

HILLTOP ACTION JOURNAL

Aug-Sep 2021 | Hilltop Action Coalition | Volunteer Organized | www.hilltopactioncoalition.org

Hilltop Renewal and Revitalization



MLK Jr. Way & Earnest S. Brazill ST - The old building is gone - the new building will have commercial space and housing units and will bring back Mr. MAC's and Sam & Terry's Barbershop to this Hilltop corner. Photo courtesy of Kristine Coman.

Housing & Commercial Space for Hilltop

Walk along the Hilltop Business Cooridor and you'll notice things are changing. Community voices are leading this change so new spaces are for familiar faces.

By Kristine Coman

Take a walk along MLK Jr. Way and you are confronted with construction activity at almost every corner. The roadway has been torn up to add Hilltop Tacoma LINK rails for new transit oriented development which supports a more dense residential, commercial and leisure space within walking distance of public transport. LINK construction in the roadway will be completed next year; however, the sidewalk and Festival Area will take longer to complete. Liz Ellis, Sound Transit Community Specialist, is always available for questions - give her a call at (253) 208-0586 or email liz.ellis@soundtransit.org. There is also a 24 hour construction hotline at (888) 298-2395.

If you been getting coffee at The Red Elm Cafe, you may have noticed the building that housed Mr. MAC and Sam & Terry's Barbershop has come down. Curious about what will take it's place? HAC has you covered!

Come on out to Happy Hour with Cider & Conversation on Monday, August 23rd at Grit City Ciderworks (1016 MLK Jr. Way) - you can speak to Tacoma Housing Authority about the plans for this space.

Across the street from The Red Elm, you'll notice the old Rite Aid building has a face lift - local artists have painted beautiful murals on the building exterior celebrating the reactivation of this space by community members. T.U.P.A.C. has been holding summer dance camp inside and outside the building for our Hilltop youth. Did you know that T.U.P.A.C. offers free dance lessons for young males? Find out more at (253) 327-1873 or visit their website at <https://tacomaupac.org/>.

Forterra has big plans for the Rite Aid site and plans to add commercial business space and up to 300 housing units. This housing development is driven by the Hilltop Community. You can read the Hilltop Community Investment Council Report about

Driving Design at 11th & MLK by visiting Forterra's website at <https://tacomaupac.org/>. Meet Jeff Dade, Program Manager for Forterra's Community Development, at the Aug 23rd Happy Hour and find out more about this Hilltop project.

Walking a little further down MLK Jr. Way and you'll notice a big crane and lot of activity across from People's Park at MLK Jr. Way and 9th ST. Koz Development is building 156 housing units with commercial space on the ground floor. To encourage car-free living, the project will house electric cars, scooters and bikes in a secured garage. Find out more about this project at <https://www.kozdevelopment.com/koz-on-mlk-way>.

Meet Koz Development representatives at HAC's Happy Hour with Cider & Conversation on Aug 23rd from 6-7:30PM. Did I mention there will be a walking tour of these 3 project sites? See you on Aug 23rd for Cider & Conversation!

National Night Out Celebrations

See page 6 for more pictures of Hilltoppers spending community time together.



Hilltop Artist National Night Out party at Hilltop Heritage Middle School offered the opportunity to create your own t-shirt design. Natanya De Jong shares her wearable work of art!

Hilltop Action Journal

Award-Winning Publication!
Journals are viewable online at
www.hilltopactioncoalition.org/

Publisher

Hilltop Action Coalition

Editor

Kristine Coman

Assistant Editor

Alyssa Torrez

HAC Journalists

Bengisu Cicek
Perla Vasquez
Aaliyah Walton

Guest Contributors

Sandy Anthis
Leslie Barstow
Mike Carey
Kristine Coman
Grit City Coop
Shauna Hansen
Holly Harvey
Kevin Max
Michelle Marconi
Bethany Montgomery aka B.Lyte
Brendan Nelson
Perry Newell
Matt Newport
Lorraine Ralston
Nicollett Roe
Lis Saunders
Michelle Sievers
John Stearns
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Community Priorities

- Good Jobs and Local Hires
- Affordable & Obtainable Housing
- Pathways to Home Ownership
- Programs for Youth and Seniors



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Hilltop Action Coalition

Hilltop Action Coalition is a community-based coalition and 501(c)3 nonprofit that is working to mobilize and empower diverse individuals, families, businesses and other public and community organizations to build a safe, clean, healthy resilient and united community.

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Hilltop Action Coalition is
recruiting Board Members!
Email hacoffice15@gmail.com

HAC Virtual Weekly Updates

Hey Hilltop! What's happening? Find out each Monday at 6:00 PM on HAC Facebook Live.



Join in on Monday's at 6:00 PM via HAC Facebook Live where you'll receive community updates and information about local events and resources in the Hilltop. If you are not on Facebook, simply Google

HAC Virtual Weekly Update at 6PM and click on the Live Video link. You may not have access to the chat log, but you can still watch the video.

Since Washington re-opened, we decided to switch things up a bit and add some time to be in community, in-person. We are still unable to hold a HAC Monthly Community Meeting in Community Health Care's Community Room. Instead of a virtual meeting on the 4th Monday of each month, we'll be at Grit City Ciderworks for a Happy Hour with Cider & Conversation.

Head on over to Grit City Ciderworks (conveniently located at 1016 MLK Jr. Way) Monday, August 23rd from 6-7:30PM. This will be a great time to hang out with friends at this family establishment. Have a free Cider or Kombucha on HAC... and enjoy

free appetizer (individually packaged). This is a special Happy Hour with Conversation around local developments where you'll get a chance to ask questions from developers and take a walking tour.

The August 16th HAC Virtual Weekly Update Special Guests include 2nd Cycle and the Tacoma City Association of Colored Women's Clubs. Can't make the meeting? No worries! All virtual meetings are recorded and available to view on the HAC Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HilltopActionCoalition> by clicking on the Videos tab. Please support HAC's Virtual Weekly Updates by taking the 1 Question Attendee Survey: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1RcooiDRbUhsMH29WE-ly7J1bsDvi8uUNzfClhUA2VQ/edit>. Thank you!

Join Us

Hilltop Action Coalition Virtual Weekly Updates Mondays @ 6PM

Meet your neighbors and become part of the Hilltop Community. Each week, we have presentations and information about community events, activities, policy, and important news.



President's Message

By Brendan Nelson

Hello Hilltop Family,

Let me say this to all of you, "Thank you!!! I am humbled and proud to be a part of the Hilltop community." I have observed this community abide by the expectations laid out by State officials, seen thousands of meals and supplies delivered to those in need, watched students and families work to navigate virtual learning environments, and participated in celebrations that honored the diversity of our community. I am so impressed by the efforts of many organizations that have labored for months to design safe plans for reopening. Recognizing the unpredictable nature of the virus, and the expected protocols to ensure safety, we have all learned to be flexible and responsive to individual needs, while keeping everyone safe and healthy. Much respect to our community!!!

As we venture into the new phase of togetherness, let's do so with hope and optimism, while being disciplined and focused. By teaming up together, we will be able to embrace the bold and courageous shifts in our community. We may find things that need to change for improvement, and we may find new things that are truly excellent. Our open communication and thoughtful engagement with each other is the key to the Hilltop continuing to be a strong and vibrant place.

We must keep in mind that the virus is still out there and that's why it is imperative that we are vigilant and focused on the basics of containing the virus. Masks, distancing, and barriers are the most important elements in the process. I am sure we will find successful patterns as we continue to move forward. Please let us know if there are additional things we can do to support you, a business, or community member



Thank you for your support and trust in HAC. We are in this together, and will be stronger as a result.

In service,
Brendan Nelson
President, Hilltop Action Coalition

Meet HAC Board Member: Michealea Lemons

Meet Hilltop Action Coalition Board Members! A Board Member will be highlighted in each edition of the Journal.

By Aaliyah Walton

The passionate and hardworking Michealea Lemons says that the Hilltop Action Coalition board is right for her, just as much as I believe she is right for it. A member since January 2020, her journey with HAC began in 2018 when she first attended HAC's in person Monthly Community Meeting. Michealea found that compared to other council meetings she had encountered, this board was different from the rest in that they were more connected and involved with their community members.

This positive experience inspired her to further explore her role in the community as a board member a year after that first introduction, as her schedule became more open to delving into community board work. Being from Hilltop at that point, going to Community Healthcare, volunteering in the area, attending UWT and familiarizing herself with HAC events, Michealea was already representing the Hilltop community. "The people who live there want to spend time together" she shares, as a unique distinction about this neighborhood that she admires.

Another huge inspiration for her came from a love and devotion for community service which was introduced to her by her grandma who would take Michealea to many community outings and events in San Antonio in order to connect her with her community. This experience taught her to selflessly devote her time to volunteering, which had many pros including exploring different career paths she might consider in the future. "Sometimes it was to see if I wanted to do these things professionally and sometimes it was this fun," she expresses. I think this is a great lesson for anyone struggling to figure out what they want to do. Although she is still forming her own profession and passion, she was able to filter out anything she might have not enjoyed and explored many different columns of work through volunteering.

This shows up for Michealea now, as she is passionate about serving her community through not only the HAC board but advocating for black people through her work with PCAF, an organization that works toward HIV prevention and fights against the harmful stigmas surrounding it. "We offer a lot of free services, so figuring

out how to plug that in for a space that has been traditionally black was super important to me and still is."

As a HAC board member, Michealea has been able to network and incorporate her passions into the board by being a voice for the black women that she strongly advocates for. "HAC has opened my eyes to so many things" she adds, talking about her new knowledge about non-profits as a first-time non-profit board member. She now realizes how much work it takes and the details that go into place that make everything happen.

It has been interesting for her to be a part of this learning process while also providing her own knowledge and expertise. Michealea would like to share that she is available for her community, and she has shown that through her history of devoted volunteering and advocacy, but also her love of anime and doggies! "I just want to be a resource for fun and for work," she would like Hilltop to know. We appreciate a kind, fun team player like Michealea to advocate for us on the Hilltop Action Coalition Board of Directors!







HAC Board Member, Michealea Lemons. Reach out to Michealea, with the Pierce County Aids Foundation, at (253) 383-2565 or via email at mlemons@pcaf-wa.org.

"HAC has opened my eyes to so many things." Michealea wants Hilltop to know that, "I just want to be a resource for fun and for work."

~ Michealea Lemons, HAC Board Member, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Advocate

HAPPY HOUR



August 23rd - 6-7:30 pm

Cider & Conversation

1st Cider is on HAC

Join local developers to chat and take a walking tour.

Grit City Ciderworks - 1016 MLK Jr. Way

Please wear a face mask.

Happy Hour with HAC

Drop in for Happy Hour on August 23rd and enjoy conversation with local housing developers from Forterra, Tacoma Housing Authority and Koz Development. They'll take you on a walking tour of on-going development sites on the Hilltop. HAC Board members will be at Grit City Ciderworks to greet you. Have a glass of Cider or Kombuchas on HAC and enjoy free appetizers from Love by the Slice!



Everyone had a great time at the July 26th Happy Hour.



MLK Jr. Way - Forterra's development site has been activated with murals. The building Mr. MAC was in is gone (right corner by tree).



MLK Jr. Way & 9th ST - Koz Development is making progress across from People's Park.



Hilltop Action Coalition & Metro Parks Tacoma

POOL PARTY

People's Community Center
1602 MLK Jr. Way

Fri, Aug 20th from 12-2 PM

Splash in for Free!
Refreshments Served

Children 6 and under must be within arms reach of an adult at all times.

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult.



Hilltop Summer Splash & Block Party

Splash Special Events

Hilltop Action Coalition, Tacoma Housing Authority and Hilltop Business Association are partnering for a community connection experience this summer. The Summer Splash event will include the Hilltop Business Crawl which will offer a virtual and in-person opportunity to support local businesses. To add to the community experience, there will be a Block Party till 6pm with MLK Jr. Way closed to traffic from

10am to 6pm from 9th Street to 14th Street, and along S 11th Street from MLK Jr. Way to L Street. This is not a Streetfair, but rather a time for locals to get together and celebrate the reopening of Hilltop! To add to this celebration, HAC has added a few events leading up to the August 21st Splash. Find out more at <https://www.hilltopcrawl.com/>. We hope you'll join us for some pre-Splash fun!

Thank You! Hilltop Summer Splash Sponsors!

Hilltop Action Coalition and Tacoma Housing Authority want to give a special SHOUT OUT to our Summer Splash Sponsors:

City of Tacoma Special Event Funding is providing the Summer Splash Hilltop Business Crawl a \$3000 award.

