2023 Economic Report

Choose Downtown

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Spokane continues to surprise and impress.

As the heart of our city and region, our downtown serves as a hub for commerce, culture, and innovation. With a mix of established employers and burgeoning startups, for decades downtown has served as a catalyst for economic development, bringing people and ideas together, attracting investments and creating new opportunities. But, as we put the pandemic in the rearview mirror, downtown Spokane faces the same dilemma facing nearly every city across the globe: what does our future look like?

While in the midst of one of the biggest workforce shifts in generations, the Downtown Spokane Partnership is choosing to embrace the opportunity to adapt, lean in and reshape our urban core for the future. Fortunately, downtown Spokane positioned itself to be the attractive choice long before we fully understood just how crucial it would become.

Downtown is walkable, friendly, and inviting, with a growing reputation for being surprisingly hip. This community has prioritized creative redevelopment of major streets, public transportation, infrastructure, public amenities, and world-class parks. Meanwhile, we’ve continued to focus on enhancing our entertainment venues and top-tier civic amenities: the Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox, Convention Center and First Interstate Center for the Arts, The Podium, Riverfront Park, and opening in fall 2023, the new Downtown Stadium.

These amenities are especially important as we look at how we welcome back workers to their office and support increased opportunities to live downtown through adaptive reuse, conversion of underutilized commercial properties, and new construction. As developments of the last decade begin to compound, offering a variety of residential, entertainment, workspaces, and leisure options, downtown Spokane is ideally positioned to meet the goal of a “24/7” downtown. We have the competitive advantage. We have ample workspaces, parks and entertainment venues to draw people in during the day and are building a core of residents to keep the area vibrant after commuters go home.

Throughout our 30+ years as Spokane’s central city advocate, the Downtown Spokane Partnership has been a leading voice in the transformation of downtown. We must continue to go big and be bold to ensure downtown can continue to support entrepreneurs, investors, tourists and residents alike. Supporting and nurturing Spokane’s economic engine has ripples that will energize the entire region.

Choosing downtown means investing in our community, reducing barriers to success and believing in our potential. Choosing downtown creates a vibrant, dynamic, and welcoming environment for all.

We must choose downtown.

Spokane Downtown Resident Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Mile</td>
<td>225,645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Miles</td>
<td>110,917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Miles</td>
<td>16,142</td>
</tr>
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Source: Demographics Now

Downtown Employee Population (2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spokane</td>
<td>62,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bend</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boise</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Demographics Now

Average Downtown Income (2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spokane</td>
<td>$62,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bend</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boise</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Demographics Now
The health of a city can be felt in the vibrant energy of its downtown area. The concentrated businesses, offices, and other commercial establishments create a hub of activity which drives a modern-day experience economy for people to access goods and services, in turn driving the economic success of our cities. Downtowns have long been recognized as engines of economic growth and innovation and in a global knowledge-based economy, I believe they will continue to do so for generations ahead.

The pandemic certainly disrupted this economic engine. Downtown areas were among the hardest hit, with businesses closing their doors as daytime office workers stayed home and indoor gatherings were limited in many ways. The pandemic deepened our appreciation for the importance of mixed-use urban districts. In walkable urban neighborhoods, where mixed-income housing options existed alongside jobs and services, activity thrived.

As we now take on a recovery posture, we are reminded of the resilience and determination of communities to rebuild. We are seeing extraordinary efforts to reinvigorate downtown areas across the nation focused on developing more complete communities with strategies focusing on supporting local independent businesses, entrepreneurs, and major employers all of whom continue to demand some level of a downtown presence. The days of single-use business districts are quickly giving way to plans for mixed-use urban centers complete with a stronger mixed-income residential component and a variety of community spaces to comprise a workplace ecosystem.

It is in part for this reason we can confidently say the days of downtowns being far from over. They will continue to serve as the epicenter of commerce, capital investment, diversity, public discourse, socialization, knowledge, and innovation. Downtown areas nationwide comprise only 3 percent of a city’s land area on average, yet can provide for more than 20% of a community’s tax revenues. Despite the challenges ahead, downtowns will continue to play a deeply significant role in the local economy and will forever be the heart and soul of our communities.

Downtown areas are home to a community’s cultural institutions, as well as parks, public spaces, and historic landmarks which contribute to the social and cultural vitality of the city, making it a more attractive place to live, work, and visit. By providing a mix of amenities and attractions, downtowns create a unique and appealing atmosphere that attracts visitors and residents alike.

Downtown areas serve as the transportation hub of a city, with major transit lines, bus terminals, and transportation centers located in or near downtown. This makes it easier for people to access various parts of the city, promoting economic growth and promoting prosperity. A city like Spokane is no exception, as a hub in its own right to the Inland Northwest.

The future of downtown remains somewhat uncertain. However, the resilience of downtowns and their ability to adapt to change positions them well for continued success. Most importantly, the will to effect change rests largely with local public, private, and civic leaders. Prior to the pandemic and still resolute today, Bruce Katz notes in his book The New Localism that, “Power is shifting in the world: downward from national governments and states to cities and metropolitan communities; horizontally from the public sector to networks of public private, and civic actors.” In the coming years, we may see a shift in the ways we evaluate and utilize downtown areas, but their importance as economic engines and as the soul of the city will remain.
The votes are in! Spokane residents have voted for who they think is best-of-the-best in downtown. Check out the winners of the first annual “Best in BID” Awards and discover new favorites.

MOST EPIC COMEBACK SINCE 2020: REVIVAL TEA CO.

Forget everything you thought you knew about tea! When Drew Henry opened this tasting room and retail shop, he wanted to revive the tea industry as a whole and create a community of tea drinkers who hold their cups to a higher standard. Today Revival is the fastest-growing tea company in the country. Henry credits the incredible support from the Spokane community for making this possible. “We are big believers that local supports local, and we are so proud to continue to manufacture and operate out of Spokane.”

MOST RELIABLE (“DON’T EVER CHANGE!”): AUNTIE’S BOOKSTORE

A day spent downtown just isn’t complete without a visit to Auntie’s Bookstore, Spokane’s favorite literary landmark since 1979. Located on the corner of Main and Washington, come browse new and used books, greeting cards and specialty items to your heart’s delight. This indie bookseller also hosts a variety of events: book club, book signings, story times and writers’ workshops.

MOST LIKELY TO BRIGHTEN UP YOUR DAY: BOO RADLEY’S

Named after the eccentric recluse in the classic novel “To Kill a Mockingbird,” Boo Radley’s is Spokane’s “toy store for all ages,” guaranteed to brighten up your day. A favorite place for folks to bring their out-of-town friends, it’s filled with all things wacky, edgy and unusual: old-school lunchboxes, house Rescue Society’s signature stickers (created by the staff), and a ton of pop culture-themed gifts. Browse Boo Radley’s and we dare you not to smile!

