Spokane City Plan Commission Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Recommendations Spokane Housing Ventures Annexation

A recommendation of the City Plan Commission relating to the proposed Spokane Housing Ventures Annexation and related zoning map and Comprehensive Plan land use map designations for proposed annexation area.

Findings of Fact:

- A. The City of Spokane, pursuant to chapter 35.13 RCW, is authorized to annex land within an urban growth area and contiguous to the City's municipal boundary.
- B. The owners of certain property situated within the Spokane Housing Ventures Annexation Area filed a proper and sufficient Notice of Intent to commence annexation proceedings with the City.
- C. Following its receipt of said notice, the City Council held a public meeting with the owners and determined by Resolution 2015-0031 that the City would geographically modify the proposed annexation area to include the property lying between Regal Street on the west, Palouse Hwy on the east, 53rd Avenue on the North, and 55th Avenue on the South, as shown in the Spokane House Ventures Annexation Parcel Map attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
- D. Thereafter, a sufficient petition for annexation was filed with the City pursuant to RCW 35.13.130, signed by the owners of not less than 60 percent in value, according to the assessed valuation for general taxation, of the property for which annexation is petitioned, seeking annexation to the city of Spokane of an approximately 42-acrea area within an urban growth area and contiguous to the City's southern municipal boundary, otherwise referred to as the Spokane Housing Ventures Annexation Area (the "Petition").
- E. On December 9, 2015, the Plan Commission held a hearing to obtain public comments on the annexation and the proposed land use and zoning designations for the Spokane Housing Ventures Annexation Area.
- F. The City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan policy LU 9, Annexation Areas, encourages the annexation of areas that are logical extensions of the City, and further encourages the use of readily identifiable boundaries, such as highways, to define annexation areas where possible. The Spokane Housing Ventures Annexation Area, as modified by City Council resolution 2015-0031, is a logical extension of the City's corporate boundaries and uses streets to make the new boundaries readily identifiable. Based on testimony by Fire District 8 and the owners of property on the east end of the modified annexation area (i.e., parcel no. 34031.0459), the western edge of Freya Street also provides a readily identifiable and logical corporate boundary.
- G. The City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan policy LU 10.3, Existing Plans states, "Recognize the interests of the residents of the annexing area and, in the absence of specific policies and standards adopted by the city, honor the intent of adopted county plans and ordinances for areas proposed to be annexed."

- H. Consistent with LU 10.3, and in the context of annexation of new areas to the City, proposed amendments to the City's Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map and Zoning Map should convert the existing Spokane County Comprehensive Plan Land Use designations and zoning for the Spokane Housing Ventures Annexation area to the closest corresponding City of Spokane land use and zoning designations.
- I. The existing Spokane County Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map and Zoning Map designations are illustrated on Exhibit "B". The City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map and Zoning Map designations reflected in Exhibit "C" are consistent with the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan and particularly LU 10.3 relating to recognition of existing plans, and most closely match the land use and zoning designations currently in effect for the Spokane Housing Ventures Annexation Area in Spokane County.
- J. A State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist was completed and a Determination of Non-significance issued for the proposal on October 19, 2015. The determination was circulated to agencies with jurisdiction and parties of interest. Notice of the determination was published in the Spokesman Review on October 19, 2015.
- K. Notice of the proposal and of the Plan Commission's December 9, 2015 hearing was published in the Spokesman Review on November 25, 2015 and December 2, 2015. Adjacent jurisdictions and other interested agencies and parties were also sent email notifications of the hearing.
- L. Spokane Municipal Code (SMC) Section 17G.020.010 "Comprehensive Plan and Development Standard Amendment Process" identifies terms and conditions for Comprehensive Plan amendments and Comprehensive Plan emergency amendments, and specifically recognizes that annexations will require amendment of the Comprehensive Plan land use map outside of the annual comprehensive plan amendment cycle.

Conclusions:

- A. The Plan Commission has reviewed all public comments and testimony received during the public hearing.
- B. Based on testimony from Fire District 8 and the owner of parcel no. 34031.0459, and based on the review of maps of the proposed annexation area, the western edge of Freya Street would provide a readily identifiable and logical corporate boundary.
- C. The City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan Land Use and Zoning designations set forth in Exhibit "C" are consistent with the goals and policies of the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan, and particularly LU 10.3 relating to recognition of existing plans, and most closely match the land use and zoning designations currently in effect for the Spokane Housing Ventures Annexation Area in Spokane County
- D. All State and local public notice and participation requirements have been satisfied.

Recommendations:

By a vote of 5 to 1, and subject to the proviso set forth below, the Spokane City Plan Commission recommends that the City Council approve the Spokane Housing Ventures Annexation, as previously modified by the City Council, and that the City Council adopt the land use and zoning designations for the annexation area as are set forth in Exhibit "C" hereto, provided that parcels 34031.0459 and 34031.5201 be removed from the annexation area, and that the western edge of the Freya Street right-of-way form the eastern end of the annexation area.

