

AMENDMENT NO.18
TO
SIMON AND COMPANY INCORPORATED
CONTRACT

THIS AMENDMENT NO. 18, made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 2016, by and between the CITY OF TACOMA, a municipal corporation of the state of Washington (hereinafter referred to as the "CITY"), and SIMON AND COMPANY INCORPORATED, (hereinafter referred to as "CONTRACTOR").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, on January 12, 1993, the CITY and the CONTRACTOR entered into a Contract, in the amount of \$25,000, for legislative lobbying services (herein "Contract"), and

WHEREAS, on September 21, 1993, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 32332, authorizing the execution of Amendment No.1 to the Contract, in the amount of \$25,000, for a cumulative contract total of \$50,000, and

WHEREAS, on December 13, 1994, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 32855, authorizing the execution of Amendment No.2 to the Contract, in the amount of \$25,000, for a cumulative contract total of \$75,000, and

WHEREAS, on November 28, 1995, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 33226, authorizing the execution of Amendment No.3 to the Contract, in the amount of \$25,000, for a cumulative contract total of \$100,000, and

WHEREAS, on December 10, 1996, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 33565, authorizing the execution of Amendment No.4 to the Contract, in the amount of \$29,992, for a cumulative contract total of \$129,992, and

WHEREAS, on December 9, 1997, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 33898, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 5 to the Contract, in the amount of \$29,992, for a cumulative contract total of \$159,984, and

WHEREAS, on December 8, 1998, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 34244, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 6 to the Contract, in the amount of \$35,000, for a cumulative contract total of \$194,984, and

WHEREAS, on December 7, 1999, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 34604, authorizing the execution of Amendment No.7 to the Contract, in the amount of \$35,000, for a cumulative contract total of \$229,984, and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2000, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 35006, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 8 to the Contract in the amount of \$35,000, for a cumulative contract total of \$264,984, and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2001, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 35384, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 9 to the Contract, in the amount of \$35,000, for a cumulative contract total of \$299,984, and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2002, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 35706, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 10 to the Contract, in the amount of \$37,500, for a cumulative contract total of \$337,484, and

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2003, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 36046, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 11 to the Contract, in the amount of \$37,500, for a cumulative contract total of \$374,984, and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2004, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 36356, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 12 to the Contract, in the amount of \$37,500, for a cumulative contract total of \$412,484, and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2006, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 37603, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 13 to the Contract, in the amount of \$130,000, for a cumulative contract total of \$542,484, and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2008, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 37654, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 14 to the contract with Simon, in the amount of \$130,000, for a cumulative total of \$672,484, in order to continue to provide the necessary services for General Government through the two year legislative cycle, and

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2011, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 38171, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 15 to the contract with Simon, in the amount of \$176,950.00, for a cumulative total of 849,434.00, in order to continue to provide the necessary services for General Government through the two year legislative cycle, and

WHEREAS, on October 23, 2012, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 38561, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 16 to the contract with Simon, in the amount of \$155,239, for a cumulative total of \$1,004,673.00, in order to continue to fund the necessary legislative lobbying services and allowable expenses for General Government for the years 2013 and 2014; and

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2014, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 39072, authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 17 to the contract with Simon, in the amount of \$160,701, for a cumulative total of \$1,165,374.00, in order to continue to fund the necessary legislative lobbying services and allowable expenses for General Government for the years 2015 and 2016; and

WHEREAS, the CITY and the CONTRACTOR desire to further amend the Contract in the amount of \$163,159 for a cumulative contract total of \$1,328,533.00 in order to continue to fund the necessary legislative lobbying services and allowable expenses for General Government for the years 2017 and 2018; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and obligations hereinafter set forth, the parties agree as follows:

1. The total sum authorized under the Contract for services and allowable expenses is hereby increased in the amount of \$163,159.00 for a total cumulative contract amount of \$1,328,236.00.
2. The termination date of the Contract is hereby extended to December 31, 2018.
3. All other terms of the Contract, together with all exhibits, are hereby ratified and shall remain in full force and effect, unaltered by this Amendment.

