

The City of Spokane

Weekly News Update for Sept. 28

Information about COVID-19 is evolving rapidly, and our important work as a City is continuing. We want to make sure our City employees have up-to-date information on both COVID and employee news. We will provide this update, as needed, to communicate what you need to know, while we work to reduce the spread of this disease in our community and continue to provide critical public services.

A Message from Mayor Woodward

The prolonged intensity and focus on managing the impacts of the health pandemic makes it easy to lose track of other things. Protecting the public health of our community is critically important and never far from our mind. And, while the pandemic has forced us all to adjust our thinking, and in many instances reprioritize our work, it has not stopped us from moving other incredibly important priorities forward.

This month alone is a great example. City resources and partnerships have advanced the regional shelter system, refocused on neighborhood and downtown cleanup activities, enhanced behavioral health resources, and established a central point of contact for discrimination concerns.

Specifically, we have:

- Introduced greater predictability in shelter service connectivity and staffing through a year-round contract for day use and nightly drop-in services, ending the seasonal nature of the provider relationship
- Added a resource to move people out of homelessness through an intentional, intensive bridge housing program
- Improved downtown and neighborhood environments by restoring cleanup resources, introducing new crews and partnerships, and emphasizing the removal of abandoned vehicles
- Added a Civil Rights coordinator as a community technical expert
- Expanded behavioral health resources through co-deployment teams that partner police officers and behavioral health specialists and the opening of the Spokane Regional Stabilization Center as an alternative resource for those in crisis
- Worked closely as a City government to develop a thoughtful plan for deployment of federal pandemic relief dollars over the next three years to assist with community impacts and the continue delivery of critical local governmental services

More is on the way as we work on a plan to extend the deadline to next spring to establish a plan to repay City utility bills that have fallen behind and propose a 2022 budget that prioritizes the services you expect the City to deliver.

These critical services are being delivered by City employees who continue to work tirelessly to meet community needs.

American Rescue Plan Virtual Forum

Mayor Nadine Woodward and City Council President Breean Beggs are hosting an American Rescue Plan Virtual Forum. Join the community conversation on the distribution of ARPA funding Tuesday, Sept. 28, 5:30 - 7 p.m., live on [CityCable5](#) and the [Spokane City Council Facebook page](#).

CITY OF SPOKANE & CITY
COUNCIL PRESENTS

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN VIRTUAL FORUM

*Community Conversation on the
Distribution of ARPA Funding*

**HOSTED BY MAYOR WOODWARD &
COUNCIL PRESIDENT BEGGS**

Tuesday, September 28th
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Live on CityCable5 and
Facebook @spokanecitycouncil



Get Your Flu Shot!



You Don't Want to Be Sick, So Get the Flu Shot Quick!
Multicare Indigo Occupation Medicine will be administering the Flu Shots at NO COST to all benefitted employees.

Flu Shots will be provided at these locations.

***CDC Guidelines will Apply**

Mon. 10/11/2021	Fire Training Center	8:30 - 11:30
Mon. 10/11/2021	SCSC (915 N. Nelson)	2:00 - 3:30
Tue. 10/12/2021	Fire Training Center	8:30 - 11:30
Tue. 10/12/2021	Streets (901 N. Nelson)	3:00—4:15
Wed. 10/13/2021	Fire Training Center	8:30 - 11:30
Wed. 10/13/2021	Water Department	2:30- 3:30
Thurs. 10/14/2021	Fire Training Center	8:30 - 11:30
Mon. 10/18/2021	City Hall (Council Briefing Center)	8:30 - 12:00
Mon. 10/18/2021	Waste Water (Aubrey Complex)	2:00 - 3:00
Tue. 10/19/2021	Municipal Court Conference Rm.	9:00 - 11:00
Tue. 10/19/2021	Public Safety Bldg. Police Chief Con. Rm.	12:00-2:00
Wed. 10/20/2021	Sewer Maintenance (Sprague)	6:30 - 8:00

After October 20th, these options are also available.

Premera Blue Cross: Premera Plans – For employees and their covered dependents enrolled under Premera Plans III/IV, V, VI, VII vaccinations will be provided at your applicable in-network co-insurance level. Make sure that your clinic or provider is an In-Network provider for Premera you can go to Premera.com, or call 1-800-722-1471.

Kaiser Permanente: For Kaiser Permanente covered employees and their covered dependents; Kaiser Permanente is now providing the Influenza vaccination with no co-pay to its members. Members must go to one of the Kaiser Permanente you can access this information on wa.kaiserpermanente.org, or call them at 1-888-901-4636.

TALK WITH YOUR PHYSICIAN if you have a fever, or are severely ill at the time the shot is scheduled.

Contact the Benefits Department at 625-6565 or City Benefits (eracb@spokanecity.org) if you have questions.

More Information to Assist You

Here are some more resources from our Employee Assistance Program:

- [Unexpected Death and COVID-19](#)

Death is never an easy thing to process, especially when it happens unexpectedly. People find comfort and grieve in different ways, whether it's connecting with family, talking to a friend, focusing on a special project, journaling, or another activity. Social distancing and stress related to COVID-19 can make it even more difficult to process and grieve a person's death. Still, it's important to try to grieve in healthy ways while in quarantine.

Employee Information Portal (covid19.spokanecity.org/)

Remember, this Employee Information Portal is a great resource for employees to stay current on what's happening with the COVID-19 response. The [Employee Information Portal](#) can be accessed from work or home, using a computer or mobile device. All of the emailed information we have sent to employees is archived here.