



Spokane County

WASHINGTON

AGENDA PACKET

STEERING COMMITTEE OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

January 24, 2024

Water Resource Center, 1004 North Freya Street, 9:00 AM

ATTACHMENTS: (Click the following links for review)

Agenda

Legal Notice

Minutes (DRAFT - October 18, 2023)

PTAC Proposal – 2026-2046 Spokane County Population Projection

- SEPA Checklist
- DNS

PTAC Proposal – Tribal Participation

Public Zoom Webinar Information

The meeting will be conducted in person and remotely utilizing web and telephone conference tools. To access meeting remotely please input the link below into your web browser:

Webinar Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84251346645?pwd=KzB2DxRdgAH9flEoppwtoZ6lbDWqc3.1>

Telephone: 1-253-215-8782 (toll free)

- Meeting ID: 842 5134 6645
- Pass Code: 371799



BUILDING & PLANNING DEPARTMENT
SCOTT CHESNEY, AICP, PLANNING DIRECTOR

DATE: January 17, 2024
TO: Steering Committee of Elected Officials
FROM: Scott Chesney
REGARDING: January 24, 2024 - Agenda

Call to Order 9:00 am
Minutes Review and approval: October 18, 2023
Public Hearing *Recommendation to BoCC Requested*
2026-2046 Spokane County Population Projection
Workshop
Tribal Participation
Land Capacity Analysis
Population Allocations to towns and cities
Public Comment

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SPOKANE COUNTY GROWTH MANAGEMENT
STEERING COMMITTEE OF ELECTED OFFICIALS (SCEO)**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Spokane County Department of Building & Planning, pursuant to Chapter 36.70A RCW, that a public meeting of the Spokane County Growth Management Steering Committee of Elected Officials will be held on Wednesday, January 24th, 2024, at the Spokane County Water Resource Center, 1004 North Freya Street, Spokane Washington, and will begin at 9:00 A.M. Participants can also attend the hearing by Zoom.

Public Hearing: The Spokane County Steering Committee of Elected Officials (SCEO) will conduct a public hearing to take public testimony, consider, and recommend to the Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County, the adoption of the countywide population projection for Spokane County for the planning period of 2026-2046. The Planning Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) has recommended adoption of the medium 2046 population projection from the most recent (2022) Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) population projection numbers. The 2022 OFM population projection for Spokane County in 2046 is a population of 654,665. The population projection will be used to assess and modify the Spokane County Urban Growth Area as part of the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Update. The SCEO is not bound by the PTAC's recommendation and may recommend a different population projection between the low and high population projection numbers issued by OFM.

The Spokane County Department of Building and Planning issued a Determination of Nonsignificance for this proposal on January 9, 2024, with a comment period ending on January 23, 2024, and an appeal period ending at 4:00 PM on January 31, 2024. Contact the Department for the appeal procedures. Documents for this Public Hearing and a link to submit written comment, are available at <https://www.spokanecounty.org/3473/Steering-Committee-News>

To ensure everyone attending has an opportunity to speak, testimony may be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Virtual Chat is not supported. The Steering Committee reserves the right to adjust the time frame allotted to speakers during the public hearing.

Workshop:

The Spokane County Steering Committee of Elected Officials will discuss the topics of tribal participation on the Steering Committee, the Land Capacity Analysis, and population allocations among Spokane County cities and towns.

The meeting will be in person and available remotely, utilizing web and telephone conference tools. To access the public hearing remotely, please input the link below into your web browser:

Webinar Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84251346645?pwd=KzB2DxRdgAH9flEoppwtoZ6lbDWqc3.1>

Telephone: 1-253-215-8782 (toll-free)

- Meeting ID: 842 5134 6645
- Pass Code: 371799

Questions or assistance with remote connection or telephone conference prior to the hearing should be forwarded to Elya Miroshin, Planning Commission Clerk (509) 477-7139. Individuals planning to attend the meeting in person who require special assistance to accommodate physical, hearing, or other impairments, please get in touch with the Planning Commission Clerk as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Information on the agenda items above is available at the Spokane County Department of Building and Planning website at <https://www.spokanecounty.org/3473/Steering-Committee-News>. Requests for information should be directed to Elya Miroshin, Spokane County Department of Building and Planning, 1026 West Broadway Ave., 1st Floor., Spokane, WA. 99260 Phone: 509-477-1500.

