

# What is STAR ?

*The STAR Community Rating System is the nation's first framework for evaluating, quantifying, and improving the livability and sustainability of U.S. communities.*

## **The STAR Community Rating System uniquely combines:**

- A common framework for sustainability encompassing the social, economic and environmental dimensions of community;
- A rating system that drives continuous improvement and fosters competition; and
- An online tool that gathers, organizes, analyzes, and presents information required to meet sustainability goals



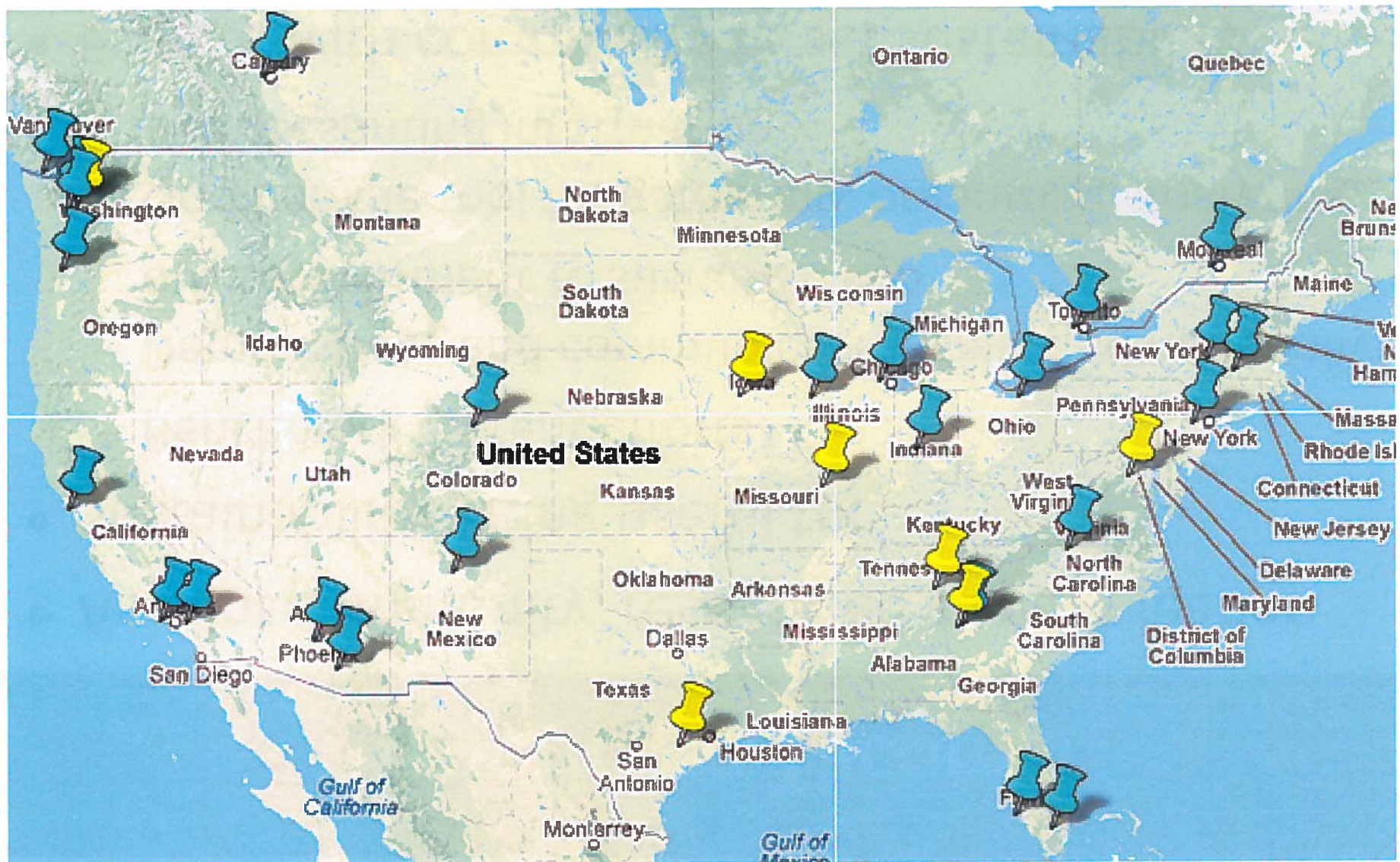
# What STAR is not...

