



CITY OF TACOMA

SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION

HYBRID MEETING

DRAFT AGENDA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2023
5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

This meeting will be held both virtually and in-person. In person location is the Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market St, room 248.

Meeting phone line: (253) 215-8782

Meeting hyperlink: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84328083947?pwd=YXo2N1dURXJhRkxpSHNMMnZlRTIGQT09>

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 September 21st. Please e-mail your comments to lfarmer2@cityoftacoma.org put in the subject line "STC Meeting 9/21/23", and clearly indicate which agenda item(s), if any, you are addressing.

- I. CALL TO ORDER & EXTENDED ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVE SEPTEMBER 21ST AGENDA AND AUGUST 17TH NOTES
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- IV. STAFF UPDATES
- V. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN SOLID WASTE UPDATE
PRESENTATION
- VI. TACOMA POWER SOLAR UPDATE
PRESENTATION
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- VIII. OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT MEETING
- IX. ADJOURNMENT



City of Tacoma Sustainable Tacoma Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: August 17th, 2023

Commission Members Present:

Matthew Benedict (in-person), Michael Chang, Evlondo Cooper (Co-Chair), Casey Twiggs, Adam Reichenberger, Margaret Schwertner (Co-Chair, in-person), Laura Svancarek, Lowell Wyse (in-person)

Commission Members Excused: Tony Ivey, Lexi Brewer

Commission Members Absent:

Others Present:

City of Tacoma Commission Support Staff: LaKecia Farmer (in-person), Jim Parvey (in-person), Kristin Lynett (in-person) – all from Office of Environmental Policy & Sustainability

Ted Richardson from the Office of Strategy. Latasha Wortham from Tacoma Public Utilities.

Members of the Public: present over zoom.

Call to Order & Roll Call

This meeting was called to order by Commission Co-Chairperson Evlondo Cooper, including an acknowledgement of the traditional indigenous lands this Commission conducts its business on. The Chair welcomed Commissioners, staff, and members of the public. Then, Evlondo administered an extended roll call discussion, where Commissioners acknowledged their attendance.

Unanimous Approval of August 17th, 2023 Meeting Agenda

Unanimous Approval of July 20th 2023 Meeting Minutes

Public Comment

Larry with Forever Green Trails gave an update on their work. No written comment was received before the meeting.

Staff Updates

OEPS Staff gave updates on:

- WA Commerce Solar + Storage grants awards

- NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Grant- Letter of Interest
- Grit City Trees applications open
- Mixed Use/Downtown Design Review Project proposal
- Voting on Eastside Participatory Budget \$1mil project

Strategy Office & Affordable Housing Action Strategy – Presentation

Ted Richardson from the Office of Strategy gave a presentation on the office and their various initiatives including the Affordable Housing Action Strategy and the Equity Index. A commissioner asked about cross jurisdictional work in the Office of Strategy like between Pierce County Transit and City of Tacoma's planning and development. Ted mentioned that was not typical work for the office, more generally across the city's department. Commissioners asked to have someone from the Planning and Development Services department to discuss transit and housing density planning and coordination.

2023 Workplan Overview

Kristin gave an overview of the rest of the year's workplan for the commission. Adam asked about if infrastructure planning can be added to the workplan and Mathew added Environmental Services Asset management. Lowell wanted an OEPS leadership staff update as Jim retires from his director role.

Public Comment

No further public comments were delivered verbally during this agenda item.

Commission Updates

Laura gave an update on the Pacific Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project letter. Pierce Transit put the project on pause, therefore Laura didn't think it was prudent to write a letter from the commission at the moment.

Tentative Objectives for the Next Meeting (September 21st, 2023)

- CAP Solid Waste Actions update
- Tacoma Power Solar update

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Commission unanimous approved an adjourned at 6:51 pm.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be held hybrid on Thursday September 21st, 2023, at 5:00pm, on zoom and at Tacoma Municipal Building, room 248.

