



Tacoma Municipal Code 12.08

City of Tacoma | Environmental Services

Study Session
October 15, 2019



Brief History...



- Ecology delegated authority to the City to implement an Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment (PT) Program in 1984.
- TMC 12.08 regulates;
 - Stormwater
 - General wastewater (domestic)
 - Industrial wastewater (non-domestic)
- Department of Ecology requirements for how we regulate stormwater and wastewater have been changing ever since.
- TMC 12.08 can be confusing for us, and our customers.
- We've wanted to update our code for some time, but why now, and how?

Change Driver...



- January 2016 - received a Notice of Intent from Puget Soundkeeper Alliance (PSA) alleging Clean Water Act violations in the Pretreatment Program.
- July 2016 - contracted with national pretreatment expert, *CWA Consulting Services (CWACS)*, for an independent PT Program evaluation.
- February 2017 - Consent Decree with PSA requiring compliance with CWACS evaluation findings.
- March 2017 - CWACS final report recommending "Revise Chapter 12.08 of the Tacoma Municipal Code."

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Three New Chapters...



- Tacoma Municipal Code to be separated into three Chapters;
 - TMC 12.08A Stormwater – No substantive changes.
 - TMC 12.08B General Wastewater – No substantive changes.
 - TMC 12.08C Industrial Pretreatment – Substantive changes to clarify authority language and format.
 - Resources: Pierce County, Vancouver, EPA Model Ordinance, Department of Ecology, and CWACS.

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What Will Be Different in TMC 12.08C?



- The new code adds language to better align the City's effort to regulate industrial discharges to the POTW with state and federal law.
- The new code will be easier to navigate for our customers.
- Adds a new federal requirement for Dental Dischargers to install amalgam separation and self-certify compliance with the new requirements by October 2020.

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What Will Be Different in TMC?



- Adds an August 2019 federal requirement that prohibits the discharge of hazardous waste pharmaceuticals.
- Local Limits will be revised in accordance with EPA guidance.
- Raises maximum civil enforcement penalties for violations of TMC 12.08C from \$5,000 to \$10,000 to be consistent with state law.
- Rates, charges and fees for the three Chapters will be located in an independent ordinance or resolution.

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