Signature Pg. to
Simon & Co Amend. No. 18

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this Amendment as
of the day and year first written above.

CITY OF TACOMA

SIMON and COMPANY INCORPORATED

T. C. Broadnax, City Manager

Leonard S. Simon, President

1660 "L" Street NW, Suite 501
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tax ID: 52-15544284

Randall Lewis, Government Relations Officer

Andrew Cherullo, Finance Director

Attest:

Doris Sorum, City Clerk

Approved as to Form and Legality:

Elizabeth Pauli, City Attorney

Saada Gegoux, Risk Manager

Amendment No.18
Simon and Co. Agt.

SIMON AND COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Intergovernmental Relations and Federal Affairs

1660 L Street, NW • Suite 501 • Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 659-2229 • Fax (202) 659-5234 • email: len.simon@simoncompany.com

November 4, 2016

Randall Lewis
Government Relations Manager
Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 1520
747 Market Street
Tacoma, Washington 98402-3773

Dear Randy:

Enclosed, please find Simon and Company's proposed 2017 – 2018 *Strategy and Action Plan* for the City of Tacoma. It has been an honor to work for the City in Washington and we look forward to continuing to produce good results as part of the federal affairs team in the forthcoming two years, working with you, Alisa O'Hanlon, the City Manager and staff, and the City's elected officials to help advance Tacoma's federal affairs program.

This is a time of great change, challenge and opportunity in Washington. With the support of the City's very effective representatives in the House and Senate, and the strong partnership with the Obama Administration, there have been positive results for the City of Tacoma. The recent significant grants to the City in the areas of transportation, community policing, and business development underscore how Tacoma has been helped by this partnership. We are pleased to have been a part of these achievements as a member of Tacoma's intergovernmental team and look forward to continuing to help plan and promote the City's priorities in Washington.

As we prepare to welcome a new White House and Administration in Washington, it will be important for Tacoma to establish a close working relationship with its key members. We look forward to working with all involved in Tacoma to do so.

The ongoing participation of Mayor Strickland, the City Council, the City Manager and staff will continue to be very important to the City's success in Washington and we are pleased that they all do so with such skill. We are also grateful to have the opportunity to work with the Tacoma Housing Authority on its comprehensive federal affairs agenda and in cooperation with Tacoma Public Utilities, as well. It is very helpful for all city officials to visit Washington to advocate for Tacoma's priorities, an important part of this overall effort. I will look forward to seeing you on December 13th in Tacoma for further discussion of the City's federal program.

Thank you for your time, assistance and consideration.

Best regards,

Len Simon

LEONARD S. SIMON

SIMON AND COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Intergovernmental Relations and Federal Affairs

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Federal Affairs Assistance

for the

City of Tacoma



2017 - 2018 STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Submitted to

**Randall Lewis
Government Relations Manager
CITY OF TACOMA**

November 4, 2016

CONTENTS

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	1
PROPOSED STRATEGY	1
Policy Priorities	2
Infrastructure	2
Immigration	2
Public Safety	2
Economic Development, Community Development, and Housing	3
Transportation	3
Environment	3
Telecommunications	3
Marketplace Fairness Act	4
New Priority Areas	4
ACTION PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF TACOMA	4
Monitoring Developments in Washington	4
Promoting the City's Agenda	4
City Officials in Washington	5
A Communications System with City Hall	5
PROPOSED BUDGET	5
BACKGROUND, RECORD, AND APPROACH	5
CONCLUSION	6
APPENDIX I: 2016 City of Tacoma Federal Policy Agenda	10

INTRODUCTION

This *Strategy and Action Plan* is respectfully submitted to the City of Tacoma and outlines an approach for continued assistance to the City in its federal affairs representation during 2017 and 2018. It has been our pleasure and honor to provide Washington representation to the City of Tacoma and to assist in the development and implementation of its federal affairs agenda.

Our experience on behalf of Tacoma has included a track record of measurable achievements in the areas of grants, appropriations, authorizations, and regulatory and administrative affairs and we hope to be able to continue applying these energies on behalf of the City. In each of these areas we have been part of a team which includes the Congressional delegation, the City's elected leadership, the City Manager, the Government Relations Office, department heads, and staff.

