

TACOMA, WASHINGTON

TREE CANOPY ASSESSMENT



TOTAL STUDY AREA

31,607 ACRES



TREE CANOPY

6,406 ACRES (20%)



PLANTABLE SPACE

4,064 ACRES (13%)

Tacoma's urban forest is a valuable asset that provides residents and visitors with many ecological, environmental, and community benefits. This assessment analyzed the City's urban tree canopy (UTC) and possible planting area (PPA) within four geographic boundaries. The results provide baseline data to develop strategies to protect and expand Tacoma's trees and natural areas during planning and development. The maps and project report help to concentrate efforts in areas where needs are greatest, tree planting space is available, and benefits can be realized.

LAND COVER

20%

TREE CANOPY

13%

NON-CANOPY VEGETATION

12%

BUILDINGS

40%

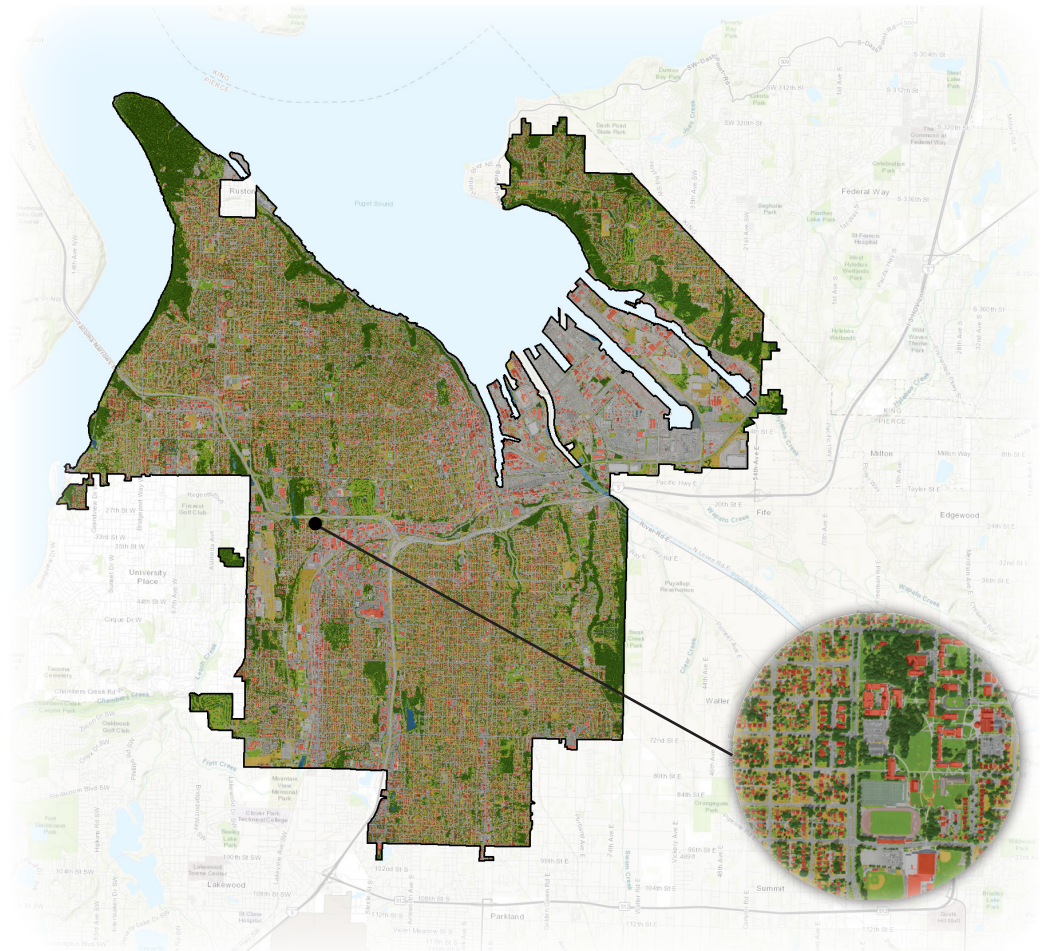
OTHER IMPERVIOUS

14%

SOIL & DRY VEGETATION

<1%

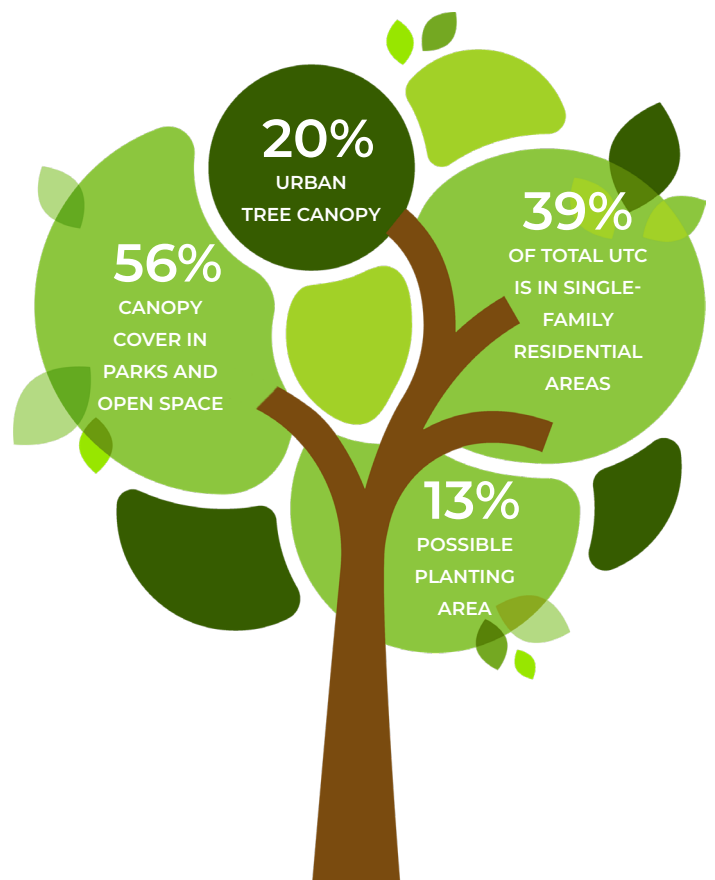
WATER



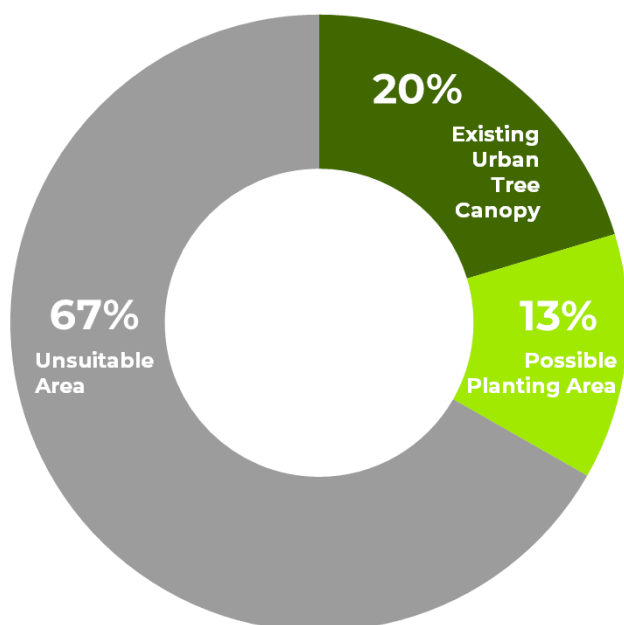
Note: Land cover percentages are based on total area. Urban tree canopy percentages are based on land area only.