ONE OF A KIND: THE SPACE

The SPACE specializes in Ashiatsu barefoot massage therapy, which owner and LMT Mariah Maven describes as “a flowing choreographed dance that is true to my training and experience.” THE SPACE is a happy place full of plants and skylights where you can recover, breathe and connect. Their reviews speak volumes, but you need to come and experience it for yourself!

MOST LIKELY TO BE IN A MUSIC VIDEO: BRICK WEST BREWING CO.

Located inside the historic Electric Building in downtown’s fast-growing West End, this full-service marketing agency loves to shine the spotlight on downtown businesses they personally support and engage with all the time, from Dry Fly Distilling to the Spokane Symphony to the Spokane Public Library. Chief Marketing Officer Andrea Williams shared, “It’s always been a goal to work with as many downtown businesses as possible because that’s just my natural lifestyle and consumer behavior.”

MOST LIKELY TO BECOME AN INFLUENCER: THE WOODSHOP

Located inside the historic Electric Building in downtown’s fast-growing West End, this full-service marketing agency loves to shine the spotlight on downtown businesses they personally support and engage with all the time, from Dry Fly Distilling to the Spokane Symphony to the Spokane Public Library. Chief Marketing Officer Andrea Williams shared, “It’s always been a goal to work with as many downtown businesses as possible because that’s just my natural lifestyle and consumer behavior.”

MOST LIKELY TO SAVE THE PLANET: SPOKANE REFILLERY

Reducing plastic waste is all in a day’s work for Spokane Refillery! As Spokane’s first zero-waste refill shop, they offer a one-stop solution for the eco-conscious and anyone who desires a toxin-free lifestyle. Simply bring in your empty containers and fill them up with a laundry list (pun intended) of eco-friendly, hypoallergenic home and personal care products: laundry powders and pods, hand and dish soaps, shampoos and conditioners, lotions, hand sanitizers, multi-purpose cleaners, toothpaste tabs and more.

BEST DRESSED: FRINGE & FRAY

The award for Best-Dressed went to the awesome staff at Fringe & Fray! Not only do they put their best foot forward, they always dress to impress. “Describing the unique, strange, and macabre items we have is difficult,” said GM Jesse McCauley. “It’s something you have to see to fully experience!”

LIFE OF THE PARTY: BRICK WEST BREWING CO.

For Brick West Brewing Co., pioneers of the revitalized West End of downtown Spokane, “Life of the Party” is an award that means much more than the title suggests. “It means Brick West has a certain vibe and energy that people feel comfortable around, and we hope that means we have the trust of the community,” said Marketing Director Bill Powers. “Trust to make great beer, entertain and build a spot where we can all connect and feel welcomed.”
hosting the 1974 World’s Fair, Expo ’74, completely changed downtown Spokane. The event convert- ed a rail yard into an urban park at the heart of the river falls, one of Spokane’s top destinations today. As we near the 50th anniversary of this transformative event, it’s a moment to reflect on the past, celebrate where we are today, and look toward tomorrow’s opportunities.

REFLECTING ON THE PAST

For thousands of years, the falls of the Spokane River were a gathering place for the Spokane Indians and other regional tribes. The riverbanks served as a place for salmon fishing, meetings, celebrations, and trade.

Early settlers were drawn to the area as well, and the town of Spokane Falls was formed in 1881. The railroad arrived the same year, with the Great Northern Railroad depot marked today by the clock tower that remains. An additional railway came in 1914 with Union Pacific, and automotive traffic and bridges were a sign of the 1920s. From the 1930s through the 1960s, it was a bustling industrial area with railroad tracks, streets, bridges, and businesses.

In the early 1900s, the Olmsted Brothers (designers of Central Park in NYC) had created a plan for Spokane’s parks and recommended inclusion of land near the river falls because they find “interpretable signs and rise landscape feature for a city. By the 1960s, there was growing interest in recapturing that spirit, transforming the industrialized area into a community space with the river at its heart.

Cleaning up the area would come at a significant financial cost. Many funding options were explored in the 1960s and into 1970, among them hosting a World’s Fair. The idea came with the big win of federal and state financial cost. Many funding options were explored in

CELEBRATING TODAY

While some elements were new (like two playgrounds and an ice ribbon), other projects paid homage to the past: a restored Looff Carrousel in a new climate-con- trolled setting and the rebuilding of the North Suspension Bridge (both built for Expo ’74) will also receive a full renovation ahead of the celebration. The Friends of Riverfront Park is rais- ing funds to build a King Cole Com- memorative Project, and is seeking a local/regional artist.

We are nearing completion of the Past, St. Bridge, which serves as an ex- tension of Riverfront Park and adds key connectivity for the growing North Bank. An improved river put-in near T.J. Meenach will open. Completion of the Great Gorge Loop Trail is planned, a three-mile walking/biking trail that flows from downtown to Peaceful Valley and Redband Park, across the Sandfruf Bridge and back along the Centennial Trail in Kendall Yards to return to the park. An overarching focus for the 50th celebration is the river. You can see this in the planned projects, but it will also be evidenced through interpretive signs that connect people with a deeper understanding of how incredibly varied our riv- er is from the east to west ends of town. It’s an opportu- nity to remind ourselves how lucky we are, highlight ways to interact safely with the river, and care for our river into the future. Additional recreational amenity improvements are also being explored.

SPOKANE PARKS

| City Parks | 87 | Total Park Acres | 1,728 | Downtown Park Acres | 122.4 | Falls Height | 146 FEET |

Source: City of Spokane

Nothing brings more joy to us than to see a park enjoyed and loved by the community it’s built to serve. The economic impact of Riverfront’s ren- ovation is evidenced in many ways down- stream, perhaps most visibly by growth on the North Bank of the Spokane river, from The Podium to new restaurants, businesses, and living spaces.

Planning is underway for the 50th anniver- sary of Expo ’74. We will celebrate not just the mark that Expo left on all of us, but the continuing legacy of joy, environmental stewardship, and community connection that drives Spokane to this day.

It will be a nine-week celebration from May 4–July 7, 2024, focused on the key themes of Arts & Culture, Environment, Tribal Culture, Recreation & Sports, and Expo Legacy. You’ll find special activities, self-guided tours, and integrations with existing community events that combine to form a well-rounded celebration with something for everyone.

A BRIGHT FUTURE

Just as Expo ’74 left a large urban park behind, the 50th celebration will also leave its mark. There are several planned recreational amenity im- provements meant to embrace oppor- tunities for the next 50 years.

Following the North Suspension Bridge renovation on in 2022, the South Suspension Bridge (built for Expo ’74) will also receive a full renovation ahead of the celebration. The Friends of Riverfront Park is rais- ing funds to build a King Cole Com- memorative Project, and is seeking a local/regional artist.

