



TO: Linda McCrea, Interim Director of Utilities/CEO

FROM: Tom Morrill, Chief Deputy City Attorney *mm*

DATE: January 16, 2018

RE: Authorization for a Renewal of Waiver of Connection and Inspection Fees during State of Emergency

Recommendation: The Legal Department recommends that the Public Utility Board authorize the renewal of the waiver of power and water utility connection and inspection fees upon request for cities that are providing facilities for sheltering low-income and/or infirm persons and are within Tacoma Power/ Water's service territories to December 31, 2018..

Background: On May 9, 2017, the City Council passed Ordinance No. 28430, declaring a state of public health emergency relating to the conditions of homeless encampments and authorizing such actions as are reasonable and necessary through October 9, 2017.

On June 6, 2017, the City Council approved a motion for a temporary emergency aid and shelter plan with a three-phased approach (Mitigation, Stabilization, and Short-Term Transitional Housing) at a projected cost of \$3.4 million.

On July 12, 2017, the Tacoma Public Utilities Board passed U-10942, authorizing the waiver of connection and inspection fees within Tacoma Power/Water's service territories providing facilities for sheltering low-income and/or infirm persons, effective through October 9, 2017, and requested City Council to pass an ordinance amending Title 12 of the Tacoma Municipal Code.

On October 3, 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 289457, extending the sunset date of the public emergency declaration from October 9, 2017, to December 31, 2017.

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.

Schedule: The Legal Department recommends that the Board approve the renewal of the waiver and connection fees for cities in Tacoma Power/Water's service territories

that are providing facilities for sheltering low-income and/or infirm persons during the declared state of emergency to December 31, 2018.

TM/kh