



CITY OF TACOMA SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION MEETING

DRAFT AGENDA

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019

4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

**TACOMA MUNICIPAL BUILDING
747 MARKET STREET, ROOM 243**

- I. ROLL CALL**
- II. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2019 MEETING NOTES**
- III. REVIEW OF AGENDA**
- IV. SUB-COMMITTEE & STC-CITY COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT UPDATES**
- V. STAFF UPDATES**
- VI. REGIONAL CLEAN FUEL STANDARD RULES – PUGET SOUND CLEAN AIR AGENCY**
- VII. URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN – STAFF UPDATE**
- VIII. RECYCLING CHANGES & WASTE PREVENTION PROGRAMS – DISCUSSION WITH STAFF**
- IX. SUSTAINABILITY SMALL GRANTS – QUARTERLY REVIEW**
- X. OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT**
- XI. OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT MEETING**
- XII. ADJOURNMENT**



DEVELOPING A REGIONAL CLEAN FUEL STANDARD

Sustainable Tacoma Commission
July 25, 2019

CLEAN FUEL STANDARD



Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Agency Mission
- GHG Emission Sources
- Why A Clean Fuel Standard?
- What a CFS Is + How It Works
- Tacoma Credit Opportunities
- Anticipated Timeline
- Questions + Discussion

OUR MISSION

We work to **protect** public health, **improve** neighborhood air quality, and **reduce** our region's contribution to climate change.

OUR JURISDICTION

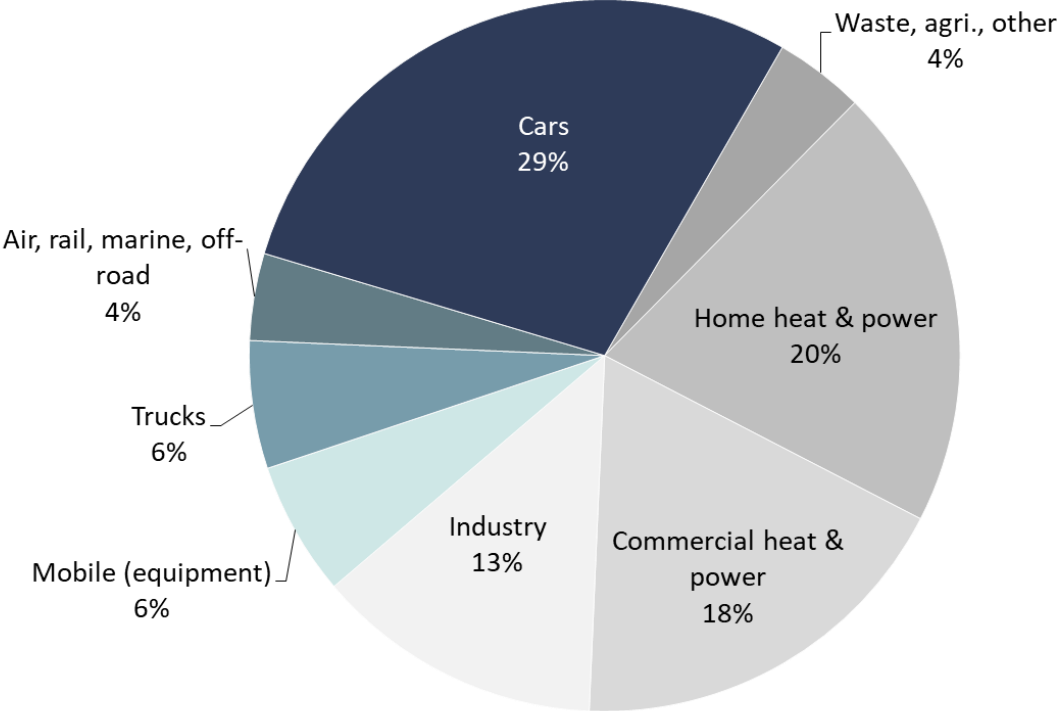


CLEAN FUEL STANDARD

POLLUTION SOURCES

Transportation is the primary source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the Puget Sound region.

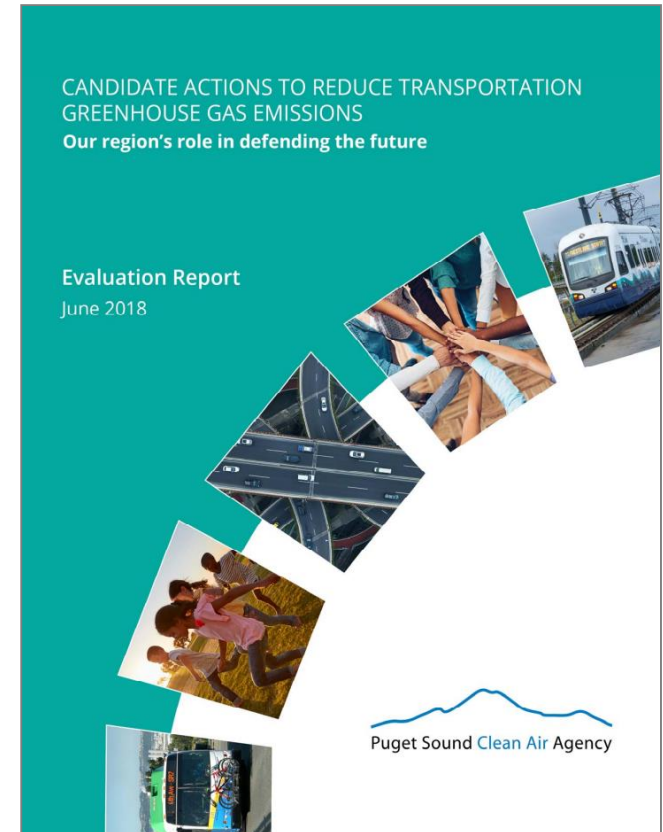
2015 GHG EMISSIONS



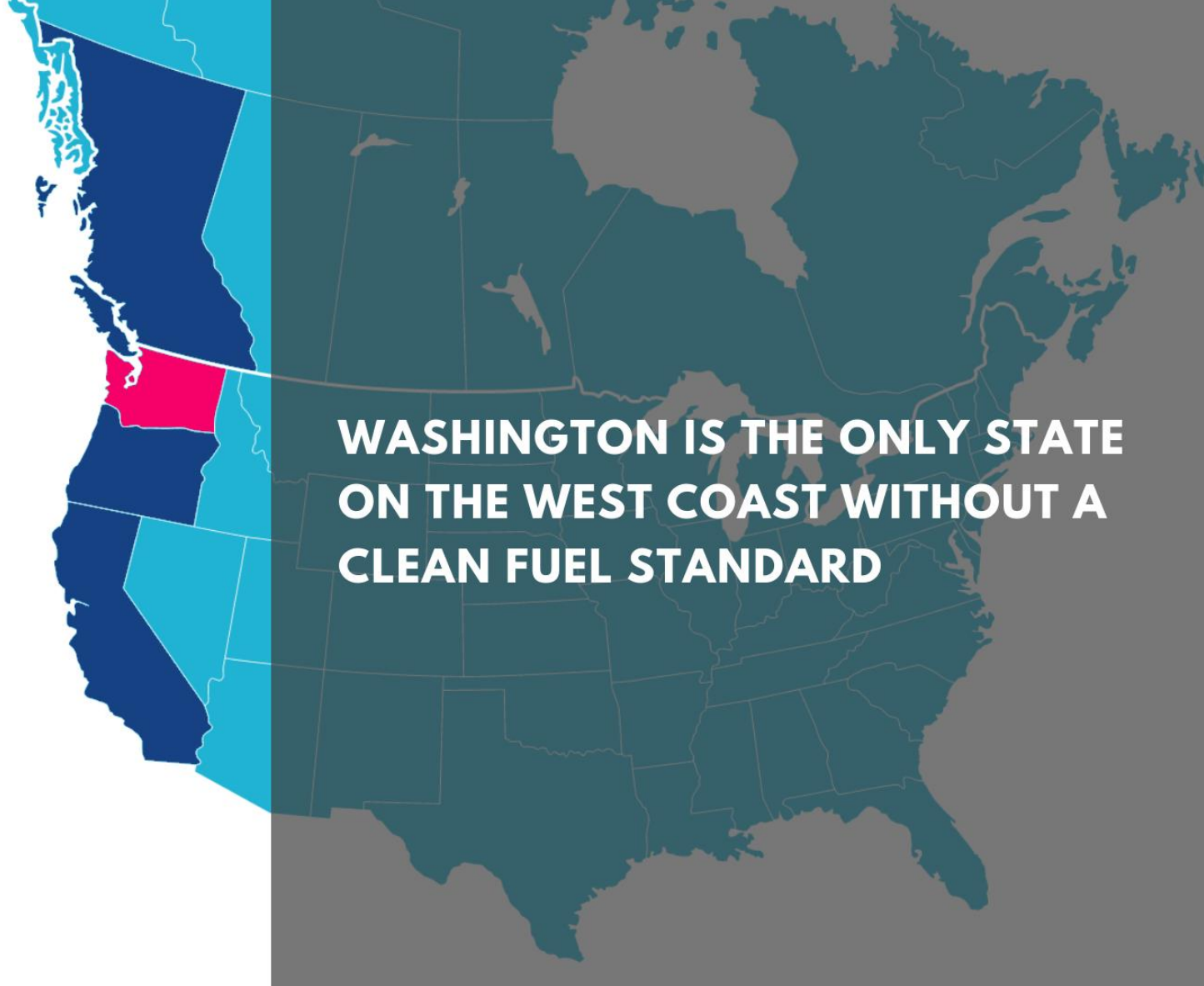
CLEAN FUEL STANDARD

WHY A CLEAN FUEL STANDARD?