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Spacken came together to make the vision of Expo a reality, and we welcome a chance to commemorate, celebrate, and look ahead – building on this momentum to bring investments into our neighborhood parks as part of the vision for Spacken’s next chapter.
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THE DAVENPORT HOTEL COLLECTION: TRANSPORT BACK IN TIME & EXPERIENCE THE BEST OF SPOKANE’S ENTERTAINMENT CULTURE

The Davenport Hotel Collection invites guests and locals to immerse themselves in Spokane’s vibrantly creative culture with an all-encompassing arts and entertainment program for 2023.

As a landmark that has stood as a centerpiece of Spokane’s history for over a century, The Davenport Hotel pays tribute to its Louis Davenport days by rekindling the grand ballrooms and elaborate lobby with music and dancing with The Songbook Series and Sacha’s Supper Club events. The hotel is partnering with Grammy-nominated Sacha Boutrous’ Hear Me Roar Entertainment Group to tap the local artist community, while bringing in award-winning talent for experiences unlike anything else offered in the destination.

This new, music-centric programming of The Songbook Series and Sacha’s Supper Club events honors The Historic Davenport’s beginnings in the early 20th century and upholds the hotel’s long-standing dedication to culture over the last 100 years. “The Davenport’s efforts speak to our commitment to support diverse performers and women-led businesses,” said Dania Duke, Vice President, Area Managing Director of Davidson Hospitality Group. “We know art brings people together, and these special moments will continue to do that for our guests and the greater Spokane community.”

The Songbook Series and Sacha’s Supper Club events are the highlights of the program, and they promise to transport guests back in time with their music-infused themes. The Songbook Series celebrates The Great American Songbook, a compilation of America’s most influential songs of the early 20th century, featuring piano performances in the hotel’s stunning lobby. With tribute performances to legendary artists such as Bing Crosby, Sarah Vaughan, Irving Berlin, Ella Fitzgerald, Sabor Latino, Frank Sinatra, and Cole Porter, guests can re-live the golden era of American music.

Sacha’s Supper Club dinner series, on the other hand, embodies American nostalgia through dining, dancing, and attire that evoke the elegance of yesteryear. The series commenced with “Tango in Argentina” in February and “Swing with Bing” in early May, with more marquee moments in store throughout the year including “Party like it’s 1923” in November to celebrate the 90-year anniversary of Prohibition ending.

Apart from these events, the Davenport Hotel Collection has also planned weekly and seasonal events that cater to various interests. From wine and culinary experiences to fitness and wellness activities, there is something for everyone. Guests and locals can enjoy weekend brunch with live music, local wine tastings, pop-up Chef collaboration dinners, yoga classes on the terrace, and engaging hands-on arts and crafts workshops.

Come time for the holidays, Davenport Hotels will celebrate the beloved traditions that are special to the Spokane community, including Christmas Tree Elegance and the Holiday Crescent Windows, while offering new and exciting experiences while ensuring that everyone feels at home, as Louis Davenport’s mission from 1914 stands true today: “We hope to so well please our guests that they will be glad they came, sorry to leave and eager to return.”

The refreshed events and offerings promise to take guests on a journey through time, where music, food, art and culture come together to create unforgettable memories. Come and experience the magic of the Davenport Hotel Collection, and be transported to another time while enjoying the best of Spokane’s vibrant culture.
The Podium Powered by STCU officially opened in the fall of 2021, just under two years after ground was broken in December of 2019. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic impacted nearly every facet of the sports tourism business; however, while the rest of the world was shut down, construction continued onward. A design-build process was used throughout the entire project, allowing for changes and new ideas to be implemented throughout construction.

The marquee feature of The Podium is a 200-meter banked hydraulic indoor track. This specific attribute allows Spokane Sports to program the facility from December to the beginning of March with indoor track and field meets. The feature was added into the facility plan with an understanding that it would drive sports tourism to the city in the off-season. In the 2021–2022 inaugural indoor track and field season, Spokane Sports hosted 12 meets, ending the season with the 2022 USATF Indoor Championships. This prestigious event immediately proved the value of the facility, as The Podium removed limits on what prestigious sporting events Spokane Sports can bid to host, and opened the door to higher-caliber sporting events that will bring more sports travelers and tourism spending into the downtown core.

FAST FACTS ABOUT THE PODIUM:
- 75,000-square-foot competition floor
- 135,000 square feet, including concessions, vendor, management, media, and medical training spaces
- Marquee feature is a 200-meter hydraulic banked track with an easy conversion to a multi-sport court flooring
- 4,237-seating capacity (3,000 permanent/1,000 portable/237 VIP)
- Since The Podium Powered by STCU has opened, Spokane Sports has hosted a total of 29 events in 15 months (as of March 30, 2023)
- One world record was set at The Podium, in the Women’s Distance Medley Relay, in February of 2022 by Union Athletics Club
- 43 Indoor Track and Field High-Performance Training Sessions were held at The Podium by local colleges and competitive area clubs
- The venue was voted Best New Sports Venue in the Country in 2022 by Sports Travel Magazine

The Podium continues to be an incredible asset to the City of Spokane, as Spokane Sports has programmed the facility with four national championship events in the spring of 2023, and one
World Championship event in the fall of 2023. If you have not yet had an opportunity to check out this amazing new facility, we invite you to join us at one of the following championship events!

- 2023 USA Women’s Wrestling National Championships – April 14 to April 16
- 2023 USA Team Handball Open + U20 National Championships – May 4 to May 7
- 2023 USA Judo Senior National Championships – May 20 to May 22
- 2023 USA Badminton Junior National Championships – June 26 to July 2
- 2023 BWF Badminton World Junior Championships – September 24 to October 8

This world-class sports facility is located in the heart of downtown Spokane, giving athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators front-door access to restaurants, hotels and entertainment. The facility forged several unique partnerships and funding approaches, all with the intent to generate economic impact for the city, while putting Spokane at the forefront of sports tourism.

Spokane Public Facilities District
Total convention and event Fiscal Economic Impact (local spending)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Impact (Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$121.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$100.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$143.7 w/Podium: $262.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spokane Tourism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Spending (Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food &amp; Beverage</td>
<td>$177.4M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging</td>
<td>$193M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail</td>
<td>$305M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>$259M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation/Entertainment</td>
<td>$71.7M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor income</td>
<td>$616M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State &amp; local taxes</td>
<td>$219M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Economic Impact:
- $1.4B in visitor spending
- $616M in labor income
- 17,426 total jobs
- $219M in state and local taxes
- $616 million total income generated by tourism is the equivalent of $2,936 for every household in Spokane County
- The total number of jobs sustained by tourism, including indirect and induced benefits, accounts for 5.3% of all jobs in Spokane County
- Enough to pay the salaries of over 3,500 elementary school teachers in Spokane County

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Washington Trust Bank, the oldest and largest privately held commercial bank in the Pacific Northwest, has been a major downtown Spokane presence for over 120 years.

