




## Agenda

**Meeting:** Regular Meeting (hybrid)  
**Date/Time:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024, 12:00 pm  
**Location:** Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, Room 138  
**Zoom Info:** Link: <https://www.zoom.us/j/85831009869>  
 Dial-in: +1 253-215-8782  
 ID: 858 3100 9869

ITEM	LEAD	DURATION
<b>Call to Order</b>		
1. Review of Meeting Notes of August 20, 2024 and September 18, 2024		
2. Public Comment <i>(Written comments accepted via e-mail to <a href="mailto:planning@cityoftacoma.org">planning@cityoftacoma.org</a>, due by 5:00 p.m. the day before the meeting) (None received)</i>	Vice Chair Karnes	5 min.
<b>Discussion / Action Items</b>		
1. Transportation & Mobility Plan: Transit Modal Element <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Strategy and Actions Update</li> <li>B. Frequent Transit Network</li> <li>C. Capital Investment Corridors</li> </ul>	Thomas Brennan and Sarah McMinimy, Nelson/Nygaard	50 min.

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### Communication Items

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1. Pierce Transit Destination 2045 Story Map Open for Feedback Through October 18 <https://tinyurl.com/ymk8t8vv> Vice Chair Karnes 3 min.
  
  2. Future Agenda Items (tentative):
    - a. Comprehensive Plan Update – Urban Form
    - b. Existing Policy and Standards Review
    - c. Pierce Transit Long Range Planning
    - d. WSDOT Discussion Regarding Complete Streets
    - e. Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Master Plan Coordination
    - f. Four Corners
    - g. South Tacoma Sounder Access
    - h. TDLE
  
  3. New Business / Closing Comments Vice Chair Karnes 2 min.
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### Adjournment

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**Next Meeting: Second Wednesday**

- November 13, 2024, 12:00 p.m.

**CITY of TACOMA**  
**TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE**  
**MEETING SUMMARY**

**MEETING DATE:** August 7, 2024

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Members Present: Pamela Wrenn (Chair), Chris Karnes (Vice Chair), Troy Serad, Jordan Rash

Visitors: Tom Brennan (N/N), Sarah McMinimy (N/N)

Agency Partners: Eric Chipps (ST)

Staff Support: Wesley Rhodes (COT/PDS), Carrie Wilhelme (COT/PW), Mary Crabtree (COT/PDS)

### CALL TO ORDER

Pamela Wrenn called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

#### 1. Review of Meeting Summaries of May 22, 2024 and June 20, 2024

Meeting summaries were adopted.

#### 2. Review of Public Comments

One comment received regarding concerns about transportation and other local impacts of the Bridge Industrial project.

### DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

#### 1. Transportation Plan Update: Transit Element

Thomas Brennan and Sarah McMinnemy of Nelson/Nygaard led the Taskforce through a presentation and discussion of the following topics related to the transit modal element of the update to the Transportation & Mobility Plan:

- Comment Resolution for the Introduction and Context Sections
- Transit Element Strategies
- Frequent Transit Network Development Approach
- Next Steps

The Taskforce provided live comment on the Transit Element Strategies via a Miro Board and were given additional time outside of the meeting to complete their comments. Nelson/Nygaard indicated they plan to return to the Taskforce in the fall to focus on data analysis and the draft Frequent Transit Network and capital investment priorities. Discussion then concluded with identification of potential



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issues, opportunities, and trends as it relates to Tacoma and Transit. The Taskforce was invited to continue the discussion via a miro board prior to the next meeting.

## **COMMUNICATION ITEMS**

### **1. Future Agenda Items**

- A. Diane Wiatr will present from Sound Transit on the Tacoma Dome Link Extension transit access improvements

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

**CITY of TACOMA**  
**TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE**  
**MEETING SUMMARY**

**MEETING DATE:**        **September 18, 2024**

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Members Present: Pamela Wrenn (Chair), Chris Karnes (Vice Chair), Troy Serad, Jordan Rash, Ruben Casas

Visitors: Tom Brennan (N/N), Sarah McMinimy (N/N)

Agency Partners: Diane Waitr (ST), Artie Nelson (ST), Anna Peterson (PT), Darin Stavish (PT)

Staff Support: Wesley Rhodes (COT/PDS), Carrie Wilhelme (COT/PW), Grayson Reim (COT/PW), Madeline Borowski (COT/PDS), Mary Crabtree (COT/PDS)

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Pamela Wrenn called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

#### **1. Review of Meeting Summary for June 20, 2024**

No comments or concerns

#### **2. Review of Public Comments**

None received.

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

#### **1. Tacoma Dome transit access improvements**

- Project overview
- Access improvement options
- Next steps

Upon conclusion of the presentation the group discussed opportunities for further engagement as well as the City of Tacoma’s expressed desire for this to be a more pedestrian (as opposed to auto) oriented area.

A question arose about the ability to use Sound Transit funds for additional projects, such as the Puyallup Avenue Complete Streets Project, when those projects include a scope broader than just access improvements for pedestrians and bikers to the Link. It was further clarified that these funds cannot be used for programmatic implementation but it could be used for wayfinding and signage in the area.



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Additional discussion regarding decisions about the station location occurred as it relates directly to access improvements. concern was raised about completing improvements when the exact station location has not been voted by the board.

The Taskforce reinforced their encouragement for the Agency to think about the pedestrian experience in the area and near the station, even if they are getting there by car, such as improvements to the public realm. Sound Transit indicated that once the location is approved by the board that there will be public realm upgrade discussion during the design phase of the station.

## **2. Picture Pac Ave Draft Zoning for EIS Alternatives**

Wesley presented the draft zoning for the No Action and two Action Alternatives.

The Taskforce made a few comments regarding how zoning boundaries might be linked to walking boundaries as opposed to a strict parcel boundary, the linkage between the Lower Pac MUC and the Lincoln MUC as they begin to merge, as well as any concerns regarding upzoning near Blueberry Park and connectivity to the park.

## **COMMUNICATION ITEMS**

### **1. Future Agenda Items**

1. The group anticipates additional presentation and discussion with Nelson/Nygaard related to the update of the Transit Modal Element of the Transportation Master Plan including:
  - A. Strategy and Actions Update
  - B. Frequent Transit Network
  - C. Capital Investment Corridors

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.





