# Tacoma Equity Index

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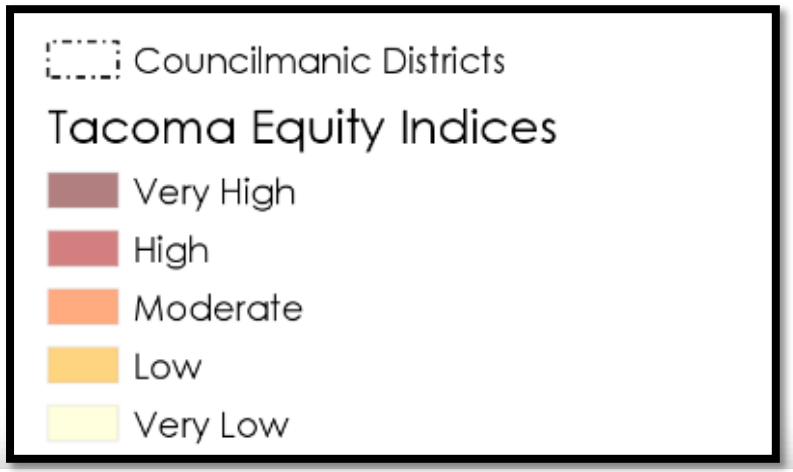
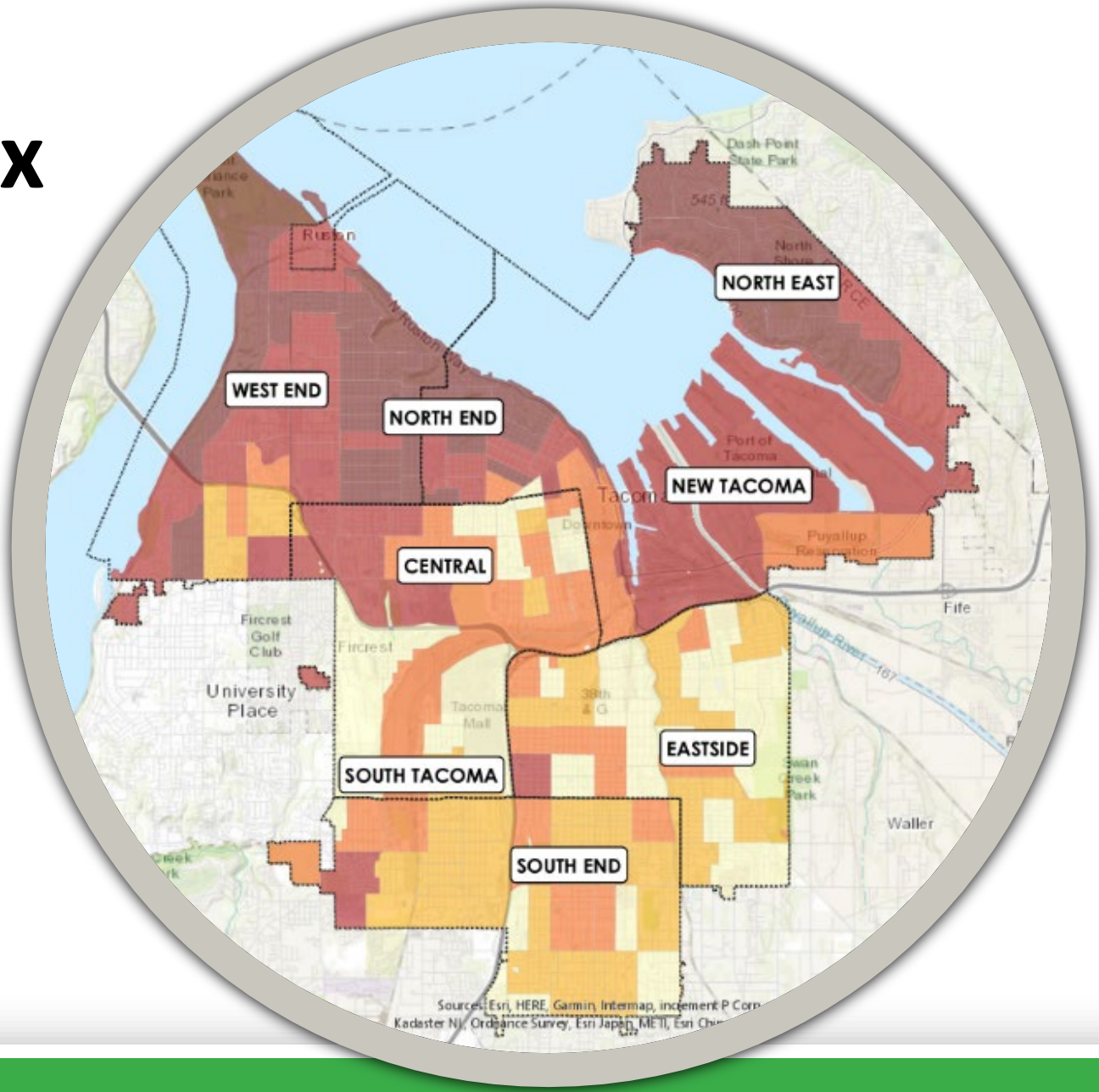
# Agenda

- What is the equity index
- What's New
- Why do we use the equity index
- How can you utilize the equity index

# Tacoma Equity Index

- Highlights areas of higher and lower opportunity
- Guides equitable service delivery and resource allocation

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# What's New in the Update?

