

TACOMA TIDEFLATS

SUBAREA PLAN

Steering Committee

December 14, 2023 | Zoom



Agenda

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Communications Items
 - 1. SC & TAG Meeting Series
 - 2. EIS Schedule & Comment Period
- C. Discussion Items
 - 1. Shoreline Public Access & Recreation
- D. Upcoming Agendas
 - 1. January: Brownfields Remediation
- E. Other Items of Interest



Communication Items

- 1. SC & TAG Meeting Series**
2. EIS Schedule & Comment Period



Steering Committee and Advisory Group Meeting Series

Month	Topic(s)	TAG	SC
JAN	Brownfields Remediation	TBD	TBD
FEB	Sea level rise	TBD	TBD
MAR	EIS Comments & Public Review	TBD	TBD
APR	Environment, Health, Tribal Assets	TBD	TBD
MAY	Land Use, Economic Development	TBD	TBD
JUN	Transportation & Final Summary Review	TBD	TBD
JUL	Draft Plan Recommendation	TBD	TBD

Steering Committee Ask:

Support to re-schedule date and time to avoid standing conflicts

Communication Items

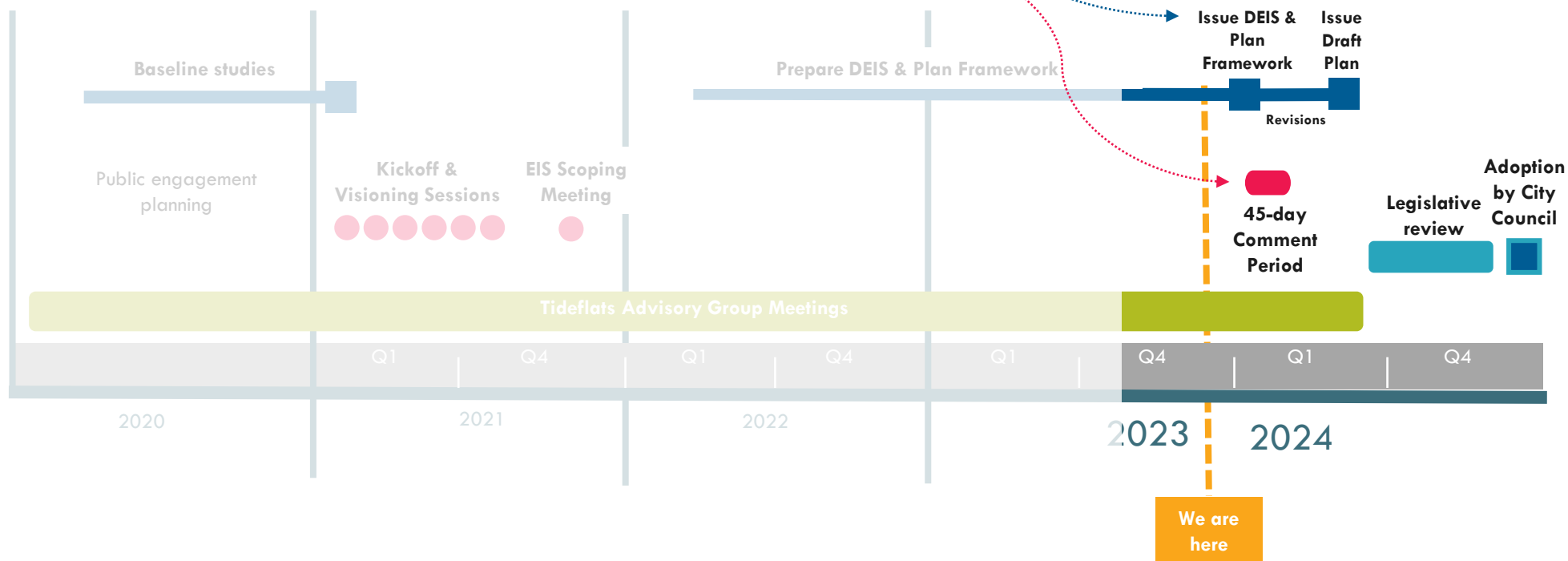
1. SC & TAG Meeting Series
- 2. EIS Schedule & Comment Period**



