



Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board

January 25, 2023

Spokane City Council
Council President Breean Beggs, bbeggs@spokanecity.org

Re: Status of Spokane Alcohol Impact Areas

This notice is regarding the Spokane alcohol impact areas. Per Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 314-12-215(7)(b), it is stated that an alcohol impact area remains in effect until one of the following occurs:

- A local authority repeals the enabling ordinance that defines an alcohol impact area;
- A local authority requests that the board revoke its recognition of an alcohol impact area;
- The board repeals its recognition of an alcohol impact area of its own initiative and following a public hearing; or
- A local authority fails to comply with subsection (8) of this section (Reporting Requirements).

It is our understanding that the ordinance underlying the Spokane alcohol impact areas was repealed on Monday, October 3, 2022, and a reinstatement of the ordinance has not occurred. With no basis for the alcohol impact areas, the Liquor and Cannabis Board can no longer recognize and enforce the Spokane Downtown Core and East Central alcohol impact areas. Our Enforcement and Licensing staff have been notified of this change. We will be notifying licensees who are affected by this change in status.

Please also note that the City will no longer have 60 days to respond to notifications from our Licensing Division regarding objections to alcohol license applications and renewals in these areas. The timeline will revert to 20 days.

We do request that the 5-year report on the two alcohol impact areas that was due in November 2022 be completed and sent to Mary Segawa at mary.segawa@lcb.wa.gov by January 31, 2023. Questions regarding the report or any of the above information may also be directed to Ms. Segawa either by email or at 360-522-0421.

More information on alcohol impact areas can be found on our website [here](#). This page also includes a link to the "Local Authority Handbook."

Respectfully,

Rebecca Smith

Rebecca Smith,
Director of Licensing and Regulation

cc: Mayor Nadine Woodward, mayor@spokanecity.org
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LCB Director of Enforcement and Education, Chandra Wax