

Members



- Kevin Bartoy, Chair
- Jennifer Mortensen, Vice Chair
- Jonathan Hart
- Sarah Hilsendeger
- Roger Johnson
- Alex Morganroth
- Lysa Schloesser
- Holly Stewart
- Carol Sundstrom
- Jeff Williams
- Deborah Cade, North Slope Ex-Officio
- Leah Jaggars, Wedge Ex-Officio

Agenda

Landmarks Preservation Commission Planning and Development Services Department

Date: March 24, 2021
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Location: Virtual (see below)

Staff

- Reuben McKnight, Historic Preservation Officer
- Lauren Hoogkamer, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
- BT Doan, Administrative Assistant

INFORMATION ABOUT VIRTUAL MEETINGS

In response to social distancing recommendations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be conducted virtually. The meeting can be attended at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88228333934> , or by dialing +1 (253) 215-8782 and entering the meeting ID **882 2833 3934**, when prompted.

Microphones will be muted and cameras turned off for all participants during the meeting, except for the Commissioners and presenters.

The public may submit general comments in writing prior to the meeting, by 4:00 p.m., on March 24th, comment during the meeting on regular agenda items for which a hearing has not already been held. Please e-mail your comments to landmarks@cityoftacoma.org, put in the subject line "LPC Meeting 3/24/21", and clearly indicate which agenda item(s) you are addressing.

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS LANDS

2. ROLL CALL

3. INTERN WELCOME

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Excusal of Absences
- B. Approval of Minutes: 2/10/21
- C. Administrative Review:
 - 1314 N. 7th St.--basement windows
 - 624 N. M St.—porch steps
 - 4604 N. 38th St.—deck and paint

5. BOARD BRIEFINGS

- A. 310 S. 9th St., Rialto Theatre (Individual Landmark)
Security Enhancements
- B. Totem Pole (Individual Landmark)
Deaccessioning

Presenter	Page #	Time
Erin Anderson, KPG	10	10
Amy McBride, Arts Administrator	21	15
Elliott Barnett, Senior Planner	48	15
Carol Sundstrom, Commissioner		10
Staff	59	5

6. PRESERVATION PLANNING/BOARD BUSINESS

- A. Home in Tacoma Update
- B. Historic District Discussion
- C. Events

5. CHAIR COMMENTS

This agenda is for public notice purposes only. Complete applications are posted online at www.cityoftacoma.org/lpc-agenda.



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¿Necesitas información en español? 한국어로 정보가 필요하십니까? Cần thông tin bằng tiếng Việt? Нужна информация на русском? ត្រូវការព័ត៌មានជាភាសាខ្មែរ? ☎ Contact **TacomaFIRST 311** at **(253) 591-5000**

Members

Kevin Bartoy, Chair
Jennifer Mortensen, Vice Chair
Jonathan Hart
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Jeff Williams



MINUTES (Draft)

Landmarks Preservation Commission Planning and Development Services Department

Deborah Cade, North Slope Ex-Officio
Leah Jaggars, Wedge Ex-Officio

Staff

Reuben McKnight, Historic Preservation Officer
Lauren Hoogkamer, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
BT Doan, Administrative Assistant

Date: February 10, 2021

Location: *Virtual Zoom Webinar*

Commission Members in Attendance:

Kevin Bartoy, Chair
Jennifer Mortensen, Vice-Chair
Sarah Hilsendeger
Roger Johnson
Lysa Schloesser
Holly Stewart
Carol Sundstrom
Jeff Williams
Deborah Cade
Leah Jaggars

Staff Present:

Reuben McKnight
Lauren Hoogkamer
BT Doan

Others Present:

Katie Pratt, *NW Vernacular*
Mark D'Andrea, *City of Tacoma – Public Works*
Sam Turpin
Sean McBroom
Erin Anderson

Commissioner Members Excused:

Jonathan Hart
Alex Morganroth

Commission Members Absent:

N/A

Chair Kevin Bartoy called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

1. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS LANDS**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as submitted.

a. **Approval of Minutes: January 27, 2021**

Commissioner Hilsendeger submitted an amendment to the meeting minutes for section 5.a. Home In Tacoma as follows:

- Current: *Commissioner Hilsendeger was concerned with the fact that the multi-family tax incentives had not been widely utilized before, they would likely remain that way and new infill housing would not be affordable as a result.*
- Amendment: *Commissioner Hilsendeger was concerned that the 12-year multi-family tax exemption requiring affordable housing was not used nearly as often as the 8-year exemption that did not require affordable housing. She was concerned that new developments would follow that trend and continue to be unaffordable.*

The minutes of the meeting on January 27, 2021 were approved as amended.

b. Excusal of Absences:

- Jonathan Hart
- Alex Morganroth

4. NOMINATIONS TO THE TACOMA REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES – PUBLIC HEARING**a. 1002 S. Anderson St., Klinkenberg-Decker House**

Commissioner Williams recused himself from the review of this nomination as he is the owner of the property.

Chair Bartoy called the public hearing to order at 5:35 p.m.

Ms. Hoogkamer read the staff report as provided in the packet.

Katie Pratt, NW Vernacular, provided supporting details to the staff report to demonstrate that the property was eligible for listing on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and F. She covered the history of the area, as well as the building construction and alternations.

Sam Turpin, owner of a nearby property, had questions about whether other properties in the neighborhood would be affected if the designation of the Klinkenberg-Decker House was approved.

Chair Bartoy closed the public hearing at 5:49 p.m.

Discussion by the Commission ensued. Vice-Chair Mortensen advised careful consideration when the Commission reviewed the property under Criterion A, stating that not all properties on a corner lot of a street should necessarily be eligible. Commissioners Stewart and Johnson commented on the prominence of the property in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion: *“I move that the Landmarks Preservation Commission recommend to City Council that 1002 S. Anderson St., Klinkenberg-Decker House, be included on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places, including the main structure of the house and the garage, finding that it does meet Criteria A and F of TMC 13.07.040.”*

Vice-Chair Mortensen seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

5. BOARD BRIEFINGS**a. 310 S. 9th St. Rialto Theatre (Individual Landmark) Security Enhancements**

Ms. Hoogkamer read the staff report as provided in the packet.

Mark D’Andrea, City of Tacoma – Public Works, provided an overview of the Rialto Theatre. He presented access and entry points, current status of the theatre, proposed options for exterior security enhancement, and next steps for the project.

Commissioner Schloesser was concerned that closing the lower portion would drive traffic to the stairs. Commissioner Hilsendeger had questions regarding the entry points, fencing, and reversible options. Ms. Hoogkamer suggested some type of simple rolling gate, similar to those used as storefronts, which was supported by Commissioner Williams. Commissioner Williams also expressed his concern about closing the alcove and, in turn, affecting the visual character of the theatre. Additional lighting and motion sensor alarm were recommended as alternatives before fencing. Other measures were also discussed. Chair Bartoy mentioned the Home In Tacoma presentation by Elliott Barnett from the previous meeting to make a point about the housing crisis, and added that solutions causing and leaving as little damage to the structure as possible would be preferable.

6. PRESERVATION PLANNING/BOARD BUSINESS

a. Events & Activities Update

- Virtual tour “Black Institutions in Tacoma—A Virtual Experience,” scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on February 20, 2021, could be viewed on Facebook or YouTube.
- McKinley Hill Survey Kick-Off virtual event by the City of Tacoma (Tacoma Creates) and Historic Tacoma was scheduled for February 26, 2021.
- Update on Holy Rosary Catholic Church was requested and briefly discussed.

7. CHAIR COMMENTS

Chair Bartoy commented on the housing crisis in Tacoma and homelessness issue. He reminded the Commission that the Landmarks Preservation Commission would draft a letter at their following meeting to send to the Planning Commission and asked Commissioners to ponder on what to include in the letter.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

****These minutes are not a direct transcription of the meeting, but rather a brief capture. For full-length audio recording of the meeting, please visit: <http://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=67980>***



STAFF REPORT

March 24, 2021

BOARD BRIEFINGS

AGENDA ITEM 5A: 310 S. 9th St., Rialto Theatre (Individual Landmark)

Erin Anderson, KPG

The Rialto Theater's entrances/alcoves along Court C are currently being utilized by transients, potentially putting staff, passersby and the historic theater at risk. On February 10th, the applicant briefed the Commission on proposed security enhancements that are similar to that constructed on the east side of the Pantages Theater (along Commerce Street), and are designed to restrict entry, reduce maintenance and calls to the Tacoma Police Department, and limit vandalism and staff exposure to blood-borne pathogens and other infectious materials. Based on that feedback, the design team will be presenting the Commission with options for feedback

AGENDA ITEM 5B: Totem Pole (Individual Landmark)

Amy McBride, Arts Administrator

BACKGROUND

On March 8, 2021, the Tacoma Arts Commission unanimously moved to remove the Tacoma Totem Pole from the Municipal Art Collection based on a recommendation made by the Deaccession panel that convened on February 25, 2021.

The panel found that the pole met the de-accession criteria as "Inauthentic," meaning that the work is discovered to be inauthentic, fraudulent, or stolen, and lacking "Aesthetic Value," in that the work has not withstood the test of time. In addition to its recommendation to remove the pole from the municipal art collection, the panel further recommended that the Totem Pole be removed from Fireman's Park and/or be removed from the Tacoma Register of Historic Places due to its misrepresentation of Native American history and culture.

The Totem Pole was commissioned by Tacoma businesspersons Charles Thorne and William Sheard, and reportedly carved in 1903 by unknown persons. Although it was claimed to have been carved by Alaskan or British Columbian tribal members, more recent analysis by art historians and members of Tlingit and Haida tribal representatives casts doubt on this claim. The pole was created as a juxtaposition to the totem pole in Pioneer Square with civic boosterism and economic competition as underlying motives. The pole is in its third location; previously it was located south of the Tacoma Hotel on A Street, and further north of its current location. The pole was added to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places in 1975.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS

In 2013, the Totem Pole was declared in imminent danger of collapse. At the time, there was discussion about the appropriateness of the pole's location, and whether the pole should be stabilized or removed, given its problematic origin and misrepresentation of Native American culture. Ultimately a stabilization plan was presented to and approved by the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

ACTION REQUESTED

Guidance and feedback.

PROCESS AND STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

The process for removal of a property or item from the Tacoma Register of Historic Places is outlined in TMC 13.07.055 under Rescission of Landmarks Designation. The code provides two provisions for the Landmarks Commission to initiate a rescission consideration, as follows:

1. The historic property no longer exists
2. The Commission finds that retaining the property on the Historic Register does not further the goals and objectives of this Chapter and the Preservation Plan.

If the Commission finds that the historic status of the property is not consistent with the goals and policies of the historic preservation code and plan, the Commission shall schedule a public hearing within 60 days to receive comment. Following the close of the comment period, the Commission may vote to recommend removal to the City Council.

PRESERVATION PLANNING/BOARD BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM 5A: Home in Tacoma

Elliott Barnett, Senior Planner

Planning staff will provide an overview of the Planning Commission's public review of draft proposed modifications to Tacoma's housing growth strategy policies being evaluated as part of implementation of the Affordable Housing Action Strategy (AHAS). Staff is seeking input on how to ensure that historic preservation goals are well supported as part of housing actions. This is the policy development phase. Input from the Landmarks Commission regarding considerations for these policies, as well as input for the code/regulatory development is also critically important.

Comments are due by April 9, 2021 and can be provided at the April 7th Public Hearing, in writing to planning@cityoftacoma.org, or location-specific comments can be made on the [housing growth scenarios map](#) (full link for those who cannot click the hyperlink: <https://tacoma.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ee19d99884a41c9bc9db13462d0969a>). .

AGENDA ITEM 5B: Historic Districts Discussion

Carol Sundstrom, Commissioner

There is currently a National Register Historic District proposed in the Wallingford Neighborhood of Seattle that is generating a significant amount of conversation and raising a number of important issues as Seattle grapples with high housing costs and growth.

Commissioner Sundstrom has asked staff to bring this forward as an item for discussion to the full commission, and will provide an overview of the main themes of the community discussion occurring in Seattle. Some of these issues are emerging or will emerge in Tacoma, as Tacoma's community conversation about housing, equity and neighborhood planning continues to evolve.

For background, please see the Wallingford Historic District website at <https://www.historicwallingford.org/nrhp-north/>, as well as a petition effort opposed to the historic district proposal at <https://www.change.org/p/national-register-of-historic-places-stop-historic-preservation-in-wallingford>.

AGENDA ITEM 5C: Events Update

Staff

2021 Events

1. West End Virtual Tour (March 26 @ 8pm)
2. Puyallup Tribe Video Series TBA
3. How Tacoma was Shaped Video Series TBA
4. **Historic Preservation Month: Mysterious Tacoma**
 - I. City Council Proclamation (May 4 @ 5pm)
 - II. Virtual Mystery Series (May 6,13,20,27) TBA
 - III. Historic Preservation Awards (May 28 @ 6pm)
5. Northeast Tacoma Virtual Tour (June) TBA

RIALTO THEATER

Existing/Security Enhancements

March 9th, 2021

Project Summary thus far:

- **Preserve** the Rialto Theater from loitering, encampments, and vandalism.
- Architect and Engineering team ready to implement security enhancements.



RIALTO THEATER

Existing/Security Enhancements

Project Summary thus far:

- Discussed the King St. Center and First Church of Christ, Science in Tacoma security enhancements.

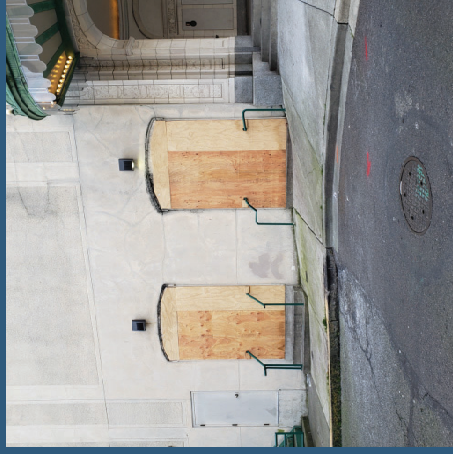


RIALTO THEATER

Existing/Security Enhancements

Project Summary thus far:

- **Rehabilitation:** Need to add gates at three doors and at arcade.
- With further discussion with, fencing under stairs are not necessary.



RIALTO THEATER

Existing/Security Enhancements

- **Reconstruction:** Security enhancements would be temporary and repairable.
- **Site visit:** found evidence of repair on pilasters and arches.



RIALTO THEATER

Existing/Security Enhancements

Code summary (2018 IBC):

- Swinging gates & accordion gates are permitted as a part of the means of egress.
- Security grilles at main exit must be openable from inside.
- Security grilles must remain open while people are in the building.
- Minimum door height must be more than 80 inches.
- Must maintain a clear opening width of 32 inches.
- Swing gates shall swing in the direction of exiting.



Rialto Theater Exiting/Security Enhancements

Option 1 - Roll down gates:

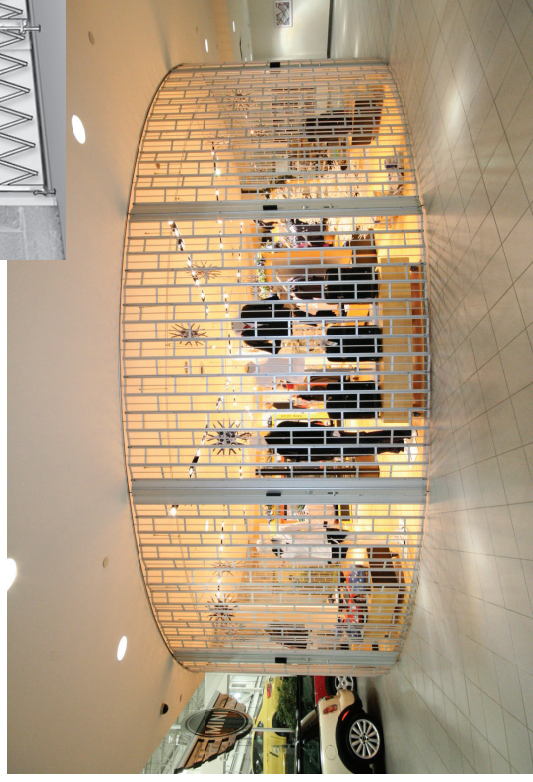
- Attachment will be difficult with dome curves.
- Requires electrical and structural attachment.
- Historic components could be damaged by gate going up and down.
- Not the most cost effective option.
- Not as attractive as custom options.
- Will be out of the way when open.
- Time efficient to obtain gate.
- Low maintenance.
- Variety of styles.



Rialto Theater Exiting/Security Enhancements

Option 2 - Accordion gates:

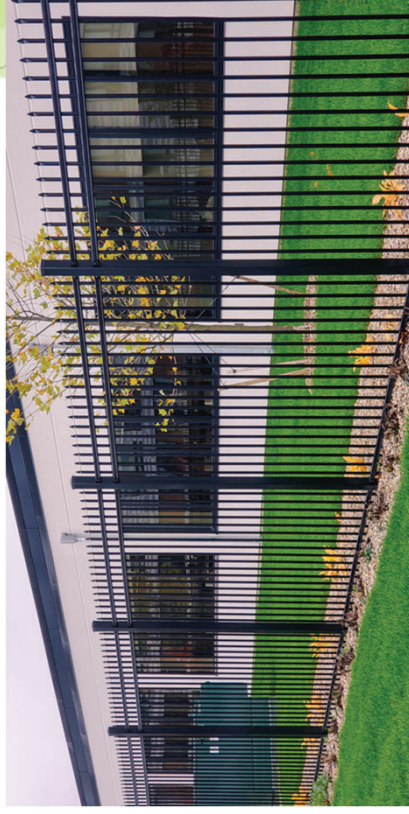
- Temporary, can easily be installed, removed and repaired.
- Most time efficient to obtain gate and install.
- Not as attractive as custom options.
- When open will be out of the way.
- Most cost effective option.
- Low maintenance.
- Variety of styles.



Rialto Theater Exiting/Security Enhancements

Option 3 - Swinging gates:

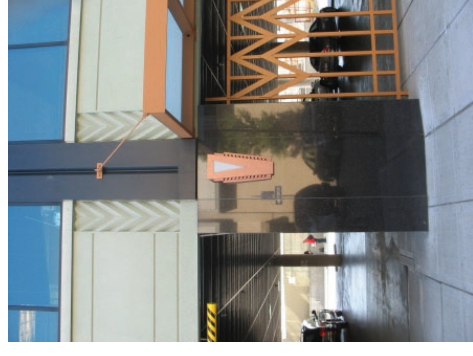
- Cost effective option: approximately \$5k.
- Easy to obtain gate and install: 4 week lead time.
- Low maintenance.
- Temporary, can easily be installed and removed.
- Variety of styles.



Rialto Theater Exiting/Security Enhancements

Option 4 - Custom Swinging gates:

- Temporary, can easily be installed and removed.
- Most expensive option: cost of gates min. \$20k+.
- Could collaborate with a local artist.
- Lead time: at least 6 weeks.
- Most attractive option.
- Low maintenance.



KPPG

Rialto Theater Existing/Security Enhancements

Coming next:

- Present to Landmarks Commission on March 24th, 2021.
- Decide upon an option.
- Design team to moves forward on permit set.

Questions/Comments?



KCPQ



City of Tacoma
Arts Commission

March 17, 2021

To: Kevin Bartoy, Chair, Landmarks Preservation Commission

From: Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator, Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality

Re: Tacoma Totem Pole de-accession and request to consider rescission of Totem Pole as a City Landmark at March 24, 2021 meeting

On March 8, 2021 the Tacoma Arts Commission unanimously moved to remove the Tacoma Totem Pole from the Municipal Art Collection based on a recommendation made by the Deaccession panel that convened on February 25, 2021.

The panel recommended de-accession based on the following categories in the deaccession policy:

“Inauthentic” is defined as: The work is discovered to be inauthentic, fraudulent, or stolen. “Aesthetic Value” is defined as: The work has not withstood the test of time.

The de-accession panel further recommended that the Totem Pole be removed from Fireman’s Park and recommends that the Landmarks Preservation Commission consider rescission of the Totem Pole from the Register of Historic Places.

The de-accession panel consisted of the following members:

Andrew Strobel (Haida, Puyallup Tribe Planning Director), Catherine Edwards (Central Council Tlingit and Haida Tribal Councilmember), Clinton McCloud (Puyallup), Kevin Bartoy (Landmarks Preservation Commission), Jeanette Sanchez (Arts Commission)

The De-accession panel was assembled with the intention of centering Indigenous voice and perspective to bring information and concerns to the forefront that have not been shared in an official public forum to date.

Attachments Index:

- A. De-accession Recommendation Report including images
- B. Tacoma Arts Commission De-accession Policy
- C. 1975 Nomination to the Historic Register
- D. Qwalsius/Shawn Peterson report 2013
- E. March 8, 2021 Tacoma Arts Commission Minutes



City of Tacoma
Arts Commission

ATTACHMENT ‘A’

RECOMMENDATION: REMOVE THE TACOMA TOTEM POLE FROM THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION BASED ON THE CATEGORIES INDICATED ABOVE. CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING INPUT FROM THE DEACCESSION PANEL:

The Tacoma Totem Pole is believed to be fraudulent in origin and misrepresents Native American peoples and artforms. The original artists are unknown. While some historical records claim they were Tlingit, representatives from the Tlingit and Haida Tribe do not believe the pole has any authentic ceremonial or clan origins, and thereby claim no association with it.

The style, method of carving, and secrecy surrounding the creation of the pole indicate it is just as likely by non-Natives poorly appropriating a Native aesthetic. This theory has been backed up by tribal consultants as well as the deaccession panelists.

The faux Northern style of the carving also contributes to misinformation about the art forms of the Coast Salish peoples of this region.

The pole’s continued presence in Tacoma is harmful and the panel recommends removal of the pole from the park. It also recommends rescission as an historic landmark.

Follow-up:

Request rescission of the Tacoma Totem Pole from the Registry of Historic Places.

Research options for removal and retirement of the Totem Pole from Fireman’s Park.

To be determined:

- Complete destruction of the Totem Pole
- Removal of the Totem Pole from public view and placement in storage
- Preservation of a portion of the pole in an historical archive (in talks with Tacoma Historical Society) as an historical artifact. *Any possible display would be accompanied by a narrative that includes the full story of the pole to educate and inform current and future generations of the full context surrounding the creation of the pole that acknowledges the harm caused to indigenous peoples and misinformation perpetuated over the years. A covenant would need to accompany the artifact to preclude any future display outside a museum setting and the requirement that the artifact be accompanied by the full narrative.*

ACTION BY THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION:

X ACCEPT RECOMMENDATION	<input type="checkbox"/> REJECT RECOMMENDATION	DATE: MARCH 8, 2021
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TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION VOTING MEMBERS:

Ayes: Chair Ayala, Vice-chair Maestas, Commissioners: Brown, Conklin, Fernandez-Llamazares, Kula, Pew, Sanchez, Scott, Villeda, Woodson

Nays: 0

Absent: Commissioners Allison, Holcomb, Stowe, Stump,

ATTACHMENT 'A'

Panel comments and input beyond de-accessioning for consideration:

While the future of the object will be determined through separate processes, panelists recommended that the pole be destroyed or otherwise permanently removed from public view.

- In the panel discussion, the pole was described as an “inauthentic trinket” that represents colonialism, whiteness, and patriarchy.
- Continuing to romanticize the object by allowing it to move into a historical collection prevents real social progress and movement forward.
- Panelists also noted that Chester Thorne, one of the businessmen who originally commissioned the pole, started the Port of Tacoma and stole land from the Puyallup people.
- The pole was created in an attempt to compete with Seattle during the boosterism era, exploiting Native culture to serve capitalist and colonial motives
- The panel expressed concern that the pole not be displayed in any way that continues to perpetuate the harm.
- The panel also expressed a desire to see more Puyallup and Coast Salish art in Tacoma, as well as more public art in general, including replacing the Tacoma Totem Pole with something “proper and honorable”.

Follow-up:

Request rescission of the Tacoma Totem Pole from the Registry of Historic Places.

Research options for removal and retirement of the Totem Pole from Fireman’s Park.

To be determined:

- Complete destruction of the Totem Pole
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Artist Contact

GENERAL INFORMATION

ARTIST Unknown – Deceased
 Last First Middle
 TITLE OF ARTWORK Tacoma Totem Pole TAMAC# 19820058
 MEDIUM _____ DIMENSIONS 7' X 8'6" X 12"



Tacoma Totem Pole

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Images to accompany daccession report

PHOTO BY FRANK
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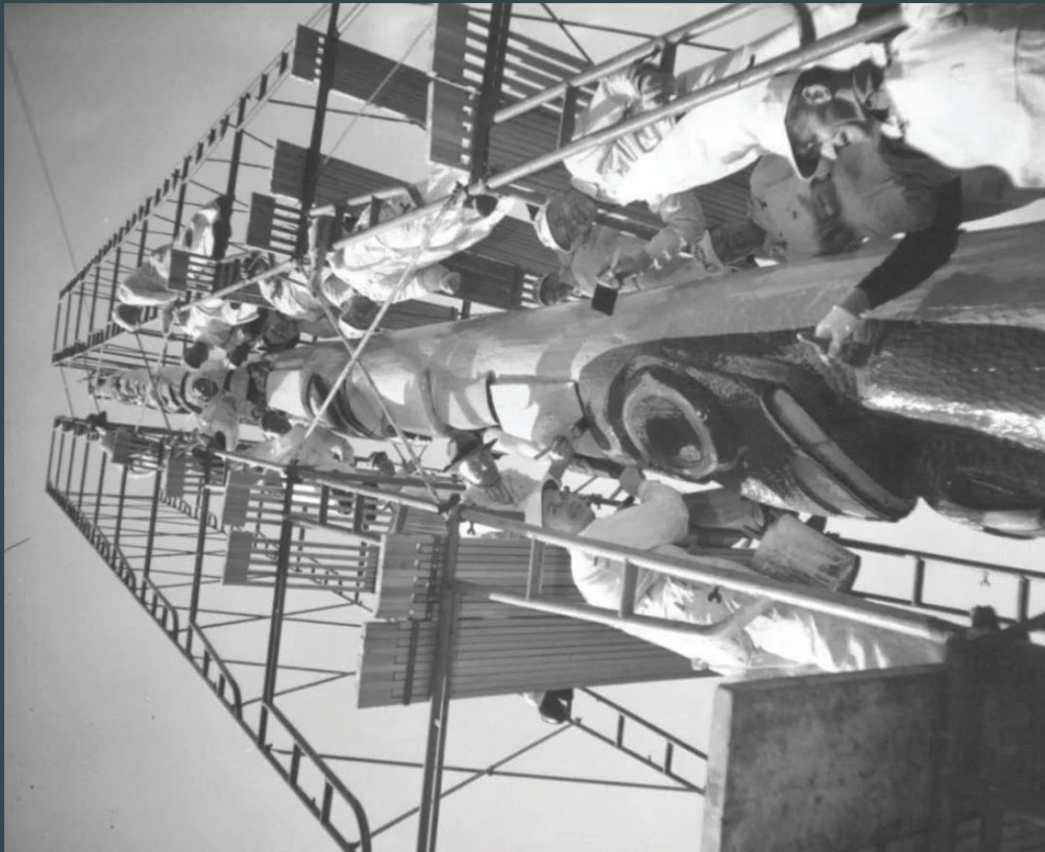
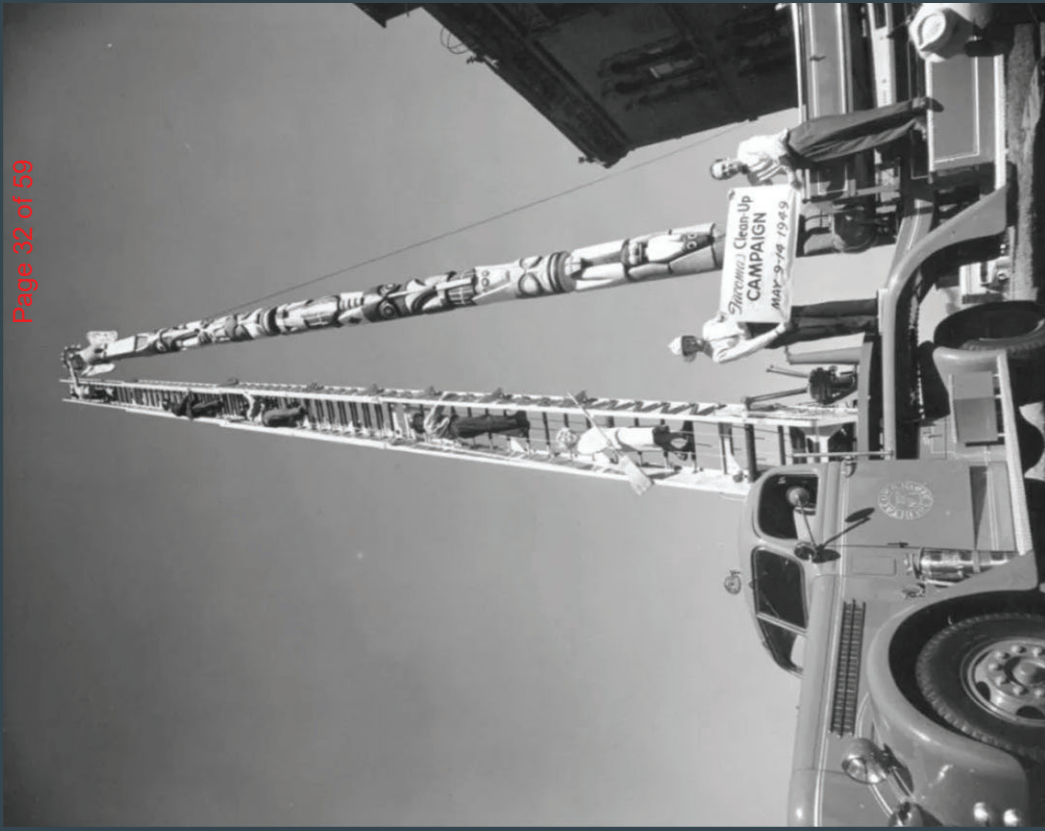
136. THE TACOMA HOTEL AND TOTEM POLE, TACOMA, WASHINGTON.

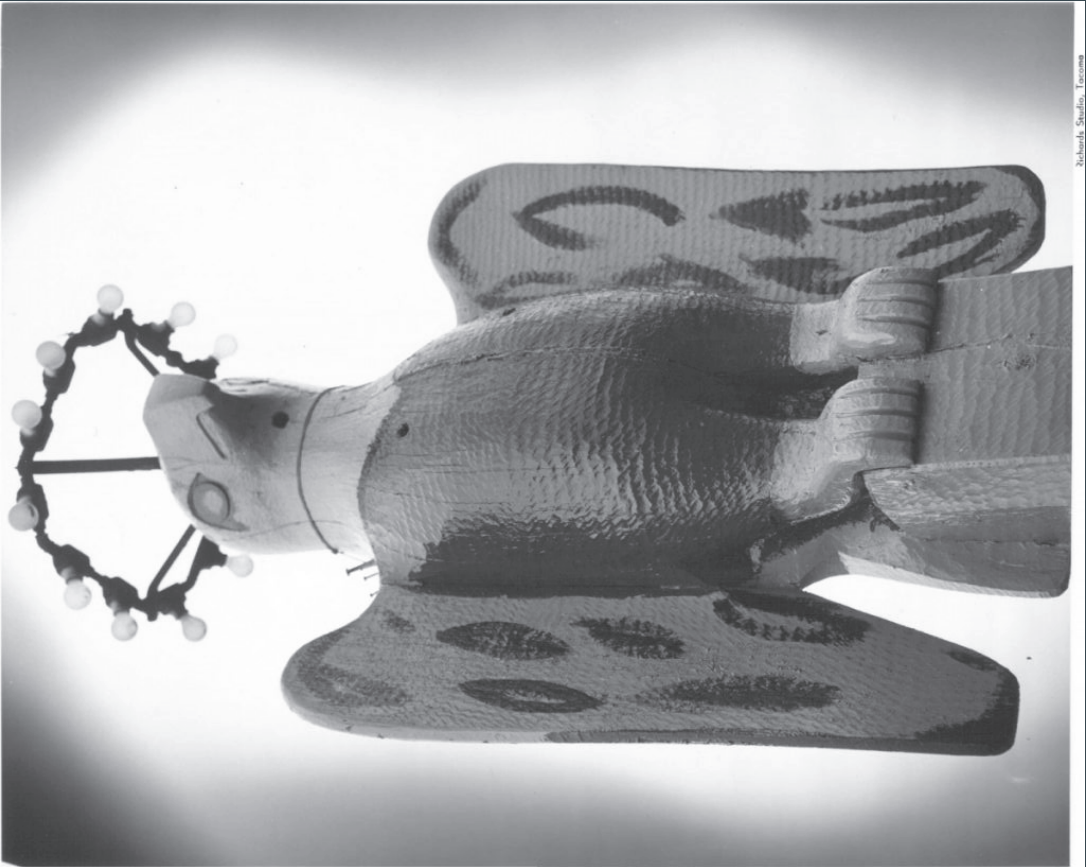


Totem Pole, Tacoma, U. S. A.









Richard Studio, Tacoma





TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION Municipal Art Collection

DEACCESSION POLICY

PURPOSE

TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS FOR THE REMOVAL, SALE, RELOCATION, AND/OR DISPOSAL OF PUBLIC WORKS OF ART IN THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION.

DEFINITION

DEACCESSION IS TO REMOVE AN OBJECT OF ART FROM THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION INCLUDING REMOVAL OF THE ARTWORK FROM ITS PUBLIC SITE, THE MAINTENANCE CYCLE, AND TRANSFERRING RECORDS, BOTH HARD COPY AND ELECTRONIC, INTO A DEACCESSION COLLECTION FILE.

POLICY

1. AN ARTWORK MAY BE CONSIDERED FOR DEACCESSION UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ONLY:

- A. SECURITY - THE CONDITION OR SECURITY OF THE ARTWORK CAN NOT BE REASONABLY GUARANTEED.
- B. THEFT - ALL STOLEN ARTWORKS WILL BE DOCUMENTED THROUGH AN OFFICIAL POLICE REPORT AND A REPORT PREPARED BY THE AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SITE OF LOSS.
- C. INAUTHENTIC - THE WORK IS DISCOVERED TO BE INAUTHENTIC, FRAUDULENT, OR STOLEN.
- D. DAMAGE BEYOND REPAIR - THE WORK HAS BEEN DAMAGED BEYOND REPAIR, DAMAGED TO THE EXTENT THAT IT NO LONGER REPRESENTS THE ARTIST'S INTENT, OR DAMAGED TO THE EXTENT THAT THE EXPENSES OF RESTORATION AND REPAIR IS FOUND TO EXCEED CURRENT MARKET VALUE OF THE ARTWORK. IN THE EVENT THE ARTWORK IS DAMAGED, STAFF WILL PREPARE A REPORT THAT DOCUMENTS THE ORIGINAL COST OF THE ARTWORK, ESTIMATED MARKET VALUE, AND THE ESTIMATED COST OF REPAIR.
- E. LOSS OF SITE - THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION WILL MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO FIND A SUITABLE LOCATION FOR EVERY ARTWORK IN THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION; HOWEVER, LACK OF SITING OR PROPER STORAGE COULD MERIT DEACCESSIONING.
- F. SITE ALTERATION - FOR SITE-INTEGRATED ARTWORK, IF THE SITE FOR WHICH A PIECE OF ARTWORK WAS SPECIFICALLY CREATED IS STRUCTURALLY DAMAGED OR OTHERWISE ALTERED SO THAT IT CAN NO LONGER ACCOMMODATE THE WORK, OR IF THE PIECE IS MADE PUBLICLY INACCESSIBLE BY A CHANGE IN ITS SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT SUCH AS NEW CONSTRUCTION OR DEMOLITION, THAT ARTWORK MAY BE CONSIDERED FOR DEACCESSION.
- G. TEMPORARY ACQUISITION - THE ARTWORK WAS PURCHASED AS A SEMI-PERMANENT ACQUISITION AND THE CITY'S OBLIGATION IS TERMINATED.
- H. SAFETY - THE ARTWORK ENDANGERS PUBLIC SAFETY.
- I. EXCESSIVE REPRESENTATION - THE WORK IS DUPLICATIVE, OR EXCESSIVE IN A LARGE HOLDING OF WORK OF THAT TYPE OR OF THAT ARTIST.
- J. AESTHETIC VALUE - THE WORK HAS NOT WITHSTOOD THE TEST OF TIME. IT HAS BEEN PROFESSIONALLY DETERMINED TO LACK AESTHETIC OR ARTISTIC VALUE TO JUSTIFY ITS CONTINUED UPKEEP AND STORAGE WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION.

- K. CONTENT - ONCE THE ARTWORK HAS BEEN ACCESSIONED INTO THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION, IT MAY NOT BE DEACCESSIONED ON THE BASIS OF CONTENT.
2. AT THE CONCLUSION OF EACH BIENNIAL CYCLICAL MAINTENANCE SURVEY, IN THE EVENT THAT WORKS OF ART ARE THREATENED BY ANY OF THE ABOVE CRITERIA, STAFF WILL PREPARE A RECOMMENDATION FOR DEACCESSION OF ARTWORK FROM THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION FOR REVIEW, EVALUATION, AND ACTION BY THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION.
 3. IT IS THE OBLIGATION OF THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION TO ENSURE THAT ALL DISPOSALS WITH REGARD TO THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION BE FORMALLY AND PUBLICLY CONDUCTED AND ADEQUATELY DOCUMENTED.
 4. ARTISTS WHOSE WORK IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR DEACCESSION SHALL BE FORMALLY NOTIFIED BY MAIL USING THE CURRENT ADDRESS OF RECORD ORIGINALLY PROVIDED BY THE ARTIST.
 5. ALL ARTWORK UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR DEACCESSION WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A STAFF REPORT THAT INCLUDES:
 - A. REASONS FOR THE SUGGESTED DEACCESSION.
 - B. ACCESSION METHOD, COST, AND CURRENT MARKET VALUE.
 - C. DOCUMENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE ARTIST.
 - D. PHOTO DOCUMENTATION OF SITE CONDITIONS (IF APPLICABLE).
 - E. OFFICIAL POLICE REPORT (IF APPLICABLE).
 6. A PERMANENT RECORD OF THE ARTWORK'S INCLUSION IN MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION, AND REASONS FOR ITS REMOVAL, SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN A DEACCESSIONED COLLECTION FILE, AND WILL BE KEPT AS A SEPARATE SECTION OF THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION RECORDS.
 7. THE ARTWORK, OR ITS REMAINS, SHALL BE DISPOSED OF BY THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT STAFF OR ITS AGENTS UPON DEACCESSION ACTION. THE ARTIST WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE THE ARTWORK, OR ITS PARTS, BEFORE DISPOSAL BY SALE, DONATION, TRADE, OR DESTRUCTION.
 8. THE CITY COUNCIL WILL DEACCESSION ARTWORK FROM THE MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION BY ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION; HOWEVER, THE CITY MANAGER IS AUTHORIZED TO REMOVE ARTWORK FROM THE COLLECTION IF THE VALUE OF THE ART IS EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN HIS PURCHASING AUTHORITY.
 9. THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION'S ACTION REGARDING DEACCESSIONED ARTWORK WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE ASSET MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.
 10. DISTRIBUTION OF SALES FUNDS - IN THE EVENT THAT THE REMOVED ARTWORK IS SOLD, PURSUANT TO THE SUBSECTIONS ABOVE, THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH SALE SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO THE MUNICIPAL ART FUND OF THE CITY OF TACOMA.
 11. NO CURRENT MEMBER OF THE TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION OR STAFF TO THE COMMISSION OR ANY MEMBER OR STAFF WHO HAS SERVED ON OR FOR THE COMMISSION WITHIN THE MOST RECENT TWO YEARS FROM THE DATE OF CONSIDERATION OF DEACCESSION SHALL BE ALLOWED TO BID AND/OR PURCHASE A DEACCESSIONED ARTWORK.



LANDMARK PRESERVATION COMMISSION

INVENTORY FORM OF HISTORIC PLACES

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

NAME				
COMMON: Tacoma Totem Pole				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Horizontal position, construction site, near 9th and A				
CITY OR TOWN: Tacoma			COUNTY: Pierce	
CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (1975)
DESCRIPTION				
CONDITION	(Check One)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed			
		(Check One)		(Check One)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE				
Describe briefly on the back; attach a small photo.				
SIGNIFICANCE				
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century				
EARLY 20th Century				
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)				
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Invention <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Literature <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Music		<input type="checkbox"/> Political <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/> Theater <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
				<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____ _____
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE				
Briefly describe the significance on the back.				
FORM PREPARED BY				
NAME AND TITLE: Caroline Gallacci, Archivist				
ORGANIZATION: Washington State Historical Society				DATE: 1/21/75
STREET AND NUMBER: 315 North Stadium Way			CITY OR TOWN: Tacoma	

OR UNKNOWN
(OR ASSUMED)

PHYSICAL APPEARANCE: The Tacoma Totem Pole was carved, in Quartermaster Harbor, from a cedar pole selected and prepared by the St. Paul Tacoma Lumber Company. A massive tree was chosen to permit deep carvings to assure adequate relief -- considered one of the pole's major assets. It was carved by two British Columbian Indians whose identity was kept secret for in making the pole for white civilization they violated the traditions of the tribe. Part of the Totem Pole's uniqueness stems from its height (reported to be anywhere from 67 to 105 feet high), and the fact that it ~~was~~ originally carved for the city, and not acquired from another source. In comparing this pole to the one located in Seattle at the time of its raising in 1903 the factors most often emphasized were, its deep relief, that Tacoma acquired it honestly, and that Indians were actually commissioned to carve the pole.

When the pole was raised, 18 electric lights circled the head of the eagle on top and there were volunteers who offered to climb the pole barefooted to change any lights which burned out. The pole has been moved three times: when it was raised in 1903; upon construction of the 11th street off ramp to 10th, when it was moved from 10th and A to 9th and A, in 1954; and upon construction of the Tacoma Spur when it was placed in its present horizontal position, in 1974. It is currently located near the construction site at 9th and A, and after restoration will be relocated about 150 feet from its former location.

One of the most difficult parts of the Totem pole to reconstruct is the original colors. Early records indicate that natural colors were used, but the only actual one uncovered was a yellow which appeared gild through the sun shining on the deep relief. But between 1903 and 1969 many paintings and cleanings have been undertaken. In 1938, one individual indicated that such changes in the colors meant a change in the meaning of the symbols carved into the pole. The most recent re-paintings of the pole occurred in 1959 and 1969. The earlier was done after complaints over the pastel pinks and blues. At that time an Indian Totem pole expert from Alaska was consulted. In 1969 the pole was repainted through the assistance of a member of the Squamish tribe in British Columbia. Doubt still remains as to whether or not the current colors are the original. The 1959 re-painting changed pastel colors to russet, brown, green, black and white; no mention of the originally discussed yellow. Because ten years later another expert had to be called in to get the proper colors suggests a continual doubt. Since color is related to meaning, it seems important to find out what the original ones were.

The meaning of the symbols of the pole are outlined as follows:

- (1) Eagle at top - Skanskwin - clan crest of the Nexa'da people
- (2) Killer whale - Kit-wusu - shown by a dorsal fin; the round block is the whale's head; fins on the side; a round painted spot is the whale's blow hole
- (3) Composite figure representing the raven - fins on the ~~block~~ block above, if attached to the raven would make it a wolf, which could be explained by the tribes theory of dual personality on the part of both men and animals. The two small figures on the side are human and connect the crest with the legend of children who disobeyed their mothers and were turned into ravens.
- (4) Great raven woman - Its-tads-doh - mother of the Haida Indians
- (5) Symbol of a hat worn by a chief - Tadu-skillik - used to indicate relationship between Its-tads-doh, mother of Haida and her daughter, Hoh-hok, who is credited with creating the earth
- (6) Daughter of the great raven - hoh-hok (lok) - similar to the third symbol from the top; grasped in the hand is a cylinder-like object representing the container out of which she carried the magic which caused the land to rise out of the great expanse of water which is supposed to have covered the globe.
- (7) [next to bottom] grizzly bear - Horts - paws of a wolf; composite crest, boasting of the powers of the bear clan
- (8) [bottom] Qo-tc - wolf - family crest of the man for whom the pole was carved

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: At the cost of \$3,000, William Sheard and Chester Thorne commissioned the building of a Totem Pole which would rival that of Seattle's. Sheard had become irritated by articles describing Seattle's Totem Pole, which he claimed had been stolen from Alaskan Indians. Sheard was an explorer, seller of furs, and later established an Alaska curio shop at 10th and A. Thorne was active in Tacoma banking and civic interests. The pole, immediately became one of the major tourist attractions to the city, and one wonders whether or not it was intentional that it should be raised the day before Theodore Roosevelt arrived in the city to assist in

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the laying of the cornerstone for the Masonic Temple. In an early article on the pole, a reporter assessed the importance of the pole by saying that "it will probably never be again duplicated, but for hundreds of years give Tacoma the distinction of having seized on a dying custom from a race rapidly becoming extinct and perpetuating their unique workmanship and learning and art for the edification and gratification of unborn generations."

That which is represented in the Totem Pole is family history - genealogy; and the belief that man originated from man-like beasts, forerunners of today's animals. Indian totem poles are not part of the culture of Washington Indians, but rather those of British Columbia and Alaska, and is one of their sacred institutions. They will not willingly part with their family tree. It is their belief that each tribe is descended from some form of animal and the pole represents each successive marriage and intermarriage between the tribes, each being represented by the animal after which it is named. Some Indian families can trace their family history back 30 or 40 generations through the carvings on their tribal poles.

Owner: City of Tacoma

Marker inscription: Tacoma totem pole largest totem pole in the world. Made and carved by Alaska Indians. Presented to the City of Tacoma by W.F. Sheard and Chester Thorne. 1903.



TACOMA TOTEM POLE, 1903 (Firemen's Park)

Tacoma's Totem Pole was carved by Alaska Indians who were brought to Quartermaster Harbor, on Vashon Island, expressly for that purpose. The enterprise was funded by Chester Thorne and William F. Sheard. Its restored height of 82 feet, 6 inches makes it still one of the tallest in the country. The original Tacoma Totem Pole was dedicated in May of 1903. (Tacoma and State Registers)

Fireman's park totem pole

This document is submitted to the committee or designated officials only as a reference of information that may serve towards making a decision regarding the Tacoma totem pole located currently in Fireman's Park.

My name is Shaun Peterson. I am a member of the Puyallup tribe of Indians and have served as a consultant to the city regarding tribal matters where history and cultural knowledge has been needed. I learned a great deal from the late Judy Wright who directed me to research our tribal archives when I was carving my first Story Pole for Chief Leschi School in 1995. Equally important was my work with curator emeritus of the Seattle Art Museum Native collection, Steve Brown. I worked with Steve for several years and met a number of Alaska Native carvers whom I'd worked with learning not only carving technique but cultural protocol that is involved with the creative process.

From my first experience as a Native artist carving a story pole, I learned about totem poles and welcome figures. It was made clear to me not only by art historians and practicing artists but elders who expressed discomfort when talking about raising totem poles in Coast Salish territory. The most vocal of these elders included Jack Moses who expressed the opinion that if Coast Salish people were to raise totems in our village areas we express to the world we are a conquered people. That memory stayed with me over the years and it carries a great deal of truth.

It is well known that the totem pole in Fireman's park was commissioned by businessmen in competitive efforts with the city of Seattle at the turn of the century. It marks a time when Coast Salish people had little say in what was shortly before their territory. It along with the pole of Pioneer square mark a time of taking art and culture from one place and appropriating it for the sake of tourism. At the time of many of these pole installations, the Tacoma pole in question included, there seems to be no mark of ceremony or cultural relevance but only the boasting of it's size. These poles serve as iconography that have long mislead the public including tribal communities to some degree that these objects are in association with Coast Salish tribes when in fact they herald from the very groups they once warred with.

I understand this is a complex matter. My intention was to give some perspective but I see it would be in best interest that I recuse myself from the voting process. I can offer up answers to questions should they arise and have provided the committee with a brief background from consulting community members of the Haida and Tlingit that I know. Today I have brought professor Robin K. Wright as well which was a request from the city council from my understanding at one point to share her knowledge as curator of Northwest Coast Native American art at the Burke Museum.

Qwalsius - Shaun Peterson
June 4, 2013

**Members**

Rosie Ayala, Chair
 Benjamin Maestas III, Vice Chair
 John Hines, City Council Liaison
 Keith Blocker, City Council Liaison Alternate
 Olivia Allison
 Jasmine Brown
 Heather Conklin
 Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
 Anna Holcomb
 Michael Kula
 Elizabeth Pew
 Jeanette Sanchez
 Jamika Scott
 James Stowe
 MaryMikel Stump
 Alejandra Villeda
 Sarah Woodson

Staff

Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator
 Chevi Chung, Community Programs Specialist
 Rebecca Solverson, Public Art Specialist
 Naomi Strom-Avila, Funding & Cultural Programs Manager

Summary Minutes

Tacoma Arts Commission

Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality

Tacoma Venues and Events Department

Date: March 8, 2021

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: Virtual

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which is available at www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Rosie Ayala, Chair
 Benjamin Maestas III, Vice Chair
 Jasmine Brown
 Heather Conklin
 Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
 Michael Kula
 Elizabeth Pew
 Jeanette Sanchez
 Jamika Scott
 Alejandra Villeda
 Sarah Woodson

City Staff Present:

Amy McBride
 Chevi Chung
 Naomi Strom-Avila
 Lisa Jaret
 Kim Bedier
 Hillary Brenner
 Tammi Bryant

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Olivia Allison
 Anna Holcomb
 MaryMikel Stump
 James Stowe

1. Call to Order
5:06 pm (00:11)

Chair Ayala called the meeting to order. Chair Ayala recognized that the meeting was held on Indigenous land: the traditional homelands of the Puyallup people.

ʔukʷədiitəb ʔuhigʷətəb čəł txʷəl tiit ʔa čəł ʔal tə swatxʷixʷtxʷəd ʔə tiit puyaləpabš dxʷəsłəłlils gʷəl ʔutxʷəlšucidəbs həlgʷəʔ.

“We gratefully acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.”

2. Consent Agenda**(00:51)**

There were four excused absences: Commissioners Holcomb, Allison, Stump, and Stowe.

Vice Chair Maestas asked for a motion to approve the March agenda as well as the minutes from the February 8 meeting.

There was a motion: "I so move."

Motion: Commissioner Woodson

Seconded: Commissioner Conklin

Motion: Carried

3. Chair's Report/Housekeeping**(02:05)**

Chair Ayala had no items. Staff reminded the Commission about cards for fellow Commission members that are available for signing.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items**(02:56)**

Andrew Strobel, Haida Tribe and Puyallup Tribe Planning Director, provided public comments on the Tacoma Totem Pole Deaccession Recommendation agenda item.

Don Lacky, community member, provided public comments on the Tacoma Totem Pole Deaccession Recommendation agenda item.

Catherine Edwards, Central Council Tlingit and Haida Tribal Council Member, provided public comments on the Tacoma Totem Pole Deaccession Recommendation agenda item.

5. Action Items**a. 2021-22 Tacoma Artists Initiative Program Funding Recommendations****(13:30)**

The 2021-2022 Tacoma Artists Initiative Program review panel's funding recommendations were presented to the Commission. The panel recommended the funding for the following 24 applicants at \$3,000 each for a total of \$72,000:

Artist Name
Curtis Ashby
Marit Berg
Katie Dean
Priscilla Dobler
Lance Griffith
Maria Jost
Kareem Kandi
Rian Kelly
Eugene (Gene) Kemper
Ricardo Lastrapes
David Long
Miriam McBride
Adrian Milanio
Mark Monlux
Gloria Muhammad
Tamiko Nimura

Chandler O'Leary
Gerardo Peña
Kellie Richardson
Mauricio Robalino
Suzanne Skaar
Cydney Stephens
Jacob Sunday
Charles (Chuck) Taylor

A total of 40 applications were received. Multiple disciplines and all 5 council districts are represented in the selections. Commissioners Maestas and Villeda spoke about their experience on the panel. Commissioners discussed and asked questions. Chair Ayala called for a motion to accept the funding recommendations as presented.

There was a motion: "I move that we approve the subcommittee's recommendations."

Motion: Commissioner Sanchez

Second: Commissioner Conklin

Motion: Carried

b. 2021-23 Tacoma Poet Laureate Recommendation (23:45)

The Tacoma Poet Laureate selection panel recommended Lydia Valentine as the 2021-2023 Tacoma Poet Laureate with Gloria Muhammad as the Alternate. The details of the ceremony celebrating the new Poet Laureate are in progress and will be held virtually in Zoom by the end of April 2021. Commissioners Scott and Sanchez spoke about their experience on the panel.

There was a motion: "I move to move forward the recommendation of our Poet Laureate selection and alternate as determined by the subcommittee."