- User interface changes to the self-service tool be easier to use
- Updated datasets from the original 2018 map
- 9 new environmental indicators, creating a 5th scored determinant category
- New equity map layers for TPU water service area, Power service area, and combined service area
  - County Level Index coming soon

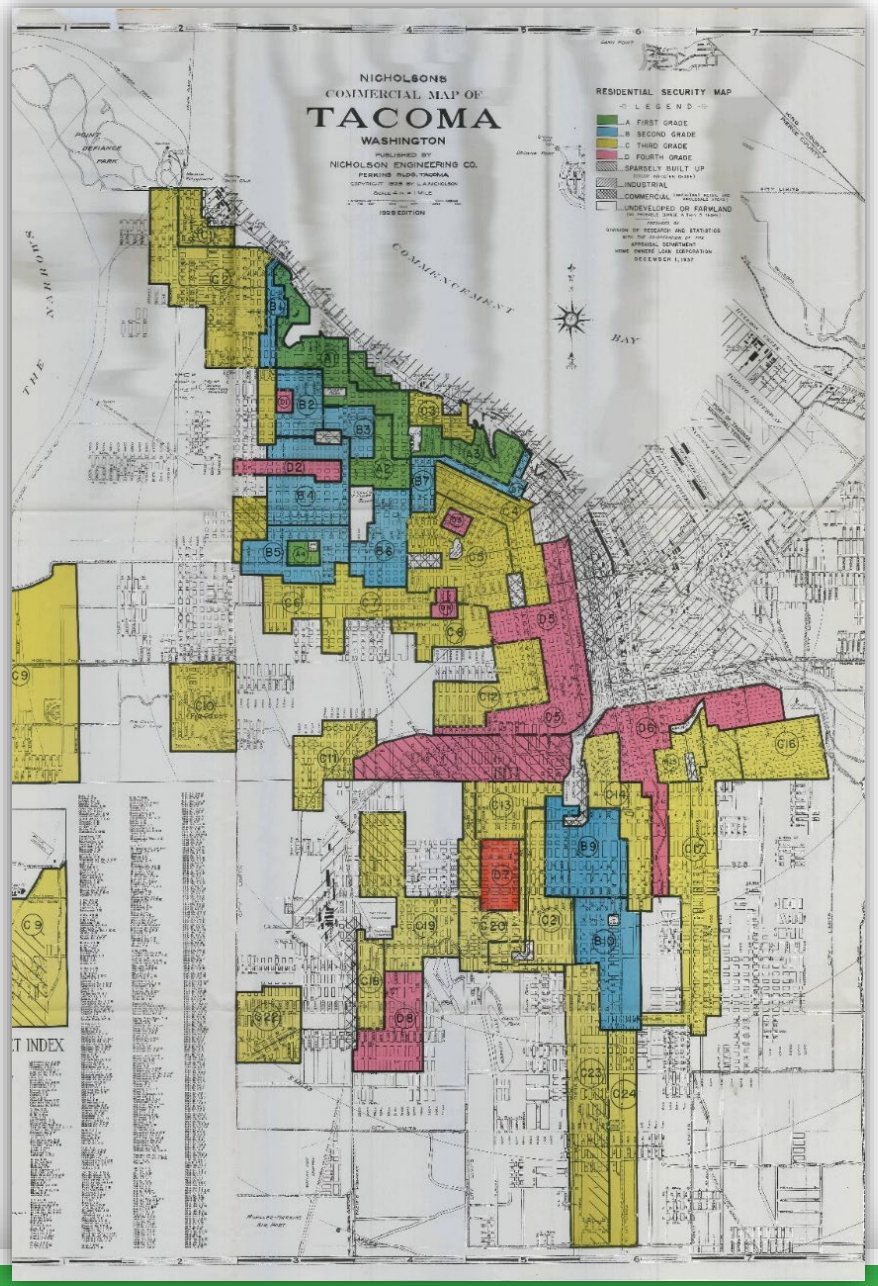
# Why Address Inequities?

