

Tacoma's Climate Action Plan

Recommendations from the
Green Ribbon Climate Action Task Force
July 1, 2008

Our Charter

1. Set carbon reduction goals
2. Identify strategies to reduce greenhouse gases – Tacoma's Climate Action Plan
3. Develop a 2-year action plan to ensure progress

Task Force Members

- Dale Anderson, BCRA
- Paul Birkey, Belina Interiors Inc
- Joanne Buselmeier, Chamber of Commerce
- Yonn Dierwechter, UWT
- Lynne Griffith, Pierce Transit
- John Hickey, UPS
- Debby Hyde, Pierce County
- Greg Jacoby, McGavick Graves
- Mike Jagielski, ILWU
- Krystal Kyer, Tahoma Audubon
- Vance Lelli, ILWU
- Steve Marek, Health Department
- Sue Mauermann, Port of Tacoma
- Dave McEntee, Simpson
- Ryan Mello, Cascade Land Conservancy
- Bliss Moore, Sierra Club
- Bill Osborne, Community Council
- Elaine Ott, Richlite Company
- Tiffany Speir, MBA
- Leslie Stanton, PSCAA
- Bob Stivers, Citizens for a Healthy Bay
- Claudia Thomas, City of Lakewood
- Tim Thompson, Thompson Switch Consultant Group
- Jim Tutton, WA Trucking Assoc.
- Jim Vance, UPS

Why Climate Change Matters to Tacoma

- Increased flooding
- Coastal erosion
- Rising sea levels
- Drought
- More intense weather patterns
- Rising temperatures – wildfires
- Negative impacts to ecosystems
- Costly infrastructure impacts
- Water shortages



Public Comment Period

- 4 public meetings
- Web survey
- Written feedback
- Other public presentations
- Public comment at every Task Force meeting

GHG Reduction Goals

Goals:

15% below 1990 emissions by 2012

a reduction of 214,373 tons eCO₂

total potential savings in plan is 257,946 eCO₂

40% below 1990 emissions by 2020

80% below 1990 emissions by 2050

80+ Strategies Proposed

- Evolving strategies = efforts already in the works that will get us half way to goal
- Unquantifiable strategies = research or policy needed for plan to succeed
- New strategies

First, GHG Reduction Goals

Then, a blueprint to:

- Grow our local economy
- Make our citizens healthier
- Make Tacoma more vibrant and attractive
- Save taxpayers, businesses and government on energy costs

City Strategic Priorities

A safe, clean and beautiful community.

A sustainable, capable and diverse economy.

A reliable, high-performing, open and transparent government.

Evolving Strategies

Examples:

- Initiative 937 implementation
- Sound Transit rail extension to South Tacoma and Lakewood
- Mixed-use center updates – steps to build compact neighborhoods

40 New Strategies

5 Strategy Categories:

- City Leading by Example
- Moving People & Goods More Efficiently
- Enhancing Compact/Livable Neighborhoods
- Energy Efficiency in Our Buildings, Homes & Industries
- Reuse & Recycle...from Buildings to Food Waste

Early actions (2-year action plan) = at budget time, fund items to implement these strategies

Actions for the City Organization



City Leading by Example

Purchase environmentally responsible products and services

Conserve energy through green buildings, green power, and advanced, efficient technology



City Leading by Example

Early Actions:

- Double-sided printing, recycled materials, local purchasing
- Green building standards
- Green fleet
- Hire contractors who use low carbon fuel
- Tacoma Power EverGreen Options program

Actions for Our Community



Moving People & Goods More Efficiently

Encourage people to ride together

Reduce the need for driving

Change parking policies to discourage SOVs

Reduce fuel use and increase fuel efficiency



Moving People & Goods More Efficiently

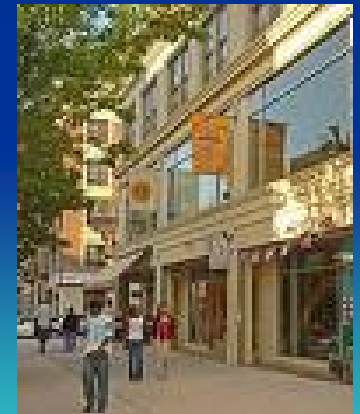
Early Actions:

- Ridesharing and carpooling promotion
- Car-sharing service
- Citywide bike and pedestrian plan
- Telecommuting and alternative work schedules

Enhancing Compact/ Livable Neighborhoods

Preserve natural open spaces and plant more trees

Neighborhoods and business districts that are compact and attractive, transit-accessible, bike- and pedestrian-friendly



Enhancing Compact/ Livable Neighborhoods

Early Actions:

- Fund Open Space Habitat and Recreation Plan
- Transfer of Development Rights program
- Plant 20,000 trees
- Continue smart growth policies: mixed-use centers, transit-oriented development

Energy Efficiency in Our Buildings, Homes & Industries

Require energy audits
Support green building
Encourage solar and other renewables
Reduce oil use with conservation programs



Home built by Duke York
(York Enterprises) – features
green materials & systems
Photo Courtesy of MBA



TPU South Administration Building
– a model for sustainability
Architect: BCRA
Photographer: Dane Gregory
Meyer



Solar power in Tacoma

Energy Efficiency

Early Actions:

- Increase electricity conservation with programs developed to align with I-937
- Encourage installation of solar and other renewable energy

Reuse & Recycle

...from Buildings to Food Waste

Maximize commercial and residential recycling

Divert food and other organic waste from landfill

Expand waste reduction efforts

Encourage reuse and deconstruction of buildings



Reuse & Recycle

Early Actions:

- Implement programs to collect 100% of traditional recycled materials, such as paper, metal, plastics

In Summary

These strategies...

- Grow our local economy
- Make Tacoma more livable
- Make our citizens healthier
- Save government and consumers real money



Implementation

- Office of Sustainability
- Tacoma Green Team
- Citizen Oversight Commission

Next Steps

- Resolution to adopt recommendations and implement 2-year action plan
- Begin Implementation Plan immediately to set Tacoma's Climate Action Plan in motion