# Transit Element

TOD Task Force

October 2024

# What We'll Cover

1. Background
2. Quick Strategy and Actions Update
3. Frequent Transit Network
4. Capital Investment Corridors
5. Next Steps

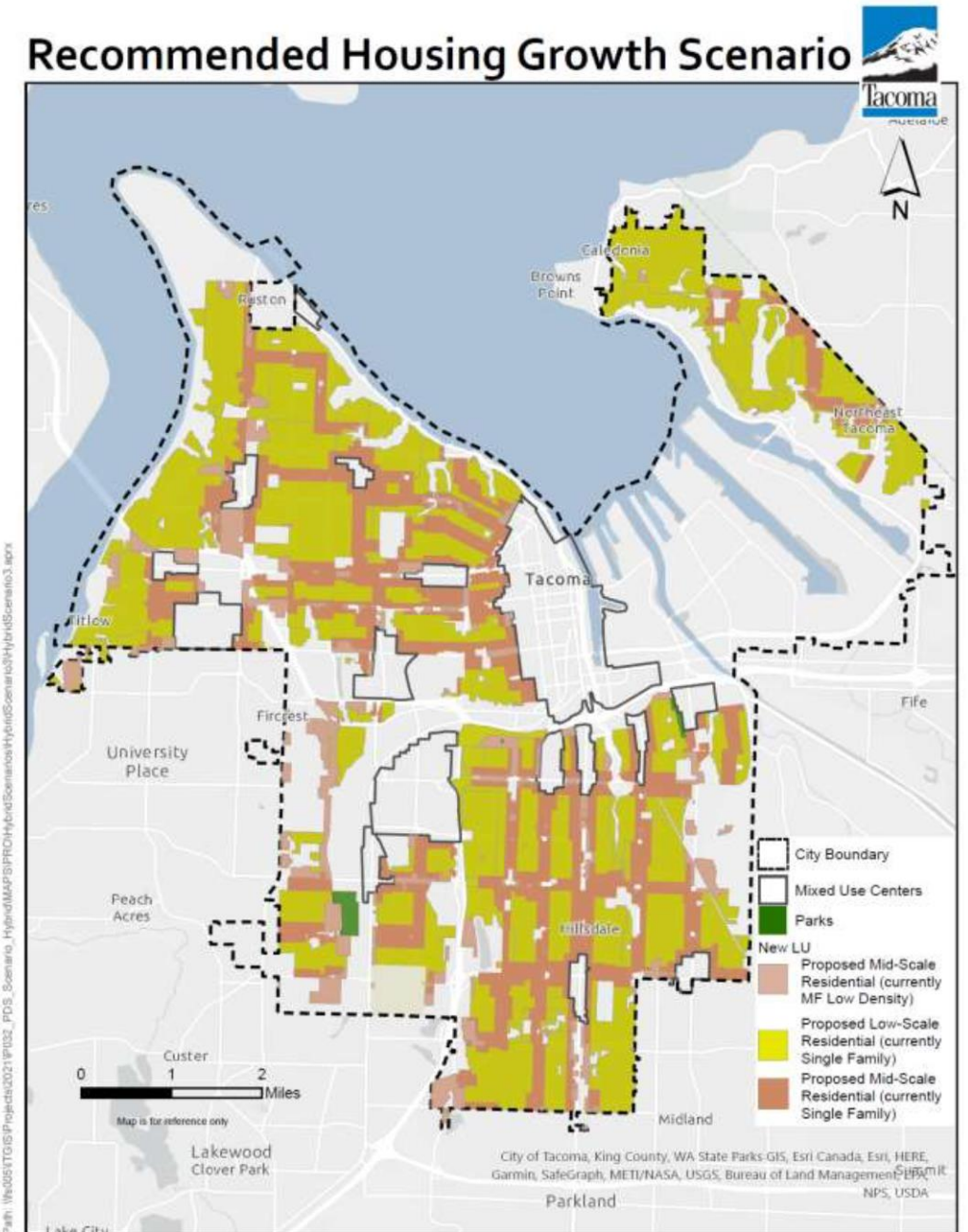




# Background

# What's New From 2015

- Separate capital & operating investments
  - Frequent Transit Network
  - Capital Investment Corridors
- Comp Plan and 2015 TMP merge two types of investment
  - Operating and capital funds have different sources/viability
  - City of Tacoma may have more direct influence on capital programs
- Updated land use projections
  - Home in Tacoma
- Sound Transit Expansion (ST 3) and Pierce Transit Long Range Plan update



# Transit Element Outline

Section	Content	Your Input
<b>Introduction</b>	A. Background B. Why Transit is Important?	-Meeting #1 Inputs -Miro Board Synthesis
<b>Context</b>	A. Transit Today B. Key Opportunities C. Emerging Trends D. Key Challenges	-Meeting #2 Input -Synthesis of Miro Brainstorm
<b>Network Vision</b>	A. Frequent Transit Network Vision B. Transit Capital Investment Corridors	-Today's Meeting – Comments by October 18th
<b>Strategies</b>	Details on subsequent slides	- December 2024 TC Review of Full Transit Element
<b>Transformative Actions</b>	Top 5 – 7 actions with lead agency and partners	-Draft actions from your inputs -December 2024 TC Review
<b>Performance Monitoring</b>	A. How we'll monitor progress b. Transit Level of Service	-December 2024 TC Review

# Strategies and Action

# Strategies

## Transit Service & Operations

- Frequent Transit Network implementation
- Service integration and coordination
- Safety improvements & customer experience
- Seamless/timed transfers between modes
- Alternative service models

## Capital projects & Integration

- Leverage high-capacity transit investments
- Bus only lanes & signal priority
- Transit centers and hub improvements
- Transit corridor projects

## Transit Supportive Context

- Transit oriented community planning and design
- Pedestrian-supportive land uses
- Future corridor planning and preservation

## Transit Access

- First- and last-mile access to transit
- Traveler information
- Transit and public realm

## Encouragement & Incentives

- Fare programs / ORCA
- Transportation Demand Management

## Asset Management & Modernization

- Good state of repair for key transit corridors
- Pavement and striping program coordination
- Transit technology

## Funding & Governance

- Increase transit operating and capital funds
- Tie transit funding to mode shift goals
- Staff resources

