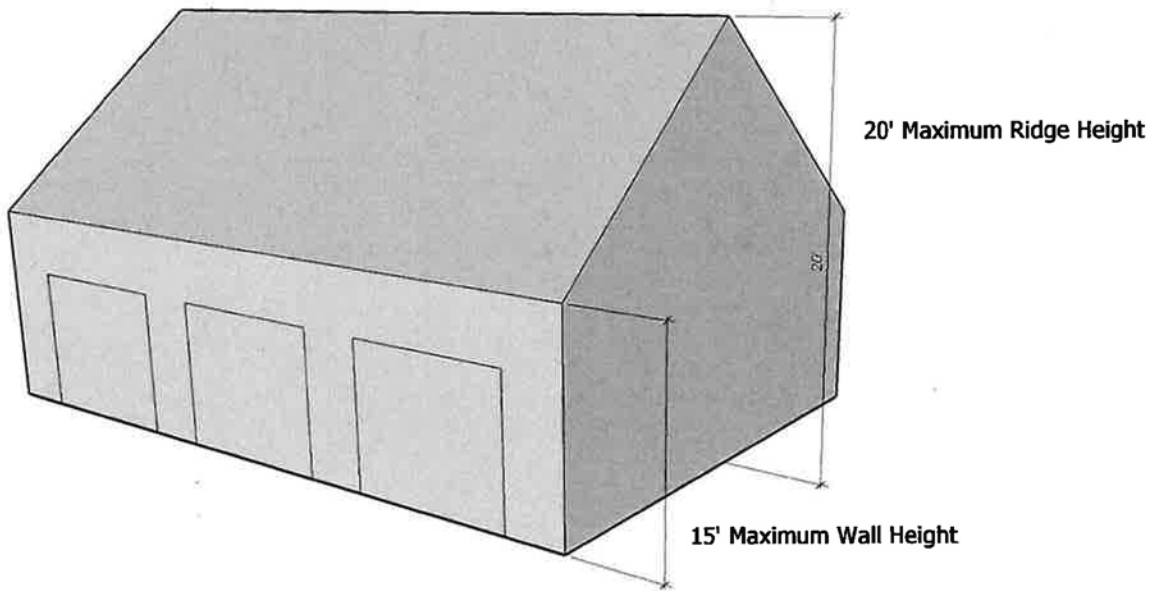
The building height of detached accessory structures and covered accessory structures is listed in Table 17C.110-3. Accessory structures, which contain an ADU over a garage, are subject to the height limitations in chapter 17C.300 SMC, Accessory Dwelling Units.

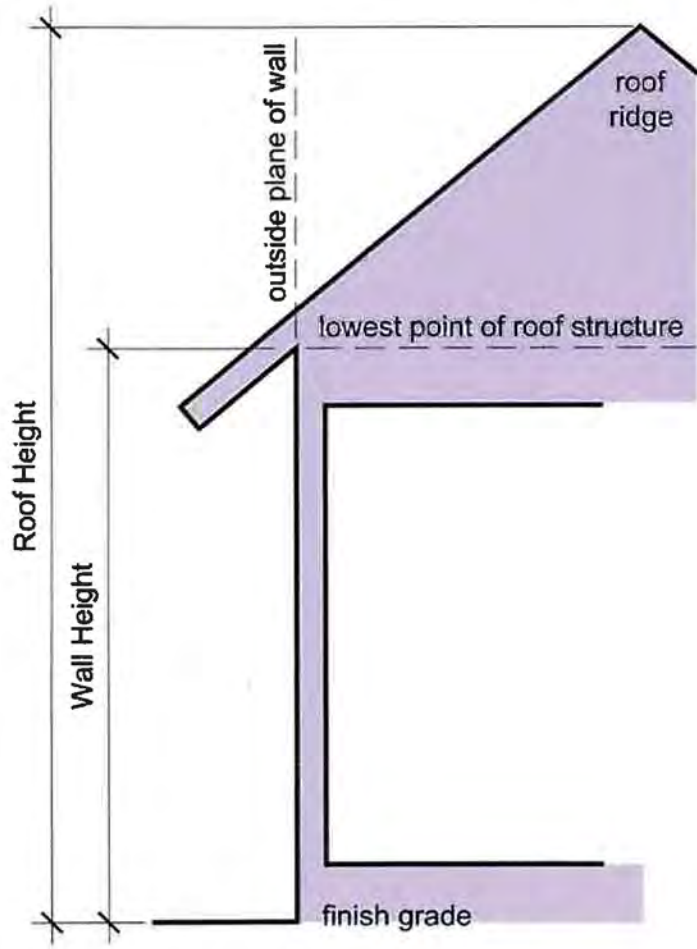
TABLE 17C.110.225-1	
MAXIMUM HEIGHT - DETACHED ACCESSORY BUILDING [1]	
Maximum Wall Height [2]	15 ft.
Maximum Roof Height [3]	20 ft.
[1] Cannot include living area, nor any storage areas with a ceiling height of six-feet eight-inches or greater.	
[2] The height of the lowest point of the roof structure intersects with the outside plane of the wall.	

[3] The height of the ridge of the roof.

See "Example A" below.

Example A





Section 2. That Section 17C.120.580 SMC is amended to read as follows

A. Purpose.

To provide a pedestrian-friendly environment by creating a variety of usable and interesting open spaces within private development.

B. Plazas and Other Open Spaces Implementation.

1. New (~~or renovated~~) buildings over forty thousand square feet shall have plazas, courtyards or other pedestrian spaces at or near their main entrances. (R)
2. Plazas and other open spaces shall be a minimum of one square foot of plaza per one hundred square feet of building area. This area may count toward the interior landscaping required. (P)
3. Plazas, courtyards and other pedestrian space shall include at least three of the following: (P)
 - a. Special interest landscape.
 - b. Pedestrian scale bollard or other accent lighting.
 - c. Special paving, such as colored/stained concrete, brick or other unit paver.
 - d. Artwork.
 - e. Seating, such as benches, tables, or low seating walls.
 - f. Water feature.



Tables and seating at entrance to buildings creates pedestrian-friendly atmosphere



Plaza located at main entrance

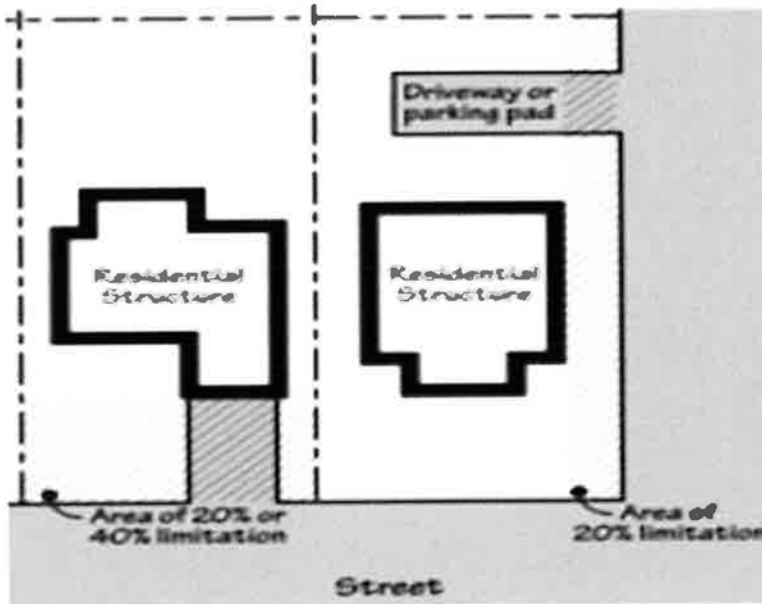


Special interest landscape
enhances plaza/courtyard area

Section 3. That Section 17E.060.690 SMC is amended to read as follows

A. Purpose

The size and placement of vehicle parking areas are regulated in order to enhance the appearance of neighborhoods.



B. Structures These Regulations Apply To

The regulations of this section apply to residential uses in the RA, RSF, RTF, RMF, RHD, FBC CA4 zones. The regulations apply to required and excess parking areas. Parking for mobile home parks is regulated in chapter 17C.345 SMC, Manufactured Homes and Manufactured Home Parks.