PROPOSED STRATEGY

Elections always have an impact on public policy and the Presidential and congressional elections next week will be no exception. Though 2017-2018 could see significant changes in the composition of the House and Senate, and possibly even a majority change in one or both bodies, by continuing to work with the Tacoma Congressional delegation and a new Administration we hope will be strongly committed to cities, good results can be achieved for Tacoma.

Following the elections, a “lame duck” session of Congress convening November 14th will need to decide on major fiscal issues, such as whether to fund the federal government under a comprehensive year-long “Omnibus” spending bill or under a short-term flat-funded “Continuing Resolution.” Congress may also consider other legislation such as the Water Resources Development Act, if time permits.

Congressional earmarks – which Tacoma benefitted from extensively over the years – will likely continue to be banned for the 2017 – 2018 period, but the opportunities for competitive discretionary grants in agencies should remain numerous even with a change in Administration. Despite the earmark moratorium, there are many ways in which to work effectively with Congressional representatives and Senators to advance a city’s objectives, such as shaping legislation, problem solving, and supporting proposals before federal agencies. This has been successful in the last two years and we look forward to continuing these approaches in the next two years.

The City’s congressional delegation has two House members who will soon begin their third terms, Rep. **Denny Heck** and Rep. **Derek Kilmer**, who have been working diligently for Tacoma’s interests, joining Rep. **Adam Smith**, currently ranking minority member of the House Armed Services Committee. The City is also represented by Senator **Patty Murray**, who is a senior appropriator, the ranking member of the HELP Committee and member of Senate leadership, as well as Senator **Maria Cantwell**, a member of the Senate Commerce and Finance Committees who will continue to play strong roles on key issues. Therefore, we recommend that Tacoma proceed with its focused and comprehensive approach to federal affairs for 2017 – 2018. The results of the November elections could set in motion a number of factors impacting our delegation members.

In the sections that follow, we outline where Tacoma priorities can match-up with possible federal opportunities in 2017 – 2018, and provide an overview of some important areas where the Tacoma agenda might focus.

Policy Priorities

Infrastructure

A historically bipartisan issue, both Presidential candidates have acknowledged the poor condition of America's infrastructure and vow to take steps to address this if elected President. Distinguishing infrastructure as a top priority in her first 100 days, Secretary Clinton would increase federal infrastructure funding by \$275 billion over a five-year period, fully paid for through business tax reform. Of this amount, \$25 billion would be used as seed capital for a National Infrastructure Bank. Donald Trump says his plan would provide the growth needed to boost our infrastructure. He plans to allow maximum flexibility to states in carrying out infrastructure projects and leverage revenues by working with new financing authorities and other partners. By focusing on improving our infrastructure, both candidates hope to create jobs and strengthen the economy.

Despite which candidate wins the Presidency, we believe any infrastructure efforts on behalf of the Administration will see significant involvement by Tacoma's representatives in Congress. Because of key Committee positions, Tacoma's House and Senate members could be deeply involved should an infrastructure package be negotiated in Congress and present a unique opportunity for Tacoma projects to move forward if legislation is enacted. To that end, we expect to see progress on this issue and will be sure to work with the City as opportunities arise.

Immigration

The legislative push for immigration reform has largely stalled following Senate passage of its comprehensive immigration reform bill at the end of June 2013, which was followed by House failure to bring it up for a vote. However, the Obama Administration has taken many steps to address the broken immigration system since assuming office. Through a series of executive actions, the President has worked to halt the deportation of undocumented families, deport convicted undocumented felons, and streamline the legal immigration process. However, further progress on DAPA and DACA, programs that defer deportation actions for undocumented parents and children, have been temporarily blocked by the court system.

Each Presidential candidate would take different approaches to addressing immigration reform. Secretary Clinton in her first 100 days would seek comprehensive immigration reform and aim to further some of President Obama's actions, including the DACA and DAPA programs, with the goal of providing a pathway to full and equal citizenship. Donald Trump would deport illegal immigrants with criminal convictions, cut off funding to sanctuary cities, and make changes to certain relevant visa programs and labor laws. Despite which actions are taken in the new Administration, we will focus on any potential impacts or opportunities for Tacoma.