By a similar vote, the Plan Commission also recommends that if the City Council is inclined to consider imposing center and corridor zoning on those western areas of the annexation area designated for community business zoning in Exhibit "C", then the City Council instead zone such property Community Business, subject to a development agreement between the City and the owner of such property imposing agreed upon design standards that shall apply to and govern development of the property.

Dennis Dellwo, President City Plan Commission late

EXHIBIT "A"

Spokane Housing Ventures Proposed Annexation Parcel Map

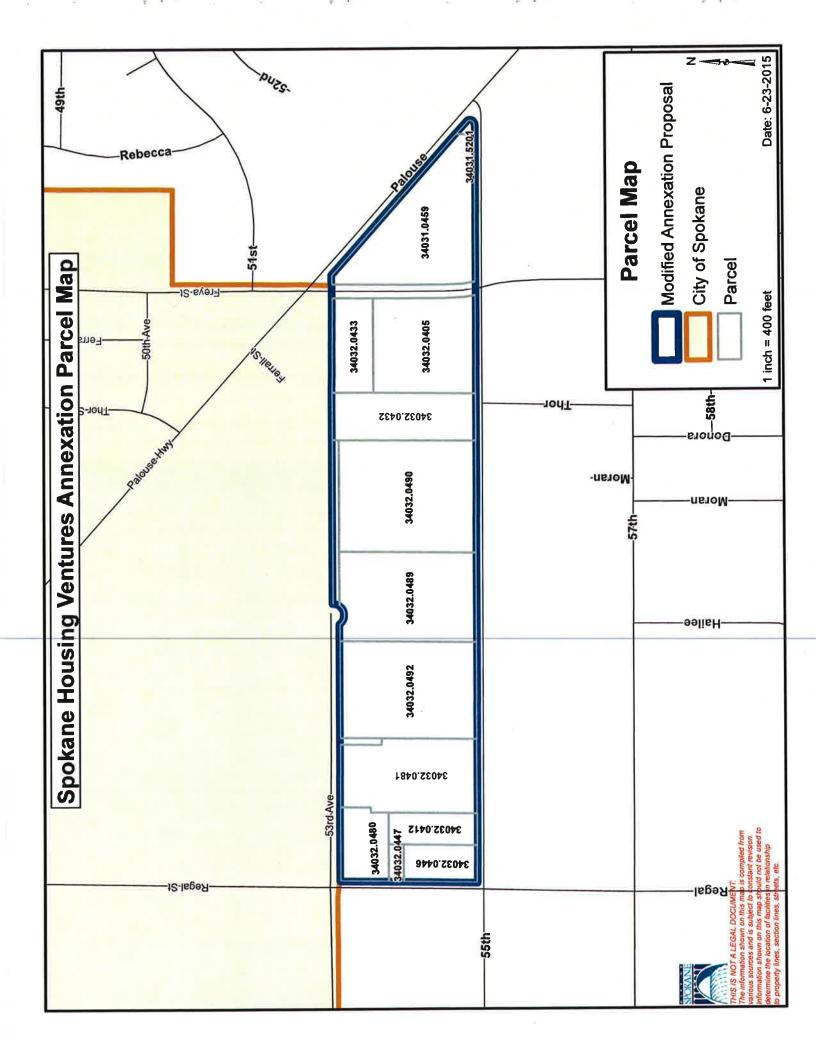
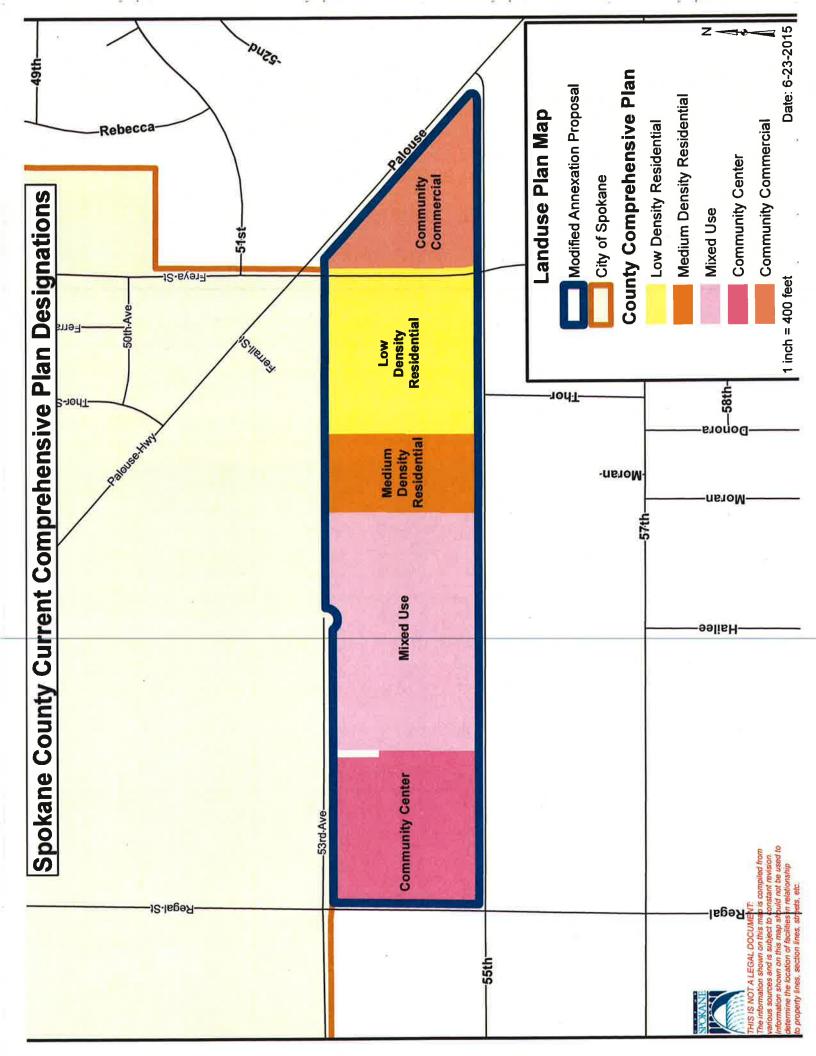