- Inequities did not occur overnight or naturally
- They were created by a history of racist systems, policies, and practices
- They Prevent us from achieving our community's vision (2025)

# Redlining History

HOLC Grade

- A "Best"
- B "Still Desirable"
- C "Definitely Declining"
- D "Hazardous"

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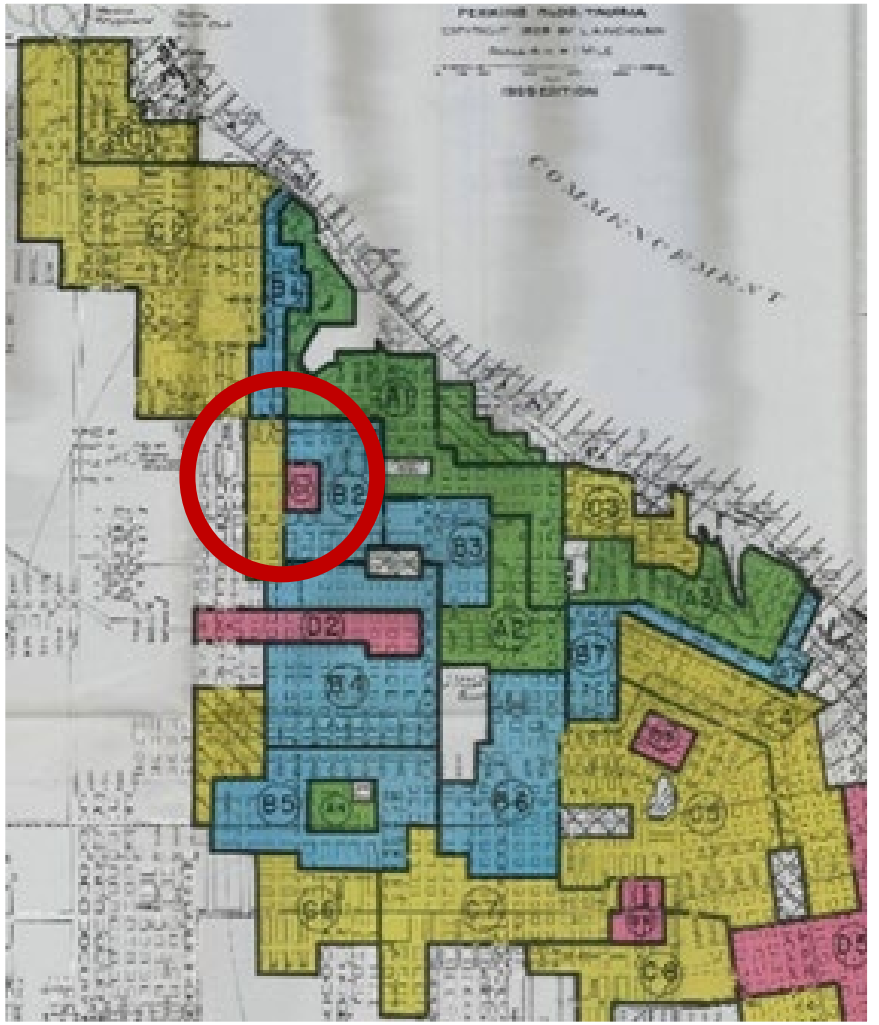
# Home Owners Loan Corporation Assessment

HOLC Grade

- A "Best"
- B "Still Desirable"
- C "Definitely Declining"
- D "Hazardous"

"**Three highly respected Negro families** own homes and live in the middle block of this area facing Verde Street. While very much **above the average of their race**, it is quite generally recognized by Realtors that their presence seriously detracts from the desirability of their immediate neighborhood."

- Mapping Inequality



# Purpose of the Equity Index

Tacoma is an inclusive and equitable place to

**Live, Learn, Work, and Play**

| Identify and Track Disparities | Support Data-Driven Decision-Making | Increase Transparency and Accountability |
|---|---|---|
| • Identify disparities in outcomes faced by those most likely to experience inequity and track them over time | • Guide decisions about the allocation of resources and policy development | • Increase transparency and accountability and give communities tools to share in successes and advocate for change |

