



Public Comments

Meeting: Wednesday, September 4, 2024

Submittal: Written comments received at planning@cityoftacoma.org

Subjects: Comments are addressing the following Discussion Item(s) on the agenda:

F3 – One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan Update – Parks and Recreation

No. of Comments: One



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¿Necesitas información en español? Cần thông tin bằng tiếng Việt? 한국어로 정보가 필요하십니까? ត្រូវការព័ត៌មានជាភាសាខ្មែរ?

Нужна информация на русском? Потрібна інформація українською мовою? ☎ Contact TacomaFIRST 311 at (253) 591-5000.

From: [Cheri Solien](#)
To: [Planning](#)
Cc: [Torrez, Alyssa](#); [Alisa O'Hanlon Regala](#); [Hines, John](#); [Walker, Kristina](#)
Subject: Sept. 4 Comment on Tac Comp Plan- Parks and Rec/Titlow Park
Date: Sunday, September 1, 2024 5:52:19 AM

Dear Tacoma Planning Commission,

I want to ensure that Titlow Park in the West End of Tacoma does not get short-changed staff during the review of the *Park and Recreation Element of the One Tacoma Plan and the alignment with the City's goals and policies with the MPT System and Strategic Plan*.

Why? Titlow is a heavily used waterfront destination park. As of April 1, 2024, it was upgraded to Regional Park, a status worthy of the park. It requires more than one park employee to keep up the 75 acres. Titlow cannot afford to lose another staff person again due to the goal alignment of the Tacoma Comprehensive Plan with the city.

Last winter Titlow Park lost one just recently hired part-time employee who was transferred across town to another park. Titlow had that one .5 park employee about 8 months before he was transferred out, leaving one full-time employee, once again, to care for and manage the popular and heavily used 75-acre park on the West Side, a section of town that is often overlooked in the city's budget.

It took Titlow until August, after a very, very hard month of July at the park, to get another 6-month temporary employee. Then, just a week ago, Titlow was given a second permanent employee. That is the first time in my nine years as a Titlow Park volunteer to see this park get fully staffed. And I personally know Titlow NEEDS this number of staff due to the heavy usage year-round usage.

Titlow Park in the West End of Tacoma needs a long-range vision from both Metro Parks and the Tacoma Comprehensive Plan to meet the current and future needs of Tacoma residents and visitors. Titlow Park, *a City of Tacoma Treasure* with the iconic view of the Narrows Bridge, provides much-needed public green space and waterfront access to bring nature, tranquility, and well-being to our residents.

And one final note, please keep in mind that the West End has no taxpayer-funded community center nor the employees required to staff such a center. Therefore, it is very important that our two signature parks are fully staffed since they are both heavily used and enjoyed by most everyone in Tacoma.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheri Solien
West End Resident
9 year Titlow Park Volunteer