- Largest impact on reducing GHG emissions
- High certainty of pollution reduction
- Air quality benefits



CLEAN FUEL STANDARD



**WASHINGTON IS THE ONLY STATE
ON THE WEST COAST WITHOUT A
CLEAN FUEL STANDARD**

CLEAN FUEL STANDARD

HOW A CLEAN FUEL STANDARD WORKS

1. Establishes a greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target
 - Target is for all transportation fuel in the region
 - Target for GHG reduction increases every year
2. Low carbon fuels are incentivized by the market
 - Higher/Lower carbon fuels generate deficits/credits
3. Credit generators can opt-in

BASIC PREMISE + TOOLS

- **Basic Premise** is that the carbon intensity of the entire transportation fuel pool in the region is reduced.
- **Primary tool** to decarbonize the transportation fuel pool:
 - **Displacing** high carbon fuel with low carbon fuel
 - Credits serve as catalyst for low carbon fuel providers

Generation of **one credit** = Removal of **one ton** of carbon

TODAY'S CLEANER FUELS

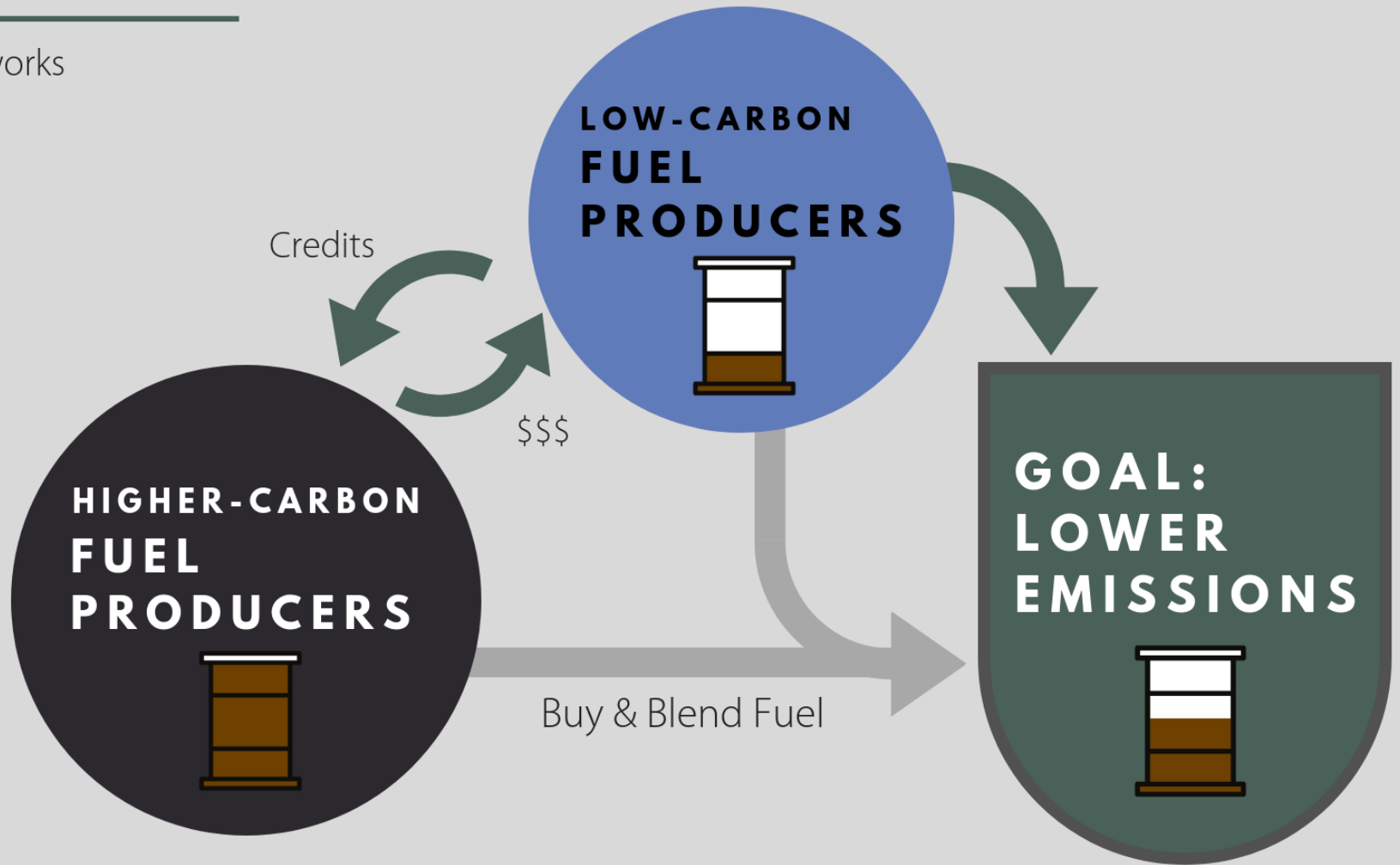
- **Biodiesel & renewable diesel**
 - Vegetable oils, waste oils
- **Electricity**
 - No tailpipe pollution
 - Inexpensive: 2-3¢ per mile
 - Cleaner in WA than the U.S.
- **Ethanol** made from corn, sugar
- **Renewable natural gas**
 - Landfills, wastewater
 - Can replace diesel