# Actions

**CITY OF TACOMA**

↑ Transit Funding

FTN Implementation

Safe Access to Transit

Transit Priority & Spot Improvements

Partnerships for HCT System Expansion

**TRANSIT AGENCY PARTNERS**



# Frequent Transit Network

# Frequent Transit Network

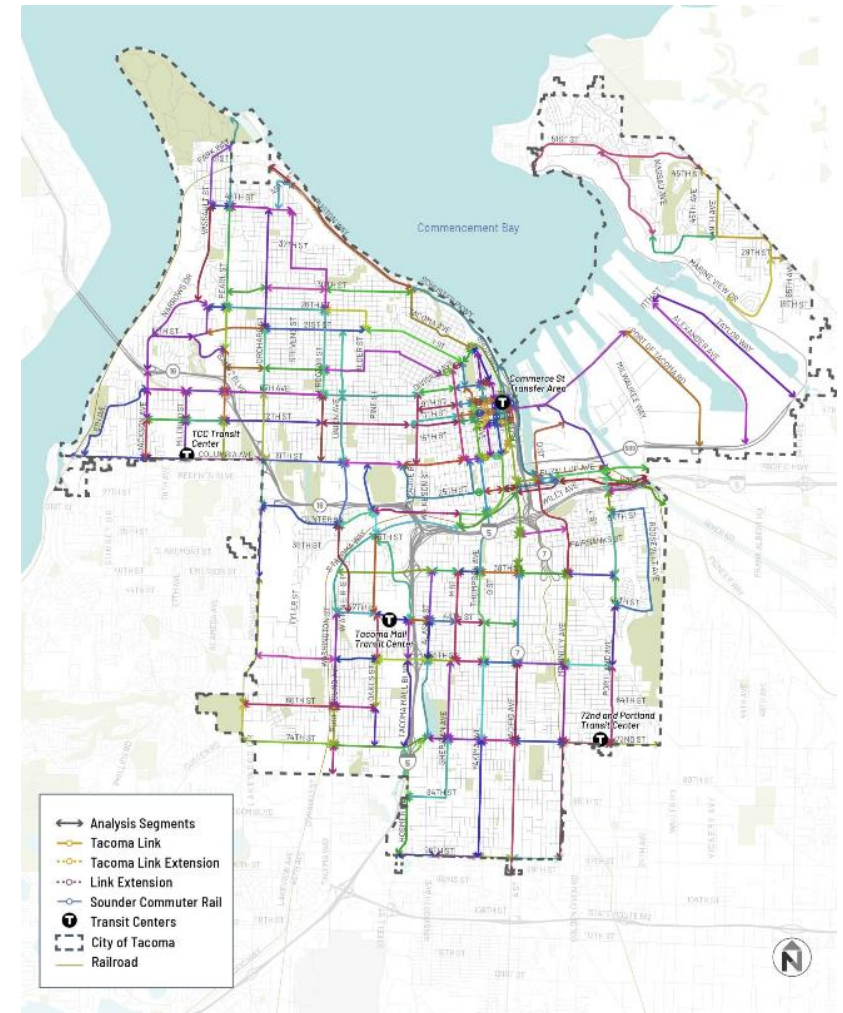
- The Frequent Transit Network (FTN) is an **aspirational vision** for service levels on Tacoma's transit network.
- The FTN provides a policy basis and specific targets for frequent, reliable transit service connecting neighborhoods, centers and key destinations throughout the day, every day.
- The FTN is not a service plan.



# Frequent Transit Network Development

## Assessment Used to Develop Draft FTN Tiers Corridors

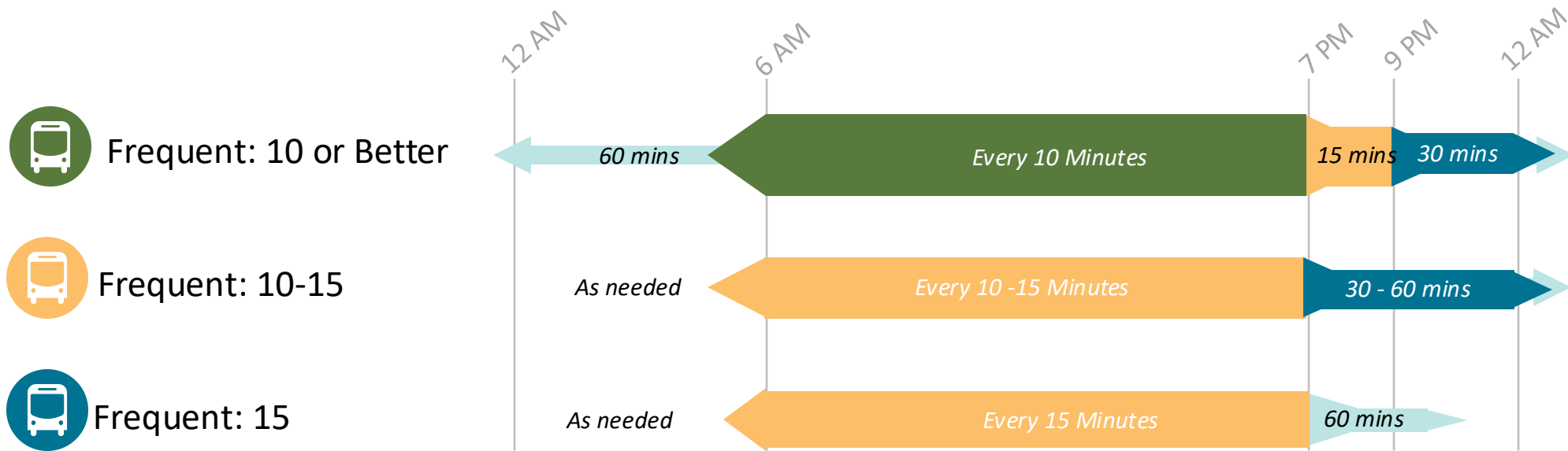
- Current Land Use & Travel Pattern
- Future Land Use & Travel Patterns
- Performance of Existing Transit Services
- Future Transit Expansion & Projects
- Equity Score