C. Parking Area Locations

1. ~~((Required Parking.))~~

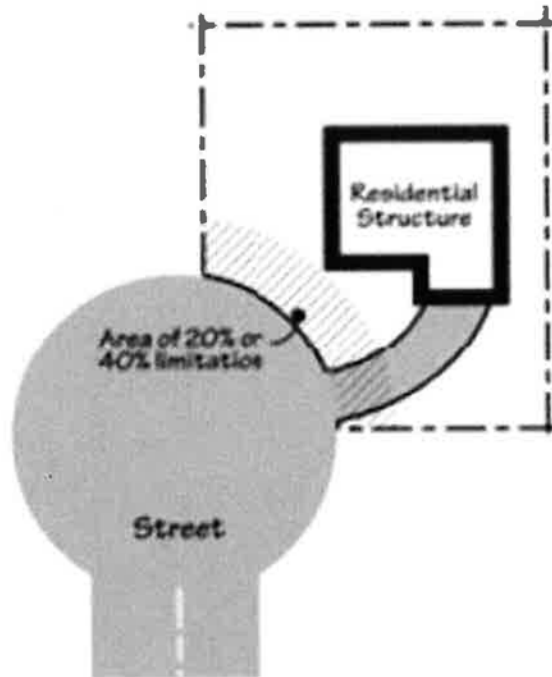
~~((Required p))~~ Parking spaces are not allowed within the first twenty feet from a front lot line or within side street lot line setback.

~~((2. Non-required Parking.))~~

~~((Non-required parking spaces for personal passenger vehicles may be located in the first twenty feet from a front lot line or the side lot line setback in a driveway. The vehicle cannot overhang or block the sidewalk.))~~

~~((3.))~~ 2 Utility trailers, motorized recreation vehicles and non-motorized accessory recreational vehicles cannot be stored in the first twenty feet from the front lot line nor the side street line.

~~((4.))~~ 3 Driveway Width



- a. In the RA and RSF zones, no more than forty percent of the land area between the front lot line and the front building line may be paved or used for vehicle areas. In addition, on corner lots, no more than twenty percent of the land area between the side street lot line and the side street building line may be paved or used for vehicle areas. As an exception to the area limitations in this subparagraph, a lot is allowed at least a nine-foot wide vehicle area.
- b. In the RTF, RMF, RHD, FBC CA4 zones, no more than twenty percent of the land area between the front lot line and the front building line may be paved or used for vehicle areas. In addition, on corner lots no more than twenty percent of the land area between the side street lot line and the side street building line may be paved or used for vehicle areas. As an exception to the area limitations in this paragraph, a lot is allowed at least a nine-foot wide vehicle area.
- c. Exception.

Driveway coverage in the residential zones may exceed the size limitations of (4)(a) and (4)(b) above when the subject property is located on a principal arterial and the increase in site coverage is due to inadequate maneuvering area for the safe exit of vehicles from the site. The exception to driveway coverage is reviewed by the engineering services department as a portion of the driveway access permit.

~~(5-)~~4. Parking in Garages.

Parking in garages is subject to the garage setback standards of the base zone, overlay zone or plan district.

D. Parking Space Sizes

A parking space must be at least nine feet by eighteen feet. The minimum driveway width on private property is nine feet.

E. Paving

1. Generally.

All driveways and parking areas must be covered in an all weather surface.

2. Exceptions.

- a. Gravel surfaces may be approved by engineering services when the abutting street is not paved, and the applicant executes a covenant agreeing to pave the area if the street is paved in the future.
- b. Utility trailers, motorized recreational vehicles and non-motorized accessory recreational vehicles may be stored on unpaved surfaces. A gravel surface is not required.

Section 4. That Section 17C.240.250 SMC is amended to read as follows

- A. No new off-premises signs may be constructed, on any site.
- B. Off-premises signs now in existence in any zone, meeting the requirements of 17C.240.280, are considered nonconforming uses and may remain, subject to the following restrictions:
 - 1. A nonconforming off-premises sign may not be increased in size or elevation, relocated to another site or to a new location on the same site or expanded, enlarged, or extended in any way, including, but not limited to, the addition of advertising faces or the addition of rotating faces with movable panels designed to create additional advertising, except as provided for in the public works exception below.
 - 2. Public Works Exception.
A legal, non-conforming off-premises sign (~~(that is allowed to remain in conformance with this section)~~) shall be allowed to be relocated if necessitated for the accomplishment of a governmental public works project. The relocation of an off-premises sign under this exception must occur within six (6) months of removal or its legal, non-conforming status shall be discontinued pursuant to SMC 17C.240.280. (~~(This r)~~) Relocation of these off-premises signs for public works projects shall be subject to the limitations in subsections (a) through (f) below:
 - a. No increase in square footage of off-premises sign copy shall be permitted. These signs shall be replaced at the same size they existed at immediately prior to relocation.
 - b. No additional sign faces shall be added.
 - c. No increase in height of the existing off-premises sign shall be permitted except where needed to provide for minimum height clearance (from the ground to the bottom of the off-premises signs) to comply with roadway safety.
 - d. The off-premises sign shall be relocated along the same roadway it was removed from in the geographical vicinity and shall comply with the Scenic Vistas Act of 1971 (chapter 47.42 RCW and chapter 468-66 WAC) if located along a state highway. For purposes of this provision, the term "roadway" shall apply to both directions of a couplet.
 - e. The off-premise sign shall not be relocated to a site with a Residential, Neighborhood Retail, or Center and Corridor zoning designation including CA zones, or located within an historic district, regardless of the zoning or district of the original sign location.
 - f. The relocation of the off-premises sign shall be subject to all current City of Spokane rules, regulations, and procedures relating to the regulation and control of signs, excepting size, height, and off premise advertising limitations.
 - 3. A nonconforming off-premises sign may not be structurally altered. Structural alterations mean alterations to, including replacement of, either the off-premises sign face, or the supporting structure. Normal maintenance and repair including painting, cleaning, or replacing damaged parts of the off-premises sign, shall not be considered a structural alteration.
 - 4. Any nonconforming off-premises sign which deteriorates, is damaged or destroyed by fire, explosion, wind, act of nature, failure to maintain or other accidental means may be restored if the cost thereof does not exceed fifty percent of its replacement cost. Off-

premises signs damaged in an amount in excess of fifty percent of replacement cost shall be removed.

5. All nonconforming off-premises signs shall be kept in good repair and maintained in a neat, clean, attractive and safe condition. Any work required to repair or maintain an off-premises sign shall be completed promptly so long as the off-premises sign is not structurally altered, and so long as the cost of such repair and/or maintenance does not exceed fifty percent of the cost of replacing the off-premise sign.

Section 5. That Section 17C.250.020 SMC is amended to read as follows

A. Applicability

The standards of this section apply to buildings and structures over seventy feet tall.

~~((The dimensional standards in SMC 17C.250.020 do not apply to medical centers and other buildings within six hundred feet of medical centers (SMC 17C.190.450;-))~~

The dimensional standards of this section do not apply to the follow:

1. Medical Centers as defined in SMC 17C.190.450;
2. Buildings within six hundred feet of Medical Centers; and
3. Essential Public Facilities as defined in SMC 17C.190.530.

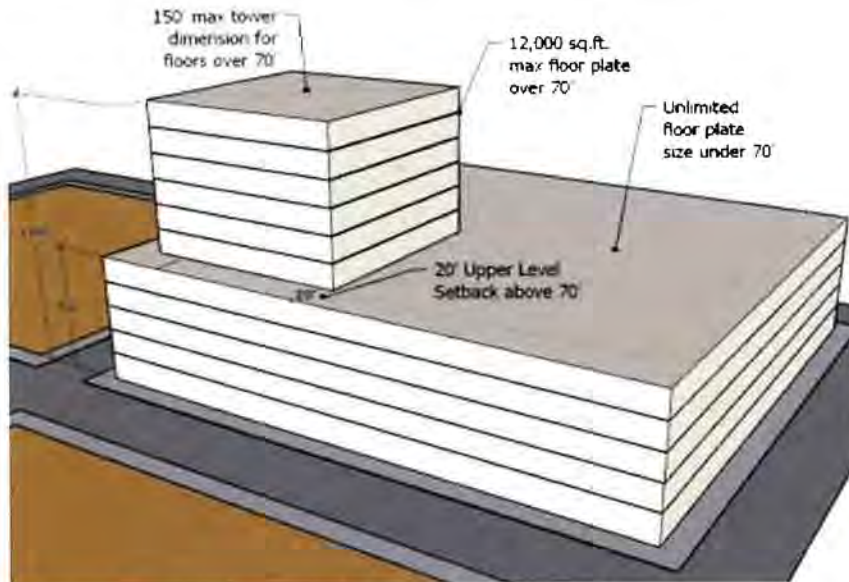
~~((The following standards apply to buildings and structures over seventy feet tall;-))~~

~~((A-))~~ B. Upper Story Setback.