Sound Transit has provided a Cannon Ball Level \$2500 Sponsorship.

!! THANK YOU !!



Summer Splash Events Schedule

HAC Summer Social & Fundraiser

Tuesday, August 17th, 4:30 to 7:30pm
Join HAC for free drinks and appetizers during their Friend-raiser & Fundraiser!
Tacoma Arts Community Center (corner of 1102 S 11th ST/MLK Jr. Way)

Hilltop at TAM

Thursday, August 19th, 10:00am to 6:00pm
Join HAC and view the Kinsey African American Art & History Collection!
Hilltop greeting area with free hearty appetizers and refreshments.
Tacoma Art Museum (1701 Pacific Avenue) Free Event

Summer Splash Pool Party

Friday, August 20th, 10:00am to 6:00pm
People's Community Center (1602 MLK Jr. Way) Free Event

Hilltop Summer Splash & Block Party

Saturday, August 21st, 10:00am to 6:00pm
Support local businesses with a Hilltop Crawl!
Back-to-School Resources, Health & Community Resources Areas
Bike & Skateboard Obstacle Courses - Everything is Free
MLK Jr. Way (street will be closed from 9th ST to 14th ST)

Happy Hour with Cider & Conversation

Monday, August 23rd, 6:00 to 7:00pm
Join HAC & Local Developers for Conversation & A Walking Tour
Your 1st glass of cider is on HAC - Free appetizers from Love by the Slice!
Grit City Ciderworks (1016 MLK Jr. Way)



Hilltop Action Coalition's

SUMMER SOCIAL

Be a part of the HAcTion!
Summer Social Fundraiser

Wine, Beer & Hors d'oeuvres

Tue, Aug 17th, 4:30-7:30PM
Tacoma Arts Community Center
1102 S 11th/MLK Jr. Way




SATURDAY AUGUST 21, 2021
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF SERVICE
@ THE SHOP: 1205 MLK JR WAY
1230PM-130PM COMMUNITY BIKE RIDE
2PM-5PM OPEN HOUSE FUNDRAISER
MORE INFO AT 2NDCYCLE.ORG/EVENTS



IT'S A PARTY!



Hilltop Non-Profit Second Cycle Celebrates 10 Years

Second Cycle creates a safe space for youth to learn bike mechanic skills.



Second Cycle's Youth Summer Camp in July 2021

By Matt Newport, Second Cycle

Second Cycle, a community bicycle shop in Hilltop, is celebrating 10 years as a non-profit organization with an open-house fundraising event on August 21st. "We had no idea that the community would support this project with so much interest," says Noah Struthers, executive director and a founding member of the project. "This is a huge milestone for the shop."

From humble beginnings in a small rented room in the alley behind Le Le Restaurant, Second Cycle now occupies a 5000 square foot storefront on MLK Jr. Way. The shop receives donated bicycles from the community that are then refurbished, stripped for parts, or recycled. Refurbished bikes are sold through a retail storefront that also offers new and used parts, as well as full-service repairs. Reducing financial barriers to the joys of cycling is a primary focus of the shop.

During the height of COVID restrictions in 2020, the demand for

repair services exploded as folks turned to cycling as an outlet to the Stay Home, Stay Healthy order. With the shop's DIY Toolspace closed, staff had to perform many of the repairs that riders would have otherwise been encouraged to do themselves. Customers who self-identified as unhomed or front-line workers were given priority and offered free or reduced-cost services. By the end of 2020, Second Cycle staff had performed \$10,000 of in-kind bicycle repairs during the year.

An expansion project in early 2021 created more warehouse space and a dedicated youth classroom, which has been essential to resuming programming while social distancing. Programming for adults and youth, including summer camps and monthly Slow and Social group bike rides, have ramped back up as COVID restrictions have loosened.

"Creating a safe space for youth has always been a goal of Second Cycle," says Struthers. "In the early days it was a place for neighborhood kids to get their bikes fixed and

learn some mechanic skills. The neighborhood youth are a large part of this shop's identity."

Second Cycle will celebrate 10 years with a fundraiser party at the shop on August 21st from 2pm-5pm to coincide with the Summer Splash open streets event hosted by HAC and HBA. As part of the festivities the new youth classroom will be dedicated to Gerod Byrd, former Second Cycle board member and long-time volunteer, who succumbed to his fight with cancer in 2017.

The celebration will also include music, food, and fundraising activities inside the shop. The party will be preceded by a free community bike ride at 12:30 pm and a bike obstacle course will fill the street in front of the shop during that afternoon. "We're excited to showcase what we do for this community and also to honor a dear friend," says Struthers.

More information about the event and the organization can be found at www.2ndcycle.org.



Gerod Byrd, long-time volunteer and first board chairperson of Second Cycle

Shiloh Baptist Church New Solar System

Saving Energy at Shiloh Baptist Church

By Bengisu Cicek, University of Washington Tacoma - HAC Intern



Shiloh Baptist Church is starting the summer off right with their new 19.78 kW solar system! Right in the beautiful city of Tacoma, Shiloh Baptist Church, a predominantly Black church, has a new surprise this summer. On Friday, July 16th at 4 PM, numerous people from the church and more joined together to witness the ribbon cutting ceremony of the solar panel installation.

This \$50,000 solar system, which was funded in part by Tacoma Power and partnered with Front & Centered and Spark Northwest, which matched its grant with \$10,600.

"We envision a Just Transition to a future where our communities and the earth are healed and thriving, our people have dignified work, and our government values, respects, and represents us," said Front and Centered on their website as part of their Vision.

As part of Spark Northwest's mission and vision, they stated this on their website: "We partner with communities to build an equitable clean energy future... A Northwest region 100% powered by clean energy that shifts power and wealth to marginalized communities." Of the many speakers that day, Jackie Flowers, who is the Director for Tacoma Public Utilities, had an important opportunity to share with attendees and the community.

"Until August 20th, community organizations, so nonprofits, schools, [and] governmental entities can apply for an opportunity to get a \$50,000 grant towards a renewable energy project...you can find information at our website mytpu.org/cogrant."

Sphere Solar Energy, which is a certified minority-owned solar company, was also present today, along with Edwan Wanji who is the founder and owner, who also installed the panels.

Wanji, a Kenyan American, shared his reflections on what it means to have sustainable energy.

"I've experienced what energy burden is... having grown up in Kenya where I went to school sometimes without electricity at all and experiencing high energy bills here, [and now] just being able to see such an important place as this being a cornerstone, community, [and] church, to [be able to] lessen that energy burden to me is just a game changer."

Dr. Gregory Christopher, who is the Pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, shared his thoughts on that day and the panels.

"Naturally, they're going to bless Shiloh, but this is bigger than Shiloh, and so we want the community to begin to understand what climate change, and green jobs and solar panels and what all those things mean to our future,"

Spaceworks Supports Local Entrepreneurs

Spaceworks' Building Better Business Foundations webinar helps you find your 'Why?' and understand the importance of finding your target market.

By Kristine Coman, HAC Program Manager

I'm always encouraging other people to step out and go after your dream - start your own business. I decided to take my own advice as I've been working on phonetic booklets that can teach someone how to read and write English. So, I signed up for Spaceworks Building Better Business Foundations webinar, a 2 part series that focuses on finding out your 'Why?' and defining your marketing. Jennifer English, Spaceworks Business Training Coordinator, and Co-Owner of SPUN Clay Arts Studio & Gallery, taught the webinar.

Part I was really engaging as we jumped right into how to create statements for your vision (where do you want to go? what is the dream for your company?), mission (how will you get there? What does your Company do?), and values (how will you act along the way?). The most fun part for me was about finding your 'Why'.

Finding your 'Why' helps you stay focused. It's your purpose, your passion or a cause/belief that drives you - and if it resonates with others, that's why they buy from you. Jennifer shared her 'Why' for SPUN: To support and connect people so that they can realize their dreams. She

made time for attendees to develop their 'Why' while we were together. I found my 'Why': To make it easy for anyone to learn to read and write English so that they can reach their full potential. So cool!!

Part II covered Market Research & Target Market. Jennifer relayed why it is important to know who your customers are early on so that you are better off later on. She said that, "It can be really difficult to let go of trying to please everyone, but by casting a wide net, you may end up missing the mark with all of your audiences." Jennifer added that clearly defining the demographics (married, male, 37, etc.) and psychographics (loves to travel, avid hiker, values family time, etc.) can help you figure out what similarities you see across your sales. For example, check out the analytics on your social media posts to see where and what kind of posts that you are getting traction on - where you are getting engagement. I asked her how to get that information, besides online research, and she said a great way is pop-up questions when they check out online. The most important question to ask a customer is, "How did you hear about my product?"

Jennifer offered special advice for artists and creative businesses: ask these 3 questions: 1) What's my niche interest? 2) What's my subject? 3)

What's my style? To get more of her insight, register for the next webinar.

Developing a customer personas helps you define where and who to market to. It's like a dating bio for your ideal customer. She also advised that you pick carefully which social media sites to post on - you can't post on all of them or you'll go crazy. Pick a couple and do it well. You can also check out a competitor's site and see what kind of customer is following them and which sites they use. No matter what site you use, be sure to include a link to your site so people can make a purchase.

Jennifer teaches other business foundation classes for Spaceworks. Look for the 12-week Business Launch Co-hort this winter for folks that have a product or service but you might not be selling it yet. In the Fall and Spring, she has a 4 week Idea Co-hort.

Visit <https://www.spaceworkstacoma.com/> for more details on how to sign up for their newsletter so you'll know when the applications are open. You can check out Spaceworks graduates at the STAR BAZAAR: A Spaceworks Showcase event with vendors, performances, food and art. Feel free to reach out to Jennifer English for more information too at JenniferE@tacomachamber.org.



Noelle Wilson (Noelle and Herschel Wilson) went through the program in the Spring of 2020. They own the Painting Panda down at Freighthouse Square: A paint it yourself pottery studio.

The Hilltop Neighborhood Reopens During National Night Out

HAC visited 4 National Night Out Celebrations on Aug 3rd and was delighted by the sights and sounds of community being together again.



The 1st stop was at New Tacoma Apts where people were eating delicious food while waiting for the band to play.



8th & I's National Night Out celebration was organized by neighborhood youth. They had their annual Fence Painting party along with tasty treats made by neighbors. Picture courtesy of Lisa Monet.



People's Community Center was next - they had a BIG bouncy toy, home cooked food, and a chance for Kristine Coman to snap a picture with Mayor Woodards.



Booked with Hilltop was at People's Center too - they will be at the Summer Splash handing out free books!



Heritage Middle Schools NNO Celebration shared the Hilltop Artists Hot Shop. Hear from Hilltop Artists on the Aug 2nd HAC Virtual Weekly Update (<https://www.facebook.com/HilltopActionCoalition/videos/529923971677056>).



8th & I Neighborhood Youth pose in front of the Painted Fence. Picture courtesy of Lisa Monet.



“ 253 ”

By B.Lyte of Power 2 The Poetry

Welcome to the 253
The City of Destiny
Where every street is a realization of a dream
Hard work and dedication
Conversations of innovation
Inspiration pours from our spirits
Don't believe in limits
We believe
We can rise above any obstacles given

We are a people who have overcome
We are a people who get things done
Yes we have our ups and downs
But the trend is always up

We got that T-Town love
We trust our gut
We grind it out in the rain
We sweat in the sun

This is grit city
You from Tacoma then you tough
You have what it takes to achieve at every level
We all know that the Tac
Only produces special
We are Tacoma official

From the North End
To Hilltop to the East Side
Everyone in this town
Is about that life

That life of perseverance
Remaining consistent
Building up a business
For our children's children's children's

Tacoma is legacy
Tacoma is everything
If your in Tacoma then
You can truly be all you can be

253
The city of Destiny

Bethany Montgomery aka B.Lyte
Founder & President of Power 2 The Poetry LLC
TedX Spokane -<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pR99bPNJyDk>
Website <https://power2thepoetry.com/>

Getting To The Root Of The City Of Tacoma's Zoning Change Proposal

Each area of Tacoma has different needs and if there was ever a time to become engaged at the local level, this is it.

By Sandy Anthis, sandy422@uw.edu

If you have not been paying attention since 2018, Mayor Woodward, City Council Members, the Planning Commission, and the Housing Equity Taskforce began taking steps to fulfill their Housing Action Plan for the city. Before Covid, you might have even learned about the new building options called ADU's and DADU's which you might think of as tiny homes that are either attached or detached from an already existing home. These changes were the start of a housing transition plan which is slowly coming to fruition and called the [Home in Tacoma Project](#)¹.

