

Two aspects to food security

- Regional Food Supply
 - Natural resources working group
- Household Food Security
 - Waste & recycling working group

Regional Food Supply

- Supporting the local farm economy
- Preventing loss of prime agricultural land
- Encouraging local food processing industries and networks

Building a Stronger Local Food System

The Spokane region is located within a rich agricultural area, but very few crops and livestock grown here feed our residents. We spend over \$1.5 billion each year buying food from outside our region and less than \$5 million buying locally grown food. If people who live in Spokane eat more locally grown food, we will create a more resilient local food system, strengthen our economy and reduce climate impacts associated with transporting food great distances. Citizens, neighborhoods, growers, food related businesses, non profit organizations and local governments need to work together to take the far reaching actions that are needed to localize and strengthen Spokane's food system.

Regional Food Supply

Addressed in the SAP in these chapters:

- Economic Prosperity (EP 1.3)
- Water Resources (WR 4.5)
- Health & Well Being (HW 1.1 – 1.4)
- [Transportation & Land Use] (9.1-9.5)

Household Food Security

- Increasing food rescue operations to divert usable food waste to food insecure populations
- Emphasizing economic equity in all aspects of planning

Household Food Security

Addressed in the SAP in these chapters:

- Economic Prosperity (EP 3.1-3.5; EP2.2)
- Waste Diversion and Materials Conservation (WD 2.1)

Approving the SAP

The City Council and Administration needs to hear from citizens who feel these issues are important!

Implementation Plans

Who will be the city's partners for implementing these actions on the ground?

- Regional Food Supply Actions...
- Household Food Security Actions...

GOAL 4. Integrate Sustainability Action Plan goals, strategies, and actions into City planning

Strategy 8. Update comprehensive plan to incorporate climate action and updated sustainability goals

Priority Actions

TL 8.1	Audit the Comprehensive Plan for opportunities to include sustainability into policy language
TL 8.2	Bring forward amendments to the comprehensive plan during the annual update cycle where opportunities exist to integrate sustainability into comprehensive plan goals, policies and discussions prior to the 2026 major update
TL 8.3	Ensure SAS is a stakeholder in the 2026 Comp Plan major update process
TL 8.4	Update City codes and planning documents to ensure preservation of urban farmland
TL 8.5	Reassess centers and corridors for new opportunities to encourage more sustainable land use



Strategy 4. Create clear process and policies for assessing and approving land use and development that will impact future aquifer pumping volumes

Priority Actions

WR 4.1	Develop an annual water supply and water quality report card (by 2023) and establish strategies for addressing results (by 2025)
WR 4.2	Develop clear policy that prioritizes maintaining water capacity during critical summer season (i.e., Drought Response Plan)
WR 4.3	Integrate projected climate impacts into data models for drought risk assessment
WR 4.4	Examine the policy and process for new water extensions and intertie agreements to ensure those actions meet defined criteria for protecting base river flows; include conditional, legal agreements for some cases (by 2023)
WR 4.5	Update City water extension amendment process to prevent loss of critical natural areas, wetlands, and prime agricultural lands to development



Strategy 9. Ensure that the city's processes for approving development and service extensions address and prevent impacts to prime agricultural lands, critical wildlife habitats and other natural areas in and around the city.

TL 9.1: The City will work with regional stakeholders to develop and maintain an inventory and GIS database of the county's natural/critical and endangered lands based upon their value to human and biotic communities. This data, updated yearly, will be consulted when making long-term planning decisions.

TL 9.2: Establish land use planning and zoning policies that protect natural resources within City owned properties, prioritizing undeveloped Natural Areas.

TL 9.3: Update City codes and planning documents to ensure preservation of urban farmland.

TL 9.4: Update the City water extension amendment process to prevent loss of critical wildlife habitat areas, wetlands, and prime agricultural lands to development.

TL 9.5: Ensure that the City Planning Department reviews and comments on development applications outside the city boundaries which may negatively impact prime agricultural lands, critical wildlife habitats and other natural areas in and around the city.

