



SPOKANE'S REGIONAL 2025 TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT

OCTOBER 07, 2025

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let's create tomorrow, together

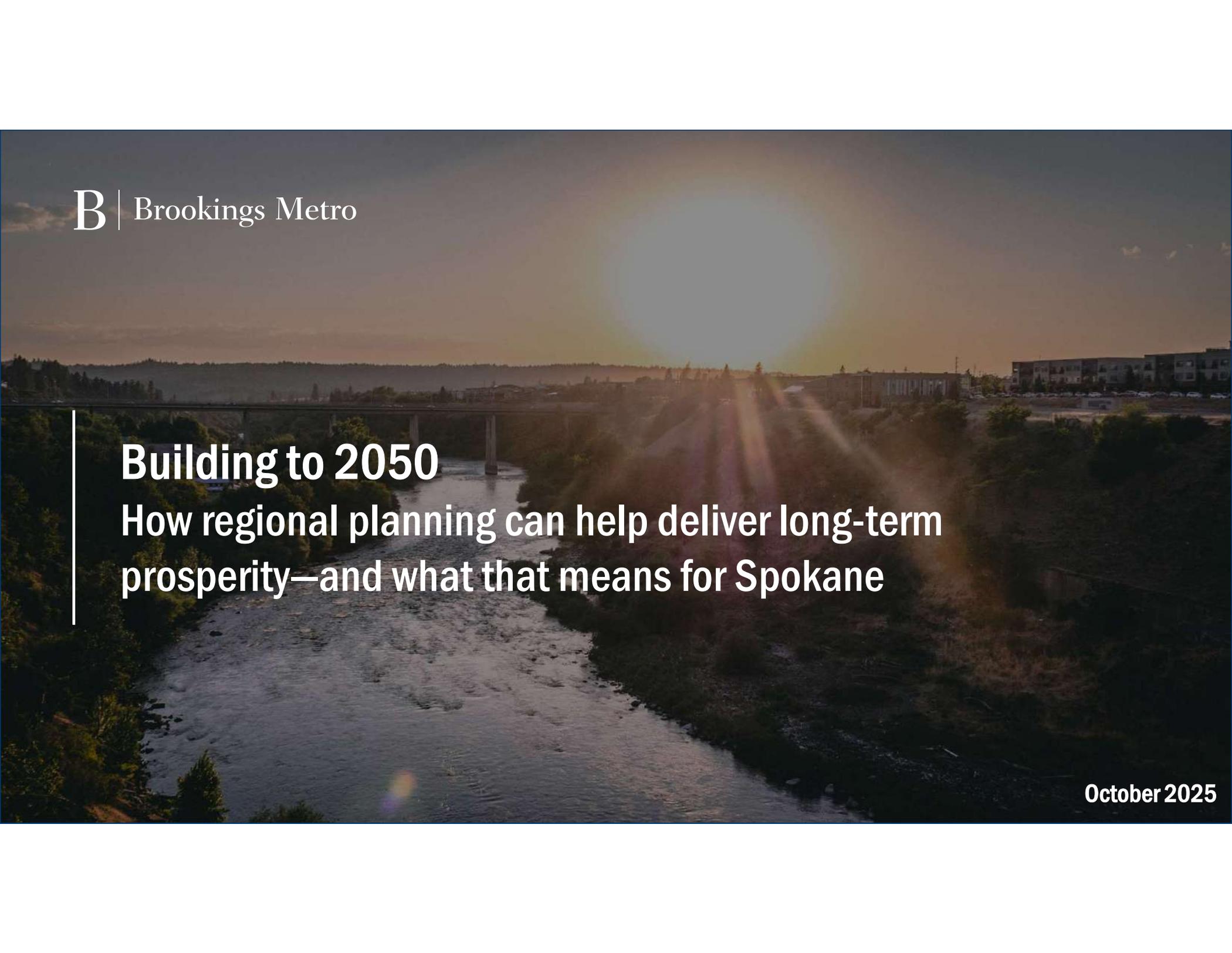
Keynote Speaker



ADIE TOMER

Brookings Metro Institute

Senior Fellow



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Building to 2050

How regional planning can help deliver long-term prosperity—and what that means for Spokane

October 2025

RESEARCH

Regional block grants

A new approach to funding transformative infrastructure projects

Adile Tomer, Alicia L. Jurek, Gabriela Stone, Ben Swedberg, Leeanne Singleton, and Emily Wier
May 8, 2023

- Regions are the economic hubs of the nation, with metropolitan areas alone producing 80% of U.S. domestic product in 2023.
- Regional infrastructure needs are complex, and existing federal funding mechanisms. Formula funding primarily flows to states, while regional actors qualify for many competitive grants.
- A new federal model should empower regional localities directly. Regional block grants can provide regions with predictable, flexible funding to invest in transformative infrastructure.

RESEARCH

Connecting the DOTs: A survey of state transportation planning, investment, and accountability practices

Adile Tomer and Ben Swedberg
November 12, 2024

- States are the country's hubs of transportation planning and investment, influencing over half of \$300 billion in annual spending. However, it's challenging to judge their approach to project selection or how they support local partners. This research inventories those practices for the first time.
- Most states fail to measure their long-range performance goals, and 33 states fail to use any public-facing project selection systems.
- On average, states share only 14% of transportation funding with local partners, including 15 states that send less than 5% of total funding to localities.
- The lack of transparency and local support creates opportunities for policy reform at the federal and state level. The report's findings also reveal a grand bargain, particularly through greater direct investment in localities: enabling municipalities and regions to lead more on project design while allowing states to lead more on project construction.

RESEARCH

State bond banks, the best kept secret in infrastructure finance, need a bigger role in rebuilding America

Michael Gaughan and Adile Tomer
June 20, 2024

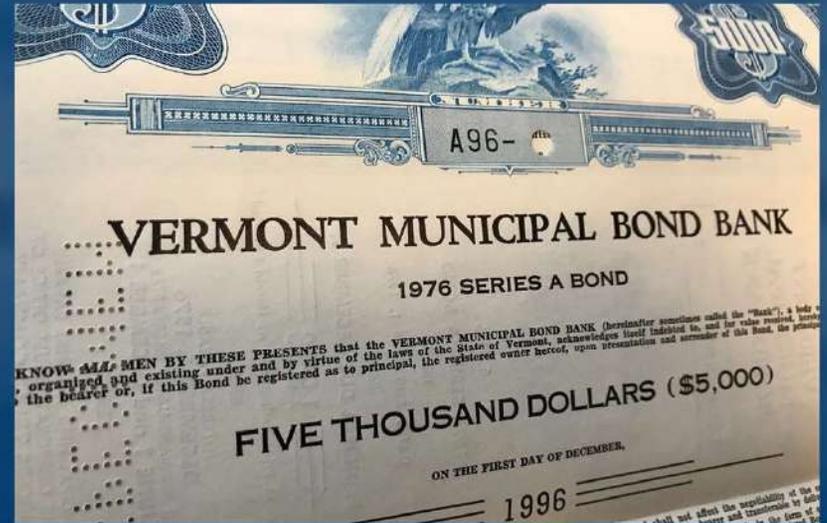
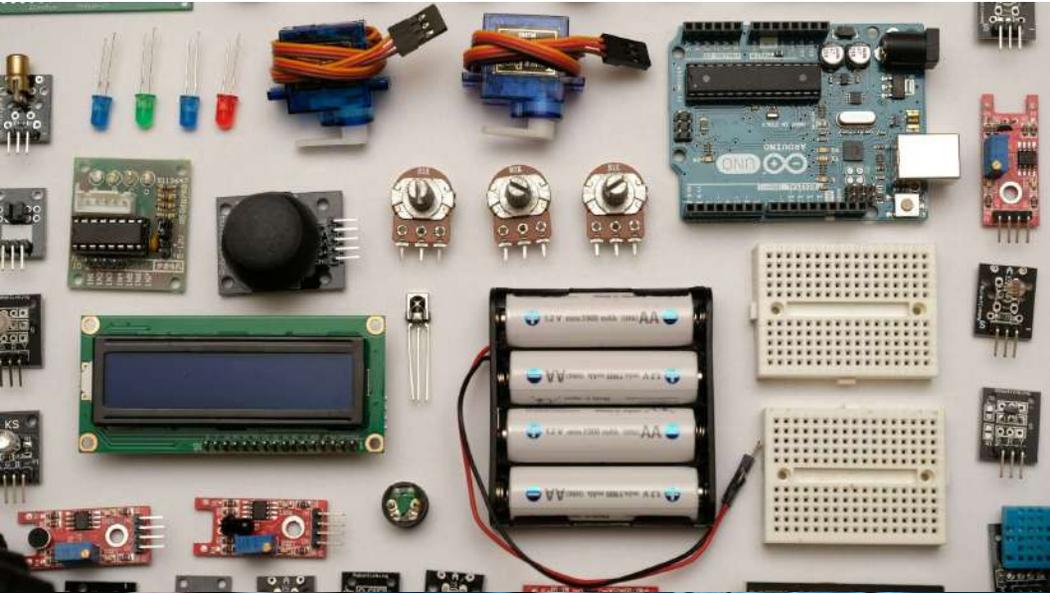


