



CITY CLERK USE ONLY

REQUEST FOR
[] ORDINANCE [X] RESOLUTION

RECEIVED Request #:

11925
37550

2008 JUL 22 AM 8:46

Ord./Res. #:

1. DATE: July 21, 2008

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2. SPONSORED BY: MAYOR BAARSMAN AND COUNCIL MEMBERS JULIE ANDERSON, MIKE LONERGAN AND MARILYN STRICKLAND

Table with 3 columns: Requesting Dept/Program, Contact/Person Presenting/Attorney, and Phone numbers. Includes checkboxes for 'Do Pass From' and 'Did not go before a Committee'.

5. REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 29, 2008

The requested date is to take action on the recommendation of the general management survey.

6. SUMMARY AGENDA TITLE: (A concise sentence, as it will appear on the Council agenda.)

A Resolution relating to administration of City Government, declaring that the Department of Public Utilities' use of the services of General Government departments, offices and agencies fulfills the requirements of Section 4.17 of the City Charter.

7. BACKGROUND INFORMATION/GENERAL DISCUSSION: (Why is this request necessary? Are there legal requirements? What are the viable alternatives? Who has been involved in the process?)

Proposition 3, approved by the vote of the people on November 3, 1992, directed that the Department of Public Utilities shall use the services of the City's General Government finance department, purchasing agent, law department, human resources/personnel department and other City departments, offices and agencies, except as otherwise directed by the City Council.

8. LIST ALL MATERIAL AVAILABLE AS BACKUP INFORMATION FOR THE REQUEST AND INDICATE WHERE FILED: Source Documents/Backup Material Location of Document

9. FINANCIAL IMPACT: A. [X] NO IMPACT (NO FISCAL NOTE) B. [] YES, OVER \$100,000, Fiscal Note Attached C. [] YES, UNDER \$100,000, (NO FISCAL NOTE) Provide funding source information below:

FUNDING SOURCE: (Enter amount of funding from each source)

Fund Number & Name: State \$ City \$ Other \$ Total Amount

If an expenditure, is it budgeted? [] Yes [] No Where? Cost Center:

Acct #:

Resolution No. 37550

Adopted: JUL 29 2008

Maker of Motion: Manthou

Seconded: Talbert

Voice Vote:

MEMBERS	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Anderson	<i>[handwritten mark]</i>			
Mr. Fey	<i>[handwritten mark]</i>			
Ms. Ladenburg	<i>[handwritten mark]</i>			
Mr. Lonergan	<i>[handwritten mark]</i>			
Mr. Manthou	<i>[handwritten mark]</i>			
Ms. Strickland	<i>[handwritten mark]</i>			
Mr. Talbert	<i>[handwritten mark]</i>			
Ms. Walker	<i>[handwritten mark]</i>			
Mayor Baarsma	<i>[handwritten mark]</i>			

Roll Call Vote:

MEMBERS	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Anderson				
Mr. Fey				
Ms. Ladenburg				
Mr. Lonergan				
Mr. Manthou				
Ms. Strickland				
Mr. Talbert				
Ms. Walker				
Mayor Baarsma				



Req. #11925

RESOLUTION NO. 37550

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR BAARSMA AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ANDERSON,
2 LONERGAN, AND STRICKLAND

3 A RESOLUTION relating to administration; declaring that the Department of Public
4 Utilities use of the services of General Government departments, offices,
5 and agencies fulfills the requirements of Section 4.17 of the Tacoma City
6 Charter.

7 WHEREAS, Proposition 3, approved by a vote of the people on
8 November 3, 1992, directed that the Department of Public Utilities shall use the
9 services of the City's General Government finance department, purchasing
10 agent, law department, human resources/personnel department, and other City
11 departments, offices, and agencies, except as otherwise directed by the City
12 Council, and

13 WHEREAS the most recent general management survey performed for
14 the City Council of all the utilities under the jurisdiction of the Utility Board
15 concluded that no further consolidation of services was recommended, and

16 WHEREAS, to date, the City Council has not taken formal action on the
17 recommendation of the general management survey; Now, Therefore,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

19 Section 1. That the Department of Public Utilities is authorized to
20 operate stand-alone information technology systems in Department of Public
21 Utility plants independently of the services of General Government Information
22 Technology.
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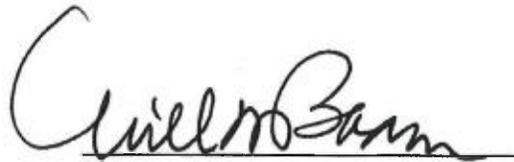
Section 2. That the Department of Public Utilities is authorized to continue to manage collection- and billing-related customer services for General Government utility customers and Public Utilities customers.

