

PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD POLICY

Category: Guiding Principle

Title: Financial Sustainability

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Resolution Up

Purpose

Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) will secure its is committed commitment to provide providing safe, affordable, and reliable power, water, and rail services over the long term by maintaining sustainable budget, financial, and asset management practices¹.

Outcomes

- 1. Planning methods, as summarized in Rate and Financial Policies, that provide long-term financial stability for reliable power, water, and rail services.
- Detailed Operating, Capital, and Strategic Plans that guide planning for sustainable financial, business, and capital budgets over the long term while maintaining infrastructure assets at the lowest responsible lifecycle cost.
- TPU planning methods that incorporate conservatism and gradualism into nearterm budgets and rate designs, as necessary, to ensure long-term financial stability and anticipate unexpected future events with adequate cash reserves and insurance.
- 4. Maintain financial metrics that support AA-the highest level of bond ratings, or better, which to facilitate access to the lowester-cost financing and produce sustainable debt service expenses and adequate and relevant reserve level.
- Utilities Utility rates at the lowest levels reasonably sufficient to meet our vision mission. to provide reliable, safe, affordable, and equitable utilities services to customers over the long term.
- Strategic asset management that guides capital project development to predict
 when improvements are necessary and to operate infrastructure assets at the
 lowest lifecycle cost.

- 7.6. Financial management of debt including loans, and revenue bonds, and grants over the long term to maintain reasonable debt-service requirements and meet debt service coverage ratios.
- 8.7. Board Members who are educated in the business model and financing of these utilities.

Measurements

- 1. Budget Performance and Forecast to Actualts (Forecast to Actual comparisons, specifically on revenues) (revenues and expenditures)
- 2. Debt Service Coverage Ratio
- Days Cash on Hand (based on budgeted expenditures)

Reporting

Frequency: Quarterly

Method: Biennial budget and rate development process; Quarterly financial outlooks

⁴https://www.mytpu.org/about-tpu/investors/