Photo credit: Vermont Bond Bank



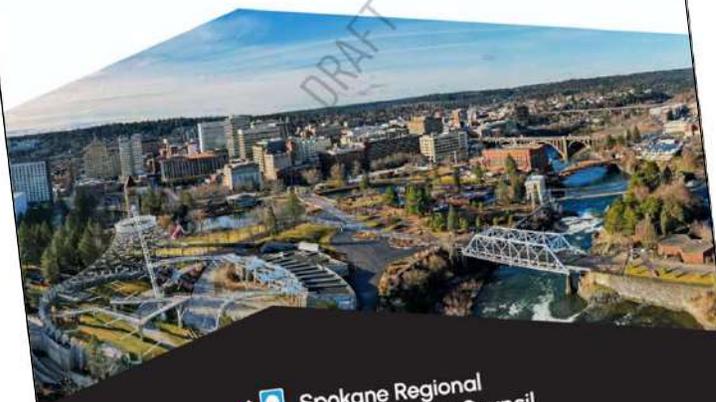




**How can transportation
and land use planning
continue to support more
prosperous regions?**

HORIZON 2050

Spokane Metropolitan
Transportation Plan



Spokane Regional
Transportation Council

①

Spokane's assets are strong

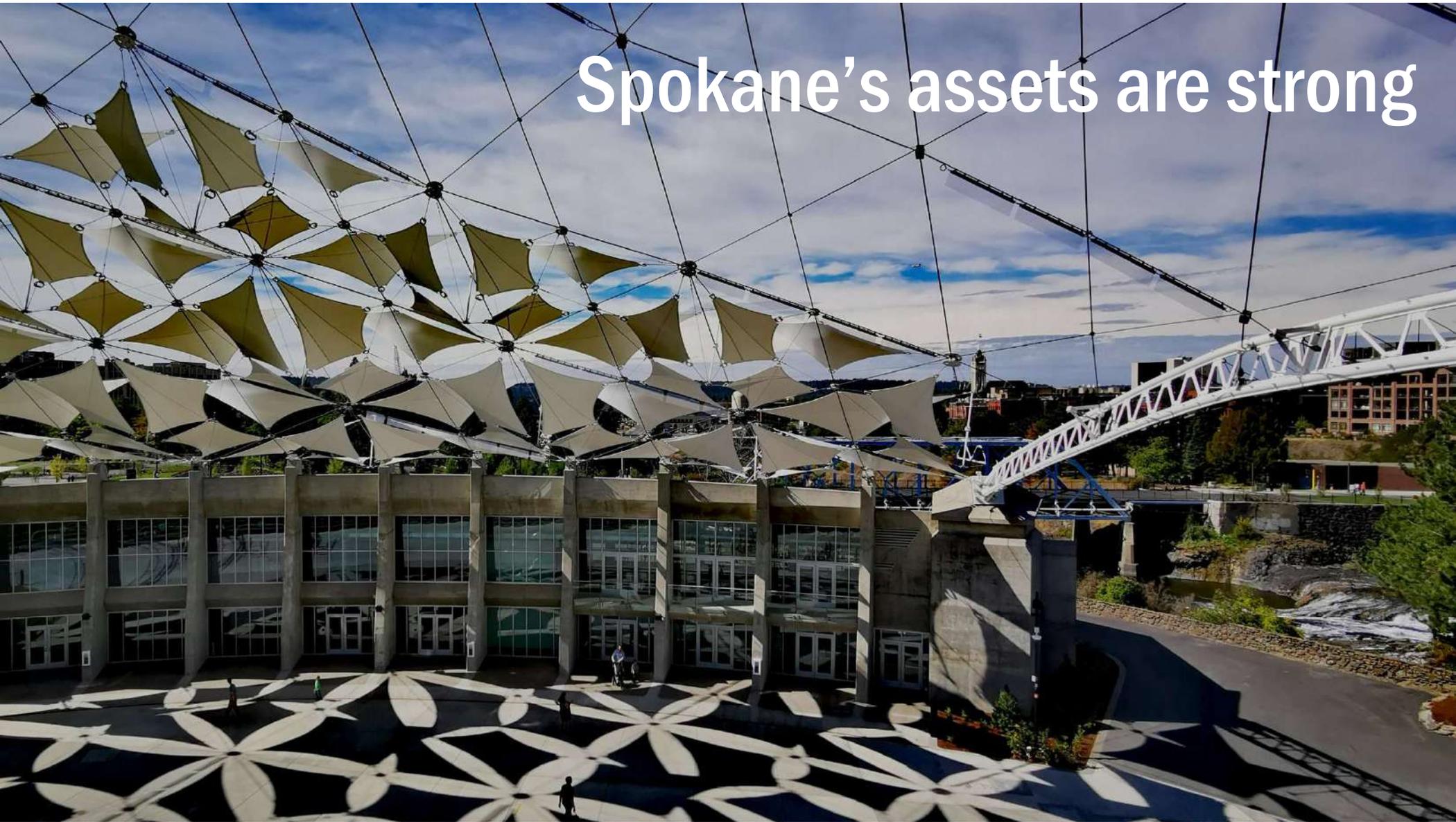
②

Where we're all headed

③

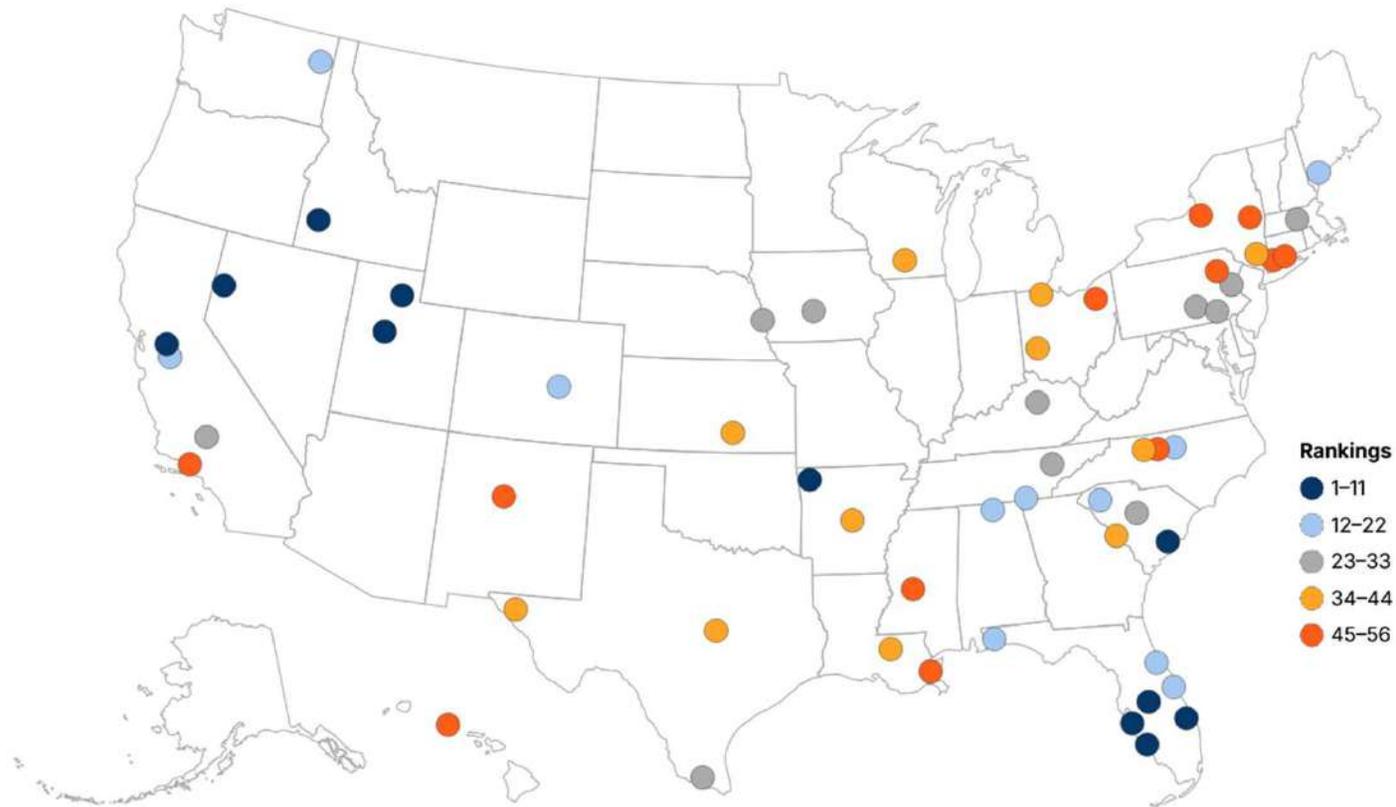
Planning the future

Spokane's assets are strong

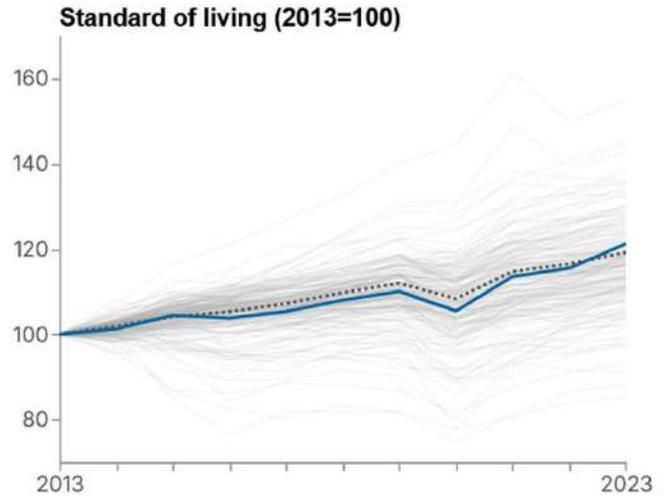
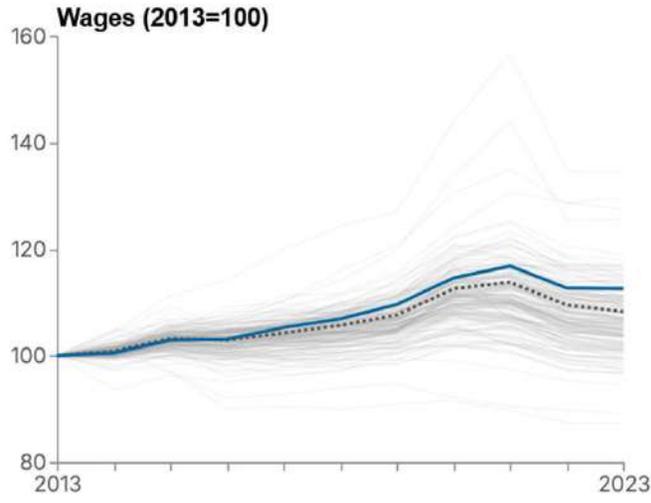
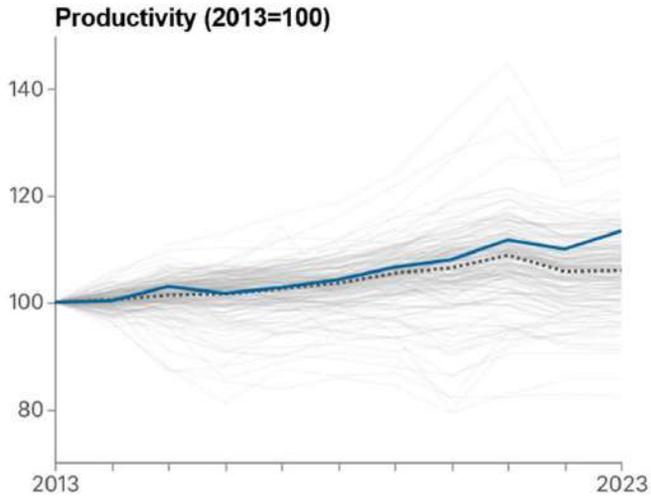
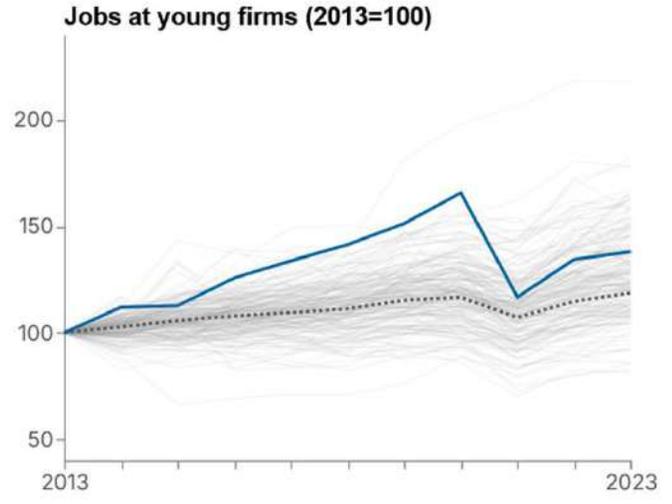
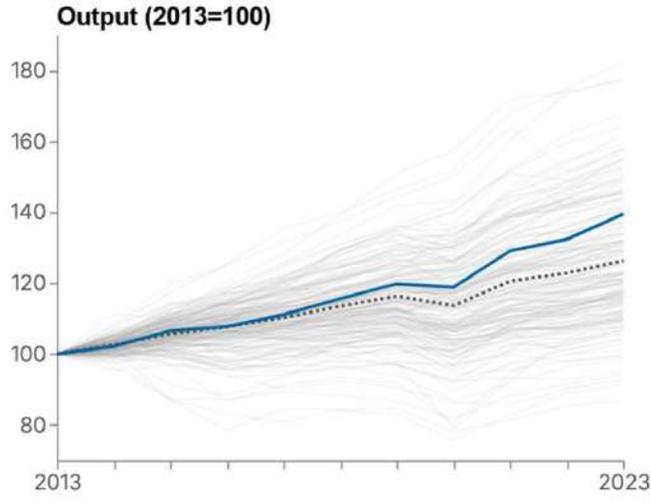
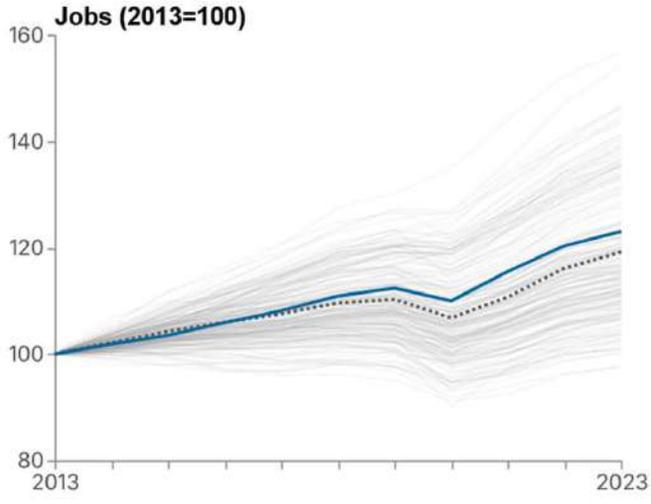