EIS Schedule & Comment Period

- Anticipated DEIS Issuance: **Jan 31**
- Followed by 45-day comment period

- Comment Period
- Document Milestones
- Tideflats Advisory Group (TAG) Meetings



EIS Notification and Engagement

Notification	Engagement
Direct Mailing 6,000 taxpayers and occupants	Public Comment Portal Written comments
Email Notice 400 interested parties Adjacent jurisdictions Agencies Community organizations	Direct Outreach Agency meeting Tideflats Advisory Group Boards and Commissions
Website Project updates and review document	
Social Media Facebook ads and event pages	



Steering Committee Ask:

Share email notifications and social media links with boards, commissions, interested parties

Communication Items

1. SC & TAG Meeting Series
2. EIS Schedule & Comment
Period



Discussion Items

1. Shoreline Public Access & Recreation



Purpose of the Meeting

- **Project Management Team requests Steering Committee direction to incorporate Public Access and Recreation "Planned System" + Policies and Actions into the Draft Subarea Plan.**
- **Reminder:**
 - Not all topics included in the Subarea Plan cover the same geographic boundary.
 - Subarea Plan actions and recommendations are not limited to the boundary of the Manufacturing and Industrial Center.
 - The Subarea Plan can recommend amendments to the City's Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code.

Planning Requirements (Existing Policy Framework)

SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM

An Element of the Comprehensive Plan and
Title 13 of the Tacoma Municipal Code



City of Tacoma Shoreline Master Program (2019)

The City of Tacoma's Shoreline Master Program (SMP) establishes two goals related to public access and recreation within shorelines areas in the city (City of Tacoma, 2019, pp. 45-46):

- ✓ **Public Access Goal:** To increase the ability of the general public to reach, touch, and enjoy the water's edge, to travel on the waters of the state, and/or to view the water and the shoreline from adjacent locations, provided that private rights, the public safety, and shoreline ecological functions and processes are protected consistent with the U.S. and State constitutions, state case law, and state statutes.
- ✓ **Recreation Goal:** To provide opportunities, spaces, and appropriate facilities for diverse forms of water-oriented recreation that takes advantage of the unique waterfront setting.

Planning Requirements (Existing Policy Framework)



Puget Sound Regional Council

Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Subarea Plan Requirements

- ✓ Describe existing and planned parks, trails, and open space, including public and civic spaces.

