



CITY OF TACOMA SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION VIRTUAL MEETING

DRAFT AGENDA
THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021
5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

To comply with Governor Jay Inslee's [Proclamation 20-28.15](#) 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 March 18th. Please e-mail your comments to PBabbitt@cityoftacoma.org, put in the subject line "STC Meeting 3/18/21", and clearly indicate which agenda item(s), if any, you are addressing.

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVE FEBRUARY 18 MINUTES AND MARCH 18 AGENDA
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- IV. STAFF UPDATES
- V. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES
- VI. OFFICER ELECTIONS
- VII. EARTH MONTH & DAY PLANNING – STAFF PRESENTATION
- VIII. TIDEFLATS SUBAREA PLANNING – STAFF PRESENTATION
- IX. CLIMATE PLANNING UPDATE: ADAPTATION STRATEGY – STAFF PRESENTATION
- X. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- XI. OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT MEETING
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

TACOMA || TIDEFLATS

SUBAREA PLAN

Meeting-in-a-Box

March and April 2021



Land Recognition: Puyallup Tribe of Indians

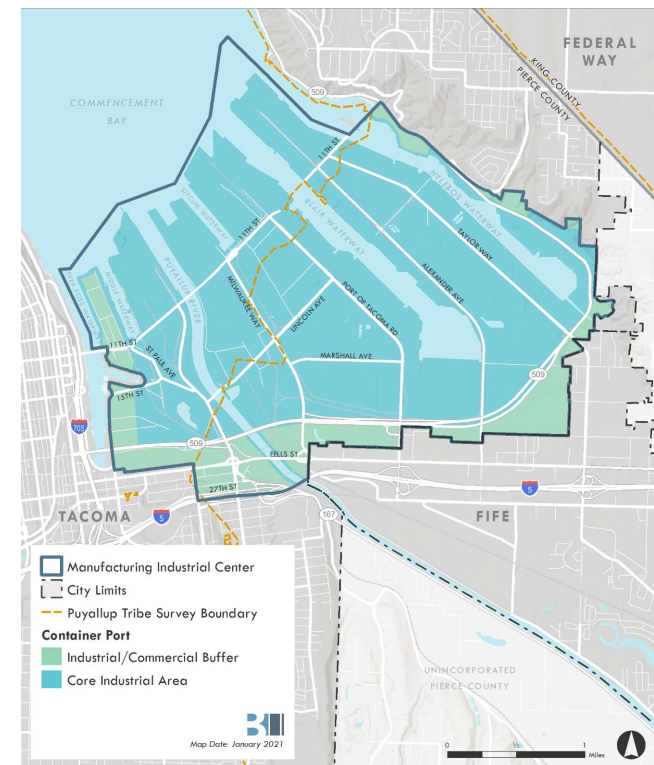
Let us acknowledge that this project is being conducted on the historical and current homelands of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. Since time immemorial they have hunted, fished, and gathered in the Tacoma Tideflats and they retain these rights to this day. Let us take this moment to recognize the unique responsibility in being co-stewards with the Tribe over these lands & waters and work with them to safeguard their treaty protected rights.



Image courtesy of Puyallup Tribe of Indians

About the Tideflats Subarea

- Study area spans over 5,000 acres.
- **Natural context:** Includes shoreline, river deltas, tidal creeks, marshes, naturalized creeks, and river channel corridors.
- **Economic context:** Approx. 9,800 employees work in the Tideflats. Includes a world-class port with industrial, manufacturing, and maritime activity.
- **Cultural context:** Includes federally designated Indian Reservation for the Puyallup Tribe of Indians.



What are the Key Goals of this Project?

- A partnership and shared vision among:
 1. City of Tacoma
 2. Port of Tacoma
 3. Puyallup Tribe of Indians
 4. Pierce County
 5. City of Fife
- A coordinated approach to:
 - Development
 - Environmental review
 - Strategic capital investments.



Image courtesy of Port of Tacoma

What's on the Table?