Overall Growth Index

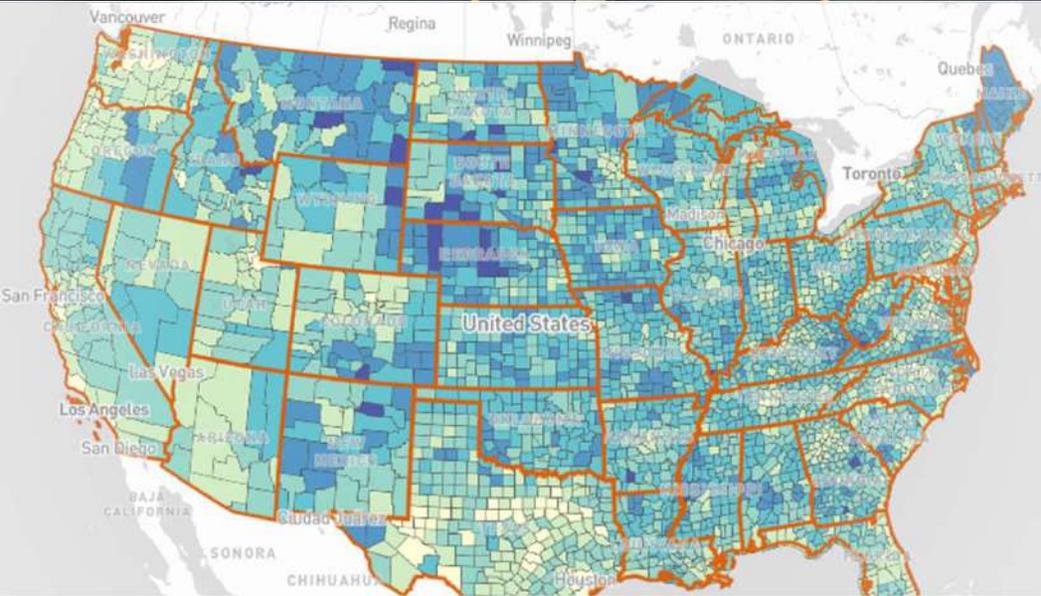
2013–2023

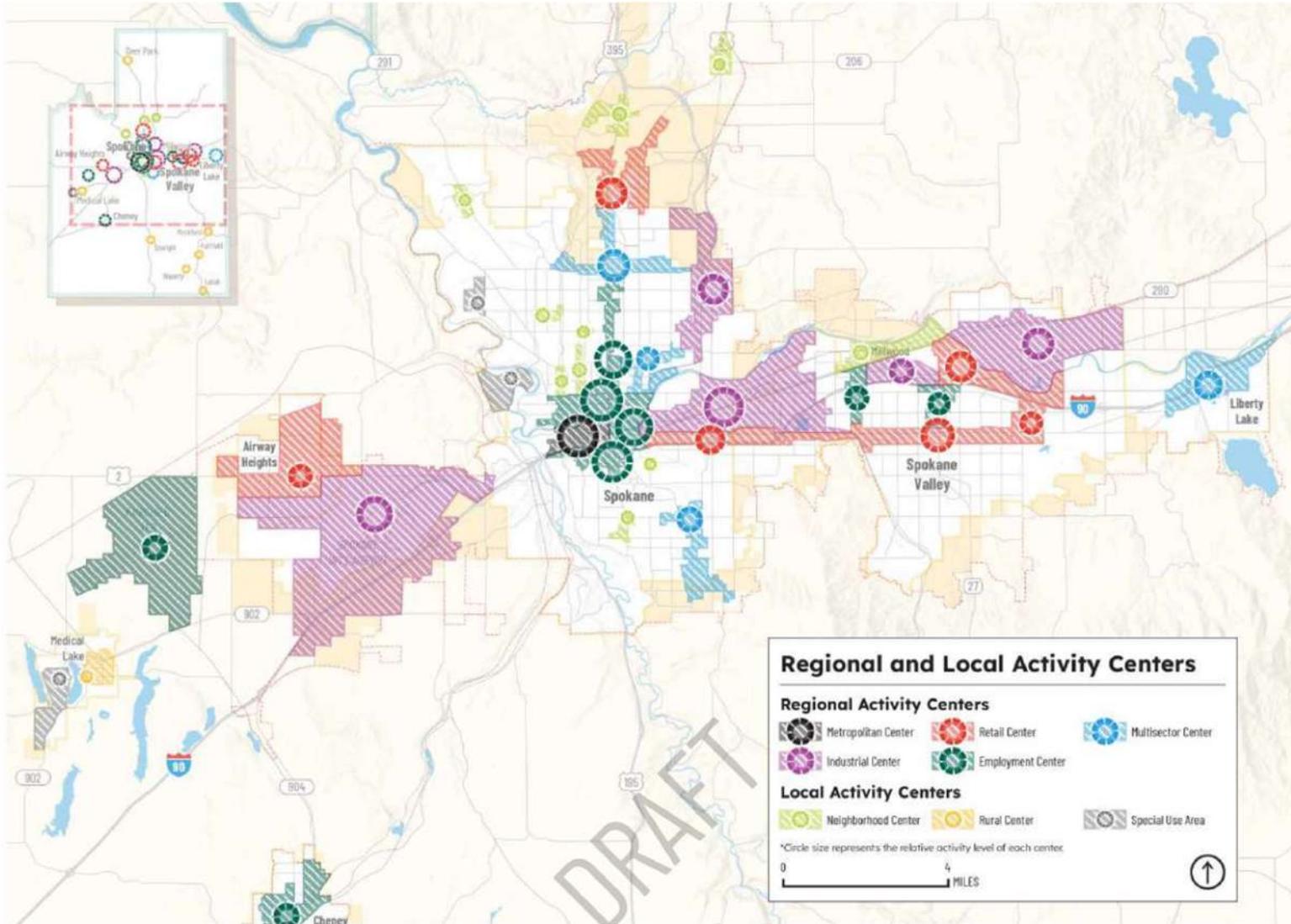


Source: Brookings, Metro Monitor 2025

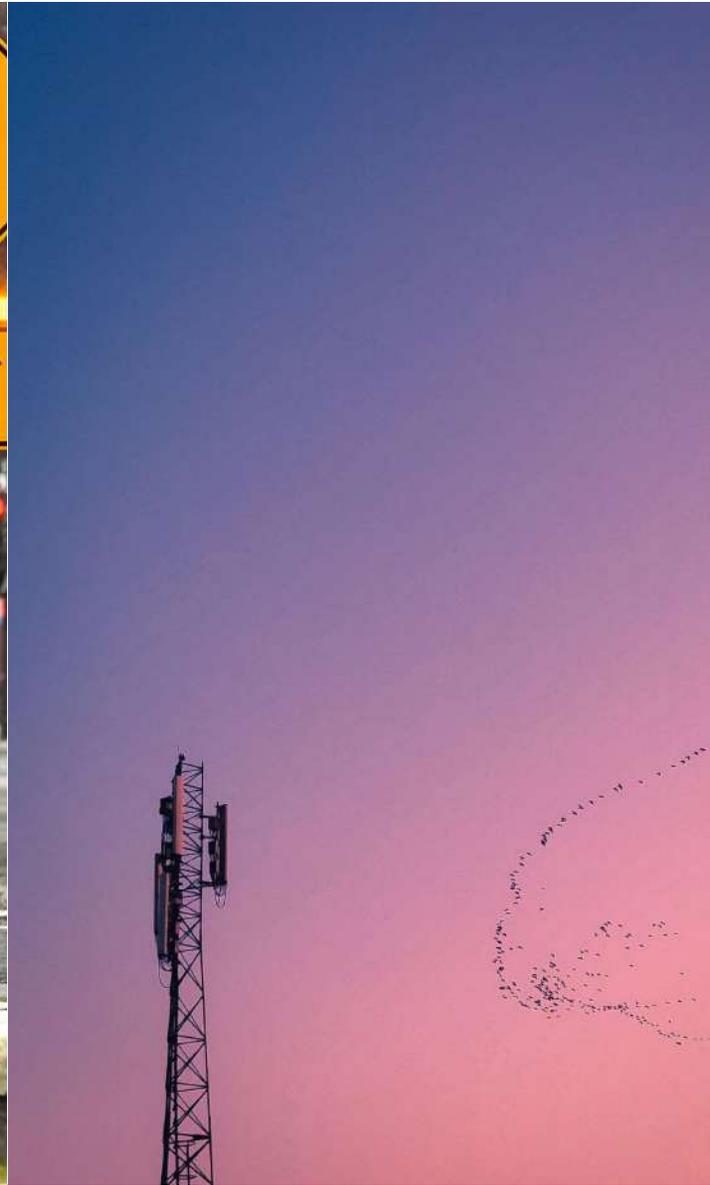


Source: Brookings, Metro Monitor 2025









Where we're all headed





```
31 def __init__(self, *args, **kwargs):
32     self.file = None
33     self.fingerprints = set()
34     self.logdupes = True
35     self.debug = debug
36     self.logger = logging.getLogger(__name__)
37     if path:
38         self.file = open(os.path.join(path, "requests.txt"),
39                         "a")
40         self.file.seek(0)
41         self.fingerprints.update(self.request_fingerprint(request))
42
43 @classmethod
44 def from_settings(cls, settings):
45     debug = settings.getbool("DEBUG")
46     return cls(job_dir(settings), debug)
47
48 def request_seen(self, request):
49     fp = self.request_fingerprint(request)
50     if fp in self.fingerprints:
51         return True
52     self.fingerprints.add(fp)
53     if self.file:
54         self.file.write(fp + os.linesep)
```





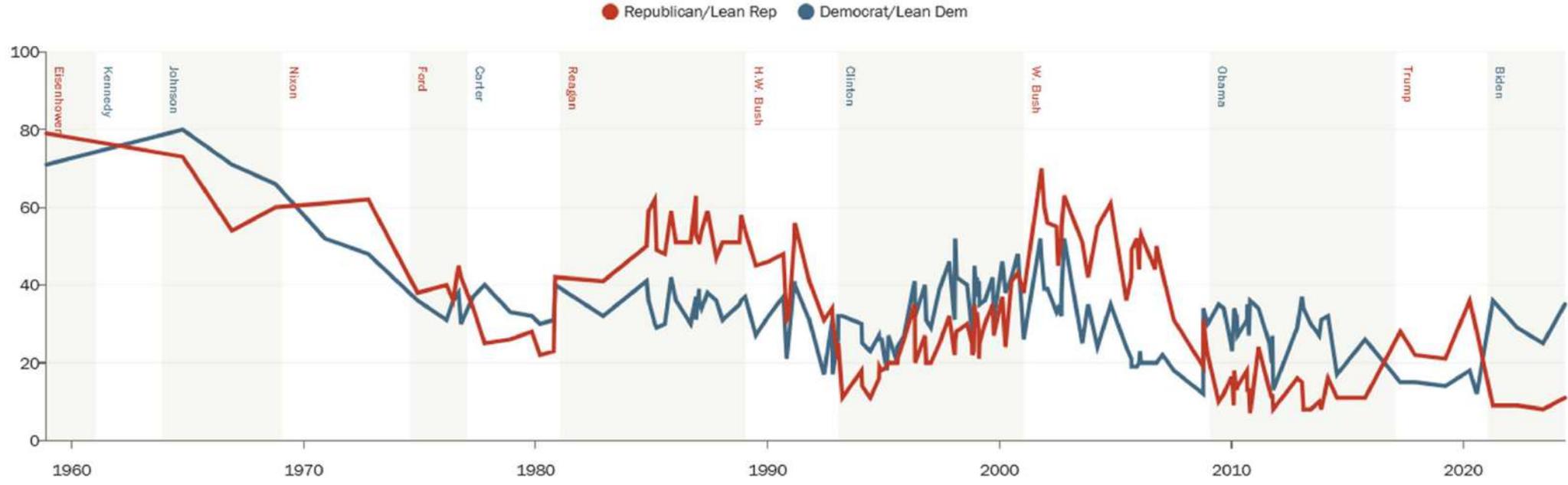
Private finance flows, U.S. and Canada (2021-2022)



Source: Brookings' analysis of Climate Policy Initiative data

Trust in government higher among members of party that controls presidency

% who say they trust the government to do what is right just about always/most of the time



Source: Pew Research Center (including images)

Planning the future



Prosperous regions use collaborative planning to build a flexible, future-looking economy.

1 Maintain what you have

Recommendations include:

- **Prioritize asset management plans**
- **Adopt fix-it-first policies**
- **Create clear communication strategies for regional partners and non-experts**



2 Don't bank on subsidies

Recommendations include:

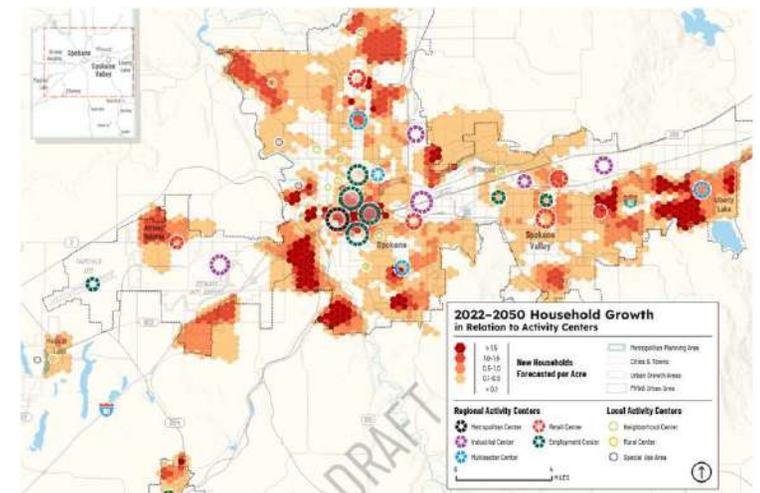
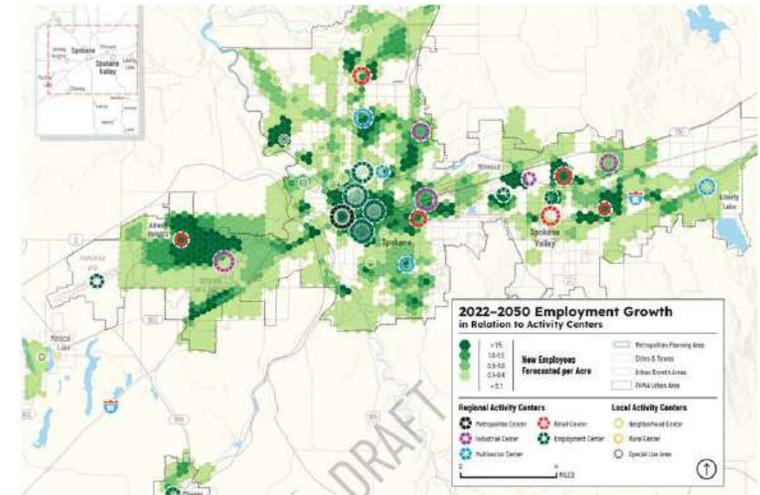
- Deploy conservative revenue estimates, including intergovernmental transfers
- Modernize revenue sharing and fiscal responsibilities around development
- Revisit the assumptions underpinning long-planned projects
- Reserve capital for must-have, big bets



