

Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Spokane Washington

Shiloh Hills is a neighborhood on the northeastern side of Spokane, Washington, annexed into the city in stages from the late 1960s to 2008, making it one of the newer neighborhoods. Formerly part of the Nevada-Lidgerwood Neighborhood, Shiloh Hills officially separated from the Nevada-Lidgerwood neighborhood in 2016, due to its size and suburban character. Before European settlement, the area was inhabited by the Spokane Tribe. Later, the area became a key transportation corridor with wagon roads and the now iconic "Y" intersection of 395 and Highway 2 paved by 1932.

The Shiloh Hills Neighborhood is geographically bounded by Francis Avenue to the south, with city limits defining the other sides; the terrain is flat in the south but hilly in the north, descending to the Little Spokane River valley. It features a mix of residential subdivisions, including dense multifamily housing, commercial corridors along Division and Newport Highway with industrial zones to the east. The neighborhood currently boasts two public parks-- Friendship Park, known for its disc golf course and tennis courts and Hill N Dale Rotary Park.

As of 2017, the population was 15,944 in 7,448 households, with demographics showing 83.2% White, 6.6% Asian/Pacific Islander, 6.6% Latinx, 2.1% American Indian/Alaska Native, and 1.9% Black and African-American residents. The median household income is recorded at \$34,401 and 65.5% of students qualify for free/reduced lunch. The neighborhood skews both slightly younger and slightly older age demographics compared to Spokane averages citywide.

Public education access in Shiloh Hills is divided between Spokane Public Schools (District 81) and the Mead School District. Students living south of Lincoln Road attend schools in District 81, including Linwood Elementary and Shadle Park High School. Those who live north of Lincoln Road attend schools in the Mead School District, such as Shiloh Hills Elementary and Mt. Spokane High School.

Shiloh Hills' major transportation routes are U.S. Highway 2/395 (Division Street) and State Route 291 (Francis Avenue), but car drivers generally encounter a suburban street layout characterized by cul-de-sacs. Four Spokane Transit Authority bus lines provide connections to downtown Spokane and other shopping destinations for low impact riders.

Overview of Shiloh Hills Growth Plan

The Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Plan was finalized by the Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Council (SHNC) in 2025 in collaboration with the City of Spokane and serves as a "living document" guiding the neighborhood's development for the next five years. The Neighborhood Plan aligns with Spokane's Comprehensive Plan and the Washington State Growth Management Act, emphasizing sustainable, community-driven growth that balances residential expansion, commercial

vitality, and industrial uses while addressing infrastructure gaps from the area's recent annexation. The plan prioritizes walkability, affordability, safety, and environmental resilience, responding to the neighborhood's rapid population growth (nearly 20,000 residents) and current deficiencies in parks, connectivity, and services. A draft was released in May 2025, with an updated version in July 2025, incorporating resident input from online surveys and neighborhood council monthly meetings.

Growth Strategies

- **Community-Led Approach:** The Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Plan relies on resident initiatives and partnerships with the city to monitor developments via State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) reviews and ensure infrastructure keeps pace with growth.
- **Sustainability Focus:** The plan incorporates 18 climate goals adapted from Kitsap County's 2024 plan and targets emission reductions, emergency preparedness, and public health, while promoting transit-oriented development (TOD) for dense, mixed-use areas near public transit.
- **Inclusivity and Equity:** The Plan emphasizes preventing residential displacement by promoting mixed-income housing and disbursed temporary housing to meet emergent needs while advocating for increased recreational access within the neighborhood—from 0.9 to 5.8 acres per 1,000 residents.

Future Development Plans

Residential

Since two thirds of the population of Shiloh Hills Neighborhood are renters:

- **The Plan prioritizes** compact, affordable housing options such as duplex and triplex conversions, backyard cottages, and “5-over-1” buildings (affordable apartments above commercial spaces) in areas with existing infrastructure.
- **The Plan directs** new housing development to underutilized lots, prioritizing mixed-income projects to prevent displacement of current residents.
- **The Plan promotes** anti-eviction measures and job assistance programs in collaboration with local businesses.

