

Washington KPBX 3rd Quarter 2023 Issues

Spokane Public Radio KPBX determined the following to be community needs and addressed them through news and other programming during the quarter ending September 30th, 2023.	<p>Coronavirus (COVID -19)</p> <p>Regional, state, local, county politics & govt.</p> <p>Economy</p> <p>Environmental/natural issues</p> <p>Healthcare</p> <p>K-12 and higher education</p> <p>Health care</p> <p>Arts /culture</p> <p>Business, industry, agriculture</p> <p>Police/Crime</p> <p>Legal issues</p> <p>Native Issues</p>
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Network Specialty Audience Programs

<u>Public Forums</u>	It's Your World, Alternative Radio, Commonwealth Club – conversations on different topics ranging from left-wing politics to international and national events. Programs air Tuesdays at noon. (1 hour)
<u>Climate One</u>	Weekly program devoted to climate-related topics, airing Mondays at noon. (1 hour)
<u>Zorba Paster On Your Health</u>	Medical call-in program, Wednesdays at noon. (1 hour)
<u>Concert of the Week</u>	Highlights of performances from the Inland Northwest and around the world, Mondays at 7 p.m. (2 hours)

KPBX Produced Programs

<u>Guitar Hour</u>	Weekly musical program featuring the guitar	Thursdays 11 am	1 hour
<u>Radio Play Co-Lab</u>	Local regional talent performs locally written material	Quarterly	30 min
<u>Movies 101</u>	Local people review recent motion pictures	Fridays 6:30 pm	30 min
<u>TA(P)</u>	A weekly look at the arts in the Inland Northwest	Thursdays 12 pm	1/2 hour

SPR-produced newscast at 5:31, 6:04, 6:31, 6:45, 7:04, 7:31, 7:45, 8:31, 8:45 am.; 4:45, 5:00, 5:45, 6:00 pm., Mon.-Fri., and at 7:35 and 9:35 am Sat.-Sun. (News stories average 1:30-6 min. in length and include stories produced by Spokane Public Radio staff and by Northwest News Network, to which Spokane Public Radio belongs.) Topics are listed by subject category. Spokane Public Radio also airs All Things Considered and Morning Edition from NPR News. A sample of topics covered during this quarter are presented below:

Coronavirus	
Election Coverage	<p>Initiative group, Idaho AG spar over open primary ballot measure. Four candidates run to replace Spokane City Councilwoman Lori Kinnear. Six candidates are vying to represent open Northwest City Council Seat. Cheney voters asked to approve new city aquatics facility. Spokane valley fire commission race features candidates experienced in fire, elected office. Lisa Brown, incumbent Nadine Woodward to move onto general election. Progressive candidates appear to be leading Spokane City Council Races. Voters in Spokane County cities pick general election participants. Primary election initiative goes before Idaho Supreme Court. Spokane County's August election is now official. Idaho county elections officials look for poll workers. UPDATE: Spokane anti-camping initiative back on November ballot. Idaho Senate reaches support for special session on presidential primary. Four candidates vie for Cheney City Council. Washington's secretary of state emphasizes voter education.</p>
Culture Issues	<p>Washington State researcher to explore rural gentrification in Spokane talk. New Spokane city program uses art to calm traffic. Ideas sought for Spokane Expo '74 anniversary celebration. New book recounts 1960s fight for Black acceptance at WSU. WSU celebrates glass art at Pullman event. Study finds mixed impressions for all-gender restroom and locker room signage among adults. New mural to celebrate East Central neighborhood, community history. Spokane stadium ready for high school sports, professional soccer. Carl Maxey Center, library, hope to preserve and archive Spokane's Black history.</p>

