



RESOLUTION NO. U-11192

1 A RESOLUTION adopting Public Utility Board Strategic Directive (SD) Ten on
2 Government Relations.

3 WHEREAS in response to changes in the utility industry, and to ensure
4 that Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) continues to meet the Tacoma Public Utility
5 Board's goals of delivering affordable, reliable, and environmentally sensitive
6 services, the Board is developing policies concerning Government Processes,
7 Board-Director Linkage, and Strategic Directives, and
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9 WHEREAS the Strategic Directives guides TPU's efforts to effectively
10 and efficiently address current and future challenges, mitigate risks, pursue
11 strategic opportunities, optimize services for TPU customers, and capture the
12 performance expectations of the Board, and
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14 WHEREAS this resolution adopts Strategic Directive Ten concerning
15 Government Relations, and

16 WHEREAS TPU is committed to building and strengthening respectful
17 and mutually-productive relationships with tribal, federal, state, and other local
18 units of government in order for public policy to benefit TPU customers and to
19 foster the outcomes set out in TPU's Strategic Directives, and
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21 WHEREAS the Values set forth in Strategic Directive Ten are:

22 1. TPU values the relationship it has with tribal, federal, state, and other
23 local units of government;
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- 2. TPU recognizes the sovereign status of Tribal Nations and is committed to consulting with those Nations on a government-to-government basis;
- 3. TPU will develop, preserve and enhance government-to-government relationships through building trust, being responsive, proactive communication of relevant information and services, and collaboration based on mutual interests;
- 4. TPU is committed to strong collaboration and proactive communication with the City of Tacoma's General Government;
- 5. TPU is committed to communicating and working with tribal and government partners near outlying TPU facilities and lands and to communicating about TPU programs that benefit their communities, and

WHEREAS the Outcomes of this Strategic Directive include:

- 1. Ongoing government-to-government consultation with sovereign Tribal Nations will ensure long-term stewardship of TPU-managed resources in mutually beneficial ways;
- 2. TPU's policy initiatives are developed with the goal of alignment with the City of Tacoma's General Government. TPU and General Government staff collaborate and actively communicate on a regular basis to seek alignment. Where interests diverge, active communication and collaboration fosters understanding and mitigates negative impacts;



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3. Policy decisions at the federal, state and local level protect the long-term investment that the Citizens of Tacoma and TPU customers have made in the infrastructure, operational capacity, financial stability and intellectual capital of TPU;
4. TPU is seen as a leader locally, regionally, and nationally in strategically developing policy positions and initiatives that benefit TPU, and the industries and communities in which it operates;
5. TPU's ongoing relationship with franchise cities ensures collaboration and smooth negotiation on franchise agreements and issues of mutual concern;
6. TPU will consistently engage in regular, proactive outreach with its government partners with the intention of listening, sharing relevant information, and identifying opportunities for collaboration when possible;
7. When full alignment is not possible, TPU will transparently acknowledge differences, communicate challenges and seek to maintain strong, trusting relationships with government partners; and
8. TPU will endeavor to avoid litigation with other government entities, except where necessary to protect vital interests or to determine precedent, and seek solutions through negotiation.

WHEREAS these policies were developed at regularly-scheduled Board study sessions and/or properly-noticed public meetings and all future Board reviews and amendments will be handled similarly, and



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WHEREAS the Board has committed to monitor and ensure compliance with Board policies. This oversight provides an opportunity for the Board and staff to clarify, revise and develop new policies when necessary as TPU navigates changes in the utility industry, and

WHEREAS the Board and Director have determined that adopting Public Utility Board Strategic Directive Ten on Government Relations is in the best interests of Tacoma Public Utilities and the ratepayers; Now, Therefore,

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

That Public Utility Board Strategic Directive Ten on Government Relations, in the form as on file with the Clerk, is adopted and approved.

Approved as to form:

Chair

/s/
Chief Deputy City Attorney

Secretary

Clerk

Adopted _____



Board Action Memorandum

TO: Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities
FROM: Tom Morrill, Chief Deputy City Attorney
Charleen Jacobs, Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board
MEETING DATE: September 9, 2020
DATE: September 1, 2020

SUMMARY: A resolution adopting Public Utility Board Strategic Directives (SD) Ten on Government Relations.

BACKGROUND: It is a time of monumental change in the utility industry. Utilities must embrace innovation and move quickly to find new and better ways to deliver affordable, reliable, and environmentally sensitive services to their customers. With this in mind, the Tacoma Public Utility Board launched a process to develop policies concerning Government Processes, Board-Director Linkage, and Strategic Directives.

This resolution adopts Strategic Directive Ten (SD10) listed above. Strategic Directives guide TPU's efforts to effectively and efficiently address current and future challenges, mitigate risks, pursue strategic opportunities, and optimize services for the TPU customers. Strategic Directives also capture the performance expectations of the Board.

Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) is committed to building and strengthening respectful and mutually-productive relationships with tribal, federal, state, and other local units of government in order for public policy to benefit TPU customers and to foster the outcomes set out in TPU's Strategic Directives.

Values of this Strategic Directive: 1) TPU values the relationship it has with tribal, federal, state, and other local units of government; 2) TPU recognizes the sovereign status of Tribal Nations and is committed to consulting with those Nations on a government-to-government basis; 3) TPU will develop, preserve and enhance government-to-government relationships through building trust, being responsive, proactive communication of relevant information and services, and collaboration based on mutual interests; 4) TPU is committed to strong collaboration and proactive communication with the City of Tacoma's General Government; 5) TPU is committed to communicating and working with tribal and other government partners near outlying TPU facilities and lands and to communicating about TPU programs that benefit their communities.

Outcomes of this Strategic Directive: 1) Ongoing government-to-government consultation with sovereign Tribal Nations will ensure long term stewardship of TPU managed resources in mutually beneficial ways; 2) TPU's policy initiatives are developed with the goal of alignment with the City of Tacoma's General Government. TPU and General Government staff collaborate and actively communicate on a regular basis to seek alignment. Where interests diverge, active communication and collaboration fosters understanding and mitigates negative impacts; 3) Policy decisions at the federal, state and local level protect the long-term investment that the residents of Tacoma and TPU customers have made in the infrastructure, operational capacity, financial stability and intellectual capital of TPU; 4) TPU is seen as a leader locally, regionally, and nationally in strategically developing policy positions and initiatives that benefit TPU, and the industries and communities in which it operates; 5) TPU's ongoing relationship with franchise cities ensures collaboration and smooth negotiation on franchise agreements and issues of mutual concern; 6) TPU will consistently engage in regular, proactive outreach with its government partners with the intention of listening, sharing relevant information, and identifying opportunities for collaboration when possible; 7)



Board Action Memorandum

When full alignment is not possible, TPU will transparently acknowledge differences, communicate challenges and seek to maintain strong, trusting relationships with government partners; 8) TPU will reasonably avoid litigation with other government entities, except where necessary to protect vital interests or to determine precedent, and will seek solutions through negotiation.

These policies were developed at regularly scheduled or properly-noticed Board study sessions and meetings and all future reviews and amendments to the Public Utility Board policies will be in handled similarly.

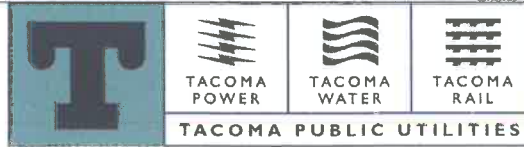
The Public Utility Board has committed to monitor and ensure compliance with Board policies. This oversight provides an opportunity for the Board and staff to clarify, revise and develop new policy when necessary as TPU navigates changes in the utility industry.

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? N/A

IF THE ACTION REQUESTED IS APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT, INCLUDE LANGUAGE IN RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING \$200,000 INCREASE IN ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY TO DIRECTOR? N/A

ATTACHMENTS: Strategic Directive 10 – Government Relations

CONTACT: Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities



PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD POLICY

<p>Category: Strategic Directive</p> <p>Date of Adoption: September 9, 2020</p> <p>Resolution No.: U-11192</p> <p>Revision Date:</p>	<p>Title: Government Relations</p> <p>Policy Number: SD-10</p> <p>Reporting Frequency:</p> <p>Reporting Method:</p>
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Purpose

Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) is committed to building and strengthening respectful and mutually-productive relationships with tribal, federal, state, and other local units of government in order for public policy to benefit TPU customers and to foster the outcomes set out in TPU’s Strategic Directives.

Values

1. TPU values the relationship it has with tribal, federal, state, and other local units of government.
2. TPU recognizes the sovereign status of Tribal Nations and is committed to consulting with those Nations on a government-to-government basis.
3. TPU will develop, preserve and enhance government-to-government relationships through building trust, being responsive, proactive communication of relevant information and services, and collaboration based on mutual interests.
4. TPU is committed to strong collaboration and proactive communication with the City of Tacoma’s General Government.
5. TPU is committed to communicating and working with tribal and other government partners near outlying TPU facilities and lands and to communicating about TPU programs that benefit their communities.

Outcomes

1. Ongoing government-to-government consultation with sovereign Tribal Nations will ensure long term stewardship of TPU managed resources in mutually beneficial ways.
2. TPU’s policy initiatives are developed with the goal of alignment with the City of Tacoma’s General Government. TPU and General Government staff collaborate and actively communicate on a regular basis to seek alignment. Where interests diverge,

active communication and collaboration fosters understanding and mitigates negative impacts.

3. Policy decisions at the federal, state and local level protect the long-term investment that the residents of Tacoma and TPU customers have made in the infrastructure, operational capacity, financial stability and intellectual capital of TPU.
4. TPU is seen as a leader locally, regionally, and nationally in strategically developing policy positions and initiatives that benefit TPU, and the industries and communities in which it operates.
5. TPU's ongoing relationship with franchise cities ensures collaboration and smooth negotiation on franchise agreements and issues of mutual concern.
6. TPU will consistently engage in regular, proactive outreach with its government partners with the intention of listening, sharing relevant information, and identifying opportunities for collaboration when possible.
7. When full alignment is not possible, TPU will transparently acknowledge differences, communicate challenges and seek to maintain strong, trusting relationships with government partners.
8. TPU will reasonably avoid litigation with other government entities, except where necessary to protect vital interests or to determine precedent, and will seek solutions through negotiation.

Measurement

1. TPU staff will internally track government relations activities, including necessary follow-up.
2. TPU staff will provide consistent updates to government partners and regularly seek feedback regarding projects, rates, and programs.
3. TPU staff will regularly provide the Public Utility Board, TPU executives, and staff with information about government relations activities and any potential recommended policy changes and/or impacts relating to a government partner.

Reporting

1. Staff will report on active policy initiatives and significant policy issues at the Federal, state and local level to the Board on a bi-annual basis.
2. Once before, once during, and once after the Washington State legislative session.