

Tacoma Municipal Code 12.08

City of Tacoma | Environmental Services

Study Session October 15, 2019





- 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.



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.



What Will Be Different in T

- 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.

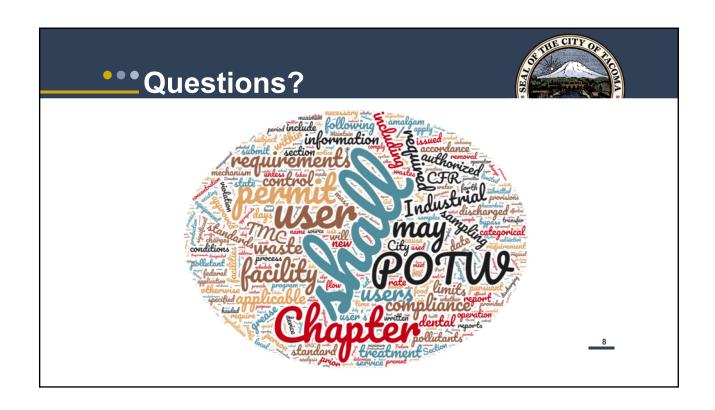


***NEXT STEPS



- Ecology will formally approve the Pretreatment Ordinance November
- City Council Consideration December
 - New 12.08A, 12.08B, and 12.08C
 - Rates and Fees by Ordinance
- Ordinance Effective Date January 2020

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