



CITY OF TACOMA

SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION

VIRTUAL MEETING

DRAFT AGENDA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020

5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

To comply with Governor Jay Inslee's [Proclamation 20-28.14](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will not be conducted in-person. The meeting can be attended remotely using the following information:

Meeting phone line: (253) 215-8782

Meeting hyperlink: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84328083947?pwd=YXo2N1dURXJhRkxpSHNMMnZhRTIGQT09>

Meeting ID: 843-2808-3947

Meeting password: 253253

Microphones will be muted and cameras turned off for all meeting participants, except for the Commissioners and staff presenters. Public comments will be accepted in meeting during the time set aside by the agenda. In addition, the Commission encourages community members to submit written comments prior to the meeting by 4:00 p.m. on December 17th. Please e-mail your comments to PBabbitt@cityoftacoma.org, put in the subject line "STC Meeting 12/17/20", and clearly indicate which agenda item(s), if any, you are addressing.

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVE NOVEMBER 19 MINUTES AND DECEMBER 17 AGENDA
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- IV. STAFF UPDATES
- V. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES
- VI. SUSTAINABLE AND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION IN TACOMA – STAFF PRESENTATION
- VII. 2021 COMMISSION MEETING DAY/TIME - DISCUSSION
- VIII. COMMISSION YEAR-IN-REVIEW AND YEAR-AHEAD – STAFF PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION
- IX. CLIMATE PLANNING UPDATE – STAFF PRESENTATION
- X. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- XI. OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT MEETING
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

Sustainable Tacoma Commission

12/17/2020 Virtual Public Meeting

Welcome

Commissioners

Members of the public

Presenters and staff support:

Jennifer Kammerzell, Liz Kaster

City of Tacoma, Public Works

Laura Svancarek

Downtown on the Go

LaTasha Wortham

Tacoma Public Utilities, Public Affairs and Communication

Patrick Babbitt, Kristin Lynett, James Parvey

City of Tacoma, OEPS



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Call to Order

- Land acknowledgment



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Agenda

- I. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
- II. **APPROVE NOVEMBER 19 MINUTES AND DECEMBER 17 AGENDA**
- III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- IV. **STAFF UPDATES**
- V. **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**
- VI. **SUSTAINABLE AND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION IN TACOMA – STAFF PRESENTATION**
- VII. **2021 COMMISSION MEETING DAY/TIME – DISCUSSION**
- VIII. **COMMISSION YEAR-IN-REVIEW AND YEAR-AHEAD – STAFF PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION**
- IX. **CLIMATE PLANNING UPDATE – STAFF PRESENTATION**
- X. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- XI. **OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT MEETING**
- XII. **ADJOURNMENT**



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and Sustainability

Public Comments



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Staff Updates

Reminders: Share Your Pronouns

- Share your pronouns in Google Doc!

Around the City:

- Sustainability Small Grant will reopen Jan 1st, 2021



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Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Subcommittee Updates

- Climate Action Plans Review
 - Tidelands Regulations
 - Planning Commission
 - Other?
-
- Upcoming subcommittee activities:
 - Waste prevention and recycling (Q1 or Q2 2021)



Other Business Items

1. Sustainable and Active Transportation in Tacoma
 - Staff Presentation
2. 2021 Commission Meeting Day/Time
 - Discussion
3. Commission Year-in-Review/Year-Ahead
 - Staff Presentation & Discussion
4. Climate Planning Update
 - Staff Presentation



Sustainable & Active Transportation in Tacoma

- Staff presentation
 - Jennifer Kammerzell, City of Tacoma, Public Works
 - Liz Kaster, City of Tacoma, Public Works
 - Laura Svancarek, Downtown on the Go



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and Sustainability

2021 Commission Meeting Day/Time

- **Discussion: maintain 3rd Thursdays, 5-7pm**

Advantages

- Follows 2nd monthly Planning Commission meeting
 - 1st/3rd Wednesdays
 - Follows monthly Transportation Commission meeting
 - 3rd Wednesdays
 - Splits Infrastructure, Planning, & Sust. comm. meetings
 - 2nd/4th Wednesdays
 - Precedes Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays
 - Excellent Commission attendance
-
- **Note:** other Commission/Committee meetings may change



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Commission Year-in-Review & Year-Ahead

PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION

1. To bring “accountability, transparency, and vigilance to the long-term implementation of Tacoma’s Environmental Action Plan and...”
2. “...[t]o oversee, coordinate, communicate, and encourage public involvement regarding sustainability initiatives as are consistent with the City’s vision and definition of sustainability.”



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Commission Year-in-Review & Year-Ahead

ANNUAL PRIORITIES

1. Prioritize climate justice
2. Support community food projects that promote equity and food security
3. Sustain and expand transportation by foot, bike, and transit
4. Implement the Urban Forest Management Plan
5. Prevent Waste



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Commission Year-in-Review & Year-Ahead

LETTERS

1. 2021-2022 City biennial budget (July)
 - a) Prioritize climate emergency
 - b) Preserve community trust
 - c) Reimagine health and public safety:
 - Climate justice
 - Food
 - Waste prevention
 - Transportation
 - Add funding to climate planning engagement



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Commission Year-in-Review & Year-Ahead

LETTERS

2. Anti-racist, sustainable change actions (Mayor, Aug.)
 - a) Add a “climate emergency” criterion to apply a climate justice lens to decision-making processes
 - b) Request that staff coordinate CARES Act relief funding for innovative and community-led food security projects
 - c) Frame Tacoma’s COVID-19 recovery work “to rebuild a better, more resilient Tacoma - one that address our long-term racial injustice and climate destruction crises”
 - d) Encourage frontline communities to engage in the climate planning process
 - e) Request that staff develop a list of green, clean, and equitable shovel-ready projects for stimulus funding

Commission Year-in-Review & Year-Ahead

LETTERS

3. Decarbonization (Oct.)

- a) Requests a resolution
- b) Decarbonize City buildings, fleet, equipment, fuel
- c) Engage local institutions
- d) Electrification impact assessment
- e) Legislative agenda to decarbonize/electrify



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Commission Year-in-Review & Year-Ahead

MEETINGS WITH COUNCIL & MANAGEMENT

- Recommendations:
 1. Prioritize climate justice
 2. Support Community Food Projects that promote equity and food security
 3. Sustain and expand transportation by foot, bike, & transit
 4. Implement the Urban Forest Management Plan
 5. Prevent waste
- Growing relationships, guidance, and oversight



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Commission Year-in-Review & Year-Ahead

SUBCOMMITTEES

- COVID-19
- EAP Progress Report, Priorities, and Update
- Decarbonization
- Climate Action Plans Review
- Commission Equity Norms & Processes
- Tideflats Regulations

- Upcoming: Waste Prevention & Recycling



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Commission Year-in-Review & Year-Ahead

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Great mix of meeting business items, with focused priorities
- Expanded Commission from 11 to 13
- Excellent attendance
- Added a Vice-Chair
- Active subcommittees
- Leadership across the Commission
- Active efforts to center equity, hold space for community



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Commission Year-in-Review & Year-Ahead

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- **Reactions to 2020, moving forward to 2021?**
- **Some work is ongoing:**
 - Climate planning
 - Tideflats regulations
 - Decarbonization
 - Waste prevention
- **What do you want to see prioritized in 2021?**
 - **Recent policies:**
 - Climate emergency (Dec. 2019)
 - COVID-19 state of emergency (Mar. 2020)
 - Anti-racist systems transformation (June 2020)
 - 2021-2022 biennial City budget



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Public Comments



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and Sustainability

Objectives for Next Meeting (Jan. 21)

- Staff updates
- Subcommittee updates
 - Climate Action Plans Review
 - Tidelats Regulations
- Tidelats Regulations letter of recommendation
- Climate Planning update (extended)



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and Sustainability

Adjournment



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Walking & Rolling in the City of Tacoma: Active Transportation in 2020 & Beyond



Downtown to Defiance - Metro Parks Tacoma

Introductions & Roles

Jennifer Kammerzell

Principal Engineer, Public Works
Staff Liaison to Transportation Commission

Liz Kaster

Senior Planner & Active Transportation
Coordinator, Public Works
*Staff Liaison to Bicycle Pedestrian Technical
Advisory Group*

Transportation Commission & BPTAG

Transportation Commission

The Transportation Commission advises the City Council on transportation-related matters such as short-term and long-range transportation planning, compliance with local, regional, and federal transportation regulations, bike, pedestrian, and mass transit-related planning initiatives, and parking and capital improvement plans.

- Advises City Council's Infrastructure, Planning & Sustainability Committee
- Established in 2013
- 11 members – Council District & experience/discipline (transit, engineering, ADA, sustainability, etc.) seats

Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Committee (BPTAG)

BPTAG focuses on making it safer and easier to use active transportation in Tacoma, which includes walking, using an assistive mobility device, bicycling, skating, and riding a skateboard or scooter.

- Advisory to the Transportation Commission
- 11 members – staff-appointed with focus on representation
- Officially Established: 2013 (previously known as Bicycle Pedestrian Action Committee, established in 2009)

The **Parking Technical Advisory Group** & **Transit Oriented Development Technical Advisory Group** are also advisory to Transportation Commission.

Overview

- 2020 Highlights
- Approach to Active Transportation
- What's on the Horizon

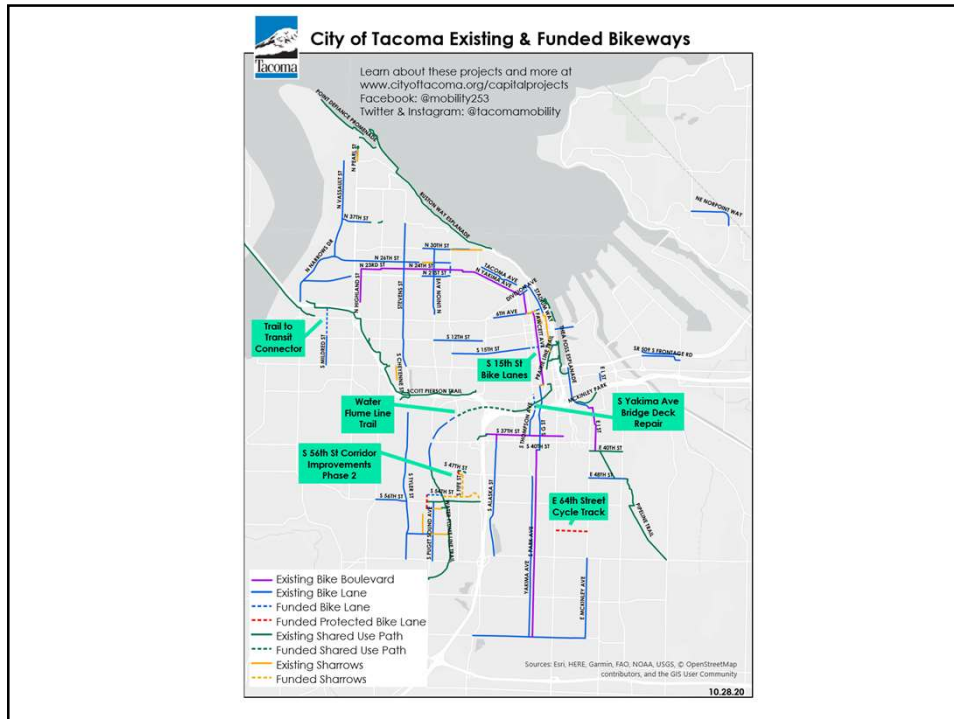




Policy & Programs

- Tacoma Municipal Code Updates
- Micromobility Request for Proposals
- Pop-up Traffic Gardens
- Behind the Scenes:
 - GIS overhaul
 - Leading Pedestrian Interval policy