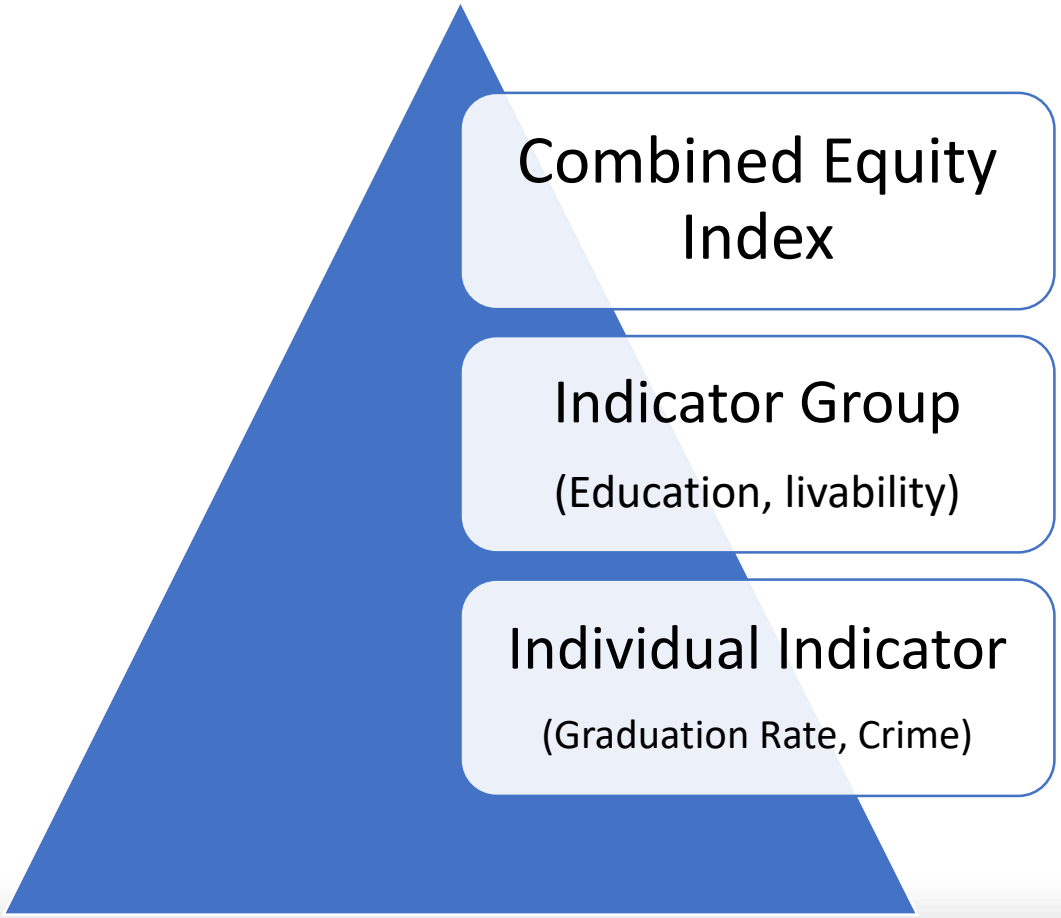
# What is the Equity Index?

- An Index is a composite of indicators that produces a single calculation which can be scored.
  - Compare
  - Contrast
  - Measure
  - Standardize
- The Equity Index helps identify disparities and communities of concern within the City.

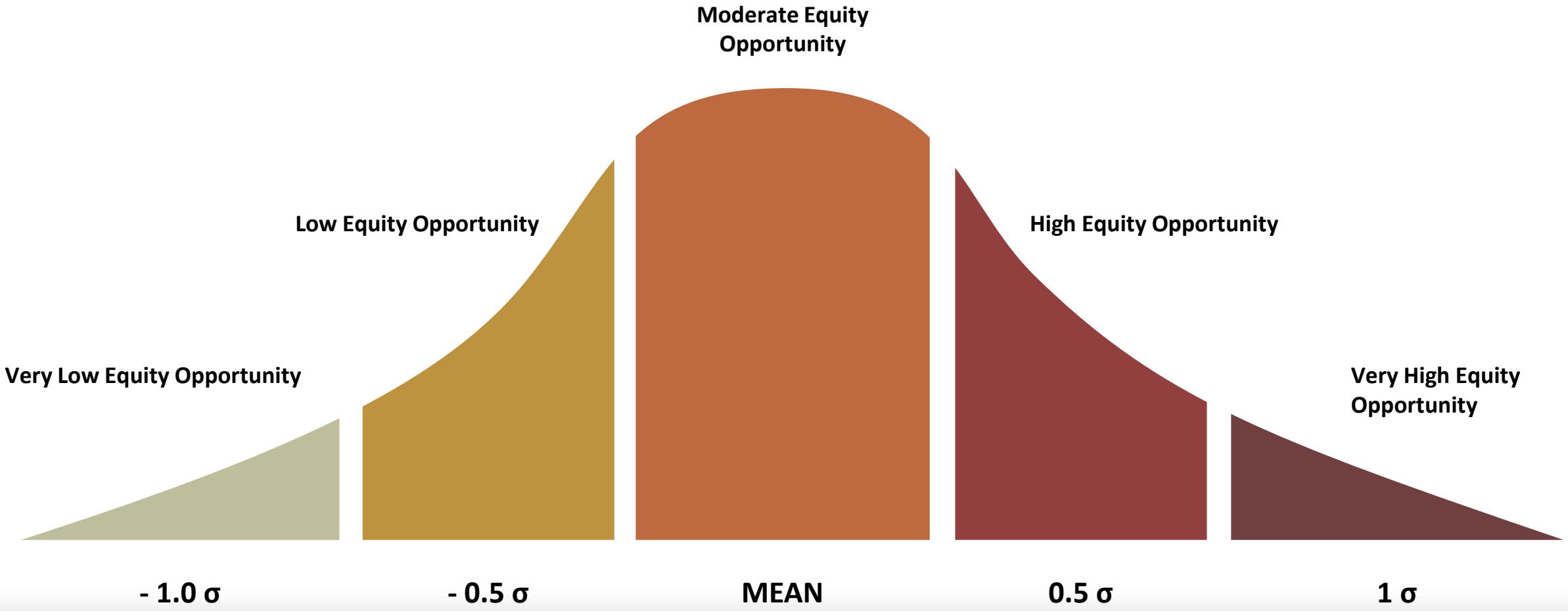
# What is the Equity Index?