The Root Policy Research team is the organization that performed the survey and submitted the [formal proposal](#)² to the Planning Commission. In 2019, they found that 7,159 households (Root, 6) with incomes less than \$35,000 were unable to find rental units. They also found this comparable to Tacoma Housing Authority which has 6,500 households on their waitlist. In total, a low-income family might wait 5 years before being given a chance to move out of a shelter, tent-camp, or emergency living facility. And while the goal of the Home in Tacoma Project is to increase affordable housing options within city limits it admits that it is not going to meet the needs of these lowest earners. A step in that direction was more recently made along that path with the [City of Tacoma raising its sales tax to fund affordable housing projects](#)³. These funds are supposed to go towards such low-income projects which will be more easily completed with the zoning change as more diverse housing options will be made available.

Originally, 75% of Tacoma's residential land was set aside for single-family homes only. The change to the zoning would allow more diverse construction for the creation of multi-family or *missing middle* housing. But even with new housing, Tacoma still exists within

an affordable housing vacuum meaning any new affordable housing built might get swiped up by non-community residents with remote jobs in Seattle.

The City is hoping to start this process with In-fill housing plus community input to slowly grow the program. In-fill housing is not gentrification, which historically was a process that targeted neighborhoods for demolition and displaced residents. In-fill housing means allowing for more diverse new construction on currently empty lots or in a private backyard to start. No residents should be displaced during this process. In a later phase of this project, construction developers may be able to submit plans that include the demolition of buildings but this is not the initial goal.

The types of homes that are shown as needed by the city are referred to as the *missing middle* and include buildings such as the duplex, triplex, fourplex, courtyard apartments, bungalow or cottage courts, townhomes, multiplexes, and small mixed-use live/work complexes. The new buildings are also required to be designed to match already existing home and residential patterns. To help with this, a height limit is being placed on buildings to keep them under three or four floors with transitioning spaces required so a one-story home isn't sitting next to a three-story building. Although, this is not something the City has always [been good at](#)⁴.

Criticisms of this project are mentioned in the City's Minority Report which is from dissenting members of the City Council and include a warning about for-profit developers. New buildings constructed by for-profit developers are no guarantee of the creation of affordable housing as projects have to meet certain thresholds to pay off loans, for instance. This minority argument doesn't reflect that the same opportunities are available to the non-profit sector and community coalitions. This is rather a chance for capital investors and community



PAINTING: Frederic S. Remington (1861-1909); A Dash for the Timber; 1889; Oil on canvas; Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas; 1961.381 (image: Public Domain)

organizers to make 'A Dash for the Timber.'

The Root Policy Research team admits that there are more opportunities if housing is built north of I5 rather than south, as median home values are higher (Root pdf, pg. 7). Ironically, the more affluent a neighborhood is, the more likely they are to push back on affordable housing. This is a reminder of something else that in-fill housing is not, as it is not the same as community or even business investment with city, state, or federal funds. Also, the expansion of any Commercial Districts is currently being limited meaning areas like the Eastside won't become a 'destination within the city' anytime soon.

Let's crunch some numbers: The Root Policy Research group reported that the median rent for 2019 was \$1,273 (pg. 7). To check the feasibility of getting this cost down or even stabilized, we need to look at the Growth Targets for Tacoma which are reported on by several organizations (pg. 12). Between 2016-2019 the growth in Tacoma was an average of

1,755 housing units which is below all suggested targets for our housing market to keep pace with the new demand. Therefore, if the goal is to make rents go down, the city needs way more housing units built each year than ever before.

The estimated time for the zoning change to occur and for developers to start submitting proposals is one to two years. Each area of Tacoma has different needs and if there was ever a time to become engaged at the local level, this is it. Communities around the US (and the world) have been creating their own Affordable Housing Co-Ops, Community Land Trusts, and even Community-Owned Grocery Stores for decades. This zoning change provides the legal framework that Community Leaders may use to transform their neighborhoods from the inside-out creating true bottom-up change but if the people don't unite, they risk this zoning change becoming a free-for-all.

To find out more, receive updates or ask questions about the Home in Tacoma Project, please

email: planning@cityoftacoma.org or visit the Cities page: <https://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=180033>.

Footnote Links

1 - Home In Tacoma Project: AHAS Planning Actions <https://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=180033>

2 - Home In Tacoma Housing Plan https://www.cityoftacoma.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_6/File/cms/Planning/Affordable%20Housing/AHAS%20Planning%20Actions/Tacoma%20Housing%20Action%20Plan%20full%206-8-2021.pdf

3 - 1/10th of 1 Percent Sales Tax Increase https://www.cityoftacoma.org/in_the_news/1_10th_of_1_percent_sales_tax_increase

4 - The City has always been good at <https://www.thenewtribune.com/news/local/article249467940.html>



By Dr. Michelle Marconi

Marconi Chiropractic and Wellness was established in November of 2016 in the Hilltop Tacoma region to provide a one stop shop for the locals to fulfill their wellness needs. I, Dr. Michelle Marconi, also wanted to create a home environment in the clinic where patients can actually see what I eat. I've been eating a vegan/vegetarian diet my whole life and I've been gluten free for over a decade. I found out after giving birth to my oldest daughter that I couldn't tolerate gluten and I was left with stomach aches. After taking a food sensitivity test, a test that I offer here at the clinic, I took out gluten and I've never looked back! I now offer gluten free vegan cooking classes. So many people ask me, 'What do you eat??', easy... food! And I show people through my cooking classes how easy it is to actually make tasty food that is good for

you. It's not the food in your life but the life in your food that help fuel us or poison us. I choose to eat a whole food plant based diet and regardless if you want to go vegan or gluten free or just incorporate more vegetables into your diet, I help people with this task.

So why are so many people going gluten free and is it really healthy to cut gluten out? I'm here to answer that question for you. Gluten is a protein that acts as a binding product in items such as wheat, rye and barely products. Gluten consumption has increased dramatically over the past 100 years causing an uprise in gluten intolerance, celiac disease and gluten sensitivities. Some common signs that may point to having gluten issues include: diarrhea, constipations, headache, tiredness, depression, bloating, skin rashes and so much more. Gluten damages the gut wall leading to leaky gut syndrome, nutrient deficiencies, anemia and severe

digestive issues. If you're thinking you have a gluten issue, contact us and we can help figure out your health needs.

Marconi Chiropractic and Wellness is not just for chiropractic adjustments, but trust me that's one of my favorite part of my job, but a place where your whole body can be treated. Mind, Body and Soul approach here at Marconi Chiropractic and Wellness. Please check us out on our facebook page for our up to date classes and specials at <https://www.facebook.com/marconicw>. Also we have our 5 year anniversary celebration on November 5, 2021. More details to come!

Marconi Chiropractic & Wellness:
<https://www.marconicw.com/>
1002 Martin Luther King Jr Way
Tacoma, WA 98405
253-750-3381



Dr. Michelle Marconi prepares vegan food that is gluten free.

The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection Coming This Summer to Tacoma Art Museum

This groundbreaking exhibition features over 150 works of art, photographs, rare documents, and more, celebrating the achievements and contributions of Black Americans from 1595 to the present day. Exhibition open through November 28, 2021.

Provided by Michelle Sievers, Press Contact for Tacoma Art Museum

Tacoma Art Museum is pleased to present the widely acclaimed exhibition, *The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection*, celebrating the achievements and contributions of Black Americans from 1595 to present times. Considered one of the most comprehensive surveys of African American history and culture outside the Smithsonian Institution, the exhibition will feature over 150 of the shared treasures amassed by Bernard and Shirley Kinsey during their five decades of marriage. The collection includes masterful paintings and sculptures, photographs, rare books, letters, manuscripts, and more. The exhibition at TAM, which will include some works from the Kinsey Collection that have not been shown before, will run July 31 – November 28, 2021.

The exhibition has been cited in three national awards, including the National Medal for Museum and Library Service. Garnering national media attention and experienced by more than 15 million people, the groundbreaking exhibition has toured 30 cities in the U.S. and internationally, including the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, EPCOT Walt Disney World, the University of Hong Kong Museum and Gallery, and California African American Museum, to name a few. Currently, the exhibition is at the Greenwood Cultural Center and Gathering Place in Tulsa as part of

events marking the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre through June 27.

Representing the intersection between art and history, the exhibition covers the lives, accomplishments, and artistry of African Americans from the 16th century through the years of slavery and emancipation to the civil rights movement and today. Important objects include bills of sale, advertisements, letters, and legal papers documenting the slave trade; hand-colored tintypes from the Civil War era; art and literature from the Harlem Renaissance; and items spotlighting key moments in the civil rights movement, including the Woolworth store boycotts and the 1963 March on Washington. A history of African Americans in art is charted through works by numerous celebrated artists, including Grafton Tyler Brown, Bisa Butler, Elizabeth Catlett, Robert S. Duncanson, Sam Gilliam, Augusta Savage, Alma Thomas, Charles White, and many more.

Bernard and Shirley Kinsey, Floridians by birth and graduates of Florida A&M University, began collecting to remember their travels. Soon their collection became a repository for African American intellectual, historical, and artistic works. The Kinseys believe their collection helps give a well-rounded look at the African American experience and the integral roles African Americans played in building this country, providing new perspectives on chapters of the nation's history which have been ignored. Bernard and Shirley's son, Khalil Kinsey, serves as General

Manager and Chief Curator of the collection and exhibitions.

"The Kinsey Collection strives to give our ancestors a voice, a name, and a personality, enabling the viewer to understand the challenges, obstacles, triumphs, accomplishments, and extraordinary sacrifice of African Americans in building this country," said Bernard Kinsey. Khalil adds, "This is an American story, and most people only know a fraction of it."

While this exhibition has been shown in numerous locations across the United States, this will be the first time the exhibition has been presented in the Pacific Northwest. According to Bernard Kinsey, "The collection at TAM is an opportunity for people in the Pacific Northwest and surrounding areas to see historical artifacts and artworks that are extremely rare and vitally important to the story of America."

David F. Setford, TAM's Executive Director, said, "When I traveled to Dallas in September 2019 to see this exhibition and meet the Kinseys, I was overwhelmed. I was amazed by the power of the documents and works of art on display, by their ability to tell an untold story, and by the commitment of the Kinseys to share that story. I resolved that we needed to share this story at TAM."

The exhibition's presentation at TAM and related community programming is being developed in collaboration with an exhibition advisory committee comprised of 18 Black leaders, artists, educators, and activists from the greater Tacoma area. Special tours, performances, talks, educator workshops, school tours, youth programs, and more



Portrait of Bernard, Shirley, and Khalil Kinsey. Courtesy of The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection.

will be hosted at TAM and virtually during the exhibition.

TAM and the Kinsey family are also excited to collaborate with, highlight, and celebrate Black-owned small businesses in Tacoma. The TAM Cafe is partnering with Black-owned restaurants to host rotating pop-ups with menu offerings from local favorites, including Uncle Thurms Soul Food, Hamhock Jones, Lizzie Lou's, Southern Kitchen, Campfire Coffee, Only Oatmeal Cookie Creations, and more. The TAM Store will also share dedicated space to feature an exclusive exhibition-inspired retail experience that includes limited-edition merchandise and a capsule collection by Tacoma-based eTe clothing company.

Additionally, a richly illustrated book with a foreword by Douglas A. Blackmon, the Pulitzer Prizewinning author of *Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II*, accompanies the exhibition and will be available for sale in the TAM Store.

For more information on this exhibit, visit <https://www.tacomaartmuseum.org/explore/the-kinsey-collection/>. TAM is open Wed 10am-5pm, Thu at 10am-8pm, and Sun 10am-5pm. Admission is \$18 Adult, \$15 Senior, 18 and under are free. Thursday Neighborhood Nights are free from 5-8PM. **Join HAC at TAM on Thu, Aug 19th 5-8PM for some Hilltop Summer Splash Fun!**



The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection®

OPENS
JULY
31

Organized by The Bernard & Shirley Kinsey Foundation for Arts & Education and KBK Enterprises, Incorporated. Curated by Khalil B. Kinsey. The exhibition is generously sponsored by Propel Insurance and JP Morgan Chase.

The Cultivators, Samuel L. Dunson, Jr. Courtesy of The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection

AT
TACOMA
ART
MUSEUM

TACOMAARTMUSEUM.ORG

Understanding The Art And History Of Black Americans From 1595 To Now

Art educates, saves lives, and gives the truth to know where we are today. It's time to change the narrative of African American history.