Evlondo Cooper III

Margaret Schwertner

Evlondo Cooper and Margaret Schwertner, Co-Chairs

LaKecia Farmer

LaKecia Farmer, Staff / Note Taker

Sustainable Tacoma Commission (STC)

9/21/2023 Hybrid Public Meeting

Welcome

Commissioners

Members of the public

Presenters and staff support:

City of Tacoma, Environmental Services:

Daniel Corum, LaKecia Farmer, Lewis Griffith, Kristi Lynett, Jim Parvey,
Preston Peck, and Phet Sinthavong

Tacoma Power

Lis Saunders and Christy Hansen



Call to Order



Land Acknowledgment

ʔuk'wədiid čət ʔuhigwəd txwəl tiit ʔa čət ʔal tə swatxwixwtxwəd ʔə tiit puyaləpabš. ʔa ti dxwʔa ti swatxwixwtxwəd ʔə tiit puyaləpabš ʔəstətətłil tul'al tudiʔ tuhaʔkw. didiʔt ʔa həlgwəʔ ʔal ti sləxłil. dxwəstətłils həlgwəʔ gwəl ʔ'uyayus həlgwəʔ gwəl ʔ'uʔ'axwad həlgwəʔ tiit bədədəʔs gwəl tixdxw həlgwəʔ tiit ʔiisəds həlgwəʔ gwəl ʔ'uʔalalus həlgwəʔ gwəl ʔ'utxwəlšucidəb. xwəla ···b ʔə tiit tuyəl'yələbs.

We gratefully honor and acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People. The Puyallup people have lived on this land since the beginning of time. They are still here today. They live, work, raise their children, take care of their community, practice their traditional ways and speak the Twulshootseed language – just as their ancestors did.



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Roll Call

Commission Members

Matthew Benedict

Lexi Brewer

Michael Chang

Evlondo Cooper (Co-Chair)

John Doherty

Sheena Hewett

Tony Ivey

Casey Twiggs

Adam Reichenberger

Margaret Schwertner (Co-Chair)

Laura Svancarek

Lowell Wyse

Agenda – 9/21/2023

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- XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

(Motion)



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

8/17/2023 Meeting Minutes Approval

(Motion)



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Public Comments



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Staff Updates

- OEPS Manager Next Steps- Jim Parvey
- Americorps Sustainability Specialist- Carson Brock
- Sustainability Small Grants Update
- Urban Forestry
 - ROW Tree Codes
 - Green Blocks McKinley-
<https://tacomatreefoundation.org/green-blocks-mckinley>
 - Urban Forestry Language Justice Pilot
 - Hazardous Tree Assistance Program
 - Urban Wood Reuse Pilot side project
 - TPS Tree Planting Priority Map
- Tidy Up Tacoma program survey



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Important Dates

- IPS Commission Presentations – Oct 11th @ 4:30pm
- Green Tacoma Day- Oct 14th



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Other Business Items

Climate Action Plan Solid Waste Update

Daniel Corum, Lewis Griffith, Preston Peck, and Phet Sinthavong



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Other Business Items

Tacoma Power Solar Update

Lis Saunders and Christy Hansen



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Public Comments



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Objectives for Next Meeting (Oct 19)

- **Communications**

Tentative Meeting items:

- Tribal Coordination
- Grants Update



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Adjournment

(Motion)



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Climate Action Plan Update: Solid Waste

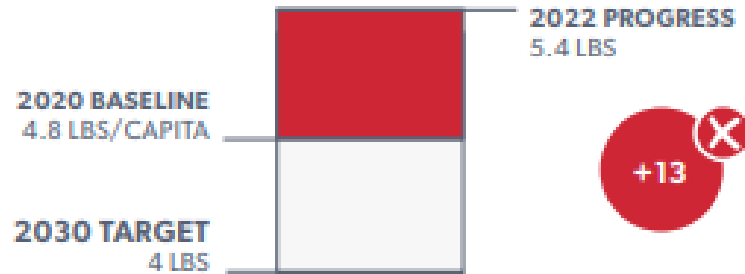
Sustainable Tacoma Commission
September 23, 2023

Current Progress Report



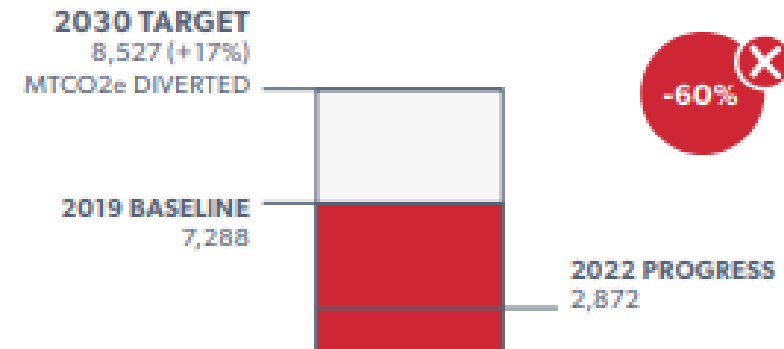
Decrease per-capita waste generation

Sector: Consumption



Increase metric tons of GHGs from diverted materials from Recycling and Recovery Center