All floors above seventy feet shall be setback from all street lot lines a minimum of twenty feet.

~~((B-))~~ C. Maximum Floor Area per Floor.

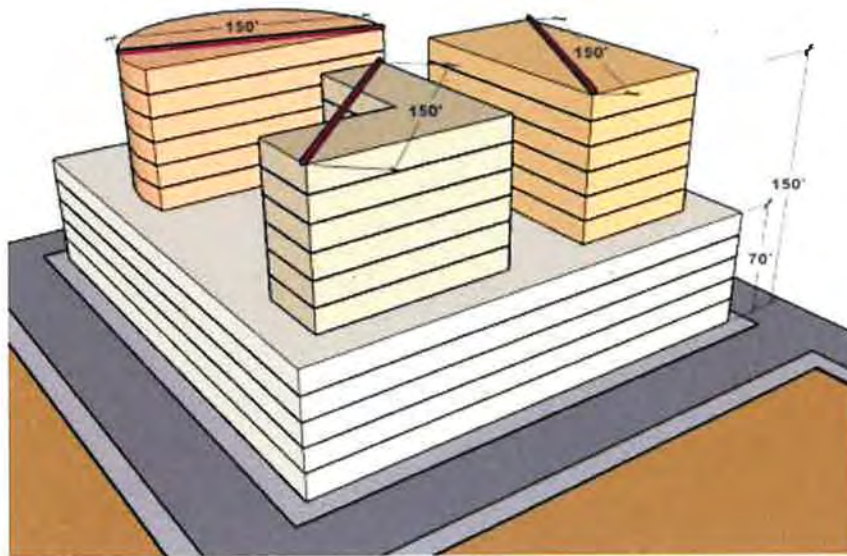
All floors above seventy feet shall have a maximum floor area of twelve thousand square feet.



Dimensional Standards for buildings over 70' tall.

~~((C-))~~ D. Maximum Tower Dimension.

All floors above seventy feet shall have a maximum floor dimension of one hundred fifty feet.



Maximum tower dimension for buildings over 70' tall.

Section 6. That Section 17G.080.040 SMC is amended to read as follows

A. Predevelopment Meeting

A predevelopment meeting is required if the proposal is located in the central business district, unless waived by the director, and is recommended for all other proposals prior to submittal of the application. The purpose of a predevelopment meeting is to acquaint the applicant with the applicable provisions of this chapter, minimum submission requirements and other plans or regulations, which may impact the proposal.

B. Preliminary Short Plat Application and Map Requirements

1. Applications for approval of a preliminary short subdivision shall be filed with the director. All applications shall be submitted on forms provided for such purpose by the department. The director may waive specific submittal requirements determined to be unnecessary for review of the application. The application shall include the following:

- a. The general application.
- b. The supplemental application.
- c. The environmental checklist, if required under chapter 17E.050 SMC.
- d. Title report no older than thirty days from issuance from the title company.
- e. The filing fees as required under chapter 8.02 SMC.
- f. The required number of documents, plans or maps drawn to a minimum scale of one inch equals one hundred feet, on a sheet twenty-four by thirty-six inches, as set forth in the application checklist.
- g. A written narrative identifying consistency with the applicable policies, regulations and criteria for approval of the permit requested; and
- h. Additional application information which may be requested by the permitting department and may include, but is not limited to, the following: geotechnical studies, hydrologic studies, critical area studies, noise studies, air quality studies, visual analysis and transportation impact studies.
- i. One copy of the predevelopment conference notes (if applicable); and
- j. One copy of the notification district map.

2. Contents of Preliminary Short Plat Map

The preliminary short plat shall be prepared by a land surveyor and shall show the following:

- a. Plat name and the name of any subdivision to be replatted.
- b. The name, mailing address and phone number of the owner and the person with whom official contact should be made regarding the application.
- c. Surveyor's name, mailing address and phone number.
- d. Legal description.

- e. Section, township and range
- f. Vicinity map.
- g. North arrow, scale and date.
- h. Datum plane.
- i. Acreage.
- j. Number of lots and proposed density.
- k. Zoning designation.
- l. The boundary lines of the proposed subdivision.
- m. City limits and section lines.
- n. Park or open space (if proposed).
- o. Existing topography at two-foot maximum interval.
- p. The boundaries and approximate dimensions of all blocks and lots, together with the numbers proposed to be assigned each lot and block, and the dimensions, square footage and acreage of all proposed lots and tracts.
- q. Proposed names of streets.
- r. The location and widths of streets, alleys, rights-of-way, easements (both public and private), turn around and emergency access, parks and open spaces.
- s. Conditions of adjacent property, platted or unplatted, and if platted, giving the name of the subdivision. If the proposed short plat is the subdivision of a portion of an existing plat, the approximate lines of the existing plat are to be shown along with any and all recorded covenants and easement
- t. The names and address of the record owners and taxpayers of each parcel adjoining the subdivision.
- u. Indicate any street grades in excess of eight percent.
- v. The location and, where ascertainable, sizes of all permanent buildings, wells, wellhead protection areas, sewage disposal systems, water courses, bodies of water, flood zones, culverts, bridges, structures, overhead and underground utilities, railroad lines, and other features existing upon, over or under the land proposed to be subdivided, and identifying any which are to be retained or removed.
- w. Proposed one-foot strips for right-of-way conveyed to the City, in cases where a proposed public street or alley abuts unplatted land.
- x. If a body of water forms the boundary of the plat, the ordinary high water mark as defined in chapter 90.58 RCW.
- y. Critical areas as defined in chapters 17E.020, 17E.030, 17E.070 and 17G.030 SMC.

- z. Significant historic, cultural or archaeological resources; and
- aa. If the proposal is located in an irrigation district, the irrigation district name.

C. Review of Preliminary Short Plat

1. The application shall be reviewed in accordance with the procedures set forth in chapter 17G.060 SMC for a Type II application, except an application that meets the requirements for minor engineering review as provided in subsection (2) of this section shall be excluded from the public notice requirements contained in SMC 17G.060.110 through 17G.060.120 and public comment period under SMC 17G.060.130.
2. Minor Engineering Review.

A preliminary short plat application may qualify for a minor engineering review if it meets all of the following conditions:

- a. The application is categorically exempt from chapter 43.21C RCW (SEPA);
- b. There is direct water and sewer main lot frontage on an existing and improved public right-of-way;
- c. No extensions of public water, sewer, or other utility services will be needed;
- d. No public easements for water, sewer, or other utility service exists on the lot;
- e. The lot is not situated in a Special Drainage District as defined in SMC 17D.060.130; and
- f. Public utility mains do not exist on the lot.

D. Public Notice

All public notice of the application shall be given in accordance with the procedures set forth in chapter 17G.060 SMC for a Type II application, except a short plat that meets the requirements for minor engineering review as provided in subsection (C)(2) of this section shall not require a notice of application.

E. Preliminary Short Plat Approval Criteria

Prior to approval of a short plat application, the director shall find the application to be in the public use and interest, conform to applicable land use controls and the comprehensive plan of the City, and the approval criteria set forth in chapter 17G.060 SMC. The director has the authority to approve or disapprove a proposed preliminary short plat under the provisions of this chapter, subject to appeal as provided in chapters 17F.050 and 17G.060 SMC.

F. Final Short Plat Review Procedure

1. The subdivider shall submit to the director for review the following:
 - a. A final short plat, prepared by a registered land surveyor licensed in the state of Washington, consistent with the approved preliminary short plat.

- b. A title report less than thirty days old confirming that the title of the lands as described and shown on said plat is in the name of the owners signing the certificate or instrument of dedication.
 - c. Covenants, conditions and restrictions, if applicable; and
 - d. Fees pursuant to chapter 8.02 SMC.
 2. Within thirty days, unless the applicant has consented to a longer period of time, of receipt of a proposed final short plat, the director shall review the plat for conformance with all conditions of the preliminary short plat approval, the requirements of this chapter and that arrangements have been made to insure the construction of required improvements. If all such conditions are met, the director shall approve the final short plat and authorize the recording of the plat. If all conditions are not met, the director shall provide the applicant in writing a statement of the necessary changes to bring the final short plat into conformance with the conditions.
 - a. If the final short plat is required to be resubmitted, the subdivider is required to provide the following:
 - b. A cover letter addressing the corrections, additions or modifications required.
 - c. Title report no older than thirty days from issuance of a title company conforming that the title of the lands as described and shown on said plat is in the name of the owners signing the certificate or instrument of dedication; and
 - d. The required number of copies of the corrected final short plat map.
 3. If the final short plat is approved, the surveyor causes the plat to be signed by the Spokane county treasurer and file of record with the Spokane county auditor. The surveyor is required to file the appropriate number of mylar and bond copies of the recorded short plat with the director.