DATED THIS 9th DAY OF JANUARY 2024
SPOKANE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND PLANNING



**SPOKANE COUNTY STEERING COMMITTEE OF ELECTED OFFICIALS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
October 18, 2023**

Steering Committee of Elected Officials Voting Members Present	Steering Committee of Elected Officials Non-Voting Members Present	Spokane County Staff Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Chair, Mayor Kevin Freeman, City of Millwood -Vice Chair, Commissioner Al French, Spokane County -Council Member Rod Higgins, City of Spokane Valley -Council Member Michael Cathcart, City of Spokane -Council Member Karen Stratton, City of Spokane -Council Member Helen (Dee) Cragun, City of Deer Park -Commissioner Josh Kerns, Spokane County -Commissioner Amber Waldref, Spokane County -Council Member Arne Woodard, City of Spokane Valley 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Joel White, Spokane Homebuilders Association, Citizen-at-Large -Ned Wendle, Representing School Districts -John Guarisco for Patrick Burch, Representing Fire Districts -Tim Murrell, Representing Water Districts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Saegen Neiman, Planner -Robert Brock, AICP, Planner -Laurie Carver, Data Systems Analyst -Elya Miroshin, Clerk -Scott Chesney, AICP, Director of Planning

CALL TO ORDER

The October 18, 2023, meeting of the Steering Committee of Elected Officials, was called to order by Chair Mayor Kevin Freeman at 9:01 A.M. A quorum was present.

The meeting was accessible to the public at the CenterPlace Regional Event Center, Room 205, Second Floor, located at 2426 N. Discovery Place, Spokane Valley, WA, and via Zoom with web and telephone links provided in the Spokesman Review on October 3, 2023.

MOTION

Chair Mayor Kevin Freeman entertained a motion to adopt the July 19, 2023, minutes. So moved by Council Member Higgins; seconded by Commissioner Waldref. No discussion. The motion carries unanimously.

SPOKANE COUNTY LAND CAPACITY ANALYSIS

Mr. Freibott, Senior Planner for the City of Spokane, presented the SCEO with an overview of a final proposed recommendation from the PTAC regarding the Land Capacity Analysis Methodology with a request to consider recommending the proposal to the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) for approval. The updated methodology would be an appendix to the Countywide Planning Policies.

Regarding the change of the ordinance in the City of Spokane, with an assumption for an allowed increase in infill development, Commissioner French questioned how this would be treated in terms of the Capacity Analysis considering this being a proposal. Mr. Freibott answered that the guidance in the methodology allows for each jurisdiction to make a set of assumptions on what they expect future development to be which can be achieved using historic data. Mr. Chesney added that the projections set forth by each city will have to be defended to the SCEO and look critically at their past development patterns.

Council member Cathcart asked how the \$5,000 improvement value number got landed on suggesting it seems low. Mr. Freibott answered that the partial amount came from discussions and reviewing data with the County Assessor's Office, reminding the members that this is not a hard and fast limit. Mr. Chesney also clarified that this number is not a benchmark determination but more so a filter.

Commissioner French questioned if deed restrictions will be considered in the Capacity Analysis, and where will they do/don't apply. Mr. Freibott answered that within the City of Spokane, most deed restrictions tend to be in the same places as planned unit developments (PUDs), then overrides any discussion of vacancy or underutilization.

Scott Kuhta, Senior Planner from the Department of Commerce, pointed out that we need to think of this as a regional growth policy stating that the Growth Management Act (GMA) now requires a 5-year check-in which will then be able to provide more insight on how things are /aren't working providing an opportunity for adjustments.

Commissioner Kerns asked how the 50% higher market factor for areas outside the Urban Growth Area (UGA) was decided upon. Mr. Freibott answered that by nature, it's an estimate and is taken out after all the other considerations have been made. Mr. Chesney reminded all that the proposed percentage is still looked at as a filter and serves as a benchmark to start investigating.

Chair Mayor Freeman opened the Spokane County Land Capacity Analysis Public Hearing at 9:29 A.M.

