



## RESOLUTION NO. 40507

1 BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS BLOCKER, HUNTER, IBSEN, AND  
2 MELLO

3 A RESOLUTION formalizing recent coordination improvements for the City's  
4 government relations operations, and outlining additional structural actions  
5 to enhance the harmony and effectiveness of government relations efforts  
6 between General Government and the Department of Public Utilities.

7 WHEREAS the City has certain policy advocacy needs with various levels of  
8 government, and

9 WHEREAS government relations efforts are carried out by professional staff  
10 and contractor resources, and rely upon subject matter expertise of departmental  
11 staff, and

12 WHEREAS recent improvements in the collaboration of government  
13 relations efforts, led by the City Manager and Director of Public Utilities, include  
14 regular coordination on Citywide legislative policies, City Council adoption of the  
15 legislative agendas approved by the Public Utility Board, and joint staff  
16 presentations on legislative priorities by General Government and Department of  
17 Public Utilities staff to policymakers, and

18 WHEREAS these improvements have enhanced the harmony and  
19 effectiveness of government relations efforts undertaken by and across the City,  
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21 and  
22 WHEREAS the City Manager and Director of Public Utilities recommend  
23 that the City build upon the recent success of these efforts and offer additional  
24 recommendations for increasing the harmony and effectiveness of policy advocacy  
25 work, and  
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1 WHEREAS it is recommended that an ex officio, non-voting, membership  
2 position for the Chair of the Public Utility Board be added to the Government  
3 Performance and Finance Committee (“GPFC”) of the City Council, and

4 WHEREAS it is further recommended that metrics relating to the  
5 coordination of government relations efforts between General Government and the  
6 Department of Public Utilities be added to the performance review criteria for both  
7 the City Manager and Director of Public Utilities, and that the City Manager and  
8 Director of Public Utilities collaborate with policymakers to develop metrics prior to  
9 their next performance reviews, and  
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11 WHEREAS the City Manager and Director of Public Utilities will identify  
12 methods in which the City Council and Public Utility Board are apprised of  
13 emerging issues which require policymaker direction, and shall further identify  
14 methods for providing updates on government relations activities to the Mayor, City  
15 Council, and Public Utility Board on a regular basis, and  
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17 WHEREAS the Government Performance and Finance Committee  
18 (“GPFC”) passed a motion at its meeting of August 20, 2019, to advance a  
19 Resolution to the City Council for consideration, to formalize the recent  
20 improvements and recommended enhancements related to government relations  
21 between General Government and the Department of Public Utilities, and for an  
22 identical Resolution to be considered by the Public Utility Board at its meeting of  
23 December 4, 2019, and  
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1 WHEREAS, on December 4, 2019, the Public Utility Board adopted Utility  
2 Board Resolution No. U-11124, formalizing these recent improvements and  
3 recommended enhancements; Now, Therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

5 Section 1. That the City Manager and Director of Public Utilities,  
6 respectively, shall implement systematic changes to enhance the harmony and  
7 effectiveness of government relations between General Government and the  
8 Department of Public Utilities, to include joint presentations to the City Council and  
9 Public Utility Board on the legislative agenda and amendments to the City's  
10 Legislative Policy Statement. The City Manager and Director of Public Utilities  
11 shall identify methods in which the City Council and Public Utility Board are  
12 apprised of emerging issues which require policymaker direction, and shall further  
13 identify methods for providing updates on government relations activities to the  
14 Mayor, City Council, and Public Utility Board on a regular basis.

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17 Section 2. That an ex officio, non-voting, membership position for the Chair  
18 of the Public Utility Board shall be added to the Government Performance and  
19 Finance Committee of the City Council.

20 Section 3. That metrics relating to the coordination of government relations  
21 efforts between General Government and Department of Public Utilities shall be  
22 added to the performance review criteria for both the City Manager and Director of  
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1 Public Utilities. The City Manager and Director of Public Utilities will collaborate  
2 with policymakers to develop said metrics prior to their next performance reviews.  
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4 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

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Mayor

7 Attest:

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City Clerk

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11 Approved as to form:

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City Attorney

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