Sector: Consumption

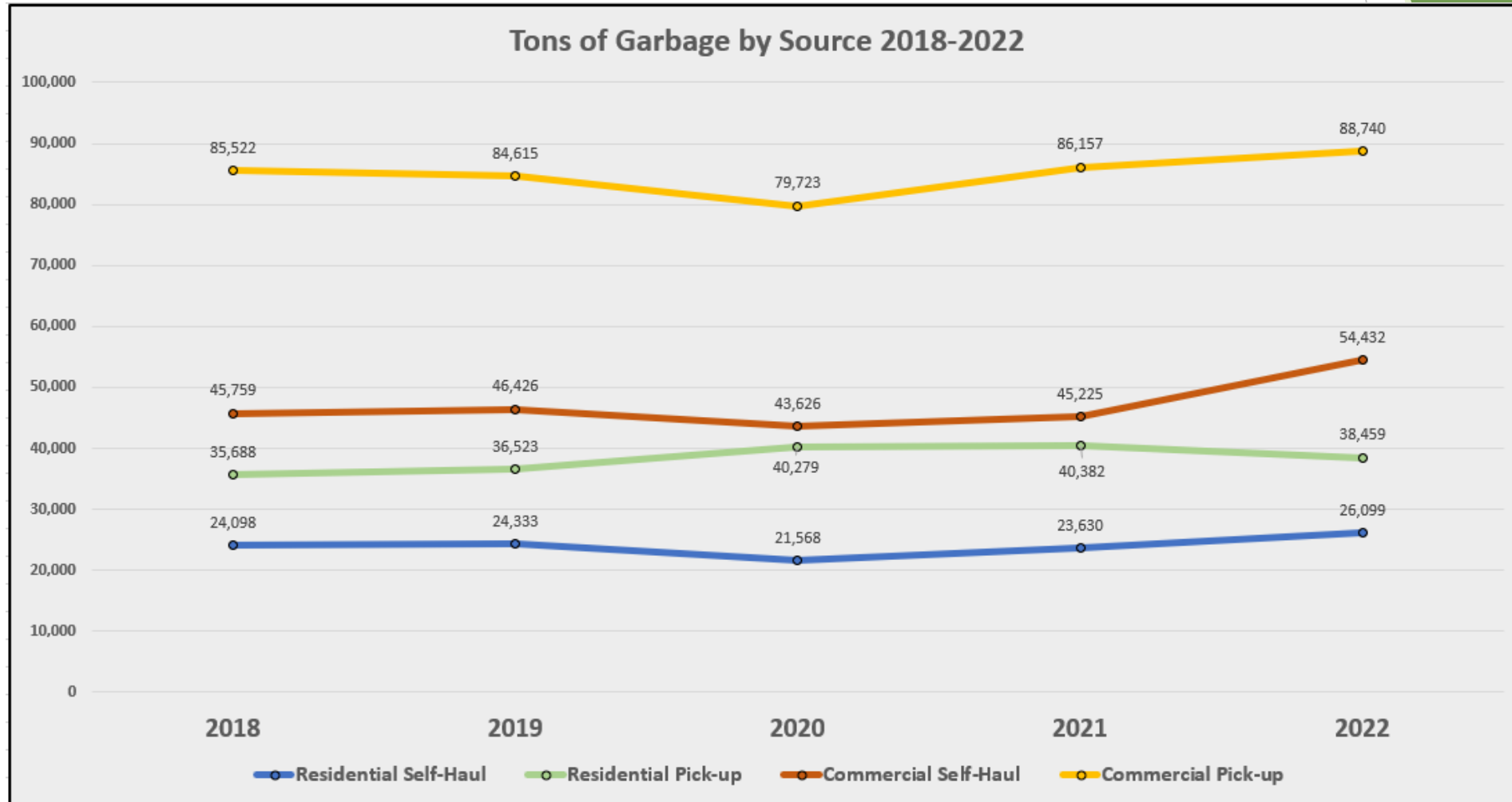


Who is producing so much waste?!

