



**Equity Advisory Group – Equity Lens Session**

Meeting Date: 06/18/2024  
 Time: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm  
 Location: Zoom Meeting

**Attendees:**

<b>Facilitator</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>EAG Member</b>	<b>Member Organizations</b>
Amber Lenhart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clyde Abrahamson	<a href="#">Spokane Indian Housing Authority</a>
<b>Avista Team Member</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Margee Chambers	<a href="#">Spokane Clean Air</a>
Kelly Dengel	<input type="checkbox"/>	Connie Kliewer	<a href="#">NEWESD101</a>
Christine Tasche	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clair Trapp	<a href="#">Rural Resources</a>
Dan Blazquez	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe Reilly	SNAP
Amanda Ghering	<input type="checkbox"/>	KJ January	<a href="#">Spectrum</a>
Tamara Bradley	<input type="checkbox"/>	William von Bracht	<a href="#">Othello, school English as 2<sup>nd</sup> language</a>
Ana Matthews	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michele Bennington	Community member at large
James Gall	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brook Beeler	<a href="#">Department of Ecology Eastern Region</a>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jupiter McGee	<a href="#">Sunrise Spokane Affiliation</a> (youth led) ( <a href="#">Facebook</a> )
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vanessa Strange	<a href="#">Spokane Public Library</a>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tami Dillion	<a href="#">Providence</a>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Latrice Williams	Community Member/ WA state board of Equity
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cindy Kimmet	<a href="#">Takesa Village</a>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Groom	<a href="#">SNAP</a>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandra Childers	Rural Resources
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jean Kindem	<a href="#">Aging &amp; Long-Term Care of Eastern Washington</a>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Karen Boone	<a href="#">Red Cross</a>
		<b>Guests</b>	
		Katie Kosanke	<i>Spokane Parks and Rec</i>
		Angel Spell	<i>Spokane Parks and Rec</i>
		Amber Ramirez	<i>Spokane Parks and Rec</i>
		Jean Marie Dreyer	<i>Public Council</i>

**Agenda**

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# EAG Equity Lens Session Meeting Notes

## I. Welcome & Introductions

### Overview of Meeting: Rules and Intent

## II. Partner Share

- Spokane regional domestic violence coalition rolling out a campaign with a survey, link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/endtheviolencespokane>
- Summer Reading Club 2024 - Spokane Public Library (spokanelibrary.org) Summer Reading club for kids and adults including great prizes! Adults can participate and receive a free tattoo for the winning prize

## III. Spokane Urban Forestry

Spokane Urban Forestry goal is to create a diverse healthy and accessible urban tree canopy. They care for trees in over 100 parks in Spokane City, trimming, protective equipment for the limbs and roots of trees etc.,



Using a new software (tree plotter) for tree management throughout the city. This software easily generates reports, sort data, and is usable offline such a mobile device in the field instead of only in the office.

Tree Inventory Asset Management

**110,040 – Public Trees** (Street Trees and Park Trees)

Previous Inventory Program

- Limited number of users
- Not user friendly
- Limited off-line use

NEW Software, Tree Plotter

- Intuitive and simple to add and update records
- Report generator / data sorting
- Highly customizable
- Easy to use on mobile devices, unlimited users
- Partners can access and create reports without compromising the integrity of the data

\$6 million grant over 5 years to improve tree canopy throughout the city using the CEJST tool.

### Tree Equity Spokane

IRA Grant through USDA/USFS

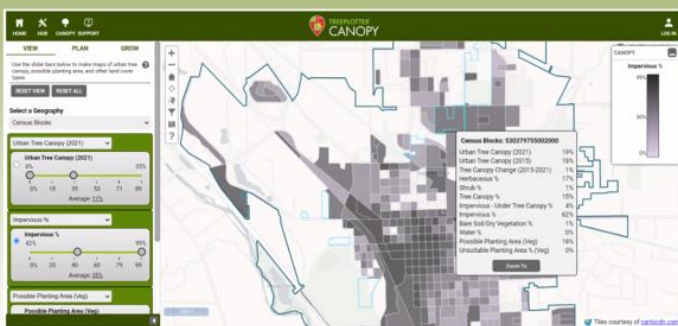
- Define CEJST mapping and the areas with most need within it (some neighborhoods are only partially in)
- Target areas- low income, low canopy, high pollution, etc.
- Predict number of trees needed, and what sizes to reach goal & project future canopy cover
- 30% by 2030 goal
- Easily package neighborhood contract items to prepare them for bid



*We are incredibly grateful for the support from Avista for this software which will significantly improve allocation of IRA project funding in the most impactful way possible. THANK YOU!*

Reviewed how the CEJST tool works with tree plotter

### Tree Plotter View Tool



*The first slider shows census blocks where urban tree canopy percent is less than 35%. The second slider was toggled to show where impervious surfaces are greater than 40%. The results of the two filters are shown on the map. A specific census block was selected (highlighted in blue) to show its unique metrics.*

### Outcomes

- Reduce the burden on the most vulnerable population
- Increases in - access to green spaces, storm water mitigation, carbon capture, tree longevity, and many other benefits that healthy trees bring
- Cooling neighborhoods by up to 10 degrees
- Bring a greater awareness to the wider public about the many benefits of caring for, and planting trees



We will be able to show you how the tool has helped in a later presentation once we have started using the tool.