COMMENTS

Paul Kropp, a member of the public, complimented the PTAC and County staff for this update. Mr. Kropp suggested a new title for this proposal to be "Spokane County Land Capacity Methodology for Population Growth".

Chair Mayor Freeman closed the Spokane County Land Capacity Public Hearing at 9:31 A.M.

MOTION

Chair Mayor Freeman made a motion to recommend the proposed Land Capacity Analysis Methodology to the BoCC as presented. So moved by Mr. Woodard; seconded by Commissioner Waldref. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

SPOKANE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT FILE NO. CPA-17-23

Mr. Chesney presented an overview of the Five Mile Prairie, Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA-17-23. An anomaly as a presumed expired plat but found to be a legal and vested plat by the Spokane County Hearing Examiner, now outside of the UGA with platted urban densities. Inclusion into the UGA is a correction to become compliant with the Growth Management Act (GMA). Study areas for correction are in accordance with previous GMA population and acreage allocations from the Board of County Commissioners Resolution number 2016-0464.

Reallocating population forecasts from parcels with no residential development potential keeps the UGA population allocation. Similarly transitioning Memorial Gardens acreage out of the UGA allows for a net reduction in UGA lands for this correction.

Council member Stratton questioned if the City and the County have come together to discuss problems the City's letter contained to the County on behalf of this matter. Mr. Chesney confirmed that a follow-up meeting was pending between him and Spencer Gardner. Tirrell Black came to the podium and read the full comment letter from the City that was written to the Spokane County Planning Commission members on October 10, 2023.

Commissioner Waldref would like to see some responses to the comments made by Futurewise and the City of Spokane to be able to better understand before being comfortable taking a position.

MOTION

Council member Cathcart moved to defer consideration of the Spokane County Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA-17-23 until November 8, 2023; seconded by council member Stratton. Discussion ensued on facts of letter deliverance and time management in response to the City not having enough time for comment.

Council member Cathcart stated that the City's planning department is currently understaffed to do this analysis and provide better feedback in a timelier manner.

Council member Woodard posed the question if this were to get deferred, would 3-4 weeks be enough time.

Council member Stratton asked the present staff from the City of Spokane if this deferral would give enough time for discussion to make a decision. Ms. Black answered that she is not sure that the City would change their comments given more time, and that the property owners of the cemetery have not yet been contacted.

Saegen Neiman, Spokane County planner, commented that the parcels identified to be pulled out of the UGA do not have pipes in the ground that are served by the City of Spokane. It is in their service area boundary, but no physical pipes are present in the ground running to the City's sewer and water system. If future sewer is needed, the County's Critical Areas Ordinance would regulate the sewage disposal.

All in favor – Council member Stratton, Commissioner Waldref, Council member Cathcart, and Council member Cragun.

All opposed – Commissioner French, Commissioner Kerns, Council member Higgins, Council member Woodard, and Chair Mayor Freeman.

Motion to defer consideration of the Spokane County Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA-17-23 until November 8, 2023, fails with a vote of 4-5.

Chair Mayor Freeman opened the Spokane County Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA-17-23 Public Hearing at 10:13 A.M.

No Comments.

Chair Mayor Freeman closed the Spokane County Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA-17-23 Public Hearing at 10:14 A.M.

MOTION

Chair Mayor Freeman entertained a motion to recommend the Spokane County Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA-17-23 to the BoCC. So moved by Council member Woodard; seconded by Council member Higgins. Discussion ensued with comments of no support for the motion from Council member Cathcart and Commissioner Waldref stating that more time is needed for review.

All in favor - Commissioner French, Commissioner Kerns, Council member Higgins, Council member Woodard, Chair Mayor Freeman, and Council member Cragun.

All opposed - Council member Stratton, Commissioner Waldref, and Council member Cathcart.

Motion to recommend the Spokane County Comprehensive Plan Amendment CPA-17-23 to the BoCC passes with a vote of 6-3.

COORDINATED WATER SYSTEM PLAN

Mr. Chesney proposed an update to the Coordinated Water System Plan document as part of the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Update. This will not recommend changes in service areas. Mr. Chesney proposes that some share of the 2026 funding (approximately 5%) is set aside to help engage consultants to update the technical details. A consensus to pursue was reached.

