



# Connect Tacoma: Safe Streets and Sidewalks Levy

Public Works Department  
City Council Meeting  
April 14, 2026  
Resolution No. 41890

## Agenda

- Community Engagement Efforts
- Investment Themes Overview
- Connect Tacoma: Investment Themes
- Ballot Language





# Community Engagement Efforts

- Community Levy Committee
- Open House / Town Hall
- Stakeholder Listening Sessions
- Advisory group meetings
- Surveys
- Digital engagement

These efforts were designed to reach community members beyond traditional engagement channels.



## Connect Tacoma: Safe Streets and Sidewalks Levy

Total Funding \$320m (10-year funding total)

### Better Neighborhood Streets

*Enhancing the quality of neighborhood streets & nearby spaces*

### Safer Streets for Everyone

*Improving our busiest streets and key arterials*

### Improved Connections

*Easier access to transit, schools and neighborhood business districts*

- Paving
- Faster Pothole Repairs
- Sidewalk
- Traffic Calming

- Improved Street Surfaces
- Faster Pothole Repairs
- Safety Improvements
- Expanded Connections

- ADA Accessibility
- Trails/Sidewalks
- Pedestrian Improvements
- Multimodal Enhancements



# Better Neighborhood Streets

Enhancing the quality of neighborhood streets & nearby spaces



- ✓ Voter Funding: \$75 Million
  - ✓ Grants & Partnerships: \$10 Million
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- Total: \$85 Million

In Tacoma, neighborhood streets are where daily life happens, where kids walk to school, families get around, and neighbors connect across every part of the city.

These investments focus on maintaining and improving residential streets to make them safer, calmer, and more accessible, with better sidewalks, traffic calming, and safer routes for all ages.

*The result is smoother, quieter streets that give residents the confidence to move around safely every day.*



**Connect Tacoma** will invest in:

- New Paving
- Faster Pothole Repairs
- Additional Sidewalk
- Traffic Calming



# Safer Streets For Everyone

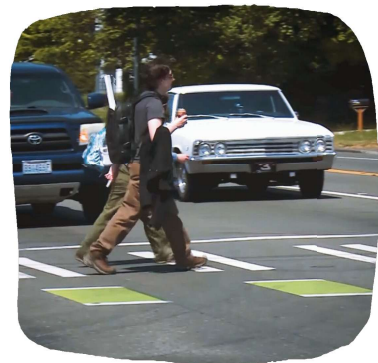
Improving our busiest streets and key arterials



- ✓ Voter Funding: \$85 Million
  - ✓ Grants & Partnerships: \$74 Million
- 
- Total: \$159 Million

Our busiest streets are vital for moving people, goods, and services daily. They connect neighborhoods to jobs, businesses, and regional places, but must also be safe and reliable. Investments aim to improve safety with better crossings, smoother traffic, and predictable travel, supporting goods movement and local access.

This creates safer, more efficient streets that boost Tacoma's economy and help people reach their destinations.



**Connect Tacoma** will invest in:

- Improved Street Surfaces
- Supporting Freight & Economic Development
- More Safety Elements
- Faster Pothole Repairs
- Expanded Connectivity



# Improved Connections

*Easier access to transit, schools and neighborhood business districts*



- ✓ Voter Funding: \$40 Million
  - ✓ Grants & Partnerships: \$36 Million
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- Total: \$76 Million**

Tacoma residents want to be able to walk to the library, bike to school, and cross the street to catch their bus. But too often they experience sidewalks and bike routes that end abruptly, busy streets with limited opportunities to safely cross, or barrier curbs that are impossible to navigate in a wheelchair or with a stroller.

These improvements make it easier for people to walk, bike, roll, and take transit, while connecting neighborhoods to the places people go every day.



**Connect Tacoma** will invest in:

- Safe Routes to School
- Better Sidewalks
- Improved Accessibility
- New Trails
- Additional Multimodal Options



Revenue Options	
Voter Approved Funds (if approved)	\$200 million
Grants	\$90 million
Partnership Contributions	\$30 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$320 million over 10 years</b>

*Per Month Total: \$10.43*  
*Per Year Total: \$125.16*

## Connect Tacoma: Safe Streets and Sidewalks Levy

### *Replacement of Expired Street Initiative Funding*

**Property tax:** \$0.20 per \$1,000 of assessed value

**Maximum total levy rate:** \$1.78 per \$1,000

**Estimated cost for average Tacoma home (~\$507,708):**

About \$8.46 per month

About \$101.52 per year

**1.5% earnings tax** on utilities (natural gas, electric, phone)

About \$1.97 per month

About \$23.64 per year

**Exemptions:** Seniors and people with disabilities who qualify under existing property tax relief programs would be exempt from the property tax increase



# Ballot Language

**CITY OF TACOMA  
PROPOSITION 1  
FUNDING TRANSPORTATION SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**

The Tacoma City Council adopted Connect Tacoma: Safe Streets and Sidewalks Resolution No. 41890 concerning increases in utility and property taxes for street improvements.

This measure funds safe streets, school routes, pothole repairs, paving, sidewalks, traffic safety, and neighborhood connections, by levying an additional 1.5% utility tax on natural gas, electric, phone utilities for 10 years beginning 2027; increasing the regular property tax levy for 10 years by \$0.20/\$1,000 to a maximum rate of \$1.78/\$1,000 assessed value for 2027 collections; using the 2027 levy amount to calculate subsequent levies through 2036 (RCW 84.55). Qualifying seniors and others are exempt (RCW 84.36.381).

Should this proposition be approved?

Approved..... [ ]

Rejected..... [ ]



**CITY OF  
Tacoma**