



Audubon-Downriver Newsletter



November, 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 <https://audubondownriver.spokaneneighborhoods.org/>. We welcome any comments or suggestions you have regarding the newsletter. Please contact us at audubondownriver@gmail.com.

current topics >>>

Please help keep our streets and sidewalks clear this winter.

Here's what the City will do:

- During light snowfalls, city crews will plow all streets, primarily during day shifts, Monday to Friday. Arterials are plowed first, followed by hills in residential areas. Routes around schools and medical facilities receive priority.
- During heavy snowfalls (4" inches or more), crews will move to 24/7 operations to complete a full-city plow. Track snow plow progress at <https://my.spokanecity.org/streets/maintenance/snow-removal/>.

Here's what you can do:

- Move your RV, basketball hoop, boat or trailer off the street.
- Park on the side of the street with odd numbered addresses during plow events.
- Shovel snow off sidewalks on your property. Residents are asked to clear a 36 inch path for pedestrians by 9 am.
- Offer to help neighbors who might need help. Contact 311 for seniors or disabled individuals who need more help.

211,311,911 Who do I call for help?

When calling, be sure to stay calm, answer the dispatcher's questions and stay on the line until all of the information is given.

211 – One stop resource for free confidential community social services, including child care, elder care, utility/energy assistance, veteran services, legal help, disaster/crisis support, food and transportation.

311 – Submit requests or concerns directly to the City of Spokane for all municipal services including street, water and sewer issues, code enforcement, parking enforcement, traffic, solid waste, or other city provided utilities. Call 311 if you do not know which department to call.

911- Report an active crime that is in progress or just occurred. **This is for immediate Police, Fire or Emergency Transport response.**

Crime Check 456-2233 – File a police report for a crime that is no longer occurring, add information as a witness, or report you are a victim of a crime that already occurred.

24/7 Crisis Line 1-877-266-1818 Call for yourself or others if health or safety are in danger due to a mental health or substance use condition.

Curbside Yard and Food Waste Collection Ends Dec 4th

The optional Clean Green curbside yard and food waste collection service runs from March through November. After curbside collection is suspended for the winter, residents can still recycle their yard and food waste at the City's Waste to Energy facility.

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.

City Council Update >>>



Karen Stratton, City Councilperson, District 3

City Updating Utility Rates for 2021 thru 2023

The City of Spokane is updating utility rates for 2021 through 2023 in order to provide customers with predictable and affordable rates for water, wastewater, and solid waste services. The rate proposals include 2.9 percent annual increases, which adheres to a long-standing commitment by the City's elected leaders to limit utility rate increases to 2.9 percent yearly, while also navigating higher costs for recycling and lower revenues due to the pandemic. The proposals also include changes that reward customers for lower water use and manage

rising recycling costs by switching to every-other-week recycling collection for residential customers. Rates would change on January 1 of each year, based on the proposals. A date for the change to every-other-week recycling for residential areas will be announced. For additional information, visit:

<https://my.spokanecity.org/news/releases/2020/11/05/city-updating-utility-rates-for-2021-through-2023/>

Ordinance Update: West Quadrant Tax Increment Financing District

The Spokane City Council recently approved changes to the West Quadrant Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district. Council members voted to extend the end date for the tax increment financing district from 2032 to a new end date of 2047, a 15-year extension. During this period, revenues derived from the increase in property tax value in the Kendall Yards sub-area will be directed to neighborhoods in District 3, including portions of the West Central Neighborhood, the Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood and the Riverside Neighborhood. Fifty percent of the revenues received from 2032 to 2047 must be used for permanently affordable housing within the TIF area. Tax Increment Financing is a funding mechanism used by local governments to finance public infrastructure and incentivize development and redevelopment of blighted neighborhoods. More information can be found at:

<https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/west-quadrant-tax-increment-finance-district>

Neighborhood Parks

Help Us Protect and Improve Downriver Bluff

Many residents enjoy walking along the bluff and trails above the river. The land is owned by the City, but with limited resources to manage the area, the City would likely welcome a partnership with resident volunteers. We want to start a conversation about creating a "Friends of Downriver Bluff" group to help steward this wonderful resource in a more intentional way. A similar group, Friends of the Bluff, developed a very successful effort along High Drive in south Spokane. We'll begin our efforts by organizing a clean up project and see where it goes from there, based upon the interest and commitment level. Please contact us at audubondownriver@gmail.com if interested.

Winter Access to Downriver Golf Course

With the end of golf season, many residents use the Downriver Golf course for winter recreational uses. To help us protect this neighborhood resource, please follow these simple rules: 1) Stay off all of the greens; 2) Keep pets on leashes and pick up all dog waste; 3) pack out all trash. Failure to respect these rules could lead to further restrictions by the Parks Dept.

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 Papenleur, Community Assembly Representative; Victor Frazier, COPS NW Liaison; Kirsten Angell, Parks Coordinator



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. The shop is currently 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.

Drumheller Springs Park Watch

An effort is underway to organize a Park Watch program for Drumheller Springs Park. People that live near the park, or visit it on a regular basis, would exchange contact information and report illegal or suspicious activity they see in or near the park.

If you would like to participate in this effort, please contact the COPS NW office at the phone number or e-mail address listed above.



Clothing Drive for Children

COPS NW is accepting donations of new children's underwear and socks through December 10th. Cash donations to purchase these items are also welcome. The items will be distributed to low-income families through Transitions housing programs and the West Central Community Center.

Donations can be dropped off at the COPS NW office (see address above) from Monday thru Saturday between 10 am and 1 pm, or at Lvette Carpenter's house at 4206 N Oak Street.