



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Anita Gallagher, Assistant to the City Manager, City Manager’s Office
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution Adopting State and Federal Legislative Agendas for 2020 – December 10, 2019
DATE: December 3, 2019

SUMMARY:

A Resolution adopting the State and Federal Legislative Agendas with priority issues for the 2020 sessions of the Washington State Legislature and United States Congress.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

The State and Federal legislative agendas cover a variety of issues that align with all of the following priorities:

- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Foster a vibrant and diverse economy with good jobs for all Tacoma residents.
- Encourage thriving residents with abundant opportunities for life-long learning.
- Cultivate a vibrant cultural sector that fosters a creative, cohesive community.
- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.
- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Tacoma’s State and Federal Legislative Agendas are developed through engagement with operational departments and divisions, policymakers, and other stakeholders to determine a set of priority issues to which City advocacy resources will be devoted for the coming year.

Each year, the Public Utility Board and Tacoma City Council adopt a slate of priority issues that the City of Tacoma would like to see addressed by the Legislature and Congress. Identifying this set of issues fosters efficient and effective communication to State and Federal policymakers and provides transparency to the public about State and Federal issues that are most important to the City Council.

Briefings were provided to the City Council and Public Utility Board on priority issues on September 24, 2019, and November 13, 2019, respectively. On December 4, 2019, the Public Utility Board approved a Resolution adopting the State and Federal Legislative Agendas for Tacoma Public Utilities. A briefing was provided to the Joint Study Session of the Public Utility Board and City Council outlining the full citywide legislative agenda on December 10, 2019. The requested Resolution provides the City Council with the opportunity to adopt the citywide legislative agenda for 2020.

ISSUE:

Prior to the end of each year, the City Council typically reviews, discusses, and approves the State and Federal Legislative Agendas for the coming year to ensure that they have identified the City’s priority issues to be communicated with State and Federal policymakers.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council has the option of revising the proposed issues or taking no action to approve the State and Federal Legislative Agendas.



RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council approve State and Federal Legislative Agendas for 2020 in order to give staff clear direction and guidance to carry out appropriate action, and to be able to communicate these goals to State and Federal policymakers in a timely manner.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.