- ▶ Baseline year for waste generation was off
 - ▶ 5.4 pounds/person to 5.3 pounds/person
- ▶ Residential curbside garbage is static
- ▶ Residential self-haul is WAY up since 2020
- ▶ Commercial is WAY up since 2020

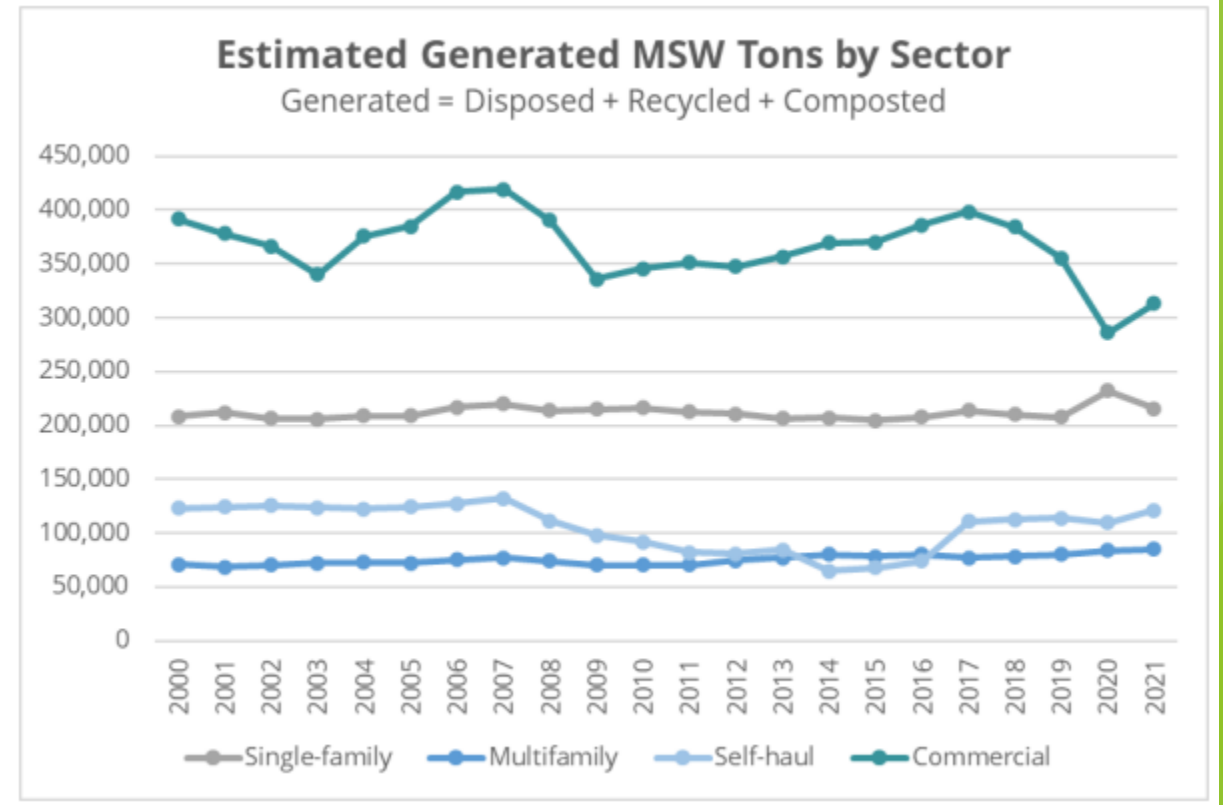


The pandemic did weird things to waste



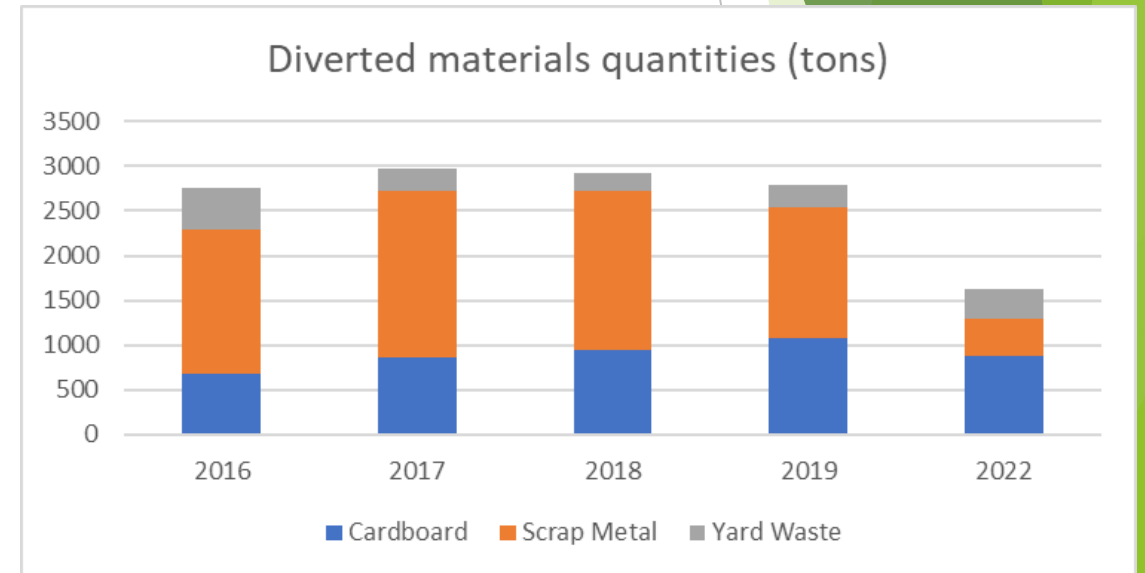
What is going on in other jurisdictions?

- ▶ Seattle - landfilled material is up 6.2% (12 year high)
- ▶ Self-haul contributed more than half of the increase
- ▶ Solid waste diversion increased but not to the extent of solid waste disposal



Why are we not diverting more?

- ▶ Staff includes the materials with the highest GHG impact (cardboard, scrap metal, and yard waste)
- ▶ Does not include any materials collected curbside (over 16,000 tons)
- ▶ 2019 - Stopped diverting from tipping floor due to safety concerns



How does HB 1799 increase diversion?

