BEFORE THE SPOKANE COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION

A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING THE
SPOKANE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN POLICY
CF.15.1 RELATING TO ESSENTIAL PUBLIC FACILITIES

FINDINGS OF FACT
DECISION AND
RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 36.70 RCW, the Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County, Washington, hereinafter referred to as the “Board,” has created a Planning Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 36.70A RCW, the Board adopted a Comprehensive Plan and Capital Facilities Plan for Spokane County, hereinafter referred to as the “Comprehensive Plan,” on November 5, 2001 (County Resolution 1-1059); and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2002, the Washington State Legislature declared an emergency and passed Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6594 (ESSB 6594) implementing the recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on the Equitable Distribution of Secure Community Transition Facilities, and on March 21, 2002 the Governor signed ESSB 6594; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of ESSB 6594 Spokane County, along with all planning jurisdictions within the state of Washington, was mandated to amend its Comprehensive Plan to include a process for identifying and siting essential public facilities, including, among other facilities, secure community transition facilities as defined in RCW 71.09.020; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 36.70 RCW, the Commission is authorized to recommend changes to the Comprehensive Plan to the Board for its review and consideration for adoption; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.020, goals are set forth to guide the development and adoption of comprehensive plans and development regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan states the following:
1. Goal CF.15 Facilitate the siting of public and private essential public facilities when the unincorporated area is the appropriate location.
2. Policy CF.15.1 Consider the process for Siting Essential Public Facilities of a Countywide or Statewide nature contained in the Growth Management Essential Public Facilities Technical Committee Report; and
WHEREAS, the Division of Planning implemented the following Work Program relating to essential public facilities:

1. Form an Essential Public Facilities Task Force with planning staff from Spokane County and the cities and towns of Airway Heights, Cheney, Deer Park, Fairfield, Latah, Liberty Lake, Medical Lake, Millwood, Rockford, Spangle, Spokane, and Waverly for coordinating the development of a regional siting process for essential public facilities, and specifically for the secure community transition facility.

2. Draft, circulate for comment, and finalize for public hearings before Planning Commissions and/or Legislative bodies, including City and Town Councils and the Board of County Commissioners, a regional siting process for essential public facilities, and specifically for the secure community transition facility.

3. Develop an inventory of essential public facilities of statewide, regional, and local significance.


5. Coordinate and/or conduct public workshops and/or public hearings for action by the Planning Commissions and/or Legislative bodies, including City and Town Councils and the Board of County Commissioners, relating to recommendation and/or adoption of a regional siting process for essential public facilities and required amendments to Comprehensive Plans to include secure community transition facility as an essential public facility; and

WHEREAS, after providing the required public notice, the Commission held public meetings and/or workshops concerning amending the Comprehensive Plan relating to essential public facilities on April 25, 2002, May 16, 2002, and June 13, 2002; and

WHEREAS, the Spokane County Division of Planning prepared an Environmental Checklist for a nonproject action, pursuant to WAC 197-11 and Spokane Environmental Ordinance, County Code Chapter 11.10, and on June 21, 2002, a Determination of Nonsignificance was issued; and

WHEREAS, after providing fifteen (15) days’ public notice, the Commission held a public hearing on July 11, 2002, to consider amending the Comprehensive Plan relating to essential public facilities, as more particularly set forth in Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Planning recommends that the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, including the proposed revision to Policy CF.15.1 and the \textit{Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities}, as more particularly set forth in Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Planning recommends that the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, including the proposed revision to Policy CF.15.1 and the \textit{Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities}, as more particularly set forth in Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and
WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 36.70A RCW, the Board adopted Countywide Planning Policies for Spokane County (CWPPs) on December 22, 1994 and subsequently amended said policies (County Resolutions 94-1719, 96-1205, 97-0297 and 97-0937); and

WHEREAS, the Board is authorized by the CWPPs to execute interlocal agreements with all towns and cities within Spokane County; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Planning recommends the Board execute an interlocal agreement outlining administrative procedures for the Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities with all of the jurisdictions within Spokane County following adoption by said jurisdictions of the Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Commission, at its July 25, 2002 meeting, recommended amendments to the Comprehensive Plan regarding siting of essential public facilities, including the proposed revision to Policy CF.15.1 and the Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities, as more particularly set forth in Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated herein, and directed staff to prepare findings consistent with its motion; and

WHEREAS, after considering all testimony given at the public hearing, all written correspondence submitted for the record, and all files of record concerning the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan relating to essential public facilities, and after recognizing compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) procedures, the Commission finds that the best interests of the general public, as well as its health, safety and welfare, will be met by the following:

1. Adoption of the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, including the proposed revision to Policy CF.15.1 and the Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities, as more particularly set forth in Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

2. Execution of an interlocal agreement outlining administrative procedures for the Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities with all of the jurisdictions within Spokane County following adoption by said jurisdictions of the Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission that it hereby recommends to the Board the following:

1. Adoption of the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, including the proposed revision to Policy CF.15.1 and the Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities, as more particularly set forth in Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and
2. Execution of an interlocal agreement outlining administrative procedures for the *Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities* with all of the jurisdictions within Spokane County following adoption by said jurisdictions of the *Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission makes as part of these Findings and Decision all files in the Spokane County Public Works Department, Division of Planning, and Planning Commission, along with the transcripts of all public meetings, workshops, and hearings related to this matter and further adopts all recitals herein as findings of fact; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commission that, in making the hereinabove recommendation, the Commission does hereby enter the following Findings of Fact.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

I. Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 36.70 RCW the Commission has the legal authority to recommend changes to the Comprehensive Plan to the Board for its review and consideration for adoption.

II. Pursuant to the provisions of ESSB 6594, including the declaration of an emergency by the Washington State Legislature, Spokane County, along with all planning jurisdictions in the state of Washington, was mandated to amend its Comprehensive Plan to include a process for identifying and siting essential public facilities, including, among other facilities, secure community transition facilities as defined in RCW 71.09.020.

III. The Division of Planning implemented the following Work Program relating to essential public facilities:

1. Form an Essential Public Facilities Task Force with planning staff from Spokane County and the cities and towns of Airway Heights, Cheney, Deer Park, Fairfield, Latah, Liberty Lake, Medical Lake, Millwood, Rockford, Spangle, Spokane, and Waverly for coordinating the development of a regional siting process for essential public facilities, and specifically for the secure community transition facility.

2. Draft, circulate for comment, and finalize for public hearings before Planning Commissions and/or Legislative bodies, including City and Town Councils and the Board of County Commissioners, a regional siting process for essential public facilities, and specifically for the secure community transition facility.

3. Develop an inventory of essential public facilities of statewide, regional, and local significance.

5. Coordinate and/or conduct public workshops and/or public hearings for action by the Planning Commissions and/or Legislative bodies, including City and Town Councils and the Board of County Commissioners, relating to recommendation and/or adoption of a regional siting process for essential public facilities and required amendments to Comprehensive Plans to include secure community transition facility as an essential public facility.

IV.

After providing the required public notice, the Commission held public meetings and/or workshops concerning amending the Comprehensive Plan relating to essential public facilities on April 25, 2002, May 16, 2002, and June 13, 2002.

V.

The Commission concurs with the Determination of Nonsignificance issued by the Spokane County Division of Planning on June 21, 2002, with respect to the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan relating to essential public facilities, as more particularly set forth in Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

VI.

After providing fifteen (15) days’ public notice, the Commission held a public hearing on July 11, 2002, to consider amending the Comprehensive Plan relating to essential public facilities, as more particularly set forth in Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, as well as other relevant information and testimony.

VII.

After providing the required public notice, the Commission held a public meeting on July 25, 2002, to deliberate with respect to the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, including the proposed revision to Policy CF.15.1 and the Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities, as more particularly set forth in Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

VIII.

The Commission considered the planning goals of the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.020) in making this decision, and the decision supports the goals of the Growth Management Act.

IX.

The Commission considered the Countywide Planning Policies for Spokane County (CWPPs) in making this decision, and the decision is consistent with the CWPPs (County Resolutions 94-1719, 96-1205, 97-0297, and 97-0937).
SPOKANE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
FINDINGS, DECISION AND RECOMMENDATION

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It is found by the Commission that the best interests of the general public, as well as its health, safety and welfare, will be met by the following:

1. Adoption of the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, including the proposed revision to Policy CF.15.1 and the *Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities*, as more particularly set forth in Attachment “A”, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

2. Execution of an interlocal agreement outlining administrative procedures for the *Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities* with all of the jurisdictions within Spokane County following adoption by said jurisdictions of the *Spokane County Regional Siting Process for Essential Public Facilities*.

XI

That the execution of this document by the signatories hereon shall be the same as if said signers had placed their signatures on Attachment “A” as required by RCW 36.70.400.
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 25th day of July 2002.

SPOKANE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Beverly Keating, Chair

Tom Hargreaves, Vice Chair

William Evans, Member

Lindell Haggan, Member

Pat Humphries, Member

William Moore, Member

Lewis Ruppler, Member

Vote of Record
Aye
Aye
Nay
Aye
Aye
Aye

ATTEST:  Gerry Gemmill
Assistant to CEO/Public Works Administrator

By:  [Signature]