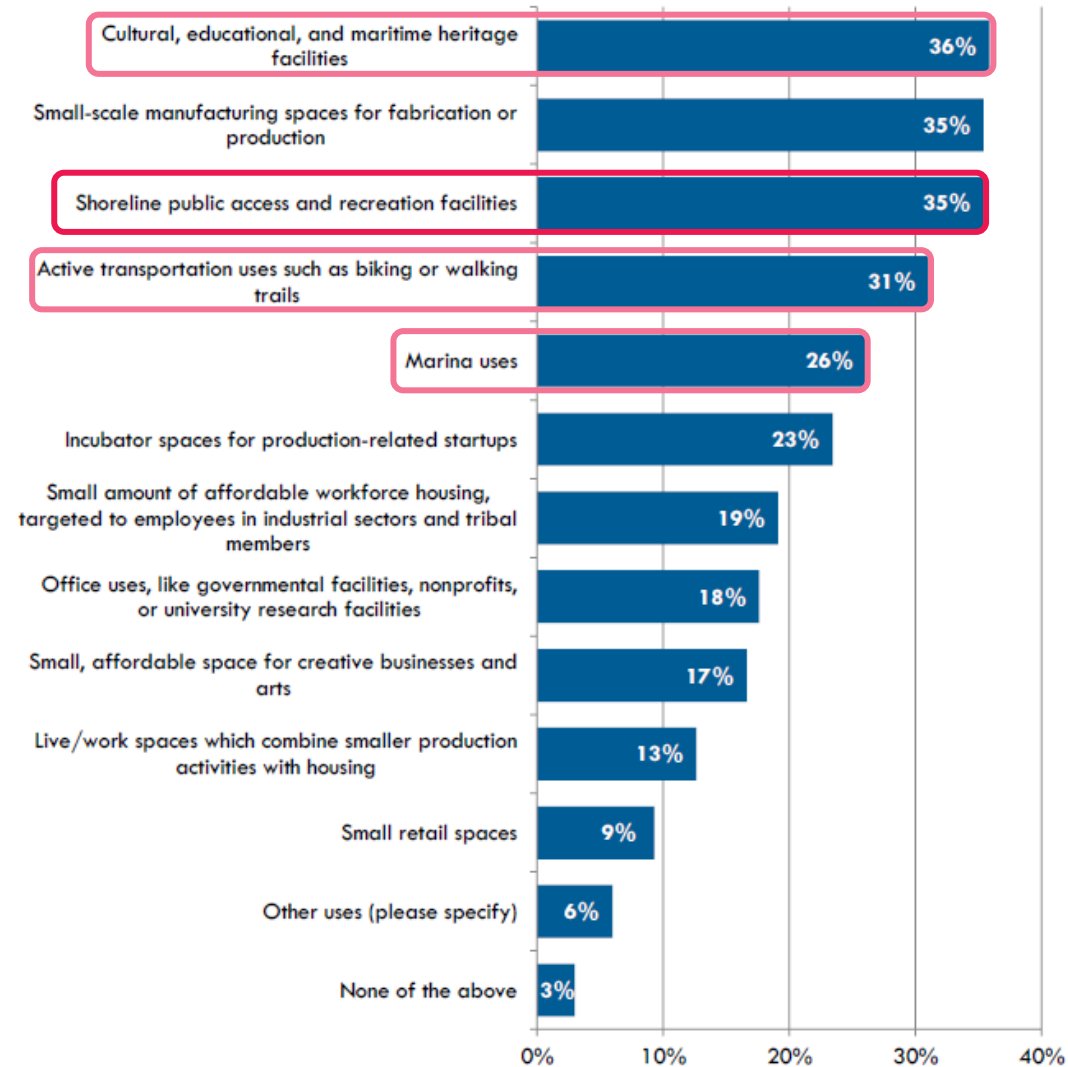


City of Tacoma Container Port Element (2014)

The Container Port Element expresses the following intent for the Port of Tacoma Manufacturing and Industrial Center:

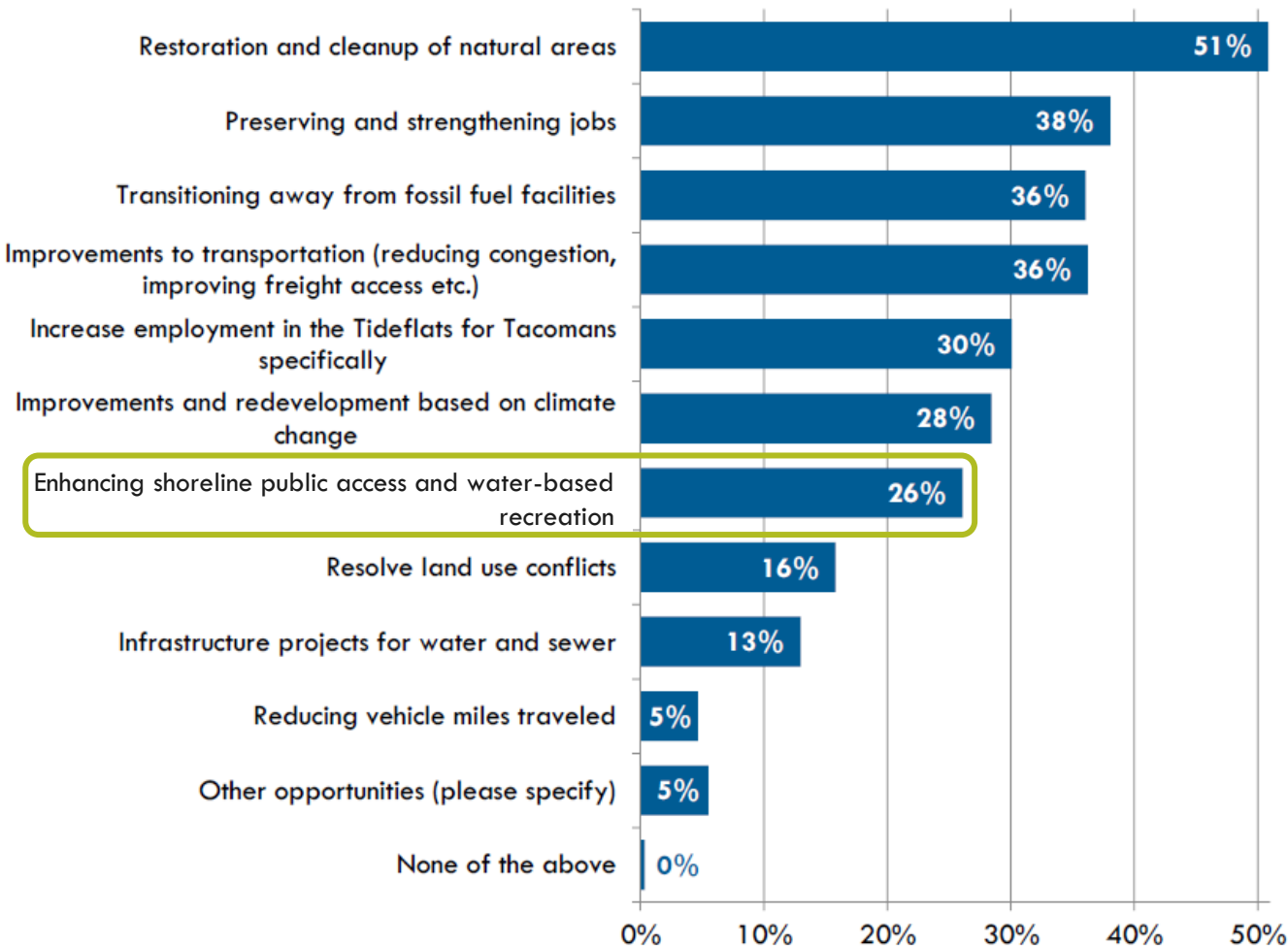
- ✓ Protect the long-term function and viability of the Port of Tacoma maritime industrial activities and services.
- ✓ Provide for a compatible transition for the Port of Tacoma maritime industrial area to development in the larger surrounding area.

Community Input – Visioning



Survey question: *While the Tideflats will continue to be a regional center of manufacturing and industrial uses, there may be opportunities for new uses in a few limited locations. What types of complementary uses do you think would be appropriate? Select your top three. (602 responses)*

Community Input – Visioning



Survey question: *What are the biggest opportunities in the Tideflats? Not sure, try this question instead: What would you like to see added or improve through the Tideflats Subarea Plan? Select your top three. (602 responses)*

Tideflats Advisory Group (TAG) Input

- **Expand programmatic access:**
Cultural/educational facilities such as Seaport and Youth Marine Foundation, Port tours
- **Expand opportunities for fishing and shellfish harvest:** Requiring ongoing cleanup and restoration to support healthy fisheries and harvest
- **Expand awareness of port/industrial operations and maritime/cultural heritage**
- **Address derelict vessels**
- **Focus on periphery**



Existing System

The existing system includes

- Trails
- Parks and open spaces
- Public access points including boating access
- Bikeways
- Publicly accessible habitat restoration sites



Public Access Examples



How is Public Access Implemented?

Permit Requirements:

- Required for non-water dependent uses and public projects

Preferred Location:

- Non-Tideflats: On-site access preferred
- Tideflats: Off-site access preferred
 - Consistent with Public Access Plan

How is Public Access Implemented?

Port of Tacoma/City of Tacoma Interlocal Agreement

- Shared priority public access projects
- Advance public access credits
- Fee-in-lieu option and structure
- Annual reporting
- Allows non-Port entities to utilize the same flexibility

Duration: **10 years** (expires Dec. 13, 2023)

Extension: **May be extended** by mutual agreement of both elected bodies (in-process)

Recommended Action: **Incorporate Fee-in-lieu option** into Shoreline Master Program, consider periodic review and updates.