During Expo ’74, a developer out of Texas began building the now-iconic sixteen-story Washington Trust Bank tower at 717 W. Sprague Avenue, but when construction was only halfway done, he went bankrupt. Although they had planned to simply be tenants, Washington Trust Bank stepped in and purchased the tower. In 2018, they also purchased the eight-story Wells Fargo tower at 601 West First Avenue, further cementing their commitment to downtown Spokane.

The reason for their commitment is twofold: first is all the amenities downtown offers. Restaurants, shopping, Riverfront Park, arts and entertainment, participatory events like the MLK Center for their early childhood reading program and Transitions’ New Leaf Kitchen & Café, a trauma-informed, free culinary job training program for low-income individuals with barriers to traditional employment. “It is a recommitment to Spokane for us,” shared Van Vleet.

As one of the country’s largest private-label tissue manufacturer and world-class producer of paperboard, Clearwater Paper is the “home behind the name” of some very big brands. The company touches millions of Americans everyday through their paper products—many found at your local grocery chains, clubs, big box stores, and paperboard used in high-end packaging, fast foods chains, ice cream cartons, and hot cups at your local café to name just a few.

A benefit to being headquartered downtown is the convenience of being close to an airport with easy connections to company facilities around the U.S., and only a short drive to their largest manufacturing operation in the country in Lewiston, Idaho, which employs around 1300 individuals. Downtown also offers a unique and fun experience for their employees visiting from other parts of the country.

During their quarterly meetings, dozens of managers visit downtown Spokane for a week, staying at the world-class Davenport hotel. When they are not at meetings on landmarks like the Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox or the Spokane Convention Center, they get to enjoy the downtown corridor, restaurants, and nightlife, bringing in a lot of money to downtown businesses.

Even when it is not summertime – the season of lunch- es at Riverfront Park and coffee shop meetings outdoors – the best of downtown is still very accessible for employees visiting the city. Clearwater Paper recently rejoined Downtown Spokane Partnership to get involved in community safety.

“We want to do our part to keep the streets safe for our downtown visitors, neighbors and employees,” said Van Vleet. “Having a safe, vibrant downtown increases the quality of life not just for our employees but for everybody.”

Decades ago, before the multimillion-dollar renovation of the Davenport and the resurgence of retail shopping downtown, the area was withering and desolate.

“I do not want to go back to that old model of downtown,” said Don Ting, President and CEO of Pyrotek. “Pyrotek has locations from Boston to Los Angeles to London, has made Spokane his home for twenty-seven years. ‘Hands-down, it’s the best place I’ve ever lived,’” he said.

“We just like being part of Spokane. It’s where we wanted to raise our kids.” Founded in 1955 in Spokane, Pyrotek is a leader in the aluminum industry with more than 80 locations in 35 countries worldwide.

With only 1-2% of Pyrotek’s business in Spokane, and much of their business outside the United States, Pyrotek would be headquartered anywhere in the world, but they’ve chosen downtown Spokane.

Having a central location and being part of the close-knit downtown community are selling points for Pyrotek, but to turn the tides of remote work and see other businesses invest in downtown Spokane, making the streets clean and safe needs to be top priority.

Ting’s five-year dream for downtown Spokane is to foster collaborative governmental leadership, public spaces that can be used for the greater public; that more people can dine alfresco; more shows grace the stages of North Bank entertainment facilities and First Interstate Center for the Arts; and that people can walk the park and streets at any hour, any day, and feel safe.

“I think all those things are within our grasp,” said Ting. ‘The COVID-19 pandemic gave business owners the opportunity to walk through downtown with nothing open, providing a snapshot of what a community can look like without a vibrant downtown.’

With community initiatives, hard work, and the commitment of our businesses and city leaders, we can protect this special place, so people can live, work and play at the fullest in downtown Spokane.
SPOKANE

By Kate Hudson

Visit Spokane

CREATE A WORLD OF LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES.

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Spokane Main
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509-835-6000

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT 25+

<table>
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<td>College Degree</td>
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BACHELOR ATTAINMENT LIVING IN DOWNTOWN: 1,794

Student Enrollment in University District

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TOP POSTED INDUSTRIES

1) Health care and social assistance
2) Admin and support and waste management remediation services
3) Retail trade
4) Manufacturing
5) Professional, scientific, and technical services

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I n 2008, the first annual Terrain, a one-night-only arts and music event took place in downtown Spokane to bring the art community together and shine light on local artists and makers. This event was the impetus for Terrain, Spokane’s groundbreaking non-profit arts organization. Terrain’s programs are fueled by a vision for a vibrant, more economically diverse, and socially just Spokane, where artists and art patrons are connected in a trans-formative relationship.

“Every fiber in my being knows the transformational power of art and creativity,” shared Ginger Ewing, Terrain Co-founder and Executive Director. “I don’t think there’s a single issue in this world that art can’t solve.”

One of Terrain’s programs that’s transforming lives, and Spokane as a whole, is Creative Enterprise, a 14-week intensive business incubator program for artists and arts-based businesses. The goal of the program is to give participants the skills and one-on-one time outside of the class structure to transition their creative endeavors into living-wage small businesses. At the end of the program, participants will have a fully fleshed out, actionable business plan. The cohort meets weekly for a three-hour class, each featuring the work of over 70 artists, and is also run as an incubator program. Terrain’s downtown art markets – Bazaar (summer) and BrtZAAr (winter) – were launched to give artists and creative entrepreneurs similar professional development opportunities, where relationships between artists and art buyers are built, and where people can discover the city’s vast and immensely talented creative community. Everything Terrain does is through a lens of economic empowerment, equity, and providing opportunities for Spokaneites often overlooked and silenced in traditional business culture. For example, 47% of Creative Enterprise participants identify as BIPOC and/or LGBTQ2SIA+, and 68% of the businesses at From Here are owned by women. “I think that Spokane collectively, our world collectively, is missing out on some really incredible businesses that can be successful if we engage with them, and that’s what Terrain is doing,” said Ewing.

Their goal to bring artists and the arts to the forefront of the region’s economic development strategies is working. In 2022 alone, Terrain’s programs generated $1076,601 in art sales and artist payments, 81% of which went directly back into the pockets of Spokane creatives. With Terrain focusing their efforts downtown, artists gain a unique opportunity to not only connect with Spokaneites, but also visitors. “There’s something pretty special about being able to showcase your work in the heart of the business district in Spokane,” said Ewing. "Throw in incredible architecture that brings heart and soul to a space, a breathtaking hundred-acre park, and you have a recipe for a destination-worthy community and businesses.”

