



Chapter 8 - Urban Design and Historic Preservation

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Purpose

The purpose of the Urban Design and Historic Preservation Chapter is to:

- Establish guidelines for design of new construction that enhances and improves Spokane identity and visual character.
- Provide a framework wherein good design leads to improvements in the quality of life for the City's residents and visitors.
- Give guidance and a set of requirements for the preservation and protection of the City's unique historic resources.

What values guided the Urban Design and Historic Preservation chapter?

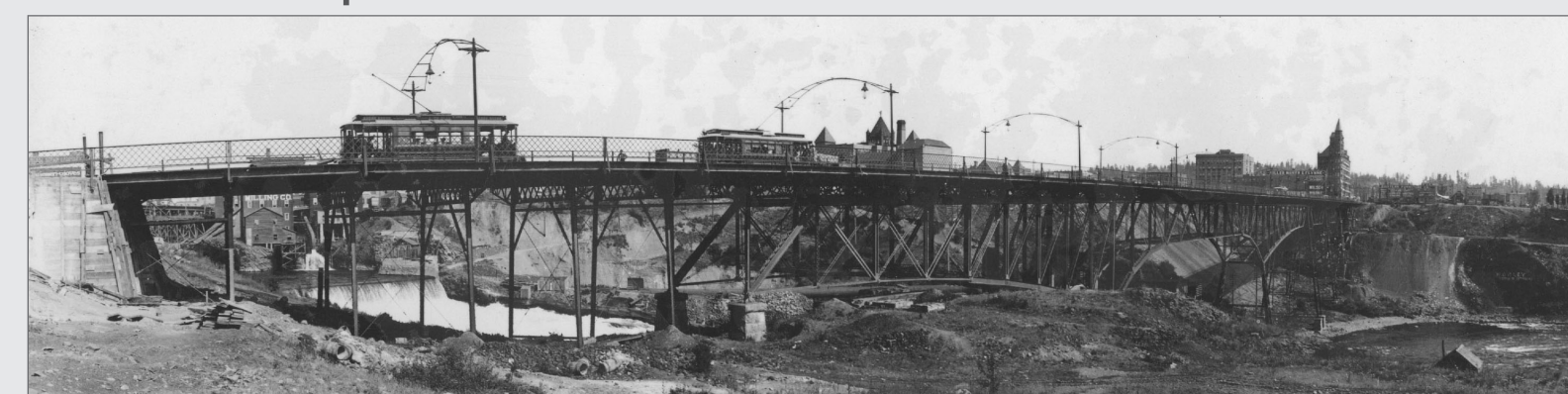
The values that are important to Spokane's future, as identified by the Citizens during preparation of the original Comprehensive Plan remain. Those include:

- Maintaining Spokane's "comfortable feel," size, neighborhoods, and friendliness.
- Maintaining the downtown area as the center of the region in order to ensure the city's economic and cultural health.
- Having downtown Spokane be distinctive and urban by using its architectural heritage and splendor.
- Maintaining the natural beauty that makes Spokane distinctive, including the parks, waterways, tree-lined streets, and green areas.
- Preserving the historic buildings, historic fabric, and cultural heritage that provide Spokane with its character.
- Ensuring that new buildings in historic areas complement their surroundings.
- Developing Spokane to be an attractive, clean city in which people take pride.
- Supporting neighborhoods and their associated business districts.



What's New?

- The entire chapter was reviewed by a Policy Focus Group, who provided a series of minor changes to improve readability, eliminate redundancies, and update the discussion to match the current efforts and topics related to urban design and historic preservation.
- The chapter was streamlined overall, with several policies removed that were already included in other chapters, such as Land Use (Chapter 3) and Housing (Chapter 6).
- Many of the policies were moved around in the chapter in order to place related and codependent policies next to each other, under common goals.
- Several policies were added by the Policy Focus Group in coordination with Historic Preservation Department staff at the City. In some cases, the Policy Focus Group combined two or more policies into one.



What are the goals of the Urban Design and Historic Preservation chapter?

DP 1 Pride and Identity

Enhance and improve Spokane's visual identity and community pride.

DP 2 Urban Design

Design new construction to support desirable behaviors and create a positive perception of Spokane.

DP 3 Preservation

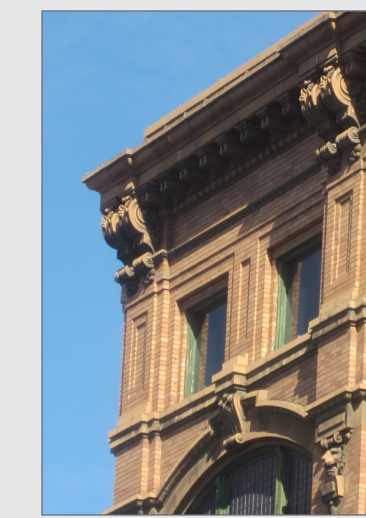
Preserve and protect Spokane's historic districts, sites, structures, and objects.

DP 4 Downtown Center Viability

Create a vital, livable downtown by maintaining it as the region's economic and cultural center and preserving and reinforcing its historic and distinctly urban character.

DP 5 Local Determination

Make neighborhoods attractive, safe places by encouraging residents to express their design and development values.



New Policies Added to the Chapter:

DP 2.1 Definition of Historic Preservation

Recognize current research that defines urban design and identifies elements of a well designed urban environment.

DP 2.5 Character of the Public Realm

Enhance the livability of Spokane by preserving the city's historic character and building a legacy of quality new public and private development that further enriches the public realm.

DP 3.3 Identification and Protection of Resources

Identify historic resources to guide decision making in planning.

DP 3.9 Redevelopment Incentives

Provide incentives to property owners to encourage historic preservation.

DP 5.1 Neighborhood Participation

Encourage resident participation in planning and development processes that will shape or re-shape the physical character of their neighborhood.

Policy Focus Group

The Urban Design and Historic Preservation chapter was one of several chapters that was reviewed by a Policy Focus Group of local residents, agency representatives, and City representatives. Each Focus Group reviewed the entire chapter and provided suggested edits, additions, and deletions - giving overall guidance to the update of the Comprehensive Plan. The Policy Focus Group for Chapter 8 included the following members:

Member Name	Affiliation
Christopher Batten	Design Review Board
Teresa Brum	Historic Preservation Consulting
Rod Butler	Plan Commission Liaison
Kristen Griffin	Historic Preservation Officer
Nathan Gwinn	City of Spokane Planning
Jim Kolva	Landmarks Commission

Member Name	Affiliation
Steven Meek	Design Review Board
Joanne Moyer	Spokane Preservation Advocates
Julie Neff	City of Spokane Planning
Caitlin Shain	City/County Preservation Office
Jo Anne Wright	City of Spokane Planning