3 Better integrate economic and land development

Recommendations include:

- Work with all property developers to promote housing supply and transportation choice
- Design flexible models for industrial land development and large site selection
- Sync priority industrial clusters and place-based infrastructure investment



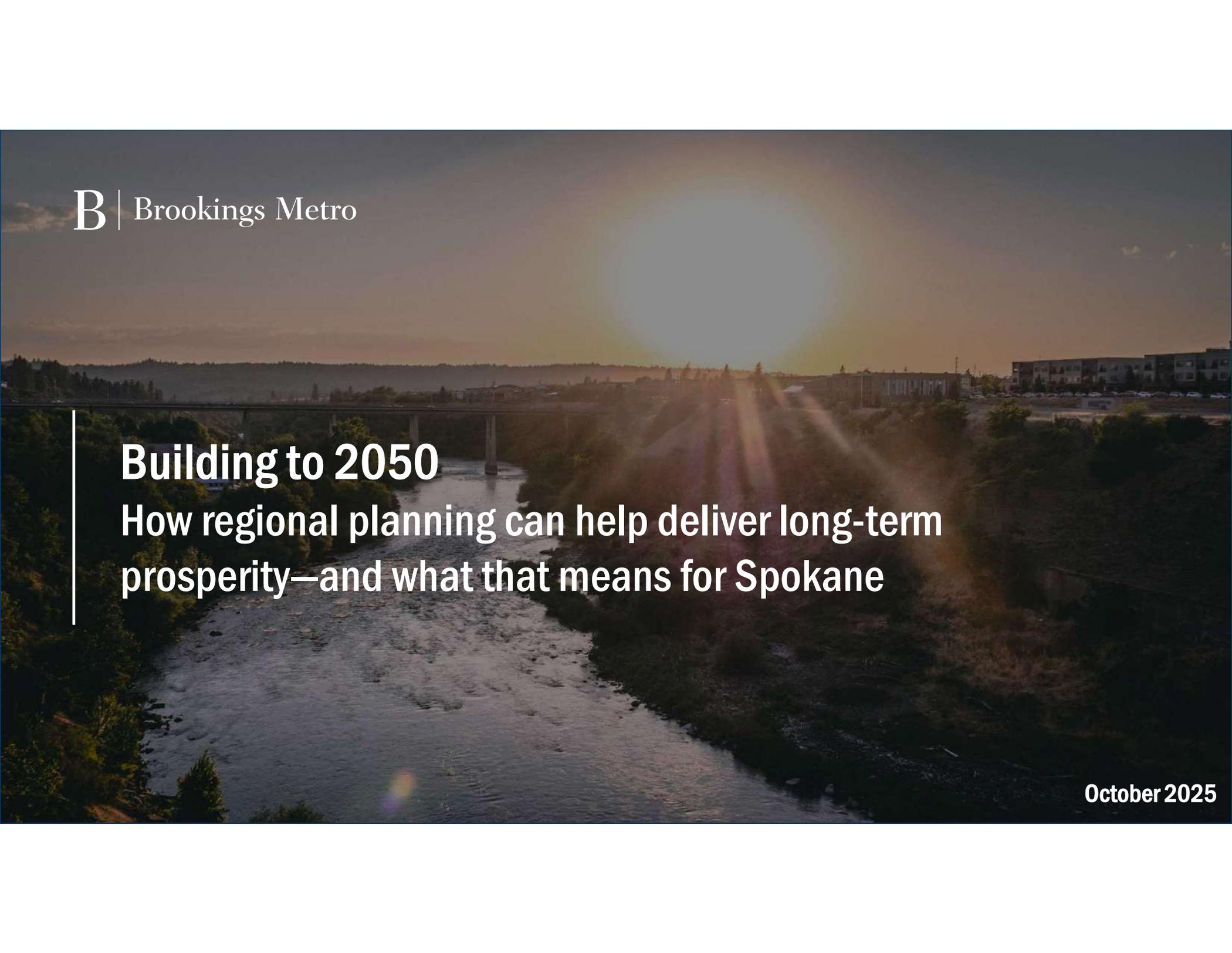
4 Prioritize economic security for all households and businesses

Recommendations include:

- Adopt complete street policies in priority locations—and communicate the results where construction occurs
- Integrate digital technologies across built environment policies, including benefits systems, traffic and parking management, and digital skills







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Building to 2050

How regional planning can help deliver long-term prosperity—and what that means for Spokane

October 2025



JASON LIEN

**Spokane Regional
Transportation Council**

Principal Transportation Planner

HORIZON
2050



Spokane Metropolitan
Transportation Plan

Regional Transportation Summit
Jason Lien, SRTC
October 7, 2025





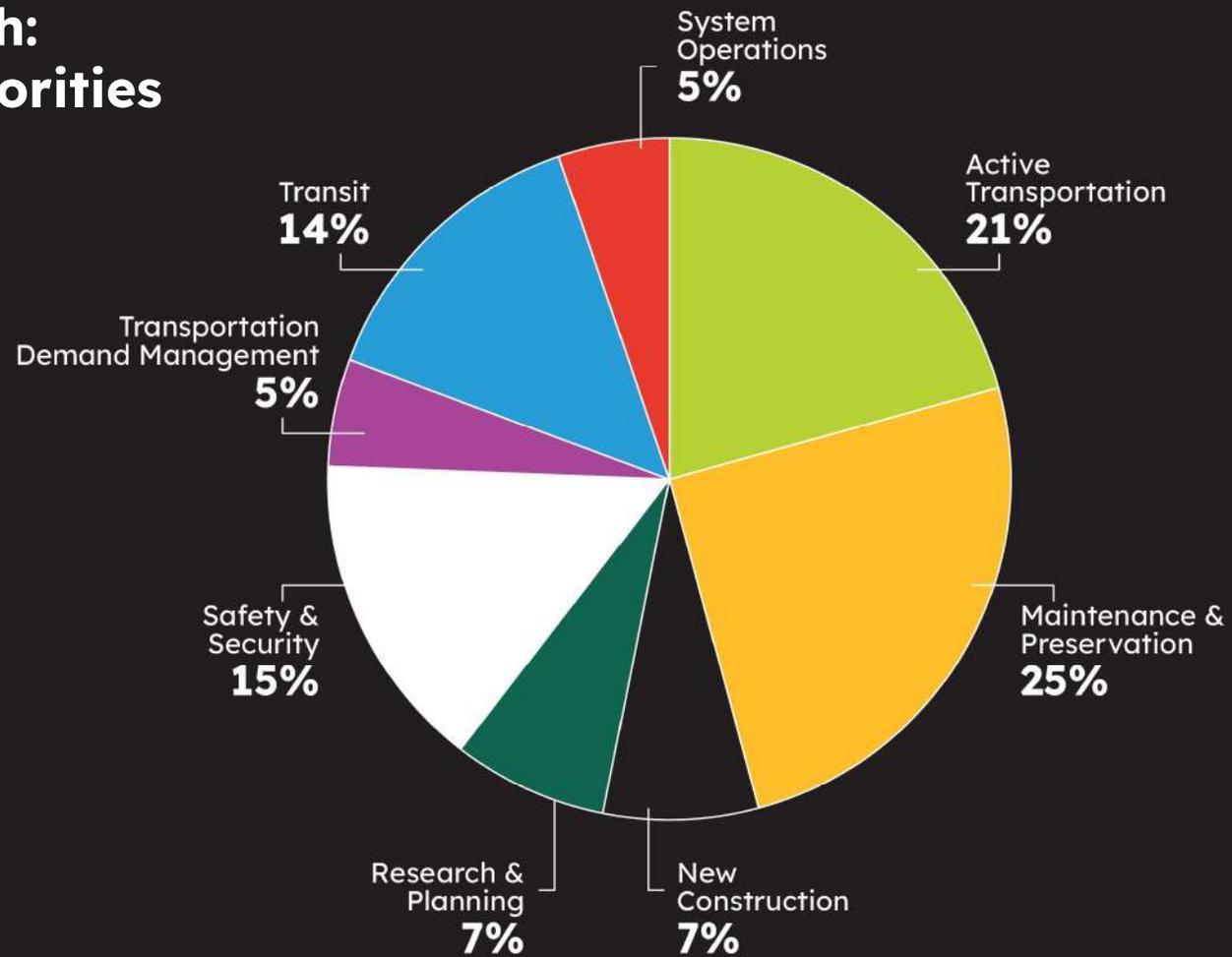
HORIZON 2050

Spokane Metropolitan
Transportation Plan



What Did We Find?