Since Terrain began its work fifteen years ago, Ewing has seen a dramatic change in how Spokane advocates for arts to the forefront of the region’s economic development strategies is working. “I think that Spokane in general, needs to put as much time and energy into supporting and cultivating small business as it does to recruiting larger, outside business,” said Ewing. “Both are vitally important to the success of our city, but it’s small businesses that give Spokane a soul.”
In 2019, Cowles Real Estate Co. announced it would be moving production of The Spokesman-Review, Spokane’s major daily newspaper since 1893, out of its downtown location at 1 S. Monroe Street into a new facility in the Spokane Valley. Efficiency and environmental thoughtfulness prompted their decision to repurpose the building.

The press inside the space at Monroe and River- side in downtown Spokane was a mammoth one, built specifically to run newspaper. As the years went by, efficiencies were created and smaller presses became available that were able to do the same job, while being more nimble, eco-friendly and versatile.

At the same time, the move would free up a prime area of downtown for new uses.

“Once the paper moved out to the valley, we were left with a large building that we were trying to figure out the best use for,” said Bryn West, Vice President of Real Estate, Asset Management for Cowles Real Estate, a subsidiary of Cowles Co., which also owns The Spokesman-Review. “It’s been a joy to look at Redeveloping.”

Built in the early 1980s, West described the approximate 183,000-square-foot building as very dynamic and malleable. To be able to repurpose it is a dream come true.

Dry Fly was able to make it a really cool industrial office space,” explained West. “It’s just a beautiful shot as you’re driving up Monroe to see all their large vats in the windows,” said West. “They’re silver and shining and it’s a great visual.”

Don Poffenroth, Dry Fly Distilling president and CEO, described the building as “a unicorn.”

“It checked off every box we could ever imagine in a manufacturing facility,” he said.

Dry Fly’s new space includes 19,000 square feet, 13,000 of which is devoted to production. They also have a full bar/restaurant and tasting room.

“People just love coming in here because it’s very cool environment made it very attractive to the lighting and character of the building.”

Dry Fly’s use wasn’t extremely invasive to the building, as the large open space that housed the press was ideal. They started to investigate whether it’d be a good fit, and they were able to make it a really cool industrial office space,” explained West.

In an interview with the Journal of Business, CDA’s principal and co-owner Gwen Guenzel said she was really attracted to the lighting and character of the building.

Even though 16,000 square feet is smaller than their former location on East Sprague Avenue (17,000 square feet), Guenzel said the space is configured more efficiently and they have more room for collaboration, meetings and focus time.

Their main office is very linear, based on the original footprint of the printing press, and the upper level features a large showroom. The building also boasts warehouse space with covered bays, which makes it easier for them to load and unload materials.

Clients also appreciate the convenient downtown location with so many amenities and attractions nearby.

CDA moved into the building in spring 2023, bringing the building’s total number of tenants to four.

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For more information: Call 509.624.5265 | Visit www.hawleytroxell.com
The City of Spokane is proud to be a partner to help stimulate downtown development and encourage local and visitors to “Choose Downtown.” From new parking meters to the booming North Bank, cleanup crews to increased housing choices, take a closer look at how the City’s efforts are enhancing the downtown experience.

NEW PARKING METERS
The City continues to improve downtown parking as the final phase of new single and dual-space on-street meters are being installed.

“Having downtown equipped with modern devices creates a better parking experience,” said Steve Macdonald, Community & Economic Development Director.

In 2022, 454 new MacKay Smart Meters replaced about 800 meters dating back to 1992. In addition, seven aging kiosk terminals were replaced with new kiosks from Cale of Flowbird Urban Technologies. The transition from Passport mobile payment to a sole mobile application from ParkMobile streamlined the payment option to one vendor.

Three new Chevy Bolts were also equipped with License Plate Recognition (LPR) technology. This addition allows for more efficient enforcement, ensuring parkers are adhering to time limits. Time limits enhance the turnover and therefore the economic vitality of downtown businesses.

CLEANUP CREW FOCUSES ON DOWNTOWN
Code Enforcement launched a pilot program in 2022 of having a cleanup crew focusing on downtown daily.

The pilot was so successful that it’s now a critical part of Code Enforcement’s focus in 2023. During the first quarter of 2023, crews removed 51,500 pounds of litter from downtown.

In addition, the City’s Homeless Outreach Team, which consists of Police, Code Enforcement, and outreach members, addresses camping complaints, addresses camping complaints routinely, providing information on available services, along with cleaning up litter.

The City also partners with groups such as DSP on several graffiti abatement projects.

INCENTIVE ALLOWS PARKING LOTS TO BECOME HOUSING
The City Council this year created a tax incentive to turn downtown parking lots into workforce or affordable housing as a way to address the housing crisis.

The incentive defers both sales and local construction sales and use taxes – a total of 9 percent – for developers who turn downtown parking lots into housing, at least 50 percent of which must be affordable or workforce housing. If the development maintains those affordable units for at least 10 years, taxes would not need to be paid.

INCREASING HOUSING CHOICES
The Housing Action Plan adopted in 2021 identified a desire to streamline permitting and simplify processes for the approval of new housing.

The Building Opportunity and Choices for All pilot program was approved last year and continues in 2023, allowing duplexes, townhouses, triplexes, and fourplexes in all neighborhoods. These changes pave the way for working with the community to create permanent code changes to increase housing choices and an update to the Comprehensive Plan in 2026.

More specifically, the Multi-Family Tax Exemption Program was also expanded in 2022 to increase affordable housing units. It is the largest MITE area in Washington.

The City’s innovative efforts to address the housing crisis have been touted as a model by the state legislature, other local and state governments, and the national media.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION INCENTIVES SPARK REVIVAL
Since 2014, historic preservation incentives, such as the Special Valuation Incentive and the Federal Historic Tax Credit, have made it possible for 395 new housing units downtown in buildings listed on the Spokane Register of Historic Places.

These were not housing units that were rehabbed, but buildings that were previously vacant or had a different use before they were converted to housing. The Ridpath Hotel, Columbia Building, and the U.S. Rubber Building are examples of such projects.

The Historic Preservation Office approved more Special Valuation Tax Incentive projects (13 citywide) than any other city/county in Washington in 2022.

RESIDENTIAL UNITS ADDED
Permits for 104 residential units were issued in the Riverside Neighborhood of downtown in 2022 and eight during the first quarter of 2023, signifying downtown is a vibrant place to live, work and play. 2022 was the second-highest such number in the past five years.

The residential unit increase was due to change of use, office-to-residential conversion, additions, and residential conversions, such as single-family to duplex or duplex to triplex. These were not new multi-family developments. There were 165 total downtown residential units in plan review during the first quarter of 2023.

CLEANUP LEADS TO ATTRACTIONS
The City used three U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Cleanup grants totaling $600,000 to clean up soil contamination from former railway and industrial uses in Riverfront Park. The cleanup allowed for several park features connected by the new Howard Street Promenade and included reconstruction of three bridges across the Spokane River.