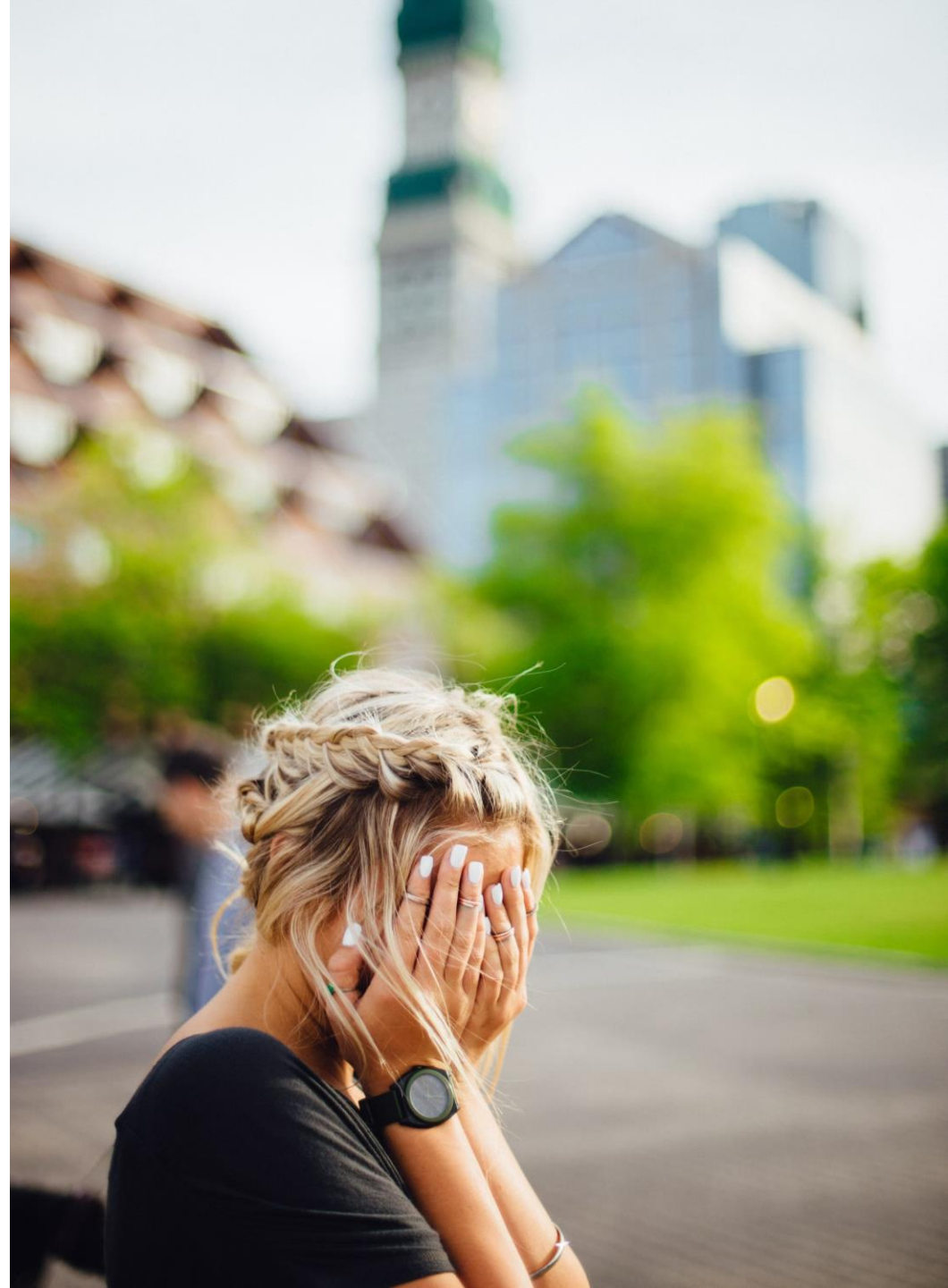
Business Organics Management Timeline

Based on available service and volumes of organic material and solid waste produced



What can we do?

- ▶ HB 1799 - Mandates organics collection starting 2024
 - ▶ Passed compost ordinance
 - ▶ Participating in compost stakeholder groups
- ▶ EPA Recycling Education and Outreach Grant Application
 - ▶ .5 FTE Waste Reduction Specialist (~\$200K over 3 years)
 - ▶ Waste Reduction Ambassador Track (~\$200K over 3 years)
- ▶ NW Product Stewardship Council
 - ▶ \$60,000 in support in 2023-2024
 - ▶ Reuse and reduction targets for producers in EPR legislation



What ELSE can we do?

- ▶ SWM Administrative Bldg and Shop included in Municipal Facilities Decarbonization Study
 - ▶ Recommended facilities improvements currently being reviewed
 - ▶ Looking at funding options
- ▶ Collection trucks conversion from diesel to CNG (ongoing)
- ▶ Small fleet electrification
 - ▶ 1 truck replaced with Lightning
 - ▶ 7 more expected in 2023
 - ▶ 4 more in 2024
- ▶ CAP actions included in Site Master Plan Basis of Design
- ▶ Materials Marketplace
- ▶ Wood Waste Pilot