GOAL 1. Invest and promote a just, regenerative, and resilient local economy

Strategy 1. Engage with regional and neighborhood business associations to create coordinated economic resiliency

Priority Actions

EP 1.1	Re-establish City department dedicated to centralizing and addressing economic development planning that amplifies the Public Development Authority and Neighborhood Business District frameworks.
EP 1.2	Work with regional business organizations to fully understand current challenges for local, small business and develop a plan to address those challenges
EP 1.3	Partner with regional and neighborhood business associations to develop resiliency plans for specific sectors of our economy, including retail, hospitality, nonprofit, and food processing & supply
EP 1.4	Continue to develop and invest in the Spokane Independent Metro Business Alliance's Live Local campaign designed to educate local consumers on how to support local businesses
EP 1.5	Evaluate and update scoring criteria that the City uses to determine infrastructure and capital investments to ensure equitable investments, especially in historically underserved and underinvested neighborhoods or districts
EP 1.6	Work with regional organizations to develop Best Practice Guidelines to help small businesses be more agile and adaptable
EP 1.7	Identify and recognize creative local strategies that have proven beneficial during challenges (co-op model, shared services, online marketplace)
EP 1.8	Work with regional partners to conduct an analysis on supply chain dependability and develop plan to prioritize regional supply and infrastructure
EP 1.9	Partner with local Universities, Colleges, and private organizations to support research and development opportunities for Spokane's small and medium sized business community
EP 1.10	Develop a centralized marketing program for all City-sponsored business districts. This program should build on the Live Local marketplace developed in response to the 2020 pandemic and should be an ongoing resource for local business, rather than an ad hoc program during crises.



GOAL 1. Prioritize & invest in underserved communities



Strategy 1. Increase household food security regionwide

Priority Actions

HW 1.1	Support the Spokane Food Policy Council (SFPC) in studying, identifying and implementing sensible and achievable codes, policies, and requirements that eliminate barriers and reduce costs for urban farms and community gardens and expand local control of food grown, processed, and sold directly to consumers
HW 1.2	Work with regional partners, including SFPC, to develop and adopt a Regional Food Plan. This document will outline the needs of the community and a blueprint for meeting these needs.
HW 1.3	Partner with local nonprofits, advocate groups, and other governmental organizations to create a Regional Food System Partnership. This partnership will bring stakeholders together to maximize our local food system capacity, efficacy, and efficiency.
HW 1.4	Partner with other public entities, local business organizations, and food producers to launch a local food campaign to educate the public on the benefits of eating local



Strategy 2. Minimize food waste generated by residents and businesses

Priority Actions

WD 2.1	Support diversion of excess edible food from commercial & institutional kitchens and grocery outlets to community members in need through food rescue programs
WD 2.2	Educate businesses and residents on the impacts of food waste and best practices to reduce it

Strategy 2. Expand access to sustainable business practices & resources

Priority Actions

EP 2.1	Provide resources to small businesses helping them save money through energy efficiency and resource conservation strategies
EP 2.2	Create public, private partnerships to pilot programs for waste diversion including reducing food waste, expanding commercial composting, and developing programs to address hard to recycle materials



GOAL 2. Ensure local workforce has access to affordable healthcare, transportation, housing, and education



Strategy 3. Adopt and implement regional policies and initiatives that supports workers

Priority Actions

EP 3.1	Continue to support and implement Spokane Housing Action Plan
EP 3.2	Work with public and private partners to create citywide program for increasing access to capital for homeownership at all income levels
EP 3.3	Invest in and support public transit infrastructure that increases access to affordable and convenient transportation options
EP 3.4	Use the City's 5 th Avenue Initiative as a model for prioritizing investment in historically underserved communities citywide
EP 3.5	Coordinate local workforce training needs through Public Development Authorities (PDAs) to align with the needs of large regional employers and industries (ex. IT support, healthcare)