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November 2007

2007 EMERGENCY AMENDMENT!

Comprehensive Plan Emergency Amendment 07-CPA-17 Summary

An emergency Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Concurrent Zone Reclassification, and Urban Growth Area boundary adjustment has been initiated by the Spokane County Board of County Commissioners per Resolution 07-0825 for the West Plains/Thorpe Urban Growth Area/Joint Planning Area. The amendment is proposed to occur outside of the 2007 Comprehensive Plan amendment cycle.

The affected properties in the proposed amendment area are adjacent to the existing West Plains/Thorpe Urban Growth Area, which is a Joint Planning Area between the City of Spokane and Spokane County.

The proposed amendment area is approximately 315 acres in size and is currently vacant land. The existing Comprehensive Plan and Zoning designation is Rural Traditional. The proposed Comprehensive Plan and Zoning designation is Light Industrial. The Comprehensive Plan amendment process includes meetings and



hearings with the Steering Committee, Spokane County Planning Commission, and the Spokane County Board of County Commissioners.

A public hearing will be held by the Spokane County Planning Commission which will result in a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners. After the Planning Commission recommendation, a public hearing will be held by the Steering Committee. After receiving a recommendation from the Steering Committee, and the Spokane County Planning Commission, the Spokane County Board of County Commissioners will review the recommendations, public comment, and issue a decision or hold another public hearing.

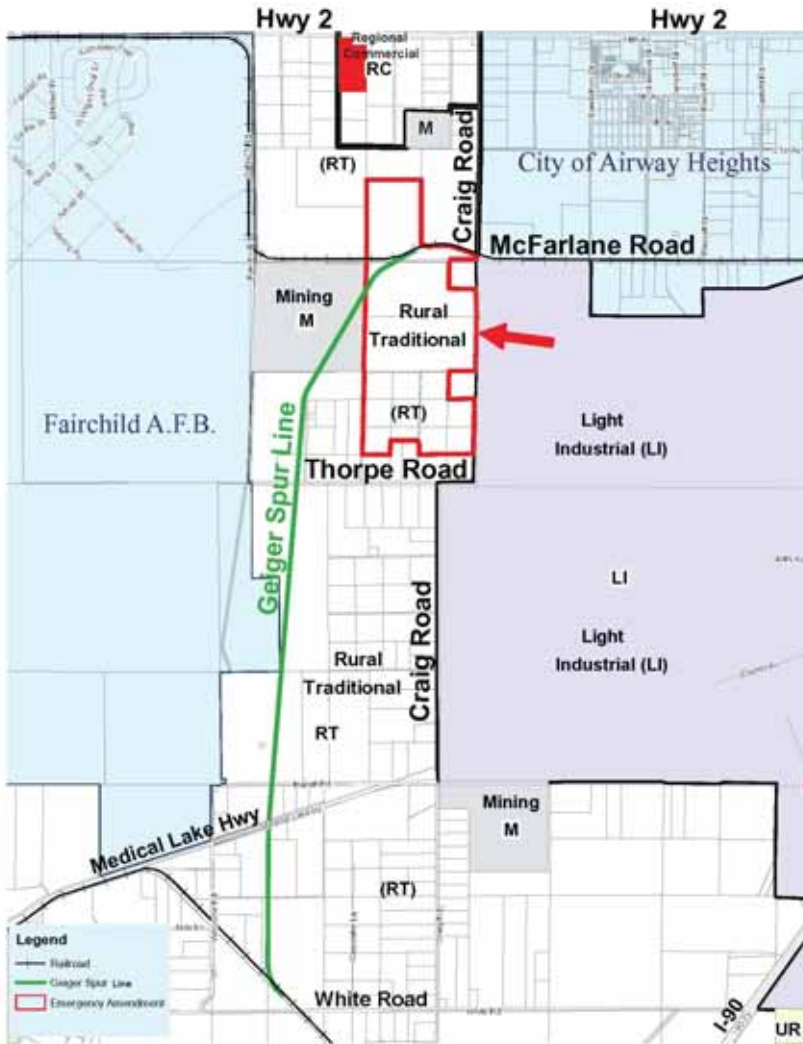
The proposal is related to improvements for the



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THE GEIGER SPUR

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Comprehensive Plan Emergency Amendment-07-CPA-17

EMERGENCY AMENDMENT 07-CPA-17

November 29, 2007—Planning Commission Workshop in Room 2B of the Public Works Building at 9:00

December 13, 2007—Planning Commission Public Hearing In the Commissioners Hearing Room in the Public Works Building.

