



Tacoma Anchor Network

City of Tacoma | Office of Strategy

**City Council Study Session
May 2, 2023**



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●●● Agenda for Today



- Introduction to anchor institutions
- Overview of Tacoma Anchor Network
- Current TAN working groups
- The value of working as a network
- Coordinating partners around priorities

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What are Anchor Institutions?

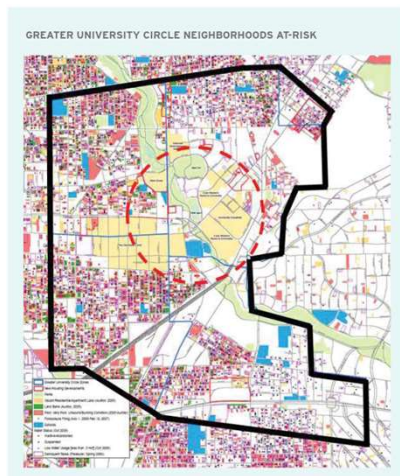
Anchor institutions: nonprofit or public institutions (including hospitals, universities, local governments, and utilities) that are firmly rooted in their locales.

By intentionally aligning their resources (economic, human, social, intellectual, etc.) with community needs and aspirations, anchors can play an active role in supporting community wellbeing.

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Cleveland, OH



Greater University Circle Initiative

- Case Western Reserve University
- City of Cleveland
- Cleveland Clinic
- Cleveland Foundation
- Cleveland Transit Authority
- University Hospitals
- And numerous community partners

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Newark Anchor Collaborative

19 anchor institutions including...

- City of Newark
- Rutgers University-Newark
- New Jersey Institute of Technology
- RWJBarnabus Health
- University Hospital
- Prudential
- And more

Anchor Initiatives

- Buy Local
- Hire Local
- Live Local
- Public Safety Collaborative

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- **2015:** Tacoma 2025 Strategic Plan
- **2015-2017:** Learning and identifying anchor examples
- **2018 –2019:** Establishing the network and building trust
- **2020-2021:** TAN enables COVID response coordination
- **2022-2023:** Organizing for long-term impact

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Current TAN Members



TAN is interested in supporting the “economic watershed” of Tacoma and seeks to engage anchor institutions that have a stake in Tacoma, its residents, and its future.

- Bates Technical College
- City of Tacoma
- Greater Tacoma Community Foundation
- Metro Parks Tacoma
- MultiCare Health System
- Tacoma Community College
- Tacoma Housing Authority
- Tacoma Public Schools
- Pacific Lutheran University
- Pierce County Transit
- University of Puget Sound
- University of Washington, Tacoma
- Virginia Mason Franciscan Health

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TAN Vision



The Tacoma Anchor Network is creating a new normal for how business is done by leveraging institutional assets to address economic, social, and racial inequities. We work collaboratively to keep resources circulating locally and ensure that all people who live here can work here and all people who work here can afford to live here.

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TAN Mission



Strengthen interconnectedness & collaboration between institutions in order to:

- Increase contract and procurement spending with local businesses, with an emphasis on minority-and women-owned business.
- Increase the number of living wage jobs available to Tacoma residents in key industries, and increase access to those jobs by removing systemic barriers
- Increase the amount of place-based investment that focuses on social and economic disparities in Tacoma
- Advance policy at a local, regional, and state level that enables anchor institutions to more effectively use their economic resources to meet needs identified by residents.

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Current TAN Working Groups



Procurement: Local Procurement Landscape

Identify ways to increase contract and procurement spending with local businesses, with an emphasis on minority-and women-owned business.

Workforce: Healthcare Career Pathways


Address the chronic gap in healthcare workforce by building more coordinated and connected career pathways for local residents

Place-Based Investing: Affordable Housing

Leverage collaboration to support the development of affordable housing in Tacoma.

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2023 Work Plans

Procurement: Local Procurement Landscape	Workforce: Healthcare Career Pathways	Place-Based Investing: Affordable Housing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing local and inclusive procurement data tracking Strengthening vendor relationships in key sectors (i.e., catering and trades) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a pilot career pathways portal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating opportunities for collaboration in affordable housing development projects

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The Value of Working as a Network

Doug Baxter-Jenkins
 Division Director, Community Health
 Virginia Mason Franciscan Health

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The Value of Working as a Network

Abigail Vizcarra Perez
 Equity Outreach Program Coordinator for
 Contracts & Capital Projects
 Metro Parks Tacoma

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Coordinating Partners around Priorities

- Complex challenges require community ownership
- TAN has allowed partners to develop their coordination muscles together
- TAN provides an established venue to bring shared challenges/priorities
- For CoT, this allows us to better address Council priorities in partnership:
 - Affordable Housing (place-based investments WG)
 - Livable Wage Jobs (local hiring and purchasing WGs)
 - Community Safety (community collaboration)

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