- How do we maintain a **thriving Port** in the face of **global competition** and **climate change**?
- How can we improve the overall **health** of the Tideflats, Commencement Bay while preserving and expanding **employment**?
- How can we better align public and private interests and leverage resources to coordinate **infrastructure** investments in the area?
- How can we ensure healthy, plentiful salmon and shellfish in a complex urban **environment**?
- How can we ensure a **safer environment** for workers and residents?



Image courtesy of Port of Tacoma

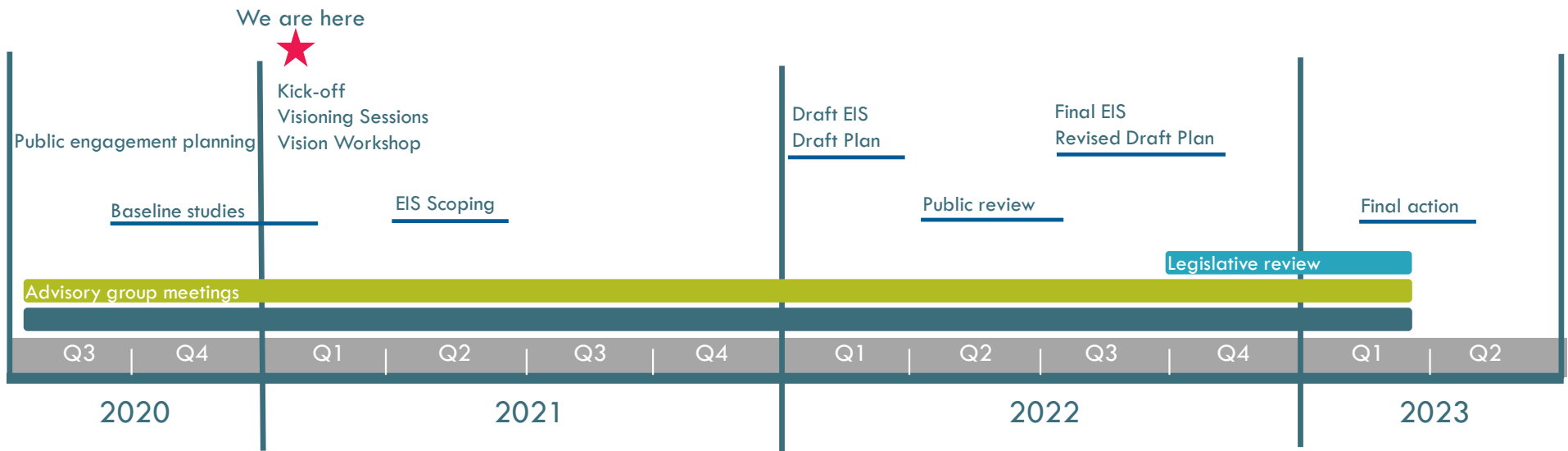
What will be Products of this Project?

- A new Tideflats Subarea chapter of the Tacoma Comprehensive Plan.
- Topics to include:
 - Vision
 - Environment
 - Land use
 - Economy
 - Public services and facilities
 - Transportation
 - Implementation actions
- Implementing regulations
- Environmental Impact Statement



Image courtesy of Port of Tacoma

Where are we in the Process?



What does “visioning” mean?

Visioning is a process that:

- **Asks** “What do we want to see in the **future** for the Tideflats?”
- **Is grounded in current conditions**
 - Recognizes existing manufacturing industrial center
 - Describes the center’s role and relationship to the city and region
 - Identifies what’s possible—does not start with a clean slate



Visioning Discussion Questions

- What is your favorite feature of the Tideflats?
- What is the most important strength of the Tideflats?
- What is the biggest opportunity in the Tideflats?
 - And what is the most significant barrier to achieving that opportunity?
- How does the Tideflats look and function 20 years from now?
 - And is it substantially different than how it looks and functions today?