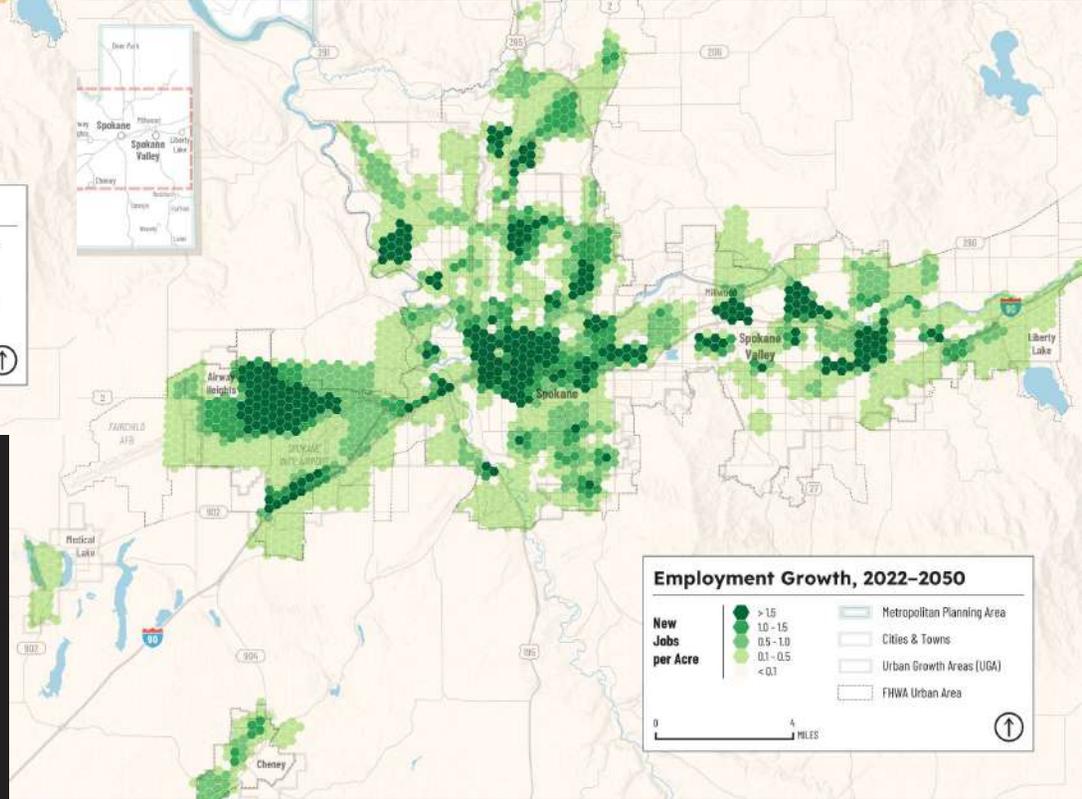
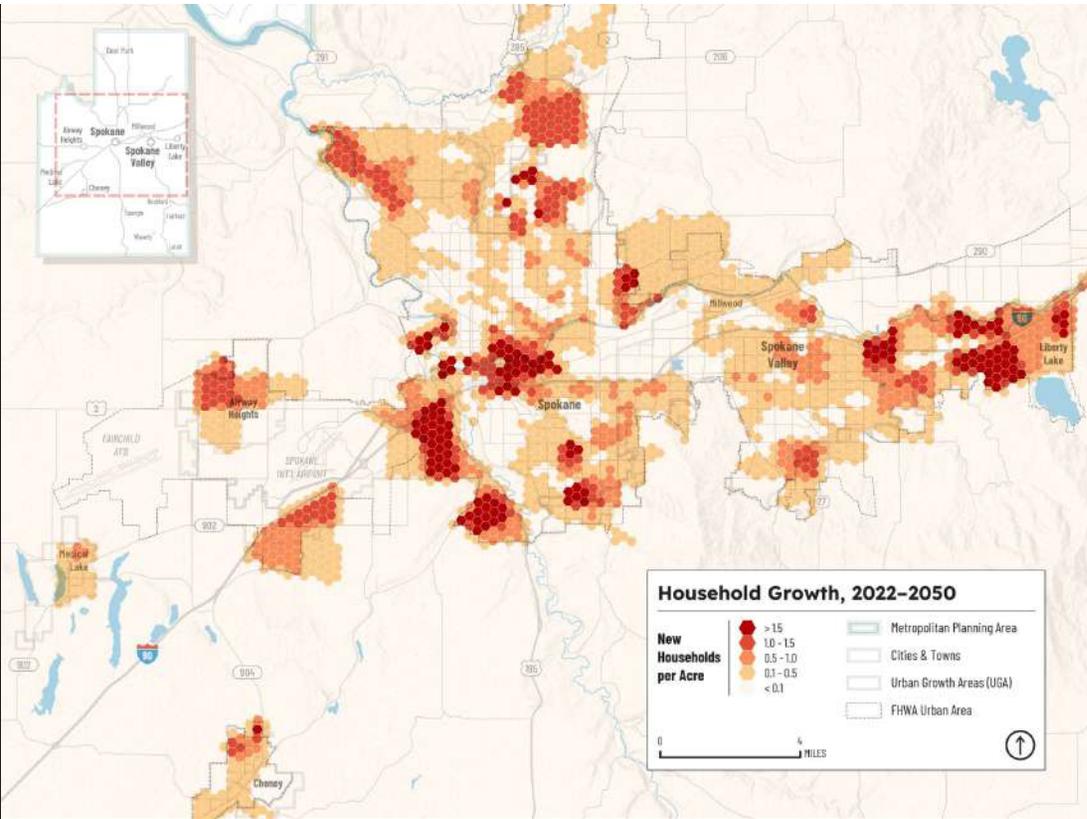
Public Outreach: Investment Priorities



