

# Benefits of Smart Growth



Marilyn Strickland, Mayor  
City of Tacoma

# Tacoma's Vision

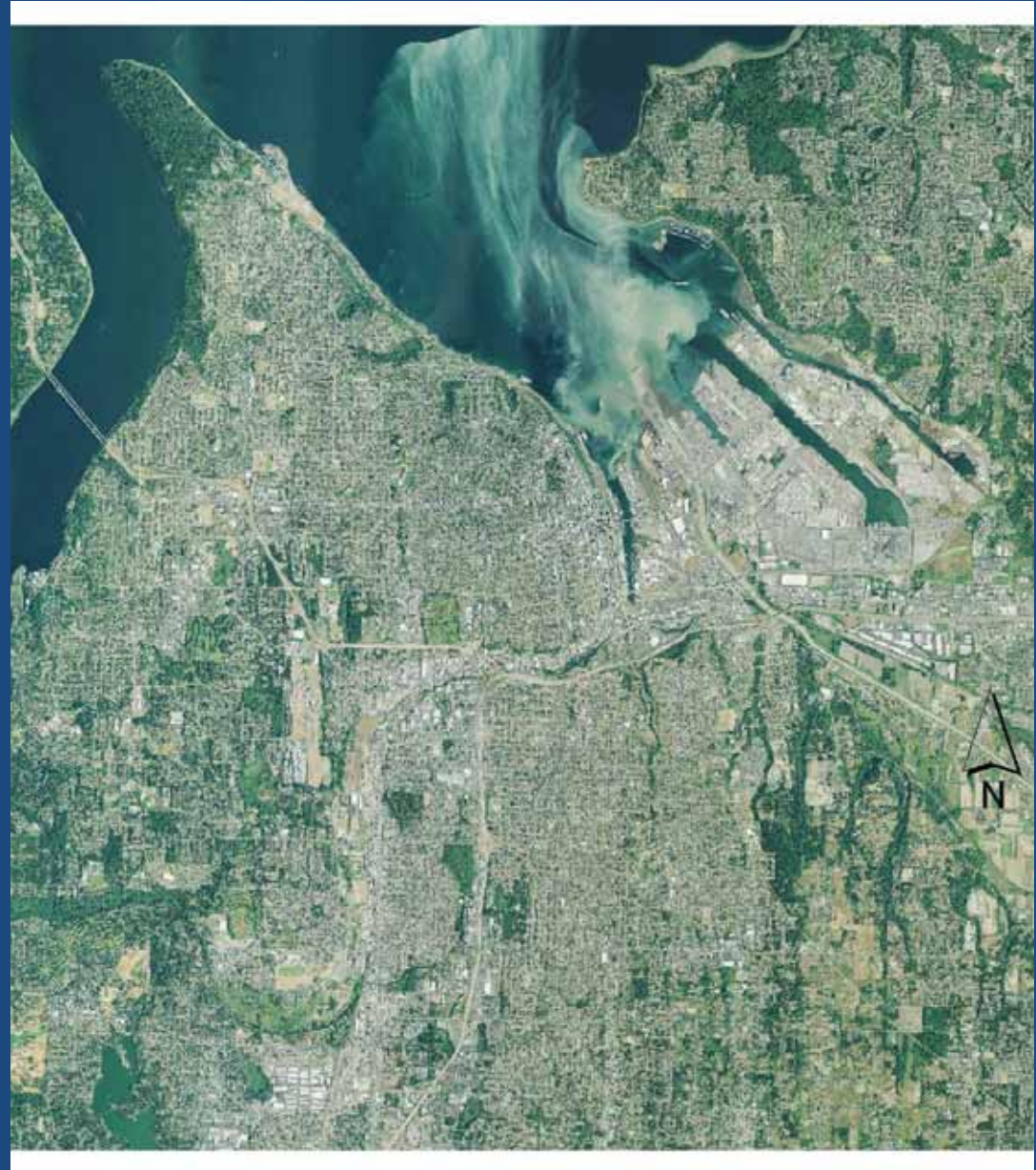
To be an attractive, progressive, international city that is well regarded for its diverse population and natural setting.

- ▣ Safe, clean and attractive neighborhoods
- ▣ A diversified, sustainable economy
- ▣ A thriving downtown core
  - A culture of collective impact

# International Waterfront City

Tacoma, WA

- Port of Tacoma
- Natural deep harbor
- Available land
- Low utility rates
- 43 miles of shoreline
- 200K population
- Strong transportation system
- Four universities, five technical colleges
- JBLM, largest military installation on West Coast



“Washington is the most trade dependent state in the US and Tacoma is a port city.”



# Foss Waterway Development Authority

## Unique Neighborhoods

- ▣ Large stock of historic property
- ▣ Older city, many single family homes
- ▣ Mixed-use centers to encourage density
- ▣ Active, engaged citizens who are very diverse
- ▣ Neighborhood councils, business districts
- ▣ Community pride

# University of Washington, Tacoma



# Proctor District





# Biggest Challenges

- Growth relative to region
- Revenues not keeping up with cost of services
- Reliance on public investment to spur development
- Perception of affordable housing, cost of public transportation
- Aging infrastructure

# Smart Growth Practices

Identify stakeholders and get their buy-in

- Complete Streets, Mobility Master Plan, Mixed-use Centers
- Urban Forestry Plan, Community Gardens
- Stronger code enforcement
- Focus on neighborhood improvement
- Safe, clean and attractive
- Emphasize cost and time savings in plain language.

## Smart Growth = Vision

Tacoma, WA

- SeaTac International Airport
- Healthcare, aerospace, clean water, technology, logistics, manufacturing, cyber-security.
- Educated and highly skilled work force
- Major gateway to Asia
- Arts and recreation