- 29 Indicators by Determinant Categories
- 197 Scored Census Blocks (City index)
- 5 Equally Weighted Determinant Categories based on our strategic priorities
- Racial Demographics Overlay

# Equity Index Data Layers



# Distribution of Data



# Tacoma 2025 Goal Areas

Livability

Economy & Workforce

Education

Civic Engagement

Accessibility & Equity

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## Livability

- Nuisance
- Crime Index
- Median Home Value
- Housing Cost Burden
- Average Life Expectancy
- Urban Tree Canopy

## Education

- Student Mobility Rate
- 4-Years High School Graduation Rate
- Average Student Test Rate
- Percent of 25+ with Bachelor Degree or More

## Environmental Health

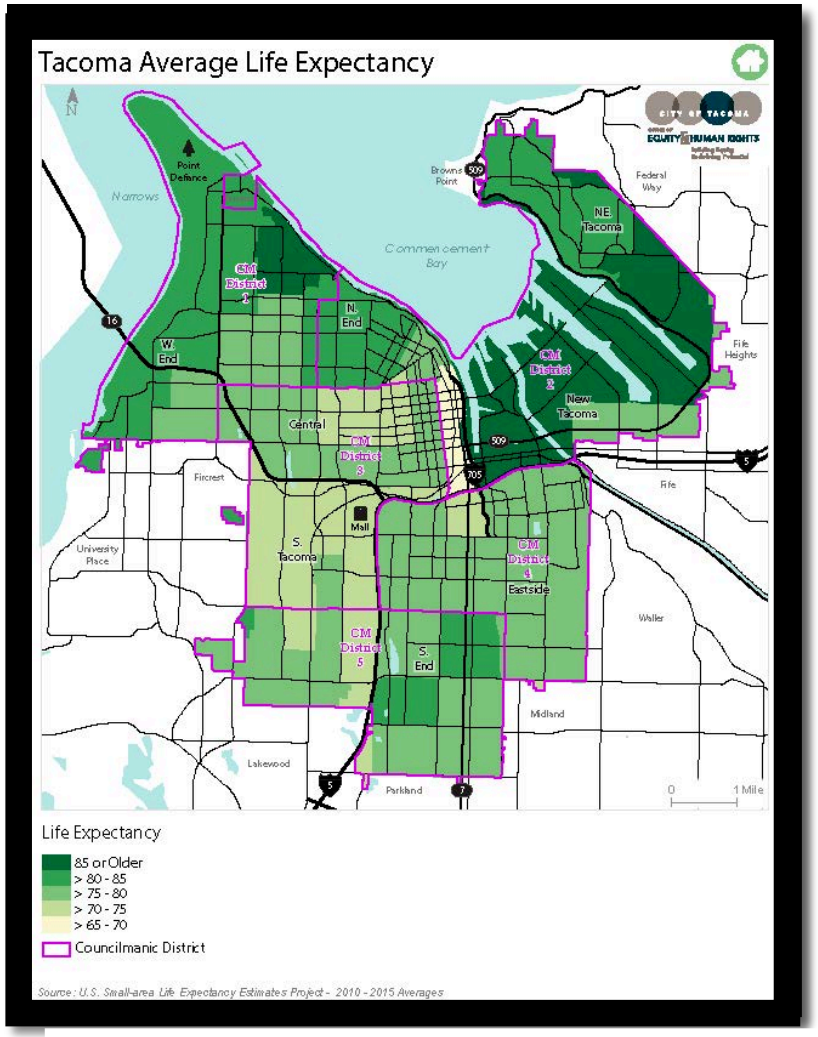
- Non-Diesel Emissions
- Ozone
- PM2.5
- Heavy Traffic
- Toxic Releases
- Home Lead Risk
- Proximity to Hazardous Waste Treatment Storage/Disposal
- Proximity to Superfunds
- Proximity to Risk Mgmt Facilities

