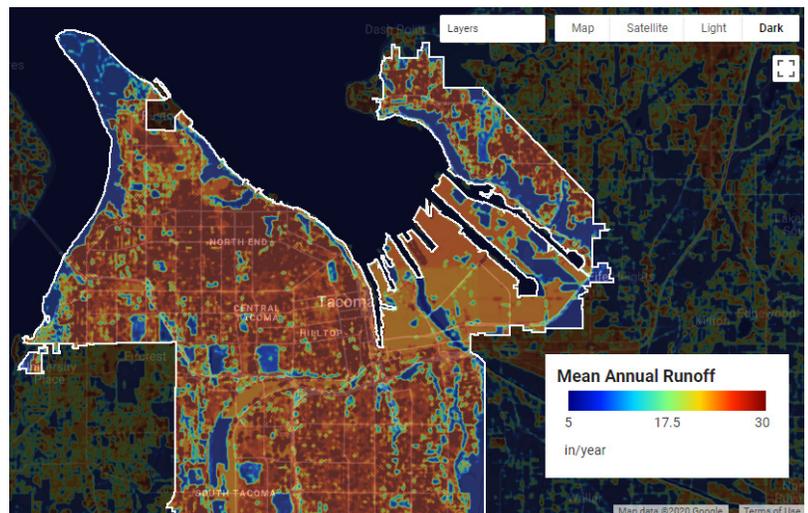


# CITY OF TACOMA

## WATERSHED PRIORITIZATION PLANNING PROJECT

### Prioritizing Stormwater Investments for the Highest Impact

The City of Tacoma Environmental Services Department shares a vision: *Everything we do supports healthy neighborhoods and a thriving Puget Sound, leaving a better Tacoma for all.* The Watershed Prioritization Planning Project is a Department of Ecology grant-funded project that will help achieve this vision by identifying and prioritizing stormwater management actions to help support clean and safe neighborhoods and protect clean water. By creating a GIS map-based ranking tool to compare watersheds across the City based on conditions such as land use intensity, green space, aquatic habitat, and community access to opportunity, this tool will help decision-makers focus limited City resources on the most effective stormwater actions and prioritize the neighborhoods where they can provide the most benefits.



### Science-Based Recommendations To Address Community Needs

- The watershed planning tool will use spatial modeling to track the water quality benefits of existing and proposed stormwater treatment and flow control facilities, assess impacts of future development and climate conditions, and identify potential cost-effective strategies to reduce stormwater pollutant loading to our local lakes, streams and Puget Sound.
- Open source tools, user-friendly reports and graphics, and a transparent decision support framework will help engage with a diverse group of partners and community members to develop more creative, economic, equitable and resilient stormwater management solutions.





# WATERSHED PRIORITIZATION PLANNING PROJECT



## Cost Effective, Open Source Tools for Decision Making

This project will develop new software and modeling capabilities to provide actionable, science-based recommendations for stormwater capital improvement budget planning, optimal retrofit and enhanced maintenance locations, and productive public and private partnership opportunities in Tacoma. These same low-cost tools can also be used by other municipalities in Western Washington to target stormwater management actions for the highest benefits.



## Tailored for Tacoma

The watershed planning tool uses Puget-Sound specific stormwater pollution monitoring data, remote-sensed imperviousness (hard surfaces), climate change predictions for the Tacoma area, and other Tacoma-specific data to provide an up-to-date and accurate assessment of stormwater impacts.



## User Friendly Design for Community Input

This project will help provide a framework and process for integrating community-based input to identify and rank priority watershed actions. Site specific information like flooding complaints, spills and dumping locations, and community needs and concerns related to water quality and habitat protection will be incorporated from the beginning of the project. The model will also track progress on watershed goals and objectives and incorporate new community feedback as it becomes available.