

Comstock Neighborhood Council
Meeting Notes for November 17, 2021
6:00 PM –7:30 PM, Zoom Meeting

Disclaimer: These notes are subject to revision and corrections from all participants. The contents herein represent the notes and recollections of the Comstock Neighborhood Council's scribes and representatives, and may not have captured the true intent of all statements made by the participants. For clarification of any details of these notes please contact the Comstock Neighborhood Chairperson. For clarification of any statements attributed to the participants of this meeting please contact the individual for clarification before passing judgement on the words contained herein.

Proposed Agenda:

- *Spokane Police Department Report - Ty Snider
- *City Council Update
- *Office of Neighborhood Services - Carly Cortright
- *Environmental Analyst of the City of Spokane - Trey George
- *Jeff Mergler - Traffic Calming
- *Discussion and vote on a resolution for High Drive Speed Limit
- *Other neighborhood Issues

COMSTOCK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING

Co – Chairs: John Schram, Terryl Black

Recording Secretary: Phil Svoboda and Terryl Black

Attendees:

Terryl Black, John Schram, Brent Perdue, Ty Snider, Jeff Mergler, Jim McDevitt, Kassio Schrock, Ed Bruya, David Schafer, Thomas Jarrard, Sarah Mount, Brynn Snyder, Renee Schafer, John Pilcher, Marni Pilcher, Kathy Lipsker, Alice Moravec, Susan Matthews, Tom Treloar, Katie Nelson, Julie Pomerantz, Gretchen McDevitt, Mike Schrock, Karen Plaister, Shelly Prosser, Kevin Eddy, Stephanie Thurston, Thomasin Hammer, Ray Thorne, Trey George, Patrick McLaughlin, Chad O'Donnell, Katie O'Donnell, Thomas Jarrard, Jeff Klein, Danny Snyder, Stephanie Thurston, Carly Cortright, Katey Treloar, Marc Lipsker, Elizabeth Moore, Carol Eng

37 participants.

Presentations:

Ty Snider – Detective:

- South Side: violent crime up 36.7%;
- City Web Site, Spokane Police, web site Crime map can be found at :
<https://communitycrimemap.com/?address=Spokane,WA>
- ...

City Council Update

- No representative present.

Environmental Analyst of the City of Spokane - Trey George (Storm Water Management)

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- <https://my.spokanecity.org/publicworks/stormwater/>
- Number 1 water pollution problem in urban areas.
- Pollutants from our everyday life wash into the streams and cause damage to aquatic life and vegetation.
- Power Point Presentation.....
- Discussion about swales on Lincoln.... Which is Cannon Hill/Manito Neighborhood.

Jeff Mergler - Traffic Calming

-

Discussion and vote on a resolution for High Drive Speed Limit

- Background of the speed limit history regarding High Drive by John Schram.
- Julie Pomerantz talked in support of 30 MPH
- Ed Bruya spoke about the resolution to make the speed limit to 25.
- Thomas Jarrard: surveyed 19 neighbors. 25 responses. Two passionate ideas:
- 1. some type of infrastructure (flashing signs, traffic calming); 2. doesn't make sense to have a higher speed later after Manito.
- Sarah Mount: crosswalks help to slow; change the infrastructure of the road helps.
- Committee established to write a resolution with traffic calming solutions.
- The vote for 25mph or 30mph on High Drive took place. The Comstock Neighborhood voted by a majority in favor of 30mph with the final vote being:
 - 30 mph – 22 votes
 - 25 mph – 6 votes
- See results of the traffic study below.

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Comstock Neighborhood: 416 W. 37th Ave., near Bernard



The mobile speed sign was placed on 416 W. 37th Ave., near Bernard, capturing westbound traffic. The sign was turned on May 10, 2021 and turned off May 21, 2021.

| Speed Statistics | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Posted | 25 |
| Average Speed | 17 |
| 85 th Percentile | 25 |
| # of Vehicles Tracked | 13,567 |

Comstock Neighborhood: High Dr. near Manito Blvd



The mobile speed sign was placed on High Dr. near Manito Blvd., capturing northbound traffic. The sign was turned on June 21, 2021 and turned off July 1, 2021. *Note: early takedown due to 7/4 holiday.*

| Speed Statistics | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Posted | 20 |
| Average Speed | 27 |
| 85 th Percentile | 33 |
| # of Vehicles Tracked | 24,396 |

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Discussion regarding crosswalk at 37th and Bernard

Carly Cortright – Director of Neighborhood Services

- * Leaf Pick up begins next week
- Disposal passes are still available online
- See Neighborhood services report below:

*Report made for: Comstock Neighborhood Council
November 15, 2021*

Prepared: Week of

ONS Program Updates

- **Volunteer Opportunities**: Cendy Ortiz | cortiz@spokanecity.org
 - Check out [current volunteer opportunities](#) like our graffiti cleanup and Meals on Wheels.
- **Community Engagement Grant** | Annie Deasy | adeasy@spokanecity.org
 - The 2021 program has ended. Please look for training and application materials in the spring of 2022.
- **Traffic Calming** | Annica Eagle | aeagle@spokanecity.org
 - [Mobile Speed Feedback](#) season has wrapped—the full season's report is available [here](#). Contact Annica with any questions aeagle@spokanecity.org
 - Information regarding the Traffic Calming issue-identification workshops coming soon!
- **Clean-Up** | Gabby Ryan | gryan@spokanecity.org

In order to receive a disposal pass that is valid November 1-30, 2021, there are two options for residents:

 - Spokane C.O.P.S. shops will have a limited number of disposal passes, first-come, first-served. You can find the contact information for C.O.P.S. shops by visiting: <https://www.spokanecops.org/locations>.
 - The MySpokane desk on the 1st floor of City Hall will have a limited number of disposal passes available, first-come, first-served. The MySpokane desk is open Monday thru Friday, 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm.

Neighborhood Updates

- **Neighborhood Calendar**
 - [Please check this calendar and your neighborhood council's webpage](#)
- **District Videos**: Cendy Ortiz | cortiz@spokanecity.org
 - If you have an idea, event or something that you want to highlight in your neighborhood in an upcoming district video, contact Cendy Ortiz, cortiz@spokanecity.org.

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- **Leaf Pickup:** City of Spokane crews are starting leaf pickup activities on City streets on Monday, Nov. 8. Leaf pickup is expected to continue until the middle of December. The crews generally will begin on Spokane's North Side, then moving to the South Hill, and finishing more in the core. Streets cleared of leaves provide safer driving conditions during winter snow and ice. Removing leaves from the streets also helps prevent clogged storm drains. The City's leaf pickup service is intended to remove only the leaves that naturally fall into the streets. **Residents *should not* rake leaves into the street.** A detailed neighborhood leaf pickup schedule is available at on the City's web site at <http://my.spokanecity.org/streets/maintenance/leaf-pickup/>. An online map at that site also will track the progress of leaf pickup. The need for snow removal can delay this schedule.
 - Being aware of the leaf pickup schedule is helpful because the City is asking residents to move their vehicles from the streets when leaf pickup crews are expected. Crew can work on leaf pickup seven days a week, with activities planned between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.
 - **COMSTOCK (only South of 29th Ave., North of High Dr., West of Bernard St., and East of High Dr.) is scheduled to start 11/24 and end 11/26**
 - Residents do have options for getting rid of the leaves in their yards.
 - Leaves can be placed in green yard & food waste carts. That optional curbside collection service will continue until the end of November.
 - The transfer station at the City's Waste to Energy facility, 2900 S. Geiger Blvd. accepts yard waste. The cost to dispose of yard waste is \$57.42 per ton with a minimum of \$6.11 plus a \$2 self-haul transaction fee. That facility is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

City Updates

- **Green Cart Services end December 3:** Curbside yard and food waste customers have until Friday, Dec. 3, to finish their fall yard cleanup before the City of Spokane suspends the collection service for the winter. The optional Clean Green curbside yard and food waste collection service runs from March through November.
- **Boards & Commissions:** Give back to the Spokane community by joining a volunteer Board, Commission, or Committee! The following Boards and Commissions are currently accepting applications to fill current or upcoming vacancies. Please submit completed [applications](#) to the Mayor's office by emailing them directly to mayor@spokanecity.org.
 - **Citizens Transportation Advisory Board (CTAB)**
The Citizen's Transportation Advisory Committee is currently accepting applications for multiple positions due to a recent Board expansion. The positions will remain **open until filled**. Applicants for this Board should submit [applications](#) directly to City Council Office – Attn: TBD Administrator, Shauna Harshman (sharshman@spokanecity.org).
 - **Human Rights Commission**
The Spokane Human Rights Commission is currently accepting [applications](#) to fill one at-large vacancy. The Human Rights Commission advises and makes recommendations to the City Council regarding issues related to human rights and unjust discrimination and the implementation of programs consistent with the needs of all residents of the City of Spokane. The position will remain **open until filled**.
 - **Plan Commission**
The Spokane Plan Commission is currently accepting [applications](#) to fill two vacancies. The Plan Commission provides advice and makes recommendations on

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broad planning goals and policies and other matters as requested by the City Council. The positions will remain **open until filled**.

- **Salary Review Commission**

The Salary Review Commission is currently accepting [applications](#) for two vacancies to serve a four year term. The Salary Review Commission (SRC) is charged with reviewing and establishing the salaries of the Spokane Mayor, Council President, and City Council Members. Positions will remain **open until filled**.