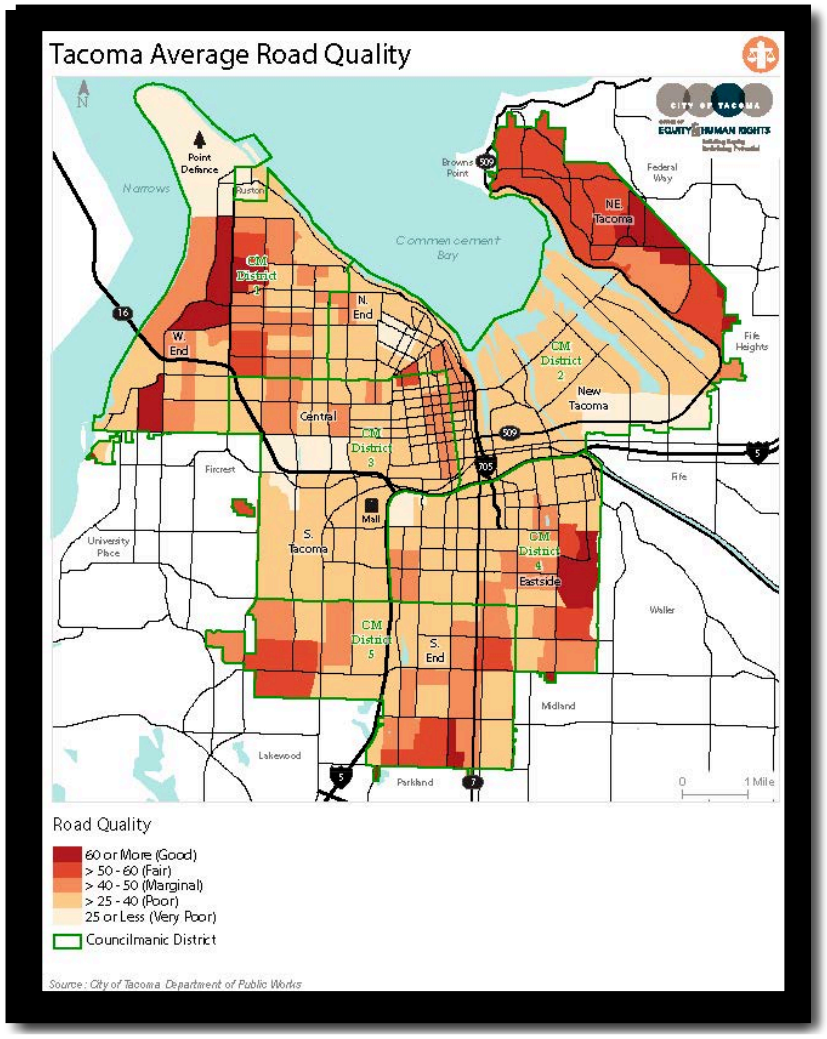
## Economy

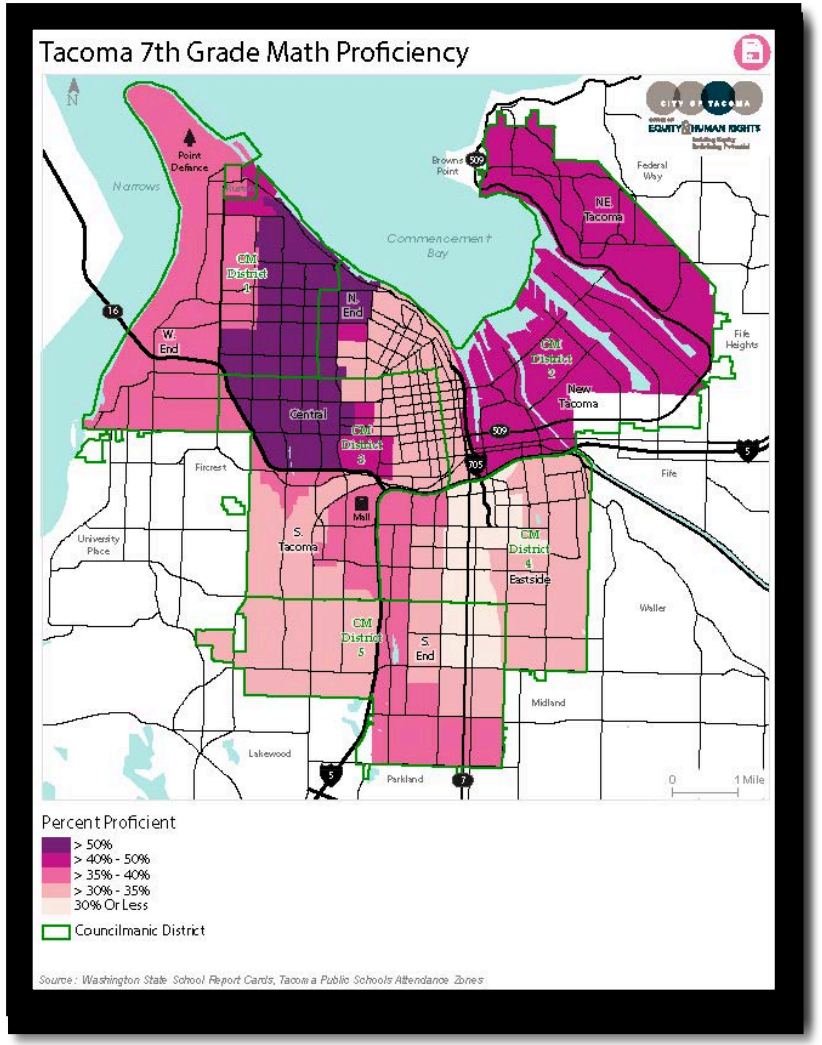
- Employment/Job Index
- Unemployment Rate
- Median Household Income
- 200% of the Poverty

