Chapter 13 - Leadership, Governance, and Citizenship

Purpose
The purpose of the chapter is to:
• Provide a framework to promote and improve the operation and public interaction of government in the City.
• Establish best practices and procedures for use by the City when conducting operations or planning processes.
• Foster greater youth participation in local government.

What values guided the Leadership, Governance, and Citizenship chapter?
The values that are important to Spokane’s future, as identified by the Citizens during preparation of the original Comprehensive Plan remain. Those include:
• Respecting the needs of the city and surrounding community.
• Ensuring high quality of life for future generations.
• Encouraging the strong, visionary, decisive, and dedicated leadership of elected officials.
• Encouraging leadership that listens and responds to people.
• Ensuring a government that is responsive to the financial limitations of the community and controls spending appropriately.
• Guaranteeing that cost and benefits are distributed equitably among those receiving city services and amenities.

What’s New?
• Staff undertook a review of the chapter, limiting changes to streamlining and removal of redundant language or policies.
• Goal 6, concerning government coordination, and its three policies were removed along with its three policies, as the goal and policies were all redundant with chapter 5 as well as the Countywide Planning Policies.
• Four policies were removed because they were redundant with other policies or chapters in the Comprehensive Plan.

What are the goals of the Leadership, Governance, and Citizenship chapter?

LGC 1 Decision Process
Make substantive planning decisions through an open public process in which the outcome of that process is expressed in the decision of elected officials.

LGC 2 Citizen-Directed Decisions
Encourage citizens to become engaged in public process opportunities.

LGC 3 Planning Through Neighborhood Councils
Utilize the neighborhood councils and the Community Assembly as a way for the public to participate in planning activities and bring proposals through the City Plan Commission to the City Council.

LGC 4 Citizen and Government Communication
Maintain open two-way communication between the city and its citizens through a variety of avenues.

LGC 5 Youth Citizenship
Value youth citizenship as the foundation of the community’s future and ensure that young citizens are informed about the community, invited into community-building processes, and given the opportunity to contribute their insights and diversity into community dialogue.

LGC 6 Responsive City Government
Increase public confidence in the city’s responsiveness to the pursuit of community values through the day-to-day administration of land use and development codes.