

INVENTORIES AND PLANS

2019 URBAN FOREST AUDIT SYSTEM RANKING

		<u>2019</u>		
	Low	1 of 7	1 of 7	Good
	Moderate	5 of 7	0 of 7	Optimal
-- Inventories: 81% Plans: 79% --				

SETTING THE STAGE

STRENGTHS: Multiple datasets describe the distribution, composition, and health of Tacoma's urban trees and canopies which together can inform tree planting, preservation and maintenance in an equitable and sustainable fashion. The City has recently acquired innovative software for managing public trees and has pioneered tree-centric green stormwater infrastructure in the region and is currently working on comprehensive watershed planning efforts.

OPPORTUNITIES: A more thorough and dynamic understanding of the public tree population can be obtained through the comprehensive inventories recommend in this Chapter. Threats to the urban forests such as pests, disease and climate are jurisdictionally agnostic and require inter-agency, regional planning.

WHY IT MATTERS



- **Informed management:** An inventory of Tacoma's valuable green assets—including public trees—informs data-driven management and resource decisions.
- **Measurement:** A dynamic understanding of tree populations provides baseline information from which measurable targets and performance standards can be defined and met.

- Value: Tree inventories provide valuable information which can be used to quantify ecosystem services provided to residents, the environment, and economy.
- Inclusivity: The urban forest is comprised of public and private trees spanning a multitude of ecosystems and land uses. Integrated plans for trees across these landscapes ensures all aspects of urban forestry are included in a cohesive, strategic plan.

GOAL 4: A comprehensive understanding of the urban forest ensures data-driven decisions, sustainable and equitable planning, and amplifies the benefits received from trees.

SHORT-TERM STRATEGIES



- 4A) Create and maintain a comprehensive inventory of public trees.
- 4B) Develop a strategic tree planting and maintenance plan(s).

MID-TERM STRATEGIES





- 4C) Encourage and support other City policies and plans through the lens of urban forestry.


LONG-TERM STRATEGIES



- 4D) Identify urban tree canopy cover trends resulting from the implementation of this Plan and other factors.
- 4E) Understand urban forest trends and risks on private land and utilize the partnership network for improved urban forest management.

TARGETS

Strategy Outcomes	TARGETS				Strategy /Action
Urban forest inventory	2020 The City's public incentive programs are recorded in the City's tree management software .		2022 The tree inventory data is integrated with the City's SAP, AccessES webmaps, and GeoHub. Capital projects in these systems include tree inventory database.		4A.2 4A.6
	 2021 100% of City-led tree plantings, maintenance, and removals are tracked in the City tree management software .		 2024 100% of trees planted as part of partnership and public incentive programs are recorded in the City's tree management software . Historic plantings are included.		2030 100% of public trees and newly planted trees are inventoried and reinventoried on a 7-year cycle aligned with maintenance and planting efforts.
2021- 2030 2,600 of Tacoma's public trees are inventoried annually that is aligned with annual tree maintenance (600 maintenance trees and 2,000 annual City-led plantings).					4A.1
Urban forest planning	2020 The City actively manages trees as integral assets to urban infra-structure.	2021 Amendments to One Tacoma include pertinent information from this Plan .	 2028 Strategic urban forest management and/or planting plan(s) are developed for priority neighborhoods .	 2030 Tree canopy assessment determines 30% canopy progress.	4C.4 4C.7 4C.8 4B.3 4E.9 4D.10
	2020 - 2030 Annual workshops or events for private landholders are supported by the City to encourage sustainable urban forest management and planting practices.				4E.5

A well-maintained inventory of public trees integrated with other City asset management software provides the baseline data for developing tree maintenance areas, priorities, and tree planting projects. 

Strategic planting plans align tree canopy targets with the goals of a sustainable urban forest that is shared and valued by all City residents.



ACTIONS FOR INVENTORIES AND PLANS

#	ACTIONS	LEAD/YEAR	CO-BENEFITS
4A.1	Conduct a comprehensive inventory of public trees planted and maintained by the City, keeping the data current, and continue the cycle aligned with tree maintenance cycles (600 trees per year) and City tree planting projects (2,000 trees per year).	ES, PWD, PDS, ENPs	 High Med Low
4A.2	Beginning in 2020, track tree maintenance, removals, and plantings in a tree inventory software program. Annually prioritize maintenance and risk-tree removals in established corridors/areas and create work orders using this program.	PWD, ES, MPT, TPU, ENPs, PDS, NCS, IT	 High Med Low
4B.3	Develop a strategic urban forest management plan for one priority neighborhood or area per year similar to the 2020 Tacoma Mall Strategic Urban Forest Management Plan (in progress) and the 2010 Neighborhood Business Districts Urban Forest Management Plan. Address best practices, species diversity, and tree pest and disease resiliency.	ES, ENPs, NCS	 High Med Low
4C.4	Continue to align tree planting and canopy goals with the watershed assessment, green stormwater infrastructure plans, and subarea planning efforts by providing technical assistance for the goals of stormwater management and improved water quality.	ES, PDS, PWD, ENPs	 High Med Low
4E.5	Utilize partners to provide at least one annual workshop or event and provide resources to private landholders to support sustainable urban forest management and planting practices with an emphasis in priority areas as identified in Appendix A and D.	ENPs, ES, NCS, CMO, CED, OACV, OEHR	 High Med Low
4A.6	In 2020, integrate the tree inventory software program with other City asset management programs and data to align project planning, construction, and maintenance efforts with urban forest management strategies. Fully functional and effective planning will be achieved by 2022.	IT, ES	 High Med Low

