



TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
FROM: Ricardo Noguera, Director, Community and Economic Development Department
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COPY: Economic Development Subcommittee, City Council
SUBJECT: URBAN CLEAN WATER INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP ZONE (IPZ) UPDATE
DATE: December 9, 2014

SUMMARY:

This panel presentation will provide the Committee with an update on current activities and future opportunities for the Urban Clean Water Innovation Partnership Zone. In addition to City of Tacoma Community and Economic Development Department and Environmental Services Department staff, presenters will include Bruce Kendall, President & CEO, Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County; Dr. Joel Baker, Professor and University of Washington Tacoma Center for Urban Waters Science Director and Dr. John Stark, Professor, Ecotoxicology Program and Director Washington State University Puyallup Research and Extension Center.

BACKGROUND:

In 2011, the City of Tacoma and its partners received Washington State Department of Commerce designation as an Urban Clean Water Innovation Partnership Zone (IPZ). IPZ's are economic development efforts that cluster research, workforce training and private-sector enterprises in close geographic proximity. The goal is to promote development in a research-based collaboration that will lead to commercialization of new technologies, and job creation. Washington State's IPZ's represent a variety of industry sectors including aerospace, media and digital arts, viticulture, etc. There are currently 18 designated IPZ's.

Some of Tacoma's accomplishments that will be reviewed with the Committee include:

- National and International Recognition
- Hiring of Assistant Director for Clean Water Innovation (UWT)
- Clean Water Innovation Laboratory
- Advanced Analytical Instrumentation
- Innovative Treatment Media
- WSU Puyallup Aquatic Toxicology Building
- Technology Assessment Protocol-Ecology (TAPE) Program Facilitation

ALTERNATIVES:

This is informational only.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is informational only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an informational briefing.