



City of Spokane—Media Release

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PARTICIPATE IN CITY’S SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT
Three meetings set for June to accept input

The City of Spokane wants to hear your ideas on how to create a more sustainable community!

Three workshops are set starting next week to receive input from citizens for the Mayor’s Sustainability Project, which will create a strategic action plan to identify ways City government can respond to the impacts of climate change and rising energy prices.

Workshops are planned on:

- **Tuesday, June 3**, at the South Hill Library, 3324 S. Perry, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, June 5**, at the Northeast Community Center, 4001 N. Cooke, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, June 17**, at the Shadle Library, 2111 W. Wellesley, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The workshops are being organized for the City by the Lands Council, one of the community partners on the project and are the first opportunity for the public to contribute their ideas to this plan.

The June 5 workshop also coincides with “World Environment Day,” and organizers are hoping that extra link will draw even more participants. Sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme, the theme for 2008’s World Environment Day is “Kick the CO2 Habit: Towards a Low Carbon Economy,” which fits well with the City’s efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The City’s Sustainability Project is led by a citizen task force of 13 people. A \$75,000, one year GMA Planning Grant from the Washington State Dept. of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) is paying for the planning work.

The goal is to identify mitigation and adaptation strategies that will guide City government in doing its parts to respond to the impacts of climate change and rising energy prices. The work will focus on City operations and services, as well as internally and externally focused programs and policies.

Objectives will include things that City government can accomplish: Leading by example and helping the community “go green.”

This project is consistent with Governor Chris Gregoire’s recent climate change challenge that encourages local jurisdictions to develop plans to mitigate the impacts of climate change and also with commitments the City made when it signed on to the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement last February.