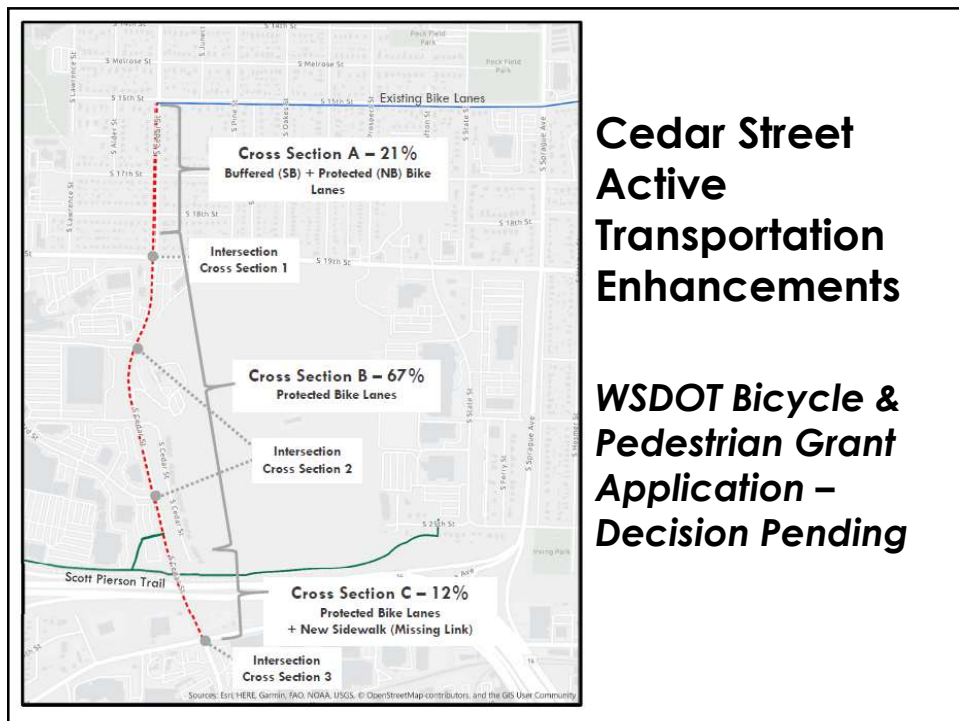
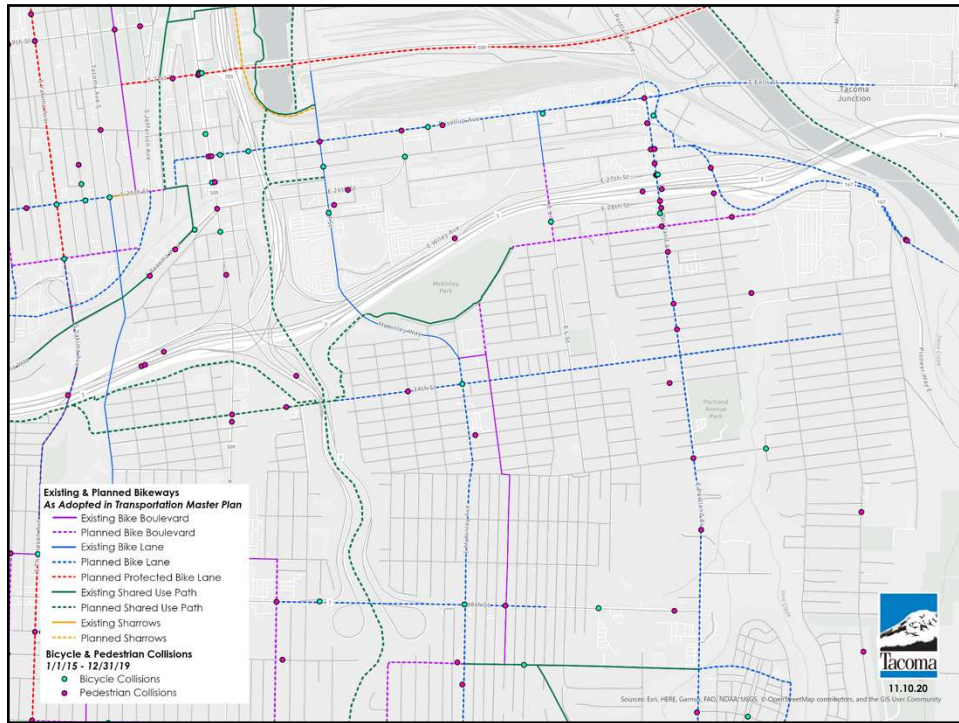




Infrastructure Projects

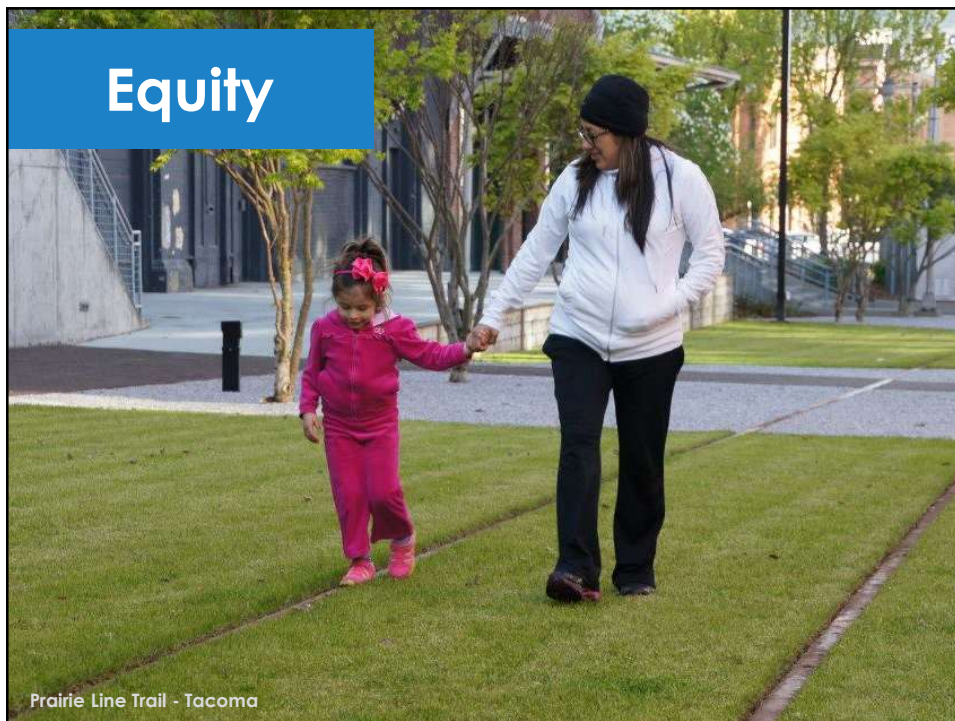
- New Sidewalk Connection to Pierce County Annex
- Safe Routes to School Projects underway at Whitman, Edison, and Mary Lyon.
- Pipeline Trail Completion
- Tacoma to Puyallup Regional Trail Collaboration
- HSIP Grant: 21st St and C Street Signal

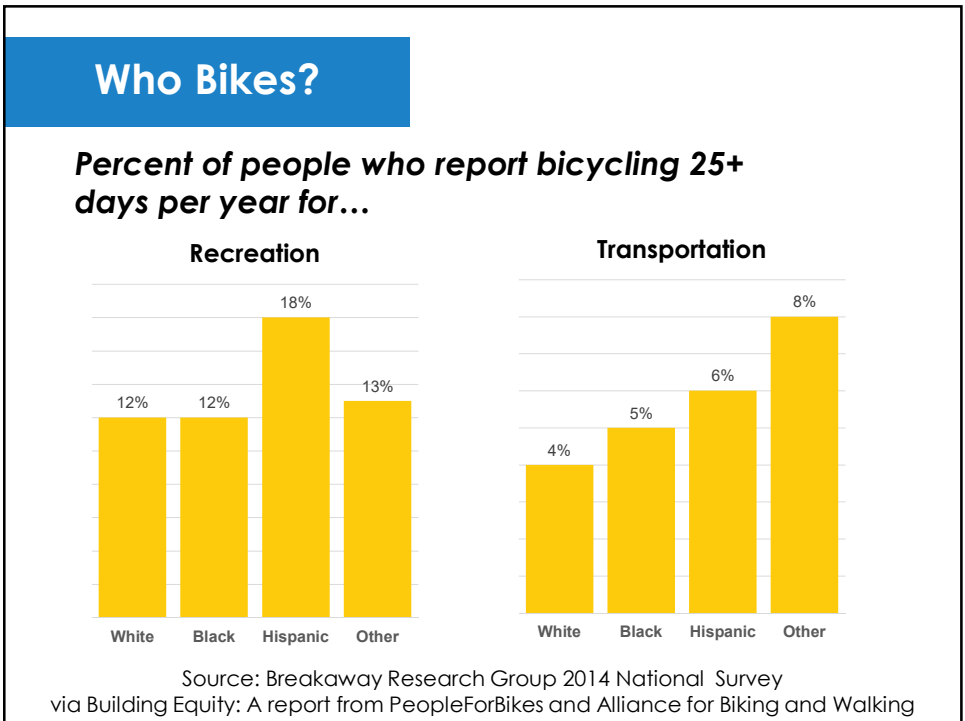
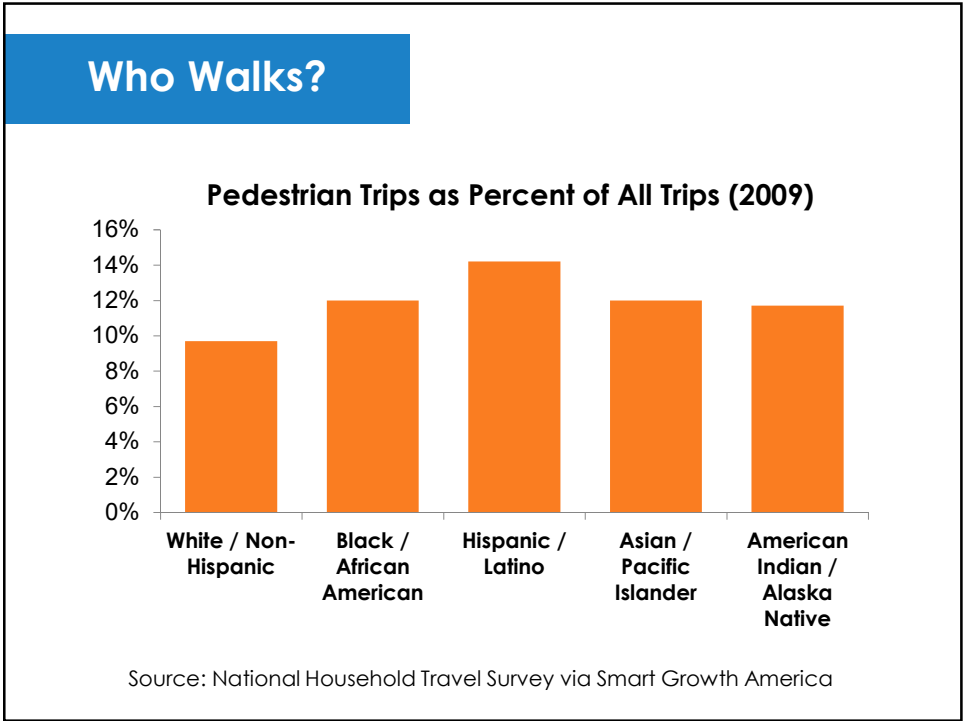


