



TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
FROM: Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services
James Parvey, LEED AP, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution Adopting the 2016 Environmental Action Plan – April 19, 2016
DATE: April 1, 2016

SUMMARY:

A resolution adopting the 2016 Environmental Action Plan which centralizes existing City goals and policies, establishes prioritized strategies and actions for improving environmental quality, and establishes five-year indicator targets to assess progress annually.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.
- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

BACKGROUND:

The Environmental Action Plan was developed over the past nine months with assistance from the Sustainable Tacoma Commission, internal and external stakeholders, and the public. The Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee has received three presentations on the plan. This Plan compiles existing City goals and policies, and establishes prioritized strategies and actions for improving quality in all areas of our environment. Additionally, it establishes five-year indicator targets that will be measured annually to assess progress. Funding to develop the Plan came from the General Fund, Environmental Services, and Tacoma Public Utilities.

ISSUE:

The City of Tacoma has had numerous environmental policies and goals developed over the years. The existing policies and goals are contained in a variety of locations such as the Tacoma 2025 Plan; Comprehensive Plan; Transportation Master Plan; Climate Action Plan; and a number of City Council resolutions. The Environmental Action Plan is designed to establish specific actions based on existing policies and goals for improving environmental quality. It is focused on all areas of our environment. An important component of this Plan is the five year indicator targets. These measureable targets will help the City track progress on outputs and outcomes important and understandable to citizens. The City received extensive input on the Plan from an Advisory Committee, the Sustainable Tacoma Commission, Department staff, a public meeting and an online survey.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Council may choose to add, delete, or amend any action or target contained in the Environmental Action Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

A resolution adopting the 2016 Environmental Action Plan which centralizes existing City goals and policies, establishes prioritized strategies and actions for improving environmental quality, and establishes five-year indicator targets to assess progress annually.



FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact from adoption of the Plan itself. Many individual actions will require enhanced funding, but those budget requests will come through the regular biennium budget process. Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability will work with all departments to ensure actions needing additional funding are identified and included.