



Comprehensive Plan

Economic Development

The Importance of a Strong, Vibrant Regional Economy

A healthy economy for Spokane County, first and foremost, means good-paying jobs and economic opportunities for all residents. It also means a stronger tax base for public infrastructure projects, including schools, police, fire protection, parks, road repairs and other improvements and amenities.



Possible Focus Areas of Economic Development Planning

Economic Development Elements typically focus on a few key subject areas. These include:

Regional challenges: What problems, shortcomings and areas of improvement have business leaders and community residents noticed in Spokane County's economy that can be addressed by goals and policies in the comprehensive plan?

Business startup: How can Spokane County make it easy and attractive for entrepreneurs to start businesses in Spokane County?

Business expansion and recruitment: After ensuring that Spokane County prioritizes its existing businesses, how can it build upon the existing economy by expanding industries and recruiting new potential employers to the region?

Business retention: What can be done to keep Spokane County's economy attractive enough that existing businesses want to remain in the region?

Tourism: How can Spokane County leverage its community assets and bolster its hospitality sector to attract visitors to frequent local businesses and enjoy all that the region has to offer?

Customer service/regulation: How can Spokane County create a consistently improving regulatory environment for customers looking to start new businesses or build new commercial and industrial infrastructure?

Income: What can Spokane County do to ensure that residents are earning an income that affords them quality housing, transportation, and other standards of living?

Natural environment protection: How can Spokane County responsibly grow its economy in a way that does not cause undue damage to its critical areas, natural resource lands and other environmental assets?

Education and Training: How are the higher education institutions that exist in Spokane County, including four year universities, community colleges and other institutions, preparing students for the workforce opportunities in the region?