The cleanup earned the City and Ecology a national award at the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials’ National Brownfields Conference in 2022. It was a catalyst for the State Ribbon of SkyRide facility, Looff Carousel building, Playscape play pieces, U.S. Pavilion building, North Bank development and The Podium sports facility.

The cleanup was also a catalyst for private development near the park, including The Palisade mixed-use towers; a 22-story mixed-use building called The Falls Tower; and The M Apartments.

The northern portion of downtown, destined to be among the nation’s premier sports and entertainment districts, is also gaining attention in planning for the 50th anniversary of Expo ’74 in 2024.

NEW GENERATION OF E-SCOOTERS & BIKES
The new generation of Lime e-scooters and bikes in downtown this year offer a safer, better handling and smoother ride than previous models.

Swappable batteries; larger and inflatable wheels; displays for “no riding/parking” zones; swept-back handlebars; dual brakes; elimination of skid marks; and a new kickstand with two legs are among the new features.

Since 2018, the devices have replaced an estimated 428,000 car trips in Spokane, reducing our carbon footprint in addition to enhancing the downtown experience.

INCREDIBLE INVESTMENT OF ON-STREET PARKING SYSTEM REVENUE INTO DOWNTOWN
As downtown parking volume declined to pre-COVID levels, net parking meter revenue will be available once again to reinvest in important streetscape enhancing projects across downtown.

Turnkey Opportunities
MORE HOUSING OPTIONS IN DOWNTOWN
In 2023, the Washington State Legislature passed two important condominium development de-regulation laws that should help get condo development back into the mix in Washington.

ENHANCED DOWNTOWN SIDEWALKS AND ALLEYS
Downtown is already Spokane’s most walkable neighborhood, however some sidewalks and alleys are underdeveloped. City and private property owners have the opportunity to prioritize a sidewalk and alley enhancement program that will help improve walkability and continue to build alleys as unique public places.

“40 years of construction excellence WALKER CONSTRUCTION”
BUILDING A NEIGHBORHOOD

By Jordan Tampien
4 Degrees Real Estate

Downtown Spokane is the soul of the city. Our impressive history is evident in the iconic stone details etched into our buildings and amazing businesses that call it home. From the brick West Plaza on a summer afternoon to Riverfront Park for a concert, our downtown is taking shape and reinventing itself as a top destination in the Pacific Northwest.

In recent years, downtown Spokane has started to welcome more and more residents through conversion of these historic buildings, transforming them from offices and warehouses to residential units. The reasons for this trend are varied, but one of the greatest benefits is the welcoming of a younger demographic breathing a new life into our downtown.

Why convert old buildings? I love older buildings, from the character of timber beams to exposed brick, but many of these buildings have been cost prohibitive to renovate. But with housing demand at an all-time high, downtown has emerged as one of the best locations to meet some of this demand.

Office buildings have historically been struggling to fill vacancies, and converting them into apartments will provide additional housing and fill an otherwise vacant building.

Another big reason for the shift from office toward residential units is the changing nature of work. With more companies allowing employees to work remotely, the need for office space is decreasing. As a result, many companies are downsizing their office space and moving to more affordable locations.

This has left many office buildings with large amounts of vacant space that can be repurposed into apartments.

For example, in our LoGo Loft project on the west end of downtown, we were able to convert an old office and warehouse into upscale apartments that are walking distance from coffee shops, breweries, restaurants and parks. The ultimate in urban living!

But just converting the buildings is one thing, who will occupy them is more important. The most recent downtown conversions of the M Apartments and the Marjorie Apartments illustrate just how amazing these conversions can look and, more importantly, how this type of development is helping to attract a younger demographic to the downtown core, from college students to recent graduates and young professionals deciding to call Spokane home.

For example, with our new project of converting the Peyton Building to residential apartments, we are targeting a unit type of housing people can afford. This approach accounts for the all-in living cost of a resident. In other words, we consider the housing, transportation, food, and entertainment costs a resident would incur living in Spokane. This can be attributed to the age and production of the project adjacent to a major transportation hub and business district so residents can walk to work and eliminate the need for a car; a specific building design that will reduce monthly heating/cooling costs paid by the residents; and offering fun amenities for residents, such as game rooms and pet areas to provide free entertainment options. Downtown development is an ideal location for this resident-centric approach, offering opportunities in affordable urban living that will differentiate these apartments from other Spokane housing options.

From a downtown growth perspective, it is crucial that we get more residents living downtown to help stimulate growth and vibrancy. Many young professionals are looking for vibrant and dynamic urban environments to live in, and downtown Spokane has the potential to offer just that. This younger population living in downtown Spokane can help attract more businesses and job opportunities to the area. This, in turn, can lead to a positive economic impact on the city as a whole.

However, there are also challenges that come with converting office buildings into apartments. One of the main challenges is the increased cost to develop these historic buildings. This can be attributed to the age of the buildings, and tight construction sites make developing these buildings more difficult, along with the need for infrastructure upgrades to support the increased population density.

This includes improvements to public transportation, utilities, and other public services.

Additionally, there may be concerns around the cost vs. benefit of preserving the historic character of some of these buildings and ensuring that they are safe and livable for residents. Despite these challenges, the benefits of converting office buildings into apartments and attracting residents to downtown Spokane outweigh the drawbacks. This trend is not only beneficial for building owners and developers, but also for the entire city.

Development downtown and the influx of residents living downtown Spokane is a positive trend that can help continue to revitalize the city. By creating a more vibrant and dynamic urban environment, the city can preserve the history of the buildings while attracting more businesses and job opportunities, and ultimately improve the quality of life for its residents. Let’s continue to preserve and grow the soul of Spokane!

CONDO LIABILITY REFORM OPENS DOORS TO DOWNTOWN RESIDENTIAL OWNERSHIP

In spring of 2023, the Washington State Legislature passed Senate Bill 5258, the “Condo Liability Reform” bill. This bill brings positive changes for developers undertaking large condo projects in downtown Spokane, including a “right to cure” provision that streamlines conflict resolution for construction defects before resorting to litigation, thereby reducing costly lawsuits. The bill also mandates lower impact fees for smaller housing units and requires local governments to establish procedures in their short-plat regulations for subdividing parent lots into separately owned unit lots.

These policy reforms, along with others enacted in early 2023, aim to alleviate regulatory burdens on smaller condo projects, address housing affordability challenges in Washington, and encourage new housing construction in and around downtown Spokane.

DISCOVER THE HISTORY, CULTURES AND ART OF THE INLAND NORTHWEST AND THE WORLD.

