



**TO:** Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** James P. Duggan, Tacoma Fire Department  
**COPY:** Community Vitality and Safety Committee;  
Linda Stewart, Committee Executive Liaison  
**PRESENTER:** James P. Duggan, Tacoma Fire Department  
**SUBJECT:** Fire Station 5, Tideflats  
**DATE:** June 7, 2018

**PRESENTATION TYPE:**  
Informational Briefing

**SUMMARY:**

On June 14, 2018, the Tacoma Fire Department (TFD) and the Public Works Department will provide a project update regarding Fire Station 5 (Tideflats) to the Community Vitality and Safety Committee. Planned and existing industrial development in the Tideflats has demonstrated a need for enhanced public safety services. To mitigate the severity of incidents in the area, TFD has implemented interim emergency response in the Tideflats, operating out of the Fire Training Center during the day and Fire Station 6 at night.

**BACKGROUND:**

Renovation of the existing station was initially anticipated but upon completion of a required structural evaluation, building elements were identified that did not pass the unfit building standard. Significant structural upgrades would be necessary to achieve minimum building standard requirements. After a thorough review of the structural analysis and renovation concept, it was determined that the existing building did not meet the programmatic and operational needs of TFD:

- The renovated station would still not meet essential facility code requirements for fire stations.
- Structural upgrades would reduce apparatus bay access from 2 to 1 door.
- Remaining spaces would be undersized and not meet the long-term operational needs of TFD.

In order to meet the programmatic and operational needs of TFD, a new purpose built modern fire station at the existing site has been reviewed. Construction of a new Fire Station 5 at the existing site is the preferred alternative as it will meet essential facility requirements and provide a functional a modern fire station meeting the long-term needs of TFD.

**ISSUE:**

- There is currently \$1,305,000 of funding available.
- Both the renovation and new station option will exceed current funding.
- The existing station is currently listed on the local and national historic registers. New station on the existing site will require Landmarks Preservation Commission approval to demolish the existing station.



**ALTERNATIVES:**

Renovation of the existing station and construction of a new station at the existing site have been reviewed. Construction of a new station on the existing site is the preferred alternative as it will meet building code requirements for an essential facility and provide the functions of a modern fire station meeting the long-term needs of TFD.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

- There is currently \$1,305,000 of funding available.
- Additional funding will be requested as part of the 2019-2020 budget process.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Due to prior budget reductions and restructuring, three fire stations have been closed in the Tideflats and no active fire station is currently located in the Tideflats. Planned and existing industrial development in the Tideflats has demonstrated a need for enhanced public safety services. A new purpose built modern fire station meeting the requirements of an essential facility is recommended for existing and future growth in the Tideflats.

Next steps for the project include:

- Begin application process for Historic Building Demolition Permit.
- Move forward with design contract for the new station.
- Request additional funding as part of the 2019-2020 budget process.