

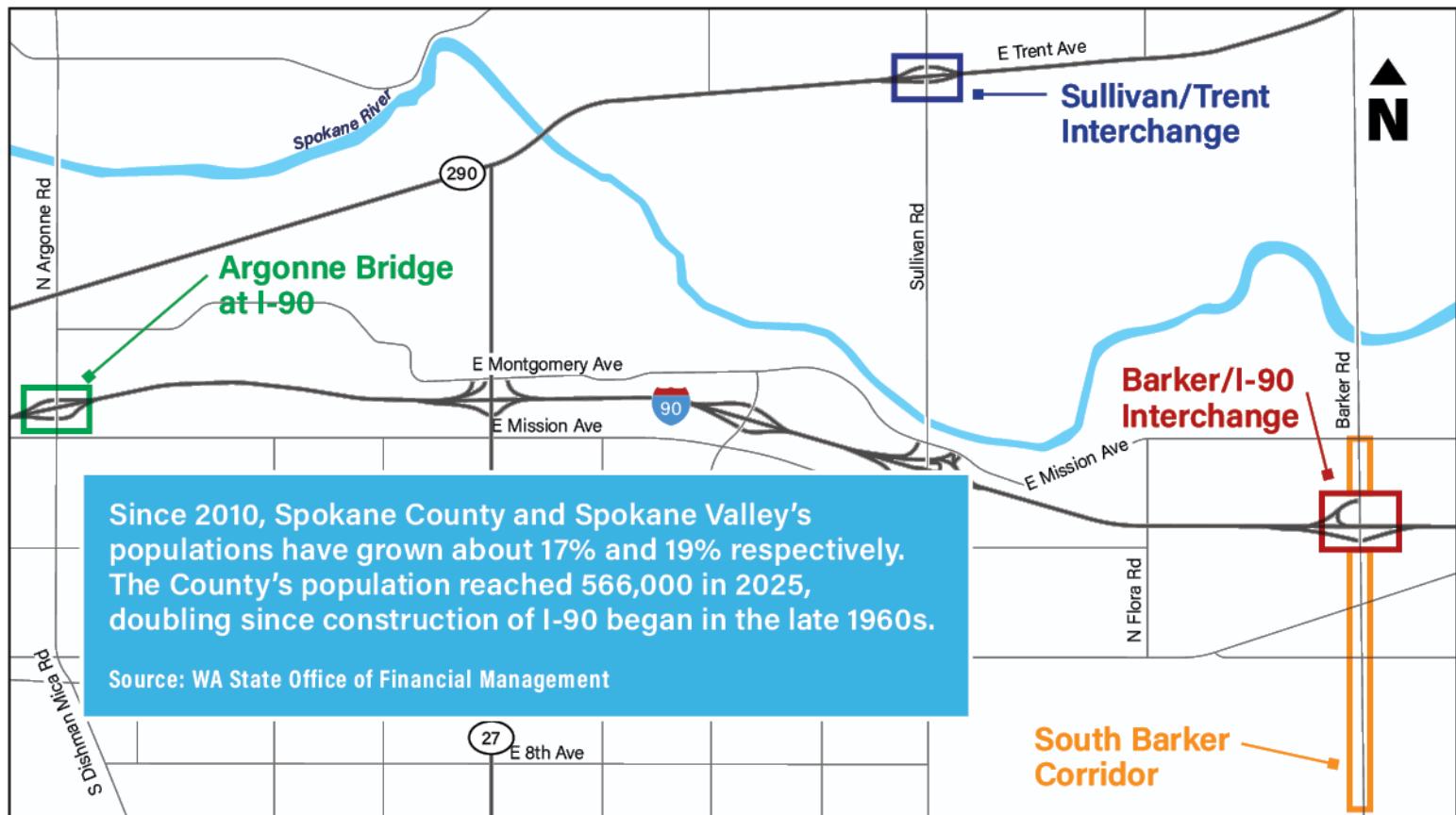


# 2026 Federal Legislative Agenda



## Spokane Valley Capital Projects

The City supports USDOT project priorities that focus on safety, economic growth and modernizing the transportation system. Investing in transportation infrastructure strengthens local and national economic competitiveness through the efficient movement of goods and people and access to commerce and employment.