Stay Engaged or Follow the Process

cityoftacoma.org/tideflats



Image courtesy of Port of Tacoma

Tacoma Climate Adaptation Strategy

Sustainable Tacoma Commission Meeting

City of Tacoma, WA

March 18, 2021



Meeting Objectives

- Provide update on plan objectives, status, and findings to-date
- Solicit feedback on draft strategies and actions



Agenda



Project objectives & status update



Priority risks



Sea level rise assessment



Vision & goals



Strategies & actions



Next steps

Project Objectives & Status Update



Project Objectives

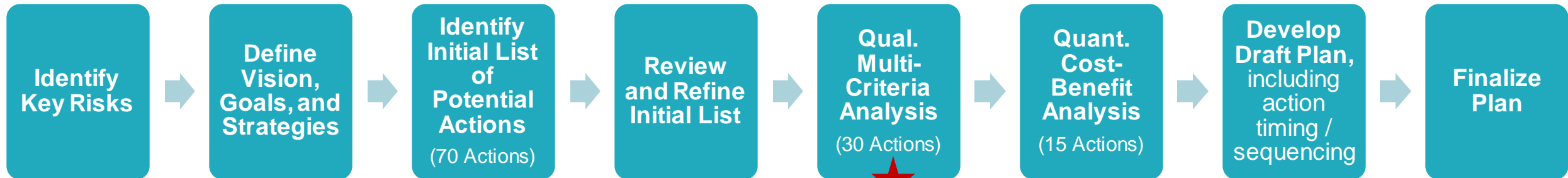
Develop a **comprehensive climate adaptation strategy** that identifies **responsibilities and timelines** for **actionable tasks** that will build resiliency in **municipal operations** and reduce climate change risks to the **Tacoma community**.

What will success look like?

Core Values from Steering Committee:

- Equity
- Partnerships
- Accessible
- Actionable
- Accountable
- Inspirational

Approach



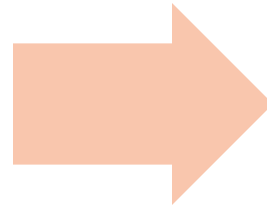
YOU ARE HERE

Priority risks



Climate drivers

- Flooding
- Sea level rise
- Extreme precipitation
- Wildfire & smoke
- Landslides
- Extreme heat & drought



Sectors

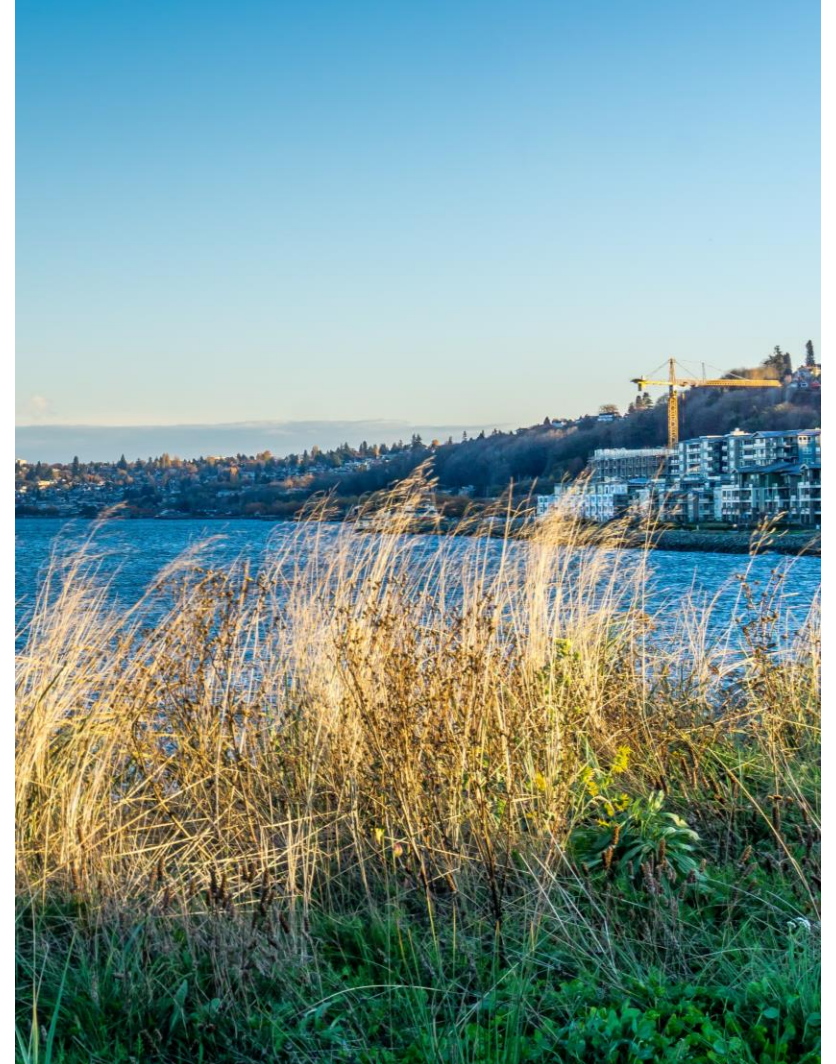
- Public health & wellbeing
- Economy
- Freshwater & marine ecosystems
- Infrastructure (transportation, water supply, stormwater)
- Urban vegetation
- Energy supply