Planned System

Shared-Use Trails

- Existing
- Proposed
- Funded

Natural Trails

- Existing
- Proposed

Parks and Open Space

- Active
- Passive
- Public Access Points
- Public Boating Access
- Boating Access

Habitat Restoration Zone

Publicly Accessible Habitat Site

Manufacturing Industrial Center

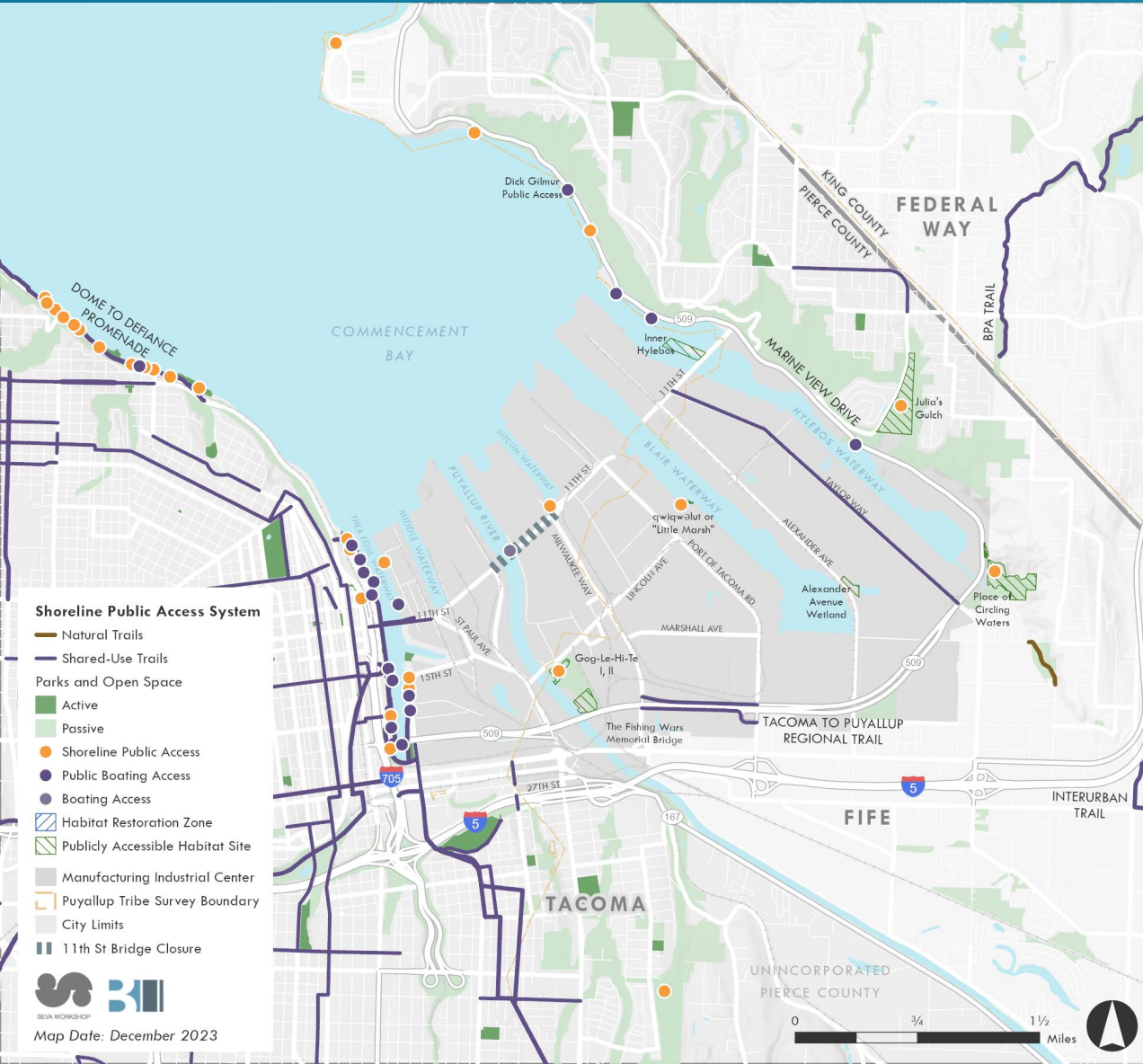
Puyallup Tribe Survey Boundary

City Limits

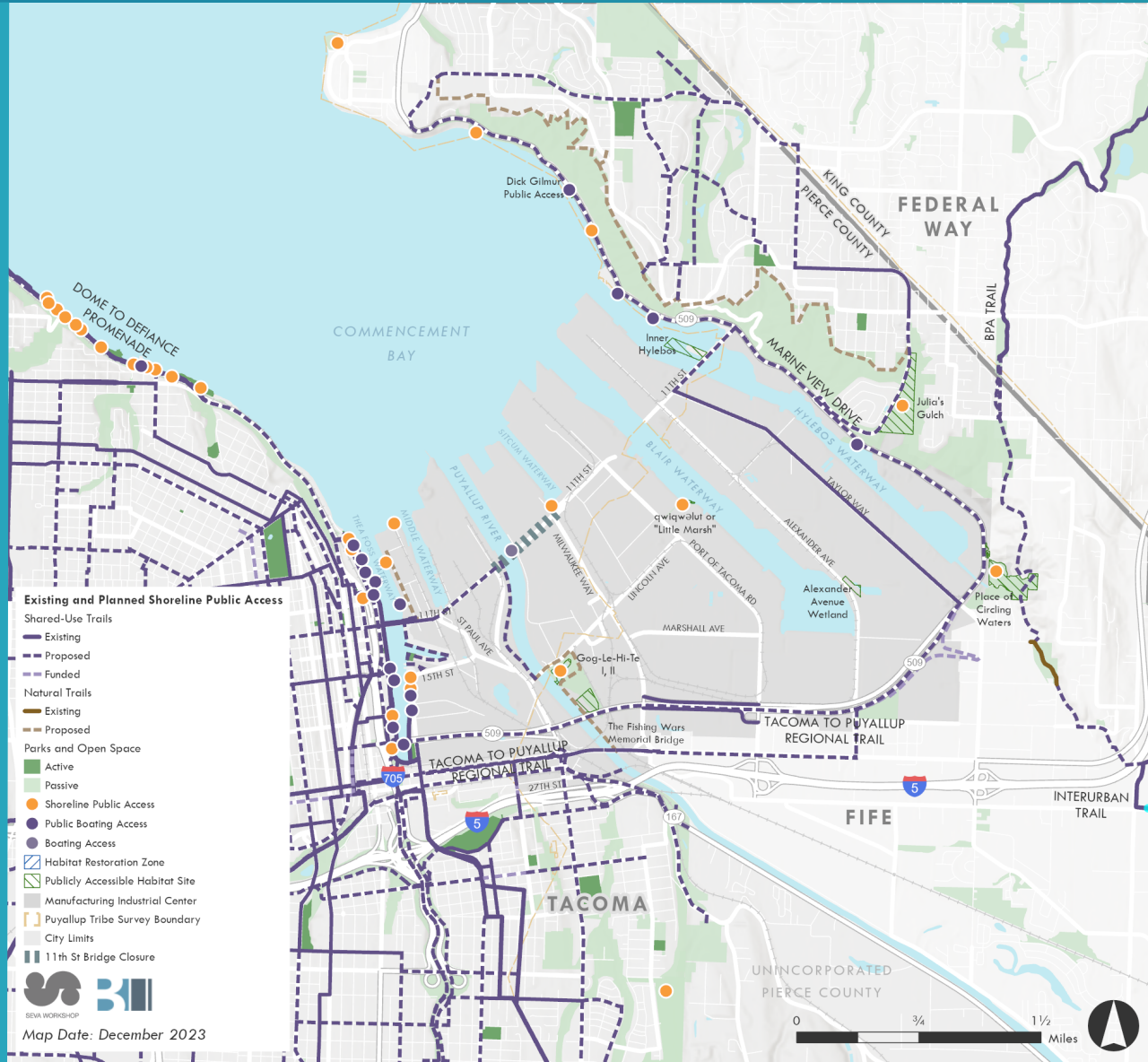
11th St Bridge Closure



Existing System



Planned System



Projects needed to complete the Planned System

MARINE VIEW DRIVE

- ☐ Scenic viewpoint and habitat area site improvements
- ☐ Complete pedestrian sidewalks and protected bike facilities on Marine View Dr
- ☐ Enhance restoration sites to incorporate signage, parking.
- ☐ Connect the Taylor Wy bikeway to Marine View Dr across 11th Street
- ☐ Evaluate the feasibility of gulch trails connecting Northeast Tacoma neighborhoods to Marine View Dr

THEA FOSS WATERWAY

Complete Foss Waterway Park and Recreation facilities, including

- ☐ Waterway Park
- ☐ Melanie Dressel Park
- ☐ Public esplanade
- ☐ Pedestrian improvements along E D St from 11th St to the Center for Urban Waters

REGIONAL TRAILS

- ☐ Tacoma to Puyallup Regional Trail
- ☐ Evaluate feasibility of BPA Trail alignments to connect to Fife and Marine View Dr

PUYALLUP RIVER

- ☐ Establish Puyallup River Levee Trail from Downtown Tacoma, along 11th St, connecting to existing access sites at Gog-li-hi-te wetland

