The City of Tacoma and the University of Washington Tacoma, in partnership with other stakeholders are embarking on an exciting planning process that will prepare the areas around the Tacoma Dome, Brewery District, Thea Foss Waterway, and University of Washington Tacoma campus for future public and private development and growth opportunities.

The City of Tacoma is required by the Puget Sound Regional Council to plan for 60,000 new jobs and 70,000 additional people in Tacoma by 2030. If this growth occurs as projected, it could mean up to 30 million square feet of new floor space in the south downtown area that will bring additional housing, new infrastructure, open spaces, and transportation. The City is looking to citizens and property owners to help develop an inclusive plan that complements the needs of current residents and property owners, while integrating these planning decisions to promote a healthy environment and a healthy economy in the decades to come.

Project Background

The City of Tacoma has been selected to participate in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program. Coordinated by the Puget Sound Regional Council, a 3-year, $5 million grant for a Growing Transit Communities program will support local efforts region-wide to promote socially equitable transit-oriented development by focusing new job and housing growth in the vicinity of new high capacity transit systems, ultimately putting jobs and opportunity closer to where people live, while sustaining a healthy environment and a healthy economy in the decades to come.

As a catalyst project partner, the City of Tacoma has received $500,000 to develop a long-range Subarea Plan and area-wide SEPA Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for future development and infrastructure investments in South Downtown. These documents will build on the concepts and strategies described in the 2008 Tacoma Dome District Development Strategy Update, the 2010 Brewery District Development Concept Study, University of Washington Tacoma Master Plan and other existing studies, reports and policy documents.

What Will the Plan Accomplish?
South Downtown Study Area

- The resulting Subarea Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will:
- Identify and prioritize necessary infrastructure improvements (e.g.: water, sewer, storm water, power, telecommunications)
- Plan for parks, trails and open space
- Prioritize transportation investments including light rail, parking, pedestrian and bike improvements
- Develop potential funding strategies
- Pre-approve up to 30 million sq. ft. of new development space through an area-wide SEPA process

Project Timeline

Scoping for EIS Dec. 2011
Existing Conditions Report Winter 2012
Preliminary Project Goals & Policies Spring 2012
Draft Plan & EIS Fall 2012
Final Plan & EIS Spring 2013
Council Adopts Plan & Implementation Policies Summer/Fall 2013

For more information visit the project website: www.cityoftacoma.org/planning
(click on Dome/Brewery District Subarea Plan & EIS)