Sea Level Rise Assessment



Results: High Consequence Assets

- Marine Security Joint Operations Center, Fire Station No. 5, Franciscan Occupational Health (Port Clinic)
 - 10-yr coastal storm expected to flood 2060 – 2070
 - Daily tidal inundation by 2100
- Fire Station No. 6, Fire Training Center
 - 10-yr coastal storm expected to flood 2070 – 2080
- Central Wastewater Treatment Plant
 - Flood wall expected to overtop during 500-yr riverine flood event by 2030-2040

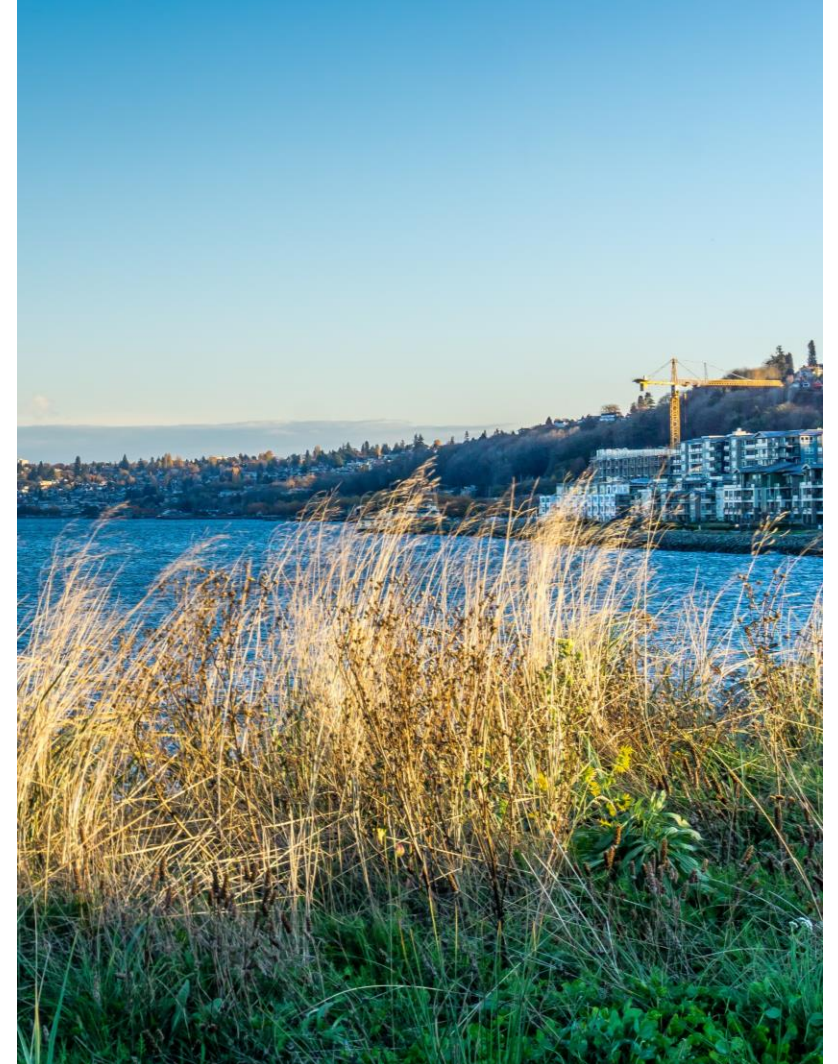


Sea Level Rise Assessment



Results: Medium Consequence Assets

- Salmon Beach Lower, Picks Cove Pump Stations
 - Already exposed to tidal inundation or 10-yr flooding
- Northeast and Milwaukee Distribution Substations, Tidelands Rail Tracks
 - 10-yr coastal storm expected to flood around 2030
 - Spring high tide inundation by 2100
- Tideflats Roads, Dock Street
 - 10-yr coastal storm expected to flood 2040 – 2050
- Ruston Way, Cleveland Way Pump Station, multiple WW Pump Stations, multiple Power Substations
 - 10-yr coastal storm expected to flood 2080 – 2090
- Marine View Drive
 - 10-yr coastal storm expected to flood 2100

