



## RESOLUTION NO. U-11245

1 A RESOLUTION related to updating New Services Fees for the Electrical New  
2 Services workgroup.

3 WHEREAS the City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Light  
4 Division (d/b/a "Tacoma Power") requests approval to update the New Services  
5 Fees which are implemented by the Electrical New Services workgroup, and

6 WHEREAS New Services Fees are fixed fees charged for common,  
7 repetitive work types performed by Tacoma Power personnel for customers,  
8 and

9  
10 WHEREAS the fees were last updated in 2009 and since that time, labor  
11 and material prices have increased, and

12 WHEREAS instead of a one-step increase, it is proposed that the fees  
13 are phased in yearly by increasing the fees in the same dollar amount until a  
14 target feel level is reached over four years, beginning May 1, 2021 and each  
15 year thereafter on April 1<sup>st</sup> for 2022, 2023 and 2024, and

16  
17 WHEREAS in addition, the fees will be published on the Tacoma Public  
18 Utility website and will be incorporated into the Tacoma Customer Service  
19 Policies during the next scheduled Policy review process; Now, therefore,

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

21  
22 That the Electrical New Services updated fee schedule, as on file with  
23 the Clerk, is approved, commencing May 1, 2021 and increasing each year

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thereafter on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, 2023 and 2024, and the proper officers of the City of Tacoma are authorized to execute all necessary documents.

Approved as to form:

	_____
	Chair
/s/ _____	_____
Chief Deputy City Attorney	Secretary
_____	Adopted _____
Clerk	



**TO:** Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities  
**COPY:** Charleen Jacobs, Director and Board Offices  
**FROM:** Chris Robinson, Tacoma Power Superintendent/COO  
**MEETING DATE:** March 10, 2021  
**DATE:** February 26, 2021

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**STRATEGIC DIRECTIVE ALIGNMENT (select as many that apply):**

Please indicate which of the Public Utility Board's Strategic Directives is supported by this action.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SD1 – Equity & Inclusion                  | <input type="checkbox"/> SD8 – Telecom                            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SD2 – Financial Sustainability | <input type="checkbox"/> SD9 – Economic Development               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SD3 – Rates                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SD10 – Government Relations              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SD4 – Stakeholder Engagement   | <input type="checkbox"/> SD11 – Decarbonization/Electric Vehicles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SD5 – Environmental Leadership            | <input type="checkbox"/> SD12 – Employee Relations                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SD6 – Innovation                          | <input type="checkbox"/> SD13 – Customer Service                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SD7 – Reliability & Resiliency            | <input type="checkbox"/> SD14 – Resource Planning                 |

**SUMMARY:**

Tacoma Power requests approval by the Public Utility Board (PUB) of updated New Services Fees for the Electrical Services New Services workgroup, with new 2021 fees to become effective on 1 May 2021, and subsequent years' fees to become effective on April 1<sup>st</sup> of 2022, 2023, and 2024, as designated in the attached table.

**BACKGROUND:**

New Services Fees are fixed fees charged for common, repetitive work types performed by Tacoma Power personnel for customers. It would be inefficient to calculate a customized cost estimate for each request for such work. These fees were last updated in 2009. Since that time labor and material prices have increased, which requires an updating of fees to recover actual costs.

Because over a decade has passed since fees were last updated, the percentage impacts of raising fees to full-cost recovery in one step would be high. Therefore, the Public Utility Board directed staff at its 26 August 2020 and 23 September 2020 meetings to prepare a gradual recommendation to "phase-in" full cost recovery over time. This proposal increases each fee by the same dollar amount each year until the target fee level is reached in four years. Because the target date is in the future, a standard annual inflation factor of 2% has been applied to the 2020 cost-recovery targets to create the 2024 cost-recovery targets.

Staff shared a draft of this proposal with the Public Utility Board at its public meeting on 13 January 2021. The Master Builders Association (MBA) was informed of pending fee adjustments on 8 September 2020. Clarification on fee-calculation methodology and avenues for engagement was requested and provided by Tacoma Power. On 10 November 2020, the Master Builders Association was provided a description of proposed fee adjustment schedule via email. No further questions or feedback have been received. The fee proposal is competitive with fees for similar work charged by Seattle City Light and Puget Sound Energy.

If approved, the fees will be published on the Tacoma Public Utility website. Staff also intends to incorporate them into the Tacoma Power Customer Service Policies during the next scheduled Policy review process.



## Board Action Memorandum

**ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED?** Yes.

**IF THE EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW IT IS TO BE COVERED.**

This is a revenue item.

**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:**

- Public Utility Board Resolution
- Electrical Services New Services Fee Table

**CONTACT:**

- Primary Contact: John Martinson, Power Supervisor, T&D New Services Engineering
- Supervisor: Chad Edinger, Assistant Section Manager, T&D Electrical Services
- Presenter: John Martinson (above) and Christina Leinneweber (Sr. Utilities Economist)