Serving our customers



Solar at Tacoma Power

Sustainable Tacoma Commission, 9/21/23

Net metering overview

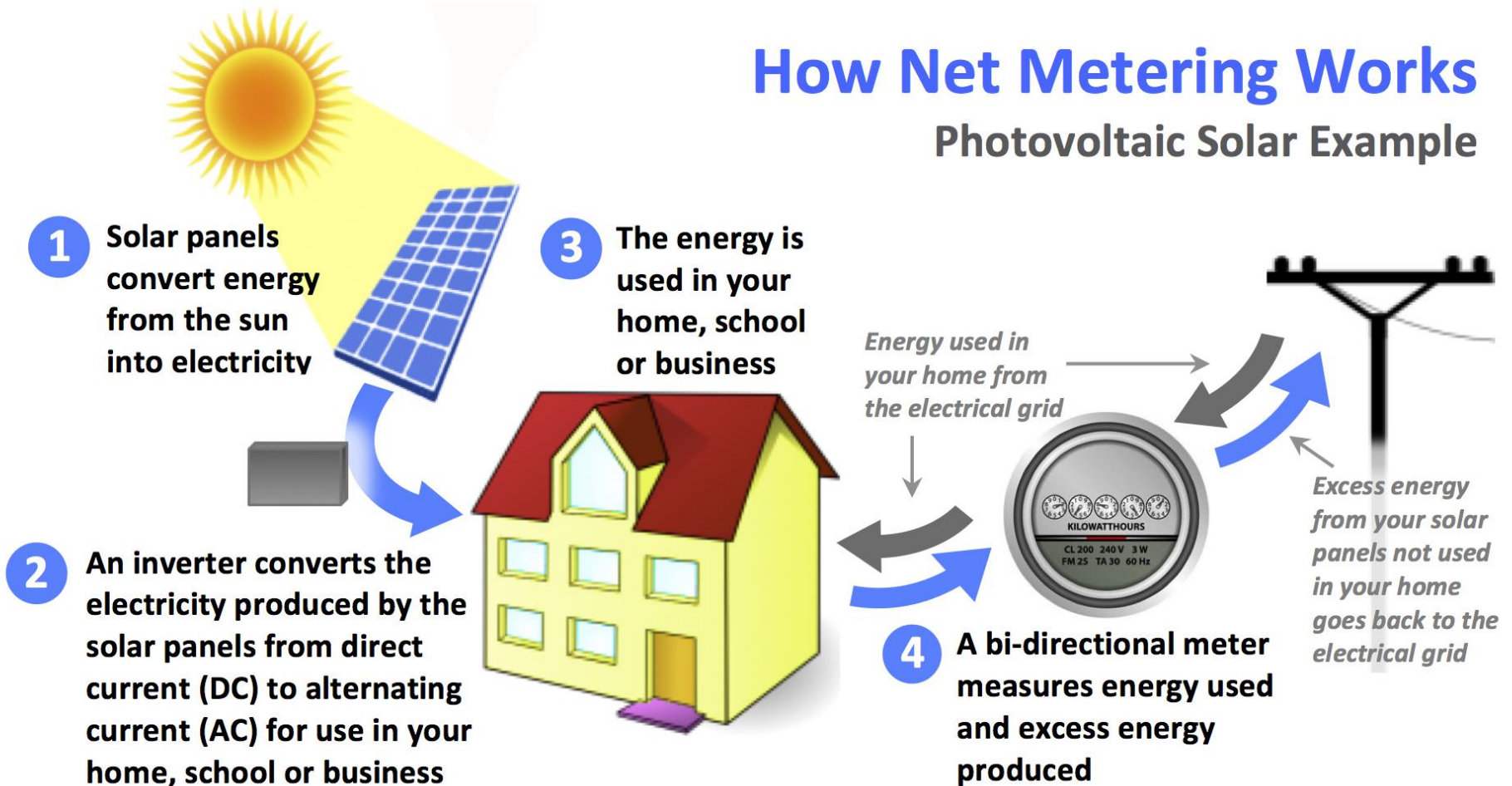
Net metering growth and drivers

Current renewables opportunities

Future renewables opportunities

How Net Metering Works

Photovoltaic Solar Example





Tacoma Power Solar Net Metering Dashboard

