



RESOLUTION NO. U-11454

1 A RESOLUTION related to the approval of an amendment and revision to Chapter
2 10 (Water Regulations and Rates) in Title 12 (Utilities) of the Tacoma
3 Municipal Code, section 12.10.400, inserting an additional meter size to the
4 domestic ready-to-serve rate schedule effective July 1, 2024.

5 WHEREAS the City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Water
6 Division ("Tacoma Water"), has requested proposed changes to Chapter 10
7 ("Water Regulations and Rates") in Title 12 ("Utilities") of the Tacoma Municipal
8 Code ("TMC"), to insert an additional meter size to the domestic ready-to-serve
9 rate schedule and would become effective July 1, 2024, and

10 WHEREAS beginning in 2019, Tacoma Water and WestRock CP, LLC
11 ("WestRock") began a one-year renewal cycle for contracted water service,
12 which was a departure from the previous agreement of five-year terms, and

13 WHEREAS on August 1, 2023, WestRock announced the closure of its
14 Tacoma paper mill, beginning September 30th of the same year, and as a result
15 of the announced closure, Tacoma Water and WestRock did not pursue
16 contract negotiations with the understanding that the existing contract would
17 expire on July 31, 2024, and

18 WHEREAS as the WestRock wind-down and closure has progressed, it
19 is becoming increasingly likely that the pulp mill site will continue to have an
20 active meter with a need for domestic water service beyond the expiration of the
21 existing contract and there is no mechanism by which Tacoma Water can bill for
22 the 20" meter that the site utilizes after July 31, 2024, and
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1 WHEREAS the proposed additions to TMC 12.10.400 would ensure
2 continuity of billing to WestRock if WestRock does not pursue the installation of
3 a smaller meter, and

4 WHEREAS Tacoma Water has briefed the Board at a Study Session on
5 April 10, 2024, and is schedule to brief the Government Performance Finance
6 Committee (GPFC) on April 23, 2024, and

7 WHEREAS Tacoma Water's proposed rate adjustments are attached as
8 Exhibit A, and

9 WHEREAS the proposed changes to Chapter 10 of Title 12 of the TMC
10 are set forth in Exhibit A and include an amendment to Section 12.10.400, and

11 WHEREAS revisions to Tacoma Water rates and regulations require
12 approval by the Public Utility Board and Tacoma City Council pursuant to
13 Tacoma City Charter section 4.11, and

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15 WHEREAS the recommended changes to the rates and regulations are
16 just, fair, and reasonable, and are in the best interest of the citizens of Tacoma
17 and the customers of Tacoma Water, and Tacoma Water requests the Board
18 approve said revisions and amendments; Now, Therefore,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:
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21 Sec. 1. The proposed revisions to Tacoma Water's regulations and
22 rates and charges are hereby approved, and the Council of the City of Tacoma
23 is requested to pass an ordinance approving such revisions and amending
24 Chapter 10 of Title 12 of the Tacoma Municipal Code, as set forth in the
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1 attached Exhibit "A," and as substantially in the form as on file with the Clerk of
2 the Board, and in a final form approved by the City Attorney's Office.

3 Approved as to form:

4 _____
5 /s/
6 Chief Deputy City Attorney
7 Charleen J. [Signature]
8 Clerk

Chair Carlos Watson
Secretary [Signature]
Adopted 4-24-24