G. Final Short Plat Map Requirements

The subdivider shall submit to the director a final short plat in the same form and with the same content as the preliminary short plat, as provided in subsections (B)(1) and (2) of this section, with the following exceptions or additional requirements:

1. A final short plat shall contain all the information required of the preliminary plat, except the following:
 - a. Show existing buildings.
 - b. Show existing utility lines and underground structures.
 - c. Show the topographical elevations; or
 - d. Contain the names and addresses of adjoining landowners.
2. The final short plat shall include the following:
 - a. Surveyor's certificate, stamp, date and signature, as follows:

The following land surveyor's certificate to be shown on each sheet of the plat: "I, _____ registered land surveyor, hereby certify the plat of _____, as shown hereon, is based upon actual field survey of the land described and that all angles, distances, and courses are correctly shown and that all non fronting lot corners are set as shown on the plat. Monuments and fronting lot corners shall be set upon completion of the utility and street improvements.

Signed _____(Seal)"

b. A certification by the city treasurer, as applicable:

- i. "I hereby certify that the land described by this plat, as of the date of this certification, is not subject to any local improvement assessments. Examined and approved, this _____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Treasurer"

- ii. "I hereby certify that the land described by this plat, as of the date of this certificate, is not subject to any delinquent local improvement assessment. Future installments, if any, shall remain due and payable and it shall be the responsibility of the owners to initiate the segregation of the LID assessment. Examined and approved, this _____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Treasurer"

- iii. "A preliminary local improvement assessment exists against this property. It shall be the responsibility of the owner's to initiate the segregation of the LID assessment. After this assessment is finalized, it shall be due and payable. Examined and approved this _____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Treasurer"

c. The certification by the planning director, as follows:

"This plat has been reviewed on this _____ day of _____, 20__ and is found to be in full compliance with all the conditions of approval stipulated in the Hearing Examiner's/Planning Director's approval of the preliminary plat # - -PP/SP.

City of Spokane Planning Director"

d. The certification by the city engineer, as follows:

"Approved as to compliance with the survey data, the design of public works and provisions made for constructing the improvements and permanent control monuments this _____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Engineer”

e. The certification by the Spokane county treasurer, as follows:

“I hereby certify that the land described in this plat, as of the date of this certification, is not subject to any outstanding fees or assessments. Examined and approved _____ day of _____, 20__.

Spokane County Treasurer”

f. The certification by the Spokane county auditor on each page of the final short plat including the time, date, book and page number of the recording of the final mylar.

g. Signature of every owner certifying that:

- i. the plat is made with the free consent and in accordance with the desires of the owners of the land;
- ii. the owners are the owners of the property and the only parties having interest in the land and is not encumbered by any delinquent taxes or assessments;
- iii. the owners adopt the plan of lots, blocks and streets shown;
- iv. owner dedicates to the City and the City's permittees the easements shown for utilities and cable television purposes;
- v. owner dedicates to the City the streets, alleys and other public places, including slope and construction easements and waives all claims for damages against any governmental authority including, without limitation, the City which may be occasioned to the adjacent land by the establishment, construction, drainage and maintenance of any public way so dedicated; and
- vi. owner conveys to the City as general City property the buffer strips adjoining unplatted property.

h. The drawing shall:

- i. be a legibly drawn, printed or reproduced permanent map;
- ii. if more than one sheet is required, each sheet shall show sheet numbers for the total sheets;
- iii. have margins that comply with the standards of the Spokane county auditor;
- iv. show in dashed lines the existing plat being replatted, if applicable;
- v. show monuments in accordance with SMC 17G.080.020(H)(1);
- vi. include any other information required by the conditions of approval; and
- vii. include any special statements of approval required from governmental agencies, including those pertaining to flood hazard areas, shorelines, critical areas and connections to adjacent state highways.


H. Filing.

Once the final plat has been reviewed, approved and signed by the applicable departments, the applicant shall file the final short plat with the county auditor within ten days of approval. No permits shall be issued for a proposed lot until the required conformed copies of the short plat have been submitted to the planning services department.

I. Redivision.

No land within the boundaries of a short subdivision may be further divided in any manner which will create additional lots within a period of five years except by subdivision in accordance with SMC 17G.080.050

Passed the City Council October 16, 2023



Council President Pro-Tem

Attest:

Approved as to form:

City Clerk Assistant City Attorney



Mayor

10/24/23

Date

Effective Date: November 23, 2023
~~Date of State Approval~~ N/A 7P 10.25.23





STAFF REPORT

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

To:	City Plan Commission	
Subject:	Paper Cuts Code Amendments	
Staff Contact:	Tyler Kimbrell Planner II tkimbrell@spokanecity.org	Spencer Gardner Planning Director sgardner@spokanecity.org
Report Date:	August 30, 2023	
Hearing Date:	September 13, 2023	
Recommendation:	Approval	

I. SUMMARY

Paper Cuts Code amendments for SMC 17C.110.225 Accessory Structures; SMC 17C.120.580 Plazas and Other Open Spaces; SMC 17C.230.145 Development Standards for Residential Uses; SMC 17C.240.250 Off-premises Signs; SMC 17C25.020 Dimensional Standards; and, SMC 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions. See **Exhibit A** for the proposed text amendments.

II. BACKGROUND

Paper Cuts Code Amendments are revisions to the Unified Development Code (UDC) identified by staff that clarify or make minor changes. These changes are intended to be minor in nature to improve the enforcement of development regulations that improve the quality of life for Spokane residents and improve processing of applications for the development community. Corrections and clarification of code will permit the Development Services Center to communicate development regulations more clearly to applicants.

III. PROCESS

DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

Article III Section 21, Amendments and Repeals, of the City of Spokane Charter provides for the ability of amendments of the Charter and Spokane Municipal Code through ordinances. Title 17 is known as the Unified Development Code (UDC) and is incorporated into the Spokane Municipal Code to implement the City's Comprehensive Plan, and by reference, the requirements of the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA). Section [17G.025.010](#) establishes the procedure and decision criteria that the City uses to review and amend the UDC. The City may approve amendments to the UDC if it is found that a proposed amendment is consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan, and bears a substantial relation to public health, safety, welfare, and protection of the environment.

Role of the City Plan Commission

The proposed text amendments require a review process set forth in Section 17G.025.010(F) SMC. The Plan Commission is responsible for holding a public hearing and forwarding its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the City Council. Utilizing the decision criteria in 17G.025 SMC, the Plan Commission may recommend approval, modification, or denial of the proposal.

The Plan Commission may incorporate the facts and findings of the staff report as the basis for its recommendation to the City Council or may modify the findings as necessary to support their final recommendation.

Role of City Council

The City Council will also conduct a review process considering the proposed text amendment, public comments and testimony, the staff report, and the Plan Commission's recommendation. The final decision to approve, modify, or deny the proposed amendment rests with the City Council. Proposals adopted by ordinance after public hearings are official amendments to the Spokane Municipal Code.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Plan Commission workshop	July 26, 2023
SEPA Determination of Non-significance for Dimensional Standards issued	August 30, 2023
Plan Commission Public Hearing	Sept 13, 2023

SEPA REVIEW

As outlined in Section 17G.025.010 SMC, notices of proposals to amend the UDC are distributed and interested parties should be made aware of such proposals during the Plan Commission review, including the SEPA checklist and determination. Similarly, a public notice published in the *Spokesman-Review* fourteen days prior to the Plan Commission public hearing is required.

This proposal was properly noticed pursuant to Section 17G.025.010(E). See **Exhibit B** for the SEPA Determination of Non-significance issued on August 30, 2023 for the amendments related to dimensional standards.

COMMENTS RECEIVED

- No comments were received as of September 5, 2023. All comments received between September 6, 2023 and September 13, 2023 will be forwarded to the Plan Commission prior to their public hearing.

IV. ANALYSIS

PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Code amendments:

- SMC 17C.110.225 Accessory Structures
 - Amending SMC 17C.110.225(4)(a) clarifying that the covered detached accessory structures are not allowed in the required front building setbacks and are only allowed in the side setback with a signed waiver for the neighboring property owner.
- SMC 17C.120.580 Plazas and Other Open Spaces
 - Amending SMC 17C.120.580(B)(1) removing the requirement for renovated buildings over forty thousand square feet to have an open space or plaza near the main entrances.
- SMC 17C.230.145 Development Standards for Residential Uses
 - Amending SMC 17C.230.145(C)(1) & SMC 17C.230.145(C)(2) to clarify that no parking is allowed within the first twenty feet of the front lot line or within the side street lot line setbacks.
- SMC 17C.240.250 Off-premises Signs
 - Amending SMC 17C.240.250(B)(2) to align the public works exception with the SMC 17C.240.280 by clarifying that a legal non-conforming off-premise sign loses its legal status after 6 months of inactivity.
- SMC 17C.250.020 Dimensional Standards
 - Amending SMC 17C.250.020(A) to add Essential Public Facilities as defined in SMC 17C.190.530 to the exception list for the dimensional standards.
- SMC 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions
 - Amending SMC 17G.080.040(B)(2)(e) to correct a spelling error.

IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES

Section 17G.025.010 SMC establishes the review criteria for text amendments to the Unified Development Code. In order to approve a text amendment, City Council shall consider the findings and recommendations of the Plan Commission along with the approval criteria outlined in the Code. The applicable criteria are shown below in *bold and italic* with staff analysis following the complete list. Review of the Comprehensive Plan goals and policies indicates that the proposal meets the approval criteria for internal consistency set forth in SMC 17G.025.010(G).

17G.025.010(G) Approval criteria

1. The proposed amendment is consistent with the applicable provisions of the comprehensive plan.

Staff Analysis: The proposed amendments do not alter the outcomes of the Unified Development Code (UDC) and therefore remains consistent with the various comprehensive plan goals of managing land use in an efficient manner. Furthermore, clarifying or correcting errors in the UDC helps further goals of transparency in government.

2. The proposed amendment bears a substantial relation to public health, safety, welfare, and protection of the environment.

Staff Analysis: The purpose of development regulations in the UDC is to provide a vehicle to implement the City's comprehensive plan, and by reference, the requirements of the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA). The UDC includes community goals that bears a substantial relation to public health, safety, welfare, and protection of the environment and the proposed amendments to clarify or correct errors to the code language help further implement those goals.

V. DISCUSSION

The proposed text amendments clarify and correct errors within the UDC ensuring that the implementation and enforcement of the development regulations are more straightforward for City staff. The amendments also provide clarity for applicants as to what is expected for land use and building applications.

VI. CONCLUSION

Based on the facts and findings presented herein, staff concludes that the requested text amendments to the Unified Development Code satisfy the applicable criteria for approval as set forth in SMC Section 17G.025.010. To comply with RCW 36.70A.370 the proposed text amendments have been evaluated to ensure proposed changes do not result in unconstitutional takings of private property.

VII. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Following the close of public testimony and deliberation regarding conclusions with respect to the review criteria and decision criteria detailed in SMC 17G.025.010, Plan Commission will need to make a recommendation to City Council for approval or denial of the requested code amendments to the Unified Development Code.

Staff **recommends approval** of the requested text amendments to SMC 17C.110.225 Accessory Structures; SMC 17C.120.580 Plazas and Other Open Spaces; SMC 17C.230.145 Development Standards for Residential Uses; SMC 17C.240.250 Off-premises Signs; SMC 17C.25.020 Dimensional Standards; and, SMC 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions and recommends that the Plan Commission adopt the facts and findings of the staff report.

VIII. LIST OF EXHIBITS

- A. Proposed text amendments
- B. SEPA Determination of Non-significance for Dimensional Standards

EXHIBIT A

Section 17C.110.225 Accessory Structures

A. Purpose.

This section regulates structures that are incidental to primary buildings to prevent them from becoming the predominant element of the site. The standards provide for necessary access around structures, help maintain privacy to adjoining lots and maintain open front setbacks.

B. General Standards.

1. Accessory structures are allowed on a lot only in conjunction with a primary building, and may not exist on a lot prior to the construction of the primary structure, except as allowed by subsection (B)(2) of this section.
2. An accessory structure that becomes the only structure on a lot as the result of a land division may remain on the lot if the owner has submitted a financial guarantee to the City for the cost of demolition and removal of the structure. The financial guarantee will be used by the City if the owner has not removed the accessory structure if, within one year of final plat approval or boundary line adjustment (BLA), a primary structure has not been built and received final inspection. The financial guarantee must be accepted by the City prior to approval of the final plat or boundary line adjustment.
3. An accessory structure shall not contain a kitchen or space for living, sleeping, eating, or cooking unless it is approved as an accessory dwelling unit under chapter 17C.300 SMC.

C. Setbacks.

1. Mechanical Structures.

Mechanical structures are items such as heat pumps, air conditioners, emergency generators, and water pumps.

a. Front Setback Standard.

Mechanical structures are not allowed in required front building setbacks.

b. Side and Rear Setback Standard.

Mechanical structures are allowed inside and rear building setbacks if the structure is no more than forty-eight inches high.

2. Vertical Structures.

Vertical structures are items such as flagpoles, trellises and other garden structures, radio antennas, satellite receiving dishes and lampposts. Fences are addressed in SMC 17C.110.230. Sign standards are in chapter 17C.240 SMC, Signs.

a. Setback Standard.

Vertical structures are allowed in required side and rear building setbacks if they are no larger than four feet in width, depth or diameter and no taller than seven feet. If they are larger or taller, they are not allowed in required building setbacks. Trellises and other gate features are allowed in front yard if they are no larger than four feet in width, depth or diameter and no taller than seven feet and do not conflict with the clear view triangle provisions under SMC 17C.110.230, Fences.

3. Uncovered Horizontal Structures.

Uncovered horizontal structures are items such as decks, stairways, entry bridges, wheelchair ramps, swimming pools, hot tubs, tennis courts, and boat docks that are not covered or enclosed.

a. Setback Standard.

i. Projection Allowed.

The following structures are allowed in required building setbacks, as follows:

- A. Structures that are no more than two and one-half feet above the ground are allowed in side and rear building setbacks. Handrails required by the IBC/IRC are not included in the maximum height.
- B. On lots that slope down from the street, vehicular or pedestrian entry bridges that are no more than two and one-half feet above the average sidewalk elevation are allowed in all building setbacks; and
- C. Stairways and wheelchair ramps that lead to one entrance on the street-facing facade of a building are allowed in street setbacks.

4. Covered Accessory Structures.

Covered accessory structures are items such as greenhouses, storage buildings (not used to cover motor vehicles), sheds, covered decks, covered porches, gazebos, and covered recreational structures.

a. Setback Standard.

i. Front Setback.

Covered accessory structures are not allowed in the required front building setbacks.

ii. Side Setback.

Covered detached accessory structures are not allowed in the required side building setback without a signed waiver from the neighboring property owner.

Covered attached accessory structures are not allowed in the required side building setback.

5. Detached Accessory Structures.

Detached accessory structures are garages, carports, and other structures utilized to cover motorized vehicles.

a. Setback Standard.

A detached accessory structure is not allowed in the front building setback. A detached accessory structure is not allowed in the required side building setback without a signed waiver from the neighboring property owner. A detached accessory structure that has an entrance, which faces a street, is required to be setback twenty feet from the property line or from the back of the sidewalk, as stated in Table 17C.110-3.

b. Detached accessory structures may be built to the rear property line, unless parking in front of the structure is proposed, then the structure is required to be built a minimum of eighteen feet from the edge of the alley tract, easement, or right-of-way.

6. Attached Accessory Structures.

Accessory structures are garages, carports or other structures utilized to cover motorized vehicles that are connected by a common wall to the primary structure.

a. Setback Standard.

An attached accessory structure is not allowed in the front building setback. An attached accessory structure that has an entrance which faces a street is required to be setback twenty feet from the property line as stated in Table 17C.110-3.

b. Attached accessory structures may be built to within five feet of the rear property line, unless parking in front of the structure is proposed, then the structure is required to be built a minimum of eighteen feet from the edge of the alley tract, easement or right-of-way.

D. Building Coverage.

1. Except as provided in subsection (2) of this subsection (D), the combined building coverage of all detached accessory structures and covered accessory structures may not exceed fifteen percent of the total area of

the site, and when combined with all other structures on-site shall not exceed the maximum building coverage of the base zone.

2. On lots smaller than five thousand five hundred square feet with an accessory dwelling unit, combined building coverage of all detached accessory structures and covered accessory structures may not exceed twenty percent of the total area of the site, and when combined with all other structures on-site shall not exceed the maximum building coverage of the base zone.

E. Building Height.

The building height of detached accessory structures and covered accessory structures is listed in Table 17C.110-3. Accessory structures, which contain an ADU over a garage, are subject to the height limitations in chapter 17C.300 SMC, Accessory Dwelling Units.

[keep table 17C.110.225-1]

[keep image]

[keep image]

Section 17C.120.580 Plazas and Other Open Spaces

A. Purpose.

To provide a pedestrian-friendly environment by creating a variety of usable and interesting open spaces within private development.

B. Plazas and Other Open Spaces Implementation.

1. New ~~or renovated~~ buildings over forty thousand square feet shall have plazas, courtyards or other pedestrian spaces at or near their main entrances. (R)
2. Plazas and other open spaces shall be a minimum of one square foot of plaza per one hundred square feet of building area. This area may count toward the interior landscaping required. (P)
3. Plazas, courtyards and other pedestrian space shall include at least three of the following: (P)
 - a. Special interest landscape.
 - b. Pedestrian scale bollard or other accent lighting.
 - c. Special paving, such as colored/stained concrete, brick or other unit paver.
 - d. Artwork.
 - e. Seating, such as benches, tables, or low seating walls.
 - f. Water feature.

[keep images]

Section 17C.230.145 Development Standards for Residential Uses

A. Purpose

The size and placement of vehicle parking areas are regulated in order to enhance the appearance of neighborhoods.

[keep image]

B. Structures These Regulations Apply To

The regulations of this section apply to residential uses in the RA, RSF, RTF, RMF, RHD, FBC CA4 zones. The regulations apply to required and excess parking areas. Parking for mobile home parks is regulated in chapter 17C.345 SMC, Manufactured Homes and Manufactured Home Parks.

C. Parking Area Locations

1. ~~Required Parking~~ Required parking spaces are not allowed within the first twenty feet from a front lot line or within side street lot line setback.
2. ~~Non-required Parking~~
~~Non-required parking spaces for personal passenger vehicles may be located in the first twenty feet from a front lot line or the side lot line setback in a driveway. The vehicle cannot overhang or block the sidewalk.~~
32. Utility trailers, motorized recreation vehicles and non-motorized accessory recreational vehicles cannot be stored in the first twenty feet from the front lot line nor the side street line.
43. Driveway Width

[keep image]

- a. In the RA and RSF zones, no more than forty percent of the land area between the front lot line and the front building line may be paved or used for vehicle areas. In addition, on corner lots, no more than twenty percent of the land area between the side street lot line and the side street building line may be paved or used for vehicle areas. As an exception to the area limitations in this subparagraph, a lot is allowed at least a nine-foot wide vehicle area.
- b. In the RTF, RMF, RHD, FBC CA4 zones, no more than twenty percent of the land area between the front lot line and the front building line may be paved or used for vehicle areas. In addition, on corner lots no more than twenty percent of the land area between the side street lot line and the side street building line may be

paved or used for vehicle areas. As an exception to the area limitations in this paragraph, a lot is allowed at least a nine-foot wide vehicle area.

c. Exception.

Driveway coverage in the residential zones may exceed the size limitations of (4)(a) and (4)(b) above when the subject property is located on a principal arterial and the increase in site coverage is due to inadequate maneuvering area for the safe exit of vehicles from the site. The exception to driveway coverage is reviewed by the engineering services department as a portion of the driveway access permit.

54. Parking in Garages.

Parking in garages is subject to the garage setback standards of the base zone, overlay zone or plan district.

D. Parking Space Sizes

A parking space must be at least nine feet by eighteen feet. The minimum driveway width on private property is nine feet.

E. Paving

1. Generally.

All driveways and parking areas must be covered in an all weather surface.

2. Exceptions.

a. Gravel surfaces may be approved by engineering services when the abutting street is not paved, and the applicant executes a covenant agreeing to pave the area if the street is paved in the future.

b. Utility trailers, motorized recreational vehicles and non-motorized accessory recreational vehicles may be stored on unpaved surfaces. A gravel surface is not required.

Section 17C.240.250 Off-premises Signs

- A. No new off-premises signs may be constructed, on any site.
- B. Off-premises signs now in existence in any zone, meeting the requirements of 17C.240.280, are considered nonconforming uses and may remain, subject to the following restrictions:

- 1. A nonconforming off-premises sign may not be increased in size or elevation, relocated to another site or to a new location on the same site or expanded, enlarged, or extended in any way, including, but not limited to, the addition of advertising faces or the addition of rotating faces with movable panels designed to create additional advertising, except as provided for in the public works exception below.
- 2. Public Works Exception.

A legal, non-conforming off-premises sign ~~that is allowed to remain in conformance with this section~~ shall be allowed to be relocated if necessitated for the accomplishment of a governmental public works project. The relocation of an off-premises sign under this exception must occur within six (6) months of removal or its legal, non-conforming status shall be discontinued pursuant to SMC 17C.240.280. ~~This r~~Relocation of these off-premises signs for public works projects shall be subject to the limitations in subsections (a) through (f) below:

- a. No increase in square footage of off-premises sign copy shall be permitted. These signs shall be replaced at the same size they existed at immediately prior to relocation.
- b. No additional sign faces shall be added.
- c. No increase in height of the existing off-premises sign shall be permitted except where needed to provide for minimum height clearance (from the ground to the bottom of the off-premises signs) to comply with roadway safety.
- d. The off-premises sign shall be relocated along the same roadway it was removed from in the geographical vicinity and shall comply with the Scenic Vistas Act of 1971 (chapter 47.42 RCW and chapter 468-66 WAC) if located along a state highway. For purposes of this provision, the term "roadway" shall apply to both directions of a couplet.
- e. The off-premise sign shall not be relocated to a site with a Residential, Neighborhood Retail, or Center and Corridor zoning designation including CA zones, or located within an historic district, regardless of the zoning or district of the original sign location.

- f. The relocation of the off-premises sign shall be subject to all current City of Spokane rules, regulations, and procedures relating to the regulation and control of signs, excepting size, height, and off premise advertising limitations.
3. A nonconforming off-premises sign may not be structurally altered. Structural alterations mean alterations to, including replacement of, either the off-premises sign face, or the supporting structure. Normal maintenance and repair including painting, cleaning, or replacing damaged parts of the off-premises sign, shall not be considered a structural alteration.
4. Any nonconforming off-premises sign which deteriorates, is damaged or destroyed by fire, explosion, wind, act of nature, failure to maintain or other accidental means may be restored if the cost thereof does not exceed fifty percent of its replacement cost. Off-premises signs damaged in an amount in excess of fifty percent of replacement cost shall be removed.
5. All nonconforming off-premises signs shall be kept in good repair and maintained in a neat, clean, attractive and safe condition. Any work required to repair or maintain an off-premises sign shall be completed promptly so long as the off-premises sign is not structurally altered, and so long as the cost of such repair and/or maintenance does not exceed fifty percent of the cost of replacing the off-premise sign.

Section 17C.250.020 Dimensional Standards

A. Applicability.

The standards of this section apply to buildings and structures over seventy feet tall.

The dimensional standards ~~in SMC 17C.250.020~~ of this section do not apply to the following:

1. ~~m~~ Medical eCenters as defined in SMC 17C.190.450;
2. ~~and other~~ buildings within six hundred feet of ~~medical~~ Medical centers Centers(SMC 17C.190.450); and
3. Essential Public Facilities as defined in SMC 17C.190.530.

~~The following standards apply to buildings and structures over seventy feet tall.~~

BA. Upper Story Setback.

All floors above seventy feet shall be setback from all street lot lines a minimum of twenty feet.

CB. Maximum Floor Area per Floor.

All floors above seventy feet shall have a maximum floor area of twelve thousand square feet.

[keep image]

DC. Maximum Tower Dimension.

All floors above seventy feet shall have a maximum floor dimension of one hundred fifty feet.

[keep image]

Section 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions

A. Predevelopment Meeting

A predevelopment meeting is required if the proposal is located in the central business district, unless waived by the director, and is recommended for all other proposals prior to submittal of the application. The purpose of a predevelopment meeting is to acquaint the applicant with the applicable provisions of this chapter, minimum submission requirements and other plans or regulations, which may impact the proposal.

B. Preliminary Short Plat Application and Map Requirements

1. Applications for approval of a preliminary short subdivision shall be filed with the director. All applications shall be submitted on forms provided for such purpose by the department. The director may waive specific submittal requirements determined to be unnecessary for review of the application. The application shall include the following:
 - a. The general application.
 - b. The supplemental application.
 - c. The environmental checklist, if required under chapter 17E.050 SMC.
 - d. Title report no older than thirty days from issuance from the title company.
 - e. The filing fees as required under chapter 8.02 SMC.
 - f. The required number of documents, plans or maps drawn to a minimum scale of one inch equals one hundred feet, on a sheet twenty-four by thirty-six inches, as set forth in the application checklist.
 - g. A written narrative identifying consistency with the applicable policies, regulations and criteria for approval of the permit requested; and
 - h. Additional application information which may be requested by the permitting department and may include, but is not limited to, the following: geotechnical studies, hydrologic studies, critical area studies, noise studies, air quality studies, visual analysis and transportation impact studies.
 - i. One copy of the predevelopment conference notes (if applicable); and
 - j. One copy of the notification district map.
2. Contents of Preliminary Short Plat Map

The preliminary short plat shall be prepared by a land surveyor and shall show the following:

- a. Plat name and the name of any subdivision to be replatted.
- b. The name, mailing address and phone number of the owner and the person with whom official contact should be made regarding the application.
- c. Surveyor's name, mailing address and phone number.
- d. Legal description.
- e. Section, township and range
- f. Vicinity map.
- g. North arrow, scale and date.
- h. Datum plane.
- i. Acreage.
- j. Number of lots and proposed density.
- k. Zoning designation.
- l. The boundary lines of the proposed subdivision.
- m. City limits and section lines.
- n. Park or open space (if proposed).
- o. Existing topography at two-foot maximum interval.
- p. The boundaries and approximate dimensions of all blocks and lots, together with the numbers proposed to be assigned each lot and block, and the dimensions, square footage and acreage of all proposed lots and tracts.
- q. Proposed names of streets.
- r. The location and widths of streets, alleys, rights-of-way, easements (both public and private), turn around and emergency access, parks and open spaces.
- s. Conditions of adjacent property, platted or unplatted, and if platted, giving the name of the subdivision. If the proposed short plat is the subdivision of a portion of an existing plat, the approximate lines of the existing plat are to be shown along with any and all recorded covenants and easement
- t. The names and address of the record owners and taxpayers of each parcel adjoining the subdivision.
- u. Indicate any street grades in excess of eight percent.

- v. The location and, where ascertainable, sizes of all permanent buildings, wells, wellhead protection areas, sewage disposal systems, water courses, bodies of water, flood zones, culverts, bridges, structures, overhead and underground utilities, railroad lines, and other features existing upon, over or under the land proposed to be subdivided, and identifying any which are to be retained or removed.
- w. Proposed one-foot strips for right-of-way conveyed to the City, in cases where a proposed public street or alley abuts unplatted land.
- x. If a body of water forms the boundary of the plat, the ordinary high water mark as defined in chapter 90.58 RCW.
- y. Critical areas as defined in chapters 17E.020, 17E.030, 17E.070 and 17G.030 SMC.
- z. Significant historic, cultural or archaeological resources; and
- aa. If the proposal is located in an irrigation district, the irrigation district name.

C. Review of Preliminary Short Plat

1. The application shall be reviewed in accordance with the procedures set forth in chapter 17G.060 SMC for a Type II application, except an application that meets the requirements for minor engineering review as provided in subsection (2) of this section shall be excluded from the public notice requirements contained in SMC 17G.060.110 through 17G.060.120 and public comment period under SMC 17G.060.130.

2. Minor Engineering Review.

A preliminary short plat application may qualify for a minor engineering review if it meets all of the following conditions:

- a. The application is categorically exempt from chapter 43.21C RCW (SEPA);
- b. There is direct water and sewer main lot frontage on an existing and improved public right-of-way;
- c. No extensions of public water, sewer, or other utility services will be needed;
- d. No public easements for water, sewer, or other utility service exists on the lot;
- e. The lot is not situated in a Special Drainage District as defined in SMC 17D.060.130; and
- f. Public utility mains do not exist on the lot.

D. Public Notice

All public notice of the application shall be given in accordance with the procedures set forth in chapter 17G.060 SMC for a Type II application, except a short plat that meets the requirements for minor engineering review as provided in subsection (C)(2) of this section shall not require a notice of application.

E. Preliminary Short Plat Approval Criteria

Prior to approval of a short plat application, the director shall find the application to be in the public use and interest, conform to applicable land use controls and the comprehensive plan of the City, and the approval criteria set forth in chapter 17G.060 SMC. The director has the authority to approve or disapprove a proposed preliminary short plat under the provisions of this chapter, subject to appeal as provided in chapters 17F.050 and 17G.060 SMC.

F. Final Short Plat Review Procedure

1. The subdivider shall submit to the director for review the following:
 - a. A final short plat, prepared by a registered land surveyor licensed in the state of Washington, consistent with the approved preliminary short plat.
 - b. A title report less than thirty days old confirming that the title of the lands as described and shown on said plat is in the name of the owners signing the certificate or instrument of dedication.
 - c. Covenants, conditions and restrictions, if applicable; and
 - d. Fees pursuant to chapter 8.02 SMC.
2. Within thirty days, unless the applicant has consented to a longer period of time, of receipt of a proposed final short plat, the director shall review the plat for conformance with all conditions of the preliminary short plat approval, the requirements of this chapter and that arrangements have been made to insure the construction of required improvements. If all such conditions are met, the director shall approve the final short plat and authorize the recording of the plat. If all conditions are not met, the director shall provide the applicant in writing a statement of the necessary changes to bring the final short plat into conformance with the conditions.
 - a. If the final short plat is required to be resubmitted, the subdivider is required to provide the following:
 - b. A cover letter addressing the corrections, additions or modifications required.
 - c. Title report no older than thirty days from issuance of a title company conforming that the title of the lands as described and

shown on said plat is in the name of the owners signing the certificate or instrument of dedication; and

- d. The required number of copies of the corrected final short plat map.
3. If the final short plat is approved, the surveyor causes the plat to be signed by the Spokane county treasurer and file of record with the Spokane county auditor. The surveyor is required to file the appropriate number of mylar and bond copies of the recorded short plat with the director.

G. Final Short Plat Map Requirements

The subdivider shall submit to the director a final short plat in the same form and with the same content as the preliminary short plat, as provided in subsections (B)(1) and (2) of this section, with the following exceptions or additional requirements:

- 1. A final short plat shall contain all the information required of the preliminary plat, except the following:
 - a. Show existing buildings.
 - b. Show existing utility lines and underground structures.
 - c. Show the topographical elevations; or
 - d. Contain the names and addresses of adjoining landowners.
- 2. The final short plat shall include the following:
 - a. Surveyor's certificate, stamp, date and signature, as follows:

The following land surveyor's certificate to be shown on each sheet of the plat: "I, _____ registered land surveyor, hereby certify the plat of _____, as shown hereon, is based upon actual field survey of the land described and that all angles, distances, and courses are correctly shown and that all non fronting lot corners are set as shown on the plat. Monuments and fronting lot corners shall be set upon completion of the utility and street improvements.

Signed _____ (Seal)"
 - b. A certification by the city treasurer, as applicable:
 - i. "I hereby certify that the land described by this plat, as of the date of this certification, is not subject to any local improvement assessments. Examined and approved, this _____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Treasurer”

- ii. “I hereby certify that the land described by this plat, as of the date of this certificate, is not subject to any delinquent local improvement assessment. Future installments, if any, shall remain due and payable and it shall be the responsibility of the owners to initiate the segregation of the LID assessment. Examined and approved, this ____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Treasurer”

- iii. “A preliminary local improvement assessment exists against this property. It shall be the responsibility of the owner’s to initiate the segregation of the LID assessment. After this assessment is finalized, it shall be due and payable. Examined and approved this ____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Treasurer”

- c. The certification by the planning director, as follows:

“This plat has been reviewed on this ____ day of _____, 20__ and is found to be in full compliance with all the conditions of approval stipulated in the Hearing Examiner’s/Planning Director’s approval of the preliminary plat # - -PP/SP.

City of Spokane Planning Director”

- d. The certification by the city engineer, as follows:

“Approved as to compliance with the survey data, the design of public works and provisions made for constructing the improvements and permanent control monuments this ____ day of _____, 20__.

City of Spokane Engineer”

- e. The certification by the Spokane county treasurer, as follows:

“I hereby certify that the land described in this plat, as of the date of this certification, is not subject to any outstanding fees or assessments. Examined and approved ____ day of _____, 20__.

