# Tacoma Downtown Parking Update 2015 Data Occupancy Study

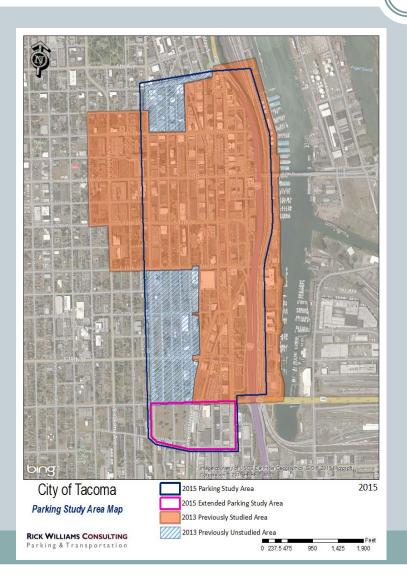
Presentation to Parking Advisory Task Force

**Rick Williams** 

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— DECEMBER 3, 2015—

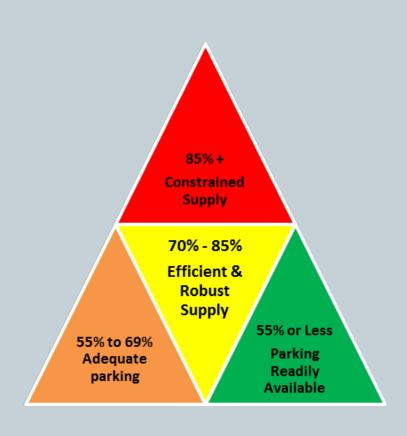
## Study Area



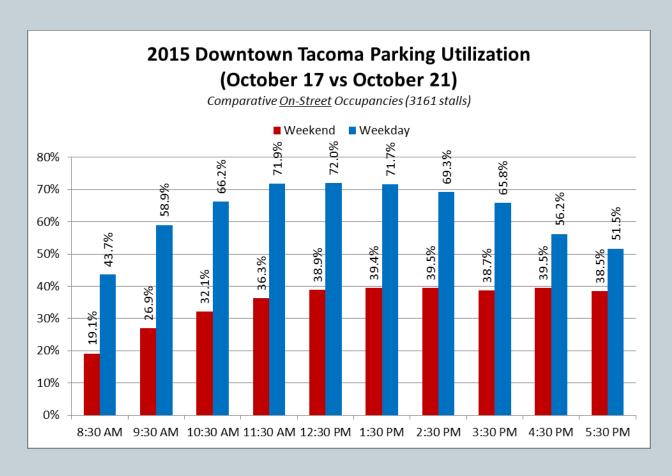
- 2015 Study Area (bounded by blue line) = 3,161 stalls.
- Majority of 2013 study area (orange)
- Adding in areas not studied in 2013 (blue cross hatch)
- Adding an extended area not observed in 2015 (purple boundary)
- Data for weekday and weekend.

Wednesday, October 21, 2015 Saturday, October 17, 2015

# **Understanding Occupancy**



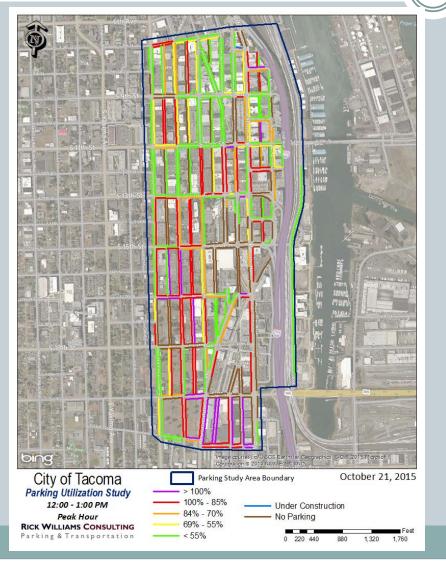
#### *On-Street:* Occupancy by Hour of Day (3,161 stalls)



Robust weekdays –72% all stalls

Low use on weekend –39.5% all stalls

## On-street Peak Hour Heat Map



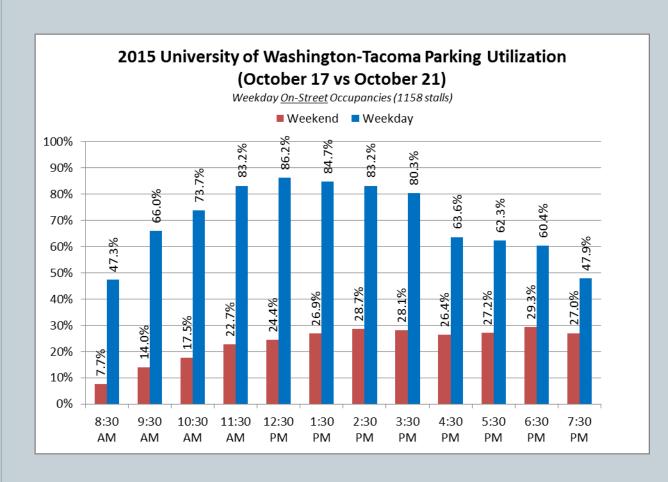
- There is high intensity parking use in the UWT campus area at the south end of downtown.
- The majority of block faces located south of S. 13<sup>th</sup> Street are at or exceed 85% in the peak hour.
- An area of high intensity use occurs in a narrow band between 13<sup>th</sup> Street and 19<sup>th</sup> Street and between Tacoma and Market Streets.
- North of S. 13<sup>th</sup> occupancies drive down the aggregate peak occupancy.