Motion: Chair Ayala

Second: Commissioner Woodson

Motion: Carried

c. Tacoma Totem Pole Deaccession Recommendation (33:00)

Staff gave background and an update on the Tacoma Totem Pole Deaccession panel that convened on February 25, 2021. The panel centered Indigenous voices and included: Catherine Edwards, Clinton McCloud, Andrew Strobel, Jeanette Sanchez, and Kevin Bartoy. The categories in the Deaccession policy for which this item is being considered are: Inauthentic and Aesthetic Value. Staff would like to see a new category added to the Commission's Deaccession policy around misappropriation or cultural appropriation. Staff shared about research presented by deaccession panelists Andrew Strobel and Catherine Edwards who worked with tribal consultants and confirmed the style of the Tacoma Totem Pole is not authentic or of any clan origin. The Deaccession panel unanimously recommended deaccessioning the Totem Pole from the Municipal Art Collection. Staff reported that the Totem Pole is in the Municipal Art Collection and a designated landmark and if the Arts Commission votes to deaccession the Totem Pole the next steps are to submit a request to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to delist and/or demolish the Totem Pole. Staff is currently researching options for removal. Commissioner Sanchez gave remarks about the painful discussion during the Deaccession panel and how Native voices were mourning how their art form was appropriated and that there is a call to action for correction. Commissioner Sanchez shared about the possibility of commissioning future work by

Native artists. Commissioner Sanchez reminded the Commission there are still films and postcards about the Totem Pole and how the Totem Pole is causing pain to the community.

There was a motion: "I agreed with the panel then that we move forward with its deaccession and I would present that to the committee for consideration."

Motion: Commissioner Sanchez

Second: Commissioner Scott

Motion: Carried

d. Commission Retreat Design Subcommittee (43:55)

Chair Ayala proposed assembling a Commission Retreat Design subcommittee to come together to plan the Commission's annual retreat, which will be on Zoom.

There was a motion: "I move that the Commission institutes a short term Retreat Design Subcommittee to help us meet the needs of the Tacoma Arts Commission retreat."

Motion: Chair Ayala

Second: Commissioner Conklin

Motion: Carried

Commissioners Woodson, Conklin, Pew, and Fernandez-Llamazares volunteered for the subcommittee.

6. Discussion/Updates

a. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Subcommittee (49:55)

Staff gave an update about the February 19 subcommittee meeting and how there was discussion around roles and how this subcommittee can provide support to the Commission. Vice Chair Maestas shared about reading the Cultural New Deal and Commissioner Sanchez shared thoughts about local organizations helping each other and the need to mentor artists. The next subcommittee meeting is on March 19.

7. Staff Check-In (55:00)

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

Staff gave an update about Community Arts Projects funding contracts and the Annual Report document for the Office of Arts and Cultural Vitality to prepare for the City Council Coffee meetings. The Annual Report document can be used during the Council Coffee meetings. Staff asked Commissioners to sign up for Council Coffee meetings. Staff gave an update about upcoming virtual professional development later this spring from Spaceworks and Rainbow Center. Staff gave an update about the Tacoma Arts Month's website, which will be upgraded this year.

b. Public Art Updates (54:40)

Staff gave an update about the video dedication being created for the artwork at The Rise at 19th. The video includes interviews with artist Diane Hansen, Michael Mirra of Tacoma Housing Authority, and Mayor Woodards. The City's streetlight shop is gradually replacing the Bridge of Glass lighting with LEDs. Staff shared about the E 64th streetscape and the installation of public art at Dickman Mill. Four traffic signal box wraps will be installed featuring the work of Anthony Duenas, Daniel Duenas, and Chris Duenas, who are artists from the Puyallup Tribe. Staff gave an update about yard signs in Lushootseed created in partnership with the Puyallup Language School with artists Shaun Peterson, Paige Pettibon and Anthony Duenas.

c. Tacoma Creates (01:11:20)

Staff shared that Tacoma Creates funding deadlines are approaching for Comprehensive Organizational Support on March 15 and for Impact Funding on March 29. Staff reminded the Commission that Tacoma Creates funding supports Arts, Culture, Heritage and Science organizations and encouraged Commissioners to get the word out about the applications. Application workshops were facilitated by staff members Lisa Jaret and Clarissa Gines to help guide organizations through the process of applying for funding; recordings are available on the Tacoma Creates website.

8. Report Back

a. Advocacy Reports

(1:16:05)

There were no advocacy reports.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

(1:16:35)

Commissioner Kula attended The Book of Andy virtual theatre event co-produced by UW Tacoma Theatre, Dukesbay Productions, and Tacoma Arts Live. Commissioner Sanchez shared that Tacoma Little Theatre can be contacted for tours of their newly remodeled space. Commissioner Fernandez-Llamazares saw the Jacob Lawrence art show in Seattle. Commissioner Scott shared about Whipsmart and her interview with local artist Miriam McBride. Commissioner Brown shared about her work on the Billy Ray Memorial piece at the Eastside Community Center.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

(1:21:30)

Chair Ayala reminded staff about future updates to the Deaccession policy around misappropriation language.

9. Adjourn

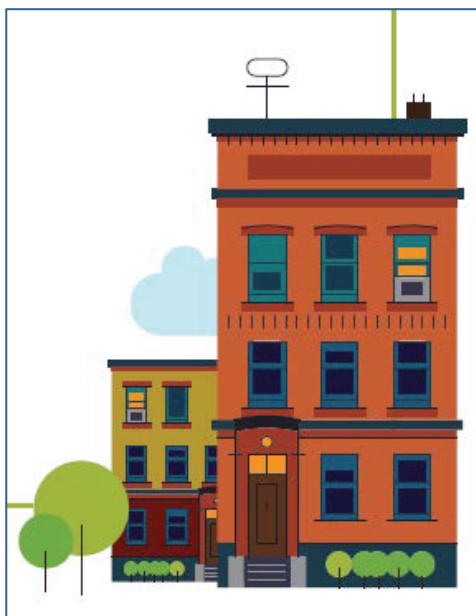
6:29 (1:23:00)

MEETING FREQUENCY

Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 5:00 pm, venue to be determined based on health regulations. All meetings of the Tacoma Arts Commission are open to the public.



To request this information in an alternative format or to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact Tacoma Arts Commission staff at (253) 591-5191. TTY or speech to speech users please dial (253) 581-5820 to connect with Washington Relay Services.



Home in Tacoma Project

Action is necessary as Tacoma faces a housing crisis with people finding it harder to find housing that is affordable, particularly if they have fixed or lower incomes. Housing provides basic human needs and connects us with family, friends, community, transportation, employment and more, which matters to the health, wellbeing and prosperity of our community members.

As part of Tacoma's Affordable Housing Action Strategy, the **Home In Tacoma Project** is forwarding recommended changes to Tacoma's housing growth strategy, policies and programs to increase housing supply, affordability and choice for current and future residents.

PLANNING COMMISSION DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

March 3, 2021

WHAT'S IN THE HOME IN TACOMA PROJECT PACKAGE

As directed by the City Council, Tacoma's Planning Commission has developed policy recommendations to help meet Tacoma's housing needs and aspirations for our neighborhoods. The recommendations were informed by extensive stakeholder engagement and technical analysis. The Commission is currently seeking public input on the recommendations as well as on two housing growth scenarios through April 9, 2021. After the Public Hearing process, the Commission will finalize and forward its recommendations to the City Council. City Council action on this proposed new housing vision will initiate a second phase of public discussion and analysis in support of zoning changes, standards updates and other actions.

Proposals would change policies in Tacoma's Comprehensive Plan – the City's blueprint for community growth. If adopted, these policies would initiate changes to Tacoma's housing zoning, standards and programs.

For more analysis and the full proposals, see the staff report, Housing Action Plan, proposed Comprehensive Plan changes, and environmental determination. The package also includes near-term code changes to clarify implementation of current housing rules and legislative guidance.

A NEW HOUSING GROWTH VISION

Utilize housing growth to create neighborhoods that are inclusive, welcoming to our diverse community, resilient, thriving, distinctive and walkable, with robust community amenities and a range of housing choices and costs.

The recommendations propose **a new vision for housing growth** that would allow Tacoma to adapt to changing housing needs by updating the current model that designates the majority of residential land for single-family houses. The recommendations would allow diverse housing types throughout our neighborhoods and mid-scale multifamily housing near shopping and transit. Diverse housing types, including smaller, attached or clustered housing such as duplex, triplex, cottages and smaller multifamily buildings, can increase housing choices and introduce a broader range of housing prices in our neighborhoods. The City is also taking action to ensure that housing growth meets multiple community goals, target unmet need for affordable housing, and put in place anti-displacement measures and other tools to ensure that all groups can benefit from housing growth.

UPDATING HOUSING POLICIES

To support the new housing growth vision, the proposals include updates to City policies, including:

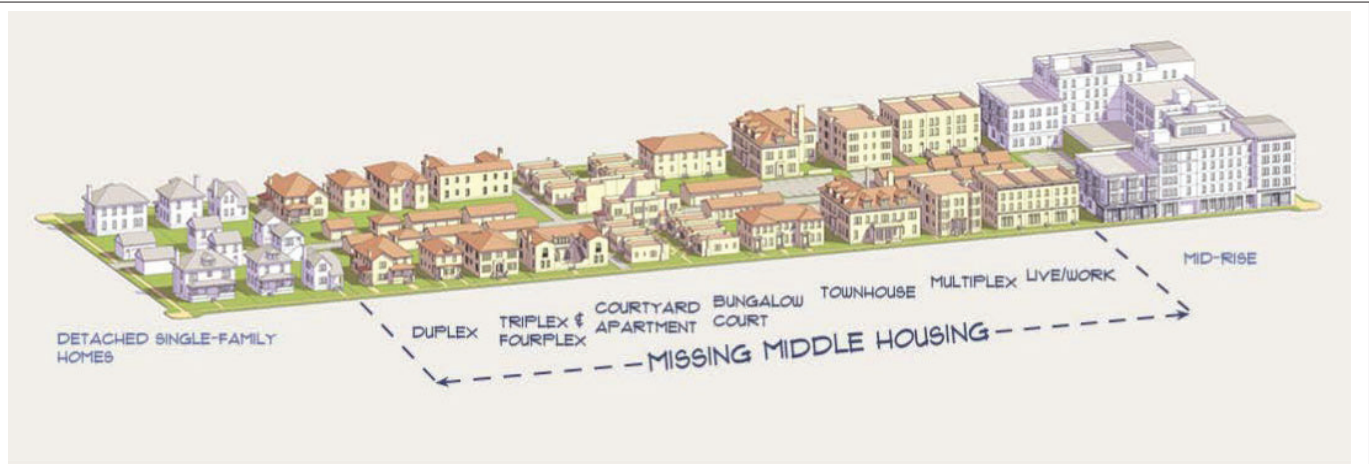
- Increase housing options throughout the City
 - Renew Tacoma’s longstanding vision for housing growth Downtown and in Centers
 - Expand Missing Middle housing options in Tacoma’s neighborhoods
 - Plan for the impacts of growth on urban infrastructure such as sidewalks, traffic and utilities
- Ensure that new housing is well designed and complements Tacoma’s distinctive neighborhoods
 - Use design standards to ensure that infill complements neighborhood scale and patterns
 - Provide for smooth transitions from low-scale to higher scale areas by preventing abrupt changes
 - Protect the character of historic districts and promote reuse of existing structures
- Evolve our housing vision to be more inclusive of all members of our community
 - Address inequitable access to opportunity in Tacoma’s neighborhoods
 - Shift regulatory language away from “family” to allow households to define themselves
 - Address lingering impacts of systemic racism and facilitate homeownership and wealth-building opportunities for people of color
 - Promote accessibility for people of different physical abilities
- Recognize that housing is a fundamental building block of community that affects multiple goals
 - Promote housing in Tacoma as an alternative to urban sprawl, building on long-term public investments
 - Build sustainable and resilient housing to address the climate emergency, urban forestry goals, and protect the health of the Puget Sound
 - Promote infill in walkable areas with transportation choices to reduce car dependency

ENABLING MISSING MIDDLE HOUSING

The recommendations call for implementing the new housing growth vision by enabling diverse housing types, often called Missing Middle Housing, throughout Tacoma’s neighborhoods.