CLEAN FUEL STANDARD

CLEAN FUEL STANDARD

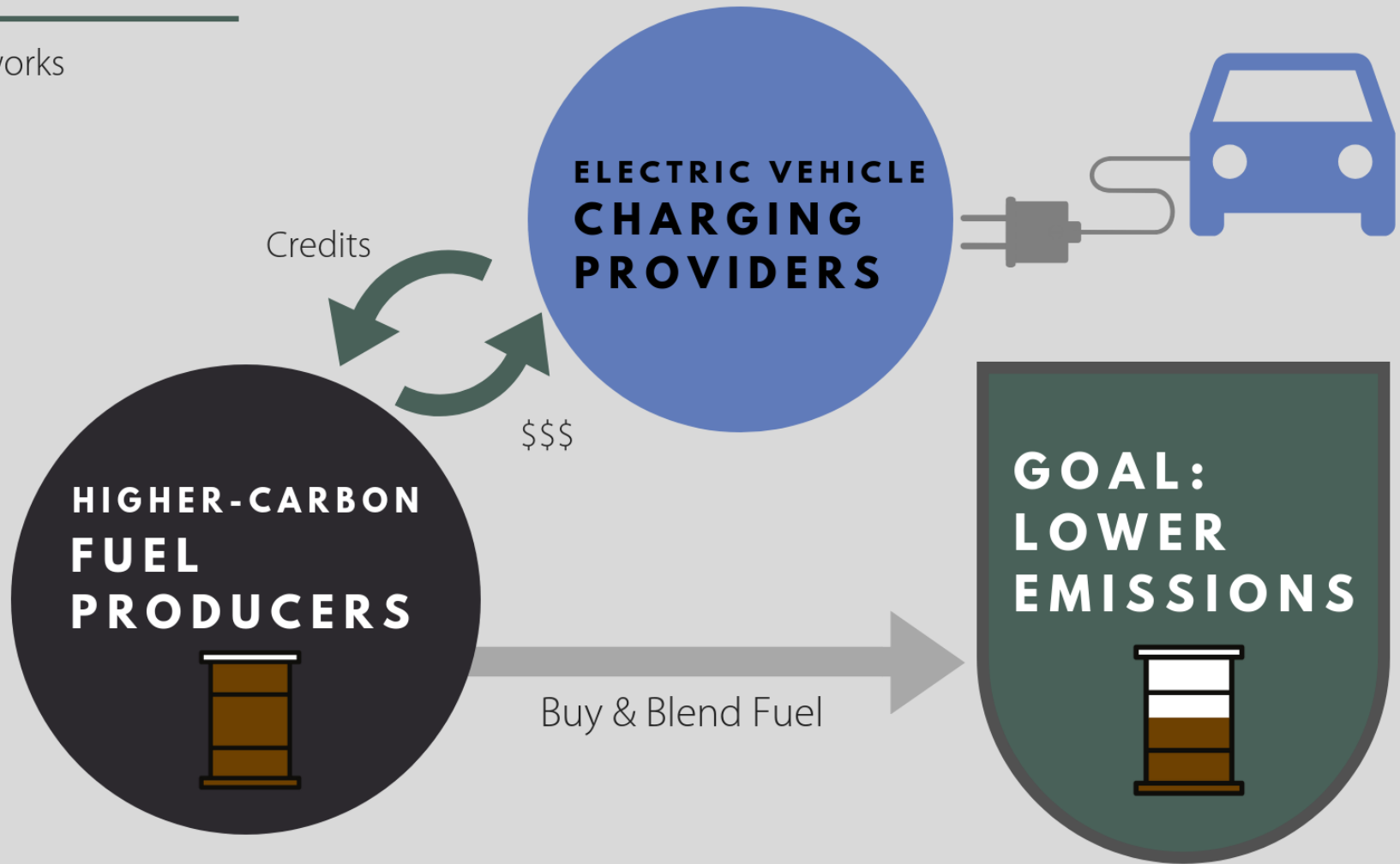
How it works



CLEAN FUEL STANDARD

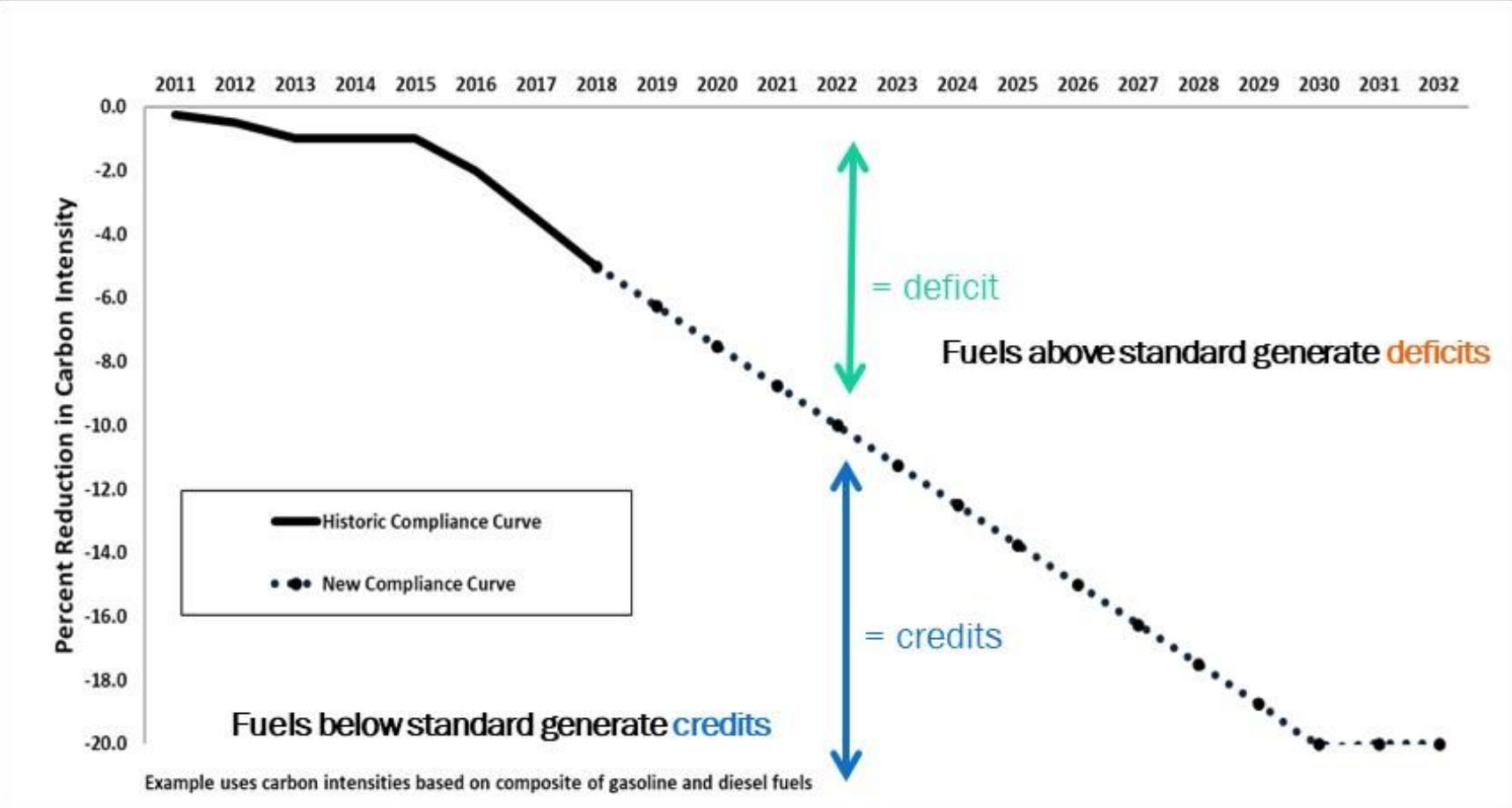
CLEAN FUEL STANDARD

How it works



CLEAN FUEL STANDARD

Declining Carbon Intensity Curve



Program continues with a 20% CI target post 2030

TACOMA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

- **Fleets:** Electric, Plug-in Hybrid, Biodiesel, RNG
- **Waste Water Treatment Facility:** RNG
- **EV Charging Stations:** Public and Private
- **Tacoma Power:** Residential EV Credits
- **Transit Agencies:** Electric Buses
- **Port of Tacoma:** Shorepower for Ocean Going Vessels
- **Port Terminal Operators:** Electric Cargo Handling Equipment
- **Public and Private Facilities:** Electric Forklifts

CREDIT GENERATORS IN CALIFORNIA

Over 14,300 points of credit generation in California

- 12,000 EV chargers
- 1,600 electric forklifts
- 75 transit agencies
- 19 utilities
- 17 biofuel production facilities
- 500 CNG Fueling Stations

CLEAN FUEL STANDARD

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

- **August**
 - Release of Draft Rule
- **October 7th**
 - Public Hearing
- **December 19th**
 - Board Action
- **January 2021**
 - First year reporting only

QUESTIONS?



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pscleanair.org/CleanFuelStandard

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CLEAN FUEL STANDARD



Urban Forest Management Plan Update

Mike Carey

Urban Forest Program Manager

July 25, 2019



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability



Overview

- Urban Forest Mgmt. Plan (UFMP) Overview
 - Phase 1 – Benchmarking, research, inventory & analysis
 - Phase 2 – Strategies & community engagement
 - Phase 3 – Supplemental plans & studies
- UFMP items for review and feedback
- Questions/comments

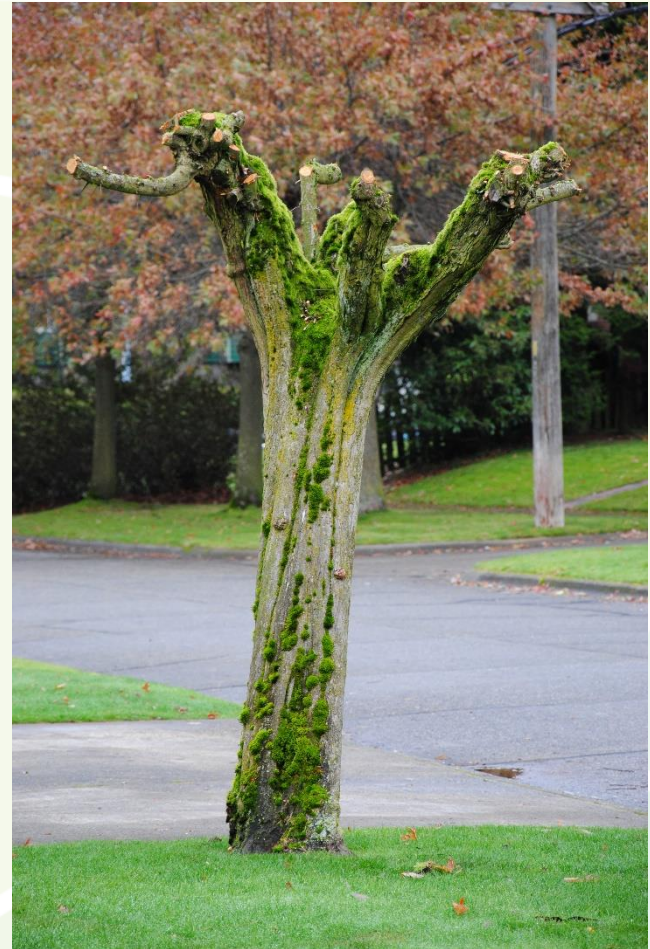
Urban Forest Management Plan

Project Overview



Issues

- Outdated ordinances
- Lack of tree preservation
- Limited right-of-way tree responsibility for City
- Unclear responsibilities & workflows for ROW trees, Critical Areas, and private property
- Disproportioned resources: tree canopy, benefits, and care of trees



Project Team



Timeline: UFMP Project

✓ April 2019: Kick Off

- April - July: Phase 1

- Inventory (Current State)
- Existing Conditions & Operations
- Benchmarking Research

- Aug. – Nov.: Phase 2

- Education & Comm. Engagement
- Implementation – Short/Long Term

- January 2020: Phase 3

- Sustained Funding Source
- Tree Risk Reduction Plan
- Trees and Sidewalks Operations Plan



Urban Forest Management Plan

Phase 1 - Benchmarking, Research, Inventory & Analysis



Benchmarking Research & UF Audit

US Forest Service's UF Sustainability & Management Audit

Description	Current
Management Policy and Ordinances	%TBD
Professional Capacity and Training	%TBD
Funding and Accounting	%TBD
Decision and Management Authority	%TBD
Inventories	%TBD
Urban Forest Management Plans	%TBD
Risk Management	%TBD
Disaster Planning	%TBD
Practices, Standards, and BMPs	%TBD
Community	%TBD
Green Asset Evaluation (Observed Outcomes)	%TBD
TOTAL	%TBD

Benchmarking Research & UF Audit

US Forest Service's UF Sustainability & Management Audit

1) Management Policy and Ordinances

Category	Component Evaluated	Description or Criteria for Evaluation	Status
1.00	Approved Policy Statements	Written policy statements approved by a governing body.	
1.01	Climate Change (Sustainability)	Also referred to as Sustainability. With reference to urban trees. Addresses the long-term health and productivity of the natural resource.	2) Adopted Common Practice
1.02	No Net Loss	Can refer to trees, basal area, or canopy.	2) Adopted Common Practice
1.03	Risk Management	Should reference: ANSI A300 Part 9, ISA BMP, and prioritization funding mechanisms.	1) In Development

2) Professional Capacity and Training

Category	Component Evaluated	Description or Criteria for Evaluation	Status
2.00	Professional Management	Provision for professional consultation.	
2.01	Certified Arborist - Staff		1) In Development
2.02	Certified Arborist - Contracted		1) In Development