**Company:** Thank you Urban Forestry team, EAG identified tree canopy as an NCIF program to consider, so here is the start to that initiative.

**Member:** With the tree canopy project, could some trees in areas where they are most distressed as far as economics,

**Company:** Two partnerships, one for this software, and the other with the lands council to plant the trees, which will present in a future meeting.

I think if you are looking at low income, then the renters live in the house but the homeowners, I wonder if they are the ones weighing in on the decision and I ask that when considering rolling out this program that you consider the water usage that it will take around the trees and

for families that bear the water bill. And the trees that topple over during windstorms, years ago many owners had several trees in their yard and now maybe 60% of the yards have no trees, they cut them down.

**Urban forestry:** We want this work to open these conversations as they are important.

Tenants' vs owners: we want to plant trees where people sign up and want them and want to care for them. We do ask that the renters ask for even just a verbal permission from the owner before planting. We want everyone to experience the benefits of the trees regardless of who the owner is. We do not want the trees to be a burden, trees are great water users, they only need a little water once a week. And the cost burden per month was analyzed and it was shockingly low. We may also have an adopt a tree program encouraging neighbors etc., to water trees and or help support a water route if needed. When it comes to tree health, we are going to be taking care of the trees we already have and the trees that are planted, removing dead trees, taking care of problem trees, and helping to promote healthy trees that will survive during storms etc.,

**Member:** I am interested in your tree inventory program that you are using, is there any specific species of trees that are desired more than others in the city because of longevity etc.,

**Urban forestry:** We do look at species with the software, we do focus on planting a wide range of species that grow well in our area, pest issues are species specific, so we try not to plant specific trees that will promote bug loss.

## IV. CBI Activity and Discussion

Existing CBI that EAG helped identify in 2021

### Customer Benefit Indicators



An **indicator** is a sign or marker that can be used to measure a project's progress, changes, and impacts. Indicators can help answer questions about **who** a project is reaching, **how** a project is implemented, and **how well** a project is doing at reaching the right people or having the **intended outcomes**.

**Examples** of indicators could include:

- **"How much"** indicators: amount of funding, staff time, people reached, services delivered, etc.
- **"How well"** indicators: quality of services, timeliness, level of community engagement, cost-effectiveness, proportion of intended audience reached, etc.
- **"Is anyone better off"** indicators: changes in health, knowledge, situation, environments, etc.

Imaginary scenario, I want to start going to the gym and get healthier, I have a membership to the Y, but I need to actually go. I am going to have indicators to gauge how well I am doing. How often am I going, how long am I there, what I am doing while I am there, which activities am I doing while I am there, how well am I doing, how often is my heart rate at the target zone, the amount of weights I am lifting etc., and then to understand my results, I may look at my cholesterol, my weight, my activity level, etc. How can we help Avista make sure they are

heading in the right direction with clean energy, are we leaving anyone out, are we measuring the right things etc.,

### Customer Benefit Indicators

- How could our region’s clean energy plans benefit—or unintentionally harm—community members, especially “named communities”?
  - New energy resources
  - Energy efficiency and programs
  - Demand response pilots
  - Names Communities Investment Fund
  - Public Participation



Used google document to answer specific questions pertaining to CBIs.

1. What are some ways that individuals, families, and households in our communities might be affected by clean energy?
2. What are some ways that clean energy could benefit individuals, families, and households in our communities, especially “named communities?”
3. What are some ways that clean energy could unintentionally leave out or indirectly harm individuals, families, and households in our communities, especially “named communities?”
4. Thinking about the ways clean energy can benefit or unintentionally harm communities, what things (indicators) could Avista measure or observe? Consider “how much,” “how well,” and “is anyone better off” indicators.

See attachment A for a full list of responses

**Member:**

## V. CBI Next Steps

## VI. Your Support Team and Next Meeting

- Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday July 17<sup>th</sup> and Friday July 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Please sign up for our quarterly newsletter if you have not already and we hope to see you all in July
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## VII. Additional Resources

<i>Resource Link</i>	<i>Description</i>
<a href="#">Washington’s Clean Energy Future</a>	Avista page for CETA related activities
<a href="#">Clean Energy Transformation Act</a>	Clean Energy Transformation Act - Washington State Department of Commerce
<a href="#">Chapter 19.405 RCW</a>	Laws and Regulations: Revised Code of Washington Investor-owned utilities
<a href="#">Chapter 480-100 WAC</a>	Laws and Regulations: Washington Administrative Code Investor-owned utilities
<a href="#">WA Energy Strategy</a>	Washington State Energy Strategy
<a href="#">CETA Overview</a>	CETA overview and interim assessment