107
Pending DocuSign
Agreements

6.7

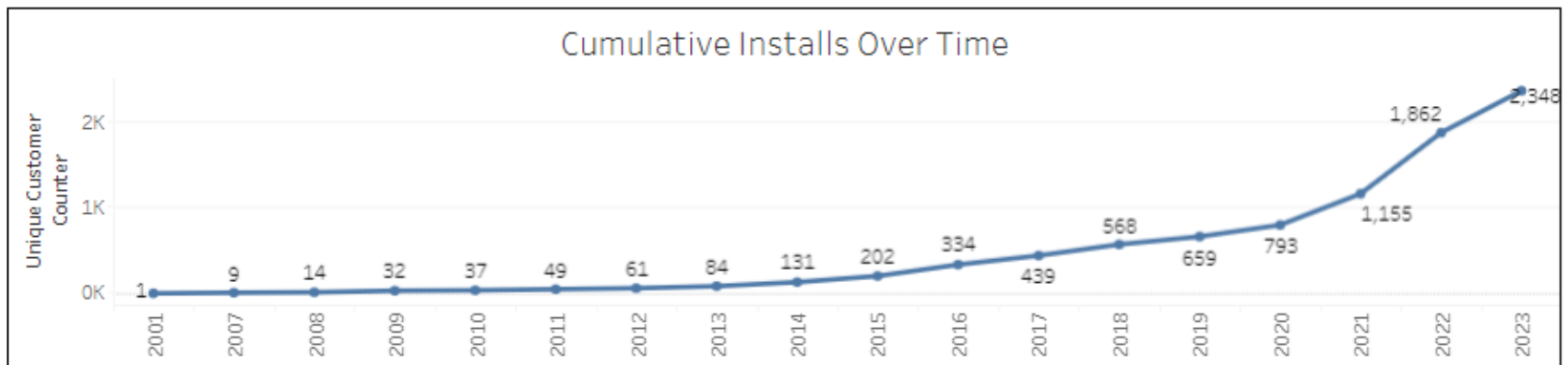
Average System Size (Kwatts)

15,983

Total Installed Capacity (Kwatts)

231

Pending Installation





RECRIP = Renewable Energy Cost Recovery Incentive Program
RESIP = Renewable Energy System Incentive Program

Why are customers choosing Solar?