Public Safety

Increasing support for public safety programs central to municipalities such as the COPS program and Fire Grants program remains a top priority. With the City's elected officials, police, and union leadership working together, the City received a \$69,000 COPS Community Policing Development Grant in 2015. We will also continue to pursue support for initiatives such as Tacoma's Gang Reduction Project through the U.S. Justice Department. The current Administration has responded to the recent violence between police, minorities, and other community members that has plagued so many American cities. From implementing the *21st Century Task Force on Policing Report* to supporting initiatives such as police bodyworn cameras, we believe the funding of public safety programs and strengthening of relationships between law enforcement and the communities will

remain a major a priority for the new Administration. We recommend that the City continue to focus on these public safety issues and be prepared to take advantage of any future opportunities.

Economic Development, Community Development, and Housing

We have and will continue to work with the City, federal agencies, and our Congressional delegation to advance Tacoma's priorities related to economic development, community development, and housing. The Obama Administration has shown great leadership in generating new initiatives for cities, such as Sustainable Development, Promise Neighborhoods, Choice Neighborhoods, and Jobs Plus, as well by launching initiatives under the Economic Development Administration designed to promote manufacturing. Moving forward, the budget process will be instrumental in advancing these programs in Tacoma, especially considering that the new President will illustrate his or her priorities through amendments to President Obama's final budget proposal. These programs will remain critical to Tacoma and we plan on working with the delegation both on funding levels and allocations, and to identify new competitive grant opportunities.

Transportation

The City can continue to play an important role in the development of transportation policy and in ensuring that it takes advantage of all available federal funds as it expands and improves its own transportation networks through a focused federal affairs strategy. The FAST Act, the transportation bill enacted late last year, provided opportunities for local governments, including but not limited to, additional funding for local highway bridges, increases in urban transit programs, and the creation of new programs such as the FASTLANE Freight Program. Furthermore, as it pertains to FTA programs, Tacoma recently received \$74.99 million in Small Starts Grants for the Link Light Rail Expansion and \$2 million for the Transit Oriented Development Planning Pilot Grant in partnership with Sound Transit. In addition, working closely with the delegation, the City was able to secure \$25 million in TIGER Grant funding for the expansion of Link. This accomplishment serves as an excellent example of collaboration among city, regional, and congressional partners and is a model for similar partnerships in future endeavors.

Environment

The Administration has made significant progress towards environmental protection, including leading global efforts to combat climate change through partnering with countries all over the world. Building on the goals of the Clean Power Plan, which gives states tools to cut carbon pollution from power plants, over 190 countries came together to sign the Paris Climate Agreement. The Agreement sets a global framework to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and puts the world on a path to keep global temperature rise well below 2 degrees Celsius. The Administration also forged an unprecedented agreement where China announced its intent to peak carbon emissions around 2030. The result is likely to be an expansion of federal funding opportunities in the environmental realm which can advance the Tacoma's key objectives in this field regarding clean air and water.

Telecommunications

The City's federal affairs agenda calls for continued support of protections for local control over managing the public rights-of-way, franchise authority, taxation and related issues while keeping cities whole and ensuring sufficient consumer protections. The City has worked with its regional partners and national organizations to ensure that any overhaul of current telecommunications laws to encourage competition protect core municipal functions such as right-of-way management and public safety. In early 2013, the FCC announced new actions to streamline the deployment of mobile broadband infrastructure, including legal clarifications and the development of model facility siting rules for localities. Other issues such as net neutrality

and the roll of localities in promoting broadband are sure to be on the table in the next two years. We will continue to closely monitor these developments.

Marketplace Fairness Act

In Congress, an area of important consideration continues to be the Marketplace Fairness Act (MFA), which would require all electronic sales to include the sales tax for the location of the purchaser, thus giving states more authority to tax purchases made online. The MFA could potentially yield \$540 million annually to Washington State. The Senate passed its MFA bill with a two-thirds vote in May 2013. Since then, it has stalled in the House. While an unlikely lameduck candidate, it could reemerge in 2017 as an important agenda item for a new Congress.