Key Policies (follow along on page 9)

SITING PUBLIC ACCESS

- Shoreline public access and recreation should be sited to:
 - Avoid conflicts with Port operations
 - Ensure safety and security
 - Provide low-impact access to natural areas
- Focus access and recreation in the transition areas to balance the industrial and port needs in the core area
- Development should include access and recreation spaces within the subarea

TYPES OF PUBLIC ACCESS

- Provide facilities for diverse forms of water recreation that educate people about the Port
- Promote access to tidelands and waterways for Tribal cultural practices

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Coordinate access and design with the Puyallup Tribe to ensure sites support Treaty fisheries access
- Incorporate signage, art, etc. to educate people about the area's the history and culture of the area
- Design facilities to respond to sites' cultural, maritime, and environmental setting

Draft Actions (follow along on page 10)

- **Support programmatic efforts to increase shoreline public access and recreation** (e.g., boat tours or the Foss Waterway Seaport)
- **Support coordination between government and Tribal partners** to communicate access issues
- **Limit on-site access to restoration sites** to protect ecological functions while providing opportunities for wildlife viewing and education
- **Consider (1) offering public access fee-in-lieu** in the Shoreline Master Program, and (2) performance tracking and periodic **updates to the fee methodology and priority project list**.
- **Consider new development opportunities and public facilities** on the Foss (e.g., fishing piers, bike paths, an exercise course, a boat launch, and benches)
- **Remove abandoned or derelict vessels in marinas**
- **Promote access to shellfish harvesting and fishing**
- **Priority near-term improvements:**
 - Complete **Foss Waterway Park** and Recreation facilities
 - Implement **Marine View Dr** scenic viewpoint and habitat area site improvements, complete pedestrian sidewalks and protected bike facilities on Marine View Dr
 - **Tacoma to Puyallup Trail**
 - Evaluate feasibility of a shared-use segment for the **Puyallup River Levee Trail**
- **Update Public Access Alternatives Plan** with partner governments and Metro Parks Tacoma
- **Consider updates to project prioritization criteria** in the City of Tacoma Comprehensive Plan Park and Recreation and Transportation Elements

Discussion

- Does the proposed system adequately **expand** access and recreation while **balancing** needs of Port/industrial operations?
 - Any modifications to the planned system map and project list?
- **Priority** projects and locations?

Upcoming Agendas

Date	Topic(s)
Jan 11	Brownfields Remediation
Feb	Sea Level Rise
Mar	EIS comments & Public Review
Apr	Environment, Health, Tribal Assets
May	Land Use, Economic Development
Jun	Transportation & Final Summary Review
Jul	Draft Plan Recommendation