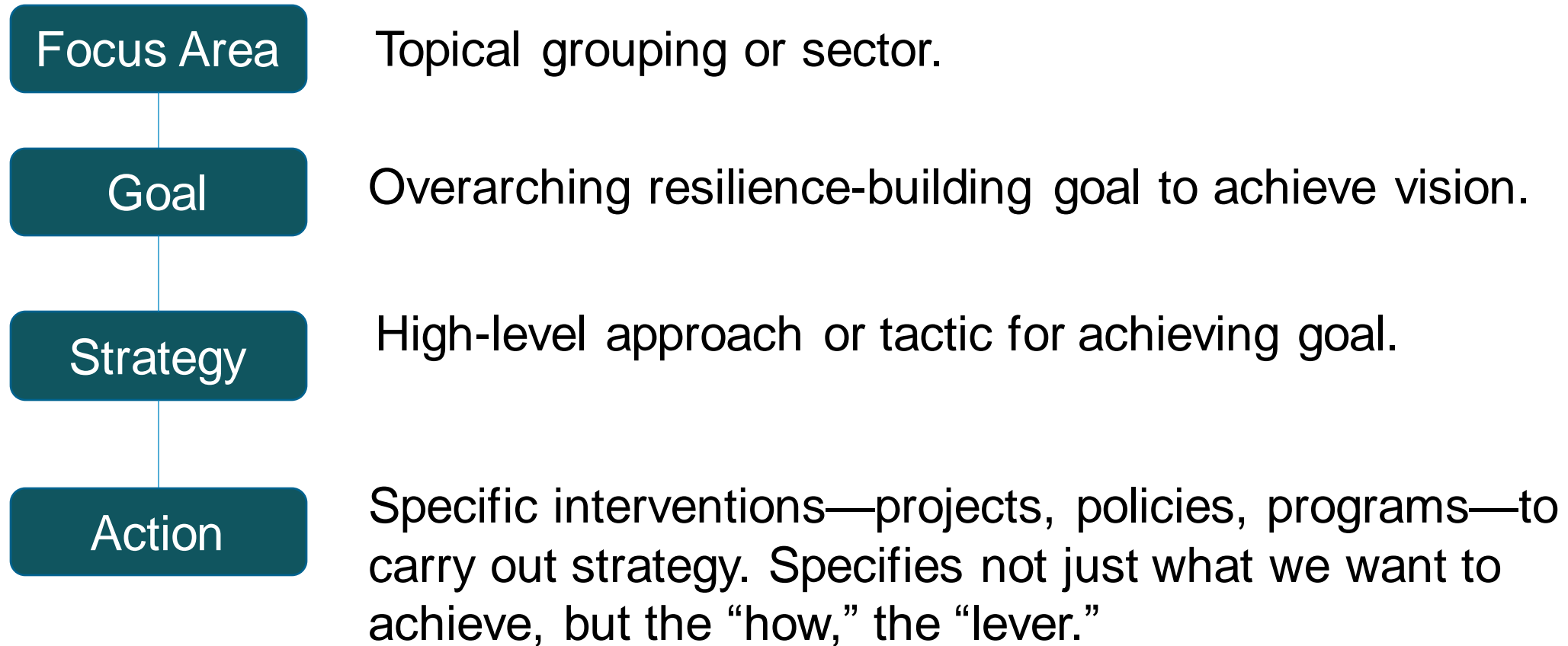




Vision

Tacoma is a **resilient, safe, and healthy community** that is a **leader** in preparing for current and future climate change by protecting **infrastructure**, distributing resources and services **equitably**, using **best available science** to inform decision-making, and holding ourselves **accountable**.

Organizational Structure



Focus areas & goals



Infrastructure

- Promote resilient facilities and infrastructure that can withstand current and future climate impacts and provide multiple benefits.

Natural Systems

- Protect and restore natural systems and landscapes to be resilient to climate impacts and provide ecosystem services.

