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SUBJECT: Advanced Electric and Water Meters: Program Update
DATE: April 6, 2021

PRESENTATION TYPE: Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

The Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) Advanced Meter Program is in the fourth year of its five year plan to deploy advanced meters. Work is nearing completion on system integrations and installations of advanced meters have begun. Customer and operational benefits are currently being realized, and the plan to upgrade 180,000 electric meters and 107,000 water meters is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2022.

BACKGROUND:

TPU has begun to deploy Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) across its entire water and electric service territories, replacing or upgrading all non-communicating power and water meters with advanced two-way communicating technology. Advanced metering is a foundational element of Tacoma Public Utilities’ Utility Modernization Strategy and will deliver customers new key benefits over time related to their power and water usage. Advanced metering technology will capture interval data, enable two-way communications, include remote capabilities, and provide advanced outage/issue detection, and verification. Advanced metering will modernize utility operations and be a cornerstone to deliver customers improved services and benefits.

ISSUE:

An Advanced Meter Program status update will be presented to provide a program briefing and answer related questions from the Government Performance and Finance Committee (GPFC). Topics to include:

- Strategic program details and realized benefits
- Program updates regarding milestones, schedule, budget, and the AMI business case
- Customer and utility operational benefits
- A meter deployment overview, including ways to assist customers and customer communications

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing only. There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information briefing only. There is no recommendation.