By Perla Vasquez, University of Washington Tacoma, HAC Intern

On a beautiful Thursday morning in the city of Tacoma, Washington, on July 29th at 10 AM. The Tacoma Art Museum presented and honored, The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection. Many individuals came to the grand opening to celebrate, contribute, and honor the history of Black Americans and over 150 treasures that were found by the Kinsey family.

The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection has grabbed the attention and been experienced by millions of people all around the world. It has toured over 30 cities all around the United States. The exhibition has been presented in The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, EPCOT Walt Disney World, and so much more.

The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection includes and introduces paintings, sculptures, books that were never seen before, letters, photographs, and so much more. Every single piece of collection shown,

represents the lives and history of African Americans through slavery, civil rights movements, and where they stand today. For example, legal papers documenting the slave trade, Harlem Renaissance art and literature, items that represent the key moments of the civil rights movements, and so much more.

The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection became the voice and representative for the African American historical, artistic, and became the exhibition to change the narrative for African Americans. The collection that gets introduced helps give the experience and visual of what African Americans had to deal with and how they contribute to the country today. It also introduces the truth and different perspectives that were ignored during history.

The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection doesn't just want to change the narrative of the African American history, but educate youth the true history of African American. The exhibition provides the youth with never seen before historical information that empowers and helps improve self esteem about their own culture. African American history is

not taught the correct way, viewed, and ignored in history. Which affects African American children and youth to not see themselves be part of the picture or be part of the narrative. The goal of the Kinsey African American Art & History Collection is to help young children from different parts of the world to know and deepen their knowledge of the African American history. *"The Kinsey Collection strives to give our ancestors a voice, a name, and a personality, enabling the viewer to understand the challenges, obstacles, triumphs, accomplishments, and extraordinary sacrifice of African Americans in building this country,"*- Bernard Kinsey.

The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection has been shown in many different parts of the United States, but this will be the first time that it will be shown in the Pacific Northwest. *"The collection at TAM is an opportunity for people in the Pacific Northwest and surrounding areas to see historical artifacts and artworks that are extremely rare and vitally important to the story of America."*-Bernard Kinsey.



Woman Wearing Orange Scarf, Laura Wheeler Waring. Courtesy of The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection.

TAM Events To Experience the Kinsey Collection

Check out the great events offered by the Tacoma Art Museum - dig into your history, live performances, and a chance to hear from the Kinseys!

Here are some TAM events that you may be interested in attending:

Hometown Treasures - Saturday, September 25, 11am-4pm
Dig into your history at TAM with their Hometown Treasures event! TAM invites families from Tacoma's African American communities to

have their treasures, heirlooms and historical pieces reviewed by professionals. Learn about how art can be used to archive and records our history and build legacy for future generations. FREE Register at <https://2513a.blackbaudhosting.com/2513a/Tacomas-Hometown-Treasures>.

Hear from the Kinseys / Harlem Renaissance - Sunday, Oct 3 at 2pm
Join the Tacoma Art Museum for an exclusive conversation with the Kinseys as they discuss the Harlem Renaissance, its place in The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection, and how the spirit of community and collaboration continues

to shape Black art into the present day. Registration required at <https://www.tacomartmuseum.org/event/hear-from-the-kinseys-harlem-renaissance/> (\$5, free to members and students).

Live Performance / Northwest Sinfonietta Attuned - Thursday, No-

vember 4 at 6pm - Join TAM for the Northwest Sinfonietta's, *Attuned*, a live concert featuring African-American composers throughout history with special dance choreography performed and created by the Tacoma Urban Performing Arts Center (T.U.P.A.C.). FREE Registration required at <https://www.tacomartmuseum.org/event/live-performance-northwest-sinfonietta-attuned/>.

Community Conversation / The Kinsey Collection and Tacoma - Sunday, November 14 at 2pm. Join the Tacoma Art Museum for a community conversation with the Kinseys. Explore the inner workings of The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection, the connections between the exhibition and Tacoma, and how the show has affected our local communities. FREE - Registration required at <https://www.tacomartmuseum.org/event/community-conversation-the-kinsey-collection-and-tacoma/>.

Hilltop Action Coalition & Tacoma Art Museum

HILLTOP AT TAM

View the Kinsey African American Art & History Collection.

Welcome Center with Appetisers & Refreshments

Free - Thu, Aug 19th, 5-8PM
Tacoma Art Museum
1701 Pacific Avenue

Untitled. Hale Woodruff.
Courtesy of the Kinsey African American Art & History Collection.

Hilltop at TAM

Bring your family and friends to TAM on Thursday, August 19th from 5-8pm, to enjoy the Kinsey African American Art & History Collection for FREE.

Hilltop Action Coalition will be there to greet you! HAC feels that this exhibit is important to our historically Black community and hopes you will take time to visit this collection before it leaves TAM on November 28, 2021.

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots." - Marcus Garvey

Grit City Trees 2021: A Free Street Tree Program

In the 2020 season, Grit City Trees distributed about 206 trees with 75% going to Tacoma's traditionally underserved neighborhoods.

By Mike Carey, Urban Forest Program Manager for City of Tacoma

Grit City Trees is the City of Tacoma's annual free street tree giveaway program. This program provides free street trees to Tacoma residents who are interested in planting in the right-of-way, the planting space between the edge of the road and their property boundary. Applications for the 2021 season are being accepted now through September 5th for groups of neighbors, and August 22nd for individuals.

Why plant a Tree? Adding more trees to neighborhoods is proven to help keep places cool during the hottest days, clean the air we breathe, filter and manage stormwater runoff, slow neighborhood traffic, provide mental health benefits, and so much more.

Trees make our community cooler

The Urban Heat Island (UHI) happens when buildings, roads, and other heat-absorbing infrastructure attracts and holds onto more of the sun's energy (heat), compared to natural landscapes. This heat is slowly reemitted throughout the night, which keeps urban places hotter, around the clock. This excess heat causes an increase in heat-related illness to the community. Natural landscapes, including trees, can significantly reduce temperatures. The differences in temperature have been measured in real time across Tacoma during a 2018 study with Portland State University.

"Almost all cities experience a degree of the heat-island effect, but

neighborhoods with low canopy coverage suffer the most, sometimes registering temperatures up to 7-9 degrees hotter than surrounding areas. The neighborhoods with the highest heat island values almost always directly correlate with low-income, historically minority neighborhoods. This holds true in Tacoma as well." – Tacoma Tree Foundation 2020.

Tree coverage is a major factor affecting the livability of a neighborhood and leads to clear differences in quality of life across neighborhoods in Tacoma. With tree canopy coverage as low as 2.9% in some traditionally underserved neighborhoods, it is vital that the City provide resources to support tree growth in these communities, to help improve the health of these communities.

Tacoma is committed to racial, social, climate, and environmental justice

The goal of the Grit City Trees program is to equitably grow happy and healthy neighborhoods through community tree planting. With the City's commitment to anti-racist transformation, even trees have a role to play. The Grit City Trees program prioritizes planting in Tacoma's traditionally underserved neighborhoods, which includes Hilltop.

In the 2020 season, Grit City Trees distributed about 206 trees with 75% going to Tacoma's traditionally underserved neighborhoods. We hope to increase the number of trees being planted in our traditionally underserved neighborhoods and increase the quality of life for people living

there.

We would not have reached these numbers without the amazing work of "Tree Captains." These community leaders inspire their neighbors to take incremental actions like tree planting, which continuously improves the environment and quality of life in their neighborhoods for generations to come. For that, we are forever grateful.

How to participate

The City can promote planting, but it takes a village to grow a forest. Neighbors are encouraged to work together, while following COVID-19 safety precautions, to apply for Grit City Trees as a group. Individuals are also eligible to apply. Tacoma residents interested in participating will need to send in the Grit City Trees application available at https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city-departments/environmentalservices/urban_forestry/grit_city_trees. All applications will be considered with preference given to neighborhood group applications from Tacoma's traditionally underserved neighborhoods.

Free trees and other supporting materials such as TAGRO, tree stakes, and tree ties will be available for individuals to pick up at the City's Plant Holding Facility this fall. If you apply as a neighborhood group, all of these materials will be delivered for free, starting in October. In the spring, watering materials will be available for ease of tree watering during the dry summer months. Regularly watering a new tree for at least the first three years after planting is



Gary Oak Branches. Picture courtesy of Grit City Trees.



crucial for them to establish healthy roots and thrive.

We want to hear from you

Additionally, we want to extend an open invitation to talk about the urban forest and the Grit City Trees program. We recognize this program may be limited and are especially interested in learning how we can

better support traditionally underserved communities in improving the environment to have a positive impact on community health. To learn more information about tree planting, visit <https://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=111377>. For other questions or comments, contact trees@cityoftacoma.org or call at (253) 502-2138.

BRING HOME SOME GREEN

Apply today for a green stormwater mini-grant!

Apply for our mini-grant and **get up to \$4,000** to add green stormwater infrastructure to your **home or neighborhood**.

By planting gardens, removing pavement, and harvesting rainwater, we protect our water and improve our communities.

WHO CAN APPLY?
Homeowners, community groups, businesses, and more!

APPLY HERE

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

bit.ly/StormwaterGrants

QUESTIONS?

Robb Krehbiel
Green Stormwater Program Manager
robbk@pierccd.org

Clean Water And Green Neighborhoods: That's What Tacoma's Healthy Watersheds Are All About

"Water is the most critical resource issue of our lifetime and our children's lifetime.

The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land." – Luna Leopold

By Shauna Hansen, City of Tacoma Environmental Services, Science & Engineering, Center for Urban Waters

Hilltop – do you know where your rainwater ends up? When rainwater hits hard surfaces like roofs,

sidewalk, driveways and parking lots, it becomes stormwater runoff and washes pollutants like litter, pet waste, and car oil into the city stormwater system leading directly to Commencement bay and Puget Sound. In Tacoma, the stormwater system is separate from the pipes

that collect wastewater from sinks, showers and toilets. Wastewater is cleaned at the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant before being released into Puget Sound, but stormwater doesn't get cleaned at the treatment plant. So in Tacoma:

In other words, Puget Sound Starts Here: wherever we live, work or play on the Hilltop. This fall, there are lots of opportunities for Hilltop neighbors to help take care of our piece of Puget Sound. September is Puget Sound Starts Here month!

- o Apply for a Make a Splash grant. Applications for 2022 projects are accepted during the month of September (www.cityoftacoma.org/makeasplash). Be reimbursed up to \$4,000 for a project that helps protect our surface waters or educate about the importance of preventing stormwater pollution.

- o Adopt-a-storm drain on your street. Starting in September, volunteer to sweep up, rake up, pick up and keep litter and leaves out of your storm drain to prevent stormwater pollution and flooding when it rains. Program participants receive a yard sign to let everyone know you are helping protect Puget Sound. You can also request stencil art for your storm drain (pictured above.) Sign up at www.adopt-a-drain.org.

- o Sponsor a Neighborhood Dog Waste Station – Is doggy doo an issue on your street? A friendly doggy bag station may help. Apply to have a free station installed on your street with a sign, bag dispenser, and free bag refills. All you need to do is monitor and restock the bags. To get started, contact Sarah Norberg at (253) 208-0536 or snorberg@cityoftacoma.org.

- o Mark your catch basins (street drains) – Help your neighbors remember "only rain down the drain" by marking catch basins in your neighborhood with curb markers. Contact Citizens for a Healthy Bay www.healthybay.org to borrow a marking kit and get busy.

Green-up your neighborhood and protect Puget Sound from stormwa-

ter pollution with a grant from the Pierce Conservation District. Contact Robb Krehbiel, Green Stormwater Program Manager (robbk@pierceed.org), to learn how you can receive technical support and up to \$4,000 for any of these projects:

- o Plant a rain garden. These bowl-shaped gardens capture, absorb, and clean stormwater runoff, and getting one has never been easier!

- o Depave. Do you have too much pavement on your property or in your community? Apply for Depave assistance to cut out and remove the asphalt and create a new green space!

- o Urban Habitat. Tired of mowing your lawn? Turn your turf into habitat at home! Get help now to create pollinator-friendly wildlife habitat.

- o Rain Tank. Start harvesting rainwater in a large cistern and use it later to water your gardens during dry periods.

