



Dear Citizens,

As a City we've already started to adopt sustainable practices. Our efforts to save energy, reclaim treated wastewater,

conserve water, protect our aquifer, and inventory our greenhouse gas emissions are some obvious examples.

The action plan we create through my sustainability initiative will guide us along in this process, acknowledging what we're doing now and identifying what we should do next.

I hope that you will join me in this process by getting involved and lending your insight to this important issue.

The City of Spokane will learn to be a more sustainable city by building on our successes and by listening to citizens like you!

Mary Verner
Mayor, City of Spokane

If you have questions, or suggestions related to this process, please contact us!

Contact Info:

City of Spokane Sustainability Office
City Hall, 3rd Floor
808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd
Spokane, Washington USA 999201-3329
Email: GreenSpokane@spokanecity.org
URL: www.GreenSpokane.org



City of Spokane Sustainability Initiative

The City of Spokane is launching a strategic planning effort to identify and address the ways that climate change and rising energy prices will impact the City government's operations, services, programs and policies.

City of Spokane Sustainability Office
City Hall, 3rd Floor
808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.
Spokane, WA 99201

Project Summary:

The City of Spokane has embarked on a planning process to identify mitigation and adaptation strategies that will guide city government in doing our part to respond to the impacts of climate change and rising energy prices as they relate to the city operations and services, as well as internally and externally focused programs and policies.

Scope of project:

The City of Spokane Sustainability Initiative is limited to what city government can accomplish: leading by example, and helping the community to “go green”.

Project Components:

There are three main facets to this planning process. The recommendations in the strategic plan must address:

1. Energy security – moving away from reliance on oil and moving toward clean energy
2. Mitigation (of climate change) – reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and
3. Adaptation (to climate change) – preparing for the impacts of climate change.

Project Phases:

1. Discovery: Four work groups proposed hundreds of ideas to the Task Force on how City government could do our part to mitigate and adapt to climate change and rising energy prices. (5/12/08 – 9/9/08) Peer review focus groups continue through Fall, 2008.
2. Synopsis, Interim Report: On September 29, the Mayor’s Sustainability Task Force updated Mayor Verner and the City Council on work done to date.
3. Recommendations Report: On December 15, the Task Force will present its final recommendations to Mayor Verner and the City Council.
4. Final Report: The Task Force will submit a written draft of the Sustainability Strategic Action Plan to City Council and Mayor Verner by the end of February, 2009.

Get Involved!

There are many opportunities for public involvement in Spokane’s sustainability strategic planning process this year.

- Participate in a focus group
- Request a presentation to your organization
- Attend a Task Force meeting
- Post your thoughts to the Lands Council’s blog: www.sustainable Spokane.blogspot.com
- Send your comments and suggestions to our email: GreenSpokane@spokanecity.org

Outreach Partners:

The City is collaborating with business and community partners in an effort to build on the work being done by our partner organizations and to make use of the diverse resources available to these groups. The Outreach Partners group includes:

- **Greater Spokane Incorporated**
www.greaterspokane.org
- **NW Climate Change Center**
www.nw-ccc.org
- **Lands Council**
www.landscouncil.org
- **Spokane Regional Health Department**
www.srhd.org
- **YMCA**
www.ymcaspokane.org
- **Spokane County Conservation District**
www.sccd.org
- **The Faith & Environment Network**
www.faithandenvironmentnetwork.org
- **Downtown Spokane Partnership**
www.downtownspokane.net
- **Futurewise**
www.futurewise.org/spokane

This year’s strategic planning effort is building on a strong foundation of many “green” things that the City has already done, including:

1. Since 2000, the City has implemented about 130 energy efficiency measures, which will save the City about \$1.8 million in energy costs annually. For example, LED bulbs have been installed in many of the red and green stoplights throughout the city. We’ve also received about \$1.35 million in incentives from Avista Corp. for these projects.
2. Spokane signed on to the U.S. Mayor’s Climate Protection Agreement in February of 2007, committing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 7% below 1990 levels by 2012. An inventory of 2005 greenhouse gas emissions is now complete, and efforts are underway to identify mitigation strategies.
3. In February 2007, City Council passed the Quality of Life Initiative in support of city programs related to sustainability.
4. In April 2007, the City received a grant from the state Department of Ecology to retrofit 120 City diesel vehicles with pollution-control devices.
5. In February 2008, Mayor Verner issued Executive Order 08-01 requiring reduced idling of City vehicles in order to improve air quality and reduce fuel consumption.
6. The City has launched a pilot project to irrigate portions of the Downriver and Qualchan Golf Courses using “purple pipe” treated wastewater from the City’s water reclamation plant.
7. The City is currently in the middle of a \$3.5 million energy-savings project in City Hall that includes retrofitting the building’s HVAC system. The project is projected to save 10,663 therms per year of natural gas, 729,159 kWh...which equates to over \$72,294 annual energy savings.
8. The City became a member of the U.S. Green Building Council in May 2007. We are also a financial sponsor of the Spokane Homebuilders Association’s new BuiltGreen program.

Green Incentives are featured on the City’s incentives website at www.developingspokane.org.