



Downtown Guidelines Open House

Two **Open House meetings** are scheduled for **this week** to collect feedback about the changes being considered to the draft Downtown Zoning Code and the Draft New Downtown Design Guidelines. These Open House meetings take place:

- **Thursday, April 30th** in the Riverpark Square Atrium, noon-3pm
- **Friday, May 1st**, Spokane City Council Chambers, 4-7pm.

The initial drafts of the Downtown Zoning Code, Zoning Maps, and Design Guidelines are available at the following link, as well as details on the open house meetings: http://www.spokaneplanning.com/DT_Update.htm

Please click below for direct links to the main documents found on the Downtown Code Project page.

[Draft New Downtown Spokane Design Guidelines](#)

[Draft Character Area Considerations](#)

[Draft Downtown Zoning Code](#)

[Draft Amendments to the Parking and Loading Zoning Chapter](#)

[Draft Amendments to the Landscaping and Screening Chapter](#)

If you have have questions or feedback, please contact Louis Meuler, City Planner Planning Services Department, City of Spokane at lmeuler@spokanecity.org or 509.625.6096.

Make your plans for First Friday, May 1!

First Fridays are growing, and this Friday, May 1 is no exception! With almost 50 participating venues, great specials, amazing visual art pieces, new wines, venues and local musicians, you don't want to miss it! And be sure to stop by the SoDo Sidewalk event on Friday and Saturday, as 16 south Downtown shops and retailers coordinate a sidewalk sale and open house event.



To plan your route and see a complete list of First Friday participants, [click here](#), visit DowntownSpokane.net, or pick up an Inlander. See you Friday!

Commute Smart Celebrates Earth Day



The City of Spokane, the Spokane County Commute Trip Reduction Office and the Downtown Spokane Partnership (DSP) are joining forces to make it easier for Downtown and University District commuters to leave their

cars at home!

At an Earth Day event last week, 10 businesses that promote alternative transportation to their employees received a new commute trip reduction tool - bicycles for their work sites, including CH2M Hill, Coffman Engineers and Rings & Things. The work site bicycles will be used for mid-day errands and appointments that might otherwise have caused a commuter to drive his or her car to work.

In addition, the City and the DSP will be installing 10 new bike racks Downtown so that businesses can provide secure parking for bicycling customers.

To learn more about the program or to express interest in a bike rack for your Downtown business, contact Andrew Rolwes at the DSP arolwes@downtownspokane.net or 456.0580, Ron Kusler, Project Administrator, at 509.477.7688 or rkusler@spokanecounty.org or Margie Hall, City of Spokane Planning Services, at 509.625.6147 or mhall@spokanecity.org.

Connecting People, Products & Ideas

WSU Spokane Landscape Architecture students will present an exploration of the benefits of re-introducing passenger rail between Spokane and Pullman-Moscow, **tomorrow, Wednesday, April 29** from **1:15-4:00 p.m.** at Riverpoint Campus. Noted under the umbrella title "Powering the Palouse: connecting people, products and ideas," are 7 projects. The projects are in response to shifting global trends, particularly associated with energy, water and climate change.

Landscape student projects include:

1. Bioregional approach to food production and local distribution.
2. Rail station design for Spokane's University District.
3. Redesign of Intermodal station, specific to integration of alternative forms of transportation.
4. Urban rail complex combining Downtown Spokane and the University District.
5. Rosalia Revitalization
6. Oaksdale Revitalization
7. Pullman Rail Station

The 7 teams will first present a coordinated series of PowerPoints between 1:15 and 2:30pm. General questions will be addressed at the completion of the PowerPoints. Participants and students will then move into the Gallery area of the Design Institute and be able to speak one-on-one with the students standing by their individual projects. For more information, [click here](#).

Bike to Work Benefits!

The Bicycle Benefits commuter discount program has rolled into Spokane to offer deals to those on two wheels. This year-round program promotes cycling and boosts local business by offering discounts and rewards to cyclists who display their sporty Bicycle Benefit helmet sticker at participating establishments.

Bike To Work Spokane volunteers are seeking businesses who want to participate in this low-cost, highly effective marketing program. Participating merchants define a special offer and purchase 10 BB stickers to give to employees or sell/give to



customers. They receive local publicity through Bike to Work Spokane, and national publicity for visiting cyclists through the national web site. The first 1,200 registered participants in Bike To Work Week 2009 will receive a free Bicycle Benefits sticker, giving participating businesses an immediate built-in audience of customers who will appreciate their support of cycling.

Bicycle Benefits, which began in Saratoga Springs, New York, is the first program to monetarily reward cyclists for their commitment to cleaner air, fewer traffic jams, better personal health, and less dependence on foreign oil.

Bicycle Benefits stickers, in addition to being given to Bike To Work Week registrants, can be purchased at participating businesses or through Bike to Work Spokane. **To learn how your business can become a Bicycle Benefits Business Member, please contact Kristen Silver at bicyclebenefits@biketoworkspokane.org, (509) 844-3343.**

Bike To Work Week takes place **May 10-16, 2009**. For more information visit BikeToWorkSpokane.org.

Don't hesitate to call us for more information at 509-456-0580.

We are happy to help!

Leanne Sangster
Downtown Spokane Partnership/Business Improvement District

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