



TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Lewis T. Griffith, P.E., Division Manager, Solid Waste Management
 Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution -Adoption of the Tacoma-Pierce County Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan – September 20, 2022
DATE: August 24, 2022

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SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A Resolution to adopt the 2021-2040 Tacoma-Pierce County Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan, which is the long term planning document for solid waste handling in the City of Tacoma and Pierce County jurisdictions.

BACKGROUND:

This Department’s Recommendation is Based On: All local jurisdictions are required by RCW 70A.205 to develop or adopt a Solid Waste Management Plan for their jurisdiction. Tacoma participates in the process in the Tacoma-Pierce County area as a joint participant, and is required to adopt the plan to be eligible for Coordinated Prevention Grant funding. In 2000, the City of Tacoma and Pierce County developed and adopted a 20-year Solid Waste Management Plan. Pierce County, the City of Tacoma, and Washington State Department of Ecology worked with the Pierce County Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) to prepare the 2021 Plan. Pierce County has adopted the 2021 Plan by Ordinance No. 2022-19s.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

The development of the joint Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan (SHWMP) affects all residents and businesses within the City of Tacoma and Pierce County. The development process has included engagement with representatives of many stakeholder groups, including the Pierce County SWAC and the Sustainable Tacoma Commission. The SWAC consists of volunteers who provide a wide variety of interests, representing citizens, businesses, municipalities, public interest groups and waste management companies. All the meetings were open to the public, with a Community Conversation element specifically involved with developing the 2021 Plan.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility: The City and the County have incorporated equity as one of three guiding principles for the vision of the new plan. One of the objectives of the new SHWMP is to implement targeted outreach and engagement to historically underserved demographics and stakeholder groups, with a specific aim at engaging with underrepresented communities to solicit feedback.

Livability: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Improve access and proximity by residents to diverse income levels and race/ethnicity to community facilities, services, infrastructure, and employment.

Choose an item.



Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

The development of the new SHWMP has incorporated equity considerations, including evaluating the current Solid Waste infrastructure in the County to assess and address barriers to access, and implementing targeted outreach and engagement to underrepresented communities. The new SHWMP plan has been developed to be in alignment with the City of Tacoma’s Climate Action Plan goals and Pierce County’s Sustainability plan goals to reduce greenhouse gas impacts within the Solid Waste system.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Do not adopt SHWMP	None	City of Tacoma will need to develop a separate SHWMP to meet the state requirements; separate plans would be a barrier to collaboration and coordination of Solid and Hazardous Waste planning with Pierce County

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

The new SHWMP has identified specific goals, objectives, and actions to support the shared vision for continued operations and improvements to the solid waste programs in the County and City. When specific actions are brought forward for implementation that requires new funding, or that require policy changes, these actions will be brought before the City Council for consideration.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

The Environmental Services Department recommends adopting the new 20-year Tacoma-Pierce County Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No cost to the City of Tacoma.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Link to the 2021-2040 Tacoma-Pierce County Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/107874/DRAFT-2021-2040-Tacoma-Pierce-County-SHWMP>
- Pierce County Ordinance No. 2022-19s