Section 3. That the Department of Public Utilities is authorized to retain lobbying services independently of General Government lobbying services; provided, that the City Council shall ensure that the legislative agenda or position of the General Government and the Department of Public Utilities are not in conflict.

Section 4. That, due to unique factors which make consolidation unrealistic at this time, the Department of Public Utilities is authorized to manage its facilities separately from the facilities management services of General Government.

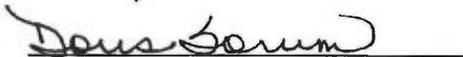
Section 5. That no additional consolidation is necessary at this time, and the requirement of Section 4.17 of the Tacoma City Charter regarding Department of Public Utilities utilization of the services of General Government departments is fulfilled.

Adopted JUL 29 2008



Mayor

Attest:



City Clerk

Approved as to form:



Assistant City Attorney

Official Voters' Pamphlet



General Election - Tuesday - November 3, 1992

CITY OF TACOMA PROPOSITION NO. 3

Powers and Duties of the Public Utility Board

OFFICIAL BALLOT TITLE:

Shall Charter Section 4.17 provide for the consolidation of some General Government and Department of Utilities' functions and services per Resolution 31892?

Charter Section 4.17 as it now exists: The City Department of Public Utilities is required, insofar as practical, to make use of the staff support services of the City's general government purchasing agent, law department, and other City departments, reserving to the Board of Public Utilities discretion to provide for such services within the Department of Public Utilities.

The effect of Proposition No. 3, if approved: The Department of Public Utilities would be mandated to use the staff support services of the City's general government finance department, purchasing agent, law department, human resources/personnel department, and other City departments, offices, and agencies, except as directed by the City Council.

STATEMENT FOR

Stop government waste! Both the City and the City Utilities have legal, finance, personnel and purchasing departments. This proposition would force the bureaucrats to consolidate these into single city government departments, reducing high Utility staff levels. This could save the taxpayers of Tacoma over \$200,000 a year!

The Public Utilities Director has admitted that 22 percent of the budget is spent on these departments. Although the Charter has long allowed the Utilities to consolidate these functions with the City, they have refused to do so. Government should be operated efficiently like business. No business would have identical departments across town from one another.

Tacoma has the highest City tax rate in the state and utility rates go up again every year! We must force the City and Utility to cut back needless expenses. The City Council has approved this amendment 6-1.

What this amendment will NOT do is remove the independence of the Utility Board. The Utility Board will still set utility policy and rates and will remain independent. The only change is that the Utility bureaucrats will not be able to have their own government departments that are identical to City departments. Don't believe the bureaucrats who claim this will cripple Utilities; it will only limit their power! The bureaucrats' building an "empire" is not in the taxpayers' best interest. Tacoma is the only city in Washington state that allows this waste to continue.

Duplication is wasteful and unnecessary. End it now by voting YES on Proposition 3.

John Ladenburg, Pierce County Prosecutor and Former Tacoma City Council Member; Sondra J. Purcell, Business Owner; and Tom Stenger, Charter Review Committee Chair and Former Tacoma City Council Member.

STATEMENT AGAINST

VOTE NO ON #3

The City of Tacoma is facing a budget deficit, while the Utility has a balanced budget. The proposed change will force rate payers to subsidize the cost of Tacoma General Government.

VOTE NO ON #3

A CITIZENS Charter review panel appointed by the City Council itself voted 11-1 in opposition to this amendment. The City Council overrode the thorough deliberation of this CITIZENS panel and brought back this amendment at the 11th hour.

VOTE NO ON #3

The public is best served by the open debate created by the current City/Utility structure. This Charter change would shift electric and water rate decisions from long range utility planning, to short term political expediency.

VOTE NO ON #3

The citizens of Tacoma have enjoyed a high quality of service and low rates from the Utility free from political manipulations for decades. To jeopardize that record without any study of the cost effects would be irresponsible.

VOTE NO ON #3

A Charter change is unnecessary. Efficiency efforts already exist in the form of the joint City/Utility Service Improvement Committee. Mandated consolidation of departments will place Utility staff and service delivery under the direction of General Government, not the Utility.

VOTE NO ON #3

City voters have repeatedly rejected all previous attempts at Charter amendments that would change the Utility's ability to operate in a business-like manner.

Dr. Sam Adams, Former Public Utility Board Member; Peter Rasmussen, Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce; and John Shaw, Charter Review Committee Member