The term “Missing Middle Housing” describes a long-term trend in many American cities of limiting smaller, attached or clustered housing types. Many cities have set aside most of their neighborhoods for single-family houses, and directed tall buildings to high-density areas. What’s missing is space for mid-scale housing types, and the housing choices that they can provide.

Tacoma’s land use framework largely fits this model. Today, the City sets aside about 75 percent of our housing land supply for single-family houses. This was not always the case. Many of Tacoma’s most walkable and sought after neighborhoods, built before single-family zoning, offer a wide range of housing choices. Compatible design features, building height and scale, and attention to transitions help to create a strong and cohesive neighborhood identity, while the housing options support affordability, diversity, walkability and thriving neighborhood businesses.



“Missing Middle is a range of multi-unit or clustered housing types compatible in scale with single-family homes that help meet the growing demand for walkable urban living.” www.missingmiddlehousing.com

Proposed New Residential Land Use Designations

Recommended changes to the Comprehensive Plan support future zoning changes allowing diverse housing types (Missing Middle Housing) throughout the City’s neighborhoods. The proposal would create two new residential land use designations supporting diverse housing types, which would replace the current Single-family and Multi-family Low-Density Land Use designations, and establish infill design principles.

Land Use Designations	Housing types supported	Standards
<p>Low-Scale Residential</p> <p>INTENT: Support diverse housing types in structures that are compatible in scale with houses.</p>	<p>Single-family Duplex Triplex Townhouses Cottage housing Shared housing <u>In some circumstances:</u> Fourplex Small multifamily Tiny/mobile homes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building height and scale similar to houses • Accessory structures in rear yard • Limit the size/bulk of structures • Usable open space/yards • Moderate onsite parking
<p><i>Standards common to both</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrian orientation to the sidewalk & street • Street trees • Reduced lot sizes and setbacks • Encourage alley access for cars • Design standards for specific housing types
<p>Mid-scale Residential</p> <p>INTENT: Support mid-scale multifamily housing in areas close to shopping and transit.</p>	<p>Housing types listed above Mid-scale multifamily Live-work Limited retail/office</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building height, width and depth mid-scale between houses and Centers • Transition standards to abutting low-scale areas • Smaller/shared yards and open space • Moderate to low onsite parking

Examples of Low-scale Residential Housing Types

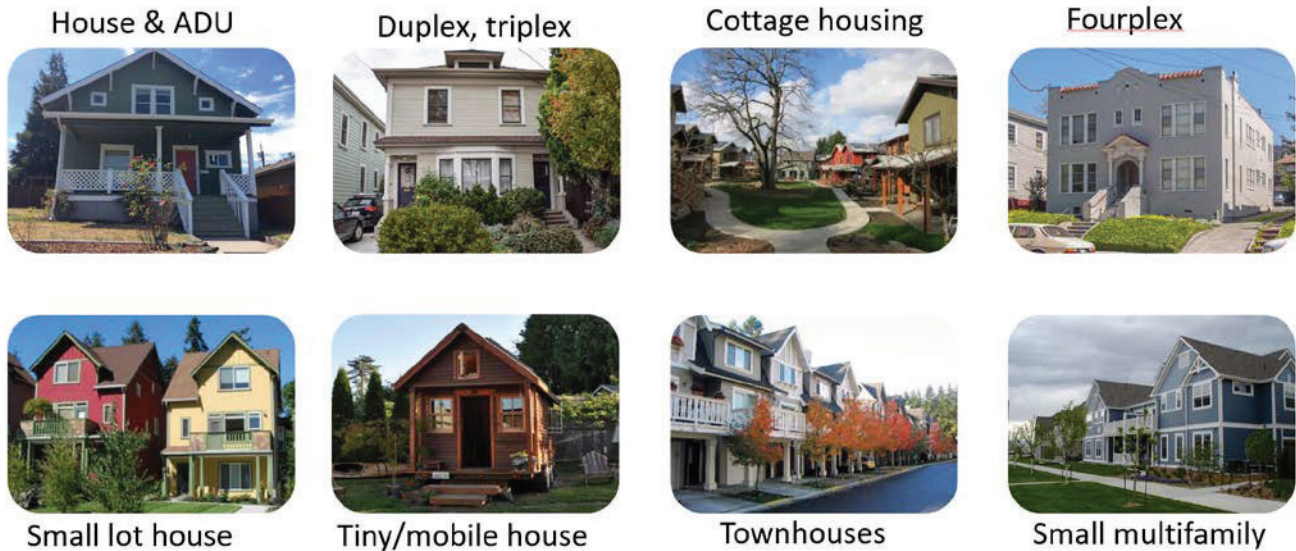


Illustration of Mid-scale Residential Housing and Transition to Low-scale Residential



Housing growth scenarios

The Planning Commission is seeking input on two [housing growth scenarios](#) to help determine the housing types and scale to be allowed throughout the City’s neighborhoods (SEE MAPS BELOW). In both scenarios:

- Single-family and Multifamily Low-Density Land Use Designations are replaced by the proposed Low-scale and Mid-scale Residential Land Use Designations, allowing more housing choices citywide
- Areas where housing is not the primary goal are excluded (such as parks, commercial & industrial areas)
- No changes are proposed to Downtown and Centers which already support high-density housing
- Areas near Centers, Corridors, and (in Scenario 2) bus routes are proposed for Mid-scale Residential

Scenario 1: Evolve Housing Choices	Scenario 2: Transform Housing Choices
Total Missing Middle Applicability area: about 15,500 acres (roughly half of the City’s total area)	
Current land use designations: 90% Single-family, 10% Multifamily (Low-density)	
Low-scale Residential 75%	Low-scale Residential 40%
Mid-scale Residential 25%	Mid-scale Residential 60%

The difference between the scenarios is the extent of each of the two proposed new Residential designations. Both scenarios include significant new housing options, with the most substantial increases in Scenario 2. The Commission will use public input to make final recommendations.

Change will not happen overnight. These actions would open the door to housing growth, but we recognize change is incremental. Encouraging property owners and developers to build diverse housing types will take time. Nonetheless, the recommendations would position Tacoma to adapt more flexibly to meeting community housing needs into the future. To view the scenarios and learn about the pace of development we expect could result, visit www.cityoftacoma.org/homeintacoma.

Getting housing growth right

Getting neighborhood growth right means making sure that we grow smart. The recommendations call for balance between housing growth and design, livability, historic preservation, urban forestry, public infrastructure and services, and other community goals. The recommendations include infill design principles so that new housing complements neighborhood scale and patterns, and provides transitions from higher-scale to lower-scale areas. Proposals include actions to reduce demolitions of viable structures, to ensure that housing growth is supported by infrastructure and services, and steps to assist people of color and others facing economic barriers to access housing and build family wealth.

City Council action on these options will set the vision for housing growth and establish the desired housing types and scale. This will initiate the next phase of public engagement and policy analysis, including:

- Zoning changes
- Design standards updates
- Actions to ensure that urban infrastructure and services are adequate to support growth
- Potential phasing of implementation, if directed by the City Council
- Actions to address the potential demolition of viable structures
- Actions to create green, sustainable and resilient housing
- Actions to promote physical accessibility
- Review of City permitting and processes
- Education and technical support for developers and the public

MAKING HOUSING MORE AFFORDABLE

Allowing diverse housing types is **an essential step toward meeting housing affordability goals**. However, by itself the for-profit housing market is not likely to produce housing affordable to moderate and lower income Tacoma residents. To address this unmet need, the recommendations call for **expansion of regulatory affordable housing incentives and requirements**, as well as **anti-displacement actions** intended to help lower-income residents remain in growing neighborhoods. These tools, in combination with increased public investment and other actions called for by the Affordable Housing Action Strategy, allow the City to partner with developers to make a significant difference in affordable housing creation.

Affordable housing programs enable the City to partner with housing developers to create affordable units as growth occurs. Our analysis of Tacoma's housing market show that the market is strong enough to support expanded use of these tools. There are multiple policy options allowing the City to develop an approach that works for our market and community goals.

Affordability recommendations

- Strengthen policy guidance for affordability tools and set affordable housing production targets
- Update Tacoma's existing affordable housing incentives and requirements to reflect lessons learned
- Recognizing current market strength, consider options to expand regulatory affordable housing tools
- Consider expansion of the City's Multifamily Tax Exemption Program, 12-year affordable housing option
- Establish an anti-displacement strategy to help lower-income residents stay in growing neighborhoods
- Initiate actions to promote access to housing and wealth-building for people of color

If the City Council adopts these policies, the City will integrate updates and expansions to these programs in the next phase of work.

What is in the public review package?

[Housing Growth Scenarios Map](#): Learn about the proposals and provide comments (*maps also included below*)

[Staff Report](#): Providing the policy basis and an overview of the process

[Housing Action Plan](#): The analysis and full list of housing growth strategy actions to be implemented over time

[One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan](#): Housing Element, Urban Form Element and Design and Development Element changes to reflect policy direction

[Near-term code changes](#): Changes to address known code issues, and for consistency with state law

[SEPA determination](#): City review of potential environmental impacts and mitigation actions as warranted

What comes next?

The Commission invites the community to ***make your voice heard on Tacoma's housing future***. While there are many questions to address in developing zoning, standards and other implementation tools, the Commission believes that these recommendations will result in more housing supply, choice and affordability throughout the City that is compatible with existing neighborhoods. This will help everyone, as we all depend on housing, and support Tacoma's vision of being an equitable, inclusive, sustainable and vibrant City. Stay involved!

Learn more and provide your comments on these proposals:

The full proposals are at www.cityoftacoma.org/homeintacoma.

