



TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Linda McCrea, Interim Director of Utilities/CEO
COPY: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager and City Clerk
SUBJECT: **Authorizing Waiver of Certain Utility Connection and Inspection Fees during Declared State of Emergency – February 6, 2018**
DATE: January 16, 2018

SUMMARY:

Authorization for 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.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.

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 the City Council to pass an ordinance amending Title 12 of the Tacoma Municipal Code.

On October 3, 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 28457, 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.

ISSUE:

- Ongoing threat of significant harm to human health and life arising from the conditions in homeless encampments and continued public emergency.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorization to renew 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.

Passing an ordinance to amend Title 12 of the Tacoma Municipal Code by Tacoma City Council.



FISCAL IMPACT:

EXPENDITURES:

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
TOTAL			

* General Fund: Include Department

REVENUES:

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
TOTAL			

POTENTIAL POSITION IMPACT:

POSITION TITLE	PERMANENT/ PROJECT TEMPORARY POSITION	FTE IMPACT	POSITION END DATE
TOTAL			

This section should only be completed if a subsequent request will be made to increase or decrease the current position count.

FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET:

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED?

IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED.