

PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD POLICY

Category: Guiding Principle	Title: Financial Sustainability
Date of Adoption: August 28, 2019	Policy Number: GP-2
Resolution No.: U-11099	
Revision Date: December 13, 2023 via Resolution Up	

<u>Purpose</u>

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

<u>Outcomes</u>

- 1. Planning methods, as summarized in Rate and Financial Policies, that provide long-term financial stability for reliable power, water, and rail services.
- 2. 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.
- 3. 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 bond ratings AA or better which facilitate access to the lowest-cost financing and produce sustainable debt service expenses with adequate and relevant reserve level.
- 5. Utility rates at the lowest levels reasonably sufficient to meet our vision.
- 6. Financial management of debt including loans, revenue bonds, and grants over the long term to maintain reasonable debt-service requirements and meet debt service coverage ratios.

7. Board Members who are educated in the business model and financing of these utilities.

Measurements

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

<u>Reporting</u>

Frequency: Quarterly

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

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