

## TACOMA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS UNION

ALLYSON HINZMAN

President

KRIS HAMPTON

Vice-President

MATT FRANK
Secretary-Treasurer

April 26, 2021

Honorable Mayor Woodards and Tacoma City Council Members 747 Market Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Tacoma, WA 98402-5605

Dear Mayor Woodards and City Council Members,

The Tacoma Fire Department and Tacoma Firefighters Union have a history of breaking barriers in the fire service. In 2000, Eileen Lewis became first female fire chief of the department and the first woman in the United States to lead a large municipal fire department. Further, female firefighters make up more than 13% of the department, compared to the average of less than 5% across the nation. I am also proud to be the first female President of our organization.

The diversity of our membership is a cornerstone to our success. As firefighters we engage with the community day in and day out. We are also a part of the community, as such our members reflect our community's different genders, backgrounds and perspectives which allow us to better serve them.

We believe that the renaming of Fireman's Park not only reflects the values of the men and women of the Tacoma Firefighters but also reflects the very same values that the City of Tacoma prides itself on. On behalf of IAFF Tacoma Firefighters Local 31, I hereby express our support for the proposed resolution to rename Fireman's Park to Firefighters' Park.

Sincerely,

Allyson Hinzman

President