



## Tacoma Shoreline Master Program Workshop

### THEA FOSS PUBLIC ACCESS

#### What Is The Thea Foss Waterway?

Thea Foss Waterway is approximately three and one half miles of continuous shoreline off Commencement Bay adjacent to the City of Tacoma's downtown. For the purposes of the plan, the boundaries to the northwest begin just to the north of the 4th Street ramp off Schuster Parkway, wrapping around the Waterway bounded by Dock Street and "D" Street, and ending at the northeast point of land near "D" Street and East 3rd Street.



#### Foss Plan and the Tacoma Shoreline Master Program

The Foss Plan is a subarea plan of the overall Tacoma Shoreline Master Program and provides policy, plans and regulations for that portion of Tacoma's shoreline designated S-8. The updated Foss Plan will be approved as part of the Tacoma Shoreline Master Program.

Development along the Thea Foss Waterway, both upland and in water, is guided by a document titled *Thea Foss Waterway Design and Development Plan* and administered by the City of Tacoma.

The Foss Plan establishes public policy and design guidelines for all new public and private development in and surrounding the Thea Foss Waterway. This Plan, in conjunction with development regulations set forth in the City of Tacoma Land Use Regulatory Code, guides development along the Thea Foss Waterway.

## **TABLE 2 – Potential Public Access on Thea Foss Waterway**

### **Background on Thea Foss Plan Update and Public Access**

In November 2007 the City of Tacoma held a public workshop to begin a community conversation about updating the Foss Plan. Over 100 people came together to provide input about four key topic areas:

- Design Standards and Site Development
- Public Access, Views and Open Space
- Parking and Circulation
- Land Uses and Vision

Ideas from that meeting are incorporated into the materials you will see here. The information from this meeting will help guide the next steps in our update process of the Foss Plan.

The drawing of Existing public access shows all the current points of access including promenades, walkways, view corridors and boating access. The Proposed public access comes from a wide variety of resources including projects currently under review by the City of Tacoma, concepts in existing planning documents including the Foss Plan, ideas from the public meeting held in November 2007 to discuss updates to the Foss Plan and other comments received by the City on public access ideas.

### **Give Us Your Thoughts and Feedback**

What are your thoughts about creating more public access opportunities along the Foss Waterway? Let us know. Your ideas will then get incorporated into the overall Public Access Plan for the Thea Foss Waterway and the City's Shoreline Master Program Update.

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**TABLE 1 – Existing Public Access on Thea Foss Waterway**

PROJECT LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
<b>West Side of Thea Foss Waterway</b>	
Just north of 15 <sup>th</sup> Street to just north of 21 <sup>st</sup> Street	Continuous concrete-paved esplanade
Just north of 13 <sup>th</sup> Street to Thea’s Park	Mix of paved esplanade and wooden walkway, with several sections closed due to deterioration of the infrastructure and public safety concerns.
Developed public access corridors at S. 15 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup>	Public access from Dock Street to the shoreline
Walkways at S 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> Streets, and north and south ends of 535 Dock Street (Dock Building) and north and south end of 705 Dock Street (Balford Dock Building)	Public access from Dock Street to the shoreline
Stairway at S 11 <sup>th</sup> Street to Murray Morgan Bridge	Stairway access to Murray Morgan Bridge
North Moorage- adjacent to 535 Dock Street	Public boat moorage
Pier A- adjacent to 705 Dock Street	Public pier
15 <sup>th</sup> Street Float- adjacent to 1199 Dock Street	Public pier
Dock Street Marina-adjacent to 1543 Dock Street	Public marina
<b>East Side of Thea Foss Waterway</b>	
Section of esplanade adjacent to 1930 and 1940 East D Street with access to waterfront on north side of existing business	Esplanade and public access walkway to the shoreline
North end of 1616 East D Street	Asphalt and dirt path from East D Street to shoreline and viewing platform
North and south side of Murray Morgan Bridge	Unpaved paths providing access to shoreline
Delin Docks at 1616 East D Street	Public marina
Tacoma Youth Marine Center at 820 East D Street	Public boating access
Johnny’s Seafood at 1902 East D Street	Public moorage owned by the City of Tacoma
City of Tacoma Fire Department adjacent to north of Murray Morgan Bridge	Public boating access

**TABLE 2 – Potential Public Access on Thea Foss Waterway**

<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>West Side of Thea Foss Waterway</b>	
Esplanade adjacent to north and south of Murray Morgan Bridge and at S 8 <sup>th</sup> Street	Repair closed sections of esplanade to provide public access
Dock Street and S 9 <sup>th</sup> Street	Develop public access to shoreline
1147 and 1179 Dock Street	Construct esplanade adjacent to these sites when they are redeveloped
North of 21 <sup>st</sup> Street bridge- site of proposed park	Provide public access to shoreline
North and south of 21 <sup>st</sup> Street bridge	Extend esplanade from north of bridge through new park
S 15 <sup>th</sup> and S 11 <sup>th</sup> Street corridors	Improve access between downtown and Thea Foss Waterway
16 <sup>th</sup> Street pier	Construct a public pier
Terminal for ferry service just north of Murray Morgan bridge	Develop ferry terminal for ferry service to Puget Sound destinations
21 <sup>st</sup> Street Park at SW end of Thea Foss Waterway	New nonmotorized public boat launch and park
Murray Morgan bridge	Retain bridge, possibly develop trolley service
Waterway connection between Thea Foss Waterway and Commencement Bay	Connect with Puget Sound Water Trail
South end of Thea Foss Waterway- Connection between Dome District and Thea Foss Waterway	Construct new pedestrian overpass at East A, B, C, or D Street
North of Murray Morgan bridge- Water taxi service	Provide water taxi service across Thea Foss Waterway
<b>East Side of Thea Foss Waterway</b>	
15 <sup>th</sup> Street end	Improve public access to shoreline & develop open space
East D Street to SE tip of Wheeler Osgood Waterway	Potential public access to Wheeler Osgood Waterway
SE tip of Wheeler Osgood Waterway	Potential open space or natural reserve
Pedestrian linkage across Wheeler Osgood Waterway	Create a pedestrian link across the water
Adjacent to S 21 <sup>st</sup> Street bridge	Extend esplanade under bridge and through new park
Southeastern section of East D Street	Upgrade pedestrian amenities along the right-of-way
North and south of Murray Morgan bridge	Improve existing pedestrian access
326 East D Street adjacent to Urban Waters development	Construct new section of esplanade and public access to shoreline
Connection between East F Street and NE end of Thea Foss Waterway	Potential route for pedestrian and bicycle access
Waterway Park at SE end of Thea Foss Waterway	New nonmotorized public boat launch and park
East end of Wheeler Osgood Waterway	Daylight waterway to the Puyallup River