John Corso

As you're likely aware, the City of Tacoma is in the process of upzoning most of the land within city limits. While it appears the politicians are focused on increasing the number of dwelling units in the city, there appears to be little concern about the probable increase in stormwater as property owners cover open space in their backyard with detached-accessory-dwelling-units and real estate investors and developers demolish groups of single-family homes (with yards) and replace them with multi-family structures with little or no open space. It's my understanding the chemicals stormwater carries into Puget Sound are accumulating in the Puget Sound ecosystem including in the bodies of ESA-listed Puget Sound Chinook and the Southern Resident Orca. As a recreational fisherman and seafood consumer, I want to eat seafood from Puget Sound but stopped years ago due to concerns about chemical pollution accumulating in flesh and fat. Consequently, stormwater pollution is also hurting local businesses. I understand that bioswales are a useful tool for collecting stormwater and cleaning it as it moves through the soil. Please consider moving towards stormwater permits that require cities to set-aside enough land across the city for bioswales that are built to capture and percolate the average daily precipitation, limiting direct discharge into Puget Sound for severe storms as the long-term goal. Thank you.