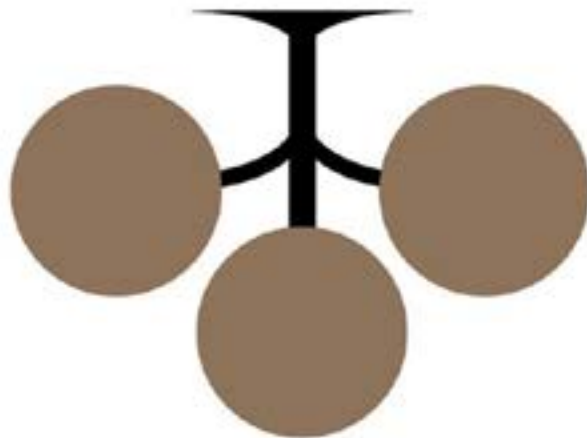
Ready to get started? Contact Robb Krehbiel (robbk@pierceed.org) to learn more and set up a site visit to discuss your project ideas. Applications are due on or before October 29th.

What do you care about most in your neighborhood: Shade trees? Sidewalks? Clean streets? We are currently developing Tacoma's first Urban Watershed Management Plan to help prioritize actions that protect our nearby waterways from polluted stormwater runoff while responding to community priorities at the same time. We'd love to hear from the Hilltop. Learn more and take the healthy watersheds community survey at www.cityoftacoma.org/healthywatersheds.



Storm Drain Art Stencil - Oasis of Hope Center Parking Lot – 1937 S. G Street

Hilltop Loans Pawnshop



We are a locally owned pawnshop that has been serving Hilltop community for over 30 years by providing collateral-based loans to those in need. We loan and buy a variety of goods and we specialize in gold, silver, and other precious metals. Depending on who is available we can provide assessments, replace watch batteries, test materials, and we notarize, too! Conveniently located on the corner of South 11th and Martin Luther King Jr Way, open from 11AM- 6PM, and always ready to help.

We are Hilltop Loans.

Vaccine Information for COVID-19

COVID-19: Accurate Information For School Requirements

K-12 COVID-19 Requirements for Summer 2021 and the 2021-2022 School Year

Washington State Dept. of Health

The Washington State Dept. of Health has 2 goals for our students:

- o Minimize transmission of COVID-19 among students and staff in K-12 schools and to their families and broader community.
- o Maximize in-person instruction.

They believe that schools are fundamental to child and adolescent development and well-being. They provide academic instruction, support for developing social and emotional skills, safety, reliable nutrition, physical/speech and mental health therapy, and opportunities for physical activity. This guidance provides feasible

actions schools are required to take to reduce risks to students and staff from COVID-19 while schools resume in-person instruction.

For the 2021-2022 school year, schools must plan to provide full time in-person education for all interested students with the following required mitigation measures: face coverings/masks, physical distancing, improving ventilation, hand washing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfecting, staying home when sick and seeking evaluation, testing as indicated, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, responding to cases of COVID-19, and meeting the reporting requirements to public health.

While vaccination is not a requirement for in-person education at K-12 schools, it is the strongest protective measure against COVID-19 available to individuals 12 years of age and older. Vaccination and testing should be promoted for all eligible students, teachers, staff, volunteers, and families. Since vaccinations are not yet authorized for use in children ages 11 years of age and younger, schools must continue to implement a layered strategy as outlined in the requirements.

For more information, view the entire document at <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/820-105-K12Schools2021-2022.pdf>.

Sign Up For Community Vaccination News Today!

Make sure staff and families know where to find accurate information.

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Dept

Sign-up for health department notifications and you'll receive an email on what's new with COVID-19 community vaccination clinics. This is the quickest way to learn about COVID-19 community vaccination clinics. Sign up at <https://www.tpchd.org/i-want-to/about-the-health-department/sign-up-for-notifications>.

Looking for COVID-19 FAQs? Check out Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department Frequently Asked Questions to get some answers - available at <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-frequently-asked-questions>. You can also call (253) 649-1500.

For help with trip planning, contact Pierce Transit's Customer Service office at 253.581.8000 (option 1, then option 1 again), use Pierce Transit's online Trip Planner at <https://tripplanner.piercettransit.org/#/app/tripplanning> or download the Transit app at <https://www.piercettransit.org/transit/>.



around the Sound provides transportation for people with limited mobility, including those who use wheelchairs or scooters. Call (253) 858-7088 or visit <https://atstrans.org/>.

For more information, please visit the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department website at <https://www.tpchd.org/?splash=http%3a%2f%2ffind-yourphasewa.org&isexternal=true>.

Free Immunizations For Kids

Make sure your child is ready for school this fall with free routine immunizations.

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department have you covered! During the pandemic, it's more important than ever for your child to stay up-to-date on immunizations that prevent disease. Call your provider's office or Mary Bridge free immunizations for kids at (253) 403-1767 to make an appointment.

You'll need to bring your child's immunization record to record new vaccinations. Immunizations are available at the following locations:

- Tacoma WIC - Mary Bridge WIC at

316 North L Street, Tacoma, 98403 (behind Frisko Freeze) - from 8:00am to 4:30pm (routine vaccines)

- Puyallup WIC - Mary Bridge WIC at 1011 East Main Street, Puyallup, 98372 - from 9:30am to 3:30pm (routine vaccines)

- UW Tacoma - 1918 Pacific Ave, Tacoma, 98402 - Walk-ins are welcome from 1-7pm (COVID-19 vaccine)

- Baker Middle School - 8001 South J Street, Tacoma, 98408 - 11:00am to 1:00pm (routine vaccines)

- Curtis High School - 8425 40th

Street West, University Place, 98466 - 8:00 to 9:30am (COVID-19 and other vaccines)

Find out more about free immunizations for kids by visiting <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/immunizations-for-children>.

Children 12 and older are eligible to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. Learn more about COVID-19 vaccine and find a vaccine event calendar at <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information>

COVID-19 Vaccine Access In Your Neighborhood

Hilltop Regional Health Center - 1202 MLK Jr. Way - Appointments are recommended. Call (253) 722-1855 or register here <https://hipaa.jotform.com/211816150936151>. Walk in appointments may be available.

Sea Mar Community Health Center - 1112 S Cushman - Appointments are recommended. Call (1-855) 289-4503 to register. Walk in appointments may be available. More information is available at <https://www.seamar.org/covid-vaccine.html>.

Lost your COVID-19 Vaccine Card?

If you lost your COVID-19 Vaccine Card, you can call the Washington State Dept of Health at 1-800-325-5599 or submit a request at www.doh.wa.gov/youandyourfamily/immunization. You will receive a new immunization record, showing your Covid-19 vaccine.

Hilltop Action Journal



Advertisement Rates

- 5x7 in. quarter page \$50
- 10x7 in. half page \$100
- 10x15 in. full page \$200
- Purchase 2 months & get 1 month free

For more details, contact Kristine Coman at 253-442-8848 or email hacoffice15@gmail.com.

Get COVID-19 vaccine without leaving home!

Do you have a hard time leaving home?
We can bring vaccine to you!

- Call Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department at (253) 649-1412,
- 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., 7 days a week.

Available to anyone eligible for COVID-19 vaccine who has a hard time leaving home.

Learn more about COVID-19 vaccine and our services at tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture.

Thank you for vaxing or masking.

Keep our community safe. ➔ tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture

How can we improve transportation in Pierce County?



We need your feedback!

The Pierce County Coordinated Transportation Coalition (PCCTC) is a dedicated group of people who understand that reliable transportation is important for people to stay independent and healthy in their community.

Please take five minutes to fill out an anonymous survey. Your answers will help us develop transportation services for people with limited or no transportation options.



PierceCountyWA.gov/Tsurvey



Call 2-1-1 for other languages or a paper copy.



Pierce County Coordinated
Transportation Coalition



Pierce County
Human Services

Honors, Awards & Scholarships Can Support Your Education Goals For A Bright Future

Free money for all ages to support your educational goals. Don't hesitate - your future begins today!

By Perry Newell, Funding College Project

We are very pleased to have been helping individuals and their families for the past 50 years. Organized as a non-commercial effort, we have been recognized and have been honored several times. Supported by this family, a small Episcopal Church, THE SUBURBAN TIMES and other media partners, Legions of Mentors, Contributor, the participation of elected, public, and private individuals, organizations, and schools too numerous to name and through the support of organizations, and various Educational, Social, Civic and College Networks.

If you have been following my posts, you know that scholarships aren't simply for high school seniors and current college students. There are many programs available to high school underclassmen, graduate schools, and even adults who are heading back to college or attending for the first time.

But did you know that there are also ample opportunities for elementary and middle school students? It's true! Unfortunately, due to the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), online scholarship search services are not available to students under the age of 13, which can make finding these opportunities a little more difficult.

That's why I felt it was important to share with you some of the programs that are currently open (and others that may be opening soon) for younger students. The Funding College Project & Cash for Kids are non-commercial activities and have been asked to supply to individuals, groups, newspapers, and community bulletin boards serving the area with information about active honors, awards, scholarships and insightful advice. Visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/572667429453561/> to find

out about more opportunities to fund your college project.

The Education Planner is your one-stop career and college planning website at <http://www.education-planner.org/?fbclid=IwAR2rOW-7GyzmZJmPwts3NTTdaS25ov-nOod0p7HEaVfyh9yiN7x4H6sSN-RDg8>. Education Planner provides practical and easy-to-understand advice to help prepare students for the important decisions they will face in the future.

Middle school students will discover their interests and the things that motivate them by participating in several fun, interactive activities that get them thinking about careers.

High school students will discover and learn all about careers and colleges—including ways to pay—using simple search tools, clever interactive exercises, and straightforward instructions. In addition to being a resource for students, these websites also provides information and tools for parents and counselors to help them motivate and prepare today's youth for a successful tomorrow.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. The Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to identify students with exceptional artistic and literary talent and present their remarkable work to the world through the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. The Awards give students opportunities for recognition, exhibition, publication, and scholarships. Students across America entered nearly 320,000 original works in 2020 in 28 different categories of art and writing. Find out how to enter at <https://www.artandwriting.org/awards/how-to-enter/>. Direct Scholarships categories include Educator Awards, The Herblock Award for Editorial Cartoon (artworks on current events are eligible for \$1,000), New York Life Award (works about personal grief, loss, and bereavement are eligible

for up to \$1,000), One Earth Award (works about human-caused climate change are eligible for \$1,000), Portfolio Scholarships (high school seniors submitting a portfolio of six works are eligible for scholarships of up to \$10,000), Ray Bradbury Award for Science Fiction & Fantasy (\$1,000), Civic Expression Award (works exploring political or social issues are eligible for \$1,000), Best-In-Grade (works selected as juror favorites from each grade will receive \$500), and tuition scholarships are also available.

The Dream Award - Who Can Qualify? Applicants for the Dream Award must be at least 17 years of age, be U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents (holders of a Permanent Resident card), or individuals granted deferred action status under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA). They must have received a high school diploma or the equivalent from a U.S. school by September 2021. Click below to find out more and to be notified when applications open in August 2021!

Notify Me: <https://info.scholarshipamerica.org/notify-me-when-the-dream-award-opens>.

Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship - Scholarship America works directly with students, parents, colleges, businesses and communities to help students fulfill their college dreams. Since it was founded in 1958, Scholarship America has distributed \$4.5 billion to more than 2.8 million students ... and counting. To find out more, visit <https://scholarshipamerica.org/students/browse-scholarships/>.

REGENERON STS 2022 APPLICATION NOW OPEN - The Regeneron Science Talent Search (Regeneron STS) is the oldest and one of the most prestigious STEM competitions for high school seniors in the United States and the application for the 2022 Regeneron STS is now open! "The competition recognizes 300 stu-

dent scholars and their schools each year and invites 40 student finalists to Washington, DC to participate in final judging, display their work to the public, and meet with notable scientists and government leaders. Each year, Regeneron STS scholars and finalists compete for \$3.1 million in awards." The application deadline is November 10, 2021 at 8:00pm ET. Learn more at: <https://sciencetalent-search.smapply.org/>.

College Scholarships for Students with Disabilities - College scholarships for students with disabilities can help a great many people attend school a lot easier. Many foundations, organizations, and companies have set up specific monetary rewards that can help these individuals attain a high quality of life by attending college through various types of scholarships for the disabled. There are plenty of disability scholarship out there for those who take the time to look and apply at <http://www.disabilityscholarships.us/>.

Fashion Scholarship Fund for Students - Whether you're interested in fashion's design or business side, find out how the FSF can help launch your career at <https://www.fashionscholarshipfund.org/>.