Spokane County Treasurer”

- f. The certification by the Spokane county auditor on each page of the final short plat including the time, date, book and page number of the recording of the final mylar.
- g. Signature of every owner certifying that:
 - i. the plat is made with the free consent and in accordance with the desires of the owners of the land;
 - ii. the owners are the owners of the property and the only parties having interest in the land and is not encumbered by any delinquent taxes or assessments;
 - iii. the owners adopt the plan of lots, blocks and streets shown;
 - iv. owner dedicates to the City and the City’s permittees the easements shown for utilities and cable television purposes;
 - v. owner dedicates to the City the streets, alleys and other public places, including slope and construction easements and waives all claims for damages against any governmental authority including, without limitation, the City which may be occasioned to the adjacent land by the establishment, construction, drainage and maintenance of any public way so dedicated; and
 - vi. owner conveys to the City as general City property the buffer strips adjoining unplatted property.
- h. The drawing shall:
 - i. be a legibly drawn, printed or reproduced permanent map;
 - ii. if more than one sheet is required, each sheet shall show sheet numbers for the total sheets;
 - iii. have margins that comply with the standards of the Spokane county auditor;
 - iv. show in dashed lines the existing plat being replatted, if applicable;
 - v. show monuments in accordance with SMC 17G.080.020(H)(1);
 - vi. include any other information required by the conditions of approval; and
 - vii. include any special statements of approval required from governmental agencies, including those pertaining to flood

hazard areas, shorelines, critical areas and connections to adjacent state highways.

H. Filing.

Once the final plat has been reviewed, approved and signed by the applicable departments, the applicant shall file the final short plat with the county auditor within ten days of approval. No permits shall be issued for a proposed lot until the required conformed copies of the short plat have been submitted to the planning services department.

I. Redivision.

No land within the boundaries of a short subdivision may be further divided in any manner which will create additional lots within a period of five years except by subdivision in accordance with SMC 17G.080.050

EXHIBIT B



NONPROJECT DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

FILE NO(s): Dimensional Standards Amendment (non-project)

PROPONENT: City of Spokane

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL: This proposal will amend the Spokane Municipal Code (SMC) Section 17C.250.020 to reorganize the section for improved clarity and to include an exemption for Essential Public Facilities as defined in SMC 17C.190.530.

LOCATION OF PROPOSAL, INCLUDING STREET ADDRESS, IF ANY: This proposal has a City-wide impact.

LEAD AGENCY: City of Spokane

DETERMINATION:

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public upon request.

- There is no comment period for this DNS.
- This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in section 197-11-355 WAC. There is no further comment period on the DNS.
- This DNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for at least 14 days from the date of issuance (below). **Comments regarding this DNS must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 13, 2023 if they are intended to alter the DNS.**

Responsible Official: Spencer Gardner **Position/Title:** Director, Planning Services

Address: 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201 **Phone:** 509-625-6097

Date Issued: August 30, 2023 **Signature:** 

APPEAL OF THIS DETERMINATION

After a determination has become final, appeal may be made to:

Responsible Official: City of Spokane Hearing Examiner

Address: 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201

Email: hearingexaminer@spokanecity.org **Phone:** 509-625-6010

Deadline: 21 days from the date of the signed DNS
12:00 p.m. on September 20, 2023



The appeal must be on forms provided by the Responsible Official, and make specific factual objections. Appeals must be accompanied by the appeal fee. Contact the Responsible Official for assistance with the specifics of a SEPA appeal.






SEPA City Nonproject DNS Dimensional Standards Amendment

Final Audit Report

2023-08-16

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"SEPA City Nonproject DNS Dimensional Standards Amendment" History

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**CITY OF SPOKANE PLAN COMMISSION
FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS
REGARDING SUMMER 2023 PAPER CUTS CODE AMENDMENTS**

A recommendation of the City of Spokane Plan Commission to the City Council to approve amendments to the City's shoreline regulations to accommodate aquaculture. The proposal amends SMC Sections 17C.110.225 Accessory Structures; 17C.120.580 Plazas and Other Open Spaces; 17C.230.145 Development Standards for Residential Uses; 17C.240.250 Off-Premises Signs; 17C.250.020 Dimensional Standards; 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

- A. The City of Spokane adopted a Comprehensive Plan in May of 2001 that complies with the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA) as set forth in RCW 36.70A.
- B. The proposed text amendments do not significantly alter the outcome and purpose of the Unified Development Code and therefore remain consistent with the City of Spokane's Comprehensive Plan.
- C. The Unified Development Code includes community goals that bears a substantial relation to public health, safety, welfare, and protection of the environment. Propose amendments to clarify or correct errors in the Unified Development Code further implement those goals.
- D. Public notice and communication began in July 2023 and included the following:
 1. A Plan Commission workshop on July 26, 2023
 2. Notice of SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance for amendments related to Dimensional Standards on August 30, 2023.
 3. A Plan Commission Public Hearing on September 13, 2023.
- E. No public comment was received before the distribution of the Staff Report on September 6, 2023. All comments received between September 6, 2023 and September 13, 2023 at 4:00pm were circulated to the commissioners for their review.
- F. On July 26, 2023 the City of Spokane Plan Commission held a workshop to discuss draft language, and review and evaluate with city staff alternatives to proposed text changes.
- G. On July 21, 2023, the Washington State Department of Commerce and appropriate state agencies were give the required 60-day notice before adoption of proposed changes to the Unified Development Code pursuant to RCW 36.70A.106.
- H. A SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance was issued by the director of Planning Services on August 30, 2023 for the amendment related to SMC Section 17C.250.020. One comment was received.
- I. SEPA Categorical Exemption WAC 197-11-800(19) applies to SMC Sections 17C.110.225 Accessory Structures; 17C.120.580 Plazas and Other Open Spaces; 17C.230.145 Development Standards for Residential Uses; 17C.240.250 Off-Premises Signs; 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions.

Findings of Fact, Conclusion, and Recommendation

- J. A legal notice of public hearing was published in the *Spokesman-Review* on August 30, 2023 and September 6, 2023.
- K. The proposed text amendments were drafted and reviewed consistent with the requirements of RCW 36.70A.370 to assure protection of private property rights.
- L. Amendments to the Unified Development Code Title 17 are subject to the review and recommendation by the City of Spokane Plan Commission.
- M. The Plan Commission held a public hearing on September 13, 2023, to obtain public comments on the proposed amendments. No comments were received.
- N. The City of Spokane Plan commission adopts the findings and analysis set forth in the staff report prepared for the proposal.
- O. The City of Spokane Plan Commission finds that the proposed text amendments meet the decision criteria established in SMC 17G.025.010(G).

CONCLUSIONS:

Based upon the draft text amendments, staff report and analysis (which is hereby incorporated into these findings, conclusions, and recommendations), SEPA review, agency and public comments received, and public testimony presented, the Spokane Plan Commission makes the following conclusions with respect to the proposed Paper Cuts Summer 2023 Code Amendments:

1. The Plan Commission finds that the proposed amendments bear a substantial relation to the public health, safety, welfare, and protection of the environment pursuant to the requirements outlined in SMC 17G.025.010(G).
2. The proposed text amendments will implement the goals and policies of the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan.
3. Interested agencies and the public have had opportunities to participate throughout the process and persons desiring to comment were given an opportunity to comment.
4. The Plan Commission finds that the proposed amendments are consistent with the applicable provisions of the Comprehensive Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

In the matter of the ordinances pertaining to the proposed text amendments, amending the Unified Development Code of the City of Spokane.

As based on the above listed findings and conclusions, by unanimous vote of eight in favor to zero not in favor, the Spokane Plan Commission takes the following actions:

1. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to Section 17C.110.225 Accessory Structures.
2. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to Section 17C.120.580 Plazas and Other Open Spaces.

Findings of Fact, Conclusion, and Recommendation

3. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to Section 17C.230.145 Development Standards for Residential Uses.
4. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to Section 17C.240.250 Off-premises Signs.
5. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to Section 17C.250.020 Dimensional Standards.
6. Recommends to the Spokane City Council the **APPROVAL** of the proposed amendments to Section 17G.080.040 Short Subdivisions.
7. Authorizes the President to prepare and sign on the Commission's behalf a written decision setting forth the Plan Commission's findings, conclusions, and recommendations on the proposed amendments.

Greg Francis

Greg Francis (Sep 14, 2023 18:49 PDT)

Greg Francis, President

Spokane Plan Commission

Date: Sep 14, 2023






PC Findings and Conclusions Summer 2023 Paper Cuts

Final Audit Report

2023-09-15

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