Demonstration Only

Benchmarking Research & UF Audit

US Forest Service's UF Sustainability & Management Audit

9) Practices, Standards, and Best Management Practices

Category	Component Evaluated	Description or Criteria for Evaluation	Status
9.00	<i>ANSI Standard & BMP Activities</i>		
9.01	ANSI Standards	Reference and adherence to ANSI Standards for arboricultural practices (A300), safety (Z133), or Nursery Stock (ANSI Z60.1) (any or all).	1) In Development
9.02	Ages/Diameter Distribution	Specific management for the development of an age-diverse tree population	1) In Development

10) Community

Category	Component Evaluated	Description or Criteria for Evaluation	Status
10.00	<i>Community Building</i>		
10.01	American Grove	Does your community/campus use American Grove to document and publicize your urban forestry program, activity, or events?	0) Not Practiced
10.02	Education	The urban forest is used as an educational laboratory for class activity; Kids in the Woods, PLT, high school, or college level.	2) Adopted Common Practice

Demonstration Only

Internal Stakeholders

Staff interviews and meetings: May 2019

#1 Operations, Tree Hazards, & Risk Management

#2 Planning & Design

#3 Data & Information Technology

#4 Outreach, Communication, & Marketing

#5 Neighborhood Revitalization

#6 City Code, Policies, & Standards

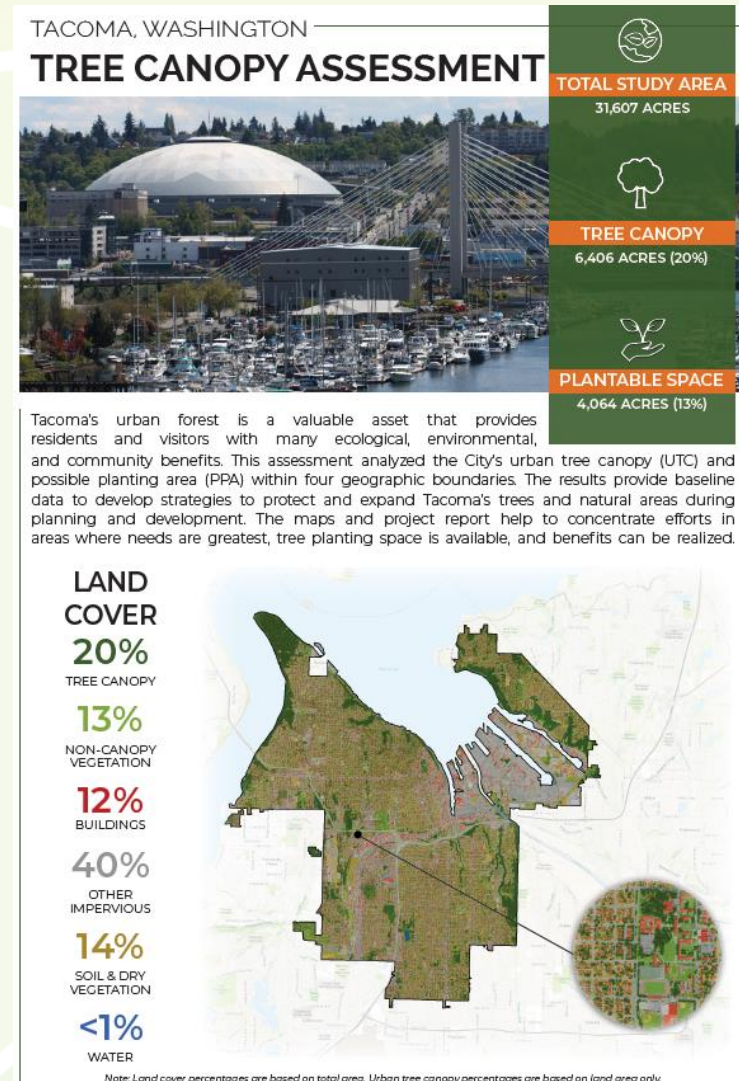
Map Existing Operations & Interactions: Completed

Identify resource and training gaps, needs, etc.:

Completed

Inventory and Analysis

- Tree Canopy Assessment review, analysis, and summary
- Tree inventory data review, analysis, and summary
- Ecosystem benefits analyses
- Cost/Benefit analysis



Benchmarking Research & UF Audit

Criteria & Indicators of Urban Forest Sustainability



Urban Forest Management Plan

Phase 2 – Strategies & Community Engagement



Community Engagement

August through November

Public Surveys



**Visualizing the Future
Urban Forest**

Demo slides and pictures

- UF Structure
- Complete Streets
- Park Design
- Tree Plantings
- Downtown
- Shopping Districts
- Trees and Parking Lots
- Fall Color
- Green Infrastructure
- Gardens
- Campuses
- Wilderness Areas
- Wildlife

Public Meetings



UFMP Website



(demonstration only)

Short-Term Strategies

- Detailed recommendations and strategies based on audit, benchmarking and community engagement
- Implementation monitoring measures
- Develop City roles and responsibilities



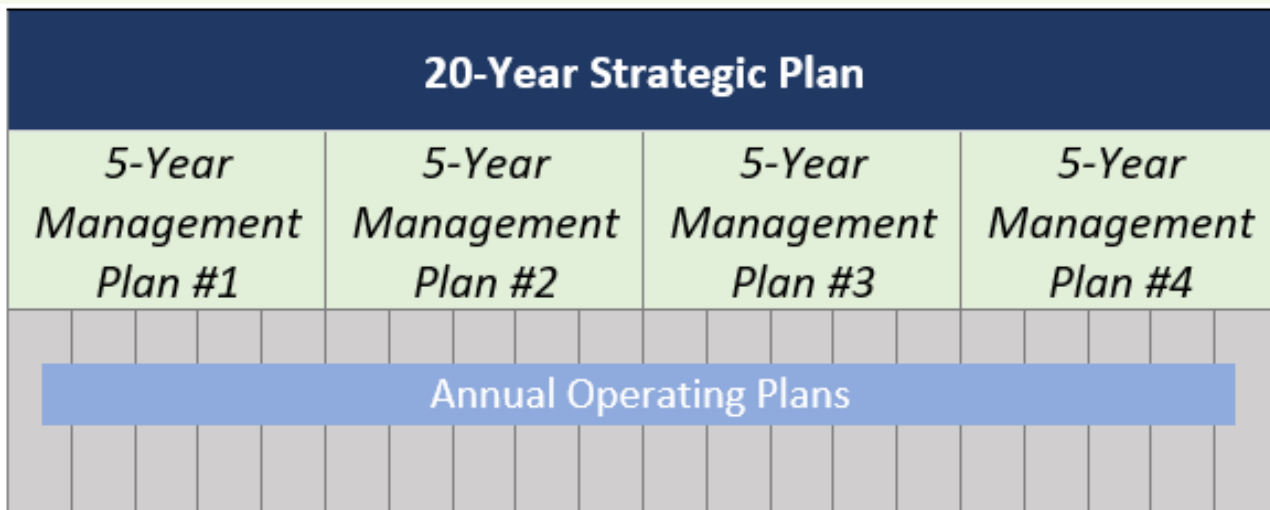
Demonstration Only

GOAL 2: MAXIMIZE THE EFFICIENCIES IN MAINTAINING THE BENEFITS OF TREES.	COLLABORATORS C-coordinator L-lead S-support					IMPLEMENTATION & MONITORING		YEAR
Objective 2B: Promote efficient and cost-effective management of the urban forest.	Community Services Dept.	Maintenance	Community & Human Services Commission	Planning/Engineering Division	Sustainable Claremont	SUSTAINABLE CITY PLAN LINKAGE	UFMP CRITERIA & INDICATORS LINKAGE	2020 – 2025
Use tree inventory data and software for a cyclical program of inspections, routine pruning, and young tree training. Use this information to inform and plan budgets	C,L	S	S	S				Year 1
Establish and maintain an optimal level of age and species diversity. Use the tree inventory and UTC data to inform tree planting species and locations	C,L	S	S	S	S			Year 1-5
Minimize urban tree risk by conducting routine inspections and proper tree care	C	L	S	S	S			Year 1-5
Plant urban trees appropriately to maximize benefits and minimize risk, nuisance, water restraints, hardscape damage, and maintenance costs	C,L	S	S	S	S			Year 1-5

Long-Term Strategies

5-20 years horizon; 4 incremental 5-year mgmt. plans

- Annual operating plans
- Preferred level of service (based on C&I)
- Implementation steps, timelines, and resources
- Monitoring measures



Final UFMP & Council Presentation

- Council adopted UFMP to support implementation
- Public meeting to present final plan
- Introduce Phase 3 kick-off



Urban Forest Management Plan

Phase 3 – Supplemental Plans & Studies



Supplemental Plans & Studies

1. Sustained Funding Source

- Non-conventional alternatives for urban forest management funding

2. Tree Risk Reduction Plan

- Emergency preparedness and reduction of public safety concerns

3. Trees and Sidewalks Operations Plan

- Decision process for tree preservation/removal

4. Tacoma Mall Inventory & Report

- Public & private tree inventory, planting spaces (4,000 points)
- Inform tree preservation, maintenance, and planting

Urban Forest Management Plan

Next Steps & Feedback Request



Feedback Request

Requesting feedback on & support for upcoming development of:

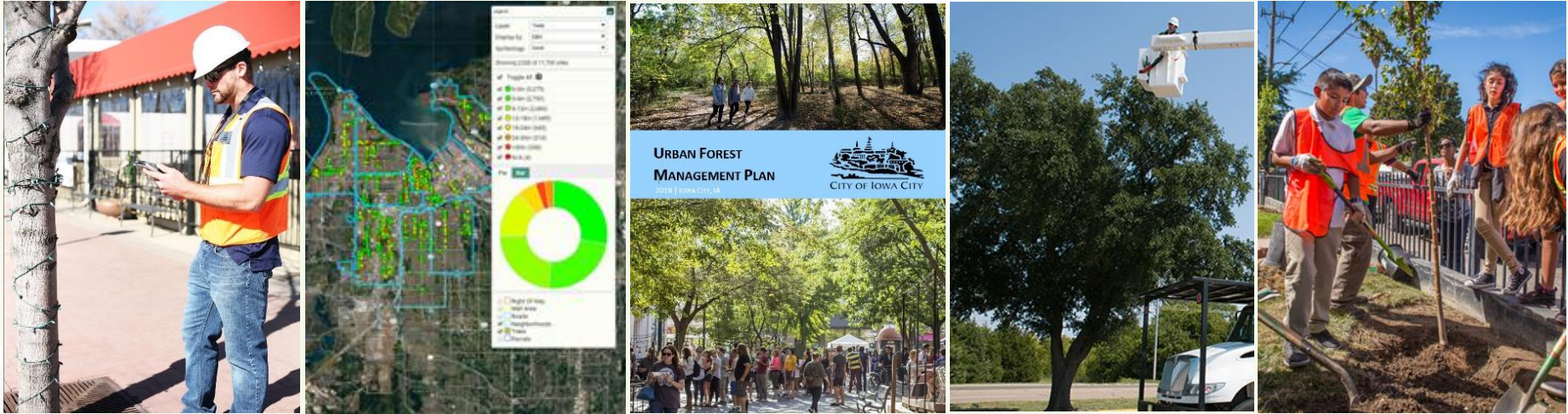
- ✓ **Municipal Code review & recommendations**
- ✓ Tree canopy cover goals, targets, priorities, phases, etc.
- ✓ **Community outreach & engagement approach**
- ✓ UFMP website content
- ✓ Short & long-term UFMP strategies
- ✓ Phase 1, 2, & 3 draft documents

Infrastructure Planning and Sustainability Presentation (Aug. 21, 2019)

- Benchmarking Research
- Urban Forest Audit
- Municipal Code Review & Recommendations
- Next Steps



Questions & Comments





Urban Forest Management Plan Update

Mike Carey

Urban Forest Program Manager

July 25, 2019



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability



Commingled Recycling Outreach Results & Recommendations

City of Tacoma | Environmental Services Department

Sustainable Tacoma Commission

July 25, 2019





Options for Public Input

1: Limited Recycling	2: Partial Recycling	3: Maintain Full Curbside Recycling	4: Maintain Full Recycling Plus
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Additional 3% (\$1.33/month average) residential rate increase for additional landfill costs• Eliminates curbside recycling• 2 satellite drop-off recycle centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$2.40 recycle surcharge/month• Eliminate curbside glass recycling• Provide satellite glass boxes or recycle stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$3.00 recycle surcharge/month• Remove problem items from commingle recycle list	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$4.00 recycle surcharge/month• Remove problem items from commingle recycle list• Provide satellite glass boxes or recycle stations• Increased education on recycling

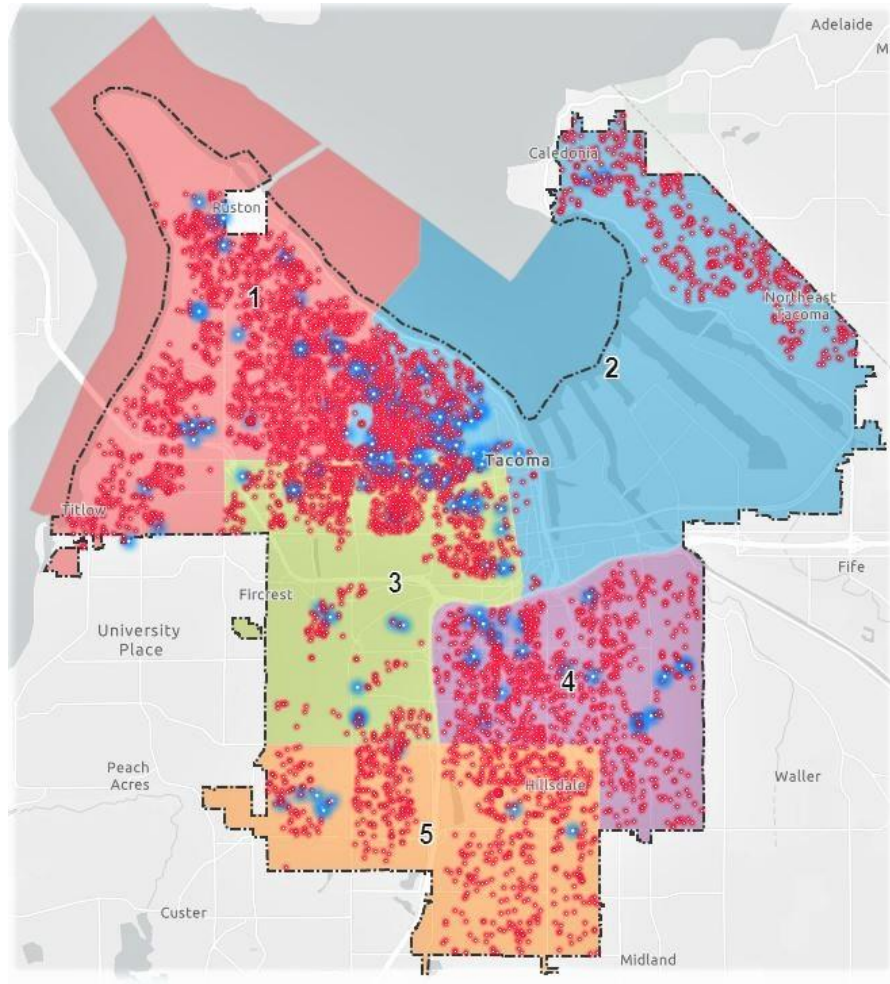


Community Engagement





Feedback Demographics



Survey responses:

Total = 7,438

Tacoma single family/duplex = 6,176

District	# Responses	% of Total
1	1813	29%
2	1406	23%
3	1194	19%
4	1016	16%
5	747	12%