MacArthur Fellowship Genius Grant - The MacArthur Fellows Program, also known as the MacArthur Fellowship and commonly but unofficially known as the "Genius Grant", is a prize awarded annually by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation typically to between 20 and 30 individuals, working in any field, who have shown "extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits and a marked capacity for self-direction" and are citizens or residents of the United States.

How much does the MacArthur Genius Grant pay? In honor of their talent and creativity, each Fellow gets an award of \$625,000, paid in quarterly installments over five years. On

this website, the Foundation describes the award as "no-strings-attached;" there are no expectations, and Fellows may do what they wish with the money. Stay Informed - Sign up for periodic news updates and event invitations at <https://www.macfound.org/programs/fellows/>.

Beyond Dreaming - Scholarship Resource Guide: The Beyond HB 1079 Dreaming is a student-run endeavor made possible through collaborations of both college and high school students, higher-education institution support, and dedicated community members who work together towards the common goal of advancing and providing educational opportunities for all students (<http://beyondhb1079.org/>).

Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school. Completing the FAFSA form has never been easier. Filling out the FAFSA® form can be a straightforward and easy process. Select the "Fill Out the FAFSA" button on the home page, and just follow the directions on the screen. Learn More: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>.

Scholarship applications can be easy! Filling out all of those scholarship applications can be time-consuming, but it doesn't have to be. With Scholar Snapp, apply in a fraction of the time — it's fast, easy, and free. www.scholarsnapp.org/students/.

You can find career, training and job search resources just for you at <https://www.careeronestop.org/?fbclid=IwAR2UtbFZdRqsOlstzduRd-PeyKQEDkfOD1VzbduOYU-bub28kCLqpl30S-ls>. CareerOneStop is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. For information about jobs, training, career resources or unemployment benefits, call 1-877-872-5627.

Keep Up-To-Date with Hilltop Light Rail Link Construction



Get the latest Hilltop Link construction updates by visiting Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/groups/505066506854906/?notifid=1616800420039653¬if_t=page_linked_group_activity&ref=notif

If you have questions, reach out to Liz Ellis, Sound Transit's Community Outreach Specialist by emailing liz.ellis@soundtransit.org or calling (253) 208-0586.

After-hours Construction Hotline
(888) 298-2395

Grit City Co-op Community Listening Session



Grit City Co-op is beginning talks with Koz Development Inc. about potentially becoming the retail tenant in the building at 9th and MLK Jr. Way.

We want to hear from you! We welcome any questions, concerns, or feedback you may be willing to share to help guide the upcoming decisions.

We will begin our time together with a short update, move forward with a few guided questions to warm us up, then open the floor for anyone who wishes to share questions, concerns, or feedback.

Please RSVP for this virtual Zoom event at <https://bit.ly/3rKH8HZ>

Ajmer by Jodi Jewelry

Using a variety of metals and interesting stones, Ajmer by Jodi features unique designs in fun boho style. Designer Jodi has been in the jewelry business her whole life and strives to create pieces that blend elegance with playfulness. Our pieces are crafted with love, and we want you to love what you buy!



Rotating selections can be seen in person at Hilltop Loans, located at 1101 S 11th ST, where each month we host a sale on the current month's birthstones, as well as rotating discounts on various materials and metals.

Our online stores can be viewed at www.etsy.com/shop/ajmerbyjodi
www.etsy.com/shop/ajmertribal
www.etsy.com/shop/ajmerrocks

URBAN TREE SALE

Residents of Unincorporated Pierce County,
Tacoma and Puyallup



Evergreen Magnolia



Tree-lined Street



English Hawthorne

PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE



Up to 3 landscape sized trees for 50-75% off retail, starting at \$10.



Expert training on proper tree planting and care.



A free watering bag with each tree purchased (\$15 value).



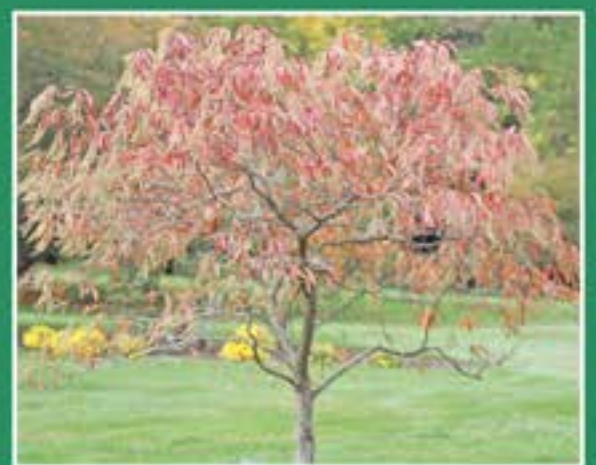
Ongoing care reminders and access to future workshop opportunities.



June Snow Dogwood



Pyramid Pine



Sourwood

RESERVE YOUR TREES BEFORE THEY ARE GONE!



pcdwaterquality.com



Questions: 253-845-9770 Ext.109 | MelissaB@pierced.org

Join HAC's mailing list and keep on top of the HAction! Email hacoffice15@gmail.com today and start receiving HAC eNewsletters along with the digital Hilltop Action Journal.

Finding Housing Solutions For Young People May Just Be One Day Away

Unique housing solutions to meet the needs of our young people... there is no cookie-cutter way to approach finding housing for everyone.

By Nicollett Roe, Program Coordinator for Tacoma Northwest Education Access

This past Monday afternoon, I got a call from a student I work with who needed access to money for housing. The following day, she was renting a room from a friend's house and had 3 months paid for, including gas, to get her SUV there.

The funds we used for her specific housing solution are called Centralized Diversion Funds (CDF) managed by A Way Home Washington. It's a highly flexible fund aimed to house 12-24 years old experiencing a housing crisis and not currently in a housing program. The goal is to get folks housed as soon as possible or within 30 days, for at least 90 days, and living outside the homeless housing system.

My expertise; however, is not in housing but it does overlap with my work. I completed A Way Home Washington's free three-day training to be someone from my organization that can apply for the funds. About seven more agencies in Tacoma have at least one person on staff who has

been through the training and can support folks in that same way.

As a Program Coordinator with Northwest Education Access, I serve students on non-traditional education pathways, ages 16-29, in navigating post-secondary education. I offer one-on-one, long-term educational support to and through graduation no matter how long that may take. Housing comes up often in my work as something that can keep a student from persisting, so CDF has been a tremendous resource that I want to share with others.

Our student-led model works, and A Way Home Washington uses a very similar person-centered model and flexibility to think up creative housing solutions. The funds can be used towards a ton of different things because they understand that there is no cookie-cutter way to approach finding a housing option for everyone. The specificity of an individual's needs varies, so the solution to get them housed must also be. And no, there is no cap on the amount one can request, but it is meant to be a one-time application (rather than, say, an ongoing emergency rental assistance.

A Way Home Washington is even flexible in this, though).

Here are some ways students have utilized these funds: One young person was couch surfing and occasionally sleeping at his uncle's house, but he couldn't stay at his uncle's permanently because there wasn't enough room. The uncle's house did, however, have an unfinished basement. With Centralized Diversion Funds, they were able to buy the materials and tools they needed to renovate it and make it liveable so that the young person could stay there permanently.

Another young person used CDF to buy a plane ticket to New York to live with his mother permanently and to cover the cost of food on the way there. One other person had CDF cover the security deposit, pet deposit, and additional move-in expenses for an apartment, including a UHaul truck, gas for the moving truck, a bed frame, mattress, and sheets. Lastly, a PLU student used it to cover summer quarter housing at the dorms after finding out their financial aid package couldn't cover it.

There are many more examples, but

my point is that housing solutions are just as unique as people. Everyone holds different relationships in their community that can be leveraged and thought about to consider possible solutions. Someone like me, certified by CDF to apply for the funds, can work with a young person to think through what some of their possibilities are and ultimately get out of their way and tell us what they need. As Nikita Oliver says, "Those closest to the struggle hold the solutions." Young people are no exception.

There are no income requirements where you have to prove your income status. There's no credits check, background check, any barriers that would keep someone from applying. It starts with a conversation and thought partner to complete the application after figuring out a safe and permanent housing plan.

For anyone wanting to know more about this resource or apply, please feel free to contact me or share the list of others in Pierce County who are certified to apply alongside folks. I may be reached at (253) 200-0798 or by email at nicollette@nweducationaccess.org.

[nweducationaccess.org](https://www.nweducationaccess.org/).

For more information about NW Education Access, please visit <https://www.nweducationaccess.org/>. Find out more about A Way Home Washington at <https://awayhomewa.org/>.

The Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

...is a loose network of individuals, non-profit agencies, government agencies, and community businesses working together to serve people experiencing homelessness. Their end goal is to help folks establish safe housing as quickly as possible and help them to retain that housing so their homeless episode is short and never repeated. They also work to address many of the factors that drive homelessness. Check out their website to find out more or to see how you can get involved: <http://pchomeless.org/>.

RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Eviction prevention for Pierce County residents behind on rent.

Providing financial support for overdue rent and utilities.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Fall under 80% Area Median Income (AMI)
 - Family of 1 - \$48,450
 - Family of 2 - \$55,400
 - Family of 3 - \$62,300
- Impacted by COVID-19
- Have rental arrears (past due rent or utility bills)
- Live in Pierce County, including the City of Tacoma

DOCUMENTATION NEEDED:

- Income verification for all household members (household W-2, past pay stubs, etc.)
- Proof of COVID-19 impact (loss of wages, unexpected increase in household costs, etc.)
- Landlord contact information and statement with past due balance

Easily apply online!
www.PierceCountyWA.gov/housinghelp

Applicants can check the status of their application on the website above. For more information, including required documentation, instructions for applying, FAQs and applications in other languages, visit us online.

No internet access? Call 2-1-1 to apply.

This project is being supported in part by federal award number ERA0377 awarded to Pierce County by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Apply online at PierceCountyWA.gov/HousingHelp

Regional Housing Strategy

Have a voice in the draft regional housing strategy - comment period ends August 13th

The draft Regional Housing Strategy is now available for public review and comment online. The public comment period will run from Monday, July 12, through Friday, August 13, at 5 p.m.

Recognizing that housing access, affordability, and choice are regional issues that do not stop at a jurisdiction's borders, VISION 2050 (<https://www.psrc.org/vision>) the region's long-range plan for growth, calls for a coordinated regional housing strategy.

In addition to addressing existing gaps and needs, VISION 2050 identifies the need for more housing of all types to meet the needs of the region out to 2050.

The Regional Housing Strategy is a "playbook" of regional and local actions to preserve, improve, and expand housing stock in the region. The project goal is to make a range of affordable, accessible, healthy, and safe housing choices available to every resident and to promote fair and equal access to housing for all people. The Regional Housing Strategy will help inform upcoming local comprehensive plan updates and shape regional housing priorities.

How to make a comment:
 Online comment: <https://engage.psrc.org/hub-page/regional-housing-strategy-for-public-comment>
 Email: LBenjamin@psrc.org

U.S. Mail: ATTN: Regional Housing Strategy, 1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104
 Fax: ATTN: Regional Housing Strategy (206) 587-4825

Rental and utility assistance is available for up to 12 months in past-due rent and utilities and can be applied for on a single, centralized online portal at <https://housinghelp.piercerentalassistance.org/>. Applicants must qualify as low-income at or below 80% Area Median Income (AMI), but priority will be given to those under 50% AMI.

MultiCare Invests \$5 Million In Forterra Fund To Improve Community Health Through Affordable Housing

Investment in Forterra's Strong Communities Fund II supports a sustainable model for creating community-driven affordable housing in Tacoma's Hilltop neighborhood.

Press Release July 20, 2021
By Holly Harvey, at MultiCare, and Kevin Max, with Forterra

TACOMA, Wash. —MultiCare Health System is proud to announce a \$5 million investment in affordable housing in Tacoma's Hilltop neighborhood through Forterra's Strong Communities Fund II (SCF II), which partners with communities to lower the cost of home ownership.

The new community-designed project will have four buildings with an anticipated 300 homes and approximately 25,000 square feet of commercial space. Half of all the housing provided will be attainably priced for local Hilltop residents.

When there's limited affordable housing options, families and individuals may have to spend most or a large part of their income on acquiring or maintaining secure housing. This burden can mean that people are not able to pay for things such as health care or healthy food. This can have lifelong, adverse effects on a person's health, and research shows that affordable housing can decrease the risk of diseases, mental health problems and other health issues.

"Our mission is focused on partnering with communities for healing and a healthy future, and this attainable housing project is a huge step forward for community health," said MultiCare CEO and president Bill Robertson. "This is MultiCare's first investment in a project of this kind, and we're glad that it's in one of the oldest residential neighborhoods in Tacoma."

