



## RESOLUTION NO. U-10942

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2 A RESOLUTION waiving power and water utility connection and inspection fees  
3 for cities in Tacoma Power and Water's service territories during current  
4 declared state of emergency.

5 WHEREAS, on May 2, 2017, the City Council adopted Resolution  
6 No. 39716, directing the City Manager to promptly prepare and present to the City  
7 Council an Emergency Temporary Aid and Shelter Program to respond to the  
8 homelessness crisis and to prepare and present an ordinance declaring a state of  
9 emergency, and

10 WHEREAS, on May 9, 2017, the City Council passed Ordinance No. 28430,  
11 declaring a state of public health emergency relating to the conditions of homeless  
12 encampments located in the City effective through October 9, 2017 ("current  
13 declared state of emergency"), and

14 WHEREAS the City Council concluded therein, inter alia, that the ongoing  
15 suffering of individuals, families, and unaccompanied youth occupying homeless  
16 encampments, and the threat to the public health and safety, will continue in the  
17 absence of the immediate implementation of interim measures designed to meet  
18 the immediate survival and safety needs of those persons, such as the provision of  
19 hygiene facilities, trash collection, sanitary facilities, temporary shelters, outreach  
20 and gateway services, safe and stable shelter, potable drinking water, solid waste  
21 disposal, and human waste disposal, and

22 WHEREAS the City Manager has proposed and presented to the Mayor and  
23 City Council a three-phase Emergency Temporary Aid and Shelter Program to  
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respond to the homeless crisis and the emergent conditions endangering the public health, safety and welfare, and

WHEREAS the three-phase plan consists of mitigation of the conditions in homeless encampments in the first phase, providing emergency sheltering and transition services in the second phase, and providing long-term housing in the third phase, and

WHEREAS the second phase will include the City's establishment of temporary emergency shelter sites on public property, or private property made available by the owners to the City, to be managed and operated by the City, and

WHEREAS such temporary emergency shelter sites provide needed community services in response to the declared public health emergency, and

WHEREAS the Washington State Constitution Article VIII section 7, authorizes the use of city funds, including the funds of its municipal utilities, to provide necessary support for the poor and infirm, and specifically, RCW 35.92.380 authorizes the waiver connection fees, hook-up fees, or other charges for low-income persons to use the city's utility services (including but not limited, water, power, sanitary or storm sewer), and

WHEREAS the Public Utility Board ("Board") believes it is in the best interests of the utility rate payers and the community at large to provide for utility services for the poor and infirm during the current declared state of emergency for the Department of Utilities ("TPU") by waiving connection and inspection fees for cities in Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water's service



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territories establishing facilities for the sheltering of low-income and/or infirm persons during the current declared state of emergency, and

WHEREAS Tacoma City Charter section 4.11 requires all matters related to the fixing of rates and charges for utility services to be initiated by the Board and approved by the Tacoma City Council; Now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Sec. 1. The Director of Utilities is authorized to waive connection and inspection fees upon request for cities within Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water's service territories providing facilities for sheltering low-income and/or infirm persons during the current declared state emergency set to expire October 9, 2017, and the Council of the City of Tacoma is requested to pass an ordinance approving such authority by amending Title 12 of the Tacoma Municipal Code as appropriate.

Sec. 2. The Director shall cause to be prepared, and submitted to the Board a report listing the number and amount of connection and inspect fees waived.

Approved as to form and legality:

William Fosse  
Chief Deputy City Attorney

Charlan Jacobs  
Clerk

Monique Johnson  
Chair

Janet Hater  
Secretary

Adopted 7-12-17

**Homeless Encampments  
Estimated Utility Connection Fees**

	<u>Power(1)</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Completed Sites	\$30,000	\$11,000	\$41,000
Proposed Sites	\$50,000-90,000	\$6,000	\$56,000-96,000
Potential Sites	\$79,000-83,500	\$98,000-137,000	\$177,000-220,500
TOTAL	\$159,000-203,500	\$115,000-154,000	\$274,000-357,500

(1) - Does not include third party contractor costs