- **Street Construction and Maintenance:** City crews are doing street sweeping, crack sealing, and construction. More information can be found at: <https://my.spokanecity.org/streets/notices/>.
- **Potholes:** If you see a pothole, report it to the City's **Pothole Hotline at 311**, or for **outside city limits, 509.755.CITY (2489)**. Street Maintenance Crews are also proactive in looking for potholes and getting them repaired.
- **Speeding:** If you have a concern about motorists speeding in your neighborhood, please report it to the **Traffic Hotline at 509.625.4150**. If it is an emergency or in-progress, please call **911**.
- **Snow Season Preparation:** As the City of Spokane begins preparations for snow season, Parking Services personnel will be educating residents about on-street parking rules for non-passenger vehicles and dedicating resources to resolve complaints about such vehicles throughout the City. Non-passenger vehicles include recreational vehicles, boats, and trailers. Additionally, obstructions like basketball hoops should also be removed from the right-of-way. As a reminder, RVs, boats and trailers cannot exceed 24 hours of continuous on-street parking, according to [Spokane Municipal Code \(16A.05.310B\)](#). The public will see parking enforcement across the City visiting vehicles and placing courtesy notices on them. Parking enforcement can also issue tickets and initiate towing. [Press Release](#)
- **Winter Shelter Options:** Spokane has a regional network of shelter spaces available for use by those needing a safe place to spend the night or relief from the elements during emergencies. Those include shelter for single adults, families, young adults, and youths. Pandemic restrictions are followed in the shelter system. See <https://my.spokanecity.org/hazardsheltering/> for more information about what is available and where.
- **COVID-19 and City Hall:** [City Hall and other City facilities have reopened to the public and masks are required within City facilities. MySpokane is open from 9am - 12pm and 1pm - 4pm.](#) For more information, visit <https://my.spokanecity.org/covid19/>. Drive thru testing is available at Spokane Falls Community College Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:30am-6pm (no testing is done on Wednesday).

Projects/Programs of Interest

- **Rental Assistance for those affected by Covid-19:**
 - The City of Spokane was awarded Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds by the U.S. Treasury. These funds are distributed to Family Promise of Spokane, The Carl Maxey Center, and LiveStories to support City of Spokane residents. City residents can visit the [Resident Assistance page](#) for direct links to each program.
 - [City of Spokane Rental Assistance Program powered by LiveStories](#) accommodates **any household located within City boundaries**. This emergency rental assistance

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program is intended for those who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Funds are available for past due, current due, future rent and utilities.

- [Family Promise of Spokane](#) accommodates **households with minor children** and will provide financial assistance to families impacted by COVID-19 to prevent them from experiencing homelessness.
- [The Carl Maxey Center](#) will prioritize rental and utility assistance to **African American and BIPOC households** located within City boundaries. The goal of the Carl Maxey Center is to uplift, empower and transform Spokane's African American and BIPOC communities that have been impacted by COVID-19. Funds are available for past due, current due, future rent and utilities to prevent housing instability.
- Additionally, there are funds available for landlords to receive funds for resident rent assistance. Pre-registration and information is available now through the [City of Spokane Rental Assistance Program for Landlords](#).

Upcoming Meetings

Links to the virtual meetings listed below can all be found on the [Neighborhood Calendar](#)

- CA Land Use Committee: Thursday, November 18, 5:30pm
- CA Building Stronger Neighborhoods (BSN) Committee: Monday, November 22, 12:00pm
- CA Budget Committee: Monday, November 22, 6:30pm
- CA Admin Committee: Tuesday, November 23, 12:00pm
- CA Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation (PeTT) Committee: Tuesday, November 23, 6:00pm
- Community Assembly (CA): Thursday, December 2, 5:30pm via WebEx (meeting number/access code: 146 138 6032; Meeting password: neighborhoods)

Contact Us

Director of Community Programs: Carly Cortright, ccortright@spokanecity.org, 509.625.6263

Community Engagement Programs Manager: Cendy Ortiz, cortiz@spokanecity.org, 509.625.6147
(Special events, volunteers opportunities, and bi-weekly district videos)

Community Programs Coordinators:

- Annica Eagle, aeagle@spokanecity.org, 509.625.6156, (Tuesday neighborhood liaison, Traffic Calming, PeTT Committee, Town Hall contact)
- Gabby Ryan, gryan@spokanecity.org, 509.625.6858, (Wednesday neighborhood liaison, Clean Up, BSN Committee)
- Annie Deasy, adeasy@spokanecity.org, 509.625.6343, (Thursday neighborhood liaison, Comm. Engagement Grant, Admin, Budget, and Liaison Committees, and CA/CC Program contact)

Meeting Adjourned