

City of Tacoma

TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager

FROM: Jackie Flowers, Director, Tacoma Public Utilities;

Scott Dewhirst, Superintendent, Tacoma Water; Chris Robinson, Superintendent, Tacoma Power

COPY: Government Performance and Finance Committee (GPFC);

Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance;

Claire Goodwin, Management Analyst, City Manager's Office

PRESENTER: Andrew Zaremba, Utilities Economist, Tacoma Water;

Christina Leinneweber, Senior Utilities Economist, Tacoma Power

SUBJECT: TPU Rate Design **DATE:** June 21, 2022

PRESENTATION TYPE: Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

Rate design blends judgement, best practices, and policies in that there of often competing needs and priorities that must be balanced when determining how to charge for utility services. There are also limits imposed by accessibility and resolution of data.

BACKGROUND:

Once a Revenue Requirement has been established and the Cost-of-Service analysis has been completed, Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water undergo rate design processes to set the rates charged to customers.

ISSUE:

The GPFC requires a foundational understanding of the rate-making process and principles to better inform forthcoming utility budget and rate proposals. Subsequent presentations will provide additional foundational information for this purpose.

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.