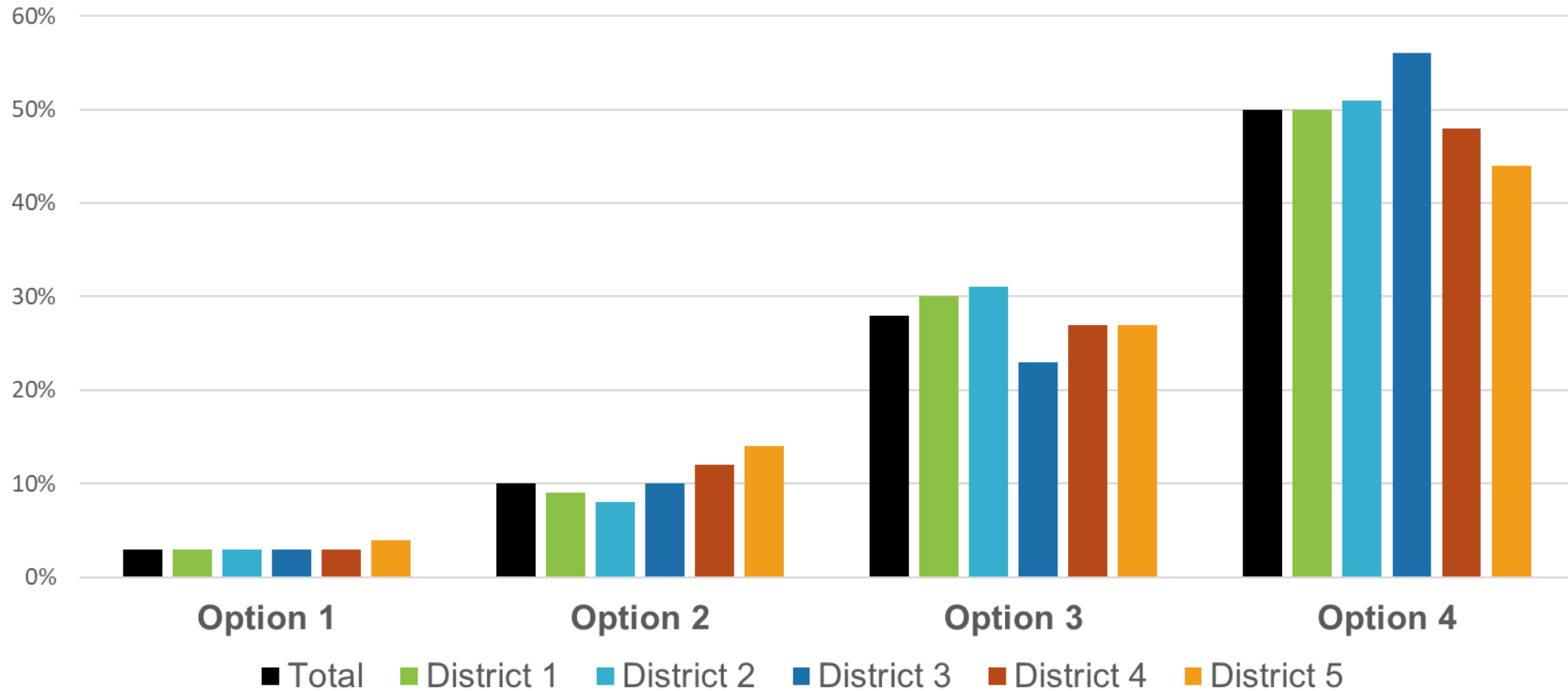
Legend

- Single Family
- Duplex

Feedback Results



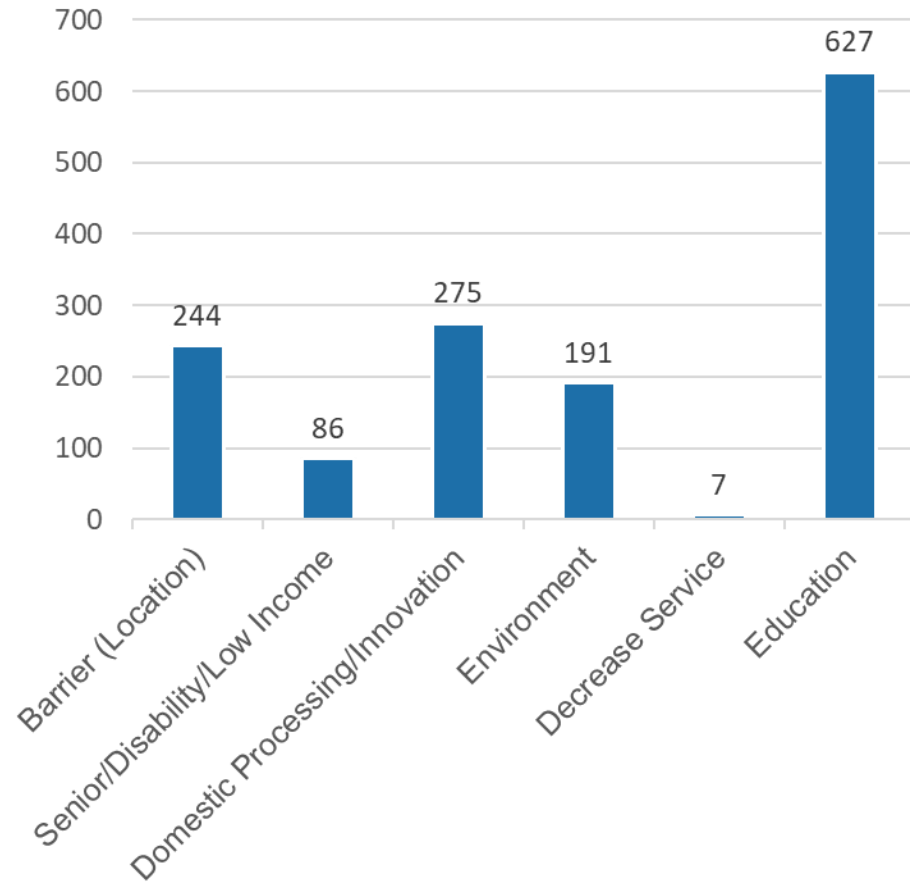
Option Preference Percentage by Council District



Feedback results



Comment Themes



“If the curbside recycling program ends, our family simply will stop recycling. We don't have time or space to hold everything to haul it to a satellite location” - **Barrier (Location)**

“I am extremely concerned about the future of recycling in our City and across the US and what it means for landfills, social responsibility and the environment. *We cannot go backwards.*” - **Environment**

“I know you guys are doing everything you can, but people DO NOT understand what is recyclable and what is not!” - **Education**

“I'd be supportive of banning glass and most plastics from recycling, if those are creating costs instead of savings for the recycling program.” – **Decrease Service**

“I am disabled and elderly and need curbside service. I am retired so I would prefer to spend \$3-\$5 extra a month.” – **Senior/Disability/Low Income**



Recommendations



1. Maintain curbside commingled recycling with simplified list

- Strong customer support to maintain current curbside service
- Remove problematic items from list (shredded paper, cartons, polycoated materials, plastic bags, foil, scrap metal, clamshell packages, etc.)
- Harmonized regional system reduces customer confusion

2. Include funding in surcharge for recycling education

- Explain changes to the system
- “Recycling Right” focus on quality
- Increase understanding of the process and cost of recycling
- Materials for EnviroChallenger/schools

● ● ● Recommendations



3. Change residential curbside glass recycling system

Satellite recycle centers in SE and NE Tacoma

- Provides education opportunity and equitable access

Glass drop off boxes

- Consistent with Pierce County system
- Less environmental impact from collections trucks

No glass in commingle

- Degrades value of glass and other materials
- Not recommended by Southwest Region Commingled Workgroup

● ● ● Recommendations



4. Add surcharge for residential customers

\$3.40/month per residential account

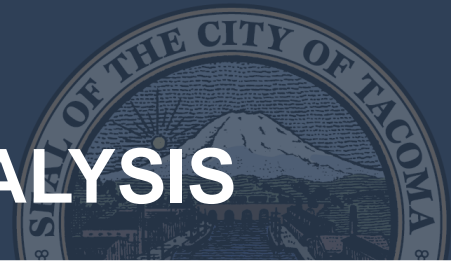
- Surcharge covers increased residential system costs and education

Surcharge effective at least through 2020

- Evaluate surcharge with next budget cycle

Waive surcharge for low-income customers

- For customers on existing billing assistance



SUSTAINABILITY – Curbside Glass Collection



25% setout rate



Manual collection



Reloaded into 30 yard box

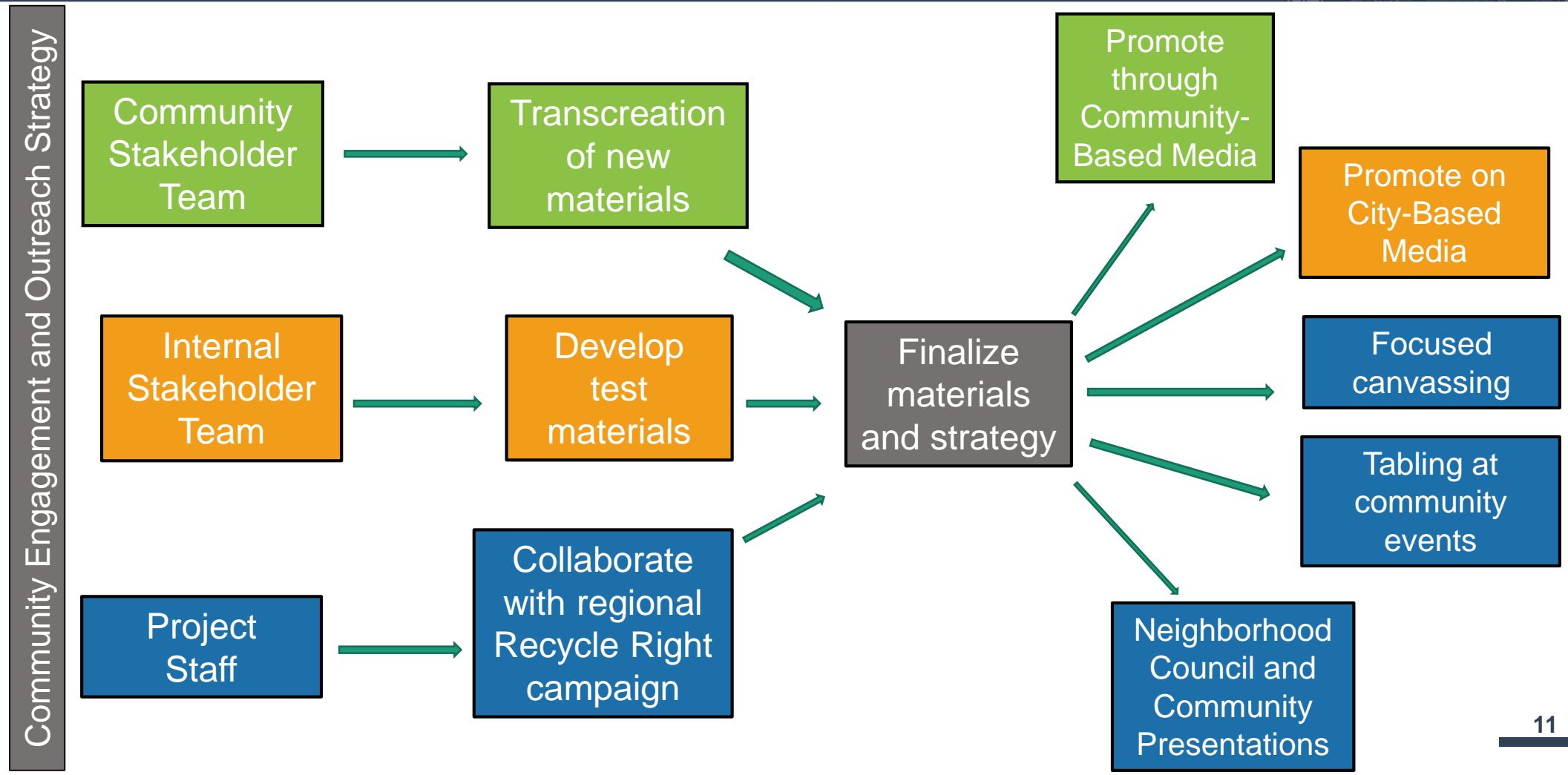


64 mile haul to Seattle

- **Collection impacts offset environmental benefits:** Net benefit estimated of 38 tons CO₂/year avoided = \$20,000/ton CO₂ avoided
- **Inefficient system:** Annual net cost of \$765,000 to recycle 1663 tons = \$460/ton
- **Employee injury risk:** 11 driver injuries from 2015-2018 related to glass collection