GMA CLIMATE & RESILIENCY ELEMENT & SPOKANE COUNTY/CITY PARTNERSHIPS

A suggestion had been made that the County and smaller cities partner in this element producing letters of support for submission. This would help share scopes of work by hiring common subject matter experts to prevent dueling consultants. Commissioner Waldref questioned funding allocations for larger cities. Mr. Kuhta confirmed that each city and county was allocated a certain amount to spend on this work and unused funding will roll over into the next year. A consensus of support was reached.

SPOKANE COUNTY OFM (OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT) PROJECTIONS – PTAC RECOMMENDATION

Chaz Bates, planning manager for the City of Spokane Valley, discussed factors of PTAC’s recommendation to the SCEO to recommend to the BoCC adoption of the OFM’s medium population projection for the 20-year GMA planning period ending in 2046.

TRIBAL PARTICIPATION

In recent legislation, counties and organizations are required to offer participation to the tribes, with no formal connection yet at the SCEO level. It will be up to the SCEO members to decide if this will preclude a single or shared seat for each of the Spokane and Kalispell Tribes as well as deciding whether they will be voting or exofacial members. This topic will come as an action item before the SCEO in January. Council member Stratton offered her help with contacts and coordination. Commissioner Waldref requested the most recent RCW regarding tribal participation.

2024 LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Per the last legislative session between Spokane County and King County, an effort is being continued to define and clarify what is a Capital Facility that relates to growth and development.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Mayor Freeman opened the public comment. Mr. Kuhta congratulated the County for adopting the Capital Facilities Plan that was enthusiastically supported by Commerce, Futurewise and the public. Public comment was closed.

Chair Mayor Freeman adjourned the meeting at 10:53 A.M.

Spokane County Steering Committee of Elected Officials, Chair Mayor Freeman Date

Scott Chesney, AICP, Planning Director _____

Elya Miroshin, SCEO Clerk, Spokane County Building & Planning

Date: September 13, 2023
To: Steering Committee of Elected Officials
From: Planning Technical Advisory Committee
Subject: Office of Financial Management – Population Projections

Development of population projections for the Growth Management Act (GMA) is a shared responsibility. As directed by statute, the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) prepares a range of population growth for Washington counties taking part in GMA. County officials are responsible for selecting a 20-year GMA planning target from within the range of high and low prepared by OFM. Under an interlocal agreement, the Steering Committee of Elected Officials (SCEO) is tasked with providing a recommendation on the population planning target to the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC). Once a GMA population target for the county is selected, the county along with its cities are then tasked with developing population planning targets for each city, town, and unincorporated areas.

OFM provides population projections at the countywide level to all counties planning under the Growth Management Act every five years. The latest OFM projection is from 2022, meaning that the next population projection will not be available until 2027, one year after periodic updates are due. Table 1 below provides OFM's low, medium, and high projections for Spokane County (for reference, the 2022 County population was 542,100).

Table 1: 2046 OFM Population Projection for Spokane County

	Low	Medium	High
2046 Population Projection	575,281	654,665	770,248

The PTAC has reviewed the projections from OFM and recommends that the SCEO recommend to the BoCC adoption of OFM's medium population projection for the 20-year GMA planning period ending in 2046. The PTAC makes this recommendation based on four main factors.

1. In 2017 the county adopted OFM's medium projection. While the region saw growth above the medium projection since 2017, OFM now has the advantage of being nearer to the Decennial Census for 2020 which provides more recent data to aid in their forecast. As part of the Census, and in consideration of the growth experienced since the last forecast was made, OFM made substantial adjustments to its population projections for our region. The adjustment moves the old medium to account for the region's more robust population growth, then uses this new number as part of the calculus for projected growth (see Figure 1).
2. Recent changes to the GMA require Spokane County and cities with a population over 6,000 to provide the Washington State Department of Commerce with an implementation progress report detailing the progress achieved in implementing their comprehensive plan, including housing targets. These progress reports are due five years after the periodic update. This means the county and the larger cities will be able to track population trends and respond to those changes more frequently than in previous years.
3. The financing and planning for capital facilities is not only critical to orderly development and urban growth area planning, but is required by the GMA. If communities adopt too low of a population projection, growth can exceed the planned capacity of facilities and services. On the other hand, adopting too high of a population projection may lead to planning and financing capital facilities that are not needed, or if facilities and financing is unavailable a requirement to adjust land use elements and/or urban growth areas to ensure funding matches projected needs.

