



# Green Jobs & Pathways Summit

City of Tacoma | Community & Economic Development Department

Economic Development Committee  
June 11, 2024



## AGENDA



- Good Jobs, Great Cities Initiative Overview
- Green Jobs & Pathways Summit Overview
  - Key Takeaways
  - Recommendations
  - Next Steps



## OVERVIEW



- Good Jobs, Great Cities Initiative
  - National League of Cities (NLC)
  - Federal Department of Labor (DOL)
- Green Jobs & Pathways Summit

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## TOPICS COVERED



- Blue Collars in Green Cities
- Jobs & Skills of the Future
- Local, Green Training Pathways
- Greening the Public Sector and Natural Resources
- Increasing Access and Retention in Good Green Jobs
- City, State, and Federal Outlook on Good Green Jobs

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## JOBS & SKILLS OF THE FUTURE

- Jobs & Skills of the Future
  - Green jobs are not always new jobs, they are refined skills and approaches
  - Manufacturing, construction, and energy sectors are intertwined in greening our economy
  - Making these good jobs accessible requires employers to reimagine skills, hiring, and retention practices

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## LOCAL, GREEN TRAINING PATHWAYS

- Local, Green Training Pathways
  - Pierce County is “training rich” in K-12, Technical Colleges, and Labor pathways to good green jobs
  - There is opportunity and necessity for stronger alignment and more transparent pathways between these education/training systems and employment

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## ●●● GREENING THE PUBLIC SECTOR

- Greening the Public Sector and Natural Resources
  - The City and County emphasized collective impact efforts to ensure our region is capitalizing on investment opportunities
  - Critical need to incorporate and defer to indigenous communities and practices in land stewardship
  - Opportunities to infuse green practices in current business incubator efforts

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## ●●● INCREASING ACCESS & RETENTION

- Increasing Access and Retention in Good Green Jobs
  - Quality jobs in manufacturing, construction, and energy fields continue to be dominated by white men
  - We have an overlooked available workforce in our immigrant and refugee communities who are highly skilled
  - Innovative approaches to childcare are cropping up in regions across the country that we can learn from, including employer partnerships
  - Employer best practices exist for diversifying this workforce

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## **CITY, STATE, AND FEDERAL OUTLOOK**

- City, State, and Federal Outlook on Good Green Jobs
  - City of Tacoma is invested and committed to policy that supports these pathways
  - State and federal investments aligned with our local vision are plentiful.
    - Senator Murray is personally championing economic development investments aligned with workforce development in green infrastructure
    - State labor representatives are championing diversifying these pathways by prioritizing entry for people of color, led by efforts in Tacoma through training investments
    - Local earn and learn investments in Tacoma have significantly increased

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## **NEXT STEPS**

- Continue work of Good Jobs, Great Cities initiative
- Develop green workforce development strategy
- Ensure breakdown of silos and increase collaboration between partners
- Include representation of all voices in the community

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