New Priority Areas

The areas outlined above are the major priorities we propose to focus on in 2017 and 2018. However, there are always additional opportunities particularly when there is a new Administration and Congress with changed objectives. We look forward to continuing to work with the City towards achieving accomplishments in these areas and on developing new projects and new approaches to achieving the City's goals and objectives.

ACTION PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF TACOMA

Our approach has been to work closely with senior City officials to develop an action program that forms the basis of our activity. This includes developing a strategic approach as described above, as well as:

Monitoring Developments in Washington

We place a major emphasis in our work on continuous monitoring of developments in Washington which could have an impact on the City. In our daily efforts with the federal agencies and Congress, our goal is to have an overview of all significant actions of the federal establishment which could conceivably make a difference to Tacoma and quickly communicate this to the City leadership and then determine appropriate action. One of our principal responsibilities is to have points of contact in all of the agencies and their corresponding committees.

Furthermore, we are always alert to other areas which could potentially have a beneficial impact on the City or even pose a possible threat. For example, each year many policy amendments are attached to appropriations measures and we are sure to follow through with City leaders regarding the impact of these provisions. Through our daily monitoring of the federal agencies and the Congress we are able to respond to issues that have a great impact on the City and we look forward to continuing to provide timely updates on key issues of importance to the City of Tacoma.

Promoting the City's Agenda

The City Council has done an outstanding job in crafting together a federal affairs agenda, which includes priority items (see Appendix I), which will be important for the City, federal agencies, and the Congress in the next two years. It will be the framework for our activities in Washington on behalf of the City. Basic elements of our approach to promote this agenda include: (1) Ongoing discussions with City leadership and staff to finalize priority activities; (2) Continued meetings with the Tacoma Congressional delegation to review priority project status and assess the potential for their success in the coming months; and (3) Regular communication on progress made on the various project areas including: (a) suggestions of the specific roles to be played by

City officials; and (b) information resources which will need to developed. We will also work with and coordinate approaches with our respective representatives of Tacoma Public Utilities on sustainability and renewable energy issues and on other issues where required.

City Officials in Washington

The Mayor, City Council members, and staff regularly travel to Washington to pursue the City's federal affairs agenda, with considerable success. We believe that city officials can make a dramatic difference to our overall efforts on their behalf by these Washington meetings and hope these trips will continue in the future. We look forward to Tacoma's leaders future Washington meetings.

A Communications System with City Hall

We function as the "Washington Office" for the City providing a base in the nation's capital and offering a wide variety of services. In addition to regular information and updates on a full range of issues, we also provide the City with the weekly Washington Friday Report, an overview of the week's developments and other useful items, as well as periodic Special Reports on special topics or our forthcoming Presidential Transition and New Congress Report. The City receives information from us an average of several times a week or more, including Grant Opportunity memos and we are also in regular telephone contact.

PROPOSED 2017 – 2018 BUDGET

The total two-year budget for the work above will be \$163,159 for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018 as detailed below:

Simon and Company City of Tacoma Budget, 2015-2016

	Professional Services Fee	Expenses	Total
2017	\$71,047	\$10,000	\$81,047
2018	\$72,112 (1.5% increase)	\$10,000	\$82,112
Total	\$143,159	\$20,000	\$163,159

For 2017, the professional services fee will be billed at a monthly rate of \$5920.58. For 2018, the professional services fee will be billed at a monthly rate of \$6009.33. We further propose a total ceiling of \$10,000 per-year for reimbursable, documented expenses, which should be sufficient to cover routine items such as long-distance telephone, photocopying, intra-city travel, meals, and when authorized, travel to Tacoma to meet with City officials.

BACKGROUND, RECORD, AND APPROACH

Simon and Company, Inc. is a Washington, D.C. based firm specializing in the field of local government concerns. It provides assistance to its clients in the areas of legislative affairs, grant and program development, and special projects. Its clients include city governments, municipal authorities, non-profit groups, and national associations. The company began operations in 1987.

