



RESOLUTION NO. 40840

1 A RESOLUTION relating to the Department of Public Utilities, Water Division
2 (d.b.a. "Tacoma Water"); ratifying the Salmon Habitat Plan 2021 Update,
3 "Making Our Watershed Fit for a King," for the Green/Duwamish and
4 Central Puget Sound Watershed, Water Resource Inventory Area 9.

5 WHEREAS the City of Tacoma ("City") and 16 other local governments are
6 members to an Interlocal Agreement ("ILA") for the Green River, Duwamish River,
7 and Central Puget Sound Watersheds, referred to as the WRIA 9 Ecosystem Forum
8 ("WRIA"), and

9 WHEREAS the ILA was established in 2001 and has been renewed twice
10 since then, most recently through Public Utility Board and City Council action in
11 2015, and

12 WHEREAS the City, through its Department of Public Utilities, Water Division
13 (d.b.a. "Tacoma Water"), represents the City on the WRIA, and together with other
14 members, shares in the operating costs of the WRIA and has invested \$8.4 million
15 in restoration efforts within the WRIA since 2001, and

16 WHEREAS to date, the City, through Tacoma Water has provided \$416,000
17 to the ILA from 2001 to 2021, and has committed another \$100,000 through 2025,
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20 WHEREAS the WRIA endeavors to work through consensus, and is now
21 seeking ratification of the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan 2021 Update ("Habitat
22 Plan") by all ILA members, and
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WHEREAS the Habitat Plan provides a science-based framework for identifying, prioritizing, and implementing salmon recovery actions through the WRIA for the next ten years, and

WHEREAS through implementation of the Habitat Plan, the intent is to achieve sustainable, resilient, and harvestable populations of naturally spawning Chinook salmon, by utilizing the best available science to inform local government actions, and prioritize projects and policies, and ratification of the Habitat Plan is intended to convey support for the following:

1. Protecting and restoring habitat based on best available science with the intent to achieve sustainable, resilient, and harvestable populations of naturally spawning Chinook salmon.
2. Pursuing a multi-benefit approach to WRIA 9 Plan implementation that integrates salmon recovery, flood hazard reduction, water quality improvements, open space and recreation, and equity and social justice to improve outcomes for people and fish.
3. Utilizing the WRIA 9 Plan as a source of best available science to inform local government actions, including, but not limited to land use, shoreline, and transportation planning/permitting.
4. Utilizing capital project concepts, programmatic actions, and policies outlined within the WRIA 9 Plan to inform local priorities for implementation and funding via grants, capital improvements, ordinances, and other activities. Ratification does not obligate any partner to implement any specific actions or adhere to specific timelines for such actions.
5. Working collaboratively with local, state, and federal partners and tribes to support and fund implementation of the WRIA 9 Plan, including monitoring and adaptive management to address scientific uncertainty, tracking and communicating progress, and refining strategies to ensure cost-effective investments.



WHEREAS, by adoption of Public Utility Board Resolution No. U-11279 on
September 8, 2021, the proposed Habitat Plan was approved, pending confirmation
from the City Council; Now, Therefore,

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

That the request of the Department of Public Utilities, Water Division
(d.b.a. "Tacoma Water"), to ratify the Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound
Watershed, Water Resource Inventory Area 9 Salmon Habitat Plan 2021 Update, is
hereby approved.

Adopted _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Chief Deputy City Attorney

Requested by Public Utility Board
Resolution No. U-11279