4. In 2021, the Washington Legislature changed the way communities plan for housing. House Bill 1220 amended the GMA to instruct local governments to “plan for and accommodate” housing affordable to all income levels. This means comprehensive plans and zoning regulations must accommodate housing for all income segments including moderate, low, very low and extremely low incomes, as well as emergency housing and permanent supportive housing. Like capital facilities, planning for too low or a too high population can place burdens at the local level in meeting this new requirement to “plan for and accommodate” all income segments.

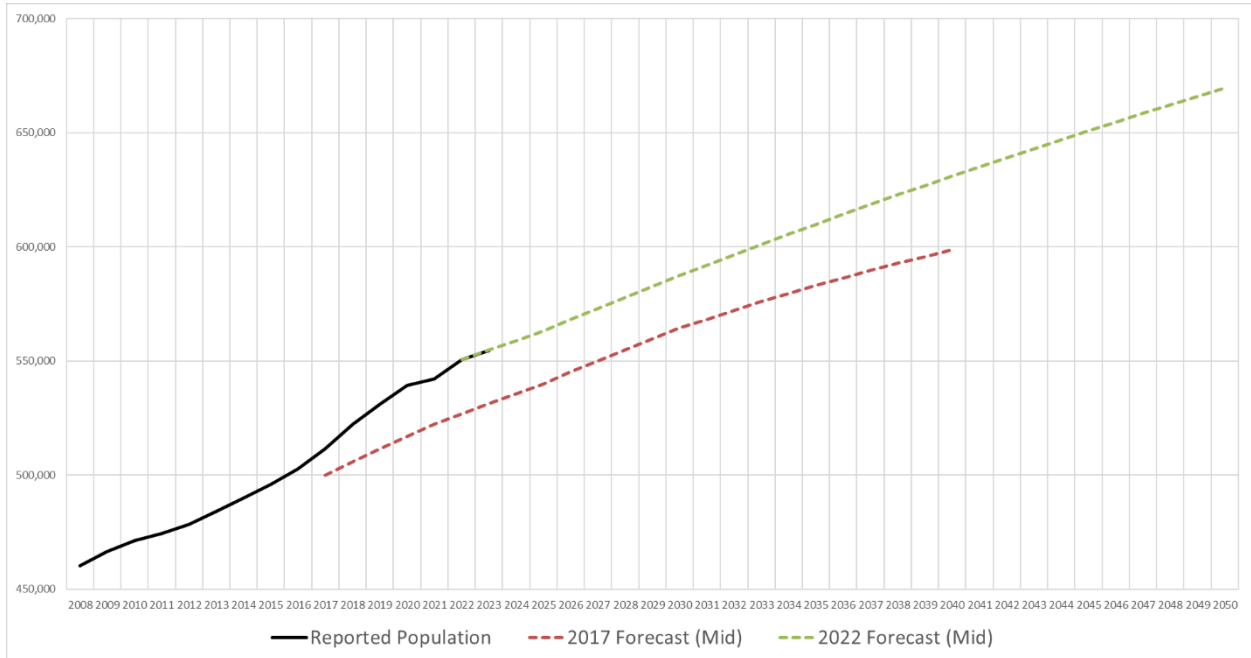


Figure 1: Comparison between OFM’s 2017 and 2022 Medium Population Projection for Spokane County

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Spokane County 2046
Population Target

SPOKANE ENVIRONMENTAL ORDINANCE SECTION 11.10.230

Updated March 2023

SPOKANE ENVIRONMENTAL ORDINANCE

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

WAC 197-11-11-960 AND SECTION 11.10.230

Purpose of checklist

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization, or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. **You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown.** You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional study reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process, as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to **all parts of your proposal**, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal, and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B, plus the Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions (Part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Spokane County Population Target for 2046

2. Name of applicant:

Spokane County

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

1026 W. Broadway Ave, Spokane, WA 99250

4. Date checklist prepared:

1-8-24

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Spokane County Building and Planning Department

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

The estimated BOC adoption date is February 6, 2024

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

Non-project action

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

None as it is a non-project action

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

None as it is a non-project action

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

None as it is a non-project action



None as it is a non-project action

- iii. What protective measure will be taken to insure that leaks or spills of any chemicals stored or used on site will not be allowed to percolate to groundwater. This includes measures to keep chemicals out of disposal systems.