## Accessibility

- Parks and Open Spaces
- Access to Healthy Food
- Average Road Condition
- Home Internet (Digital Access)
- Voter Participation
- Transit Options

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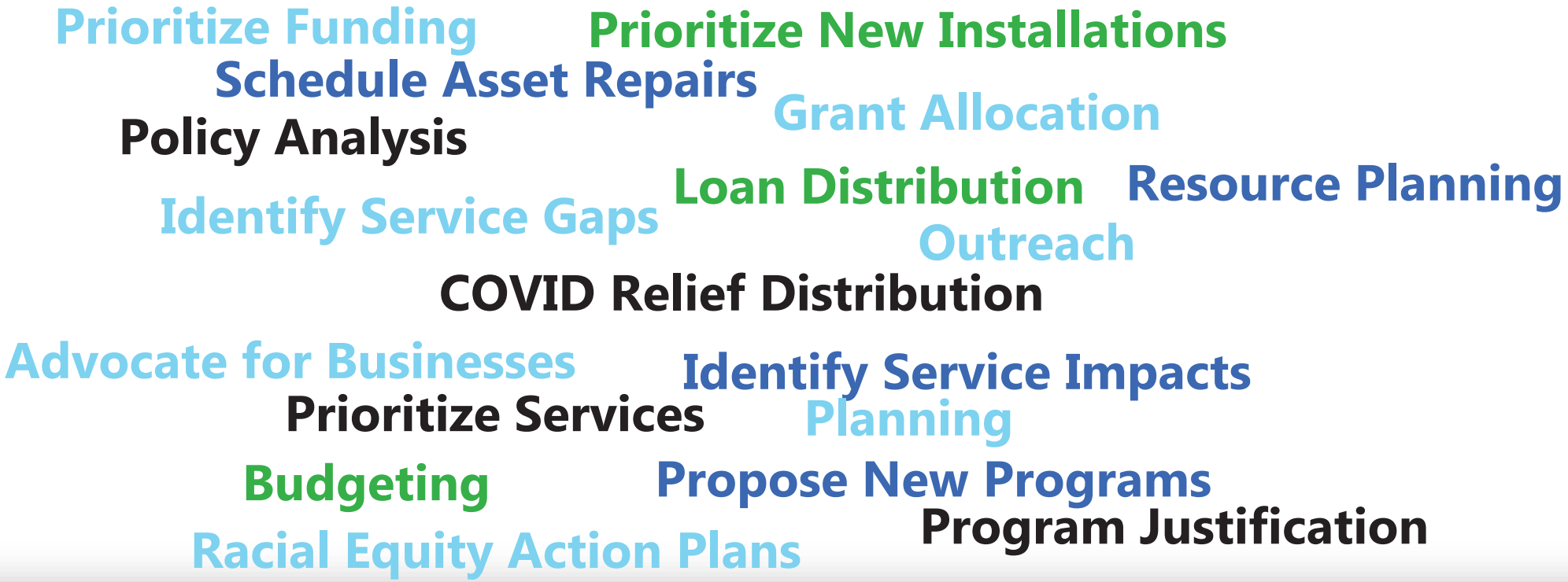
# What Can the Equity Index Do For You?