ACTIONS FOR INVENTORIES AND PLANS

#	ACTIONS	LEAD/YEAR	CO-BENEFITS
4C.7	Urban Forestry Program staff represented in the five-year update to the 2015 One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan to align updates with this Plan.	ES , PDS	 TARGET YEAR: 2020 High Med Low
4C.8	Beginning in 2020, provide this Plan and supporting documents and data to relevant urban forestry and planning partners to strategically plan and prioritize street tree plantings and establish a master street tree plan by 2023 that addresses species and age diversity and balance equity and accessibility of the urban forest. Use Appendix A and D to align strategies.	ES , All Departments and Partners Listed	 TARGET YEARS: 2020, 2023 High Med Low
4E.9	Use the tree inventory data in private development as part of permit inspections for compliance.	PDS , PWD, NCS, ES	 TARGET YEAR: 2025 High Med Low
4D.10	Conduct a high-resolution tree canopy assessment Citywide and by planning boundaries to track canopy gains and losses and to inform future tree plantings and preservation.	ES , IT	 TARGET YEAR: 2030 High Med Low

Leads (**bold** = primary): CED = Community and Economic Development Department, CG = Civic Groups, CMO = City Manager’s Office, ENP = Environmental Non-Profits, ES = Environmental Services Department, IT = Information Technology Department, LPC = Landmarks Preservation Commission, MPT = Metro Parks Tacoma, NCS = Neighborhood and Community Services Department, OACV = Office of Arts and Cultural Vitality, OEHR = Office of Equity and Human Rights, PDS = Planning and Development Services, PWD = Public Works Department, STC = Sustainable Tacoma Commission, TPU = Tacoma Public Utilities.

Co-Benefits: = Community, = Equity, = Human Health, = Environment

Urban forest management must be integrated with other planning efforts such as One Tacoma, green infrastructure, watershed assessments, and subarea plans for achieving a healthy and thriving 30% tree canopy.



ONE TACOMA, ONE CANOPY

Our urban forest needs you



Learn more about the extent of the urban forest by reading the 2018 Tree Canopy Assessment. Find out how canopy goals can be achieved in your neighborhood.



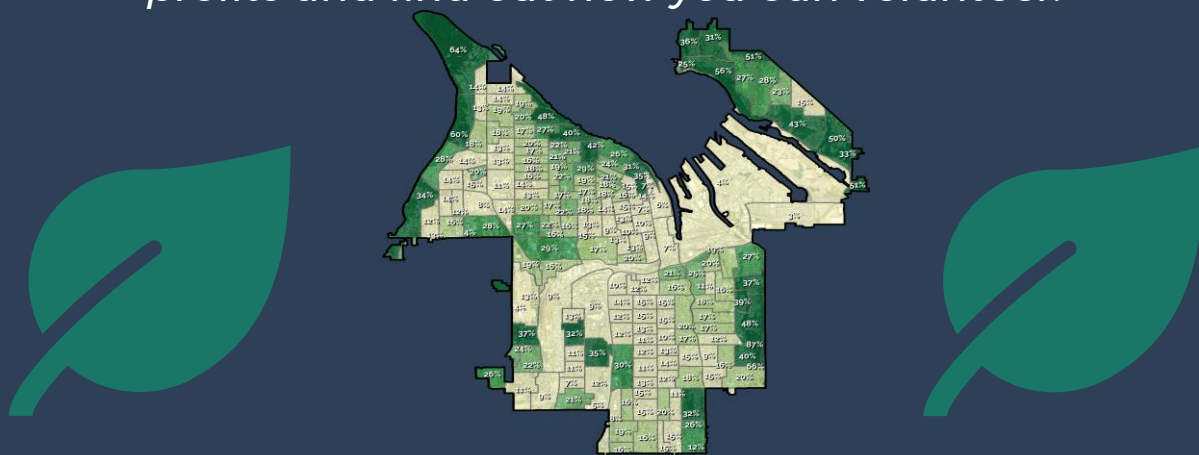
Visit Pierce Conservation District's website (PierceCD.org) to learn how you can manage invasive species and protect your trees from harmful pests and diseases.



Consider Tacoma's Grit City Trees program cityoftacoma.org/urbanforestry and learn how to plant and care for your tree.



Get involved by joining the Green Tacoma Partnership and local environmental non-profits and find out how you can volunteer.



Tree canopy cover by Census Block (Details in Phase 1)

Questions about these resources? trees@cityoftacoma.org