<p>Politics & State Govt.</p>	<p>Catholic group shifts position on repeal campaign against WA law meant to help trans youth. Complaint pushes for Ferguson to reveal donors of \$1.2M in campaign transfers. The new Washington law giving mobile home residents a chance to buy their parks. Washington weighs in against Idaho law restricting out-of-state abortions. WA Sen. Patty Murray proposes new grants to help prevent youth homelessness. Federal judge orders redrawing of Yakima Valley legislative district. Washington governor, lands commissioner visits Spokane wildfire victims. Idaho county elections officials look for poll workers.</p>
<p>Local & County Govt.</p>	<p>Three candidates, different visions in Spokane City Council President primary. Coalition calls on Spokane County to improve language access. Spokane's new CityLine to launch Saturday. In search of people to write pro-con initiative statements. Airway Heights officials ask for money to build a new fire station. Conspiracy theories slide into traffic planning discussions in Coeur d'Alene. Spokane County Commissioners divided over timeline of \$1.7 billion jail measure. Surplus finds campaign finance complaint against Spokane Councilmember dismissed. Former Spokane City Administrator created hostile work environment, shared details of intimate relationship, city investigator says. Non-profit sues to keep Spokane anti-camping initiative off ballot. Spokane city leaders, corrections officer union, call for jail ballot measure delay. Idaho Gov. Brad Little to host 'Capital for a Day' event in St. Maries. Spokane County declares emergency as Gray and Elk fires continue to burn. Woodard distances herself from controversial pastor after Sunday prayer event. Spokane County fire victims are eligible for property tax relief. Judge rules Spokane camping initiative can appear on November ballot. Spokane County Judge to consider amendments to jail ballot. Ryan Oelrich chosen to fill vacant Spokane council seat. Spokane launches support team for middle housing projects. Spokane City Council members propose censuring mayor for appearance with Matt Shea. Broadband authority hopes to improve access for low income, rural Spokane Country residents.</p>

<p>Environment/Energy</p>	<p>Fire danger grows; at least two new wildfires reported in Washington. The Northwest’s electricity demand is projected to rise nearly 25% in next decade. Avista moves into “fire safety mode.” CityLine, zero emissions rapid bus transit, launches in Spokane. DNR’s Franz discusses wildfire season so far. Cheney gas station leak contaminates Minnie Creek. As Spokane River flows drop, city urges residents to conserve water. Red Flag Warning: What does it mean? A giant Oregon wildfire shows the limits of carbon offsets in fighting climate change. EPA signs off on Washington smoke plan, clearing way for more prescribed burns. A Washington state natural area is closed in response to a Canadian wildfire. UPDATE: Several eastern Washington fires burning; Medical Lake, neighboring town evacuated. Precipitation, wind change slow growth of Spokane County wildfires. Gray Fire evacuation zones around Medical Lake re-open to residents. Idaho officials say walleye are threatening endangered salmon. How harmful is smoke from wildfires that burn buildings, cars and other human-made stuff? We don’t fully know. North Idaho volunteer group works to keep Lake Pend Oreille healthy. New state partnership could turn forest waste into energy. Fire officials say Oregon Road Fire was human caused. Newly-discovered comet visible for a few days in Northwest skies. Washington state officials use AI to help detect wildfires. Washington groups try to keep a fatal wildlife disease out of the state. As residents rebuild, Orofino Hospital Fire reveals challenges of urban fires. Prescribed fire season begins, overlaps with wildfire season. Searching for fixes to the farm fuel carveout in Washington’s climate law. Invasive quagga mussel larvae found in Idaho. WA Ecology Dept. finds tons of litter line state and local roads. New tree- planting projects to sprout in Washington with help from \$36M in grants.</p>
<p>Business/Labor/Economy</p>	<p>Washington’s highest paid state workers are coaches, not politicians. State funding aimed at helping Okanogan County orgs study economic development. As the money grows, Washington’s film and TV industry is taking root. New Washington rules protect outdoor workers on hot days. Amazon’s Spokane fulfillment Center fined for labor violations. Harvest Hosts offers places where you can park your RV tonight. Tough choices ahead as costs soar for Washington transportation projects. Spokane seamstresses fix holey clothes at Mend-it Cafes. Wait, is that a huge flying kettle? No, it’s a milestone for a Washington space launch startup.</p>