None as it is a non-project action

- iv. Will any chemicals be stored, handled, or used on the site in a location where a spill or leak will drain to surface, groundwater, or to a stormwater disposal system discharging to surface or groundwater?

None as it is a non-project action

b. Stormwater

- i. What are the depths on the site to groundwater and to bedrock (if known)?

None as it is a non-project action

- ii. Will stormwater be discharged into the ground? If so, describe any potential impacts.

~~Will stormwater be discharged into the ground? If so, describe any potential impacts.~~ **No.**

B. Environmental Elements

Evaluation for Agency Use Only

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site:

No site is involved as it is a non-project action

Circle or highlight one: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

Not applicable

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

Not applicable

Evaluation for Agency Use Only

- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them, and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Not applicable

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

TA

Not applicable

- e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Not applicable

- f. Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Not applicable

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

Not applicable

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any.

NOT Applicable.

A handwritten vertical line with a horizontal bar at the top and a horizontal bar at the bottom. The letters 'TA' are written in a stylized, cursive font at the bottom of the line.

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e. dust, automobiles, odors, industrial, wood smoke) during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

This is a non-project action

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

This is a non-project action

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any.

This is a non-project action

3. Water

a. Surface Water:

1. Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, or wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

This is a non-project action

2. Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent (within 200 feet) to the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

This is a non-project action

3. Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

This is a non-project action

4. Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

This is a non-project action

5. Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the

Evaluation for
Agency Use
Only



TA

Evaluation for
Agency Use
Only

site plan.

Not applicable, this is a non-project action

6. Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

This is a non-project action

b. Ground Water:

1. Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

This is a non-project action

2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

This is a non-project action

c. Water Runoff

- a) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

This is a non-project action

- b) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

This is a non-project action

- c) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

This is a non-project action

- d) Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any.

Evaluation for
Agency Use
Only

TA

4. Plants

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Not applicable

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Not applicable

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any.

Not applicable

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

Not applicable

5. Animals

a. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Not applicable because this is a non-project action that is not site-specific

Examples include:

- Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
- Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
- Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

b. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

TA

Evaluation for
Agency Use
Only

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

c. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.

This is a non-project action

d. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

This is a non-project action

6. Energy and Natural Resources

1. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

This is a non-project action

2. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

This is a non-project action

3. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.

This is a non-project action

7. Environmental Health

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur because of this proposal? If so, describe.

This is a non-project action

1. Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

This is a non-project action

2. Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

This is a non-project action

3. Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

This is a non-project action

Evaluation for
Agency Use
Only

TA

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

This is a non-project action

5. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.

This is a non-project action

b. Noise

1. What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

This is a non-project action

2. What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site)?

This is a non-project action

3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any.

This is a non-project action

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

This is a non-project action that is not site-specific

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses because of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

This is a non-project action

1. Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?

This is a non-project action

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Evaluation for
Agency Use
Only

TA

This is a non-project action

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

This is a non-project action

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

This is a non-project action

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

This is a non-project action

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

This is a non-project action

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

This is a non-project action

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

This is a non-project action

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

This is a non-project action

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.

This is a non-project action

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any.

None, because this is a non-project action

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any.

None, because this is a non-project action

9. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Evaluation for
Agency Use
Only

TJA

None, because this is a non-project action

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None, because this is a non-project action

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any.

None, because this is a non-project action

10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

None, because this is a non-project action

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any.

None, because this is a non-project action

11. Light and Glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

None, because this is a non-project action

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

None, because this is a non-project action

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None, because this is a non-project action

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any.

None, because this is a non-project action

TA

Evaluation for Agency Use Only

12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

None, because this is a non-project action

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

None, because this is a non-project action

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any.
None, because this is a non-project action

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

Not applicable

- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

None, because this is a non-project action

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

None, because this is a non-project action

TA

Evaluation for
Agency Use
Only

14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

None

d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No

e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

Note: to assist in review and if known, indicate vehicle trips during PM peak, AM peak, and Weekday (24 hours.)