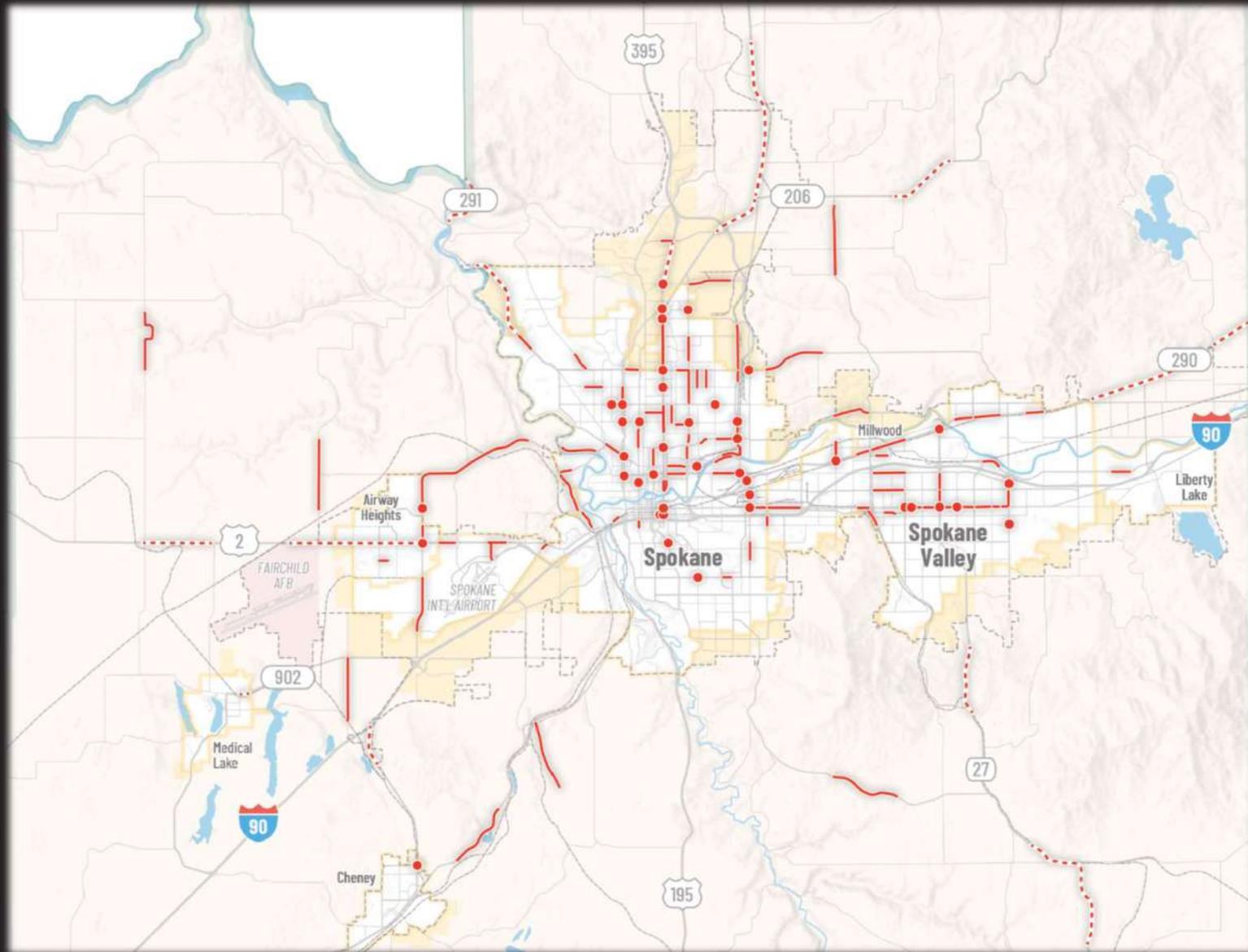
HORIZON 2050 BY THE NUMBERS

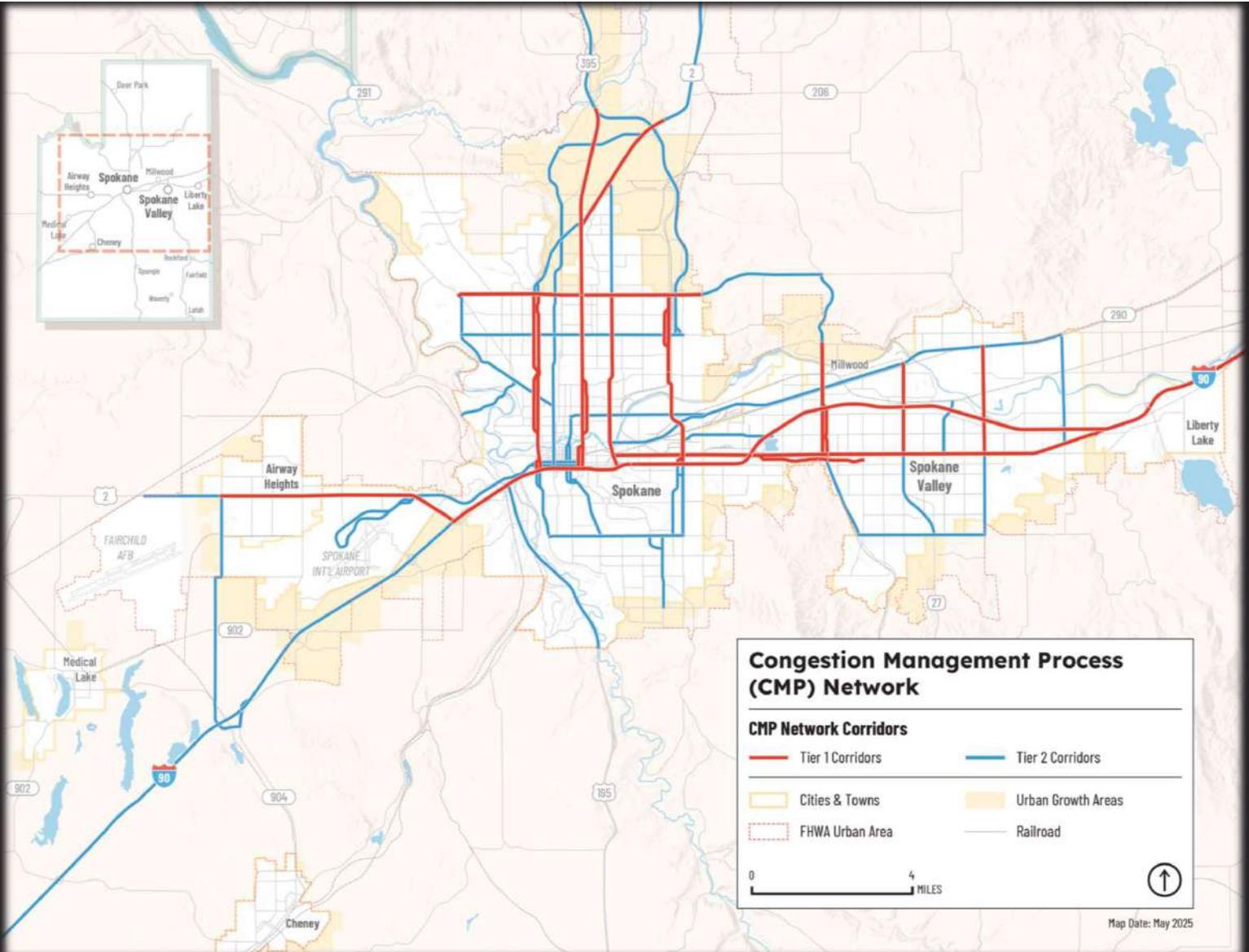
By 2050, the Plan Forecasts:





High Injury Network





Congestion Management Process (CMP) Network

CMP Network Corridors

- Tier 1 Corridors
- Tier 2 Corridors
- Cities & Towns
- Urban Growth Areas
- FHWA Urban Area
- Railroad