THE MAC 2023/2024

The Wyeths: Three Generations
Minecraft
Frank S. Matsuura Portraits from the Borderland
First Impressions
Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture
northwestmuseum.org

2023 DOWNTOWN SPOKANE

CHOOSE TO LIVE
**THE WARREN: A NEW ADDITION TO DOWNTOWN SPOKANE’S HOUSING REVIVAL**

Downtown Spokane has been experiencing a re-vitalization over the past decade, with new businesses, restaurants, and housing developments popping up in new and underdeveloped areas. One of the most exciting new developments is located at the confluence of downtown Spokane and the city’s University District. The Warren, a brand-new residential building located at the corner of Browne and Riverside, is a six-story, 139-unit multifamily project building that was developed, in partnership, by Portland-based firm Edlen & Company and Boise-based deChase Miksis.

The firm was attracted to Spokane’s walkability, the sense of community among the people who live there, and the city’s organic and dynamic growth potential. The downtown area, in particular, appealed to the developers because of its historic buildings and unique character.

While the development team specializes in a wide range of developments, including historic preservation and adaptive reuse projects, they ultimately decided to build The Warren from the ground up. “We really saw that we could build something there that would hopefully be a compliment to the neighborhood and really connect in with the fabric of East Spokane,” says Edlen & Company Co-founder, Matt Edlen.

The site, a former parking lot and bank drive-through, was well-suited for a new construction project, and the developers saw an opportunity to create a new building that would fit seamlessly into the fabric of the neighborhood. The team that we brought together was a mix of local and regional designers, we spent a lot of time just listening,” tells Edlen. “We’ve really tried to encapsulate local and regional designers, we spent a lot of time just listening,” tells Edlen. “We’ve really tried to encapsulate elements of the community that exist today, while also listening,” tells Edlen. “We’ve really tried to encapsulate local and regional designers, we spent a lot of time just listening,” tells Edlen. “We’ve really tried to encapsulate elements of the community that exist today, while also listening,” tells Edlen. “We’ve really tried to encapsulate local and regional designers, we spent a lot of time just listening,” tells Edlen.

The team engaged with Spokane firms The Woodshop ad agency, and artist collaborative, Terrain, to weave elements of local artists into the fabric of the design. “Throughout the building – on the elevator vestibules, in small spaces – go around the corner and you see these pull quotes from literary pieces,” says Edlen. “I’ve explored a lot of different mediums, but I’ve never really explored literature in a building. Where people learn about the author and read stories about the place that they’re in today. We really want to connect people to this larger sense of the story of Spokane.”

Downtown Spokane’s housing growth has primarily come in the form of redevelopment. The Warren is one of only a few new ground-up residential buildings to be constructed in the last decade. The project was met with excitement and anticipation from both residents and city officials, who saw it as a positive sign of Spokane’s continued growth and development. “Between the city, the University District, and others, there is clearly an ecosystem that helped aspects of this project become a reality,” remarks Edlen. “I would say the bigger thing was the commitment by those groups in earnest to want to participate with us.”

Edlen says that of the 139 units, only about 20 remain unoccupied as they move into peak leasing season. “We’ve got a fabulous team that has been working around the clock,” says Edlen. “There’s just been such an incredible amount of demand for the building. There’s been, interestingly, a lot of local demand, which is great. I would say it’s been far better than we ever anticipated.”

The accessibility of The Warren to both downtown amenities and the University District has played a part of the demand, Edlen says. “Of course, you have Spokane at your fingertips, and you have one of the most incredible parks I’ve ever been to, one of the most vibrant communities on the planet, and it’s right at your doorstep.”

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The Warren is just one example of the exciting changes that are taking place in downtown Spokane, and a testament to the power of collaborative spirit. “I’ve said this so many times to the Mayor and to the city staff, it was one of the most collaborative projects I’ve ever experienced with a municipality,” says Edlen. “Quantifying how much that participation or that collaboration would impact the project in such positive ways going into the project is almost impossible.”

The Warren features a mix of studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom apartments. The building also includes ground-floor retail space, a community courtyard, and plenty of artistic character.

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**RESIDENTIAL POPULATION (99201)**

- **13.2%** Percentage of units vacant
- **65.5%** Renter Occupied
- **21.3%** Owner Occupied
- **9,283** Total Number of Units

**Source: Demographics Now**

**Average Monthly Rent (2022)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Rent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spokane</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tacoma</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bend</td>
<td>$900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boise</td>
<td>$800</td>
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</table>

**Median Home Value (2022)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spokane</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tacoma</td>
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<td>Portland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bend</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boise</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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</table>

**Source: Demographics Now**
BECOMING A NON-STOP DESTINATION

By Todd Woodard
Spokane International Airport

Whether heading out on a business trip to Atlanta or Seattle or enjoying a leisure trip to Southern California, the ability for Spokane-area travelers to get somewhere as quickly and efficiently as possible can make all the difference between a great trip and one to forget. How can Spokane International Airport help make that next business or leisure trip a memorable one? By offering favorable connectivity between Spokane and the rest of the world.

Air service connectivity is a crucial component of local economic development efforts to recruit new companies to Spokane, as well as maintain the presence of existing firms looking to expand or enhance their current operations. The ability to easily access clients, customers and employees at other facilities; recruit events and conferences to the area; bring tourists in to explore the area offers; and unite friends and relatives is essential in order for Spokane to compete with other cities that are happening in Spokane and share information from community partners in an effort to enhance or add flight offerings from the Airport.

The Airport understands the importance of air service connectivity and meets with business and civic leaders throughout the year to discuss what is happening at the Airport and gather feedback on the demands these leaders have for their company and the community. The Airport, in turn, meets regularly with both existing and potential new airline partners to update them on what is happening in Spokane and share information from community partners in an effort to enhance or add flight offerings from the Airport.

While addressing current air service needs is a top priority for the Airport, they are also keeping an eye to the future. As Spokane and the surrounding region grow, so too does the demand for air service. In 2021 the Airport handled over 3.9 million passengers, less than 3% below their record breaking total in 2018, and by 2030 the Airport anticipates seeing over 6 million passengers traveling through the building. To address the current and future forecasted passenger traffic the Airport has been developing plans to expand and modernize the terminal facility, culminating in the Terminal Renovation and Expansion (TREX) Program.

The first phase of the TREX Program is the Concourse C Expansion Project, a 144,000 square foot, $150 million expansion that adds three new gates, replaces current ground boarding gates with three passenger loading bridges, modernizes the existing upper C Concourse gates and extends the ticket counter area with six new ticket counter positions for airlines. The project commenced in Fall 2022 and is expected to be complete in 2025.

The Concourse C Expansion Project will deliver substantial benefits, such as pumping millions of dollars into the local economy, upgrading the passenger experience and bringing several environmental and energy efficient improvements. But it will also enhance and encourage competitive air service by adding much-needed gate capacity that can aid current airline partners in evolving their operations as they grow and as the area’s population continues increasing. Spokane International Airport will strive to deliver not only a modern airport experience with world-class customer service, but also provide a facility that can accommodate the Spokane/Coeur d’Alene Region’s increasing passenger traffic growth and boost air service connectivity options for local business and leisure travelers.
S pokane Transit Authority (STA) believes in connecting everyone to opportunity. The launch of the region’s first Bus Rapid Transit route, City Line, delivers on this commitment, with frequent and efficient service along a six-mile stretch connecting Browne’s Addition with Spokane Community College (SCC) through Downtown and the University District, including Gonzaga University.

