Background and Overview

The 5th Avenue Initiative is a neighborhood-driven effort to revitalize East 5th Avenue between Liberty Park and Thor/Freya in the East Central neighborhood. In partnership with the City of Spokane, this project presents a community vision that is inclusive and unified. It provides strategic actions for improvements, programming, and community building along 5th Avenue. Reflecting the diversity of East Central, the outcome supports efforts to foster neighborhood identity and enhance the quality of life for residents at every life stage and economic condition, and to promote local businesses along the 5th Avenue corridor.
The residents, business owners, and other stakeholders in the 5th Avenue/Underhill Park Neighborhood are reestablishing the neighborhood commercial section of 5th Avenue as a vibrant center of their community.

The Project

The neighborhood retail center of 5th Avenue, which serves the Underhill Park section of the East Central Neighborhood, is undergoing a stakeholder-driven revitalization. Separated from the rest of East Central by I-90 and the steep eastern section of the South Hill, the residents of Underhill Park are moving forward to develop a plan to foster the area’s social capital by creating a center for local services, commercial activity, and community gathering.

The Stakeholder Vision

**Short/Medium Term**
- Streetcoping
- Façade improvements
- Fresh Soul Restaurant
- Youth tutoring center
- Public Space

**Long Term**
- Infill development with mixed-use buildings within the retail center
- Continued protection of affordable housing
- Continued recognition of neighborhood diversity and needs

Success Criteria

Project implementation driven by resident and stakeholder leadership.

A continued positive relationship between the residents/stakeholders, the City of Spokane, and private partnerships.

The establishment of commercial activity both in revitalized structures and through programming in the proposed vacant space that engages residents and enhances the current efforts to foster neighborhood identity.

In the long term, a consistently vibrant and safe location that residents of all ages identify with as their neighborhood center.