### Argonne Bridge at I-90



█ Funding Secured  
\$3.3 million

█ Funding Gap  
\$24.2 million

**FY '27 CDS Request**  
\$3 million

### Sullivan/Trent Interchange



█ Funding Secured  
\$17.8 million

█ Funding Gap  
\$36.4 million

**FY '27 CDS Request**  
\$3 million

### South Barker Corridor



█ Funding Secured  
\$16.6 million

█ Funding Gap  
\$24.4 million

**FY '27 CDS Request**  
\$3 million

### Barker/I-90 Interchange



█ Funding Secured  
None

█ Funding Gap  
\$50 million

**FY '27 CDS Request**  
\$3 million

CDS = Congressionally Directed Spending

See project flyers for detailed information

Adopted – October 28, 2025

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## POLICY PRIORITIES

### Public Health and Safety

- With public safety being the top priority and our desire to support law enforcement in their efforts to maintain law and order at all levels, the City asks for assistance to mitigate potential impacts of being a non-sanctuary city within a sanctuary state.
- Support initiatives to promote work with the U.S. Marshal's Service to share intelligence, coordinate enforcement operations and ensure offenders are swiftly apprehended and prosecuted. Multi-agency collaboration serves as a force multiplier, allowing combined resources and expertise to more effectively disrupt crime networks and combat the spread of illegal drugs. Programs within the Department of Justice such as the Fugitive Task Force JAG grants and the High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program are valuable in this regard.
- Support for funding and grant programs that assist with law enforcement personnel, safety and equipment needs including continuation of the COPS Program (Community Oriented Policing Program) and the Byrne JAG (Justice Assistance Grant) program for critical law enforcement equipment, fixture and personnel needs as well as increased public defense and prosecution requirements.
- Strengthen the U.S. border to inhibit the movement of drugs, weapons, contraband and people while prioritizing the health and welfare of U.S. citizens.
- Encourage the federal government to establish funding assistance to aid in the planning and construction of jails and facilities for behavioral health, detention and law enforcement.
- Uphold laws and regulations that provide local governments with the ability to regulate its public spaces, including, but not limited to, open use of controlled substances, overnight camping, etc.
- Support for federal programs and funding to increase drug enforcement and treatment programs as well as passing legislation addressing the growing epidemic of substance abuse.
- Oppose funding for controversial harm reduction efforts such as safer supply programs, supervised consumption sites and the distribution of safe smoking kits, as they have shown to increase overdose rates and other concerning outcomes.
- Support legislation that updates regulations for Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMDs), as the 16-bed Medicaid exception serves as a disincentive for building larger facilities and contributes to psychiatric bed shortages. Examples include H.R. 4022 (Increasing Behavioral Health Treatment Act) and H.R. 5462 (Michelle Alyssa Go Act).
- To encourage more effective outcomes, provide more flexibility for opioid treatment programs with regard to duration of stays as recommended by the National Institute of Drug Abuse.
- Support secure and ethical sharing of data among crisis response teams and partner agencies to streamline intake and crisis assessment while protecting client privacy and complying with federal and state regulations.
- Continue funding at the local level for emergency management, as it plays a crucial role in safeguarding the lives and well-being of our citizens, minimizes economic disruption and promotes resilience throughout the community.
- Evaluate the methodology for state-level allocations and local redistributions to ensure fairness and equity for each community such as the national opioid settlement.
- Ensure safety regulations and other protections for communities that experience frequent transport of hazardous materials via train through the passage of the Railway Safety Act.
- Enact measures requiring railroads to maintain their properties to deter trespassers, encampments, and associated negative impacts upon adjacent businesses and neighborhoods and requiring prompt clean up after public health and safety incidents.