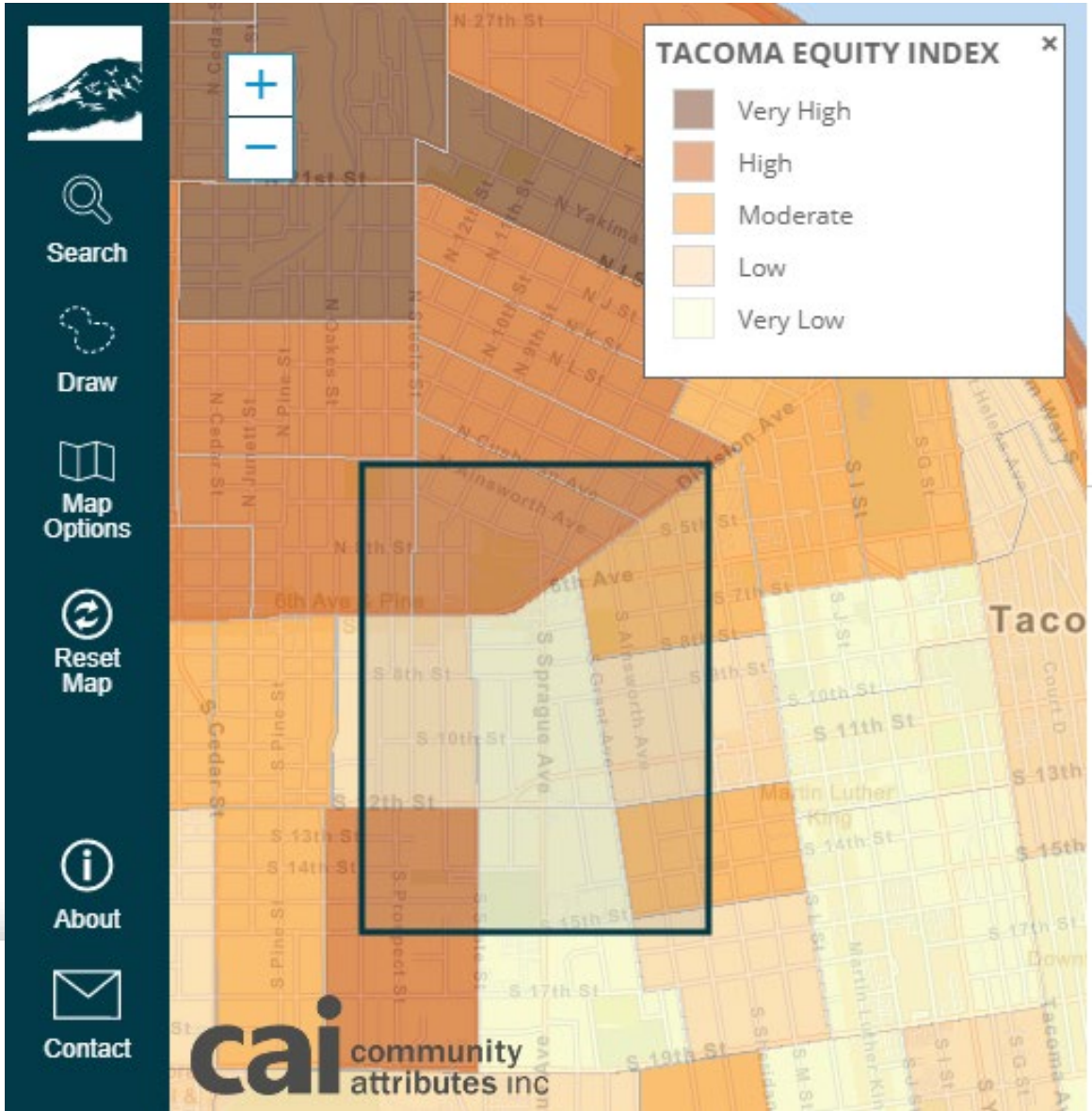
There are a wide variety of things the equity index can do to help with your work

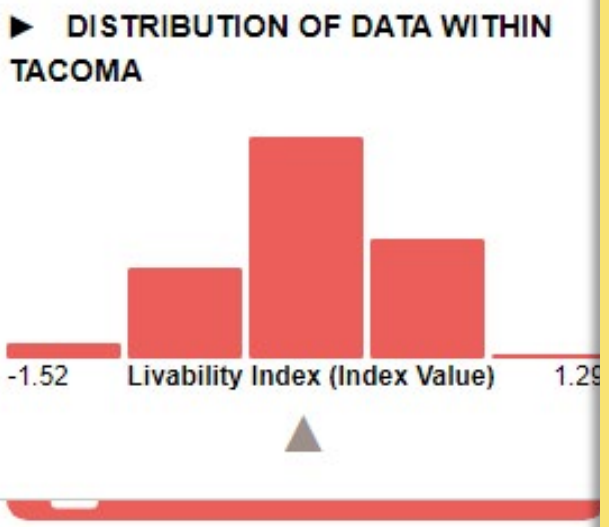


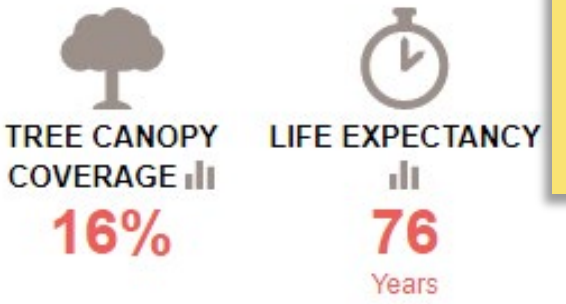
# What Can the Equity Index Do For You?

| Usage | Description | Best Use |
|---|---|---|
| Use Index As-Is | Use an existing tool to view the data for your own analysis *(no mapping expertise required)* | Identify where your data falls in the equity index |
| Combine Index with Your Data | Add the index scoring to your data for viewing in a table or map format *(some mapping expertise required)* | Prioritize and make decisions |

# Use Index As-Is – Self Service




MEDIAN HOME VALUE

Sources: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, 2013-2017; City of Tacoma Crime Reports & Service Requests, 2016-2017; Plan-It Geo, 2016; National Center for Health Statistics, 2016; Kirwin Institute, 2019

**Self Service Analysis**

The public equity application is a resource for finding quick information and selecting an area. This tool will provide statistics about the overall and sub indicators

https://caimaps.info/tacomaequitymap

# What's Next?

- Incorporate index into program analysis, REAP Goals
- Use index to support Board Action Memos
- Use equity index for resource prioritization
- Support implementation across TPU

# Thank You!

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Questions?

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www.CityofTacoma.Org/equityindex