0 4 MILES

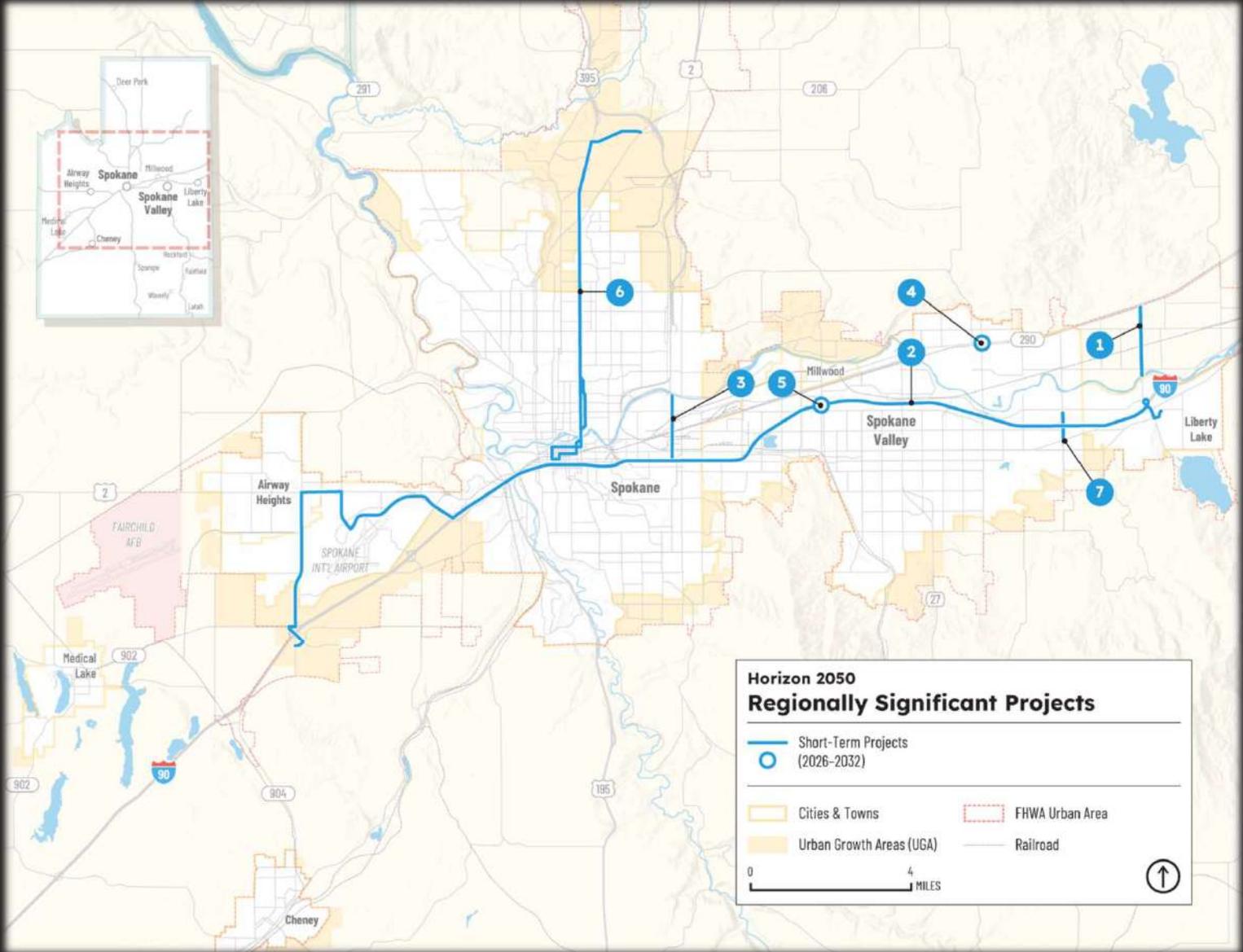


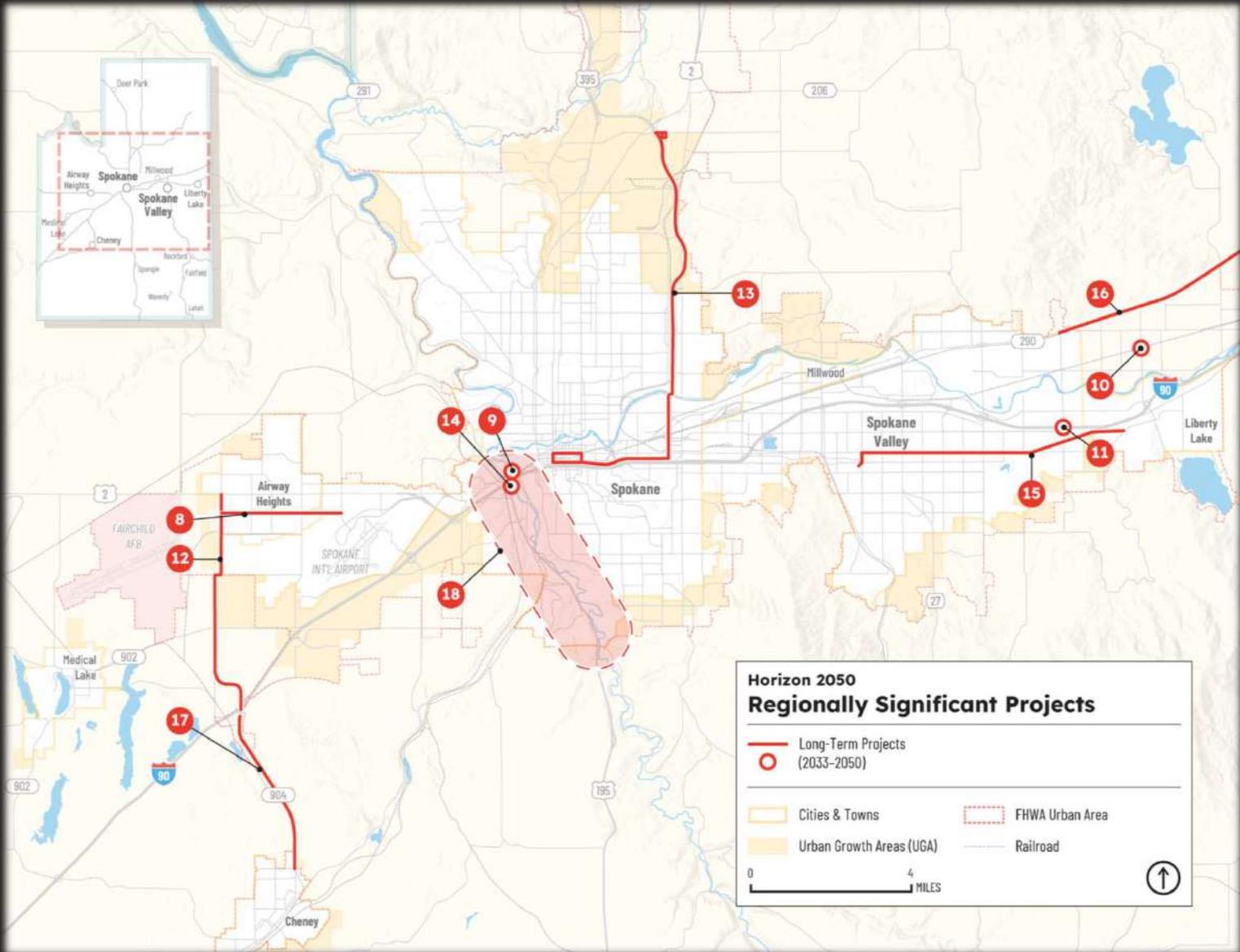
Map Date: May 2025

How We'll Get There

HORIZON
2050  | Spokane Metropolitan
Transportation Plan







Vehicular Priority Network

- Federal NHS Routes
- State NHS Routes
- Local NHS Routes
- Non-NHS Routes



Freight Priority Network

- Truck Freight
- Rail Freight
- Air Freight
- Intermodal Facility



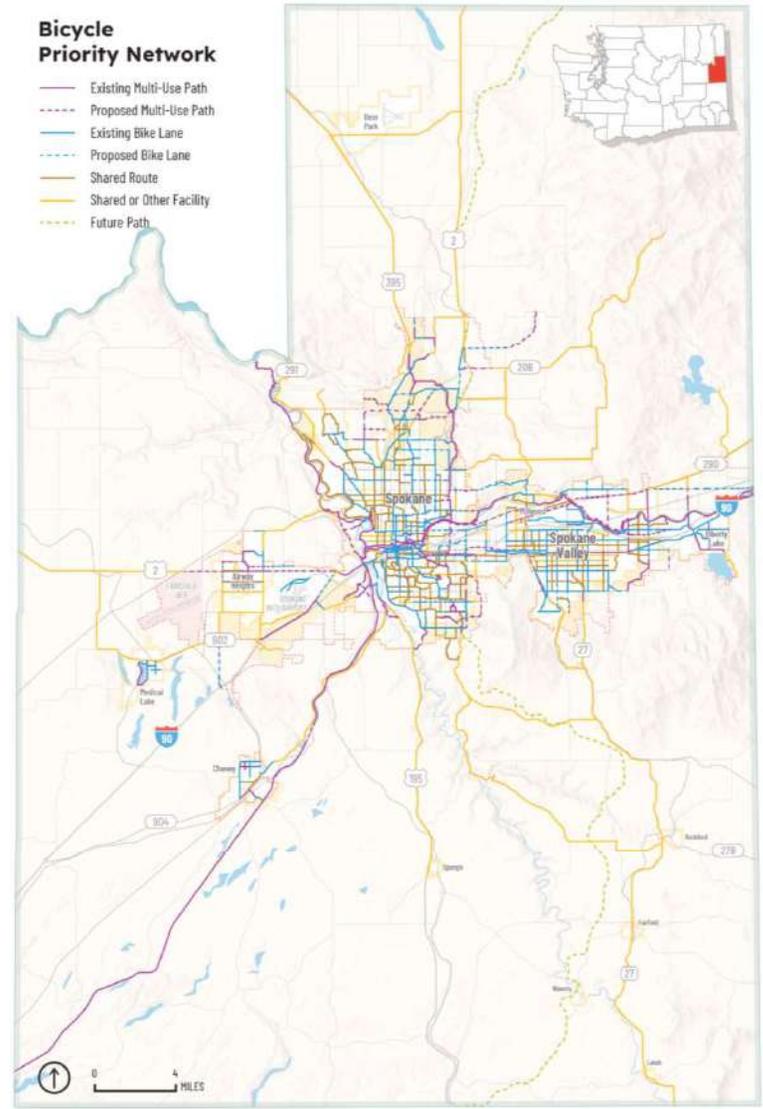
Transit Priority Network

- Bus Rapid Transit
- Other High Performance Transit Corridor

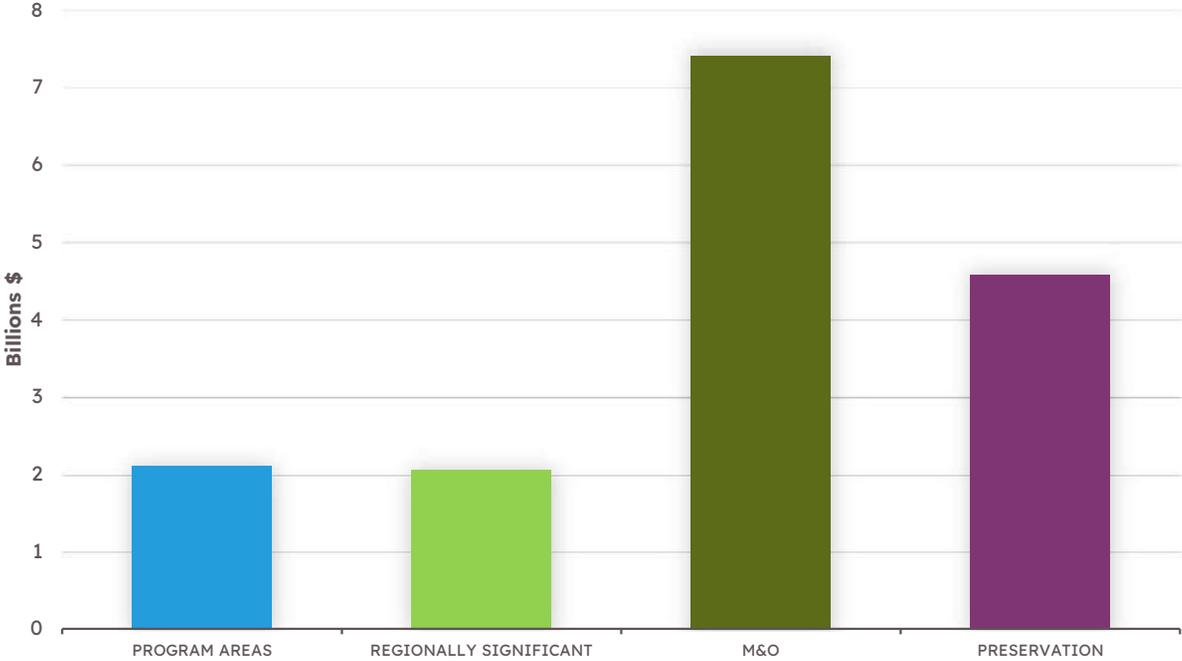


Bicycle Priority Network

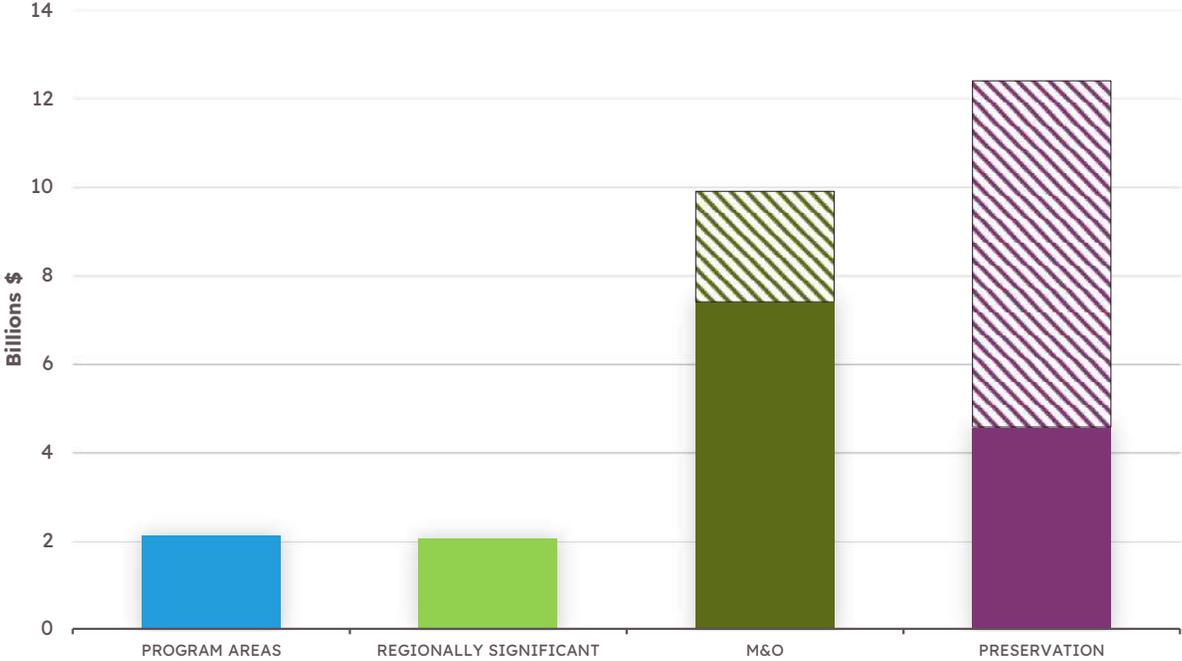
- Existing Multi-Use Path
- - - Proposed Multi-Use Path
- Existing Bike Lane
- - - Proposed Bike Lane
- Shared Route
- Shared or Other Facility
- - - Future Path



Expenditures



Expenditures





Additional Work

I-90 corridor study

Transportation funding study

Freight truck parking study

Update to ITS Architecture

Safety awareness campaign



Timeline / Next Steps

OCTOBER 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



DECEMBER 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Thank You

Jason Lien

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509.343.6370

HORIZON
2050

Spokane Metropolitan
Transportation Plan

**Great Northwest
Transport**



Jason Girus

General Manager

**Washington State Department
of Transportation**



Todd Trepanier

**Assistant Secretary of
Regions & Delivery/
Principal Engineer**

**Spokane Regional
Transportation Council**



Jason Lien

**Principal Transportation
Planner**

**Spokane Transit
Authority**



Karl Otterstrom

Chief Executive Officer

**Brookings Metro
Institute**



Adie Tomer

Senior Fellow

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