The Hilltop community of Tacoma has been the center of Black culture in the South Sound for generations, and the neighborhood is experiencing rapid gentrification that threatens to displace long-time residents and businesses. Housing prices in Tacoma are among the fastest rising in the nation, and the impact of increasing prices is magnified in the diverse and resilient Hilltop community, where housing has become unaffordable to its residents.

In 2019, Hilltop community leaders reached out to Forterra to help secure a key property at the heart of the Hilltop community, which was vacant for many years. That same year, Forterra bought the property at the corner of MLK Jr. Way and S. 11th Street through its Strong Communities Fund, and immediately began working with the Hilltop community to create a housing model for area residents that is attainable in the short term and affordable over the long term.

For the past two years, Forterra has worked with local community engagement partners, including Fab-5, to address the community's needs for attainable homes and affordable space for locally-owned BIPOC shops and restaurants, in a development that will incorporate Hilltop culture and art into this block. This new community-designed project contemplates four buildings with an anticipated 300 homes and approximately 25,000 square feet of commercial space. Half of all the housing provided will be priced to be attainable to local Hilltop residents with an anticipated groundbreaking in fall 2023.

"MultiCare's investment in SCF II puts those funds into a vehicle directly designed to build attainable and sustainable homes in under-resourced communities," said Forterra president and CEO Michelle Conner. "We are pleased that the MultiCare's holistic perspective of wellness leads back to healthy, affordable homes that resist displacement of a long-standing community."

Learn more about the Hilltop Project at <https://forterra.org/?s=Hilltop>.

About Strong Communities Fund II
Forterra believes that the health of our smaller communities is vital to the sustainability of the Pacific Northwest. In 2019, Forterra launched SCF II to leverage investment in opportunity zones that will anchor communities and revitalize economies. Forterra's forest-to-home model, enshrined in the Strong Communities Fund II, is an opportunity zone fund which invests



The Rite Aid building at the intersection of S 11th ST and MLK Jr. Way has been activated with local artist's murals. Forterra will transform this lot into an anticipated 300 homes and approximately 25,000 square feet of commercial space. Picture Courtesy of Kristine Coman.

in federally designated economically distressed areas.

About Forterra

Forterra is an unconventional land trust that works across Washington's communities and landscapes, from the ranches and shrub-steppe of the Yakima basin, to the estuaries, farms and forests of Washington's coast, reaching more than 100 counties, cities, towns and rural communities. Working cooperatively with people and nature, Forterra drives land stewardship, management and planning; innovative programs and policies; farming and forestry approaches; community ownership opportunities; and development solutions. Visit <https://forterra.org/>.

About MultiCare

MultiCare is a not-for-profit health

care organization with more than 20,000 team members, including employees, providers and volunteers. MultiCare has been caring for our community for well over a century, since the founding of Tacoma's first hospital and today is the largest community-based, locally governed health system in the state of Washington.

MultiCare's comprehensive system of health includes numerous primary care, urgent care and specialty services — including MultiCare Indigo Urgent Care (<https://www.indigourgentcare.com/>), Pulse Heart Institute (<https://www.pulseheartinstitute.org/>) and MultiCare Rockwood Clinic (<https://www.multicare.org/find-a-location/rockwood-clinic/>), the largest multispecialty clinic in the Inland Northwest region.

MultiCare's network of care

includes 11 hospitals can be found at <https://www.multicare.org/find-a-location/>. Below are links to the hospitals located in Tacoma.

- MultiCare Allenmore Hospital, Tacoma (<https://www.multicare.org/location/allenmore-hospital/>)
- Mary Bridge Children's Hospital, Tacoma (<https://www.marybridge.org/>)
- MultiCare Tacoma General Hospital, Tacoma (<https://www.multicare.org/location/tacoma-general-hospital/>)
- Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital (<https://www.wellfound.org/>)

For more information, please contact Holly Harvey with MultiCare at 253-403-1121 or holly.harvey@multicare.org; or, Kevin Max with Forterra at 206-905-6956 or kmax@forterra.org.

Census Bureau To Release 2020 Census Results This Month With Redistricting Data

Redistricting data will be provided in two releases: the first release will be Aug. 16 and the second by Sept. 30.

By Lorraine Ralston, Senior Partnership Specialist with the State of Washington U.S. Census Bureau

Later this month, the Census Bureau will release the redistricting data from the 2020 Census. These data include the first sub-state population counts and demographic characteristics from the census; information that the states typically use for redistricting. Redistricting data, which were delayed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, will be provided in two releases. Both releases contain the same information but are presented in different formats. The first release will be Aug. 16 and the second by Sept. 30.

Redistricting Data

The data that will be released by Aug. 16 will include:

- Housing unit counts
- Occupancy status for housing units (occupied or vacant)
- Population totals
- Population totals by race
- Population totals by race and Hispanic/Latino origin
- Voting-age population (18 and older) totals by race and Hispanic/Latino origin
- Population totals in group quarters by major group quarters type

Within each, we will provide data for multiple geographies such as Counties, Townships, Cities, Voting Districts, School Districts, Tracts and Census Blocks.

RELEASE 1: August 16

The data will be provided on the public Census Bureau FTP site in summary file format (as has been provided in past decades). Watch this

video that shows how to download, import, and extract the data from the summary files: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dz9117G8BsU&t=3s>

RELEASE 2: by September 30

The second release of data will have easier-to-use formats to empower everyone to access and use the redistricting data. The same data will be released as Release 1 but in two additional formats that are easier to use. The public will be able to access the data through the Census Bureau's primary data dissemination tool, the data.census.gov platform available at <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>.

Protecting Confidentiality

Because the redistricting data have demographic characteristics available for very small areas, it's essential that steps are taken to protect the

data reported by or on behalf of individuals.

The 2020 Census redistricting data will be the first census protected using differential privacy. This modern method protects individual information while letting us share important statistics about communities. Differential privacy has been successfully used in several other Census Bureau data products. Find out more by watching this video about Protecting Privacy in Census Bureau Statistics at <https://www.census.gov/library/video/2021/protecting-privacy-in-census-bureau-statistics.html>.

Data Quality

As always, the Census Bureau is committed to being transparent about the quality of the 2020 Census results. Shortly after the August release of



redistricting data, we plan to release additional operational quality metrics to provide further insight into how we collected the census responses and what that might mean for the quality of the data.

For more information, visit <https://www.census.gov/en.html>.

NWSA Passes Infrastructure Funding For Electric Trucks Project In Tacoma Harbor

Managing Members of the NWSA voted to further environmental sustainability efforts by approving \$560,000 to support the use of Electric Yard Trucks in the Tacoma Harbor.

By Leslie Barstow, Manager Community Relations with the Port of Tacoma

Electric Yard Trucks, also known as terminal tractors, are cargo handling equipment that move containers to and from container stacks and rail cars. Rail Management Services will purchase the terminal tractors and charging stations, with the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) installing the electrical infrastructure to support the charging of the trucks. The electric tractors will be the first of their kind in the NWSA gateway, alike were exploring and celebrating the history of ragtime.

In 2020, the NWSA was awarded a \$780,000 DERA grant and accepted \$130,000 in Tacoma Power's Cargo/Material Handler Equipment incentive funding to bring six electric terminal tractors to Tacoma's South

Intermodal Yard. The six zero-emission electric yard trucks will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 260 tons per year. In addition, electric yard trucks are cheaper to operate than traditional diesel trucks and having fewer maintenance needs due to fewer moving parts. Rail Management Services has experience implementing electric terminal tractors and has successfully deployed this technology in its operations at other terminals.

Earlier this year, the NWSA adopted the updated Northwest Ports Clean Air Strategy, which lays out an aspirational vision to phase out emissions from seaport activities by 2050. Achieving this vision will involve adopting zero-emission technology across various parts of the supply chain, of which terminal trucks are one element. Investing in charging infrastructures

supports customer efforts to increase operational efficiency and advances environmental performance in the gateway.

"The NWSA is thrilled to build upon the work of the Northwest Ports Clean Air Strategy and welcome this new zero-emission technology to our Tacoma Harbor," said Dick Marzano, Port of Tacoma Commission President and Managing Member of the NWSA. *"This is just the beginning of showing the longstanding operational and environmental benefits of electric yard trucks within our gateway."*

The Northwest Seaport Alliance is a marine cargo operating partnership of the ports of Seattle and Tacoma. Combined, the ports are the fourth-largest container gateway in the United States. Regional marine cargo facilities also are a major center for



bulk, breakbulk, project/heavy-lift cargoes, automobiles and trucks. For more information, call (253) 888-4477 or reach out to Leslie

Barstow, Manager of Community Relations with the Port of Tacoma at lbarstow@portoftacoma.com.

M C Delivery's Road To Success

"Originally published in the July 2021 issue of South Sound Business magazine. www.southsoundbiz.com"

By John Stearns

Tacoma's M C Delivery doesn't deliver packages by motorcycle anymore, but its delivery roots trace back almost 100 years to a Tacoma motorcycle dealership looking for a way to sell more inventory.

That dealership, Indian Cycle Co., sold Indian motorcycles and was owned by Max and Ida Steinhart. In 1928, they started Indian Cycle Delivery as a way to sell new motorcycles to customers by giving them local courier jobs in order to support themselves and pay for the motorcycles, according to a historical account provided by M C Delivery.

In 1940, Western Union telegram courier Jack Laycock pedaled the hills of Tacoma on his bicycle and longed for the easier transit of the

Indian motorcycles he saw traversing Tacoma's challenging landscape. Unable to purchase even a used Indian motorcycle, he charmed Ida Steinhart into loaning him a used Indian motorcycle until he was able to make the weekly payments and ultimately buy one.

Eventually, Laycock, after serving overseas during World War II, and his wife, Nettie, purchased Indian Cycle Delivery Co. from the Steinharts for \$1,200. They received two used Indian sidecar motorcycles and the Common Carrier permit issued by the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission authorizing them to deliver packages weighing less than 70 pounds within Tacoma city limits. The Laycocks renamed the business Motorcycle Parcel Delivery, or MPD.



Max Steinhart, seen front and center wearing a three-piece suit and leather leggings and surrounded by couriers, started Indian Cycle Delivery with his wife, Ida, in 1928, the predecessor to M C Delivery. Courtesy of M C Delivery.

MPD eventually retired the motorcycle sidecars in the 1950s in favor of panel trucks to accommodate more diverse work and a booming economy.

But after the release of the highly sensationalized noir film *The Wild One*, starring a young Marlon Brando and Lee Marvin portraying outlaw motorcycle gang leaders riding and racing recklessly and taking over a small town in the process, the company changed its name to M C Delivery in 1958, according to the historical account. The kangaroo logo was added in 1965, completing the look that remains to this day.

The Laycocks' son, Andrew, took over the business in 1986 and remains CEO. His twin daughters, Shari Laycock and Sara Laycock-Webb, vice presidents in M C Delivery, will likely take the reins within two years,

said Shari, operations supervisor for the 40-person company.

Her father was planning on retiring around the time COVID-19 emerged, but he's stayed on board to help get through the pandemic, "Because if we can survive this, then anything that comes in our future ... we should be able to handle," Shari said.