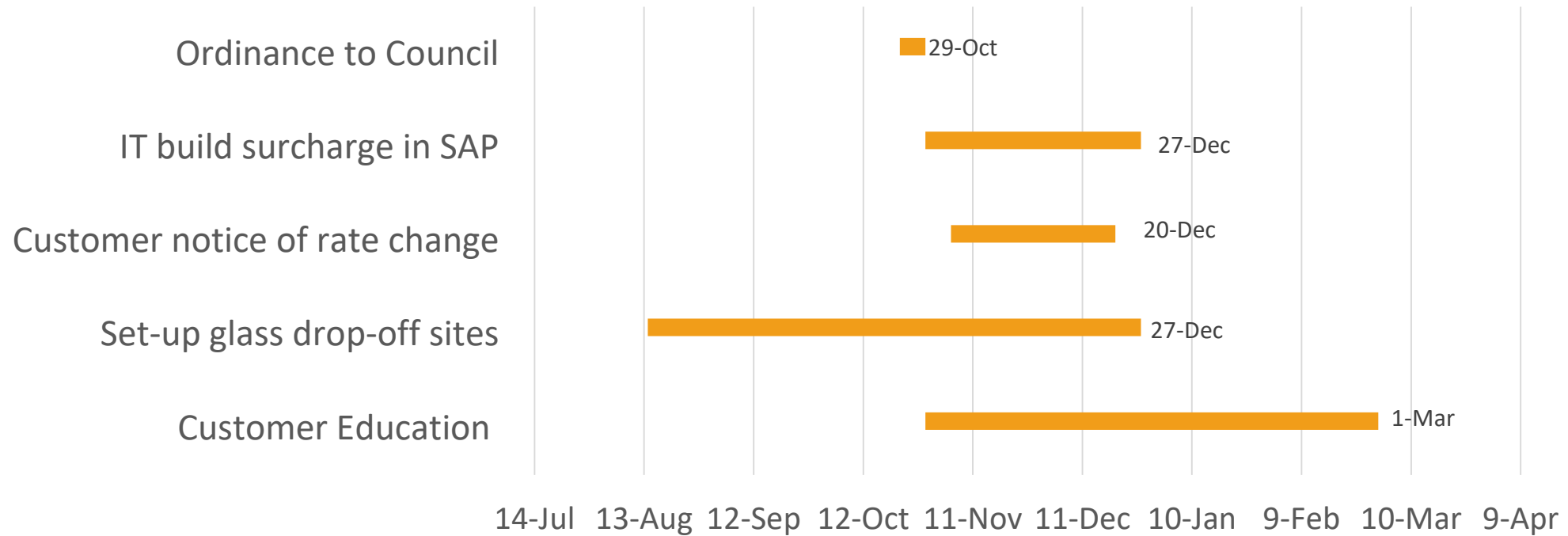
Proposed Education & Outreach



Next Steps



Recycle Changes Implementation Schedule





●●● Waste Reduction Strategy



Recycling

- Transitional
- Changes education and outreach
- Recycle Right



Waste Reduction

- Transformational
- 6th Avenue/Hilltop Bigbelly project
- Waste Free 253



Producer Responsibility

- Systemic
- EPR Policies
- Market incentives

EAP Goals and SMMP Goals



Commingled Recycling Outreach Results & Recommendations

City of Tacoma | Environmental Services Department

Sustainable Tacoma Commission

July 25, 2019



Sustainability Grant Scoring Sheet

Basic Information				Funding		Scoring Criteria -- Possible 100 points														Pro	Con	Utility Comments/Questions/ Concerns
App. #	Organization Name	Project Name	Brief Project Description	Request Amount	Amount Funded	Benefits ES Utilities if applicable: Solid Waste, Surface Water, Wastewater	Permits, permission, if applicable	Green Element paper work, if applicable	At least 10% match: \$, labor, material	Meal	Defined Budget, w/ specific's sustainability vision, incl. economics, agriculture & community participation	Participatory budgeting	Community participation	Multiple/Con glem benefits	Measurable results	Innovative and replicable	Total	Pro	Con	Utility Comments/Questions/ Concerns		
Ex.	Transportation Choices Coalition	Tacoma On the Move	Education programs targeting local residents on alternative transportation choices, relies on volunteers and public response - benefits public.	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	Y / N	NA	Y / N	NA	Y / N	NA	Y / N	NA	Y / N	NA	15	5	100				
28	Second Cycle Community Center	Empowering Environmental Sustainability through Cycling.	In order to address this gap in services, Second Cycle's project would involve purchasing and installing a bike fixing station outside the shop. This would allow 24 / 7 access for people to complete some of the most common repairs that otherwise limit a client's ability to get where they need to go.	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	YES	YES - Working with Public Works for sidewalk permitting	N/A	YES													SWM: Yes worthwhile Surfacewater: This is a great idea and lets more accessibility to fixing bikes, with taking more cars off the road. Questionable how successful this will be with putting something in the ROW that is a vending machine that potentially could be broken into. Expensive equipment in the ROW. What about winter season? This seems like fair weather equipment. Also this is from the light rail expansion through Hilltop page and may include sidewalk replacement. Maybe wait till the light rail is in:
29	Tyler Burns "Gritty City Committee"	South End Roundabout Rain Gardens	The Gritty City Committee intends to beautify three existing roundabouts and one future	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200	YES	YES - Working with Public Works, NCS, and Safe Streets Groups	N/A	YES													SWM: Yes worthwhile for the neighborhood and Tacoma although the SW benefits are minimal. How will the film be shared? Surfacewater: Converting the raised roundabout island to raingardens would not work because of the current drainage patterns and would require street work that is done by City of Tacoma forces. However the native plantings and drought tolerant plants are natural yard care strategies. But this is more of an Adopt a Spot program than a stormwater improvement and should not be considered for a grant to install raingardens. There are still benefits to education about natural yard care so if they go from that perspective, that would be better.
30	Point Defiance Elementary PTA	Pt. Defiance Elem Composting Program	Point Defiance Elementary is proposing a pilot project aimed at reducing plastics in the cafeteria, redirecting food waste to composting, and engaging students in sustainability.	\$ 5,000		YES	N/A	N/A	YES													SWM: No, I would not recommend. There are a few things to sort out here. Overall I think here are better and less expensive ways to achieve the goals of this project. The grant is for only one month with no plan for how to leverage long term funding for the pilot. Food waste collection is available at less than half the cost through City SW services than what is being proposed. The advantage to using Cedar Grove is that they sell and accept compostable service ware while the City does not. Selecting Cedar Grove is the best option for some organizations but I don't this is the case here. Purchasing durable service ware and a dishwasher would be less expensive option in the long run than purchasing compostable service ware. I also have issue with disposables as an option we should be modeling as sustainable. Kids will have to learn that while OK at school it's not OK at home. Another completely different option would be to installing an Insinkerator and send food waste to the waste water treatment facility. Paying volunteers makes some sense as most schools don't have resources to support a
31	RAIN Incubator	Tacoma RAINmakers / Testing the Effects of Genetically Engineering Rhizobia	The Tacoma RAINmakers are working towards optimizing relationships between legumes and rhizobia, nitrogen-fixing bacteria that live inside of legumes, to improve utilization of available environmental nitrogen, crop yields, and tolerance to environmental stressors.	\$ 4,996	\$ 4,996	?	N/A	N/A	YES													No Comments
32	St. Leo Food Connection	Food Rescue Program	Food rescue is a critical part of the Food Connection. We partner with grocery stores, farms, and local food producers to divert the bounty of the NW to people, not landfills. Food rescue accounts for 25% of food at our food banks, offering better nutrition while reducing waste.	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	YES	N/A	N/A	YES													SWM: Yes worthwhile. I would ask for clarification about how the money will be spent. Is this for truck repair or will it be going in the general fund (budget)?

Representative Fey,

Thank you for all your work in the recent 2019 legislative session. It's encouraging to see your commitment to finding creative ways to modernize our transportation system as the Puget Sound continues to grow. This is arguably one of most pressing issues our region is facing right now and our local economy depends on finding creative solutions. It's important to celebrate big and small successes along the way and HB 2042 Green transportation, HB 1512 Transportation electrification, and HB 2161 Ferry procurement deserve just that. Your leadership as the Chair of the House Committee on Transportation has been critical to advancing a budget that addresses the concerns of citizens in the South Sound.

As a citizen (and employee) of the City of Tacoma, I am proud of the progress that is happening to both expand access to public transportation and also encourage transit oriented development. A number of exciting transit projects are happening in Tacoma right now that I'm sure you have encouraged directly or indirectly throughout your political career. You know Tacoma. You understand our struggle and have represented us well.

This is why I am writing this letter now, to ask that you speak up for the citizens of Tacoma. Currently, the WSDOT Tacoma/Pierce County HOV Program is approaching the final phase of construction. After enduring nearly 20 years of construction impacts, there is finally a light at the end of the tunnel. While this project will surely bring new benefits to commuters, the surrounding communities have been uniquely impacted by the construction. The mere existence of the freeway is a scar on our community that disproportionately affects our residents. This is true in most US cities, as the most vulnerable neighborhoods were ripped apart to accommodate the Federal-Aid Highway Act that was signed in 1956. Since the I-5/SR 16 HOV project began in 2001, hundreds of mature evergreen trees have been removed along both sides of Interstate 5 to create new travel lanes and widen shoulders for the Washington State Department of Transportation. These trees provided an important buffer for noise and air pollution that spills into our neighborhood and were removed indiscriminately. Located just outside the footprint of this WSDOT project is Jennie Reed Elementary, Giadrone Middle School, and Lincoln High School; three schools in District 27 that are located directly adjacent to the I-5 corridor and especially impacted by noise and air pollution.

In my neighborhood, residents are committed to working together and mobilizing around issues that make our community safer. In 2017, we worked with Tacoma Public Schools and the City of Tacoma to plant over 70 trees at Jennie Reed Elementary in an effort to protect elementary school children from the impacts of the freeway. Our community is proud of these efforts and feels outraged that WSDOT does not plan to mitigate the trees that have been removed during their construction along I-5 over the last two decades. I have obtained a copy of the landscape plan from WSDOT, and it doesn't come close to mitigating the damage that has been done to our urban canopy. According to WSDOT, the role of their Roadside and Site Development Section is to "integrate their projects into the natural and build environment, preserve ecosystem and

cultural resources, and promote livable, healthy communities.” How does clear cutting critical patches of mature evergreen trees that buffer residential communities from the freeway promote livable and healthy communities? Who is holding WSDOT accountable?

