

C2: Bushnell Amendment 1 – TPU Board Member Qualifications

Council Proposed Amendment

Amendment Summary

Article IV, Section 4.9

Brief Summary of Amendment

- Allows Public Utility Board Members to hold public office other than Tacoma City Council positions

Amendment:

Section 4.9 – Members of the Board shall be qualified electors and shall be residents of the City for two years immediately preceding the time of appointment and shall not serve on the Tacoma City Council~~shall have the same qualifications as provided in this charter for Council Members~~. Members shall be entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred in carrying out their official duties, other than those incident to attending board meetings held within the City of Tacoma. (Amendment approved by vote of the people November 4, 2014)

Rationale for amendment:

Currently, the closest equivalent to the Tacoma Public Utilities in terms of services and structure are Public Utility Districts (PUD's). PUDs allow their commissioners to hold additional elected office. Under the current rules, TPU board members cannot hold elected office. The experience and breadth of leadership that TPU Board members can have to represent our community should not be restricted if they so choose to hold office. This proposal still prevents TPU Board members from serving on the Tacoma City Council.