Corridor Segmentation for Analysis

# Frequent Transit Network

- FTN vision target service levels



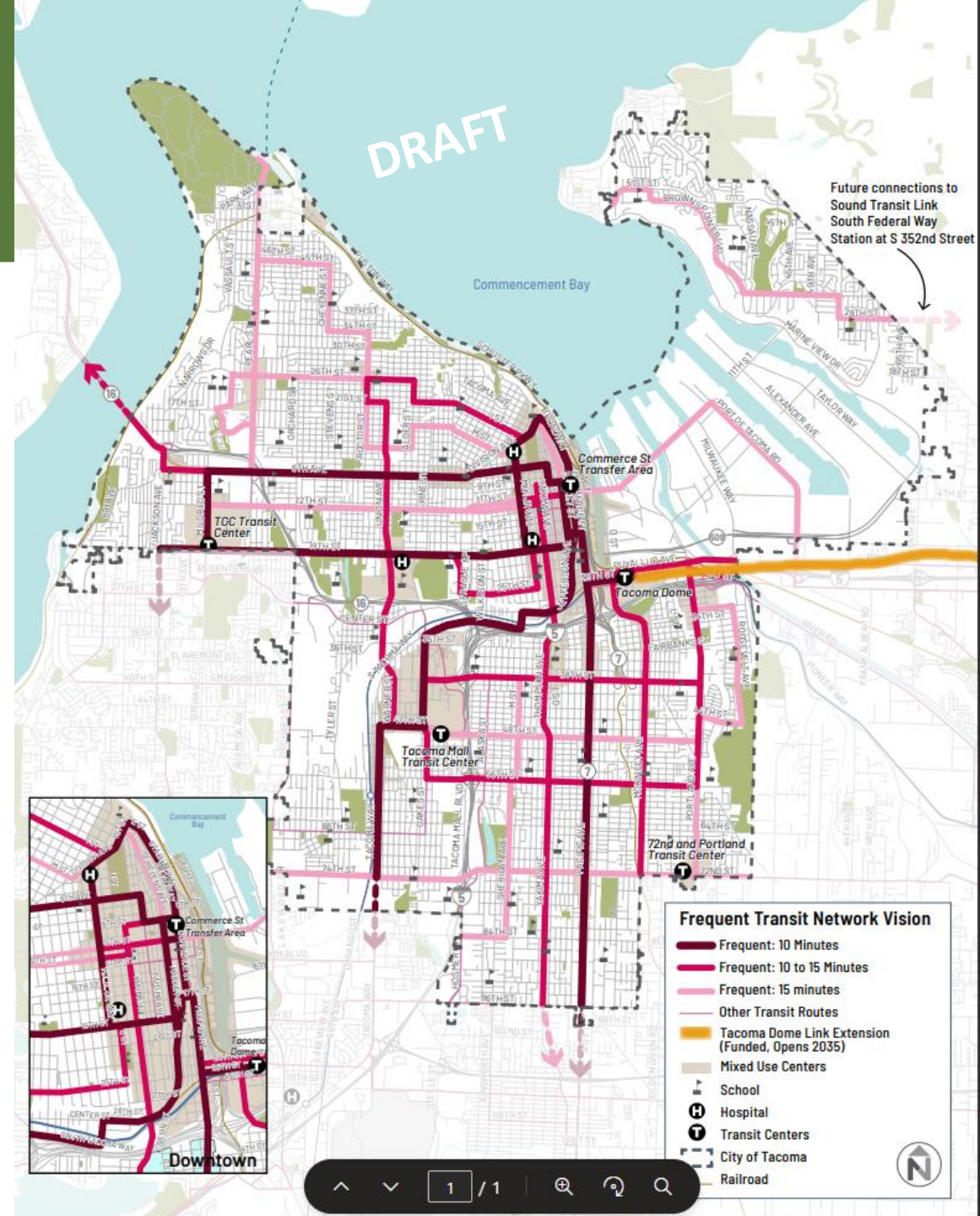
Target Service Level Categories

Target Spans



# Frequent Transit Network

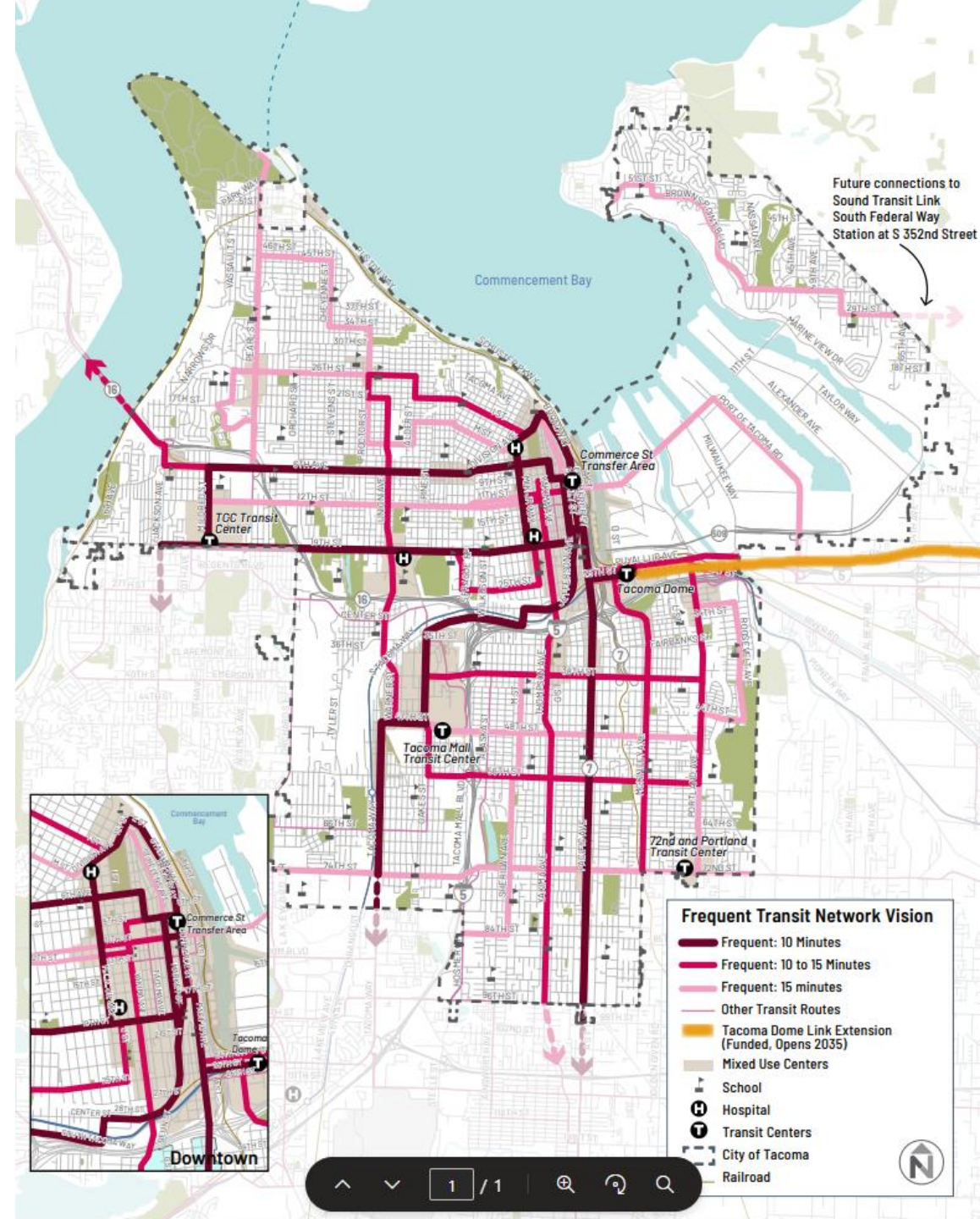
- Create a grid of high-frequency lines
- Reduce need to travel Downtown to make crosstown trips
- Connect key regional and mixed-use centers
- Complement Pierce Transit capital investment priorities
- Align service investments with future transit capital projects





