



City of Tacoma
Planning Commission

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July 1, 2020

The Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Tacoma
747 Market Street, Suite 1200
Tacoma, WA 98402

RE: Proposed Capital Facilities Program for 2021-2026

Mayor Woodards and Members of the City Council,

On behalf of the Tacoma Planning Commission, I am forwarding our recommendations on the proposed Capital Facilities Program for 2021-2026, which is an implementation element of the *One Tacoma* Comprehensive Plan.

Enclosed for your consideration is the "*Planning Commission's Findings of Fact and Recommendations Report, July 1, 2020*" that summarizes the proposal, the public review process, and the Commission's deliberations.

The Commission offers the following guidance to the City Council.

- **Consistency with the *One Tacoma* Plan.** The Commission finds that the proposed 6-year project list is generally consistent with the goals and policies of the *One Tacoma* Comprehensive Plan and promotes the general health, welfare, and safety of our community.
- **Growth, Level-of-service, and Equity.** The *One Tacoma* Plan prioritizes investments in neighborhoods that: 1. Are experiencing growth pressures; 2. Have service and facility deficiencies; and 3. Where there has been historic underinvestment and/or inequitable access to community services and facilities. However, the lack of consistent mapping of proposed capital projects limits our ability to review the consistency of proposed projects with these specific goals as well as the cumulative impact of our investments over time. The Commission recommends that the City develop standard operating procedures for project mapping to ensure a more rigorous project evaluation and decision-making process.
- **Heidelberg Soccer Stadium.** The Commission recognizes that the proposed soccer stadium could be a tremendous community asset. However, given the dual challenges the City is facing with an economic downturn from the COVID-19 emergency and persistent housing unaffordability, we recommend prioritizing investments in facilities and services that are responsive to these current community needs, or consider modifications to the Heidelberg Soccer Stadium project that would incorporate elements, such as affordable housing, to serve these community needs.

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With these considerations in mind, we recommend the 2021-2026 Capital Facilities Program for adoption by the City Council concurrently with the adoption of the City's Biennial Budget for 2021-2022.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'ANNA PETERSEN', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ANNA PETERSEN, Chair
Tacoma Planning Commission

Enclosure