EXHIBIT "B"

Spokane Housing Ventures Proposed Annexation

Spokane County
Existing Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map and Zoning Map Designations



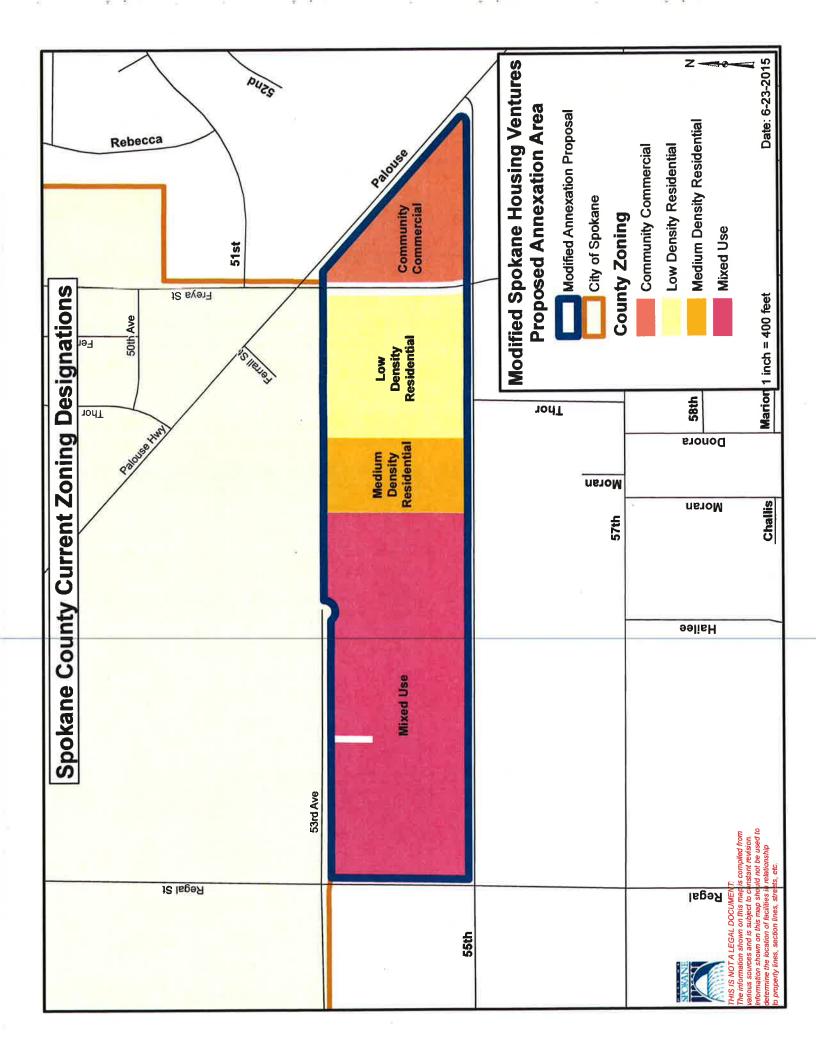


EXHIBIT "C"

Spokane Housing Ventures Proposed Annexation

City of Spokane
Proposed Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map and Zoning Map Designations