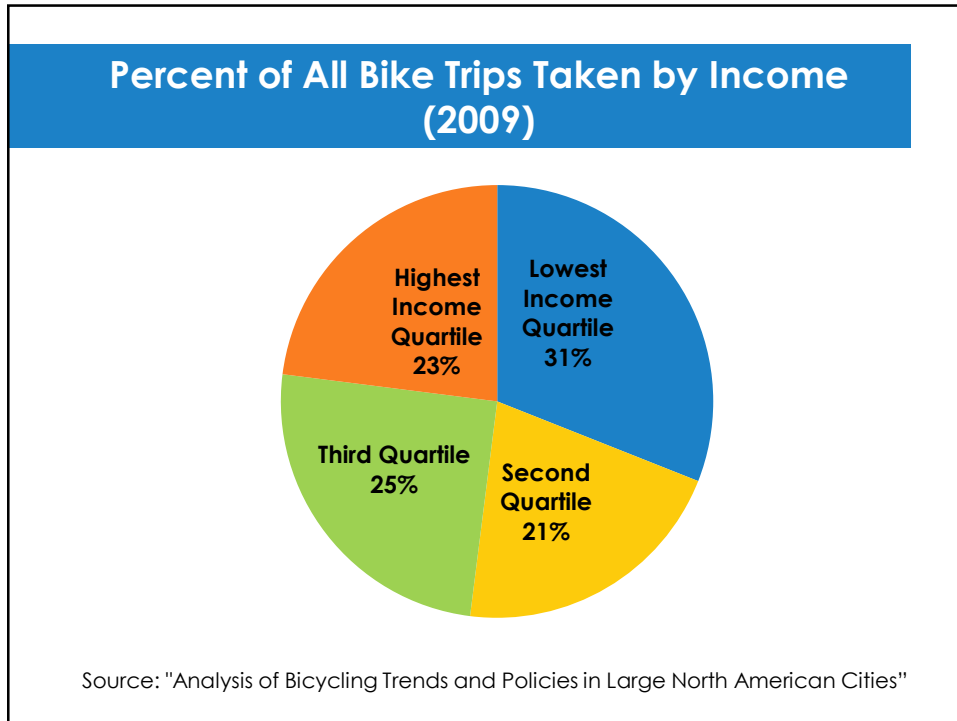


Vision Zero Goal: Eliminate collisions causing serious injury or death by 2035.

- 2014-2018: 17,000 crashes
- Tacoma's increase in fatal & serious injury crashes was twice the statewide average
- Disproportionate impacts









57% of neighborhoods with a 1% poverty level have bike paths or bike lanes

9% of neighborhoods with a 10% poverty level have bike paths or bike lanes

Downtown to Defiance - Tacoma



In Fort Lauderdale, 87% of people cited for lack of bicycle registration are African American

The community is just 31% African American

Downtown to Defiance - Tacoma

Chicago Tribune

'Biking while black': Chicago minority areas see the most bike tickets

MARCH 17, 2017, 2:18 PM

Cycling infractions
Jan. 4, 2008-Sept. 22, 2016, by community area

Nonwhite population
2010-14, by community area

Source: Chicago Police Department

Source: U.S. census data analyzed by Rob Parol and Associates

Tampa Bay Times

Published: April 17, 2015

How riding your bike can land you in trouble with the cops – if you're black

"The Times analyzed more than 10,000 bicycle tickets Tampa police issued in the past dozen years. The newspaper found that even though blacks make up about a quarter of the city's population, they received 79 percent of the bike tickets."

The New York Times

Teenager Sues Over Being Pulled From Bike, Tasered and Arrested Outside Tacoma Mall

By CHRISTINE HAUSER MAY 16, 2016

The Seattle Times

Seattle police writing fewer jaywalking tickets, but high rate still issued to black pedestrians

Originally published July 20, 2017 at 6:00 am | Updated August 16, 2017 at 5:27 am

Racial disparity in ticketing

African Americans received more than a quarter of the tickets, despite making up just seven percent of the city's population.

*Includes people of Hispanic ethnicity
Sources: Seattle Municipal Court, U.S. Census Bureau

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION	
2011-2015	White* 69.5%, Asian 14.5%, Black 7.1%, Native American 0.6%, Other/Unknown 8.3%
PERCENTAGE OF JAYWALKING CITATIONS ISSUED	
2010-2016	White* 58.4%, Asian 6.4%, Black 26.1%, Native American 1.9%, Other/Unknown 7.53%

AMANDA E. WELCH / THE SEATTLE TIMES

PROPUBLICA

Walking While Black

by Taylor Souders and Eze Rahmattic, ProPublica, and Benjamin Cassel, Florida Times-Opinion November 16, 2017

Blacks, then, [in Jacksonville, FL] were nearly three times as likely as whites to be ticketed for a pedestrian violation. Residents of the city's three poorest zip codes were about six times as likely to receive a pedestrian citation as those living in the city's other, more affluent 34 zip codes.

"Walking while black means getting profiled more, it's getting ticketed more. It also means being more exposed to traffic violence and at the same time having the least amount of safe infrastructure to use."

-Emiko Atherton, director of the National Complete Streets Coalition



The Fatality Rate for Bicyclists is

23%

Higher for Hispanic than White Bicyclists

30%

Higher for African-American than White Bicyclists

Source: 2001 CDC data via League of American Bicyclists

The Fatality Rate for Pedestrians is

43%

Higher for Hispanic than White Pedestrians

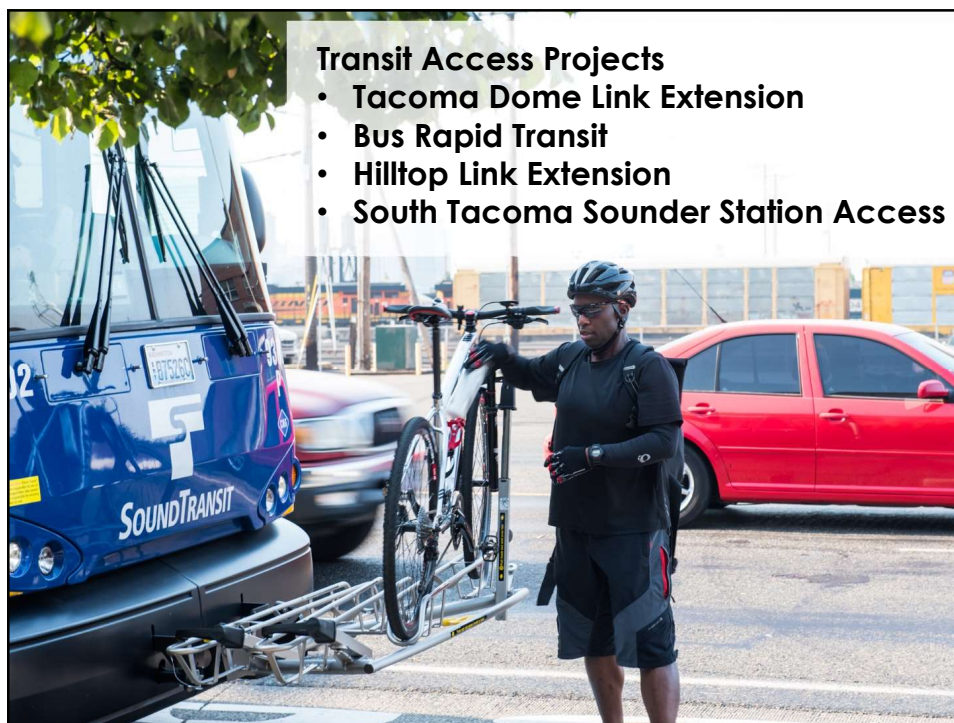
60%

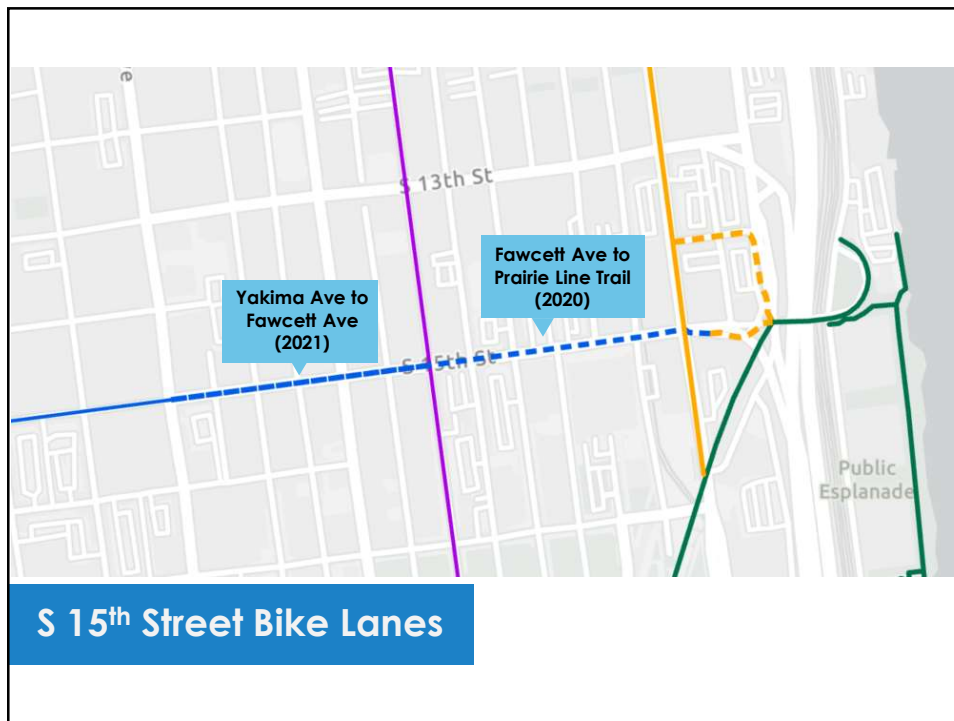
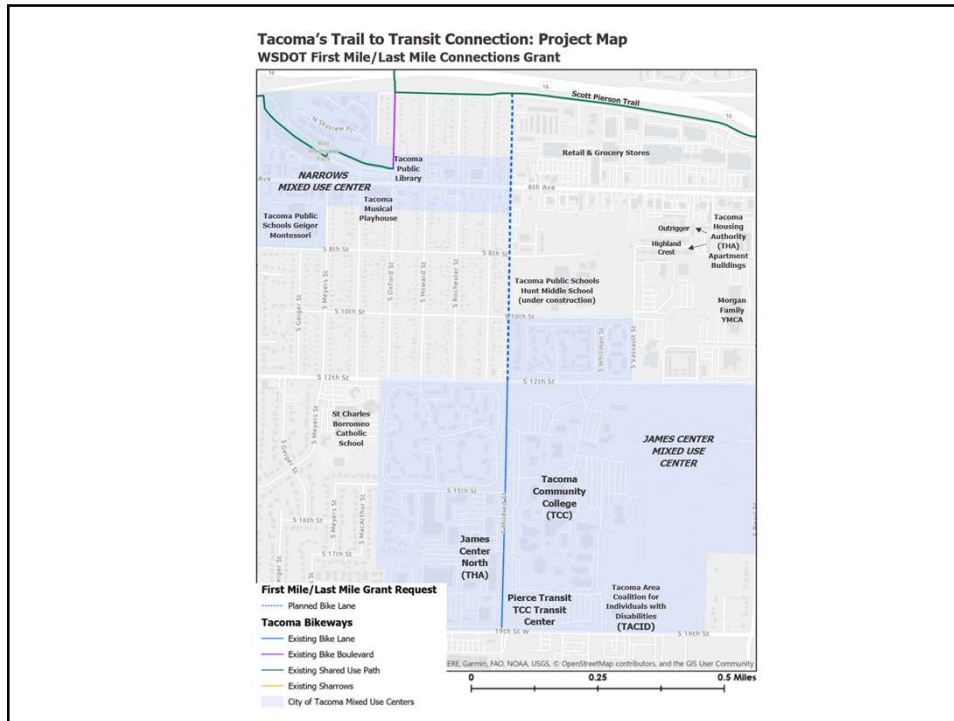
Higher for African-American than White Pedestrians