## Draft FTN Vision includes:

- A **high-frequency grid** that allows reliable, competitive travel between all Tacoma neighborhoods and the region via key hubs
- Target for **15-minute or better service** on several key corridors
- **Top tier corridors** include those identified/being considered by Pierce Transit as candidate BRT/Stream corridors or with existing/planned rail
- **North to south connection on west side**, Proctor – Tacoma Mall (via Union)
- **S/SE Tacoma high-frequency grid** focused on:
  - 38<sup>th</sup> St & 56<sup>th</sup> St
  - Yakima, Pacific, McKinley, & Portland
- **Future NE Tacoma connection** from S Federal Way Station

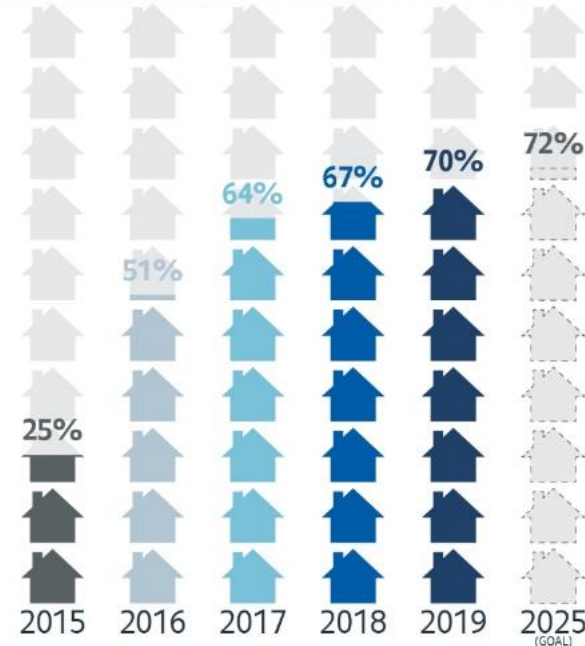




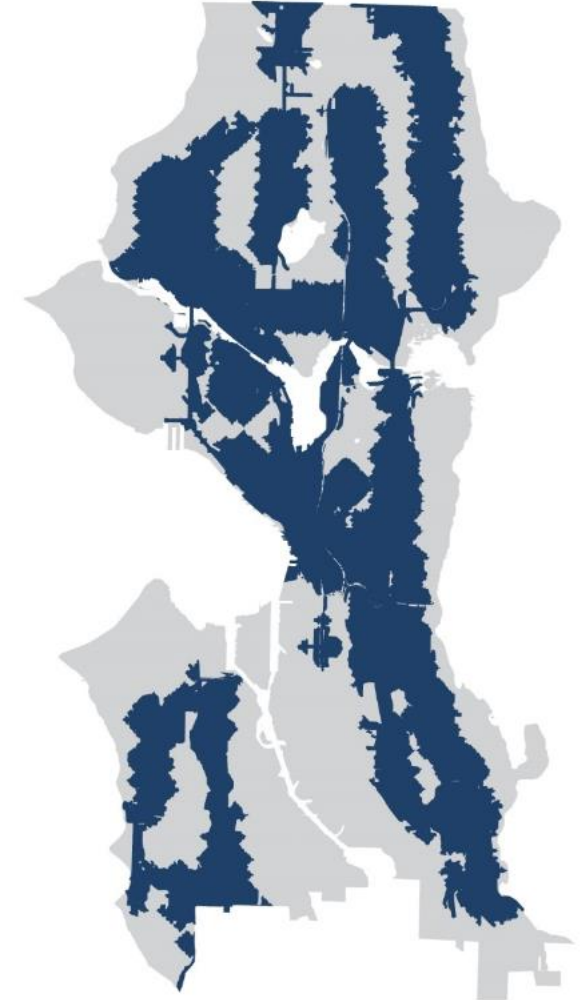
# Measuring FTN Progress

- Percent of households with access to 15-minute service
- Seattle example – rapid increase resulted, in part, from Seattle Transit Plan and Seattle Transit Measure (STBD)

Percent of Households with Access to Very Frequent Transit Service, 2015 - 2019



Coverage of the Very Frequent Transit Network



# Capital Investment Corridors

# Capital Investment Corridors

- Connect Tacoma's regional and mixed-use centers/corridors with reliable service and safe, accessible stops and stations
- Not tied to current route network
- Responsive to planned ST3 investments
- Scale of investment based on cumulative score
- *Origin – destination data not yet complete (will revisit once that is in complete later this month)*

# Key Principles

- Enhance cross town connections between key mixed-use centers
- Build reliable connections to passenger rail – commuter and future light rail
- Ensure future service investments are protected by develop transit priority (in lane and signal) in key FTN corridors
- Optimize planned transit agency high- and medium-capacity transit investments

