



## RESOLUTION NO. U-10986

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3 A RESOLUTION authorizing the renewal of the waiver of power and water utility  
4 connection and inspection fees for cities in Tacoma Power and Water's  
5 service territories during current declared state of emergency.

6 WHEREAS, on May 9, 2017, the City Council passed Ordinance No. 28430  
7 ("Emergency Ordinance"), declaring a state of public health emergency relating to  
8 the conditions of homeless encampments and authorizing such actions as are  
9 reasonable and necessary in light of such emergency to mitigate the conditions  
10 giving rise to such public emergency, and provided that the Emergency Ordinance  
11 would be effective through October 9, 2017, and

12 WHEREAS, on June 6, 2017, by motion, the City Council approved a  
13 temporary emergency aid and shelter plan with a three-phased approach  
14 (Mitigation, Stabilization, and Short-Term Transitional Housing) at a projected cost  
15 of \$3.4 million, and

16 WHEREAS, on July 12, 2017, by Resolution U-10942, the Utility Board  
17 authorized the waiver of connection and inspection fees upon request for cities  
18 within Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water's service territories providing facilities for  
19 sheltering low-income and/or infirm persons effective through October 9, 2017, and  
20 requested the Council of the City of Tacoma to pass an ordinance approving such  
21 authority by amending Title 12 of Tacoma Municipal Code as appropriate, and  
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23 WHEREAS the Emergency Ordinance further provided that the City Council  
24 shall review the conditions that have given rise to the public health emergency to  
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determine if such conditions warrant keeping in place the extraordinary measures authorized herein to respond to the public health emergency, and

WHEREAS the City Council conducted a review of the efforts made to abate the conditions giving rise to the declaration of the public emergency and found that such conditions continued and the public emergency created thereby had not been abated, and

WHEREAS, based upon the foregoing, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 28457 on October 3, 2017, extending the sunset date of the public emergency declaration made pursuant to the Emergency Ordinance from October 9, 2017, to December 31, 2017, and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 28477, extending the sunset date of the public emergency declaration from December 31, 2017, to December 31, 2018.

WHEREAS the City Council conducted a second review of the conditions giving rise to the declaration of a public emergency and determined that the continuing and ongoing threat of significant harm to human health and life arising from the conditions in homeless encampments as described in the Emergency Ordinance have not yet been abated by the City's actions, resulting in the continued existence of the public emergency as declared pursuant to the Emergency Ordinance, and

WHEREAS the Public Utility Board ("Board") believes it is in the best interests of the utility rate payers and the community at large to continue to



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provide for utility services for the poor and infirm during the current declared state of emergency for the Department of Utilities ("TPU") by extending the waiver of connection and inspection fees for cities in Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water's service territories establishing facilities for the sheltering of low-income and/or infirm persons to December 31, 2018, and

WHEREAS Tacoma City Charter section 4.11 requires all matters related to the fixing of rates and charges for utility services to be initiated by the Board and approved by the Tacoma City Council; Now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Sec. 1. The Director of Utilities is authorized to extend the waiver for connection and inspection fees upon request for cities within Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water's service territories providing facilities for sheltering low-income and/or infirm persons during the current declared state emergency set to expire on December 31, 2018, and the Council of the City of Tacoma is requested to pass an ordinance approving such authority by amending Title 12 of the Tacoma Municipal Code as appropriate.

Sec. 2. The Director shall cause to be prepared, and submitted to the Board a report listing the number and amount of connection and inspect fees waived.

Approved as to form and legality:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Deputy City Attorney

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Clerk

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Chair  
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Secretary  
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Adopted