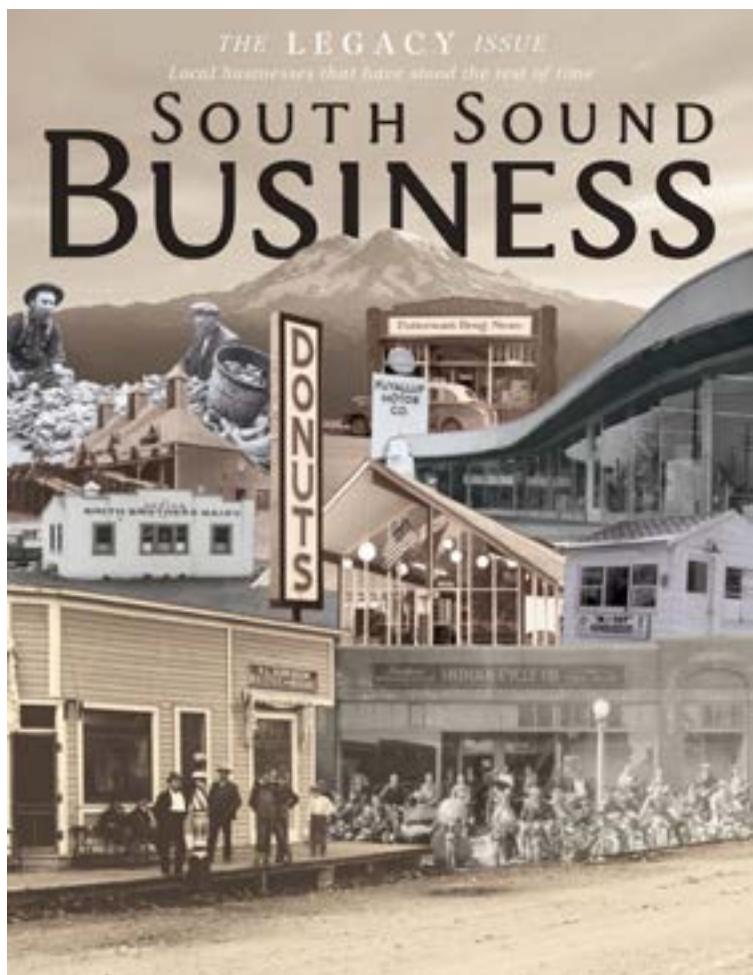
Today, M C Delivery operates a fleet of 60 cars, vans, trucks, and tractor-trailers doing mostly business-to-business delivery throughout Greater Puget Sound and beyond. "We go up to Arlington once a week and we go down to Longview once a week, so it's what the customers need," Shari said, adding that M C even makes occasional trips to Eastern Washington.

The company offers same-day or expedited delivery of everything from documents and packages up to

70 pounds, to one or two pallets of items to full truckloads.

M C Delivery, in honoring and celebrating its history, plans to change signage on its delivery fleet to include a photo from its days as Indian Cycle Delivery, featuring original owner Max Steinhart with couriers of yesteryear in addition to the current kangaroo logo. All vehicles will have the new look by the 100th anniversary on July 15, 2028. The company also is transitioning its name to Indian Cycle Delivery/M C Delivery to honor its nearly 100-year history.

"We want to thank all of our employees, past and present, as well as the local business community, for supporting M C Delivery over the past century," the company said. "We could not have done it without you. We look forward to the next century."



Loyal to the Local Business Map Locations

The Loyal to the Local Business Map helps you make a huge financial impact on the Hilltop Neighborhood by shopping with your local businesses. Check it out at <https://www.soundtransit.org/sites/default/files/documents/loyal-to-local-hilltop-link-businesses-map.pdf> and be Loyal to the Local!



Hilltop Action Journal, Aug 2021

Aug 1 – Nov 28 - hours vary. The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection. Tacoma Art Museum. Closed M & T. FREE every Th from 5-8. 2d Th - "Dance in the Museum", class with T.U.P.A.C; 3d Th - Teen Art Council creates teen-focused offering. There are several events scheduled in conjunction with this special exhibit. <https://www.tacomartmuseum.org/explore/the-kinsey-collection/>

Aug 3 - Aug 24 -Tuesday- 6:00 pm. Swim Lessons, Preschool to Grade 3. People's Center, 1602 MLK Jr. Way. Registration required. <https://www.metroparkstacoma.org/activities-and-sports/category/swimming/swim-lessons/swim-lessons-preschool-3/>

Aug 4 – Aug 28 – Wednesday – noon –1. "Listen Live at Lunch." FREE Summer Concert Series. First Lutheran Church, 524 S I St. <https://www.nwpb.org/event/listen-live-at-lunch-summer-concert-series/2021-08-25/>

Aug 5 – Aug 12 – Downtown on the Go Scavenger Hunt. For more information and to register, go to <https://downtownonwego.com/about/walk-tacoma-savenger-hunt-2021>

Aug 16 – Monday - 6:00-7pm. HAC Virtual Weekly Update on HAC Facebook Live. Join HAC Board members with guests who bring news and information of interest to Hilltoppers. Get the full scoop on the Hilltop Summer Splash & Block Party! <https://www.facebook.com/HilltopActionCoalition>

Aug 17 - Tuesday - 4:30-7:30 pm. HAC Summer Social: Hilltop Indoor Community Market at 1102 S 11th ST/MLK Jr. Way. Free beverages & hors d'oeuvres during this fundraiser & fundraiser. <https://www.facebook.com/events/892607064671154/?ref=newsfeed>

Aug 19 – Thursday - 8:00 am. Hilltop Business Association Meeting (Hilltopba.org). Open to the Public – Zoom Meeting ID 823 7351 3090, Passcode 157990, One tap mobile 253-215-8782, Zoom Link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82373513090?pwd=RGMxNUtVMGxocTNib0I4RE5pdkhLUT09>

Aug 19 - Thursday - 5-8 pm. Hilltop at TAM: Enjoy the Kinsey African American Art & History Collection with your Hilltop friends and family. HAC will greet you will free appetizers and refreshments. Free event for everyone! <https://www.facebook.com/events/937950460101328/?ref=newsfeed>

Aug 20 – Friday – 12-2pm. HAC Splash Pool Party at People's Community Center: Splash into free swim time for everyone at 1602 MLK Jr. Way!

Aug 20 – Friday – 8 pm. cINeDIGENOUS Summer Film: "Beans." FREE. Alma Mater, 1322 Fawcett. Register here cINeDIGENOUS Summer Film Series @ Alma Mater Tacoma Tickets, Fri, Aug 20, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Aug 21 – Saturday - 10am-6pm. Hilltop Summer Splash & Block Party: Join your neighbors on MLK Jr. Way (closed from 9th to 14th Streets) for a Business Crawl with additional activities for everyone including a back-to-school resource area, live music and performers...and more! https://www.facebook.com/events/867302250849509/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%7B%22surface%22%3A%22page%22%7D%7D

Aug 21 - Saturday - 8 pm. cINeDIGENOUS Summer Film:" Boy". FREE. Alma Mater, 1322 Fawcett. Register through Eventbrite. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cinedigenous-summer-film-series-alma-mater-tacoma-tickets-164567869929?aff=ebdsbdestsearch>

Aug 22 - Sunday – 1:00 – 7:00 pm. Dock Street Blues Festival. FREE. West of the Waterway, 1901 Dock Street, (253) 212-0665 Dock Street Blues Festival Tacoma – South Sound Blues Association

Aug 23 – Monday - 6:00 to 7:30pm. Happy Hour with Cider & Conversation. Grit City Ciderworks, 1016 MLK Jr. Way. Join HAC Board Members for a glass of cider and chat with free appetizers from Love by the Slice. Special Guests will include local developers with projects along MLK Jr. Way. We'll have a walking tour to check out progress. https://www.facebook.com/events/578659453129962?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%7B%22surface%22%3A%22page%22%7D%7D

Aug 26 – Thursday – 6-7:00 pm. Hilltop Library Planning Committee. Zoom Meeting ID 819 6034 2310 . Dial by location 253-215-8782. Zoom Link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81960342310#success>

Aug 28 – Saturday – 9:30 – 4:00. FREE Kids Clothing/Toy/Gear Swap: Back-to-School Edition, 2116 South G Street. FREE Kids Clothing/Toy/Gear Swap: Back-to-School Edition

Aug 28 – Saturday - various times. Port of Tacoma Boat Tours. FREE. To register - Port of Tacoma Boat Tours 2021 Tickets, Multiple Dates

Aug 28 – 29 - Saturday & Sunday. Seaport Maritime Weekend at the Foss Waterway Seaport 705 Dock Street. <https://fosswaterwayseaport.org/exhibit/tacoma-maritime-fest/>

Aug 30 – Monday - 6:00-7pm. HAC Virtual Weekly Update on HAC Facebook Live. Join HAC Board members with guests who bring news and information of interest to Hilltoppers. Summer Splash Raffle Winners Announced! <https://www.facebook.com/HilltopActionCoalition>

Interested In A Solar Array? Join Shiloh Baptist Church & Add Solar

Apply for a grant of up to \$50,000 and get free consultation from Spark Northwest.



By Lis Saunders

Interested in a solar array? Local schools, nonprofits and government agencies are eligible to apply for a grant of up to \$50,000 from the Evergreen Options program to help with the purchase and installation of on-site renewable energy projects located in Tacoma Power's service territory. Applications accepted through August 20. Visit the website at <https://www.mytpu.org/community-environment/clean-renewable-energy/evergreen-options-program/evergreen-options-grant-program/> or contact evergreen@cityoftacoma.org for more information.

If your organization is interested but not sure where to start, Spark Northwest offers free consultation

to black, indigenous or people of color -led organizations to help with group visioning, general education for organizers and members, talking through decision points, follow up research, cash flow estimates, connecting with installers, drafting an application.

Visit Spark Northwest at <https://sparknorthwest.org/>, call (206) 328-2441, or email sparknorthwest.org to find out more about their services.

More About Evergreen Options Grant Program

Evergreen Options is a voluntary program that allows Tacoma Power customers to buy electricity produced from new renewable sources, like wind and solar, through renewable energy certificates (RECs).

This annual grant program helps recipients generate a portion of their own electricity from renewable sources including wind, solar, geothermal, landfill gas, wave or tidal, biomass, gas produced during the treatment of wastewater, and qualified hydropower. Recipients may also receive credit for any extra electricity their system provides back to the utility. Grant funding comes from Tacoma Power residential and business customers who participate in the Evergreen Options program.

The 2021 application period is open. The deadline for 2021 applications is August 20, 2021. Please submit your application prior to the deadline to be considered for the 2021 grants.



Sept 5 – Sunday - noon - 3:00 pm. Food is Free Share Day. People's Park. FIG (Food, Independence, Garden). <https://www.facebook.com/foodisfreetacoma>

Sept 6 - Monday. LABOR DAY is a federal holiday that gives workers a day of rest and celebrates their contribution to the American economy. It is considered the unofficial end of summer.

Sept 8 – Wednesday School starts. https://www.tacomaschools.org/about/calendar?cal_date=2021-09-01

Sept 13 - Monday - 6:00-7pm. HAC Virtual Weekly Update on HAC Facebook Live. Join HAC Board members with guests who bring news and information of interest to Hilltoppers. <https://www.facebook.com/HilltopActionCoalition>

Sept 13 - Monday – 7:00 pm. "Wicked Tacoma: Crime in Tacoma from 1850- 1950". Join author Karla Stover as she delves into the wild and colorful past of the City of Destiny. Tacoma Historical Society (THS) Museum , 406 Tacoma Avenue South. Wicked Tacoma: Crime in Tacoma from 1850 to 1950

Sept 16 – Thursday - 8:00 am. Hilltop Business Association Meeting (HilltopBA.org). Open to the Public – Zoom Meeting ID 823 7351 3090, Passcode 157990, One tap mobile 253-215-8782, Zoom Link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82373513090?pwd=RGMxNUtVMGxocTNib0I4RE5pdkhLUT09>

Sept 16 – Thursday – 6-7:00 pm. Hilltop Library Planning Committee (HLPC). Zoom Meeting ID 819 6034 2310 . Dial by location 253-215-8782. Zoom Link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81960342310#success>

Sept 17 – Friday – 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Project Homeless Connect. People's Park. Hosted by Associated Ministries, 253-426-1507/ Project Homeless Connect

Sept 20 - Monday - 6:00-7pm. HAC Virtual Weekly Update on HAC Facebook Live. Join HAC Board members with guests who bring news and information of interest to Hilltoppers. <https://www.facebook.com/HilltopActionCoalition>

Sept 25 – Saturday – 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. "Hometown Treasures". families from Tacoma's African American communities are invited to have their treasures, heirlooms, and historical pieces reviewed by professionals. Learn about how art can be used to archive and record our history and build legacy for future generations. To register: Hometown Treasures

Sept 27 – Monday - 6:00 to 7:30pm. Happy Hour with Cider & Conversation. Grit City Ciderworks, 1016 MLK Jr. Way. Join HAC Board Members for a glass of cider and chat; Special Guests – TBA. <https://www.facebook.com/HilltopActionCoalition>

Free COVID-19
VACCINE at
Hilltop Regional
Health Center
No Appointment
Required

COMMUNITY
HEALTH
Care
MEDICAL • DENTAL • PHARMACY

Free COVID-19
TESTING at
Hilltop Regional
Health Center
Appt. Required
(253) 722-2161

Are You Expecting?

Community Health Care has the full range of maternity services.

- **FREE pregnancy tests!
No appointment needed!**
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- **Have your delivery at a local hospital.**
- **Specialized maternity program to help you prepare for your baby.**
- **You can choose your doctor from a staff of 12 physicians.**



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(253) 441-4742

Learn more at www.commhealth.org