## ELECTRICAL SERVICES NEW SERVICES FEE TABLE

*Attachment to 10 March 2021 Board Action Memorandum*

### NEW SERVICES FEES

FEE CODE	FEE DESCRIPTION	1 MAY 2021	1 APRIL 2022	1 APRIL 2023	1 APRIL 2024
ELE00230	Connect New 200A Service to an Existing SSB	\$344.00	\$413.00	\$482.00	\$551.00
ELE00240	Install and Connect New 200A Service and SSB to an Existing Transformer	\$1,589.25	\$2,103.50	\$2,617.75	\$3,132.00
ELE00250	Connect New 200A, Single-Phase Service to an Existing Overhead Secondary	\$866.50	\$1,058.00	\$1,249.50	\$1,441.00
ELE00250	Connect New 320A, Single-Phase Service to an Existing Overhead Secondary	\$866.50	\$1,058.00	\$1,249.50	\$1,441.00
ELE00255	Connect New 200A, Three-Phase Service to an Existing Overhead Secondary	\$1,470.25	\$1,545.50	\$1,620.75	\$1,696.00
ELE00260	Connect 200A, Single-Phase Temporary Service to Existing Overhead Secondary or SSB	\$313.00	\$351.00	\$389.00	\$427.00
ELE00270	Install New 200A Service, SSB, Conduit, and Wire to an existing Power Pole	\$2,620.50	\$3,091.00	\$3,561.50	\$4,032.00
ELE00280	Install New 320A Service, SSB, Conduits, and Wire to an existing Power Pole	\$2,901.25	\$3,307.50	\$3,713.75	\$4,120.00
ELE00290	Install New 200A Service and Wire to an Existing Pole in Customer-Provided Conduit	\$1,548.00	\$2,036.00	\$2,524.00	\$3,012.00
ELE00300	Connect Street Light Circuit to an Overhead or Underground Secondary Service	\$237.50	\$290.00	\$342.50	\$395.00
ELE00310	Connect Cable/DSL Service to an Overhead or Underground Secondary Service	\$237.50	\$290.00	\$342.50	\$395.00
ELE00500	Service Reconnect Fee	\$215.50	\$246.00	\$276.50	\$307.00
ELE00630	Install Communications Conduits in addition to Power Conduits while Installing an SSB	\$149.25	\$158.50	\$167.75	\$177.00
new	Application Fee	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00

### NOTES

New 2021 fees will become effective on 1 May 2021, and subsequent years' fees will become effective on April 1st of 2022, 2023, and 2024. Approved fees will be published on the Tacoma Public Utility website. Staff also intends to incorporate them into the Tacoma Power Customer Service Policies during the next scheduled Policy review process.

# New Business Service Fee Update

2021-2024 Plan

10 March 2021

## Reminder

### New Services Fees

- Fees for common work, usually connected to new building or remodels
- Based on average actual sampled costs from SAP
- Adjusted for known cost changes
- Small inflation factor to account for inflation to 2024

### Public Utility Board

- Enact by Board Resolution now, to be effective starting May 1<sup>st</sup> of 2021 and April 1<sup>st</sup> of subsequent years
- Post on website, incorporate into Customer Service Policies when they are next updated

### Stakeholder Outreach

- September 8<sup>th</sup> & November 10<sup>th</sup>: communication to Master Builders Association
- No feedback received

# New Services Fees – Phased Proposal

**TACOMA POWER**  
TACOMA PUBLIC UTILITIES

Fee Code	Fee Description	Current	1 May 2021	1 April 2022	1 April 2023	1 April 2024
ELE00230	Connect New 200A Service to an Existing SSB	\$275.00	\$344.00	\$413.00	\$482.00	\$551.00
ELE00240	Install and Connect New 200A Service and SSB to an Existing Transformer	\$1,075.00	\$1,589.25	\$2,103.50	\$2,617.75	\$3,132.00
ELE00250	Connect New 200A, Single-Phase Service to an Existing Overhead Secondary	\$675.00	\$866.50	\$1,058.00	\$1,249.50	\$1,441.00
ELE00250	Connect New 320A, Single-Phase Service to an Existing Overhead Secondary	\$675.00	\$866.50	\$1,058.00	\$1,249.50	\$1,441.00
ELE00255	Connect New 200A, Three-Phase Service to an Existing Overhead Secondary	\$1,395.00	\$1,470.25	\$1,545.50	\$1,620.75	\$1,696.00
ELE00260	Connect 200A, Single-Phase Temporary Service to Existing Overhead Secondary or SSB	\$275.00	\$313.00	\$351.00	\$389.00	\$427.00
ELE00270	Install New 200A Service, SSB, Conduit, and Wire to an existing Power Pole	\$2,150.00	\$2,620.50	\$3,091.00	\$3,561.50	\$4,032.00
ELE00280	Install New 320A Service, SSB, Conduits, and Wire to an existing Power Pole	\$2,495.00	\$2,901.25	\$3,307.50	\$3,713.75	\$4,120.00
ELE00290	Install New 200A Service and Wire to an Existing Power Pole in Customer-Provided Conduit	\$1,060.00	\$1,548.00	\$2,036.00	\$2,524.00	\$3,012.00
ELE00300	Connect Street Light Circuit to an Overhead or Underground Secondary Service	\$185.00	\$237.50	\$290.00	\$342.50	\$395.00
ELE00310	Connect Cable/DSL Service to an Overhead or Underground Secondary Service	\$185.00	\$237.50	\$290.00	\$342.50	\$395.00
ELE00500	Service Reconnect Fee	\$185.00	\$215.50	\$246.00	\$276.50	\$307.00
ELE00630	Install Communications Conduits in addition to Power Conduits while Installing an SSB	\$140.00	\$149.25	\$158.50	\$167.75	\$177.00
new	Application Fee	none	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00

OH = overhead  
UG = under-ground