



**DOWNTOWN SPOKANE**  
PARTNERSHIP

March 3, 2025

Honorable City Council President & Council Members  
City of Spokane  
808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd  
Spokane, WA 99201

**RE: Letter of Support: Interim Height Restriction Ordinance**

Dear City Council President & Council Members,

On behalf of the Downtown Spokane Partnership (DSP) representing employers, small businesses, nonprofits, and residents in Spokane's urban core, I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the interim zoning ordinance, especially the positive impacts it will have on the potential development along Spokane Falls Blvd.

The DSP has led efforts to amend height restrictions, aiming to encourage development along Spokane Falls Blvd. Currently, the underutilized surface lots are primarily used for parking, taking up space along one of the busiest streets in the downtown core. Given the site's proximity to Riverfront Park, the First Interstate Center for the Performing Arts, and numerous restaurants and shops, it holds significant potential. The area could benefit from additional housing and retail to better serve the community. Over the past decade, the unnecessary setback requirements to prevent shading on the park have been hindering housing/retail investments despite the research which demonstrates this concern would only impact park visitors a few days each year.

Incentivizing additional housing is a priority for our organization. Increased residents add to the vibrancy of the core and are natural deterrent to negative behaviors. Thanks to your investment, we are currently working on a downtown housing study that will be our blueprint to achieve our goal of an additional 1,000 residential units downtown. This housing will not be developed if we continue to place barriers, such as height restrictions, to impede its creation.

We look forward to sharing the results of our housing study this spring. Thank you for your consideration and approval of this ordinance that will only lead to development in our urban area.

Sincerely,

Emilie Cameron  
President & CEO, Downtown Spokane Partnership