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any.

None

15. Public Services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No, because this is a non-project action

Evaluation for
Agency Use
Only

TA

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None

16. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other:

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

Not applicable because this is a non-project action

Handwritten vertical line with 'JA' at the bottom.

C. Signature

I, the undersigned, swear under penalty of perjury that the above responses are made truthfully and to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that should there be any willful misrepresentation of willful lack of full disclosure on my part, the agency must withdraw any determination of Nonsignificance that it might issue in reliance upon this checklist.

Date: 1-08-24 Signature: Robert W. Brook

Please print or Type:

Proponent: Spokane County Building and Planinning Dept.
Address: 1026 W. Broadway Ave., Spokane, WA 99260

Phone: 509-477-1500

Person completing form (if different from proponent): _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____

FOR STAFF USE ONLY

Staff member(s) reviewing checklist: Tate D. Andre

Based on this staff review of the environmental checklist and other pertinent information, the staff concludes that:

A. There is no probable significant adverse impacts and recommends a Determination of Nonsignificance.

B. Probable significant adverse environmental impacts do exist for the current proposal and recommends a Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance with conditions.

C. There are probable significant adverse environmental impacts and recommends a Determination of Significance.

D. Supplemental Sheet for Non-project Actions

IT IS NOT REQUIRED to use this section for project actions.

Evaluation for
Agency Use
Only

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

This is a proposed county-wide population growth target for 2046 to be used for planning purposes. The population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate discharges and emissions in the future.

- Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

None at this stage of the planning effort

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?
The population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate the effects of development on plants and animals

- Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

None at this stage of the planning effort

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?
The population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate the effects of development on energy and natural resources.

- Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

None at this stage of the planning effort

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection, such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?



The population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate the effects of development on environmentally sensitive areas.

- Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

None at this stage of the planning effort

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

The population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate the effects of development on shorelines

- Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

None at this stage of the planning effort

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

The proposal itself would not increase demand, but the population target allows jurisdictions to better plan to mitigate the effects of development on transportation, public services, and utilities.

- Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

None at this stage of the planning effort

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

It is not believed that adopting a county-wide population target will conflict with any laws. It is believed that it is a step toward the County's compliance with State GMA statutes and the required 2026 periodic update of the County's Comprehensive Plan.

TA

(WAC 197-11) (SCC Title 11)

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Description of proposal: Adoption of a 2046 County-wide population target for comprehensive planning purposes in association with the GMA-required 2026 Comprehensive Plan periodic update.

Proponent: Spokane County

Location of proposal: Countywide.

Lead Agency: Spokane County Department of Building and Planning

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it is unlikely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21.030(2)(c). This decision was made after a review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public upon request.

Background: Spokane County, in conjunction with its cities and towns, is proposing to adopt a 2046 population target for comprehensive planning purposes.

[x] This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for at least 14 days.
Comments must be submitted in writing to Robert Brock, AICP, Spokane County Planning Department, 1026 W. Broadway Ave., Spokane, WA 99260, rwbrock@spokanecounty.org, no later than January 23, 2024.
The appeal period ends on January 31, 2024.

Responsible official:
Scott Chesney, AICP, Planning Director, Spokane County Department of Building and Planning

Contact:
Robert Brock, AICP, Planner
Phone: (509) 477-7223
1026 W. Broadway Ave. Spokane, WA. 99260

Date issued January 9, 2024 Signature *Scott R. Chesney*

You may appeal this determination to the Spokane County Hearing Examiner at the Department of Building and Planning, 1026 W. Broadway Ave. Spokane, WA. 99260, no later than **4:00 p.m. on January 31, 2024**, by completing and signing the appeal form and remitting the appropriate appeal fee.

You should be prepared to make specific factual objections.

Contact:
Robert Brock, AICP to read or ask about the procedures for SEPA appeals.