# Capital Investment Corridors: MAP

**Tier 1:** Surface Rail or Bus Rapid Transit

**Tier 2:** Corridor Enhancements

**Tier 3:** Spot Improvements for Safety and Reliability

*Exclusion from this map does not mean “no service”*



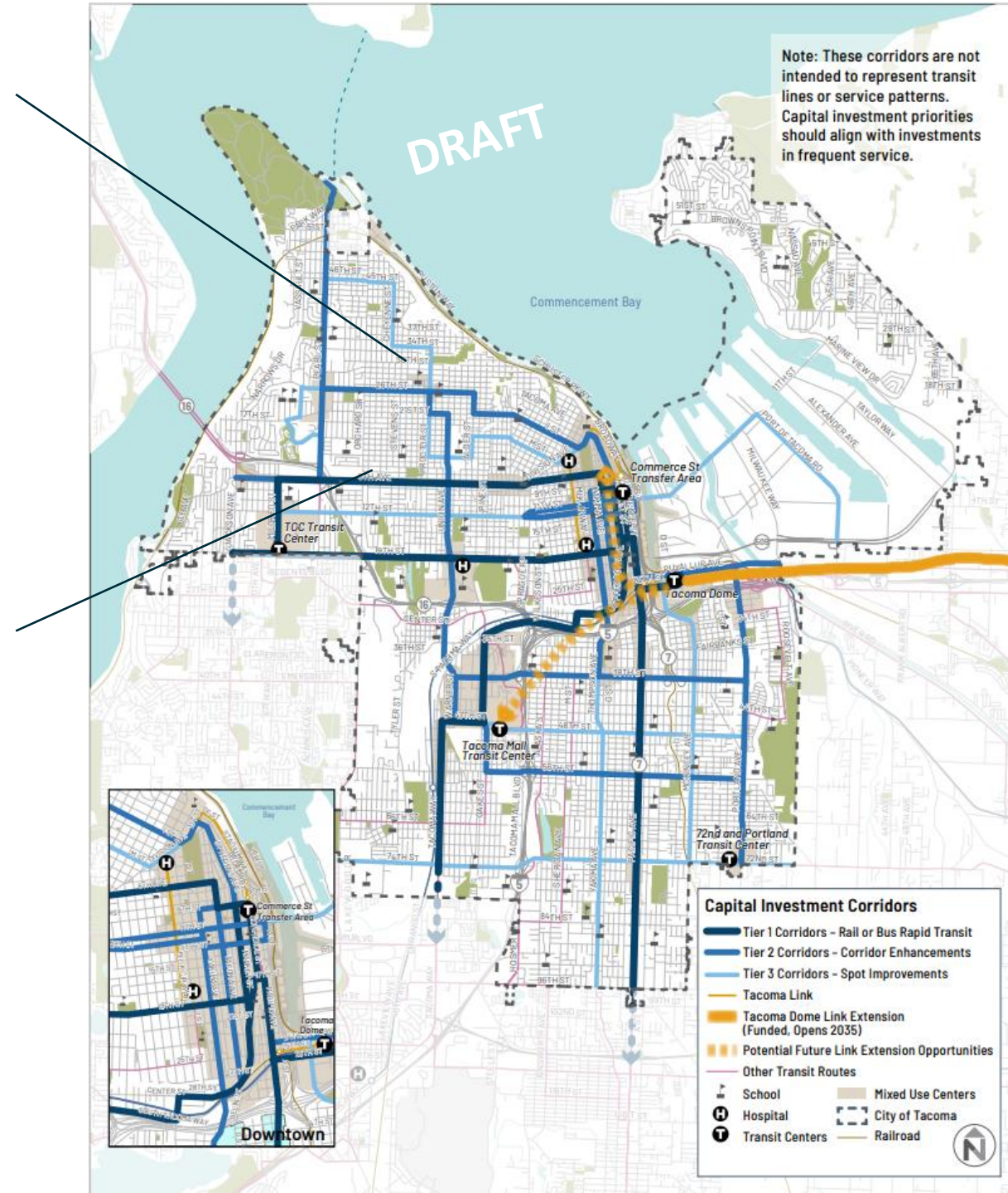


## Building out a west side Grid

- Focus on transit priority investments that support the FTN
- Serve Proctor with a strong east – west connection
- Connect Proctor – Oakland/Madrona – Tacoma Mall – South Tacoma
- Enhance transit priority in the N Pearl Corridor

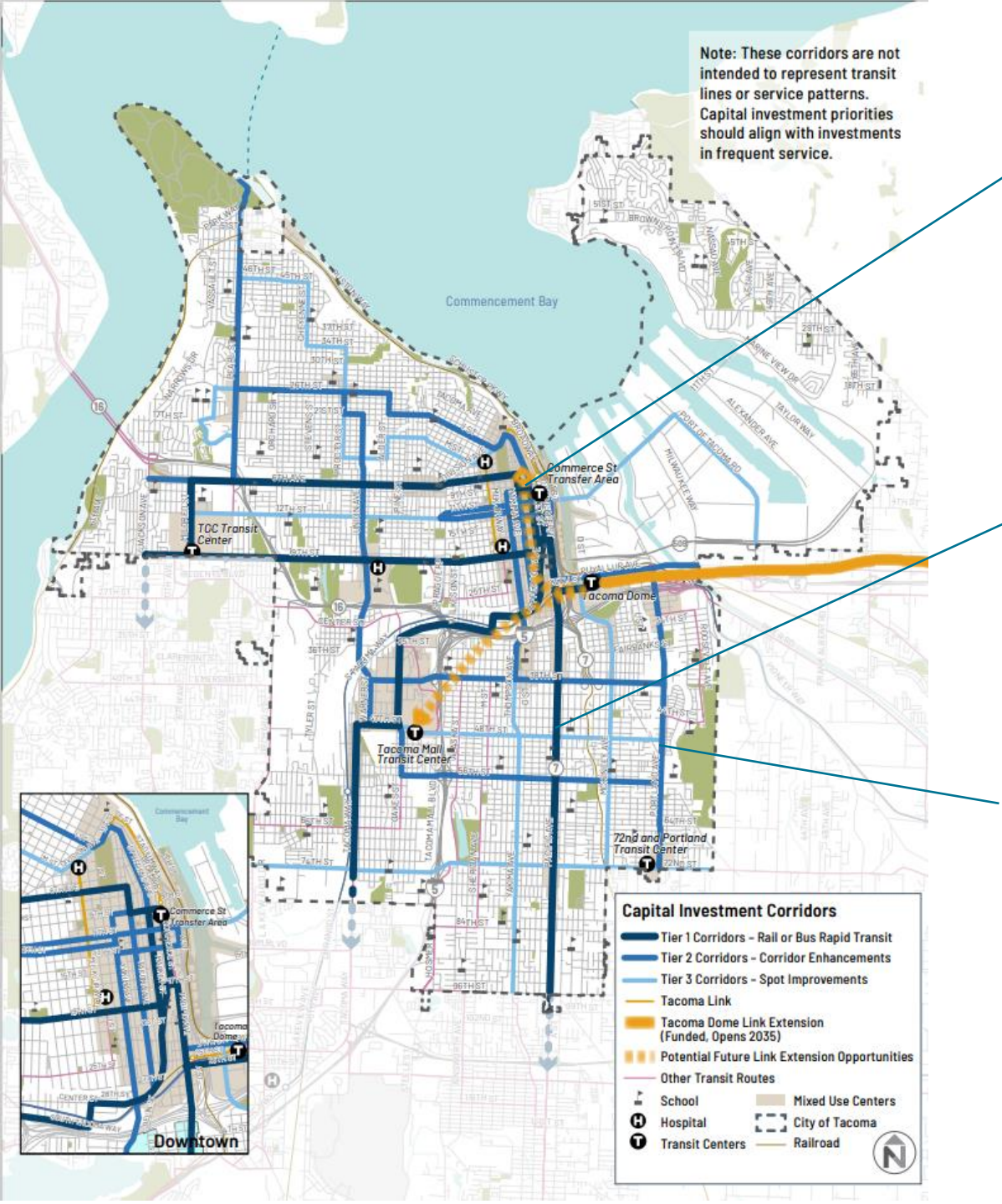
## 6<sup>th</sup> Ave and 19<sup>th</sup> Street