254%

Higher for American Indian/Alaska Native than White Pedestrians

Source: Smart Growth America





54% of Tacoma residents say they would make a 3 mile, 15 minute bike trip at least once or twice a month if there was a safe and convenient bike route available



source: PSRC 2015 Regional Travel Study

Ride for Women & Girls - Tacoma

**2021 & Beyond:
What's On the Horizon**



Sound Transit - South Tacoma
Sounder Station

Infrastructure

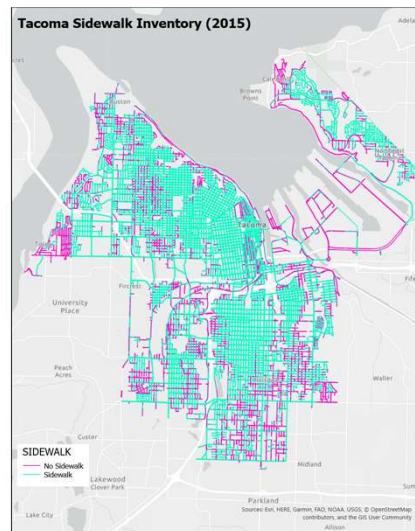
- **We've done most of the "easy" projects:**
 - Conflicted corridors
- **Priority projects for 2021 and beyond:**
 - Tacoma Dome Link Extension access projects, including:
 - Portland Avenue
 - Puyallup Avenue
 - Hilltop Link Light Rail Project:
 - J St Bike Boulevard and east-west connections
 - South Tacoma Sounder Station Access
 - BRT Access
 - Bike lanes on S 25th Street from Scott Pierson Trail to the Dome District
 - East-west connections SW of I-5
 - Schuster Parkway

Funding

Meeting our goals for safety, equity, and connectivity will require additional resources:

- Traffic Analysis & Design
- Sidewalks & ADA Infrastructure
- Construction funding
- Maintenance
- Policy & programs

In the 2019-2020 biennium, the City of Tacoma built approximately 0.5 miles of new sidewalk.



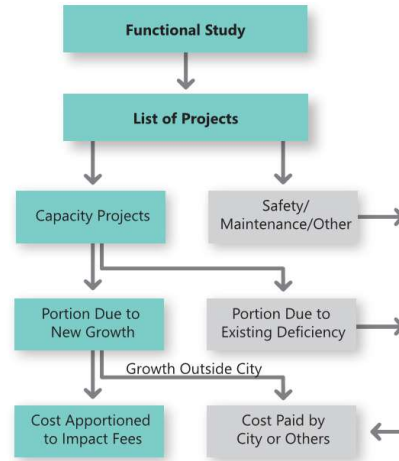
Impact Fees

Impact fees fund:

- Capital system improvements
- Projects that are reasonably related to development
- Proportional shares of system improvements
- Projects on a jurisdiction's capital facilities element

Cannot pay for:

- Ongoing costs, such as maintenance
- Existing deficiencies
- Project needs caused by growth outside of a jurisdiction
- 100% of project costs



Impact Fees



Phasing – Fee increases over time



Infrastructure - Transportation, Fire, Parks, and Schools



Costs to Development – Consideration for the total cumulative cost



Incentives – Achieve policy goals, such as affordable housing



Policy Efforts

Vision Zero Implementation

*Zero traffic fatalities &
serious injuries by 2035*

- Speed Limits
- Street Design
- The role of enforcement



Transportation Master Plan Updates



Primary

- Performance Measures
- Assess existing policies and new initiatives
- Priority networks and conflicted corridors
- Subarea plan incorporation

Secondary

- Pedestrian Implementation Strategies
- Capital project assessment for future funding



Climate Justice Planning

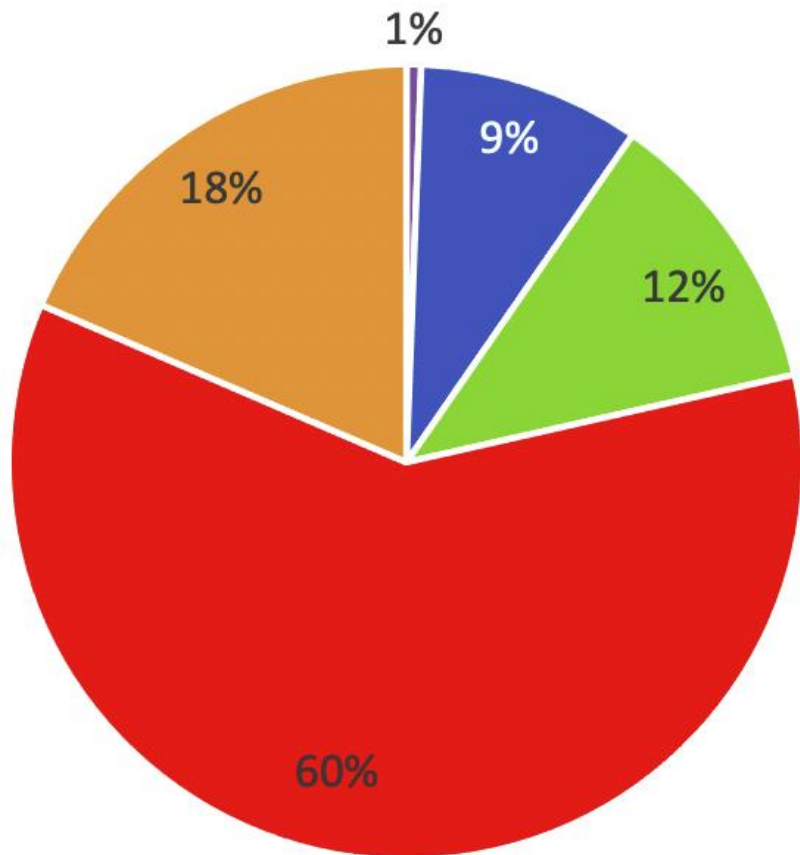
SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION

DECEMBER 17, 2020

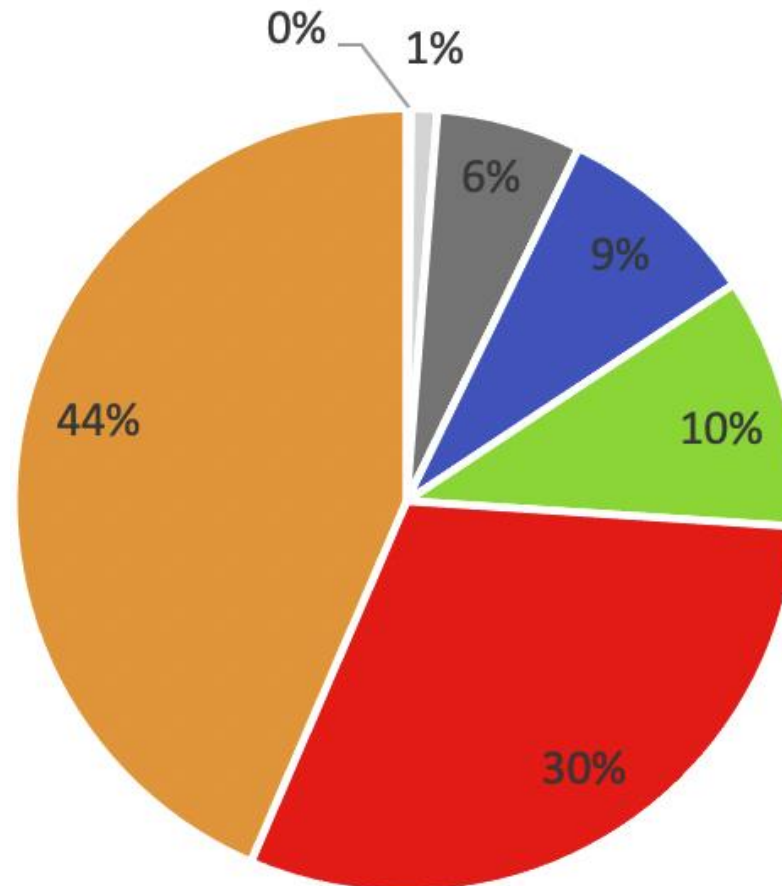


Where do our community emissions come from?

Energy

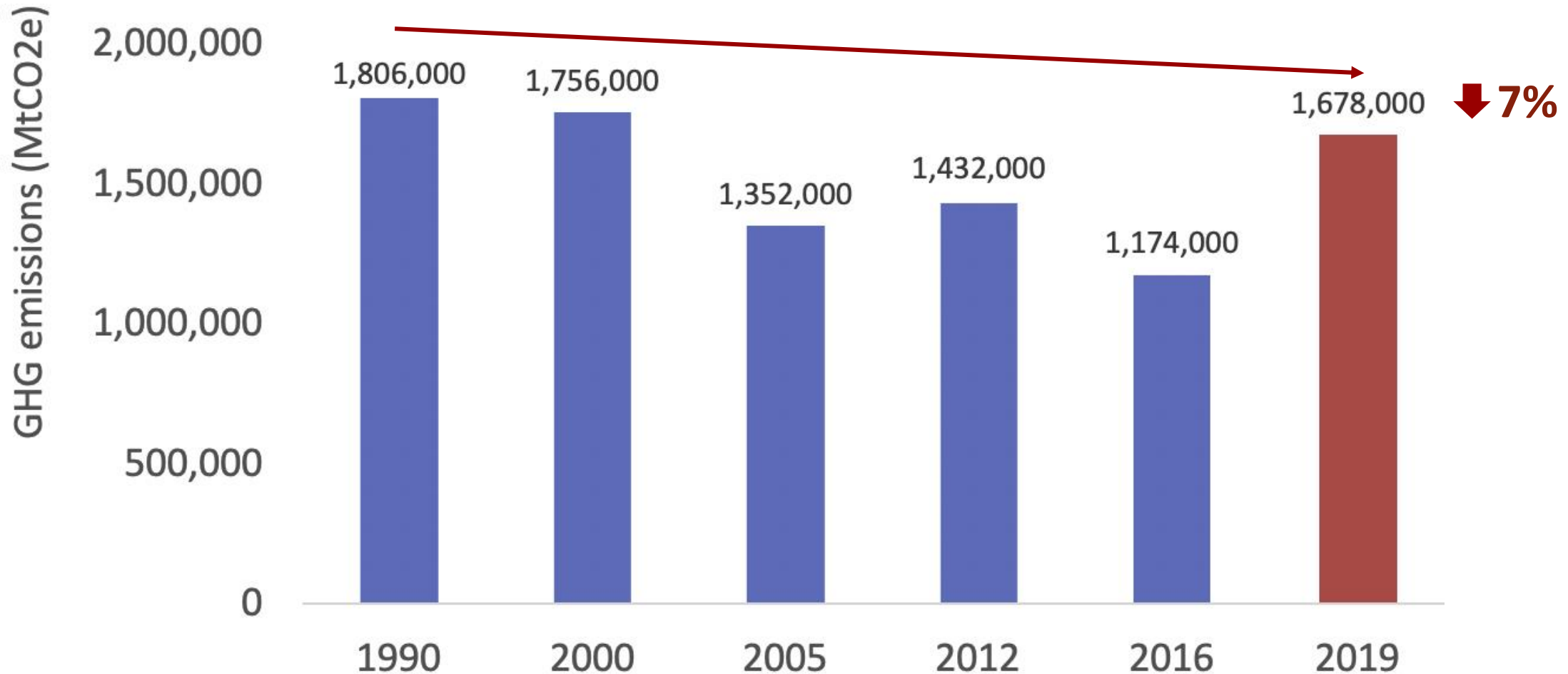


Emissions



- Municipal
- Fugitive
- Waste
- Commercial
- Residential
- Industrial
- Transportation

What did our past inventories show us?



