

# How to Speak up for Connected Systems

## YOUR ADVOCACY CHEAT-SHEET FOR TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY

### Tacoma Needs Better Basic Transit

We support investments in a diverse range of transportation options and we must remain committed to the goals of providing a usable and accessible transit network.

Tacoma area residents are choosing transit when they can. But with a population projected to reach five million people by 2040,<sup>8</sup> we need a long-range vision for transit development to accompany and foster community growth. Pierce Transit has added 71,000 service hours since 2015, compensating for one of the reductions in service from prior years; additional service will be necessary to match the continued population growth in the area and demand for more transit options.

**Below is a list of projects that would serve those already using our transit system and make our city safer, healthier, and more connected.**

<sup>8</sup>Vision 2040, Puget Sound Regional Council [https://www.psrc.org/sites/default/files/7293-v2040\\_0.pdf](https://www.psrc.org/sites/default/files/7293-v2040_0.pdf)



#### Who rides transit?\*

- 40% of riders are people of color
- 45% of riders are people under 34
- 23% of riders are students
- 81% are dependent or semi dependent on transit
- 67% have annual incomes less than \$35,000

\*Pierce Transit Community Survey 2017

#### 1 Pierce Transit Buses Every 15 Minutes 2 Service until 10 p.m.

Why: Our current transit system does not work for most people. A lack of funding has rendered it useless for those who work nontraditional hours and those who do not have the luxury of time to wait for hour-long headways.

#### 3 Schuster Parkway Connection via Multiuse Trail

Why: Currently, from downtown, only cars can safely access the \$60-million public investments of Metro Parks Tacoma and the over \$1-billion private investments in Point Ruston. This trail would connect Tacoma's regional transit hub to the expanding opportunities along the waterfront.

#### 4 Regional Transit Service

Why: Sounder Service is only available during peak times and sparse weekend trips, dependent on Seattle sports events. Service remains limited due to negotiations with BNSF Railway. Added weekday trips and weekend service would benefit those who work nontraditional hours and connect our region throughout the I-5 corridor. Sound Transit has started the Sounder South Capacity Expansion and the Tacoma Dome Link Extension. Completing these projects quickly is imperative.

- DOTG Advocacy Philosophies and Priorities: To advance the equity of all users of our local and regional transportation system, and specifically employees, students, and residents in downtown Tacoma. In accordance with our mission and vision, we aim to support measures which:
- Increase ease, efficiency, and accessibility
- Increase safety
- Increase connectivity
- Reflect the "green transportation hierarchy"
- Reinforce a compact, urban core

**DOWNTOWN:**  
*On the go!*



Transportation Advocacy Day is supported by:



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