### **UWT Sub-Area**



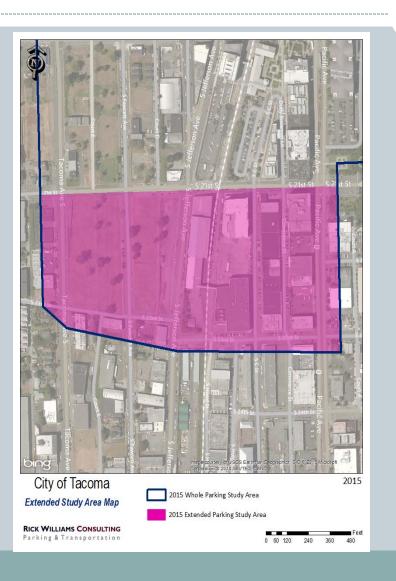
- 1,158 stalls
- All on-street parking in the area south of 17<sup>th</sup> Street and north of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, and parking west of Pacific and east of Tacoma.

# **UTW Sub-Area: Hourly Occupancy**



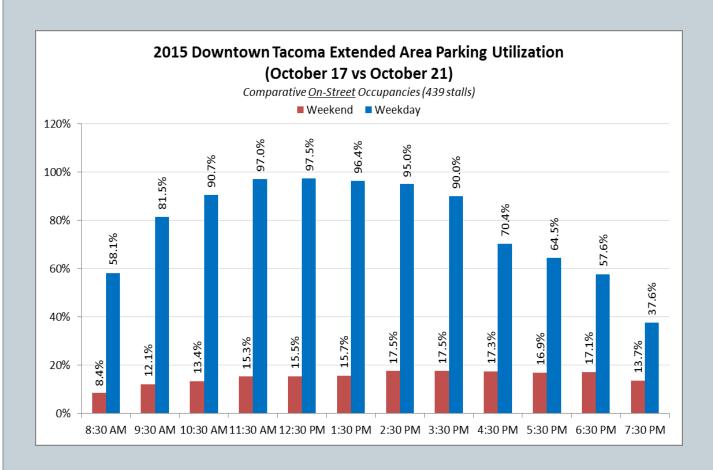
- Weekday: High occupancy from 11:30AM – 2:30 PM.
- Weekend: Low occupancy –
  28.7% at peak hour.
- Evenings:
   Moderate
   (weekday) to low
   (weekend)
   occupancies.

# **Extended Study Area**



- 439 stalls
- The Extended study area is bounded by 21<sup>st</sup> Street on the north, 23<sup>rd</sup> Street on the south, Pacific on the east, and Tacoma on the West.

## **Extended Study Area**



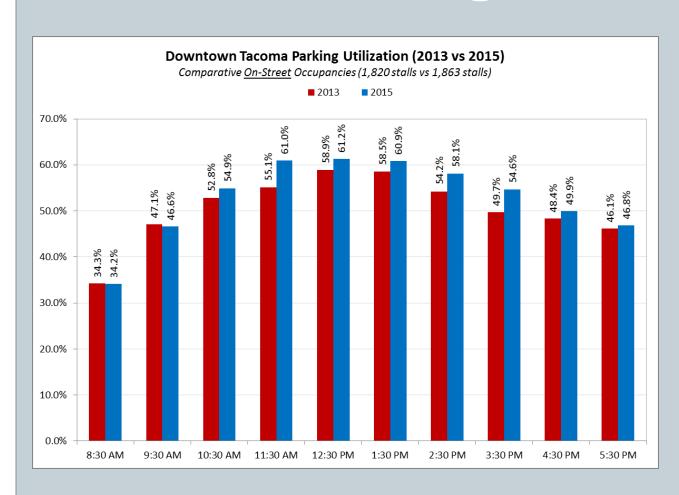
- Weekday:
   Very high
   constraint
   from 10:30
   AM 3:30
   PM (90%+)
- Weekend:
   Very low
   occupancies
   all day (<18%
   peak hour).</li>
- Evenings: Moderate to low use.

# Study Area – Year to Year Comparison



- 1,820 stalls (2013)
- 1,863 stalls (2015)
- Allows "apples-toapples comparison of use

# Year to year – Occupancy by Hour of Day



- 2015 occupancies exceed 2013 occupancies (8 of 10 hours).
- Variations in occupancies are generally muted with large sample size.
- In two of the ten hours (2:30 and 3:30 PM) 2015 occupancies are up 4 and 5 percentage points, and at 11:30 AM occupancies are up by 6 percentage points.

#### **Conclusions**

- Within the larger sample areas, occupancy is robust (+70%) and growing in most hours as compared to 2013.
- When viewed in smaller sub-sets it is apparent that specific areas in the downtown are constrained (85%+). This is particularly evident in the areas south S. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Occupancies in the UWT Study Area exceed 85% in the peak hour. The City may want to consider a closer evaluation of the parking dynamics surrounding the university campus (e.g., time limits and pricing).
- Parking is highly constrained in the Extended Study Area; which limits the ability of customers to access nearby businesses. The city may want to consider instituting parking time limitations and pricing to encourage greater parking turnover and lower occupancy rates.