Historic vs current inventory... can we compare?

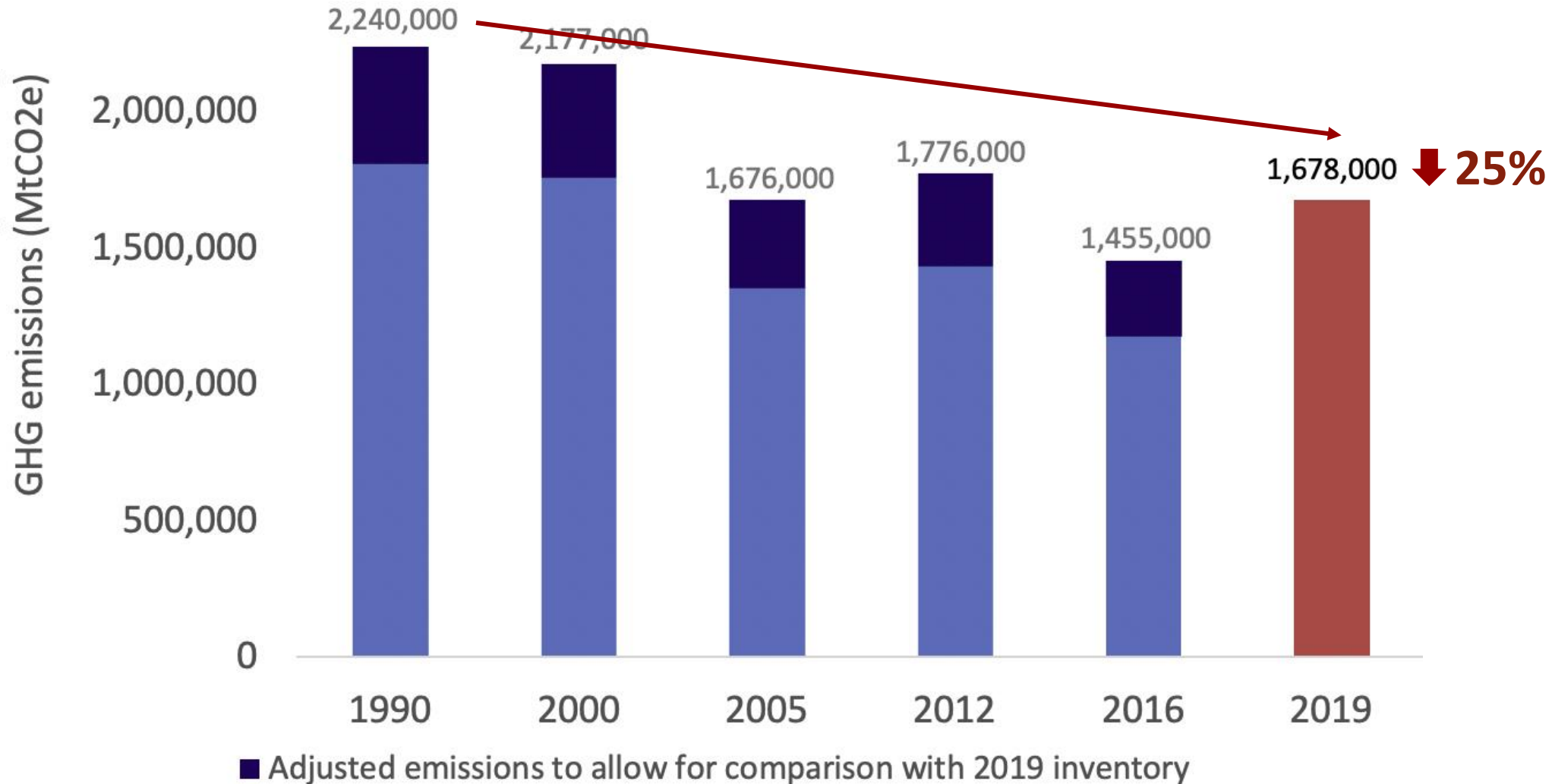
New inventory inclusions:

- reporting on N₂O emissions
- reporting on additional fuels
- industrial emissions (refinery, pulp and paper mill)
- consideration of 'climate-carbon feedbacks'

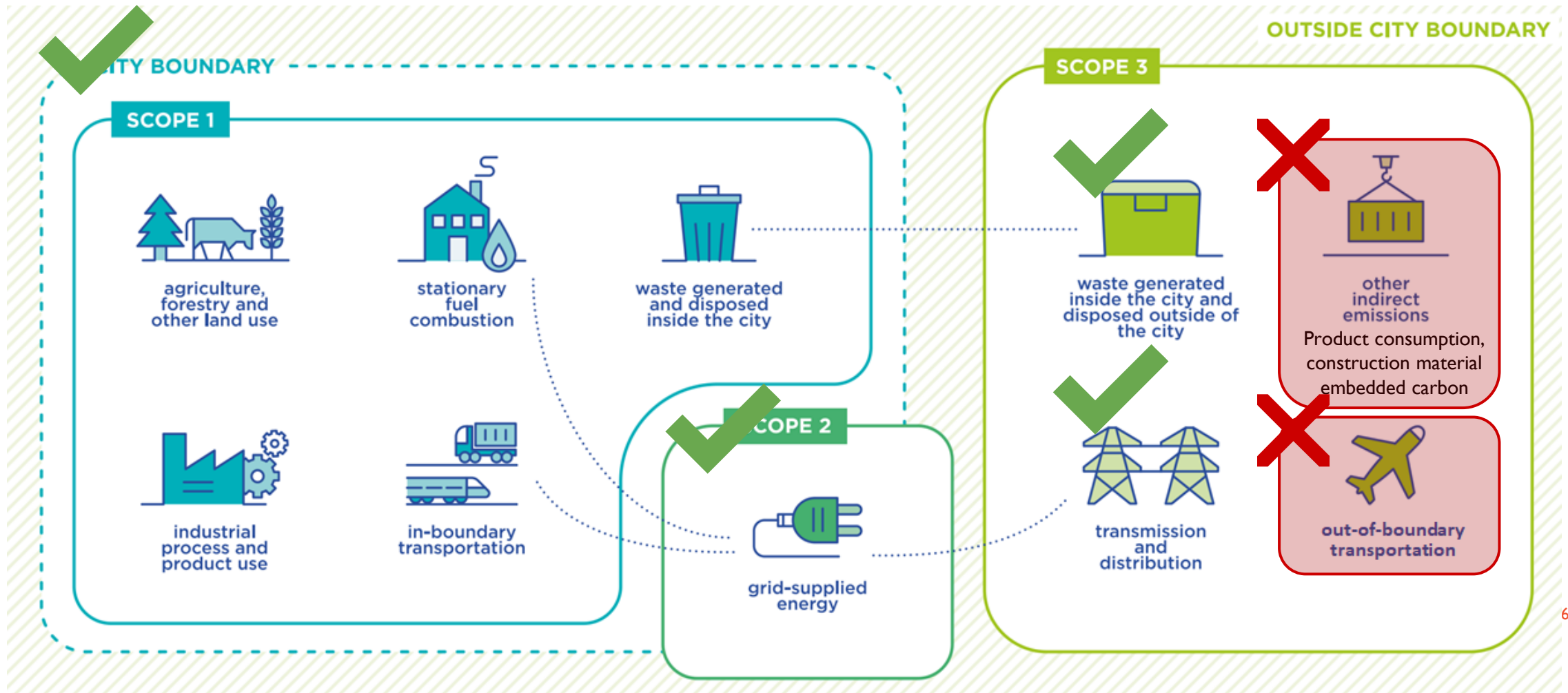
Challenges with inventory comparisons:

- data quality
- evolving reporting methodologies

What did our past inventories show us?



What isn't captured in the emissions inventories?



What is our emissions outlook?

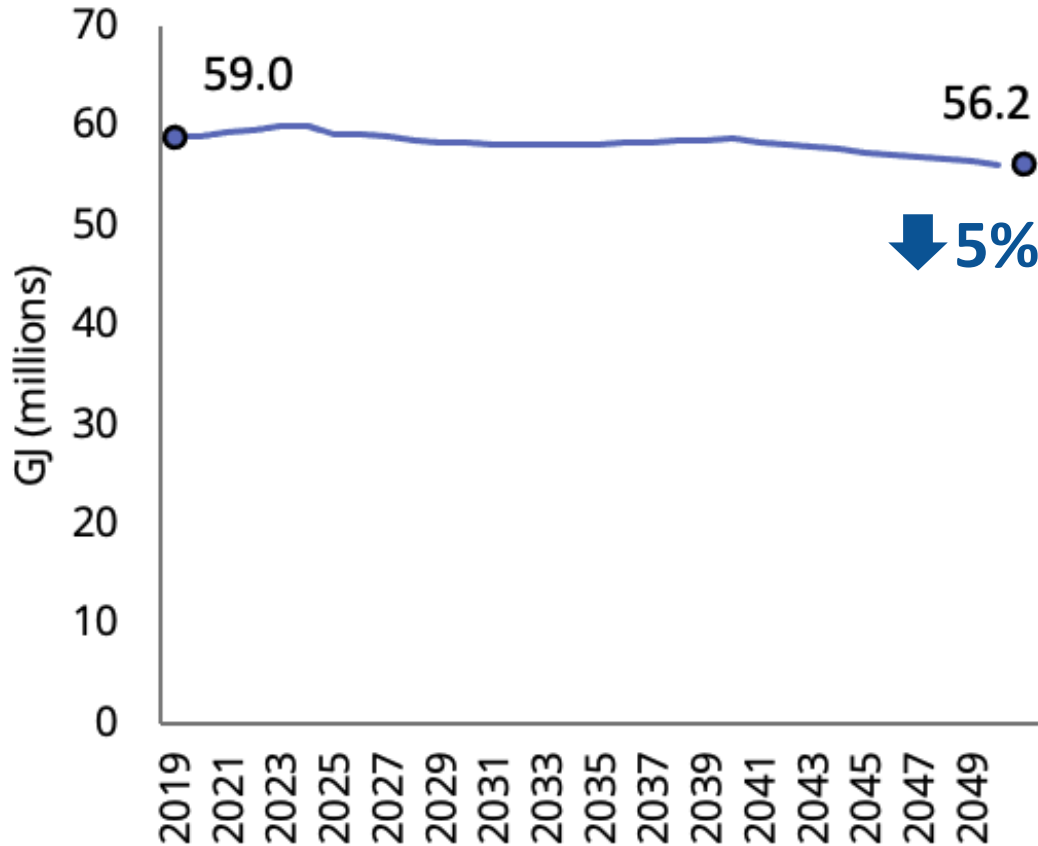
Business As Usual Scenario

Existing plans/laws/strategies:

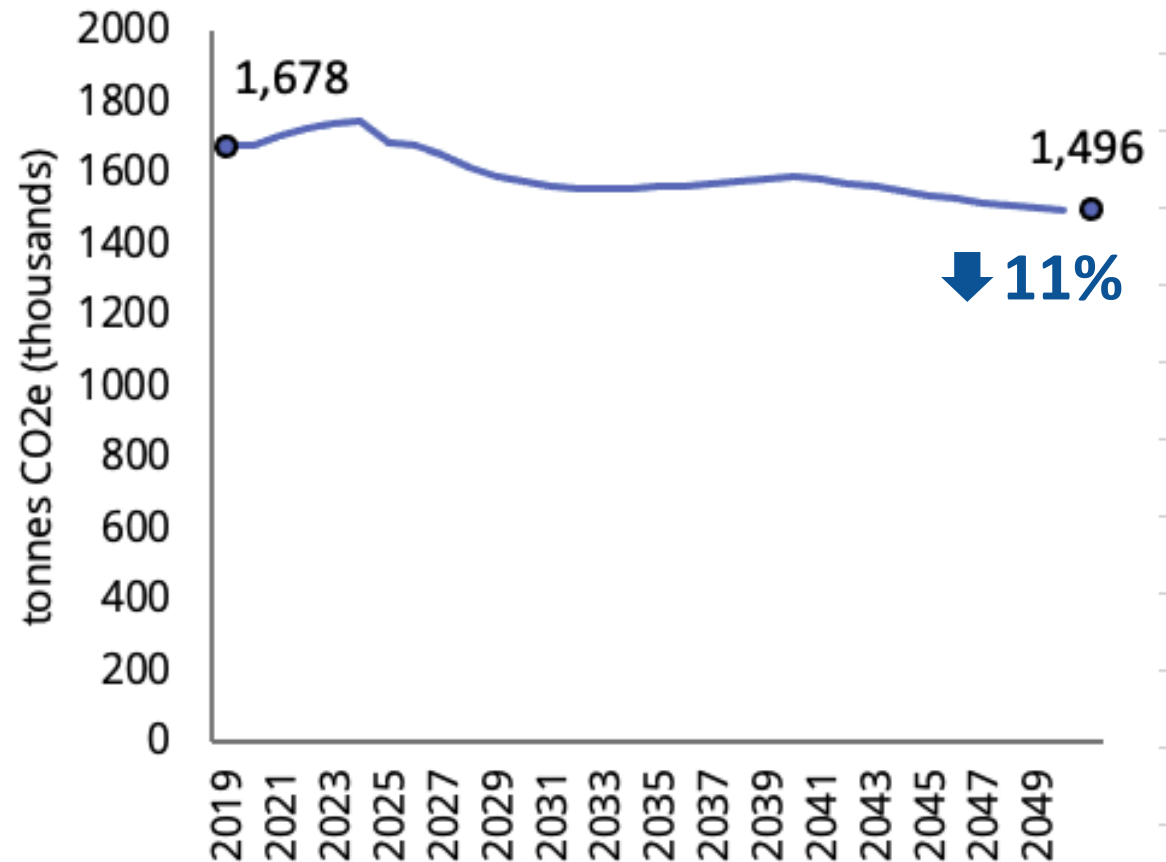
- **Federal** (EIA Energy Transportation Outlook, EPA vehicle fuel efficiency standards)
- **State** (Clean Buildings Act)
- **Region** (Puget Sound Regional Transportation Plan)
- **City** (Sustainable Material Management Plan, Land Use Vision V2)
- **Industry/other** (Tacoma Power Conservation Plan)