“After years of planning, design, and construction, we are thrilled to introduce City Line to Spokane,” said STA CEO E. Susan Meyer.

STA’s sleek lilac and black zero-emission City Line buses hit the streets of Spokane for passengers on July 15, 2023. This modern streetcar-like experience will revolutionize transit in Spokane. When service starts, City Line will offer fifteen-minute service six days a week, with an increased span that includes the late evening. By spring of 2024, peak service will be every seven-and-a-half minutes with midday service clocking in at every ten minutes. City Line service also extends past 12 AM weeknights and Saturdays, meeting the needs of both traditional and non-traditional commuters and those engaging in the wonderful nightlife Spokane has to offer.

STA Board Chair Lori Kinnear said, “Citizens consistently report frequency of service as their top priority. City Line delivers on this with not only fifteen-minute service, but with frequent service well into the nighttime hours.”

The state-of-the-art digital signage at every City Line station will convey real-time information on departure times, minimizing the need for riders to plan their trips. By arriving at their station, they can simply wait and board the next bus while enjoying the cleverly designed station art unique to each neighborhood, thanks to a partnership with Spokane Arts. With the all-door boarding and off-board fare validation at busy stations, hopping onto the bus will be quicker than ever.

“Riders’ experience is further enhanced by the on-board digital displays, which will broadcast the bus location and upcoming stops so they know exactly when to disembark. Parking and traffic congestion are frequent complaints in a vibrant city, and as high-density housing development is prioritized, transit’s role is more vital than ever. “Over 22,000 people live within half a mile of City Line,” said Karl Otterstrom, STA Chief Planning and Development Officer. “The opportunity to commute via transit promotes walkable neighborhoods, which in turn spurs economic development. Businesses are attracted to dense population areas and mixed-use communities are desirable to residents. The South Logan Transit Oriented Development project is a perfect example of how City Line will benefit the neighborhood for future growth.”

With City Line, Spokane residents and visitors will have a chance to explore what the Lilac City has to offer. “Whether you are commuting from Browne’s Addition to SCC for class, shopping for essentials, heading from your neighborhood to a Gonzaga game, attending a business meeting on the opposite end of Downtown, or enjoying dinner and the theater without the hassle of parking, City Line will connect you to your destination in style,” said Meyer. “We look forward to welcoming you on board soon.”

INTRODUCING CITY LINE TO THE LILAC CITY

Source: Spokane Transit Authority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUS TRANSIT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>41</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional transit routes on Spokane Transit Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6,595,319</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed-route rides in 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>750,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated annual City Line rides</td>
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Source: Spokane Transit Authority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parking Accessibility</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total parking spaces in downtown: <strong>37,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-street parking spaces: <strong>21,400</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Avg. peak parking occupancy: <strong>56%</strong></td>
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Source: Downtown Spokane Partnership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Monthly Parking Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>$155</strong></td>
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Source: Spokane Transit Authority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Two Wheel Transit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>7.64 miles</strong> of Class I, II and III bike lanes in downtown area</td>
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Source: Spokane Transit Authority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Downtown Walkability</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walk score: <strong>95</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Transit score: <strong>71</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bike score: <strong>66</strong></td>
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Source: Walkscore.com
## DSP BOARD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Role</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Curran</td>
<td>Chair, Spokane Public Facilities District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Varallo</td>
<td>Vice Chair, Hawley Travalf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alicia Barbieri</td>
<td>Secretary, Goodale &amp; Barbieri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamie Hudson</td>
<td>Treasurer, Wheatland Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Bell</td>
<td>NAI Black, At Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shari Clarke</td>
<td>PhD, Eastern Washington University, At Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dania Duke</td>
<td>Davenport Hotels, At Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner Al French</td>
<td>Spokane County, At Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clint Gillum</td>
<td>Umpqua Bank, At Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Muenzey</td>
<td>Wonder Spokane, LLC, At Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Verwest</td>
<td>Knife River Prestress, At Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Whitmore</td>
<td>HMA, CPA, At Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor Nadine Woodward</td>
<td>City of Spokane, At Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Johnson</td>
<td>Downtown Spokane Business Improvement BID Rep, 2023 Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chancellor Daryl Dewald</td>
<td>WSU Spokane, Education Rep/UD Interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Member Michael Cathcart</td>
<td>City of Spokane, Local Government Interest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Meyer</td>
<td>Spokane Transit Authority, Transportation Rep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief Craig Meidl</td>
<td>City of Spokane Police Department, Safety Rep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fernanda Mazcot</td>
<td>Hispanic Business/Professional Association, Community Rep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose-Lynn Barden</td>
<td>Volunteers of America Eastern Washington &amp; Northern Idaho, Housing Rep</td>
</tr>
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## MEMBER PARTNERS

Members of the Downtown Spokane Partnership (DSP) are active partners in shaping the future of downtown development. The DSP engages members in a number of activities each year, including public policy advocacy; strategic initiative development; urban planning and design, and more. Visit downtownspokane.org for more information and to join today.

### BENEFACtors:
- Avista
- BNSF Railway
- Cowles Company
- Davenport Hotels
- Washington Trust Bank

### GOLD:
- Atkins Northwest Health
- Hawley Traval
- MultiCare Deaconess Hospital
- Providence Health & Services
- Cyrest Systems Inc.

### SILVER:
- NAI Black
- RenCorp Realty
- Spokane Transit Authority
- Clearwater Paper
- Idaho Central Credit Union

### BRONZE PLUS:
- Canopy Credit Union
- CliftonLarsonAllen
- Coffman Engineers
- D.A. Davidson
- Global Credit Union
- Goodale & Barbieri Company
- Kiemle Haggard Company
- Knife River
- Lydig Construction
- River Park Square
- US Bank
- Viren & Associates
- Walker Construction

### BRONZE:
- Baker Construction
- Bank of America
- BECU

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND SOURCES

- AHANA Multi-Ethnic Business Association
- City of Spokane
- Visit Spokane
- Greater Spokane Inc.
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AMC 20 THEATRES WITH IMAX • APPLE • MAC DADDY’S • ANTHROPOLOGIE • PAPER NERD
SHIKI SUSHI • GOOD ‘DILLA • STCU • TEMPUR-PEDIC • INDIGENOUS EATS • SOMA • AND MORE!

There is always something new waiting for you at River Park Square. Enjoy a fresh meal at one of our latest restaurants. Take care of business at STCU. Discover what’s waiting to be shared!

(Don’t forget: convenient covered parking is no more than $4 after 5pm for all your adventures.)