

DSP Policy Roundup: Week of July 13, 2026

Last week, Spokane Public Library held a special meeting to outline potential service cuts resulting from a projected 2027 funding shortfall. Without additional City funding, reductions could include fewer operating hours, staff cuts, reduced outreach, and less spending on library materials, including possible combinations of Saturday, Sunday, and Monday closures at the Central Library. The Board of Trustees will continue reviewing the options in the coming weeks. For more information, visit the library's website [here](#) or watch a recording of the meeting [here](#).

Items of note this week:

- **Last chance to take the Spokane Falls Blvd. Redesign Survey, 7/15:** The City is now surveying the public for updated design options. Learn more about the scope of the project [online](#). The survey will be drive how staff presents possible changes to Spokane Falls Blvd. Staff recently updated the City's project page with traffic data and added questions to the survey, **if you took it before 7/6, you should re-take.**
 - **ACTION:** Take the [survey online](#) by this Wednesday, 7/15.
- **Proposed amendments on "Renters' Right to Cooling Ordinance":** Amendments to ORD C36877 are expected to be proposed this week, pushing the ordinance hearing/final consideration at City Council from July 15 to July 29. Please review the proposed amendments on [pg. 1326](#).
 - **ACTION:** Follow the Council advance meeting tomorrow, 7/14, at 11am to confirm the amendments and vote timing, [watch live online](#)
 - Email feedback to testimony@spokanecity.org + citycouncil2@spokanecity.org with text in the body of email, subject line should include: "Comments on Right to Cooling, ORD C36877"
 - You can also [sign up to testify](#) on ORD C36877
- **City Council to Adopt 2027-2028 Budget Priorities:** This week, city council will formalize its direction to the administration on their budget priorities for the next 2 years. Discussed in the last policy committee meeting, the DSP continues to advocate that Prop. 1 dollars be allocated toward downtown precinct staffing. See the council's priorities on [pg 1249](#).

POLICY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

City of Spokane Highlights: Watch council meetings live online
<https://my.spokanecity.org/citycable5/live/>

**Note that changes to the schedule are in effect, with committee meetings now taking place Tuesdays, and City Council's legislative meetings taking place Wednesdays.*

- Public Infrastructure, Environment & Sustainability Committee 7/14 at 1:00pm ([agenda](#)) includes:





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- Presentation on proposed 2027–2028 utility rates for water, wastewater, stormwater, and solid waste, ahead of ordinance adoption later this summer as part of the City's next biennial budget.
- Discussion of a Connecting Housing to Infrastructure (CHIP) grant and a related Special Budget Ordinance to accept CHIP grant awards, supporting infrastructure investments tied to housing development.
- City Council Legislative Meeting 7/15 at 6pm ([draft agenda](#)) – note advance review moved to Tuesday, 7/14 at 11:00am – includes:
 - A resolution in support of the DSP-opposed STA Proposition 1.
 - Administrative change to the commercial parking tax, moving the monthly payment deadline to the last business day of the month for parking operators.
 - First reading of a Shared Streets ordinance, establishing a process for designating pedestrian-oriented streets that will begin with Wall Street. *DSP is neutral on the ordinance.*
 - Consideration of changes to the Wheelshare (LIME) contract, including winter operating fees, fleet size and vehicle mix.
 - Amendment to the City's contract with Dignified Workday to extend south downtown area cleaning through Dec 31 (the DSP reference in the briefing sheet is not relevant, they are not a sub-contractor to the DSP).
 - Resolution outlining the Council's budget priorities.
 - TBD action on the Renter's Right to Cooling ordinance.
- Transportation Commission 7/16 at 4pm ([agenda](#)) includes workshops that will review:
 - Parking Management – Explained as “an overview of our current system, how it is evolving, how it supports turnover which helps downtown business, and where the money goes, including improving the convenience of the system and paying for the Riverpark Square Parking Garage”
 - Alternative Local Funding for Sidewalks Report that identifies a modified TBD sales tax and a new REET option as low-risk options for local jurisdictions to fund pedestrian infrastructure
 - Transit Benefit District (TBD): Potential Uses for Increased Funds and asking the board to endorse a fee increase

Spokane County Board of Commissioners: Watch meetings [online](#)

- BoCC Board Briefing meeting on 7/14 at 9:00am ([agenda](#)) includes an update from the commissioners on the progress of Safe & Healthy Spokane Task Force recommendations—The DSP has continued to encourage urgency in identifying resources to implement
- BoCC Regular Legislative Session meeting on 7/14 at 2:00pm ([agenda](#)) includes appointment of the steering committee that will adopt housing allocations to Spokane County jurisdictions for the planning period 2026-2046.

Spokane Transit Authority:



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- Board of Directors meeting on 7/16 at 1:30pm ([agenda](#)) includes finalizing the 2027-2032 Transit Development Plan and a staff update on the Division Street Bus Rapid Transit design and public outreach



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