For information:

- ▶ Building & Planning Department - Long Range Planning
901 N. Monroe, Suite 202 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Spokane Washington
- ▶ Phone: Christy Lafayette Associate Planner (509) 477-7124
Jerry Basler Associate Planner (509) 477-7116
- ▶ Website: www.spokanecounty.org/bp

Geiger Spur rail line and will satisfy property owners concerns by reclassifying these properties from a Rural to Industrial classification.



The Geiger Spur consists of a five mile rail service line that separates from the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) main line near Hwy 2, to the west of Airway Heights, and Fairchild Air Force Base (AFB). The line runs east crossing the base. Inside the FAFB boundary, the Geiger Spur Rail line turns south and east. The line was initially built to serve Fairchild Air Force Base with heavy cargo, and the Geiger Naval Air Station to the east, now known as the Spokane International Airport. For the past 20 years the line has served industrial customers in the Airway Heights area. The Geiger Spur Rail Line currently provides rail service to ten (10) companies primarily located along McFarlane Road in Airway Heights.

In 2004 Burlington Northern Santa Fe announced it would no longer operate the Geiger Spur. Abandonment of the line would negatively affect the rail dependant businesses, and the general economy of the Spokane region. Subsequently, the line was donated to Spokane County, who in turn contracted with a short line operator to continue service on the spur.

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Following the Geiger Spur line donation to Spokane County, FAFB, citing homeland security issues, explained that it would discontinue the use of the line located inside FAFB boundaries, and seeks to remove the line from FAFB property. FAFB has requested that the existing rail line be relocated no later than September 30, 2008.

In an effort to continue to provide service to the businesses dependent on the Geiger Spur, an agreement between Spokane County and FAFB was reached. That portion of rail located inside FAFB boundaries, would be removed, and the line relocated to the south, connecting to an existing rail line.

The Comprehensive Plan Emergency Amendment file 07-CPA-17 will be available for review at the Spokane County Long Range Planning office at 901 N. Monroe, Suite 202, Spokane WA 99260, between 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information contact:
Christy Lafayette Associate Planner (509) 477-7124
Jerry Basler Associate Planner (509) 477-7116

CRITICAL AREAS ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on the Planning Commission's 2007 Critical Areas Ordinance recommendation on November 27, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. or shortly thereafter.

The purpose of the hearing will be to receive verbal testimony and/or written comment on the Planning Commission's Critical Areas Ordinance recommendation.

The hearing will take place in the Commissioner's Lower Level Hearing room in the Spokane County Public Works Building at 1026 W. Broadway Ave. To ensure that everyone attending has an opportunity to speak, testimony may be limited and the Commissioners reserve the right to adjust the time frame allotted to speakers, as well as hearing procedures and the order in which items are heard during the hearing. The Commissioners encourage and will accept written testimony at the hearing and reserve the right to extend the written comment period. Board of County Commissioner meetings and hearings are conducted in facilities accessible to disabled individuals. For more information on accessibility to the Public Works Building, please contact Daniela Erickson, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, at 509-477-2265.

The Planning Commission's Critical Areas Ordinance recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners may be reviewed in the Department of Building and Planning at the above address or on the Department's website at www.spokanecounty.org/bp/

Environmental Determination: An environmental Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS) under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) was issued by the lead agency, Spokane County Department of Building & Planning, on July 9, 2007. The comment and appeal period ended on July 23, 2007.

Written comments may be sent to Spokane County Department of Building and Planning, 1026 W. Broadway, Spokane 99260-0220, Attn.: Bruce Hunt, Senior Planner



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Department of Building and Planning
Public Works Building 1st Floor
1026 West Broadway Avenue
Spokane, WA 99260-0240

Planning Commission Public Meetings Public Meetings

The meetings are held in the Public Works Building at 1026 West Broadway, beginning at 9 a.m. The meeting dates are:

November 29th, December 13th, & 27th, 2007

Additional meetings may be scheduled
meeting agendas are available on our website:

www.spokanecounty.org/bp

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