INFORMATION MEETING: Thursday, March 18th at 5:30 p.m. on ZOOM

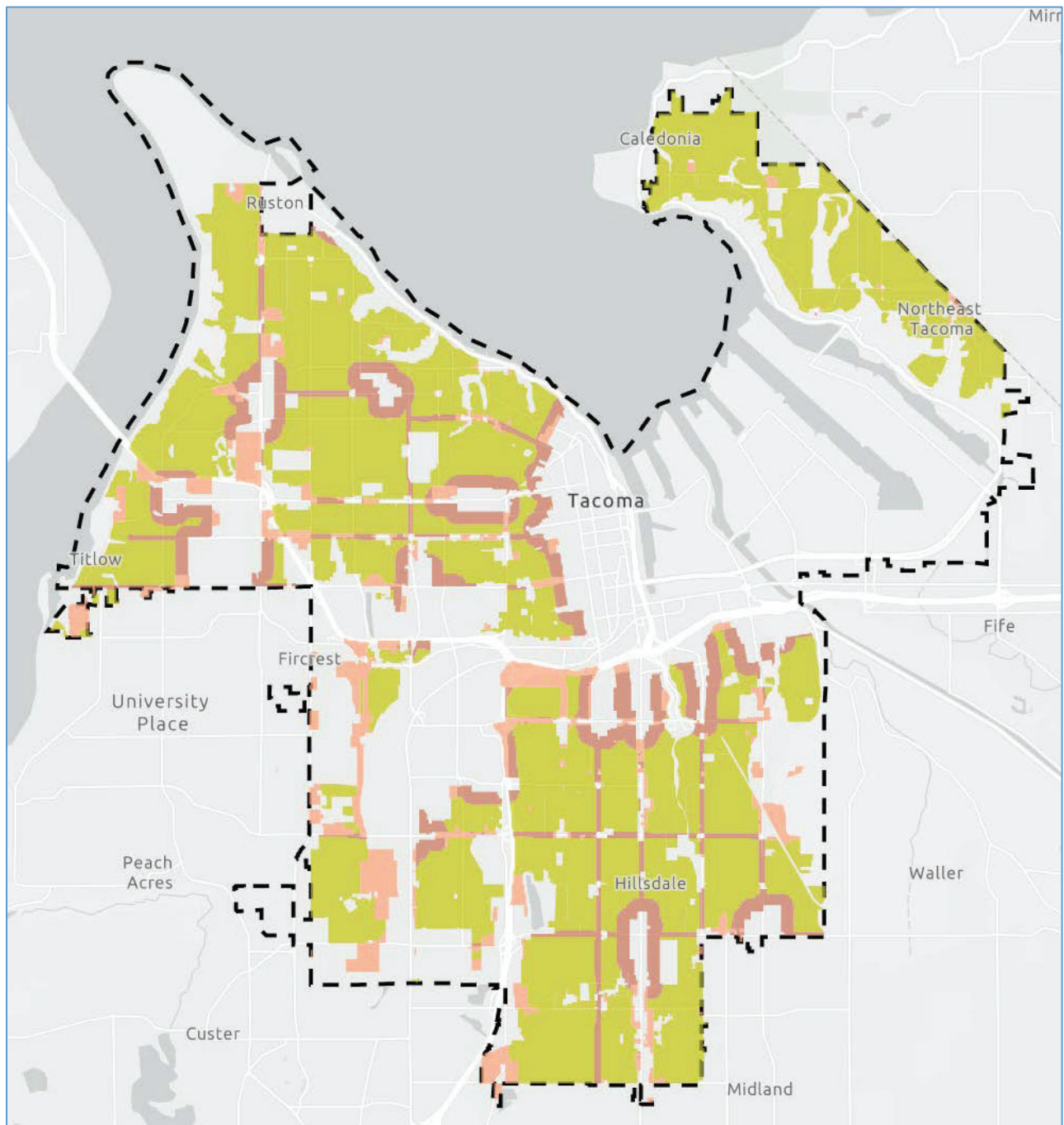
PUBLIC HEARING: Wednesday, April 7th beginning at 5:30 p.m. on ZOOM




COMMENTS DEADLINE: Friday, April 9th to planning@cityoftacoma.org or Planning Commission, 747 Market Street Room 345, Tacoma WA 98402

The City Council is scheduled to take action on these proposals in June 2021. The City Council has directed staff and the Commission to provide zoning and development standards updates to implement the adopted policy direction by December of 2021.



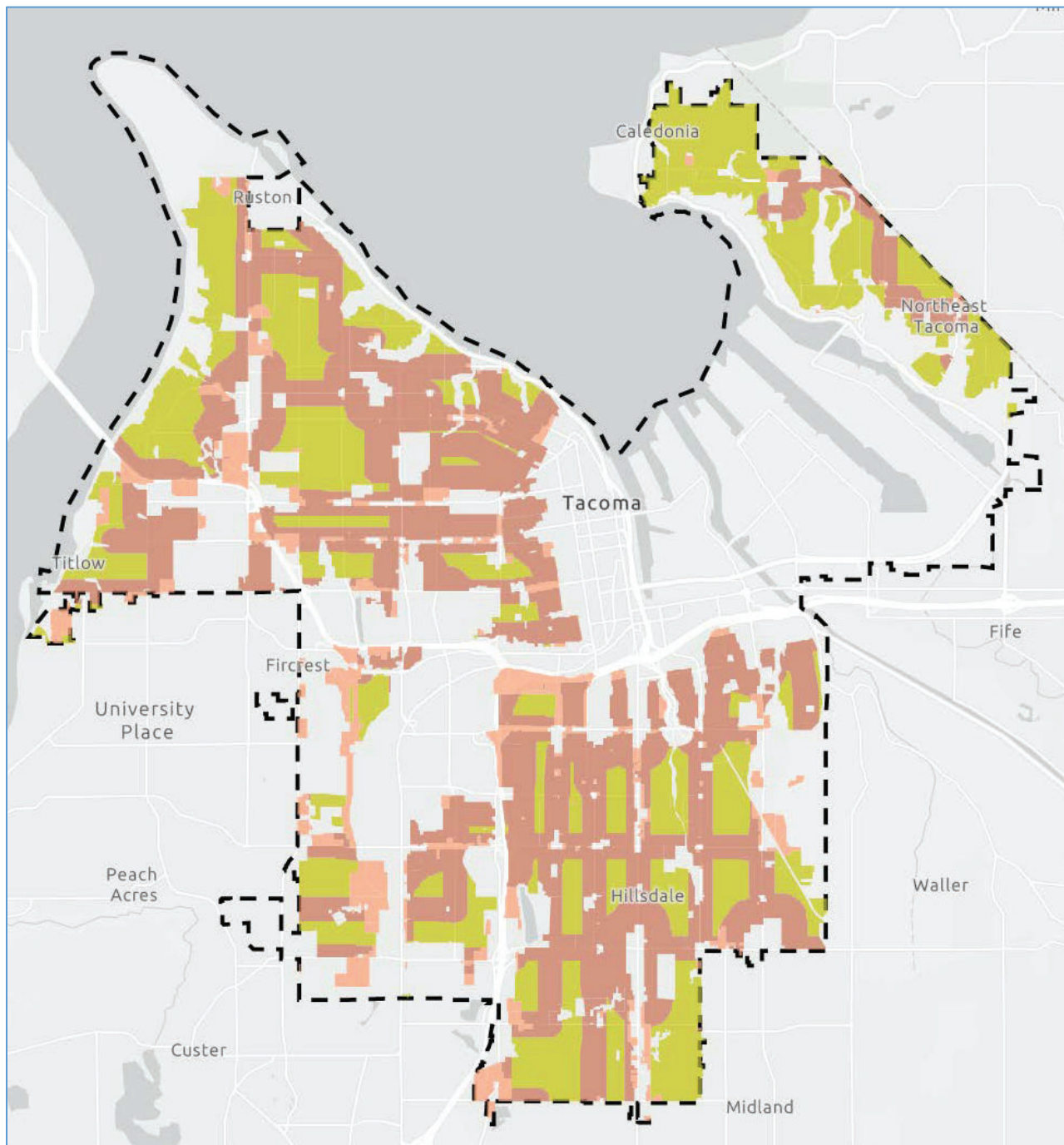
SCENARIO 1: Evolve Housing Choices






-  Proposed Low-scale Residential (currently Single-family)
-  Proposed Mid-scale Residential (currently Multifamily-Low Density)
-  Proposed Mid-Scale Residential (currently Single-family)

Visit the online [Housing Growth Scenarios Map](#) to learn more and provide comments

SCENARIO 2: Transform Housing Choices



-  Proposed Low-scale Residential (currently Single-family)
-  Proposed Mid-scale Residential (currently Multifamily-Low Density)
-  Proposed Mid-Scale Residential (currently Single-family)

Visit the online [Housing Growth Scenarios Map](#) to learn more and provide comments

Help shape the future of housing in Tacoma

To meet growing demands from the community for increased housing supply, affordability and choice, the City is considering the following proposed actions:

- Allow more housing types throughout Tacoma’s neighborhoods
- Allow mid-scale multifamily housing in areas close to shopping and transit
- Update design standards so new housing complements the neighborhood
- Strengthen policies and programs to make housing more affordable
- Strengthen anti-racism and anti-displacement policies and programs

We are considering actions to adapt our rules and policies to support the development of more diverse and affordable housing options, along with steps to get neighborhood growth right.

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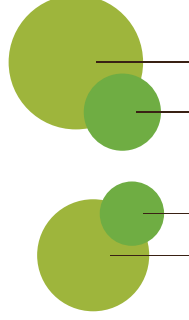
To learn more about the proposed changes, visit cityoftacoma.org/homeintacoma or join us for an

INFORMATION MEETING:

Thursday, March 18 at 5:30 p.m. on ZOOM
(with Spanish live translation)

PUBLIC HEARING:

Wednesday, April 7 starting at 5:30 p.m.





PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Today many people struggle to find housing they can afford that meets their needs. The City is asking for public comment on proposals that would affect most of Tacoma’s residential areas, as well as a package of near-term code changes, and an environmental (SEPA) review of potential growth impacts.

To provide comments:

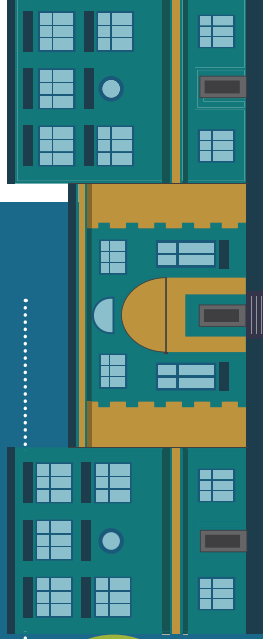
- Join us at 5:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, April 7, 2021** at the Planning Commission Public Hearing on ZOOM
- Provide written comments to **planning@cityoftacoma.org** or the address below by **Friday, April 9, 2021**:

Planning Commission
747 Market Street Room 349, Tacoma WA 98402

- Provide comments on our interactive online map by **Friday, April 9, 2021**

Meeting details are available at **cityoftacoma.org/homeintacoma**.
For more information: **planning@cityoftacoma.org**, (253) 591-5030
(Option 4)

¿Necesitas información en español?
한국어로 정보가 필요하십니까?
Cần thông tin bằng tiếng Việt?
Нужна информация на русском?
ត្រូវការព័ត៌មានជាភាសាខ្មែរ?
planning@cityoftacoma.org
TacomaFIRST 311 @ (253) 591-5000



CITY OF TACOMA AND PRETTY GRITTY TOURS
PRESENTS

Virtual Tour of Tacoma's West End



The History that Formed a
hidden neighborhood

