



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Karen Short, Human Resources Senior Analyst
 Gary Buchanan, Human Resources Director
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COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Ordinance to Amend Tacoma Municipal Code, Chapter 1.18 and 1.19 – October 10, 2017
DATE: September 25, 2017

SUMMARY:

An ordinance to amend the Tacoma Municipal Code, Chapters 1.18 and 1.19, to align the process for setting the rates of pay and compensation for the positions of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Council Member, with the Tacoma City Charter, Section 2.3, amended November 4, 2014, and RCW 35.21.015.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

The requested ordinance aligns with the City Council’s Strategic Policy Priority to encourage and promote an open, effective, results-oriented organization by implementing wages and other compensation, for Mayor and members of the City Council, as determined by the Citizen’s Commission on Elected Salaries.

BACKGROUND:

Under provisions of Tacoma City Charter, Section 2.3, amended November 4, 2014, and RCW 35.21.015, the Citizen’s Commission on Elected Salaries sets the salary and compensation of the Mayor and members of the Tacoma City Council. The Commission’s decision must be implemented without modification. This ordinance will update the Code to reflect these provisions.

The Commission’s decision dated September 1, 2015, presented to the City Council September 15, 2015, eliminated the annual 2.75 percent increase in salaries for City elected officials effective January 1, 2018, and remains unchanged. A decision at the Commission’s August 7, 2017 meeting, and filed with the City Clerk’s Office on August 23, 2017, sets the annual salaries of City of Tacoma elected officials, effective January 1, 2018, as follows:

Position	2017	2018
Mayor	\$101,483	\$100,000
Mayor, Deputy	\$50,752	\$50,000
Council Member	\$46,010	\$45,000

The salary decrease does not apply to incumbents until their next term of office and will affect the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Council Member positions elected in 2017 and thereafter. The termination of the previous annual 2.75 percent increase goes into effect for all positions January 1, 2018.

ISSUE:

Authorization from the City Council by ordinance is required make changes to the Tacoma Municipal Code, Chapters 1.18 and 1.19.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council take the necessary action to approve this legislation.