



DOWNTOWN SPOKANE PARTNERSHIP

DSP Policy Roundup: Week of April 20, 2026

The DSP is joining GSI and the Spokane delegation heading to the DC Fly In today, with most of the County Board of Commissioners joining it will be quiet in the County while the City of Spokane presses forward.

- **Development Code Modernization:** This is a week full of workshops on barriers to building in the City. Encourage you to join these discussions if relevant to you. DSP will also join and share a summary in the next policy roundup.
 - **City Council Discussion, 4/21 at 1p.m. @ Central Library:** CM Cathcart & Zappone alongside SLIC are hosting a 2hr discussion on the “barriers to building.”
 - **Plan Commission Workshop, 4/22 at 2 p.m. @ City Hall:** City staff have been working on updating and streamlining city code. After a very high level initial briefing in March, staff are now holding a workshop with the Plan Commission on Wed. 4/22 to discuss questions like how much regulation is needed and how much flexibility should be allowed.
- **Extending Zoning Rules for Off-Site Alcohol Outlets:** Last year, City Council adopted an interim [1-yr zoning ordinance](#) to prohibit off-site alcohol outlets within 500ft of any public school, private school, community center, library, transit center, or park. Set to expire at the end of April, the Council is seeking to extend the ordinance until it can be adopted in the Comp Plan later this year. Depending on where you stand, this means that the applicant for the new liquor store at 2nd & Howard could be too close to Lewis & Clark High School.
- **Mobile Food Vending Ordinance Update:** The ordinance has been delayed for a vote until May 4 (first reading on 4/27). The DSP has requested amendments that would extend the 50ft buffer from restaurants to any entrance in the Downtown BID and regulations to cap the concentration of vendors within 1,000 area. We’ve also raised concern that the ordinance does not address violations/enforcement when regulations are not followed.
- **STA Sales Tax Renewal Undecided:** The vote to determine if STA will run renewal of its 2/10 sales tax measure this August has been delayed to next week. To make it, the board must add by May 1, and can remove until May 11. Because the measure doesn’t expire until 2028, there concern about timing with the anticipated countywide public safety measure expected in November.
- **Public Safety Facilities Tours, 4/23:** On Thurs. you can join scheduled tours of the downtown jail, Geiger jail and Spokane Regional Stabilization Center to see first hand the current state of facilities to understand upcoming discussions and recommendations by the Safe & Healthy Spokane Task Force. To RSVP, [email Stacia](#) by 8AM on 4/21 with full name and DOB for required background screening.





DOWNTOWN SPOKANE PARTNERSHIP

Policy Meeting Highlights

City of Spokane Highlights: Watch council meetings live online

<https://my.spokanecity.org/citycable5/live/>

Last week the Plan Commission recommended to City Council a combination option to focus on downtown and commercial corridors for the preferred alternative growth option for the [PlanSpokane 2046](#) update. While the DSP pushed for the downtown centric alternative, we're pleased to see that the critical portions of the DSP-supported plan were included in the Plan Commission recommendation that the Council will vote to adopt on May 18.

Urban Experience Committee at 12 p.m. 4/20 ([agenda](#)) includes the public rule to implement the DSP-supported extended alcohol service and streetery program, update on the selected PlanSpokane 2046 growth alternative, 2026 HHS action plan,

City Council Legislative Meeting at 6 p.m. 4/20 ([agenda](#)) includes:

- Appointment of David Rasanen to the Plan Commission
- Approval of a \$250,000 contract extension for the Consistent Care "Hot Spotter" program, supporting coordinated outreach and intervention for high utilizers of emergency and public safety systems.
- First reading of the extension for the off-site liquor sales prohibition with a public hearing and final action scheduled for April 27

⇒ *Looking Ahead:* On 4/27, it will be a quick meeting with the Council agenda set to approve the zoning extension and hear first reading – including any amendments – on the mobile food vending ordinance.

Plan Commission at 2 p.m. 4/22 ([agenda](#), [watch online](#)) includes:

- Workshops on the Development Code Modernization Update will dive into the outcomes desired for the projects – no decisions are planned
- Workshop on Transportation Impact Fees and a Hearing on 6-Year Streets Program

Board of County Commissioners meetings are cancelled for DC Fly In this week



818 W Riverside, Ste 120, Spokane, WA 99201



509.456.0580



info@downtownspokane.org



downtownspokane.org