

Contributions in Aid of Construction (CIAC) Signature Authority Consideration

PUB Study Session October 14, 2026

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Current Approval Requirement



Tacoma Municipal Code 1.06.268.B.1

“Citywide purchases and contracts over \$500,000 shall be presented for approval to both the City Council and the Public Utility Board consistent with the Charter.”

Current Approval Process



Approval Process

- Project scope, customer funding commitments, and agreement terms are established prior to Board consideration.
- Board packages must be submitted at least 16 days before the Board meeting.
- Project schedules may be affected by established Board meeting and approval timelines.
- Contract execution occurs after the approval process is complete.

Project Expenditures

- Do not occur until customer funds are received

Why Change is Being Proposed



The current approval process provides important governance and oversight. CIAC agreements are distinct because they are customer-funded, and related expenditures do not occur until customer funds are received.

A targeted delegation would support a timelier contract execution while maintaining Board oversight through annual reporting.

Administrative Delegation



Proposed Action

Request the Public Utility Board delegate authority to the Director of Utilities for qualifying CIAC contracts exceeding \$500,000.

Resolution requested for consideration at the October 28, 2026, Board meeting:

“The Tacoma Public Utility Board administratively delegates to the Director of Utilities the ability to enter into certain contracts over \$500,000. This delegation is only applicable to contracts which involve payments to Tacoma Power for Contributions in Aid of Construction (CIAC). The Director of Utilities shall report to the Public Utility Board, on an annual basis, contracts approved that meet this dollar value.”

Expected Benefits



- Supports more timely contract execution.
- Provides developers greater schedule certainty.
- Improves TPU's ability to support customer projects, development activity, and community growth.
- Maintains Board visibility through annual reporting.



Questions?

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