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Electric Vehicle Charging Station at City Hall



Spokane Mayor Mary Verner and Dave Holmes, Manager of Applied Research and Development at Avista Utilities, unveiled a new electric vehicle charging station in the parking lot just north of Spokane City Hall last week.

The charging station is one of three that Avista installed this week in Spokane. Other stations are located at the Steam Plant Grill and Avista's headquarters on East Mission.

"Over the last two years, the City has been working to implement programs and projects that help our environment and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels," says Mayor Mary Verner.

For more information, [click here](#).

Bike to Work Week Registration Open Now

Registration for **Bike to Work week, May 16-22, 2010**, is now open, with plenty of events and celebrations!

Those who participated last year can update their records on the home page of BiketoWorkSpokane.org and new registrants can create one by [clicking here](#).



"It's really important that you register! We want to have good data showing the importance of biking as part of our transportation system and we need you to stand up and be counted," said Barb Chamberlain, co-chair of the Bike To Work Organizing Committee.

Bike commuters can be healthier, save on transportation expenses and enjoy the trip to and from work. And the community benefits from less vehicle traffic, less pollution and a healthier population.

For more info, visit BiketoWorkSpokane.org.

Over \$1 Million Available for Rent Assistance

City of Spokane residents who are unable to pay their rent due to a recession-caused loss in household income may be eligible for rental assistance. The City of Spokane recently received over \$1.5 million to assist households adversely

affected by the recession.

The City of Spokane is contracting with four agencies—Spokane Neighborhood Action Partners, Volunteers of America, Catholic Charities, and the Spokane Low Income Housing Consortium to provide outreach, case management, and housing location assistance to keep individuals and families in their homes, or to help them find other homes if necessary.

Financial assistance can be used to pay for back and current rent owed, utility deposits, security deposits, and/or moving costs. *The funds are limited to housing-related expenses and can't be used for foreclosure prevention.*

People at risk of becoming homeless should call 509-455-4965 on Mondays between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. or Wednesdays between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. to see if they qualify for assistance funds. Program funds can assist individuals, couples, or families.

Visit SpokaneCity.org for more information.

Keeping Your Downtown Sidewalks Safe

With the warmer spring weather and more modes of transportation being utilized, the Spokane Police Department is emphasizing the sidewalk riding ordinance/policy which states "No person may ride a bicycle or non-motorized vehicle upon any sidewalk or other pedestrian way within the Retail Zone of the Congested District as defined by SMC [16A.61.787](#)."

Non-motorized vehicles include: skateboards, coasters, roller skates, roller blades, or any similar device, and the Congested District boundaries are generally Spokane Falls Boulevard from Bernard to Monroe and as far South as 2nd Avenue. For links to related maps and bike trails where you *can* ride, visit BiketoWorkSpokane.org

For more information contact Andrew Rolwes of the DSP, ARolwes@downtownspokane.net or 456.0580.

Mural Project in Need of Downtown "Canvas"

Insight Schools of Washington, a tuition-free, online public high school, is bringing together online high school students to paint a lasting mural with themes of education, student success, and achievement. The students will be designing the mural in an online collaboration and then coming together to paint the mural with the help of a professional artist.

Insight Schools is looking for a location to place the mural, either painted directly on the wall, or to be painted on panels and hung, ideally, in a prominent outdoor location, at ground level to avoid the use of scaffolding. **Insight Schools has raised funds to cover all materials, artists fees, prepping the location and clean up, so there is *no expense for the building owners*.**

Building owners would be able to have input on the final mural design, and invite participants to help paint and come to the celebration for students painters and community members. To learn more about Insight, visit Insightwa.net.

Tentative dates for the painting are June 3-5. If you or someone you know are



interested please contact Leigh Sims at leigh@teamsapbox.com.

Downtown Vehicle Purchase Program

Looking to buy a new car locally? Check out the Larry H. Miller dealerships with their exclusive new and pre-owned vehicle purchase program - an offer for DSP business partners.

By participating in this program, Larry H. Miller will contribute \$100 to one of the following downtown Spokane non-profit organization for every vehicle purchased:

- Mid-City Concerns - [Meals on Wheels](#)
- [Ronald McDonal House Charities](#)
- [Spokane Symphony](#)
- [Volunteers of America](#)
- [Women & Children's Free Restaurant](#)
- and the [Downtown Spokane Partnership](#)

To learn more and receive a vehicle quote, visit DSPAutomotive.com

Mark Your Calendars!

Don't miss out on these upcoming events:

- Welcome Bloomies for the [34th annual Bloomsday run, Sunday May 2](#)
- Shop LOCAL "**Outside the Box**" **THIS Friday & Saturday**- for a map and details, [click here](#)
- **First Friday** is **May 7** - Plan your evening today! [click here for listings](#).
- Final **Public Hearing for the Spokane County Jail site selection: May 12**, 5:30pm at the Spokane County Public Works Building. [Click here for info](#).
- The CVB's [Tourism Awards, May 13!](#)

Don't hesitate to call us for more information at 509-456-0580.

We are happy to help!

Leanne Sangster
Downtown Spokane Partnership/Business Improvement District

Sign up for our newsletter:

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