- 19<sup>th</sup> Street – Future Tacoma Link Extension
- 6<sup>th</sup> Ave - preferred BRT routing serving 6<sup>th</sup> Street Business District – TCC – Bridgeport
- Analysis shows 50% higher ridership potential for BRT on 6<sup>th</sup> Ave vs 19<sup>th</sup> Street
- TriMet's FX2 Division BRT is an excellent model for successful arterial BRT through a business district with a two-lane street





Note: These corridors are not intended to represent transit lines or service patterns. Capital investment priorities should align with investments in frequent service.



## Regional Light Rail Expansion Opportunities (Long Range)

- Downtown – Stadium District
- Tacoma Mall

## Priorities for Pierce Transit BRT Investment

- Pacific Highway
- Downtown – Tacoma Mall – South Tacoma - Lakewood
  - Current Route 3
  - Consider Pac Hwy – 38<sup>th</sup> Ave routing alternative to Tacoma Mall

## SE Tacoma Grid

- Transit priority enhancements to support frequent service grid
- Portland Ave E (SE connection to Link LRT)
- 38<sup>th</sup> Street
- 56<sup>th</sup> Street

# Next Steps

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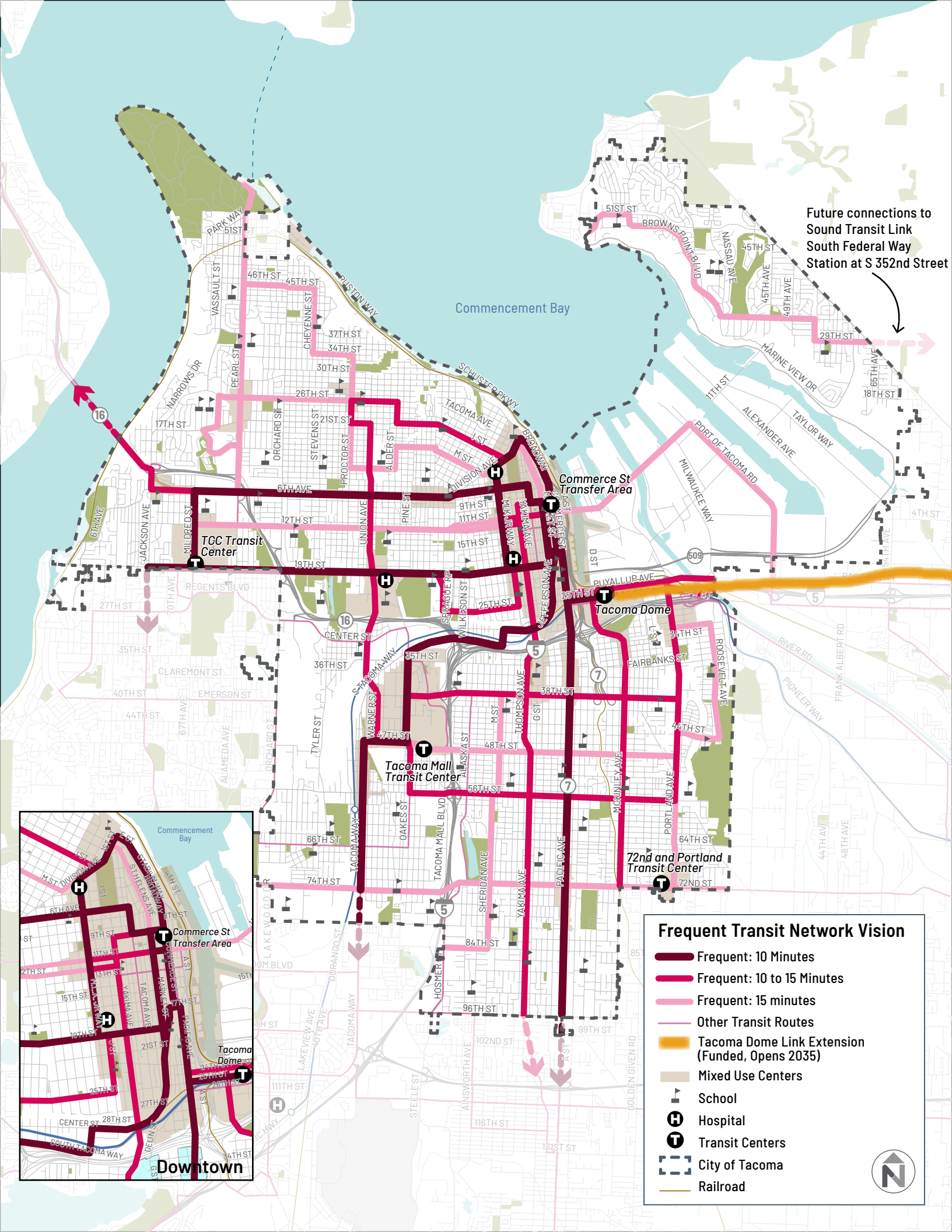
# Next Steps

