

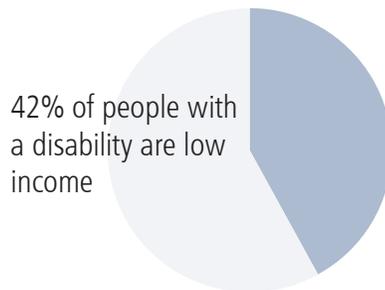
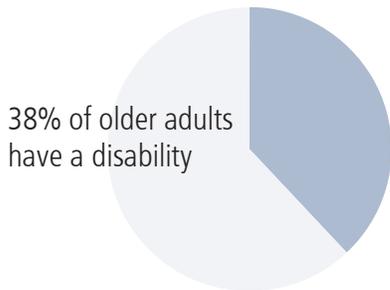
# Aging in Pierce County

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

### What it Takes to Age in Place

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines aging in place as “the ability to live in one’s own home and community safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level”.

How we design and build places right now will impact the lives of older adults now and all those who choose to stay in Tacoma and Pierce County as they mature.



Sidewalks, transit, and parks should all be well equipped for visitors of all ages and abilities. Individuals’s physical and cognitive variance should be met with reliable infrastructure, regardless of their neighborhood.

Engaging public space, walkable communities, and effective transit helps older adults maintain independence and reduces isolation by creating safe connections between services. People are outliving their ability to drive and that means cities need to decentralize cars from their planning practices, especially as generations age.

Growth of Older Adult Age Groups



Currently, older adults make up roughly 13% of Pierce County’s population and people under 18 make up almost 25%.

By the year 2030 the number of older adults will out number children\* in Pierce County.

\*People under 18



### Tech Solutions

Older adults have notably not chosen to use rideshare apps like Uber or Lyft at the same rate as younger generations and many believe that autonomous and micro mobility technology will follow a similar trend.

This means we can provide more options for older adults through design and improvements to currently available bus and rail services.



**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

Transportation Advocacy Day is supported by:



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