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## POLICY PRIORITIES CONTINUED

### Transportation and Infrastructure

- Encourage Congress to continue federal participation in locally directed projects, given the unprecedented growth and maintenance needs of existing infrastructure within the region.
- Continued partnership with Washington State's Congressional representatives and the U.S. Department of Transportation to ensure that coordination between federal agencies does not delay the efficient use of federal transportation funds.
- Eliminate obstacles to the efficient implementation of federal transportation projects.
- Continue funding levels for discretionary programs such as BUILD and CRISI.
- Provide flexibility in project management to ensure efficient use of funding.
- Streamline grant agreement development, review and execution so funding can be spent more expeditiously.
- Encourage the U.S. Dept. of Transportation to work with states to establish Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goals on a regional rather than statewide basis, as more remote agencies must bear the cost of travel for contracted services from larger metropolitan areas and prioritize the development of the new DBE certification process.
- The City encourages members of Congress to visit the Inland Northwest region to see how extraordinary growth is driving these critical infrastructure projects and the City of Spokane Valley's wise stewardship of federally-awarded funds.

### Housing and Homelessness

- Promote targeted reforms to programs with proven results and preserve access to essential services for people on the cusp of or currently experiencing homelessness. Examples include Continuum of Care Program, Homeless Assistance Grants and Medicaid.
- Assess HUD requirements to ensure cost effectiveness and prioritize funds for programs that provide a hand up and empower individuals to become self-sufficient.
- Expand opportunities to better serve youth who are experiencing homelessness and substance use disorders. An example would be finding additional measures besides HUD point-in-time counts, as homeless youth are often not included in those counts.
- Promote innovative solutions and partnerships to stabilize the property insurance market as rising premiums and restrictive coverage have escalated premiums. These increases are driven by factors like the growing frequency of natural disasters, higher reconstruction costs and inflation, which disproportionately affect affordable housing developers, low and moderate-income households and first time homebuyers.
- Promote construction and preservation of affordable housing through programs such as Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC), HOME Investment Partnership Program and Community Development Block Grants (CDBG).
- Support for federal incentives to increase and diversify housing options for an array of income levels, including very low-income and workforce housing.
- Support for HUD to adequately fund its Housing Choice Voucher Program to create stability and certainty for Public Housing Authorities to continue assisting families and individuals in need of affordable housing options and extend sufficient notice if funding should run short.

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## POLICY PRIORITIES CONTINUED

### Economic Development and Workforce

- Support policies and programs that expand and grow the manufacturing sectors in the City of Spokane Valley and across the region.
- Simplify the small business loan process at the federal level to streamline assistance.
- Preserve local authority for permitting and siting of broadband infrastructure.
- Support policies and programs that expand the availability and affordability of workforce housing options in the City of Spokane Valley and across the region.

### Value of Hydropower

- Hydropower is essential for grid stability, providing reliable and affordable energy, backup during blackouts and integration for variable renewable sources like solar and wind. Therefore, the City supports efforts to increase capacity of the Lower Snake River dams, as a reliable and resilient energy grid is critical for economic stability, public safety and national security.
- Ensure that stakeholders who rely on the benefits of the Columbia River system participate in conversations at the federal level, including but not limited to, growers and producers, public utilities, ports, local government and river users.

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## SUPPORT FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL INITIATIVES

- Fairchild Air Force Base remains a critical hub for global air-refueling missions that underpin U.S. and allied force projection around the world. Ensuring the safety and effectiveness of both military and civilian aviation operations must take priority over incompatible projects that could compromise flight paths, radar reliability or mission readiness. An example would be proposed large wind turbine farms what would impede flight paths near Fairchild AFB and Spokane International Airport.
- Support of the Regional Spokane Coeur d'Alene American Aerospace Materials Manufacturing Center (AAMMC) Tech Hub.
- Support for Spokane County's \$3 million CDS request for expansion of the Regional Stabilization Center.