Tree canopy data were analyzed for Tacoma's land use categories to determine the distribution of existing and potential urban tree canopy throughout the city. Parks and Open Space areas had the highest UTC at 56% and contributed 44% of the City's total canopy. Single-Family Residential areas contributed 39% of total canopy as well as 57% of all plantable space.

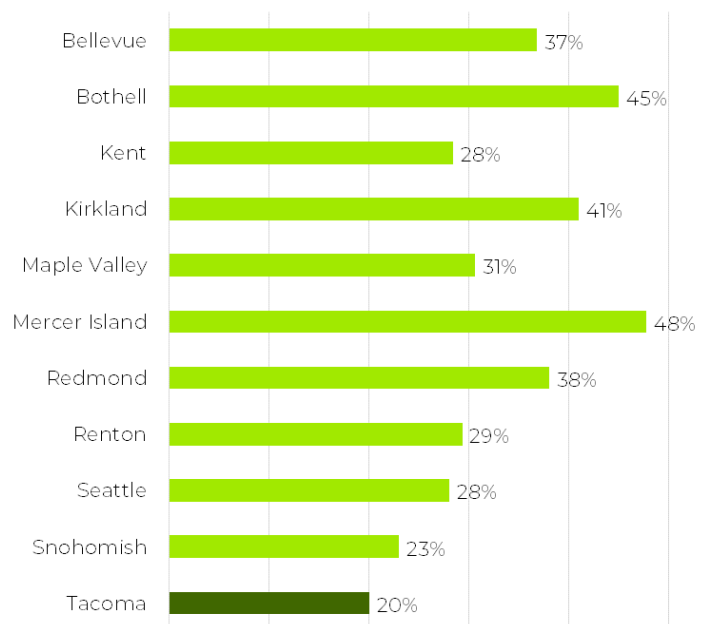
Land Use	Urban Tree Canopy		
	Acres	%	Dist.
Crossroads Mixed-Use Center	80	12%	1%
Downtown Regional Growth Center	73	7%	1%
General Commercial	56	7%	1%
Heavy Industrial	147	4%	2%
Light Industrial	34	6%	1%
Major Institutional Campus	65	10%	1%
Multi-Family (High Density)	56	14%	1%
Multi-Family (Low Density)	226	15%	4%
Neighborhood Commercial	59	10%	1%
Neighborhood Mixed-Use Center	33	9%	1%
Parks and Open Space	2,805	56%	44%
Shoreline	208	21%	3%
Single Family Residential	2,507	17%	39%
Tacoma Mall Regional Growth Center	48	10%	1%
Totals	6,399	20%	100%



URBAN TREE CANOPY POTENTIAL IN TACOMA, WASHINGTON



COMPARING URBAN TREE CANOPY IN NEARBY COMMUNITIES



*Possible Planting Areas (PPA) were defined as vegetated areas without tree canopy and impervious surfaces such as parking lots and sidewalks. These areas may not be suitable for planting to increase canopy due to slope, views, soils, or other limitations. Field surveys to identify suitable planting areas are advised.