- Comments on Draft FTN and Capital Improvement Corridors by **10/18**
- Full Draft Transit Element for Transportation Commission review – **Early December**
- Draft TMP – **End of January 2025**



Photo Credit: The Urbanist

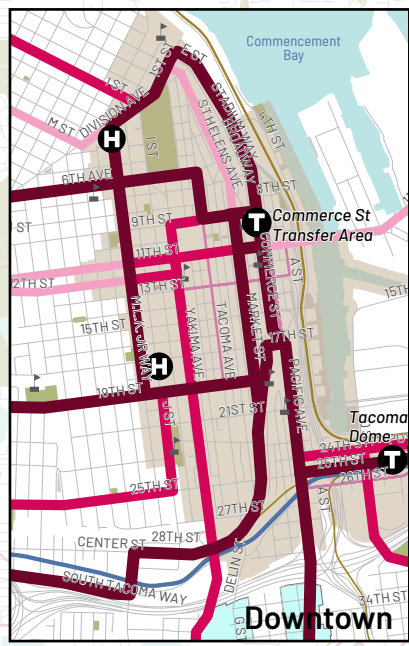




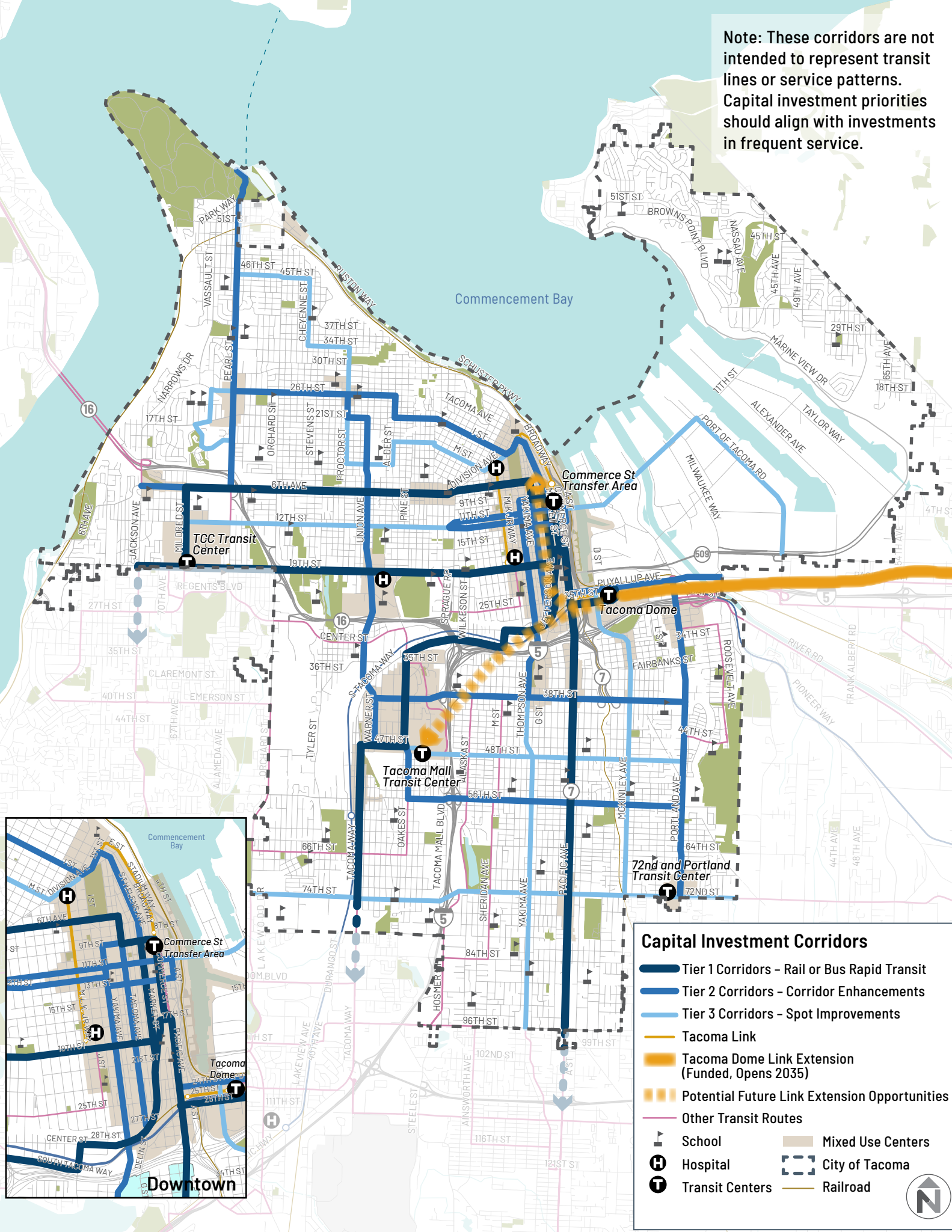
Future connections to Sound Transit Link South Federal Way Station at S 352nd Street

**Frequent Transit Network Vision**

- Frequent: 10 Minutes
- Frequent: 10 to 15 Minutes
- Frequent: 15 minutes
- Other Transit Routes
- Tacoma Dome Link Extension (Funded, Opens 2035)
- Mixed Use Centers
- School
- Hospital
- Transit Centers
- City of Tacoma
- Railroad



Note: These corridors are not intended to represent transit lines or service patterns. Capital investment priorities should align with investments in frequent service.



### Capital Investment Corridors

- █ Tier 1 Corridors - Rail or Bus Rapid Transit
- █ Tier 2 Corridors - Corridor Enhancements
- █ Tier 3 Corridors - Spot Improvements
- █ Tacoma Link
- █ Tacoma Dome Link Extension (Funded, Opens 2035)
- █ Potential Future Link Extension Opportunities
- █ Other Transit Routes