Len Simon has spent his career directly involved in the federal affairs concerns of local governments. He joined the staff of the U.S. Conference of Mayors in March 1977 and became an Assistant Executive Director in October 1978, a position he held until July 1986. The firm works very closely with the U.S. Conference of Mayors today. Also in the firm and assisting on Tacoma matters are Jen Covino, Silvana Caldera, and Stephanie McIntosh.

The firm is proud of its record in helping cities to take advantage of opportunities and solve problems within the federal legislative and executive branches. Our experience on behalf of cities for many years has included a track record of measurable achievements in the areas of grants, appropriations, authorizations, and regulatory affairs. In each of our successes we have been part of a team which includes the congressional delegation, the city's elected leadership and key managers, the department heads, and staff. This has been the case to date with Tacoma and will continue to be so.

CONCLUSION

It is a great honor to work in Washington on behalf of the City of Tacoma. We look forward to continuing to work closely and successfully with Tacoma's leadership in the dynamic and changing years ahead. We will continue to search for new opportunities in this evolving landscape on behalf of the City of Tacoma as we have in the past. We believe that strong representation in Washington is a vital component in achieving the City's federal priorities.

Thank you for this opportunity. Please contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to talking with you soon.

Appendix I:

2016 City of Tacoma Federal Policy Agenda

2016 City of Tacoma Federal Agenda

Adopted by the City Council December 8, 2015

Summary agenda:

- The City supports adoption of the Innovative Stormwater Solutions Act to establish centers of excellence and innovation in treating stormwater and the Puget Sound SOS Act which would establish a Puget Sound Recovery National Program Office in the State of Washington.
- The citizens of Tacoma have called for and the City supports an increased minimum wage and mandatory paid sick leave in order to advance economic prosperity for all.
- The City will continue to work with Federal and local agencies to protect the long-term sustainability of Joint Base Lewis McChord and support veterans' transition to successful civilian careers and entrepreneurial enterprise in Tacoma.
- The City supports continued Federal funding for locally administered housing solutions such as Moving to Work, HOME, CDBG, and Choice Neighborhoods which have helped many Tacoma citizens.
- Initiatives to support opportunity youth are a key component of economic equity for our community. The City will seek continuing support for these programs.
- The City supports new Federal investment in infrastructure, including highways, bridges, and transit funding.

Detail agenda:

Clean water innovations anchored by the Center for Urban Waters:

At the Center for Urban Waters, world class laboratories are creating, evaluating, and applying the best possible scientific and engineering clean water technologies to protect and restore Puget Sound and to lead development of solutions for all urban coastal communities. The Center supports innovative surface water projects across the community making Tacoma a leader in green infrastructure such as downtown rain gardens and the nation's highest concentration of Greenroads™.

The City supports legislation that would acknowledge and build upon innovative stormwater work such as that being done at the CUW. The Innovative Stormwater Solutions Act will create between three and five centers of excellence in the country for innovative stormwater control infrastructure and the PUGET SOS Act would establish in the Environmental Protection Agency a Puget Sound Recovery National Program Office in the State of Washington.

Economic prosperity for all:

In a recent resident survey, nearly half said the City should do more to support small and growing businesses. Especially in older cities like Tacoma, one common need is for improvements to older commercial buildings. The City seeks to create a revolving loan fund to assist small business owners who have difficulty accessing traditional capital for tenant improvements.

Immigrant business owners make important contributions to the United States economy. Fifteen percent of business owners in Washington are immigrants. In the Puget Sound metropolitan area, the foreign-born share of business owners is nearly 20%. It is a priority of the City to make Tacoma a "Welcoming City" and cultivate an immigrant-friendly environment.

By more than 70%, Tacoma voters approved a measure to increase the local minimum hourly wage to \$12.00 beginning January 2018. Tacoma joins a growing number of cities who are choosing to raise hourly wages above State and Federal rates. The City supports an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) and veterans support:

Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) is the largest military installation on the west coast, the third largest employer in Washington State and the largest employer in Pierce County. In 2016, JBLM is projected to support 136,000 soldiers, airmen, dependents, employees and contractors.

