



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: James P. Duggan, Fire Chief, Tacoma Fire Department
COPY: Government Performance and Finance Committee
PRESENTER: James P. Duggan, Fire Chief
SUBJECT: 2019-2020 Proposed Fees & Fines
DATE: September 18, 2018

PRESENTATION TYPE:

Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

As part of the City Manager's 2019-2020 Proposed Budget, a number of new fees and fines, as well as increases to existing fees, are being considered. This presentation will brief GPFC on the issues we are addressing with the proposals, the proposed fees and fines, and compare to like jurisdictions.

BACKGROUND:

Proposed fees and fines are to address operational issues that take valuable emergency resources out of availability for non-emergent purposes, increase community and firefighter safety, and allow the department to hire additional Prevention division staff.

ISSUE:

TFD is proposing three new fees and fines and the increase of one existing fee as part of the City Manager's 2019-2020 Proposed Budget.

False Fire Alarm

Fine would apply to residential and commercial fire alarm system owners that are identified as unintentional or related to a system malfunction. Responding to these alarms is costly to the department and are for non-emergent conditions.

Non-Emergent Lift Assist

Fine would apply to licensed care facilities who utilize TFD resources to lift their patients who are not experiencing a medical emergency.

Commercial Fire Protection Systems Compliance

Fee would apply to all commercial fire protection system owners as part of their required maintenance schedule. Examples of commercial fire protection systems include alarms, fire escapes, commercial kitchen hoods and ducts, private hydrants, sprinkler systems, and standpipes.

Fire Code Inspection Program (FCIP)

Fee would increase more than CPI, as currently stated in Article 3.09.015 of the TMC, due to increases in operating and program costs that exceed CPI. Fee increase would also allow the addition of 1.0 FTE to the



Prevention Division to support the payment collection, customer service, and answer business questions and concerns.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Proposed fee changes and fines will bring an estimated \$1.6M in additional revenue to the General Fund in 2019-2020, some of which will be used to add staff (2.0 FTEs) to support the programs and customer service of the department. All changes and proposals will be part of the City Manager's 2019-2020 Proposed Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information briefing only. There is no recommendation.

All changes and proposals will be part of the City Manager's 2019-2020 Proposed Budget that will be discussed in detail during October and November 2018 budget work sessions.