We are formally requesting that WSDOT revise their landscaping plan associated with the I-5 / SR 16 HOV project to include proper mitigation of trees removed during the entire scope of the project and we are asking for your support. As a the Chair of the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency and a Board Member of the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, clearly you understand the complex health issues that your constituents living next to the freeway have to endure.

Please consider the importance of this issue and the opportunity to help improve the air quality for all residents of Tacoma.

I look forward to discussing this issue with you in more detail.

Best regards,

Ricky Clousing



**City of Tacoma
Sustainable Tacoma Commission
Meeting Minutes**

Date: July 25, 2019

Commission Members

Present: Matthew Benedict, Lexi Brewer, Kenny Coble, Phil Coughlan, Todd Hay, Jade Monroe, Grace Sullivan

Commission Members

Excused: Liberty Evans-Agnew, Emily Pinckney, Suzanna Smith

Commission Members Chris Karnes

Absent:

Others Present: Pat Babbitt, Kristin Lynett, Jim Parvey, Mike Carey, Arin Lewis, Leah Michaelson, Linda Lyshall, Lewis Griffith, Preston Peck, Todd Hay, Kenny Coble, Michelle Emery

Call to Order

This meeting was called to order by Lexi Brewer at 4:12 p.m. Quorum was established at 4:35pm.

Approval of June 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Lexi Brewer

Seconded by: Jade Monroe

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

Ayes: All

Abstained: None

Review of Agenda

Motion: Lexi Brewer

Seconded by:

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

Ayes: All

Abstained: None

Sub-committee Updates & STC-City Council Engagement Updates – Lexi Brewer

Lexi informs of new advisory group being formed, TODAG Transit Oriented Development Advisory Group that will likely be of interest to STC. Currently still working on what stakeholder's seats will be available. Takeaways from Cross Commission meeting are as followed: EAP will go through updates in 2020 for adoption in 2021. Possibilities for three-way meeting about sub-area plan due to not having formal stakeholder opportunities. There is a common thread desiring stronger communication between entities. Lexi has been invited to present to Planning Commission on Environmental Action Plan.

Staff Updates – Pat Babbitt:

Pat will send out electronic handout for Council Engagement Meeting summaries. There is a potential meeting with Deputy Mayor McCarthy. Remaining meeting with City Manager Elizabeth Pauli will be held on July 29th at 4:30pm. Jade volunteers for support. Washington state law will be updated to accommodate infrastructure requirements for new commercial or multifamily developments. State code will be updated by end of 2021 and Tacoma is looking to aim for end of this year, 2019. Infrastructure will then be ready for EV charging equipment.

Other discussion that STC set around toxic waste reduction, waste prevention, multiple family properties, recycling education all focused on communities of color. Also adding tree canopy improvements, EV, and Bicycle Friendly Community Silver-Level Status for bicycles.

Circle Back Items from Last Meeting: Pat Babbitt

There is feedback through the recycling letter that STC prepared. Tacoma Water's new conservation plan focusing on summer time and outdoor water usage reduction. Feedback was given such as rules for HOA and CCR, brought up dollar figure on water save/consumption. Tacoma Water staff Rochelle acknowledged and took into account.

STC is asked and agrees to have Ricky Clousing speak today. Ricky Clousing works in Public Works, is a community member and local to Tacoma. Ricky has concern with tree canopy in his community, the highways and effect on trees from widening roads that took away trees. He continues with sharing that he believes developers/contractors should have a code to follow for trees within the scope of their project. Along with this would be closing gaps for the permitting process for trees. Ricky asks the Commission for support in holding WSDOT to revising their landscape plan. He would like to see the community that is left behind feeling good at the close of this 20-year project. Ricky also asks the Commission for the chance to present more formally in other meetings.

Staff Update: Kristi Lynett

Kristi Lynett updated that the TMB Bike Parking Cage is now almost complete. An update on jobs are as followed, Green Building Specialist will be starting soon, 5 AmeriCorps members service will be coming to an end, 1 new will be starting in September a long with Abi transitioning from AmeriCorps to Intern. Urban Forestry Management Analyst position closed with roughly 159 applications.

Urban Forestry Update: Mike Carey

Mike presented an overview of the Urban Forest Management Plan, which includes three phases. Mike is asking STC for feedback on plan as they have shown to be stakeholders of interest. Issues addressed include outdated ordinances around trees, lack of preservation, unclear responsibilities in right of way for trees, disproportionate resources, and tree canopy in city. Urban Forestry is currently working on the Tacoma Mall Inventory Report project to invest in trees for the neighborhood. Opportunities for engagement and involvement: feedback on draft of municipal code.

Recycling Changes & Waste Prevention Programs Discussion with Staff: Lewis Griffith & Preston Peck

Survey responses around solid waste: 75% said keep or enhance recycling program. Awareness of cost is important to analysis. One of the biggest concerns of residents is education and having a better understanding of how to recycle properly. Overall people utilize and find the service of value. Some topics to continue to dive in to are how to drop off glass, why are we utilizing China, and the impact on the environment. There is confusion among individuals in different areas and what recycling is taken per area. Curbside pickup is changing in product and education and ease of access is being worked on. Changes website available for education.

Regional Clean Fuel Standards Rules – Puget Sound Clean Air Agency: Linda Lyshall

Mission of PSCAA work to protect public health, improve neighborhood air quality, and reduce region's contribution to climate change. Clean fuel standard has the largest impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and pollution. Currently Washington is the only state on west coast without a clean fuel standard. Estimate credits would sell around \$100 and increase from there. Credit opportunity in Tacoma: Fleets, electric/plug in, bio fuel fleets, wastewater treatment facilities, RNG potential charging station, shore power from the port, etc. The average electric car would generate about 200-400 a year in credits from those who provide the electricity. Except utilities, everything will be metered to verify credits. Our current chargers don't have this metered so there would be a cost associated with adding them. Public hearing in October and asking board to take action in December. If approved in December, initiate would begin January 2012, followed by reporting year only, then regulation in 2022. State legislature will not take on so working on efforts in our region with large state population falling within it. Currently this is the first entity to try this in a regional scale, this board would include largest city

mayors or their representatives: Tacoma, Bremerton, Everett, and Seattle. STC could give support through online comment and testimony at hearing in Seattle. Timeline to offer language for draft resolution: would need to generate by next STC meeting, add to August agenda. Members of STC who will offer to help draft for STC meeting: Lexi and Jade with offered support from Kristi and Pat.

Break was taken: 6:25-6:30pm

Sustainability Small Grants – Quarterly Review

Leah Michaelson presented on each grant that the STC Commission will vote upon.

2nd Cycle \$5000 - Awarded

Grant would fund installation of an after-hours repair station for bicycles right outside their building on MLK Way.

STC Comments: This would be a stand with tools paired with a vending machine. There was discussion around street occupant permit fees but waiving it is a possibility. There were no further questions or comments.

“Gritty City Committee” (Neighborhood group) \$2200 - Awarded

South-End Roundabout Raingardens - Beautify three existing roundabouts and one future roundabout with native and drought-resistant plants in the South End between South 56th and South 48th Street on South Sheridan Ave. and South Cushman Ave.

STC Comments: Discussion with the STC brought up issues around what is considered a rain garden and how that is presented by the Committee. Benefits agreed upon are native and drought tolerant plants in these roundabouts. The STC’s recommendation is for the GCC to collaborate with Surface Water for more specifics when addresses the roundabouts. A concern of the STC is that the video produced needs to have clarity that these are not called rain gardens unless they are actually raingardens, they would like possible rights to edit the language in the video.

Point Defiance Elementary School – Not Awarded

A composting pilot program for the elementary school to reduce plastics in the cafeteria, redirect food waste to compost, and to engage students in sustainable practices.

STC Comments: STC did not feel comfortable funding this grant based on the route of sustainable practices described. The STC would like to see the school partner with Green Schools and/or Solid Waste to find better options to enhance waste reduction and education in the school.

RAIN incubator \$4496 – Awarded

“Testing the Effects of Genetically Engineering Rhizobia” scientific research project. Their project description details benefits to sustainable agriculture practices in the PNW.

Condition of approval: funds may not be used for student travel funds

STC Comments: Lexi expressed concern to the members of the STC around paying for travel and the connection of that to the broader City of Tacoma. The STC recommends the students come and share what they have learned at the Expo. Funding will be provided for non-travel expenses.

St. Leo Food Connection \$5000 - Awarded

Support for their Food Rescue Program, which helps divert food from local producers (grocery stores, farms, etc.) to their food bank.

STC Comments: This was a program the STC funded last year. They would like to know more about the general expenses discussed and will approve for only allowable expenses.

Tacoma Urban League \$5000 – Awarded

Environmental Justice Camp for Girls - Two 2-day camps for girls from low income and communities of color to learn how to be empowered as leaders and advocates for environmental justice.

STC Comments: Discussion for clarity that programs can only be funded going forward, past events can't be refunded.

Grants Vote: Voting to approve all but Point Defiance Elementary at full request with conditions

Motion: Jade Monroe

Seconded by: Matthew Benedict

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried.

Ayes: All

Abstained: None

Other Public Comment

No other comments.

Objectives for the Next Meeting

No objectives for the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:10p.m.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Thursday, August 22, 2019 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, Room 243.

Lexi Brewer, Co-Chair

Chris Karnes, Co-Chair

Michelle Emery, Staff