- A green ranking initiative
  - *STAR is a rating system that integrates equity and economic considerations.*
- A sustainability toolkit
  - *STAR's measures were vetted by technical experts.*
- An audit of municipal performance
  - *STAR measures community-wide condition change.*

# Benefits to Tacoma

- As pilot community, recognized as nat't leader
- Sustainability rating useful to:
  - Benchmark current efforts
  - Demonstrate and communicate locally and nationally our commitment to sustainability
  - Good online tool for gathering, organizing, analyzing, and presenting information
- Engage with community to set sustainability priorities

# 32 Pilot Cities & Counties



# STAR Community Pilots

## UNDER 100,000

- El Cerrito, CA
- Northampton, MA
- Santa Fe, NM
- Evanston, IL
- Victoria, Canada
- Santa Monica, CA
- Rockingham County, NC
- Albany, NY
- Woodbridge, NJ
- Davenport, IA

## 100,001-499,999

- Fort Collins, CO
- Chattanooga, TN
- Des Moines, IA
- Tacoma, WA
- Chandler, AZ
- Riverside, CA
- St. Louis, MO
- Lee County, FL
- Cleveland, OH
- Atlanta, GA

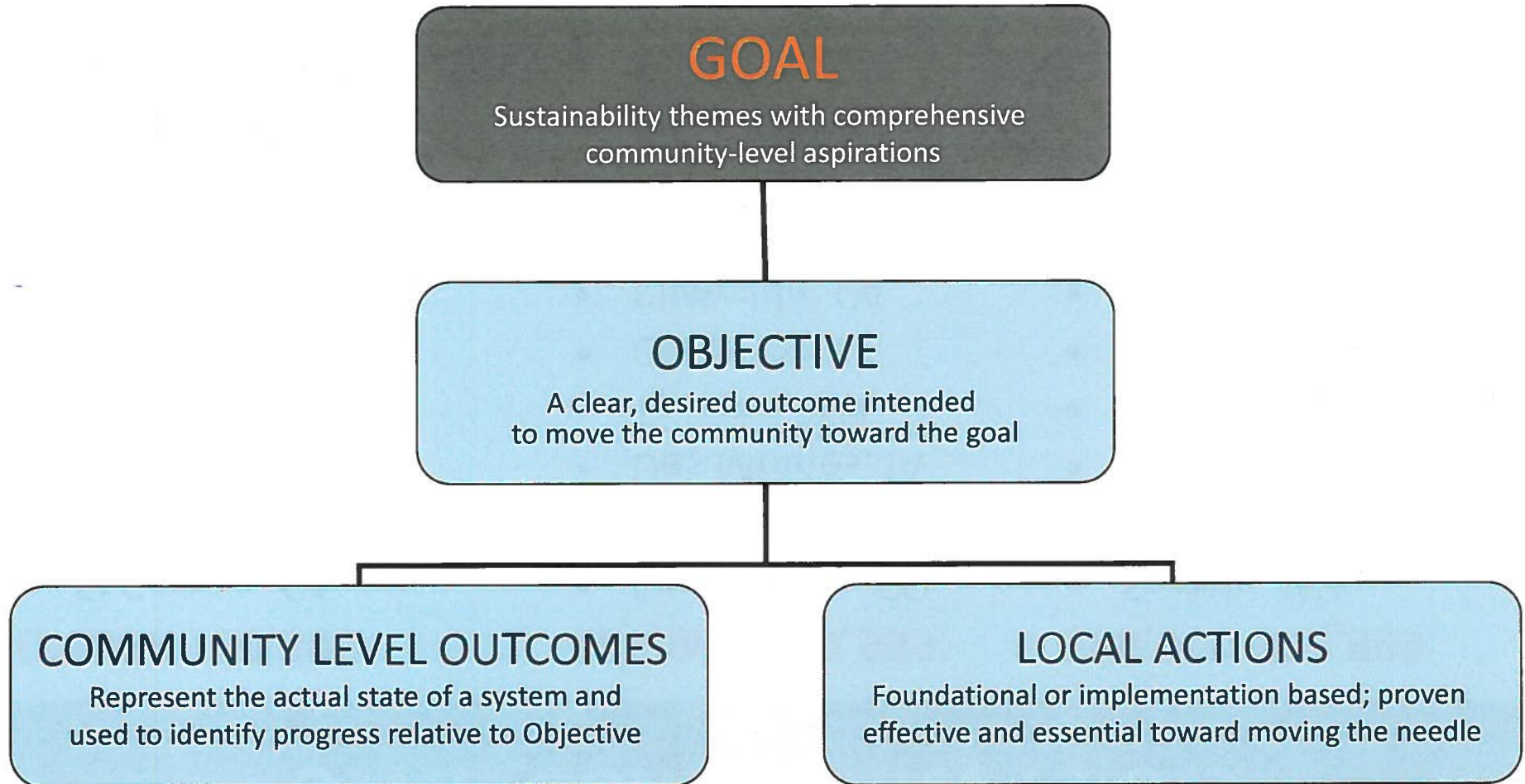
## 500,000-999,999

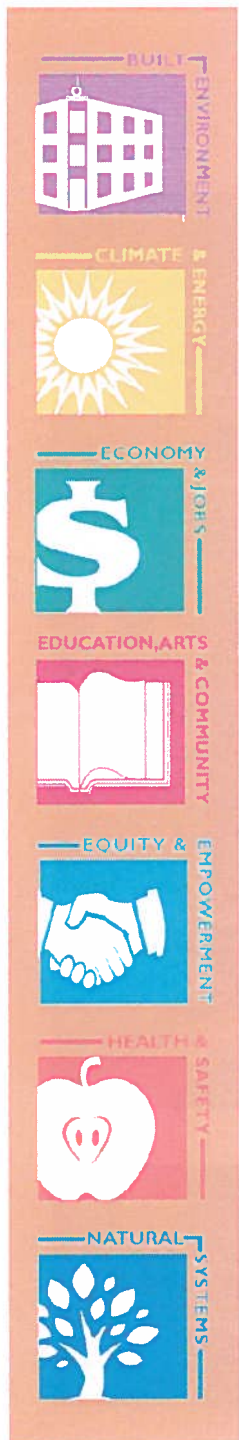
- Seattle, WA
- Portland, OR
- Vancouver, BC
- Washington, DC
- Austin, TX
- DeKalb County, GA
- Indianapolis, IN

## 1,000,000+

- Calgary, AB
- Montreal, QC
- Broward County, FL
- King County, WA
- Toronto, ON

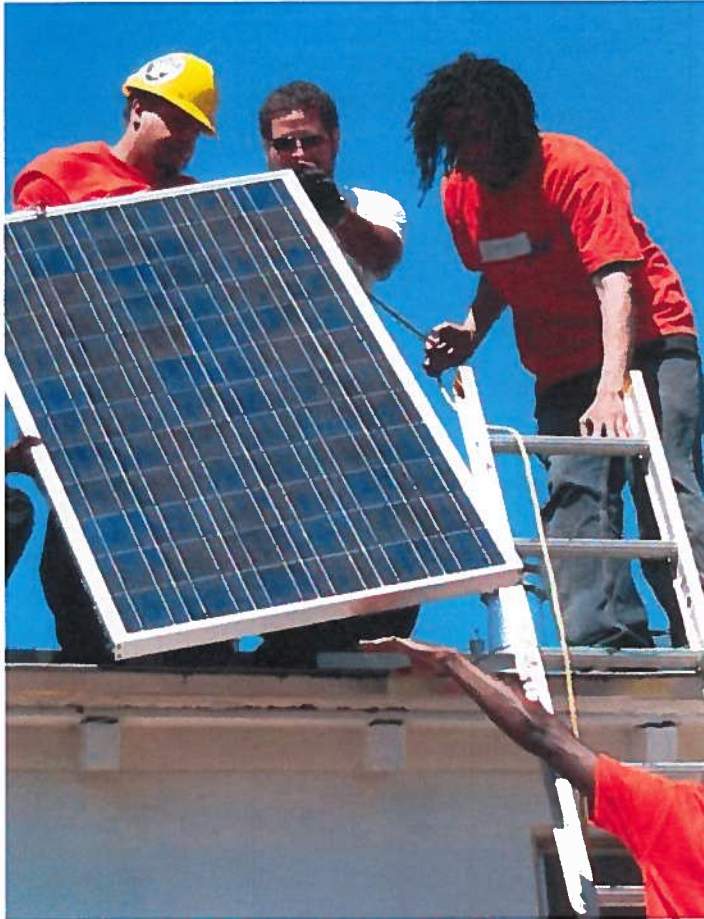
# Rating System Framework





Built Environment	Climate & Energy	Education, Arts & Community	Economy & Jobs	Equity & Empowerment	Health & Safety	Natural Systems
Ambient Noise & Light	Climate Adaptation	Arts & Culture	Business Retention & Development	Civic Engagement	Active Living	Green Infrastructure