Tacoma proudly supports our active military community, as well as the more than 117,000 military retirees already present. The City continually seeks to develop and transition the talent of military veterans into employment in the civilian environment. As one example, the City has established a veterans internship program (VIP) as a way to provide professional development opportunities aimed specifically for transitioning military veterans who have an interest in local government service.

The City has been an active participant in the Joint Land Use Study and its action strategies that commit Tacoma to evaluating its local land use plans for conflicts with the military installation's operations and, where incompatibilities are identified, work with technical staff and leaders to develop recommendations that will protect the long-term sustainability of the installation.

Housing:

Since the Housing Act of 1949, the goal of a decent home and suitable living environment for every American family – and the expectation for economic stability to maintain it – has been foundational to federal housing programs. Programs such as HOME (established in 1990), Moving to Work (established 1996), CDBG (established in 1974) and the recent Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Program (established 2010), have been key in helping communities design and advance local strategies that achieve this nationally shared goal.

In Tacoma, the McCarver Elementary School Initiative, an element of the Tacoma Housing Authority's Moving to Work Plan, is drawing national acclaim for its demonstration of how academic performance in one of the city's poorest schools is significantly improving as a result of investing in the housing and economic stability of students' families. Moving to Work allows THA the flexibility to invest public housing program dollars in innovative, comprehensive ways that not only support tenants to succeed as tenants, but also as "parents, students and wage earners."

The City joins the National League of Cities and the United States Conference of Mayors in advocating for funding of federal housing programs such as HOME, Moving to Work (MTW), CDBG, and Choice Neighborhoods. Tacoma has invested these programs wisely in our community and will continue to draw on their support to catalyze the array of public and private investments needed for individuals, families and neighborhoods to gain stability.

Opportunities for youth and community building:

Tacoma's Gang Reduction Project was launched in 2013 and has been recognized by both the National Gang Center and Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). In 2014, the Mayor accepted the My Brother's Keeper Challenge, one of nearly 200 mayors, county executives and tribal leaders who

have accepted the challenge to develop locally driven, comprehensive cradle-to-college-and-career strategies to ensure all young people can reach their full potential, regardless of who they are, where they come from, or the circumstances into which they are born.

In 2015, the City launched Project PEACE with a series of community conversations to respond to national events that exposed the polarizing and difficult relationships between some law enforcement agencies and the communities they protect and serve, and to proactively address underlying issues of community distrust in Tacoma and create a space for dialogue, healing and action. The manner in which local law enforcement and the community it serves interact with one another is critical to successful community policing, the community's sense of comfort and safety, and the level of respect police are afforded. This is an on-going and multifaceted process. The Federal government can assist with funding these efforts as well as by adjusting laws that make achieving good community/police interaction more difficult. The City will seek grants and other opportunities to assist in its efforts to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the community.

The City will continue to actively pursue partnerships and initiatives that aim to make Tacoma residents and youth feel safe and secure and propel the next generation to success. The City is a partner with Metro Parks, Tacoma Public Schools, Tacoma Housing Authority, and a growing group of government, private sector and nonprofit partners to build a facility that provides healthy and safe activities for youth and residents in Tacoma's underserved Eastside community. The City advocates for healthy, evidence-based methods of raising children such as the Nurse-Family Partnership Program administered by the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department which allows nurses to deliver the support first-time moms need to have a healthy pregnancy, become knowledgeable and responsible parents, and provide their babies with the best possible start in life.

Transportation:

The City is encouraged by the effort in Congress to advance a multi-year surface transportation bill and joins the United States Conference of Mayors in increases revenue commitments, growing highway and transit program funding to levels that more adequately address the transportation infrastructure needs of our cities and regions.

In Tacoma, over 50% of residential roads and 44% of arterial streets are in poor or failed condition. Residents are multi-modal with 47% frequently using public transit and 62% walking or biking instead of driving. The City will continue to seek to make sound investments in transportation to ensure a multimodal system that is focused on the mobility needs of residents, businesses, and visitors.