2019-2050 Energy and Emissions - total

Energy

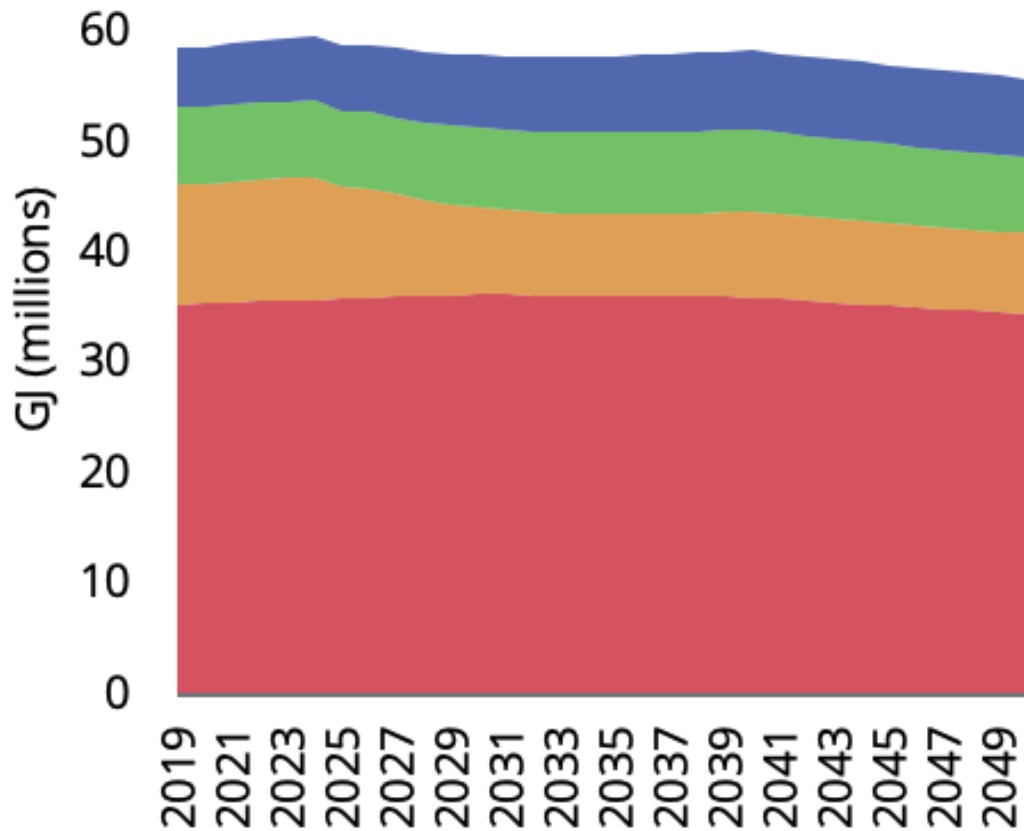


Emissions

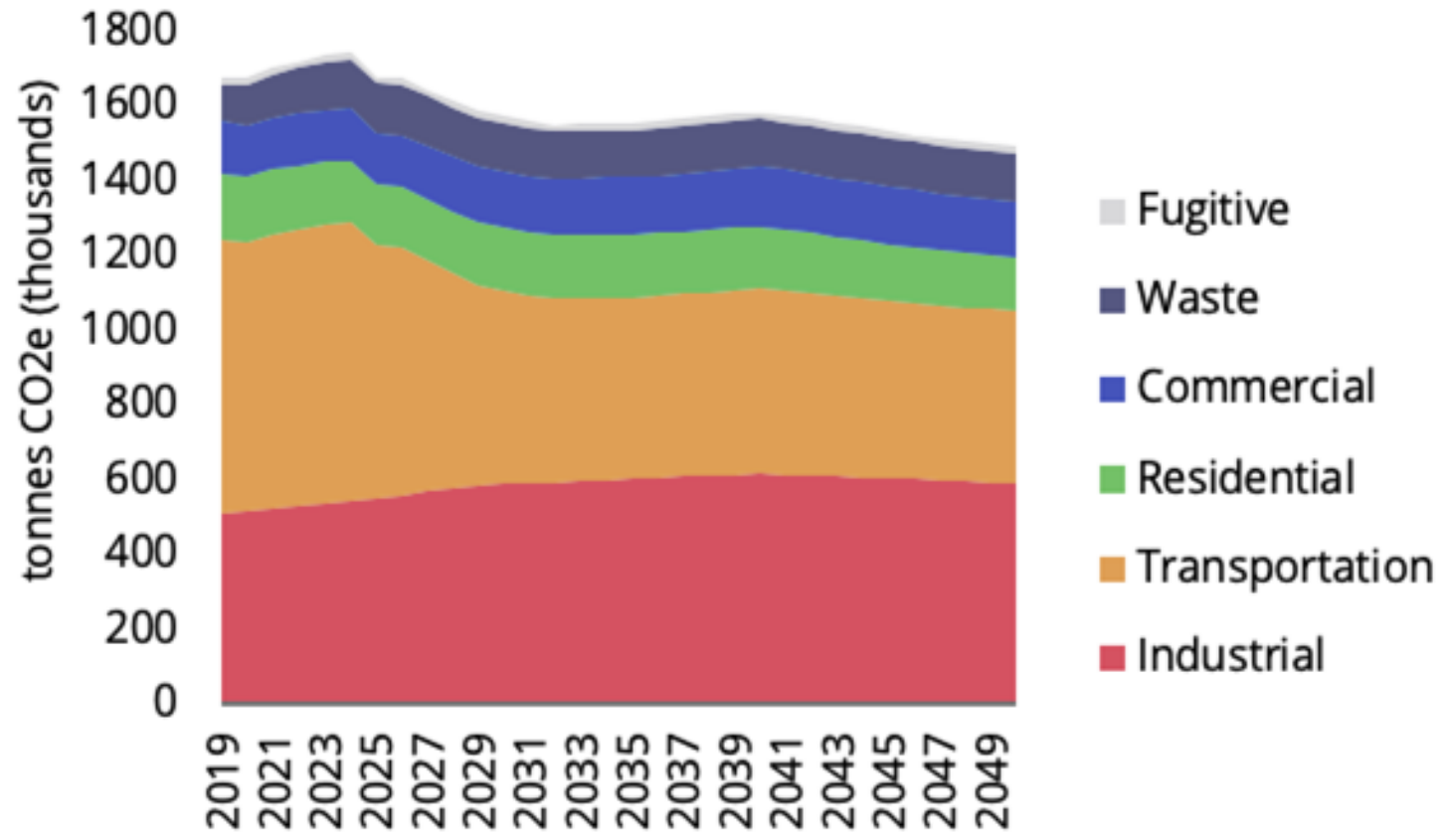


2019-2050 Energy and Emissions - by sector

Energy

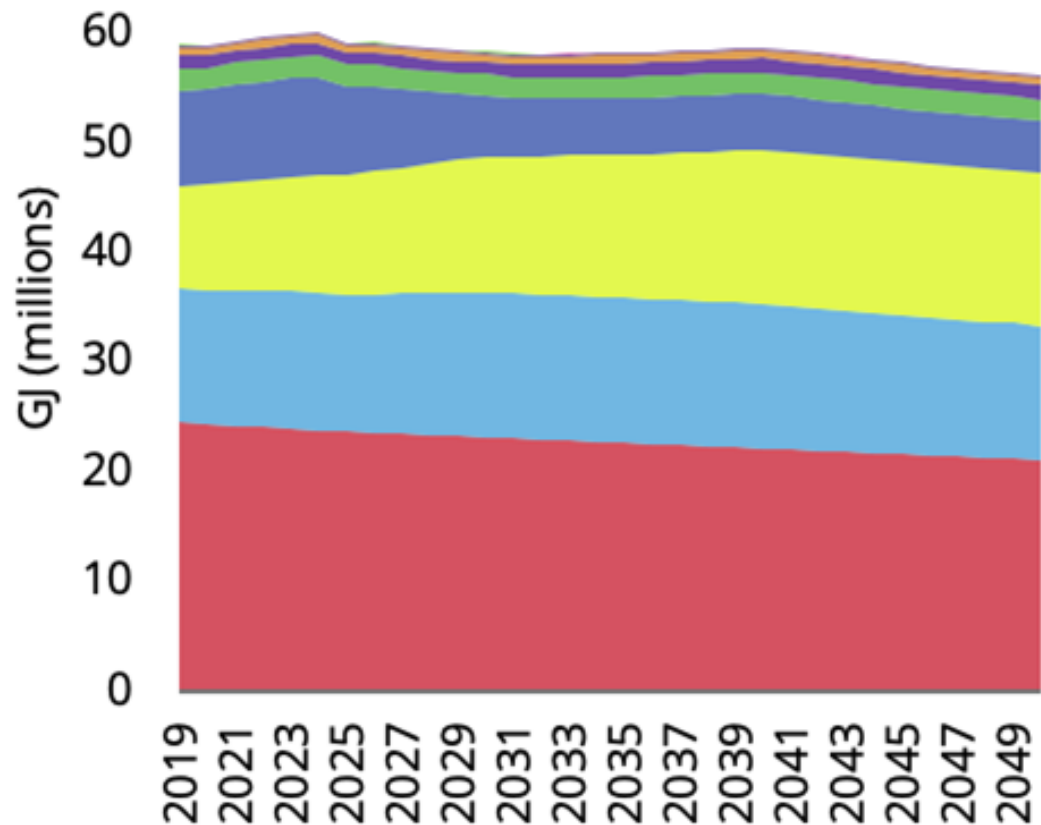


Emissions

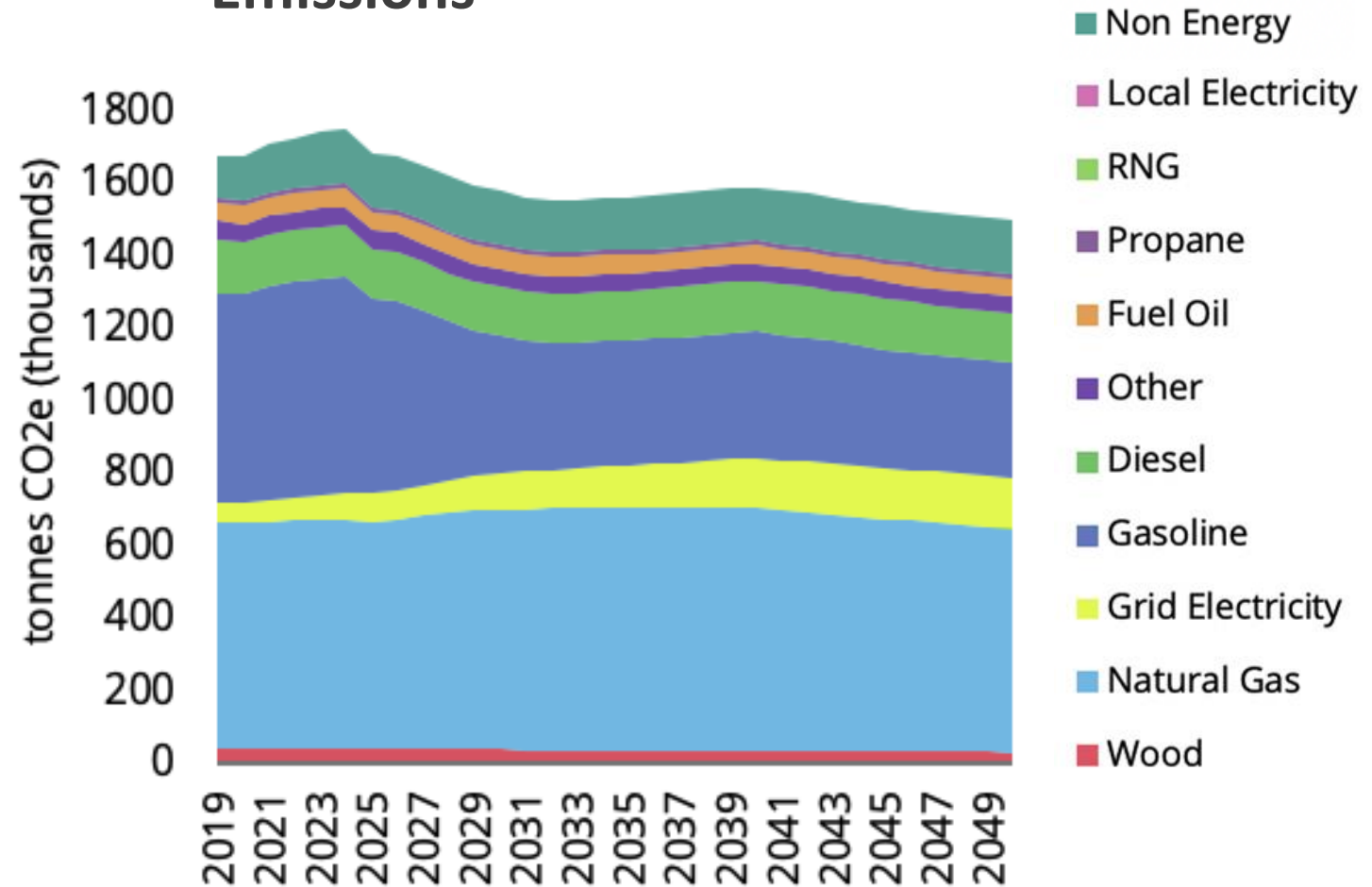


2019-2050 Energy and Emissions - by fuel type

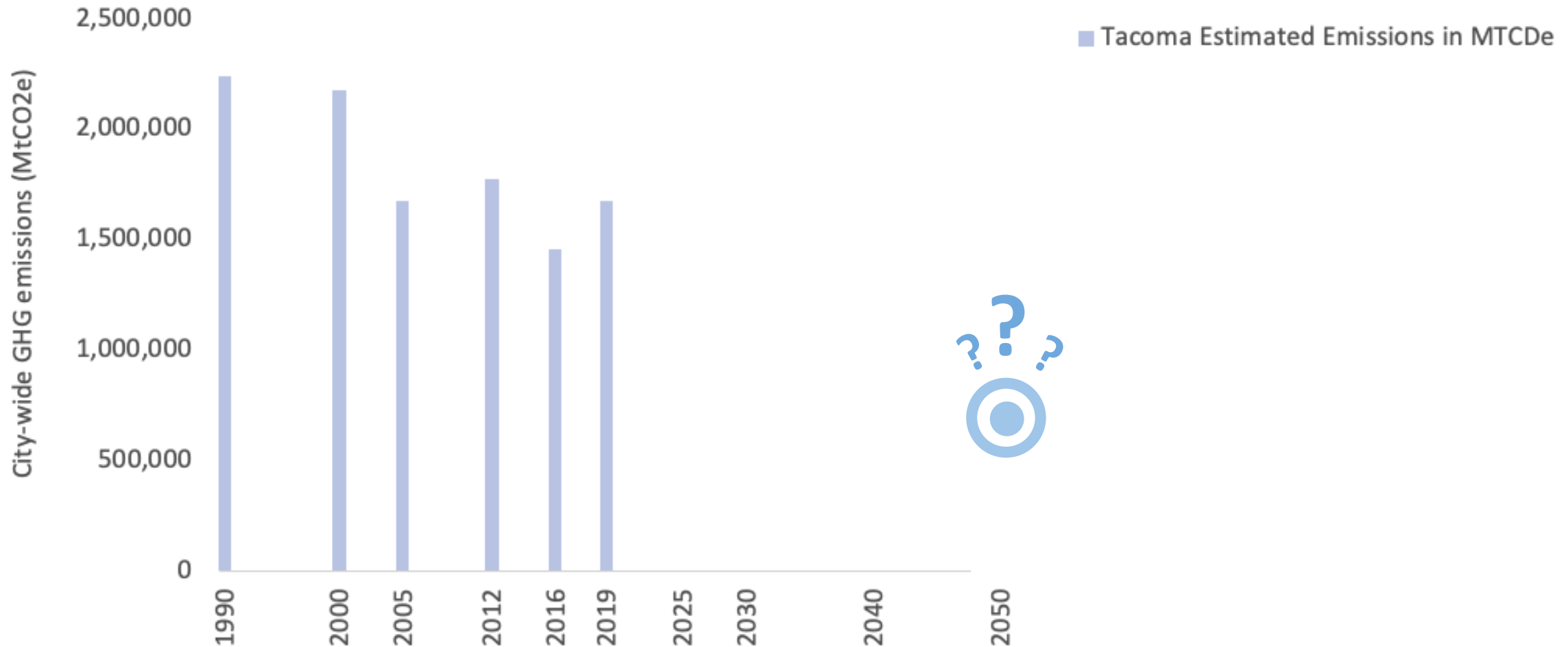
Energy



Emissions



What is our emission reduction target?



Preview of what we've heard from the community to date

Community Outreach

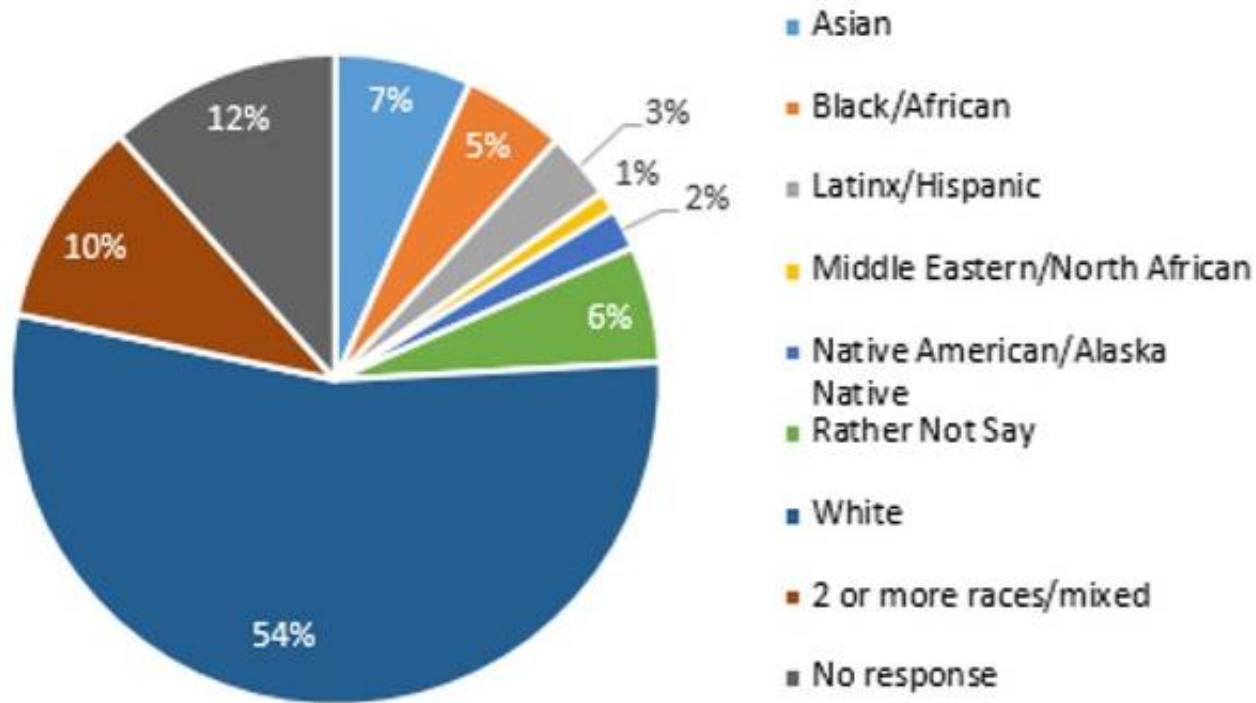
- 33 Active Climate Ambassadors
 - 3 trainings
 - Phase 1 closing meeting Dec 23rd
 - Collected Stories, Surveys, and Interviews
- Staff presentations
 - 12 meetings to Commissions/Committees
- 10 Environmental Justice Leaders
 - 3rd Workgroup meeting Dec 21st

Community Input Results

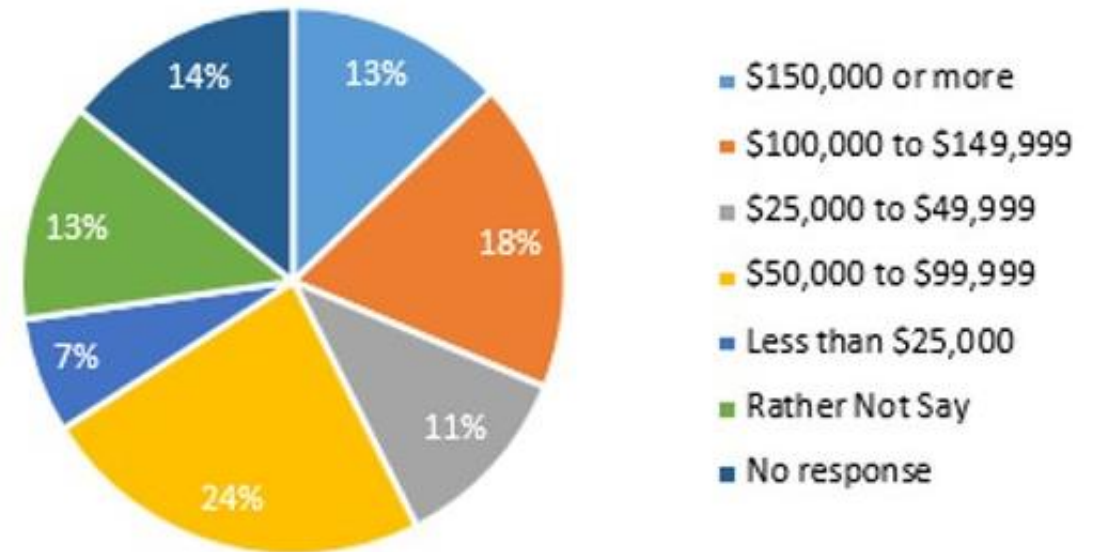
- Online Responses
 - 294 Stories
 - 60 Longer-format Surveys
- More paper responses and interviews to come!

Preliminary Story Demographics Findings

Race/Ethnicity of Story Results



Annual Household Income of Story Results



Next Steps (January – July)

- Development of low carbon scenarios, "wedge" analysis
 - Based on factors such as feasible, reduction potential, etc
- Deeper dive on scenario strategies and actions by technical teams
 - Evaluate draft list based on factors such as ability to implement, probability of achieving results, alignment with community goals, economic costs and benefits, equity, etc
- Cross walk draft list with EJ Leaders Workgroup and other stakeholders
- Prioritize near and longer term actions
 - Circle back with community through Ambassadors, focus groups, workshops, etc. Include implementation costs



City of Tacoma Sustainable Tacoma Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: December 17, 2020

Commission Members Present:

David Thompson, Grace Hope, Lexi Brewer, Matthew Benedict, Elly Claus-McGahan, Evlondo Cooper, Phil Coughlan, Katin Kendrena, Ashley Sloan, Tony Ivey, Gabe Moaalii

Commission Members Excused:

Nikie Walters

Commission Members Absent:

Emily Pinckney

Others Present:

Commission Support Staff: Jennifer Kammerzell, Liz Kaster, Laura Svancarek, Kristin Lynett, Patrick Babbitt

Public: Dylan Ruggeri, Jane Moore

Call to Order

This meeting was called to order by Commission Vice-Chair Grace Hope at 5:02 p.m., including an acknowledgement of the occupied indigenous lands this Commission conducts its business on. The Vice Chair welcomed Commissioners, staff, and members of the public and shared virtual meeting practices and requirements.

Approval of November 19, 2020, Meeting Minutes

Motion: To adopt meeting minutes as written. Motion made by Evlondo Cooper.

Seconded by: Lexi Brewer

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion we declared adopted.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Nikie Walters, Emily Pinckney

Approval of December 17, 2020, Meeting Agenda

Motion: To adopt meeting agenda as written. Motion made by Matthew Benedict.

Seconded by: Evlondo Cooper

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion we declared adopted.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Nikie Walters, Emily Pinckney

Public Comment

No public comments were made during this agenda item.

Staff Updates

Patrick directed Commissioners to share their pronouns on a shared document in an effort to help staff and Commissioners communicate to and about each other. This supports the Commission's efforts to be inclusive.

Kristi informed Commissioners that the Sustainability Small Grants program will reopen for applications, due March 31, 2021, at the beginning of the new year. The program had been put on hold in April 2020 as a result of the pandemic and economic crisis. The Commission will receive its first round of applications for review and awards at their April 2021 meeting. The total 2021 program budget will be \$75,000, down from \$100,000 in past program years. The new program budget excludes City of Tacoma general funds, which means all program applications will have to align with Environmental Services Department utility purposes and goals. Commissioners were asked to help inform community members the program is about to re-open.

Staff thanked Commissioners for their work outside meetings, including subcommittees.

Subcommittee Updates

A Commission subcommittee continues reviewing other communities' climate action plans as part of a learning process in which Commissioners will also oversee and make recommendations about Tacoma's climate planning process. This subcommittee did not meet between November and December Commission meetings, and has scheduled a subcommittee meeting for coming days.

Another Commission subcommittee focused on tideflats subarea planning, regulations, and fossil fuel inventory, will be meeting in late December to prepare potential Commission recommendations for staff.

Elly reported that the Port Subcommittee heard from Kristin Ang about recent Port of Tacoma activities and upcoming priorities. They will provide notes to the Commission.

A waste prevention- and recycling-focused subcommittee will be convened in the first or second quarter of 2021.

Commission Business Items

Active Transportation in Tacoma – Jennifer Kammerzell and Liz Kaster, Public Works, City of Tacoma; Laura Svancarek, Downtown on the Go

Liz provided an overview of the Transportation Commission and Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Committee (BPTAG), which staff coordinate and serve in a similar function as the Sustainable Tacoma Commission.

Liz provided highlights of Tacoma's active transportation work in 2020 and also described the City's approach to this work and potential priorities and strategies for 2021.

In 2020, the City completed infrastructure projects, implemented pop-up traffic gardens, made a micromobility request for proposal, and updated municipal code repealing a bicycle helmet law that impacted people of color and low-income people inequitably. Staff emphasized bicycle helmets remain fundamentally important safety tools. In terms of the City's approach to this work, with the Vision Zero goal the City seeks to eliminate collisions causing serious injury or death by 2035. Walking and biking programming and investments will prioritize equity, including low-income communities and communities of color. Data proves that these communities are the most common pedestrians or bicyclists and are also disproportionately impacted by a lack of safety. Many community members depend on these types of transportation. Connectivity of infrastructure with transit systems is another priority for the City.

In order to support active transportation and achieve its safety goals, the City will have to find adequate funding, such as through impact fees or other new funding mechanisms, and make challenging decisions if it is to prioritize active transportation as outlined in Tacoma's 2015 Transportation Master Plan.

2021 Commission Meeting Day/Time – Patrick Babbitt, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability (OEPS), City of Tacoma

Patrick proposed that the Commission maintain its current meeting day and time: Third Thursdays of each month, meeting from 5:00 – 7:00pm. Patrick outlined the meeting days and times of other relevant Commission and City Council Committee meetings which fit well with this Sustainable Tacoma Commission scheduling. In addition, this scheduling avoids Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Finally, Commission attendance has been consistently good.

The Commission voted to maintain their meeting day and time through 2021. Motion was made by Matthew Benedict to meet on third Thursdays from 5:00 – 7:00pm through 2021. Seconded by David Thompson. All Commissioners present voted aye, whereas Nikie Walters and Emily Pinckney were absent and did not vote. The motion passed.

Year-in-Review and Year-Ahead Presentation and Discussion – Patrick Babbitt, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability (OEPS), City of Tacoma

Patrick reviewed the Commission's past year of work, beginning by revisiting the purpose of the Commission to bring "accountability, transparency, and vigilance to the long-term implementation of Tacoma's Environmental Action Plan" as well as "to oversee, coordinate, communicate, and encourage public involvement regarding sustainability initiatives as are consistent with the City's vision and definition of sustainability".

Together, the Commission reflected on annual priorities it set for 2020 and communicated to City Council and management, including prioritizing climate justice; supporting community food projects; sustaining and expanding transportation by foot, bike, and transit; implementing the Urban Forest Management Plan; and preventing waste.

During 2020, the Commission wrote important letters of recommendation, including related to the 2021-2022 biennial City budget, anti-racist and sustainable systems transformation actions the Mayor of Tacoma could support, and decarbonization strategies for the City to pursue

locally and through a state-level legislative agenda. Through its annual priorities and letters of recommendation, the Commission engaged and built relationships with City Council Members and City management staff that will benefit the City through the Commission's work into the future.

In addition, the Commission had several active subcommittees supporting climate planning, COVID-19 response, decarbonization strategies, equity norms and processes on the Commission, and tideflats planning and regulations.

Finally, the Commission expanded from 11 to 13 members in 2020, had excellent attendance, added a Vice Chair, and made additional time in their agenda and adjusted Commission practices to make meetings more welcoming to public participation.

Looking at 2021, the Commission reflected on ongoing Commission work, recent City policies, and discussed potential priorities for the Commission.

Climate Action Planning Update – Kristin Lynett, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability (OEPS), City of Tacoma

Kristin provided an overview of Tacoma's updated 2019 greenhouse gas inventory, including where community emissions come from in terms of sectors. Tacoma's community emissions have decreased 25% since 1990, though inventory methodologies have improved significantly since then which obscures the trend somewhat. Kristin explained that Tacoma's inventory includes certain scope 1, 2, and 3 data. Scope 2 data refers emissions within city boundaries, whereas scope 3 data includes those outside city boundaries. Only some scope 3 data, such as that from waste generated inside the city and electricity transmission and distribution, was included in this inventory. Out-of-boundary transportation and other indirect emissions from product consumption or embedded carbon was excluded.

If existing plans, laws, and strategies were to remain the same through 2050, the City has estimated with its "business-as-usual" scenario model that emissions would decline only 11% over that time period. Both industry and transportation remain the most important sources of community emissions.

Kristin foreshadowed further discussion with the Commission, including (1) Phase I community engagement results that are still being analyzed and (2) setting a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for 2050 in the new climate action plan being developed. Staff will return to the Commission's January meeting for an in-depth discussion of these items.

Public Comment

No public comments were made during this agenda item.

Objectives for or before the Next Meeting

- Subcommittee updates
- Sustainability Small Grants Program
- Tideflats letter of recommendation
- Climate Planning update (extended)

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. with a motion made by Matthew Benedict and seconded by Grace Hope. The motion carried unanimously by present Commissioners. Nikie Walters and Emily Pinckney were absent for this vote.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be held virtually on Thursday, January 21, 2021, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Lexi Brewer, Chair

Patrick Babbitt, Staff / Note Taker