This DNS was sent to:

Washington State Department of Ecology
Washington State Department of Ecology; SEPA
REGISTRY
Washington State Department of Commerce
Washington State Department of Transportation
Washington State Department of Transportation,
Aviation
City of Spokane
City of Spokane Valley
City of Liberty Lake
City of Millwood
City of Cheney
City of Airway Heights
City of Medical Lake
Small Towns:
City of Rockford
City of Spangle
City of Waverly
City of Latah
City of Fairfield
Central Valley School District
Cheney School District
Deer Park School District
East Valley School District
Educational Services District
Freeman School District
Great Northern School District
Liberty School District
Mead School District
Medical Lake School District
Mount St. Michaels Academy
Newport School District
Nine Mile School District
Orchard Prairie School District
Riverside School District
Rosalia School District
Spokane Schools
St Georges Schools
St John School District
Upper Columbia Academy
West Valley School District
Carnhope Irrigation District #7
Clear Lake Water Users Association
Consolidated Irrigation District #19
East Spokane Water District #1
Four Lakes Water District #10
Hangman Hills Water District #15
Hutchison Irrigation District #6
Kaiser Aluminum Trentwood
Liberty Lake Water & Sewer District
Marshall Community Water Association
City of Millwood
Moab Irrigation District: #20
Model Irrigation District #18

Model Electric Water Co.
North Spokane Irrigation District #8
Orchard Avenue Irrigation District #6
Pasadena Park Irrigation District #17
Pioneer Water Company Inc.
Riverside Water Association
Spokane County Water District #3
Spokane Business and Industrial Park
City of Spokane (Water Department)
Strathview Water District
Trentwood Irrigation District
Valley of the Horses Water District
Vel View Water District #13
Whitworth Water District
William Lake Sewer District #2
Riverdale Water Association
Spokane Valley Fire Department
Spokane County Fire District #2
Spokane County Fire District #3
Spokane County Fire District #4
Spokane County Fire District #5
Spokane County Fire District #6
Spokane County Fire District #7
Spokane County Fire District #8
Spokane County Fire District #9
Spokane County Fire District #10
Spokane County Fire District #11
Spokane County Fire District #12
Spokane County Fire District #13
City of Spokane Fire Department

Briefing Paper

Date: January 4, 2024

To: Steering Committee of Elected Officials

From: Planning Technical Advisory Committee

Subject: Tribal Participation in the Steering Committee of Elected Officials (SCEO)

During the October 18th meeting of the SCEO, the members discussed new legislation regarding participation by Tribes in Spokane County and communities 2026 periodic update. The SCEO of elected officials asked several questions regarding Tribal participation on the SCEO including:

- Should both Tribes be voting members of SCEO?
- Should a position on the SCEO be a shared position?
- Should the Tribes be on the SCEO in an ex-officio capacity similar to other district representatives?

The Planning Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) discussed current participation at PTAC by the Spokane and Kalispel Tribe representatives and determined that further outreach to the Tribes on GMA and the 2026 periodic update should be the next step. On November 14th Scott Kuhta - Department of Commerce GMA representatives, Bridget Ray -Department of Commerce Tribal Coordination Manager, Alden Andy – Department of Commerce Tribe Coordination Associate, Heather Trautman - Airway Heights Planning Director, Zachary Becker – Associate Planner met with Francis SiJohn - Spokane Tribe Planning Director, Brandon Haugen - Kalispel Tribe Executive Director of Real Estate and Megan Heller - Kalispel Tribe Planner to discuss the legislative changes in GMA regarding Tribal participation in the periodic update as well as the Spokane SCEO and PTAC roles in preparing for the 2026 update.

Following this meeting and discussion with the Tribal staff representatives, the PTAC discussed the questions raised by the SCEO and made the following recommendations:

1. The SCEO should consult with both the leadership of the Kalispel Tribe of Indians and the Spokane Tribe of Indians regarding participation on the SCEO and their preferred form and level of participation. Each Tribe is an individual entity with sovereign rights and both should have the opportunity to participate.
2. The SCEO should allow for each Tribe to have voting positions and that each Tribe should be allowed to elect a representative. As sovereign entities, they may elect representation from within their government framework including non-elected individuals.

Based on the decision of the SCEO regarding Tribal participation, the interlocal agreement between agencies and defines roles for the SCEO will likely need to be amended. During this time, the SCEO may also elect to update the interlocal agreement. The SCEO may consider forming a sub-committee for this work and the PTAC is willing to assist as needed.