

2006 Comprehensive Plan Update **Levels of Amendment Review** *(Revised 1-17-06)*

What is the Comprehensive Plan Update?

The Comprehensive Plan Update is a public process by which the City of Spokane will review, and if needed, revise its Comprehensive Plan and development regulations to ensure the plan and regulations comply with the Growth Management Act (GMA) RCW 36.70A.

What is the Comprehensive Plan?

The Comprehensive Plan expresses a long-range vision of how citizens want their community to look and function over the coming twenty years. The plan helps to focus, coordinate and direct the many diverse activities of City departments by providing a comprehensive and common vision articulated by goals and policies.

What will be reviewed?

The Comprehensive Plan Update will concentrate on making sure that our Comprehensive Plan is in compliance with the GMA. To meet our deadline, the Update is organized according to levels of priority based on state mandates and available resources.

1st Level

The state mandated requirements due by December 1, 2006 include:

- Determine whether the Comprehensive Plan is affected by amendments made to the GMA after adoption on May 21, 2001.
- Consider changes to state and federal laws and progress toward meeting GMA Goals
- Review the most recent population projections from the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) to ensure that the Comprehensive Plan provides for the City's ability to accommodate its projected growth in population and employment consistent with Countywide Planning Policies (CWPP).
- Correspond any changes related to the OFM population projection to the levels of service (LOS) provided by city services (such as police, fire, capital facilities, parks, and libraries).
- Determine internal consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and that the development regulations are consistent with and implement the Comprehensive Plan.
- Take legislative action.

2nd Level

The state mandate to consider Critical Areas Ordinances is due by December 1, 2007, includes:

- Determine whether current regulations for critical areas and natural resource lands meet GMA requirements.
- Determine whether Best Available Science was used to designate and protect critical areas.
- Take legislative action.

3rd Level

Other entities that propose amendments to either the Comprehensive Plan or the development regulations responsible for the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan will be recorded in the Official Docket for Comprehensive Plan Amendments and will be prioritized for consideration in 2007. Examples of potential subjects include:

- Annexations Goals & Policies.
- Transportation LOS standards and concurrency management system.

- Arterial Street System Network—within SMC, Comprehensive Plan, and Current Federal Designations.
- Center and Corridor designation process.
- Center and Corridor Growth Targets (including population, employment, housing, etc.).
- Economic Development enhancements.
- Phased Development approach to providing city services.
- Comprehensive Plan Chapter 11 Neighborhoods considerations.
- Others...

Are there any other opportunities to amend the Comprehensive Plan?

Yes. The Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Process, which individual applicants can submit an application for a Comprehensive Plan amendment, will continue to be available during the Update process. A specific cycle and timeline is designated for this process in the Spokane Municipal Code (SMC) Chapter 17G.020.