Social Equity & Communities

- Protect disproportionately impacted communities, such as Black, Indigenous and communities of color, houseless populations, and low-income residents, from negative climate change impacts.

Economy

- Promote a resilient economy that is both adaptable to future climate shocks and responsive to new economic opportunities.

Public Health & Safety

- Maintain and expand communitywide safety nets and services to ensure a healthy and safe community in the face of climate change.

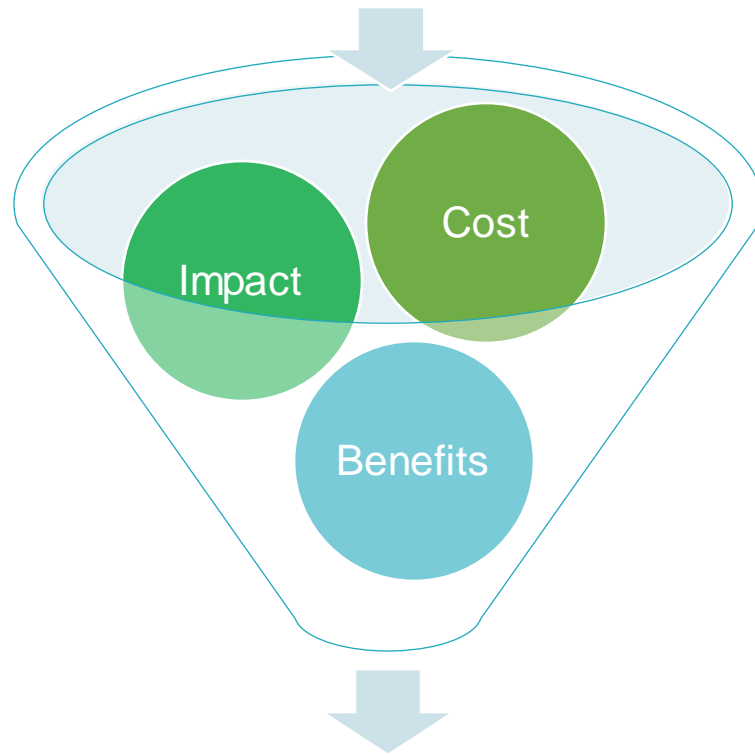
Governance

- Institutionalize and prioritize climate change resilience across City processes and investments.

