



## Public Comments

**Meeting:** Wednesday, October 19, 2022

**Submittal:** Written comments only; e-mailed received at [planning@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:planning@cityoftacoma.org) by 12:00 noon, on the meeting day

**Subjects:** Comments are addressing the following Discussion Items on the agenda:

**#1 – Home In Tacoma Phase 2**

**#2 – Urban Design Review Program**

**No. of  
Comments:** 2 (one on each)



**From:** [James Reuter](#)  
**To:** [Planning](#)  
**Subject:** The Need for Home in Tacoma Phase 2 to Include Green Infrastructure!  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2022 12:00:03 PM

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Planning Commission,

As a Board Member of the North End neighborhood Council, I wanted to let you know that our group is supporting **green infrastructure** policies within our City.

We believe that green infrastructure should be a crucial part of the Home in Tacoma Phase 2. Yet, while reviewing "The Phase 2 scope of work" that is listed on the HIT website, I do not see green infrastructure among the 10 actions that are listed.

We believe the Home in Tacoma needs to incorporate those recommendations that are outlined in Tacoma's 2019 Emergency Declaration and the 2021 Decarbonization Resolution to ensure that increased housing density will also mean an increase in **stronger environmental regulations** for developers. In a Sept. 16, 2021 letter from the Tacoma Office of Sustainability to the Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee, it states that "The City of Tacoma must invest boldly now to get on track for our 2030 climate goal, and then sustain momentum through 2050."

Two excellent resources for green infrastructure policies are the "Puget Sound Urban Tree Canopy and Stormwater Management Handbook" and "Outside Our Doors, the benefits of cities where people and nature thrive" (the Nature Conservatory).

We believe that **green infrastructure** policies will ensure that our growing City will continue to be a livable and healthy place for all of our citizens to call **home**.

Sincerely,  
Georgette Reuter  
Board Member  
North End neighborhood Council  
October 19, 2022

**From:** [Matt Hutchins](#)  
**To:** [Planning](#)  
**Subject:** Do not institute Design Review  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2022 10:59:58 AM

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As a former Design Review Board member and architect who goes through the process, I'd like to caution you about the unintended consequences of Design Review. Since its inception, Seattle's Design Review has grown to be quite a regulatory impediment--costing hundreds of thousands of dollars in design fees and financing, taking more than two years to complete, while having very little demonstrable benefit. We have more than one hundred design guidelines leads to a completely arbitrary cherry picking of urban design principles while continuing to mystify rather than empower the public to weight in our public space.

Seattle is currently working to dial it back, but it is at this point entrenched in the process. I hope that Tacoma learns from our mistakes, and never institutes this well meaning but ill fated bureaucratic regime.

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**Matt Hutchins, AIA CPHD**

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