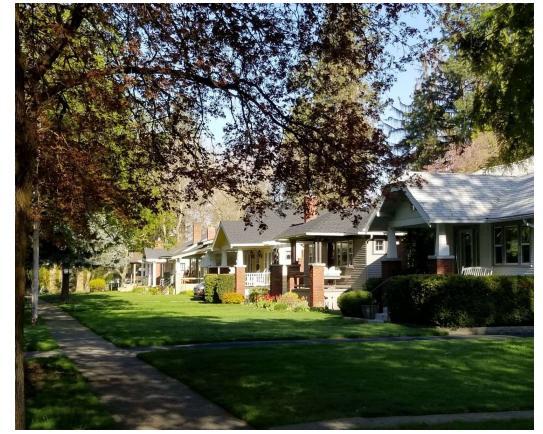




# Audubon-Downriver Newsletter



October, 2020

## A Monthly Newsletter from the Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council

Welcome to the Audubon-Downriver Newsletter! Until we are able to resume monthly membership meetings, the neighborhood council board will keep you informed of neighborhood council issues and activities through this newsletter. The newsletter will be distributed monthly to everyone on our e-mail list. It will also be posted to our Facebook page and our website at [audubondownriver.com](http://audubondownriver.com). We welcome any comments or suggestions you have regarding the newsletter. Please contact us at [audubondownriver@gmail.com](mailto:audubondownriver@gmail.com).

### current topics >>>

#### *It's time to prepare our streets for winter weather!*

The City's Parking Services team is reminding you of the 24-hour non-passenger vehicle parking rule. Courtesy notices and parking pointers for non-passenger vehicles such as RVs, boats, jet-skis, trailers, etc. will be disbursed over the next few weeks. Parking Services will be using this opportunity to educate the public and give them some time to fix the violation before issuing a ticket. Once a ticket is issued, if the non-passenger vehicle is not moved it may be impounded.

Keeping streets clear is imperative for emergency response vehicles, so please do your part to help clear the way.

#### **STA Seeks Your Input on Proposed Route Changes**

STA is planning for changes to routes that serve the Audubon-Downriver neighborhood that would take place in May of 2022.

Please take this online survey to share your thoughts on proposed route changes:

[spokanetransit.com/input](http://spokanetransit.com/input)

## *Have a Safe and Happy Halloween!*

As you celebrate Halloween, here are some tips on how to celebrate safely:

- If you have COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in-person.
- If trick or treating, bring hand sanitizer and wear a cloth face covering. A plastic mask that comes with a costume is not protective against the virus.
- Stay with your household unit and avoid creating large groups of trick or treaters. Don't let your kids congregate around someone's door or a bowl of candy; have them wait for their turn six feet away.

Trick or treating alternatives:

- Carve or decorate pumpkins with members of your household, or with your friends. Make sure to keep a safe distance from members outside your household unit.
- Have a virtual Halloween costume or pumpkin decorating contest.
- Have a Halloween movie night at home.
- Have a Halloween scavenger hunt with household members in and around your home.
- Visit the [Fear in the Headlights](#) drive-thru haunted attraction.



The Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council (ADNC) works to improve the quality of life for everyone that lives and works in the neighborhood by providing a forum for discussion, an opportunity for participation, and an organized approach to communicating with local government and other decision-making bodies. For more information, please visit our website at [audubondownriver.org](http://audubondownriver.org).

## City Council Update >>>



Karen Stratton, City  
Councilperson, District 3

### 2021 Budget Discussions Underway

The City Council is currently discussing its 2021 budget priorities. We hope to resolve a budget that is fiscally responsible and agreed upon by both the Council and Administration --- understanding that we must be careful during these uncertain economic times, choosing wisely about what needs to get done first, and what can possibly wait until our economy is back on track. To learn more about our budget priorities, click on the link below.  
<https://my.spokanecity.org/news/releases/2020/10/16/city-council-budget-committee-releases-budget-priorities-resolution/>

### Affordable Housing Initiative

Spokane's lack of affordable housing remains at a crisis level. The median home price is currently at \$299.9K, trending up 13.2% year over year. This has required us to look at new and innovative approaches to create opportunities for households at all income levels to live safely and securely in our community.

In the 2020 legislative session, the State of Washington gave cities a new opportunity to address their housing situations with a locally directed funding stream. Under this mechanism, cities can impose a new sales and use tax of 0.1%, either by Council action or by ballot measure. This fund could provide flexible funding to support our housing needs, goals and strategies. It is estimated, if fully implemented, a one-tenth of one percent sales tax could raise approximately \$5.8M a year --- which could go a long way toward providing more affordable housing of all types here in Spokane. The yearly cost per household would be approximately \$16.00.

City Council will be discussing this option/opportunity over the next few weeks. If you would like to share your thoughts on this issue, please email me at:

[kstratton@spokanecity.org](mailto:kstratton@spokanecity.org)

*The ADNC sends their condolences to Councilperson Stratton for the recent passing of her mother, Lois. Lois Stratton became the first woman of the Spokane Tribe elected to the State legislature. Known for her strong connection to her community, she led with kindness, respect and compassion.*

## Neighborhood Parks

The City of Spokane Parks Department has partnered with *Beyond Pesticides* to initiate an organic land management pilot project at Chief Garry Park in northeast Spokane. Beyond Pesticides is a nonprofit organization that aims to protect public health and the environment by reducing the use of toxic pesticides. The goal of the program is to shift from pesticide use to organic practices that rely on methods and products that support soil biology and microbial life in the soil. This approach, used by organic agriculture, naturally produces nutrients for plants, resulting in more resiliency and a reduction of water use.

By reducing pesticide use in the park and adding organic food for the soil microorganisms, the project participants hope to improve soil health. Soil teeming with microbial life provides plants the nutrients they need to outcompete weeds naturally, and healthy soil tends to make water uptake by plants more efficient.

Kirsten Angell, Parks Coordinator, ADNC



### C.O.P.S. Northwest

The COPS NW office is located in Shadle Center next door to Laundryland on the south side of the building. With COVID-19 restrictions in place, the shop is not open to the public, but volunteers are in the office Monday thru Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm to take phone calls. To contact the office, please call 625-3336 or e-mail at [copsnw@spokanecops.org](mailto:copsnw@spokanecops.org).

### Filing a Missing Person Report

In Washington State there is no minimum time before you can file a missing person report. Call Crime Check (509-456-2233) and provide as much information as possible. The operator will provide an incident number that can be referenced if more information becomes available.

Helpful information to provide includes the person's full name, date of birth and Social Security number. Also provide a detailed description of the individual, including eye color, scars, tattoos, birthmarks, the clothing last worn and any dental or visual accessories such as braces or glasses. A clear photo of the person should be provided, preferably a front view with teeth showing.

For more information, contact COPS NW at 652-3336.

### Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council Board Members:

Jeff Stevens, Chair and Traffic Coordinator;  
Chris Wright, Vice-chair; Andrea Kilgore,  
Secretary and Social Media; Charles Robeson,  
Treasurer and Membership Chair; Fran  
Papenleu, Community Assembly  
Representative; Victor Frazier, COPS NW  
Liaison; Kirsten Angell, Parks Coordinator

### Contact information for ADNC:

Phone 509-218-6428;  
or E-mail [audubondownriver@gmail.com](mailto:audubondownriver@gmail.com)