Multi-Criteria Analysis



Potential Actions








- High-level action refinement from steering committee
- Qualitative prioritization from multi-criteria analysis

Prioritized Short-list of Actions

Evaluation Criteria



	Criterion	Weight	Definition/Subcriteria
	Impact	0.25	Does the action address the goal ?
			Does the action address a major vulnerability or need ?
	Cost	0.2	What are the costs to the City , including startup and ongoing maintenance costs?
			Is the cost of inaction significant?
			How affordable is the action to the broader community ?
	Feasibility	0.2	What is the City's level of control over action implementation?
			Will the action face political, technological, or regulatory constraints?
			Could the action face community opposition ?
	Equity	0.2	Does the action benefit or harm vulnerable and historically marginalized populations ?
	Co-benefits	0.15	Does the action address multiple goals , or other City or community objectives?
			Does the action work with other City activities to amplify the collective impact ?

Ranking Definitions



		Impact
	Likely to address goals?	Addressing a major need?
1	Very unlikely - voluntary/indirect action with limited reach/scaling	Addresses a very minor need - very low climate risk or priority goal for City/community (e.g., direct wildfire risk)
2	Unlikely - voluntary/indirect action with broad reach/scale	Addresses a minor need - low climate risk or priority goal for City/community (e.g., inland flooding)
3	Somewhat likely - voluntary/indirect, but with financial incentives	Addresses an average need - average climate risk or priority goal for City/community (e.g., water conveyance/quality, landslide along coastline)
4	Likely - regulatory/infrastructure project, but with limited reach/scaling	Addresses a higher need - high climate risk or priority goal for City/community (e.g., impacts of extreme temps, wildfire smoke)
5	Very likely - regulatory/infrastructure project with broad reach/scale	Addresses a very major need - very high climate risk or priority goal for City/community (e.g., SLR/storm surge)

Infrastructure



Improve **building**
resilience

Improve **transportation**
resilience

Improve **water & energy**
infrastructure resilience

Improve **cross-sectoral**
resilience

Top Priority Actions

Studies:

- Site-by-site vulnerability evaluation
- Detailed marine inundation area mapping
- Shoreline condition assessment

Policies & programs:

- Development code improvements
- Shoreline monitoring program
- Capital project standards & tools
- Capital project prioritization & facilities planning integration

Social Equity & Communities



Improve housing
stability

Improve resource
access

Provide focused
services & support

Top Priority Actions

Policies & Programs:

- Identify anti-displacement strategies & resources
- Co-create climate communications with frontline communities
- Establish equitable housing & neighborhood development investment fund
- Utilize public land for community benefits
- Prioritize neighborhood-specific investments
- Energy assistance & capacity building
- Climate justice & youth leadership support

Natural Systems



Improve ecosystem
resilience

Ensure a healthy &
sufficient water supply

Top Priority Actions

Studies:

- Shoreline condition assessment
- Stream geologic & geomorphic characterization

Policies & programs:

- Shoreline monitoring program
- Establish nearshore transitional zones
- Alternative shore protection demonstration project
- Habitat restoration project guidance & resilience building
- Natural area preservation policy

Projects:

- Alternative shore protection demonstration project



Improve ecosystem
resilience

Ensure a healthy &
sufficient water supply

Top Priority Actions

Planning:

- Just & green jobs transition plan

Policies & Programs:

- Business engagement & continuity planning
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDs)

Projects:

- City urban agriculture & food access projects

Public Health & Safety



Minimize climate-related
health impacts

Increase social
cohesion

Prepare for weather
emergencies

Top Priority Actions

Policies & Programs:

- Community-scale resilience hubs
- Climate communications & engagement
- Public health assessment for new & existing construction

Governance



Equip residents &
businesses

Increase City
accountability

Build regional,
comprehensive
resilience

Top Priority Actions

Planning:

- Integrate climate equity in emergency & hazard planning

Policies & Programs:

- Evaluate development code for landslides & flooding
- Cross-agency collaboration for regional resilience
- Create lifecycle economic ROI tools
- Community check-ins & engagement

Next Steps



Next Steps



- Incorporate feedback from City, steering committee, and commissions.
- Arrive at final list of ~15 actions.
- Begin capital facilities and detailed impact/cost assessment.