A growing interest in self generation

Reducing their carbon footprint

Federal tax incentives & Lower cost of solar

Door-to-door sales

Tacoma Power does not “partner” with solar installers

Tacoma Power does not offer loans or rebates for solar installation

Net Metering is not “ending” in our area

Installing solar does not eliminate your Power bill
(Definitely not your “Utility” bill!)

Supports Renewable Energy through voluntary monthly customer donations

Annual award of \$50k grants for eligible non-profit businesses to install renewable energy

Past awards include Pt. Defiance Zoo, Tacoma Housing Authority, and Hilltop Heritage Middle School

Final selection for this year's grant will be finalized soon

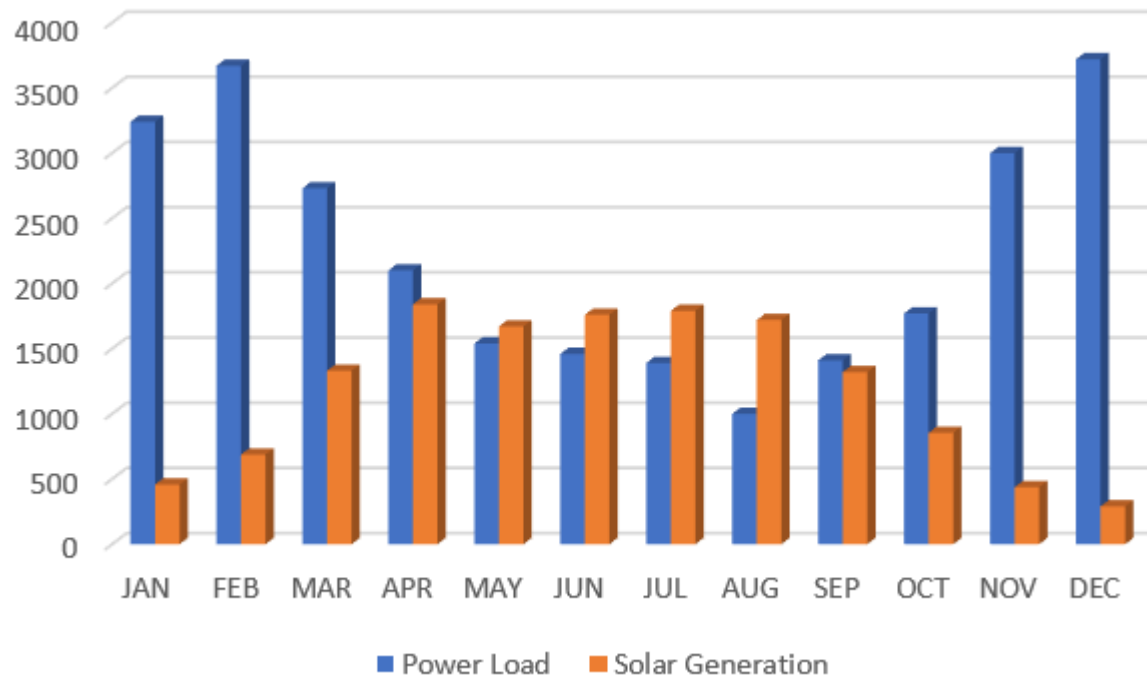
A couple past E.O. grant recipients...

Hilltop
Heritage
Middle
School,
Installed
2021



Shiloh
Baptist
Church,
Installed
2020

Power Load vs. Solar Load (12 kW solar)



Other solar growth on the horizon



Multiple “Solar + Storage” grants awarded recently from the Dept of Commerce to customers in our area

Continuing Demand Response research for our area, to make use of battery-stored energy at PEAK times

Engaged in Policy discussions related to solar at the State level

Researching ways to make use of State and Federal renewable energy opportunities