Community Water Systems	Greenhouse Gas Mitigation	Community Cohesion	Green Market Development	Civil & Human Rights	Community Health & Health System	Invasive Species
Compact & Complete Communities	Greening the Energy Supply	Educational Opportunity & Attainment	Local Economy	Environmental Justice	Emergency Prevention & Response	Natural Resource Protection
Housing Affordability	Industrial Sector Resource Efficiency	Historic Preservation	Quality Jobs & Living Wages	Equitable Services & Access	Food Access & Nutrition	Outdoor Air Quality
Infill & Redevelopment	Resource Efficient Buildings	Social & Cultural Diversity	Targeted Industry Development	Human Services	Indoor Air Quality	Water in the Environment
Public Spaces	Resource Efficient Public Infrastructure		Workforce Readiness	Poverty Prevention & Alleviation	Natural & Human Hazards	Working Lands
Transportation Choices	Waste Minimization				Safe Communities	

# Community Level Outcomes



**Outcomes are community-scale results: the measurable aim or purpose of each Objective.**

Outcomes are measured using:

- Trend Lines capture progress over time
- Thresholds establish a specific limit above or below which the community would receive full credit



# Local Actions

**Local Actions are the steps you take achieve the Outcomes.**

## **Foundational Actions:**

- Education and Outreach
- Plan Development
- Policy and Code Adjustment
- Partnerships and Collaboration
- Practice Improvements
- Inventory, Assessment or Survey

## **Implementation-based Actions:**

- Programs and Services
- Facilities and Infrastructure Improvement
- Enforcement and Incentives



