



Green Economic Development Strategy

City of Tacoma | Community and Economic Development

Economic Development Committee
August 12, 2025



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●●● Evolving Tacoma's Economy to Thrive

Evolve Existing Businesses

Develop Green Economy Skills

Attract New Green Industries

Leverage
Emerging
Demand for
Green-Tech

Support
Green
Innovation
with tools and
Incentives

Create new jobs
protect the
Environment,
and
grow tax-base

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● ● ● Turning Strategy into Results

Overcoming Obstacles to Create Impact

“We have an unprecedented moment of opportunity to invest in the policies, frameworks, and infrastructure needed to capitalize on the falling costs, manufacturing capacity, and abundant resource endowment of renewable energy to unlock the transition globally...”

United Nations. *Seizing the moment of opportunity: Supercharging the new energy era of renewables, efficiency, and electrification*. New York (2025).

- I. Business Headwinds
- II. Highlighting Tangible Success
- III. Long Range Structural Planning
- IV. Lessons and Adaptations

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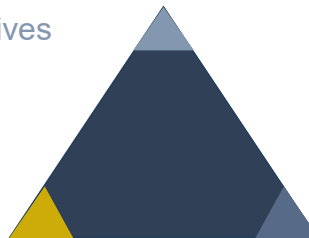
● ● ● Business Headwinds

Federal Uncertainty

- Tariff Impacts & Stop Work Orders
- Accelerated Sunset of some Federal IRA Incentives

State Funding

- Reduced ADO Funding
- Small Business Training & Assistance Programs Eliminated or Scaled Back



WA Secretary of State, Steve Hobbs, observes a nearly completed March-6 Patrol boat at SAFE Boats, May 27, 2025. SAFE Boats experienced tariff impacts and threats to cashflow from stop-work orders.

Local Constraints

- Capacity Reduction
- Structural Deficit

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Stakeholder Alignment

Overcoming Challenges through Collaboration



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Leveraging Partnerships



GREEN ECONOMY FOCUS AREA

Clean Fuels

OPPORTUNITY



Clean fuel company proposing scalable demo project in Port of Tacoma

OBSTACLE



Cost-prohibitive standard utility rates

SOLUTION



Custom, off-peak usage proposal

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●●● Leveraging Partnerships



GREEN ECONOMY FOCUS AREA
Sustainable Building Materials

THREAT  Aging headquarters required upgrades combined with organizational pressure to leave state

INTERVENTION  Partnered with EDB to provide incentives and financial tools while connecting APA to elected officials

IMPACT  Remained in Tacoma and preserved 50 living-wage jobs

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●●● Business Attraction



GREEN ECONOMY FOCUS AREA
Industrial Symbiosis

OPPORTUNITY  Large scale cold storage and seafood processing facility in Tideflats

ACTION  Coordinating meetings and demystifying permitting and environmental review process

IMPACT  Nearing lease finalization with Port, potential for 400+ jobs

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Delivering for Partners

GREEN ECONOMY FOCUS AREA Leading in CleanTech Adaptation

OPPORTUNITY  Communities for a Healthy Bay received \$982,000 from CCA Cap and Invest Program to purchase an electric boat for Environmental Monitoring

ACTION  Managed grant distribution in collaboration with Legal, Public Works, and Purchasing

RESULT  Finalized Local Agency Agreement with WSDOT authorizing construction

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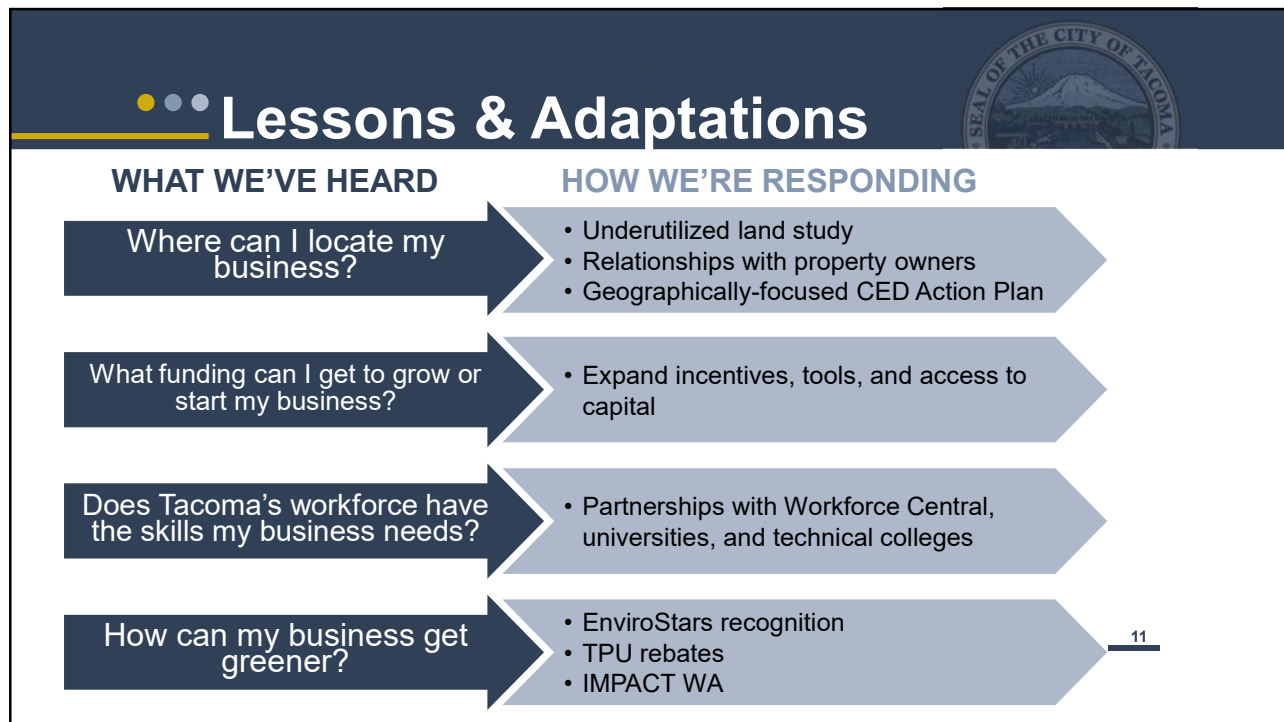
Long-Range Structural Planning

Embedding Green Economy Principles into the Comprehensive Plan

-  **Preserve** industrial land and development capacity
-  **Emphasize** traded sector growth
-  **Update** target sectors to include Green Industries and Creative Economy
-  **Prioritize** equitable distribution of economic benefits
-  **Develop** green-jobs workforce with relevant skills
-  **Invest** in infrastructure improvements
-  **Market** Tacoma as a center of green innovation and creation

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