

# Spokane County Steering Committee of Elected Officials

July 20, 2022

9:00 AM

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## **Members Present:**

Breean Beggs, Chair, City of Spokane Council President  
Al French, Spokane County Commissioner  
Michael Cathcart, City of Spokane Council Member  
Cris Kaminskas, City of Liberty Lake, Mayor  
Helen Dee Cragun, City of Deer Park Council Member  
Josh Kerns, Spokane County Commissioner  
Lori Kinnear, City of Spokane Council Member  
Micki Hanois, Small Cities Representative  
Rod Higgins, City of Spokane Valley  
Arne Woodard, City of Spokane Valley  
Chaz Bates, Planner, City of Spokane Valley  
Joel White, citizen at large  
Terri Cooper, Mayor, Medical Lake

## **Staff Present:**

Scott Chesney, Director of Planning, Spokane County  
Saegen Neiman, Planner, Spokane County  
Susan Luna, Clerk, Spokane County

### **1. Call to Order**

Scott Chesney called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM. A quorum was present.

### **2. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair:**

Arne Woodard moved that Rod Higgins transition from Vice Chair to Chair according to the conventions of this group. Cris Kaminskas seconded the motion. Mr. Higgin moved to Chair in a unanimous vote. Arne Woodard Nominated Kevin Freeman for vice chair, the nomination was seconded by Breean Beggs. The nomination passed unanimously.

### **3. Countywide Planning Policies Review:**

The steering committee received copies of the first three topics to review and consider for comments to direct edits for consideration by the PTAC. Chair Higgins requested monthly Steering Committee meetings, an August and a September meeting were added. Steering committee members will send in written comments for the document before the next meeting. Commissioner French requested committee members who were prepared, to volunteer forth coming thoughts and comments for discussion. Comments about Topic 1, UGA and Policies included observations about Land Quantity Analysis for purposes other than residential to

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accommodate projected business and commercial growth. A discussion ensued about Land Quantity Analysis and how a trigger is a requirement to perform an analysis on a UGA. City of Spokane has an infill strategy to allow more density within a municipality. UGA consideration require a CFP analysis to ensure provision of urban services is budgeted and programmed for expansion of a UGA.

Under policy Topic Two, Chaz Bates will suggest language to better facilitate a city's ability to participate in joint planning for UGAs adjacent to its city limits. The language will include wording to identify UGAs that are similar in character to the cities they are adjacent to in a joint planning effort. The county and the city shall coordinate planning efforts to enable development that meets the needs and standards of the assigned cities in joint planning areas. The committee will consider this amendment in the next meeting.

Tribal participation in Countywide policies was discussed in the context of new state law.

LQA methodology, potentially using a third-party analysis, was discussed for comprehensive planning. Rod Higgins suggested putting this on the agenda for the next meeting as an action item for discussion.

Policy Topic three, the current edits were supported by the Arne Woodard. The Committee was encouraged to submit their edits so they may be compiled by the PTAC and brought up in the next meeting. Mayor Cooper had questions about the methodology of a LQA and how municipalities participate in land swap and streamlining the program to coordinate with the county in a swift manner. she is looking forward to addressing these subjects in the next meeting. Scott Chesney will create a flow chart to demonstrate the process for a UGA swap. Joel White brought up the North Idaho housing market and demands on the infrastructure which effect both Washington and Idaho, especially commuter traffic. This major issue should be factored in coordination with planning for the county. Spokane County planning will be meeting with Kootenai County community development in the near future to address areas of commonality and to cultivate a cooperative planning relationship within the regulations of both states.

#### **4.Next meeting**

The new meeting dates will be the third Wednesday of each month, at 9:00 AM. August 17, September 21, and October 19. The next meeting will be at Center Place, Spokane Valley.

#### **5.Adjournment**

Chair Higgins entertained a motion to adjourn, Arne Woodard moved to adjourn, it was seconded by Dee Cragun, it was passed in favor by vote. There being no further business before the Steering Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 AM.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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Rod Higgins  
Steering Committee Chair

Date: 8/17/22

Scott Chesney,  
Spokane County Planning Director