

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

August 21, 2026, at 6-7:30 pm on Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Members – Carol Tomsic, Marilyn Lloyd, Robert Reneau, Marilyn Reimann, Hank Reimann, Ginnie Henry, Marcia Milani, Chuck Milani, Richard Sola, Diane Shuman, Joan Zimmer, Shawn Terjeson

Guests – Heather Smith, Nick Hamad, Michael Terrell, Staci Heathman, Thomas Herrlinger, Andres Grageda, Micah Prim

Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Carol Tomsic

Approve Minutes

March Minutes will be approved at our next in-person meeting

Andres Grageda, Legislative Assistant to Council Member Kate Telis

Andres gave us an update on City Council. The next Coffee with Council will be on 4/22/26 at 3:30 to 5 pm, at Wake Up Call, 1722 E Sprague, in the East Central Neighborhood. There were 250 traffic calming submissions to 311 by the deadline. A District 2 Town Hall is scheduled for 6/12/26. The council will vote on a Food Truck Ordinance at their upcoming meeting. The Plan Commission voted to recommend the Preferred Growth Alternative in the Comprehensive Plan. It supports walkable and mixed use. It is not set in stone yet because the City Council will vote on it so there is still time to comment.

Micah Prim, Neighborhood Resource Officer, South Precinct

Micah invited everyone to look at the Crime Date Dashboard. [SPD Public Dashboard - City of Spokane, Washington](#) He advised everyone not to store valuable items inside cars. He said car thefts usually happen at night and early morning. He said to report all crimes and gather any evidence/videos and license plates to share. He said Park Rangers are in parks weekends and evenings. He said to call intersection and speed problems to the Traffic Hotline 625-4150. He answered questions. He said if 4-wheelers are racing down a residential street to report it to crime check, 509-456-2233.

Thomas Herrlinger, Customer Experience Manager, South Hill Library

Thomas said the library will have Master Gardners on the first and third Saturday each month at 11-3 pm for free gardening advice. He said on 5/5/26 there will be free tech advice with their IT staff. On 5/7/26 there will Egyptian Belly Dancing class at 5 pm.

Chris Averyt, Director of Strategic Development & Initiatives, Waste to Energy Plant Update

Chris gave an update on the history of the Waste to Energy Plant. The city faced penalties of \$8 million dollars a year due to a Climate Commitment Act due to greenhouse emissions from the Waste to Energy plant. Landfills are exempt under the Climate Commitment Act, but we don't have one because we are on an aquifer. He said House Bill 2416 passed. The bill aims to ensure fair treatment of waste to energy plants under the Climate Commitment Act and will provide an allowance of \$3.4 to \$4.2 million a year of avoided cost for emissions for ratepayers. The city will apply for the savings through the legislation. Significant challenges remain, including rate impacts, capital funding sources, and a 2031 cliff when the program ends. Chris answered questions. He said if more people recycle there will be a cleaner water stream. A market for red solo cups was discussed. All glass jars should be placed in recycling bins. Organics do not impact the emissions. Barr-Tech makes food waste into compost. Our utility bill will go up next year. The city is working on equitable rates. The Waste to Energy plant was built instead of landfills to protect the aquifer.

Nick Hamad, Park Planning, Lincoln Park Restroom & Playground Replacement

Nick was joined by Heather Smith, a landscape architect, Mike Terrell, a landscape architect, and Stacy Heatheman, a landscape architect. Nick said the Together Spokane levy will fund a new playground and restroom in Lincoln Park and include a walkway and land improvements. He said the existing playground would be removed and replaced with an inclusive play feature. He will seek feedback from Franklin Elementary School students. It would be built in the Spring of 2027. The site of the playground equipment may change as determined by optimal location. Nick, Heather, Mike and Stacy answered questions. Courts, including pickle ball courts were suggested. There was a discussion on additional park updates. There was a consensus that the shelter stays intact because of the Franklin Elementary School art on the building. Nick said a survey would open soon.

The chair received an email with a link to the Lincoln Park Survey. It will be open until 5/15/26.

<https://www.togetherspokane.org/lincoln-park/lincoln-park-playground-survey>

Marilyn Lloyd, Vice Chair, Community Engagement Grant Discussion

Marilyn presented on list of proposed items to be funded by this year's Community Engagement Grant. The \$850 grant must be used to fund items and activities that boost residents' awareness and participation in neighborhood councils. Items suggested at the meeting included yard signs, renewal of Zoom account, a food budget of \$300, color copies, stickers, an A-frame sign, snacks and craft supplies for events, and bubbles with council stickers on for Spokane Parkways. The due date for the Community Engagement grant is 6/19/26. We will vote on the application at our May meeting.

Shawn Tergeson, Great Invasive Weed Pluck

Shawn presented on the second annual Great Invasive Weed Pluck at Upper Lincoln Park on 5/30/26 from 8 am to 11 am. He asked for volunteers. He said Michelle Anderson and Thurman Johnson will attend again. He will also have an insect person and bird spotting walks. He said posters will go out next month. There will also be free donuts and coffee.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be in-person 5/19/26 at 6-7:30 pm.