<p>Health Care/Social Issues</p>	<p>Would you leave grandma with a companion robot? Care bots and robot pets find favor in Pacific NW. Washington, Idaho review Medicaid rolls post-pandemic. Spokane's newest medical students start their journey. Washington summer events rebound from pandemic. WA expands Medicaid for people nearing release from jails and prisons. One year after 988 launch, lessons learned and what comes next. A southern Idaho university works to ease the nursing shortage in north Idaho. In fentanyl roundtable providers call for more resources, larger pipeline of health workers. Xylazine or 'tranq' in WA: Rising drug threat or an empty one? SRHD opioid treatment center nears move to new, larger facility. Washington state health insurance, public benefits web portals to go offline for multi-day upgrade. Despite bans, organizations help Idahoans access abortions: 'Ultimately, it's unstoppable' Health officials urge parents to check their children's vaccination status before school begins. COVID numbers up in Spokane, but short of 2023 highs. Spokane behavioral health program expands, moves to larger facility. Blood donations 'urgently needed' ahead of Labor Day, Washington officials say. Spokane Regional Health Officer: Early fall is prime time for flu and Covid shots. Idaho's fight against fentanyl. Washington Health officials urge public to prepare for respiratory illness season. Animal tranquilizer xylazine rarely found in WA's illegal fentanyl, study finds. Spokane providers to host behavioral health resource fair. Government shutdown won't affect health care or most benefits for veterans, VA says.</p>
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<p>Police/Crime</p>	<p>Spokane Police's new contract could address staffing crisis, but also worsen budget challenges. New WA agency now accepting requests to review cases of police deadly force. Spokane Police have nearly complete backlog of sexual assault evidence kits. This year is on track to be the deadliest on Washington's roads in decades. Citing crime, drug use, Spokane ramps up police presence at Second and Division. Washington State Patrol offers hiring bonuses, accepts lateral transfers amidst recruitment struggles.</p>
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<p>Education</p>	<p>Idaho ed board says no do-over in process of approving UI purchase of University of Phoenix. North Idaho College to keep its accreditation, for now. Spokane teachers learn from cancer awareness. Gonzaga classes to explore different aspects of cannabis. WSU offers certificate for providers who care for Native patients. WSU sports to undergo big changes, but still plenty of uncertainty. WSU dedicates new home for its medical school. Why Dolly Parton is bringing children's books to Washington state. West Bonner schools board chair and vice-chair voted out in recall election. WSU Cougars, OSU Beavers last two standing in Pac-2 Conference. Injunction blocks West Bonner trustees from making major changes until after recall results are certified. Spokane school named after Holocaust survivor opens. Eleventh-hour West Bonner trustees special meeting cancelled. Spokane medical student offers advice for her peers. Washington Board of Education approves new high school graduation rules. Idaho State Board of Education blocks Durst's emergency path to superintendency. We all scream for ice cream, and cheese! It's the 75th anniversary of the WSU Creamery. One Spokane Stadium to host a ribbon cutting ceremony today. Branden Durst, embattled West Bonner Superintendent, announces his resignation. Washington State University student employee union files unfair labor practice complaint. At Washington's public colleges and universities, a lasting slump in enrollment.</p>
<p>Agriculture</p>	<p>Dry conditions affect junior water rights holders in eastern Washington. Washington drought affects farms, fish, wildlife. State horticulturists designing eastern Washington memorial on Capitol Campus in Olympia. Fruit harvests appear to be rebounding after two tough years.</p>
<p>Native issues</p>	<p>Feds post new attorney in Spokane to try crimes committed against indigenous people.</p>
<p>Legal Issues</p>	<p>City of Spokane Administrator Johnnie Perkins resigns after investigation finds evidence of sexual harassment. Fundraiser set up for University of Idaho professor falsely accused of planning student murders. Court finds AG Labrador 'failed' to comply with law in ballot initiative suit. AG rewrites initiative titles following Supreme Court order. Why Washington's jury diversity problem starts outside the courthouse. Spokane County judge rules sales tax ballot measure's wording must be adjusted. Colfax judge nixes Pac-12 presidents meeting. Judge may rule on whether Idaho's 'abortion trafficking' law can be enforced. Spokane County residents sue Inland Power and Light, alleging utility caused Gray Road Wildfire.</p>
<p>Military</p>	

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