Commercial

- **The Plan champions** new uses in "Centers and Corridors" like Nevada/Magnesium and Nevada/Lincoln intersections, favoring walkable retail for independent, locally owned businesses (e.g., bookstores, music venues) over franchised drive-throughs or corporately owned gas stations.
- **The Plan leverages** undeveloped commercial-zoned lots for mixed-use developments that enhance pedestrian activity and foster a vibrant, thriving neighborhood economy.

- **The Plan limits** light industrial zones (e.g., east of Nevada between Francis and Lyons Avenues), that respect critical environmental areas while remaining accessible to transportation and utility infrastructures.
- **The Plan permits** compatible office and commercial uses and requires conditional reviews for manufacturing and warehousing.

Infrastructure Improvements

- **Transportation and Connectivity:**

Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Plan Suggested improvements to transportation and connectivity include:

- Complete Streets design (per NACTO/FHWA guidelines) with protected bike lanes, traffic calming (speed bumps, cameras), and safe street crossings, with emphasis near schools and parks.
- Connection to the Children of the Sun Trail via Lincoln Road for pedestrians/bicyclists.
- To promote walkability and maintenance, 5-6 ft sidewalks on all roads, with enhanced lighting, signage, medians with landscaping, and winter snow removal are requested. Trip hazards and ADA compliance are also addressed in the Neighborhood Plan.

Utilities and Landscaping:

The Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Plan supports the addition of additional tree coverage via the SpoCanopy program to establish better air quality and improve storm-water drainage.

The table below illustrates requested infrastructure developments and projected outcomes.

Category	Key Improvements	Goals
Pedestrian/Bike Safety	Protected lanes, barriers, micromobility paths	Connect schools, parks, transit; reduce auto reliance
Street Design	Medians with planters, intersection lighting	Enhance aesthetics and safety per Urban Street Design Guide
Maintenance	Weed/snow removal, debris cleanup	Ensure accessibility for seniors/disabled residents

Specific Goals

The Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Plan outlines several actionable projects tied to resident surveys and the 2022 Parks Master Plan, including:

- **Parks Expansion.** The plan recommends acquiring 5-10 acres east of Nevada and north of Francis for Shiloh Hills Park. Needed amenities include playgrounds, sports courts, turf fields, pathways, restrooms, and a splash pad.
- **Existing Park Upgrades:** The Plan strongly advocates for resurfacing the tennis courts at Friendship Park, repairing water fountains and upgrading bathrooms as well as adding additional path lighting to both parks for safety.
- **Community Facilities:** The Plan suggests a brick-and-mortar center for community building activities such as communal gardens, outdoor plazas and other non-sectarian ways to gather as neighbors.
- **Safety Initiatives:** The Plan recommends extending school zones to include Spokane International Academy for student pedestrian safety, in addition to boosting police patrols, reigniting Neighborhood Watch systems, and active enforcement of leash laws via 3-1-1 reporting. Statistical benchmarking will track crime reductions annually.
- **Identity and Events:** The Plan petitions for the installation of way-finding monuments (e.g., at Division/Newport) that clearly and proudly announce the Shiloh Hills Neighborhood.

The table below illustrates communal spaces projects and pathways to completion.

Project	Timeline/Phase	Funding/Partners
Shiloh Hills Park	Acquisition now; design/construction 2026+	2025 Park Levy, City Parks Dept.
Trail Connection (Lincoln Rd.)	Short-term planning	City/County collaboration, STA
Community Center	Medium-term (5 years)	ONS grants, resident volunteers
Street Trees/Greenways	Ongoing	SpoCanopy, Urban Forest Program

In summary, the Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Plan—shaped by curious, engaged residents—envisioned balanced growth that transforms suburban sprawl into connected, dynamic spaces while addressing equity gaps. Stay involved by attending monthly SHNC meetings or emailing ShilohHillsNC@outlook.com to join the newsletter and receive neighborhood updates.