



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Bill Fosbre, City Attorney
Andy Cherullo, Finance Director
COPY: Community Vitality and Safety Committee
PRESENTER: Keith Echterling, City Attorney's Office and Danielle Larson, Finance
SUBJECT: Title 8.30A Chronic Nuisance Code Amendment
DATE: January 23, 2020

PRESENTATION TYPE:

Request for Ordinance

SUMMARY:

The Human Rights Commission, Policy and Advocate (P&A) Committee Members have expressed to City of Tacoma Council Members their concerns with “domestic violence” being listed as a qualifying nuisance activity in the Chronic Nuisance code. Responding to these concerns, Council Members requested staff to prepare an amendment to Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) Title 8.30A to remove “domestic violence” as a qualifying nuisance activity from the list provided for in the TMC. Therefore, staff is seeking a recommendation to take the proposed amendments to the full council for consideration.

BACKGROUND:

In 2003, TMC 8.30A, the Chronic Nuisance code, was established with an intent to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public. “Domestic violence” has been listed as a nuisance activity since 2003.

ISSUE:

The P&A Committee raised concerns that having “domestic violence” listed as a nuisance activity in TMC 8.30A.020 may disproportionately impact poor women and punish domestic violence victims for reporting criminal activity to law enforcement.

In an effort to support victims’ rights, the proposed amendment to TMC 8.30A will remove “TMC 8.105 Domestic Violence” from the list of nuisance activities as defined in section 8.30A.020.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is to leave “domestic violence” in TMC 8.30A as a nuisance activity.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is seeking a recommendation to take the proposed amendments to TMC 8.30A to the full council for consideration.