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## **RESOLUTION NO. U-11473**

A RESOLUTION authorizing to continue 4 positions and extend the project of limited duration for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project.

WHEREAS the City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Light Division, Utility Technology Services Section (d.b.a. "Tacoma Power") requests Public Utility Board approval to continue four positions and extend the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project ("Project"), as a special project of limited duration to December 31, 2025, and

WHEREAS this Project was established by Resolutions Nos. U-11055, U-11148, and U-11341, found in the board materials provided by the Clerk, that approved a total of 29 positions and included a project end date of December 31, 2024, and

WHEREAS on January 9, 2019, the Public Utility Board adopted Resolution No. U-11055, establishing the Advanced Metering Project as a special project of limited duration, and

WHEREAS Tacoma Public Utilities ("TPU") plans to deploy Advanced Metering Infrastructure ("AMI") across its entire water and electric service territories that will modernize utility operations and be a cornerstone to deliver customers improved services and benefits, and

WHEREAS the AMI project will involve replacing all non-communicating power and water meters with advanced two-way communicating electric (with disconnect) and water meters, and installing new AMI two-way communication modules on water meters that are not replaced, and



WHEREAS AMI will capture interval data, enable two-way communications, include remote capabilities, and provide advanced outage/issue detection and verification, and

WHEREAS as a transformative initiative, the AMI Program has and continues to require significant effort across TPU to implement the new processes, applications, technologies, and integrations needed to fully enable the functions and features of the AMI solution, and

WHEREAS in addition, customer and stakeholder engagement and organizational change management are essential to Project success, and

WHEREAS to meet the anticipated needs of the AMI Project, 26 special project of limited duration positions were previously approved as part of Resolution No. U-11055, comprised of the transfer of 10 temporary positions to the special project of limited duration and the hiring of 16 new special project of limited duration employees, and

WHEREAS these project positions have a long-term benefit to TPU as at least 15 employees, initially hired for AMI project roles, have been hired into permanent roles across TPU, and

WHEREAS after a thorough assessment of the ongoing AMI mass meter deployment and the emerging requirements for network hardening and project closeout, TPU recommends extending the duration initially approved from December 31, 2024, to December 31, 2025, and



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WHEREAS this extension is essential to meet the critical needs of network stabilization and to ensure a seamless project closeout, and

WHEREAS this extension will apply to 4 AMI-related Project positions within the Utility Technology Services, and Tacoma Power; the roles are briefly described below:

- Business Systems Analyst for Utility Technology Services. This
  position is responsible for deployment program coordination and
  administration, ensuring timely utility data updates. This position
  will also coordinate weekly and monthly status reports with the
  meter deployment workstream lead and internal utility
  stakeholders.
- Associate Business Analyst for Utility Technology Services. This
  position is responsible for planning and facilitation of project
  meetings and developing stakeholder communication materials.
- Sr. Technology Project Manager for Utility Technology Services, Principal for Utility Technology Services. This position is responsible for leading the planning and supervision of the meter and network deployment.
- <u>Technical Customer Service Rep for Tacoma Power.</u> This position is responsible for office work related to Tacoma Power. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of programs and operational support. This role will provide support by managing and tracking problems from the field.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 1.12.155 and 1.24.187 of the Tacoma Municipal Code and Section 6.1(h) of the Tacoma City Charter, employees who are not regular employees and are hired as special project employees are paid as provided for by ordinance or resolution of the City Council, and

WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the Department of Public Utilities to approve the continuance of 4 positions and extend the Special Project of



Limited Duration to December 31, 2025, to support the required activities for the duration of the special project; Now, Therefore:

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

Section 1. That the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project, designation as a special project of limited duration, is hereby extended and as a special project of limited duration.

Section 2. That, in accordance with the applicable provisions of TMC 1.12.140 and 1.12.155, the salaries and classes set forth in the Compensation Plan for regular City employees shall be applied, contingent upon funding, to similar project positions of the Project.

Section 3. That, in accordance with TMC 1.24.187 and 1.30.300, employees who have been hired or may be hired for positions expected to be of limited duration shall be designated unclassified special project employees as of the date of hire.

Section 4. That those special project employees who have been hired or may be hired to work on the Project as identified in this resolution, shall receive benefits, all in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of the compensation plan of the City of Tacoma. They shall be given a one-time binding and irrevocable election to participate in the City's Retirement System, pursuant to the retirement provisions of TMC 1.30.300.

Section 5. That because the positions to be filled pursuant to this resolution are of a temporary nature and are unique in that they pertain only to the aforementioned special project, they are deemed temporary positions, and



persons so employed in such positions shall have no claim to further or continued employment with the City after cessation of such special project or after cessation of activities funded by said programs, except pursuant to their obtaining status as regular City employees under the provisions of the Tacoma Municipal Code or pursuant to further action of the City Council relating to this special project.

Section 6. That all acts by agents or employees of the City consistent with the intent of this resolution taken prior to the effective date of this resolution are hereby ratified.

Section 7. That the term of this Project shall not exceed the expiration of December 31, 2025, unless extended by appropriate action.

Section 8. That the Director of Utilities is hereby authorized to direct the appropriate City officers to proceed with the necessary actions for Project completion, including approval to continue 4 positions for the Project, to support the required activities for the duration of the Project.

Approved as to form:	Chair	
/s/ Chief Deputy City Attorney	Secretary	
Clerk	Adopted	



### **Board Action Memorandum**

**TO:** Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities

**COPY:** Charleen Jacobs, Director and Board Offices

Sally Mohr, Information Technology Division Manager

Corey Bedient, Power UTS Technology Manger

**FROM:** Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent/COO

Heather Pennington, Water Superintendent/COO

MEETING DATE: August 28, 2024

DATE: September 25, 2024

**SUMMARY:** Tacoma Public Utilities requests a resolution for approval to continue 4 positions and extend the project of limited duration for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project to December 31, 2025. This project was established as a "Special Project of Limited Duration" by Resolution No. U-11055, U-1148, and

U-11341 which approved a total of 29 positions and a project end date of December 31, 2024.

**BACKGROUND:** On January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the Public Utility Board adopted Resolution No. U-11055 establishing the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project as a special project of limited duration.

Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) plans to deploy Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) across its entire water and electric service territories. The AMI project will replace all non-communicating power and water meters with advanced two-way communicating electric (with disconnect) and water meters, and installing new AMI two-way communication modules on water meters that are not replaced. AMI technology will capture interval data, enable two-way communications, include remote capabilities, and provide advanced outage/issue detection and verification. Advanced metering will modernize utility operations and be a cornerstone to deliver customers improved services and benefits.

As a transformative initiative, the AMI Program has and continues to require a significant effort across TPU to implement the new processes, applications, technologies, and integrations needed to fully enable the functions and features of the AMI solution. In addition, customer and stakeholder engagement and organizational change management are essential to project success.

To meet the anticipated needs of the AMI project, 26 special project of limited duration positions were previously approved as part of Resolution No. U-11055. This was comprised of the transfer of 10 temporary positions to the special project of limited duration and the hiring of 16 new special project of limited duration employees.

These project positions have a long-term benefit to TPU. At least 15 employees, initially hired for AMI project roles, have been hired into permanent roles across TPU.

After a thorough assessment of the ongoing AMI mass meter deployment and the emerging requirements for network hardening and project closeout, Tacoma Public Utilities recommends extending the duration initially approved under Resolution No. U-11055 to December 31, 2025. This extension is essential to meet the critical needs of network stabilization and to ensure a seamless project closeout. This extension will apply to 4 AMI-related project positions within the Utility Technology Services, and Tacoma Power. Briefly, the roles and services provided are described below:



### **Board Action Memorandum**

- Business Systems Analyst for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for deployment program coordination and administration, ensuring timely utility data updates. This position will also coordinate weekly and monthly status reports with the meter deployment workstream lead and internal utility stakeholders.
- Associate Business Systems Analyst for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for planning and facilitation of project meetings and developing stakeholder communication materials.
- Sr. Technology Project Manager for Utility Technology Services; Principal for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for leading the planning and supervision of the meter and network deployment.
- Technical Customer Service Rep for Tacoma Power; this position is responsible for office work related to Power. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of programs and operational support. This role will provide support by managing and tracking problems from the field.

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes, expenses for additional project positions are budgeted within the planned and approved 2023-2024 biennium Advanced Meter Program contingency. Funds for the 2025-2026 biennium are planned and subject to budget approval.

IF THE EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED. 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**: Resolution No. U-11055, U-11148, and U-11341 Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project of Limited Duration

**CONTACT:** Corey Bedient Utility Technology Services, Advanced Meter Program Manager, (253)-345-1251



### **RESOLUTION NO. U-11341**

A RESOLUTION approving the extension of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project, which is a project of limited duration, for Tacoma Power, and designating general salary classifications and benefits for persons employed on the project, pursuant to, pursuant to Tacoma Municipal Code Sections 1.12.155, 1.24.187, 1.30.300 and Section 6.1(h) of the Tacoma City Charter.

WHEREAS the City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Light Division (dba "Tacoma Power"), requests approval to extend the time frame for the establishment of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project ("Project"), as a special project of limited duration from a termination date of December 31, 2022, to an end date of December 31, 2024, and

WHEREAS the AMI program involves replacing all non-communicating power and water meters with advanced two-way communicating electric (with disconnect) and water meters, and installing new AMI two-way communication modules on water meters that are not replaced, and

WHEREAS AMI captures interval data, enables two-way communications, includes remote capabilities, and provides advanced outage/issue detection and verification, and

WHEREAS the Project provided for the transfer of 10 temporary positions and the hiring of 19 employees within UTS, Tacoma Water, Tacoma Power, and the Customer Services departments, to work on the integration and implementation phases of the Project, to upgrade power and water meters across Tacoma Public Utilities' Service Territory at all homes and businesses, and



WHEREAS the transferring of positions and hiring of employees was required to address an aging meter population, meet customer needs with time access to consumption data, and align TPU with metering technology common to other utilities in the region, and

WHEREAS approval of the Project enabled Tacoma Power's Utility

Technology Services Section ("UTS") to staff the planning and design phases of
the Project with technology and business process subject matter experts, and

WHEREAS due to issues created by the COVID-19 Pandemic and meter supply chain issues, the implementation of the AMI Project has been delayed and the AMI Project will not be completed by December 31, 2022, the current end date for the Project, and

WHEREAS Tacoma Power is requesting that the Project be extended as a special project of limited duration from the current termination date of December 31, 2022, to a new end date of December 31, 2024, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 1.24.187 of the Tacoma Municipal Code, employees who are not regular employees, and are hired as special project employees, are paid as provided for by ordinance or resolution of the City Council, and

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the City of Tacoma to establish the Project as a special project of limited duration; Now, Therefore,

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

Section 1. That the Board's approval of the designation of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project, as a special project of limited duration is hereby reapproved and extended.

Section 2. That in accordance with the applicable provisions of TMC 1.12.140 and 1.12.155, the salaries and classes set forth in the Compensation Plan for regular City employees shall be applied, contingent upon funding, to similar project positions of the Project.

Section 3. That in accordance with TMC 1.24.187 and 1.30.300, employees who have been hired or may be hired for positions expected to be of limited duration shall be designated unclassified special project employees as of the date of hire.

Section 4. That those special project employees who have been hired or may be hired to work on the special project, as identified in this resolution, shall receive benefits, all in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of the compensation plan of the City of Tacoma. They shall be given a one-time binding and irrevocable election to participate in the City's Retirement System, pursuant to the retirement provisions of TMC 1.30.300.

Section 5. That because the positions to be filled pursuant to this resolution are of a temporary nature and are unique in that they pertain only to the aforementioned special project, they are deemed temporary positions, and persons so employed in such positions shall have no claim to further or continued employment with the City after cessation of such special project or



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after cessation of activities funded by said programs, except pursuant to their obtaining status as regular City employees under the provisions of the Tacoma Municipal Code or pursuant to further action of the City Council relating to this special project.

Section 6. That all acts by agents or employees of the City consistent with the intent of this resolution taken prior to the effective date of this resolution are hereby ratified.

Section 7. That the term of this special project shall not exceed the expiration of December 31, 2024, unless extended by appropriate action.

Section 8. That the Director of Utilities is hereby authorized to direct the appropriate City officers to proceed with the necessary actions for Project completion, including the hiring or retaining 26 employees within UTS, Tacoma Water, Tacoma Power, and the Customer Services departments, as set forth in the original approval of the Project, to support the required activities for the duration of the Project.

Approved as to form.		
, pp. o , o a do , o ,	Chair	
/s/		
Chief Deputy City Attorney	Secretary	
	Adopted	
Clerk		



### **Board Action Memorandum**

TO:

Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities

COPY: FROM:

Charleen Jacobs, Director and Board Offices Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent/COO

Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent/COO

**MEETING DATE:** 

August 24, 2022

DATE:

August 17, 2022

**SUMMARY:** Tacoma Public Utilities requests a resolution for approval to continue 23 positions and hire an additional three positions in support of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project. This project was established as a "Special Project of Limited Duration" by Resolution No. U-11055 and U-11148, which approved a total of 29 positions. This request will bring the total number of authorized project positions to 26. These positions are essential to support the continuation of meter deployment and manual meter reading activities of the program, from January 2022 through December 31, 2024.

**BACKGROUND:** On January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the Public Utility Board adopted Resolution No. U-11055 establishing the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project as a special project of limited duration.

Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) plans to deploy Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) across its entire water and electric service territories. The AMI project will replace all non-communicating power and water meters with advanced two-way communicating electric (with disconnect) and water meters, and installing new AMI two-way communication modules on water meters that are not replaced. AMI technology will capture interval data, enable two-way communications, include remote capabilities, and provide advanced outage/issue detection and verification. Advanced metering will modernize utility operations and be a cornerstone to deliver customers improved services and benefits.

As a transformative initiative, the AMI Program has and continues to require a significant effort across TPU to implement the new processes, applications, technologies, and integrations needed to fully enable the functions and features of the AMI solution. In addition, customer and stakeholder engagement and organizational change management are essential to project success.

To meet the anticipated needs of the AMI project, 26 special project of limited duration positions were previously approved as part of Resolution No. U-11055. This was comprised of the transfer of 10 temporary positions to the special project of limited duration and the hiring of 16 new special project of limited duration employees. Furthermore, on March 11, 2020, an additional 3 special project of limited duration positions were approved as part of Resolution No. U-11148.

Due to meter supply chain delays leading to a new projected completion date of end of 2024 and the need to continue manual meter reading activities through the end of meter deployment, Tacoma Public Utilities recommends the continuation of 23 special project of limited duration positions plus the hiring of an additional three new special project of limited duration employees as part of the already approved special project of limited duration U-11055 and U-11148. This will bring the total number of AMI related project positions to 26 within the Utility Technology Services, Tacoma Water, Tacoma Power, and Customer Services departments. Briefly, the roles and services provided are described below:

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### **Board Action Memorandum**

- Continuation of 10 Project of Limited duration Meter Reader Positions plus an additional three
  Project of Limited Duration Positions for Customer Service; These positions will continue to report
  to Customer Service and are necessary for supporting the daily meter reading and collection
  services.
- Management Analyst II for Customer Service (CS); this position will report to the CS project team
  and is necessary to document and process map internal CS processes and hand offs within
  Customer Services and all TPU divisions. This work is an important and essential step to capture
  necessary changes for the successful implementation of AMI. Failure to approve this temporary
  position adds significant risk to CS' ability to properly serve the customer base with solid, reliable
  processes and systems.
- CSR Tech for Tacoma Power; this position is responsible for office work related to Power. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of programs and operational support. This role will provide support by managing and tracking problems from the field.
- Engineering Sr. Principal for Utility Technology Services; this position is responsible for leading the planning and supervision of the meter and network deployment as well as leading the integration and management of the Meter Data Management System (MDMS).
- Management Analyst II for Utility Technology Services (Program Analyst); this position is
  responsible for meter deployment program coordination and administration, ensuring the meter
  installation vendor (MIV) is notified of timely utility data and meter read route updates. This position
  will also coordinate daily and weekly status reports with the meter deployment workstream lead
  and internal utility stakeholders.
- Management Analyst I for Utility Technology Services (Customer Liaison); this position will serve
  as the meter deployment customer liaison and is responsible for direct communications, planning
  and facilitating residential customer phone calls, and coordinating with utility account executives to
  ensure customers receive responsive, accurate information.
- Management Analyst III for Tacoma Water; this position is responsible for supporting the AMI program, the Tacoma Water AMI team, coordinating program activities, resources, and communication. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program and technical implementation, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of program work-streams.
- Management Analyst III for Tacoma Water; this position is responsible for field and office work related to the Water AMI meter implementation. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development and implementation of program work-streams.
- Two Water Service Workers for Tacoma Water; these positions are field staff members responsible
  for performing planned and emergency response at individual water services before and during the
  field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and
  throughout the meter deployment project phase.
- Three Utility Service Workers for Tacoma Water; these positions are field staff members
  responsible for performing planned and emergency support at individual water services and meters
  before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur
  in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.
- Water Meter Repair Worker for Tacoma Water; this position is a field staff member responsible for performing planned and emergency response at individual water meters before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.



### **Board Action Memorandum**

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes, expenses for additional project positions are budgeted within the planned and approved 2021-2022 biennium Advanced Meter Program contingency. Funds for the 2023-2024 biennium are planned and subject to budget approval.

IF THE EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED. 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**: Resolution No. U-11055, Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project of Limited Duration; Resolution No. U-11148, Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project of Limited Duration

**CONTACT:** Andre' Pedeferri, Utility Technology Services, Advanced Meter Program Manager, (253) 502-8997



**RESOLUTION NO. U-11055** 

A RESOLUTION authorizing the establishment of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project, as a special project of limited duration for Tacoma Power, and designating general salary classifications and benefits for persons employed on the project, pursuant to Tacoma Municipal Code Sections 1.12.155, 1.24.187, 1.30.300, and Section 6.1 (h) of the Tacoma City Charter.

WHEREAS the City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Light Division, Utility Technology Services Section (d.b.a. "Tacoma Power") requests Public Utility Board approval to establish the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project ("Project"), as a special project of limited duration from January 2019 through December 31, 2022, and

WHEREAS Tacoma Public Utilities ("TPU") plans to deploy Advanced Metering Infrastructure ("AMI") across its entire water and electric service territories that will modernize utility operations and improve services to customers, and

WHEREAS the AMI program will involve replacing all noncommunicating power and water meters with advanced two-way communicating
electric (with disconnect) and water meters, and installing new AMI two-way
communication modules on water meters that are not replaced, and

WHEREAS AMI will capture interval data, enable two-way communications, include remote capabilities, and provide advanced outage/issue detection and verification, and

WHEREAS the Project will provide for the transfer of 10 temporary positions for the Project, and the hiring of 16 employees within UTS, Tacoma Water, Tacoma Power, and the Customer Services departments, to work on the



integration and implementation phases of the Project, to upgrade power and water meters across Tacoma Public Utilities' Service Territory at all homes and businesses. This is required to address an aging meter population, meet customer needs with time access to consumption data, and align TPU with the metering technology common to other utilities in the region, and

WHEREAS this resolution will enable Tacoma Power's Utility Technology Services Section ("UTS") to staff the planning and design phases of the Project with technology and business process subject matter experts, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 1.12.155 and 1.24.187 of the Tacoma Municipal Code and Section 6.1(h) of the Tacoma City Charter, employees who are not regular employees and are hired as special project employees are paid as provided for by ordinance or resolution of the City Council, and

WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the Department of Public Utilities to establish a Special Project of Limited Duration and establish temporary positions to support the required activities for the duration of the special project; Now, Therefore:

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

Section 1. That the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project, designation as a special project of limited duration, is hereby approved and established as a special project of limited duration.

Section 2. That, in accordance with the applicable provisions of TMC 1.12.140 and 1.12.155, the salaries and classes set forth in the U-11055

2019 Resolutions' Power U-11055 Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project of Limited Duration



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Compensation Plan for regular City employees shall be applied, contingent upon funding, to similar project positions of the Project.

Section 3. That, in accordance with TMC 1.24.187 and 1.30.300, employees who have been hired or may be hired for positions expected to be of limited duration shall be designated unclassified special project employees as of the date of hire

Section 4. That those special project employees who have been hired or may be hired to work on the Project as identified in this resolution, shall receive benefits, all in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of the compensation plan of the City of Tacoma. They shall be given a one-time binding and irrevocable election to participate in the City's Retirement System, pursuant to the retirement provisions of TMC 1.30.300.

Section 5. That because the positions to be filled pursuant to this resolution are of a temporary nature and are unique in that they pertain only to the aforementioned special project, they are deemed temporary positions, and persons so employed in such positions shall have no claim to further or continued employment with the City after cessation of such special project or after cessation of activities funded by said programs, except pursuant to their obtaining status as regular City employees under the provisions of the Tacoma Municipal Code or pursuant to further action of the City Council relating to this special project.



Section 6. That all acts by agents or employees of the City consistent with the intent of this resolution taken prior to the effective date of this resolution are hereby ratified.

Section 7. That the term of this Project shall not exceed the expiration of December 31, 2022, unless extended by appropriate action.

Section 8. That the Director of Utilities is hereby authorized to direct the appropriate City officers to proceed with the necessary actions for Project completion, including the transfer of 10 temporary positions for the Project, and the hiring of 16 employees within UTS, Tacoma Water, Tacoma Power, and the Customer Services departments to support the required activities for the duration of the Project.

Approved as to form and legality:	
	Chair
The Comill	
Chief Deputy City Attorney	Secretary
	Adopted
Clerk	

Request for Board meeting

# CITY OF TACOMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

of January 9, 2019 Date: January 3, 2019

### REQUEST FOR RESOLUTION

INSTRUCTIONS: File request in the Office of the Director of Utilities as soon as possible but not later than nine working days prior to the Board meeting at which it is to be introduced. Completion instructions are contained in Administrative Policy POL-104.

Summary title for Utility Board agenda: (not to exceed twenty-five words)
Requesting to expand the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) "Special Project" in the Utility
Technology Services Section of Tacoma Power for additional resources. The project of limited
duration for the Implementation and Deployment phase of the AMI Program is anticipated to begin
January 2019 and will be completed by the end of 2021.

- 2. A resolution is requested to: (brief description of action to be taken, by whom, where, cost, et) Utility Technology Services recommends that the Public Utility Board approve the request to expand the special project under TMC Section 1.24.187 of the Administrative Code which will provide for the transfer of 10 Temporary Positions to Project of Limited Duration, hiring of two Project of Limited Duration positions for Customer Service, hiring of two Project of Limited Duration positions and five Field Service Workers for Tacoma Water, and hiring of two Project of Limited Duration position for Tacoma Power to work on the integration and implementation phases of the AMI Program.
  - Two Management Analyst I for Customer Service; These positions would report to the CS project team and are necessary to document and process map internal CS processes and hand offs within Customer Services and all TPU divisions. This work is an important and essential step to capture necessary changes for the successful implementation of AMI. Failure to approve these temporary positions adds significant risk to CS' ability to properly serve the customer base with solid, reliable processes and systems.
  - Engineering Sr. Principal for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for leading the planning and supervision of the meter and network deployment.
  - RF/Communications Engineer for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for the analysis, design review, implementation, optimization, monitoring and enhancement of the wireless AMI network.
  - MDMS/IT Lead for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for implementing the new AMI Meter Data Ops. Organization and associated processes to ensure the integrity, reliability, accuracy and availability of the meter data.
  - Management Analyst I for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for the resource coordination and capacity planning, planning and facilitation of project meetings, developing stakeholder communication materials.
  - Management Analyst I for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for AMI Program budget and analytics, development and coordination of reporting for AMI Operations – including managing the benefits realization and performance scorecards for the AMI program and organization, and developing reporting materials for the Executive Steering Committee and Business Advisory Council
  - Management Analyst III for Tacoma Water; This position is responsible for supporting the AMI program, the Tacoma Water AMI team, coordinating program activities, resources, and communication. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program and technical implementation, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of program work-streams.
  - Management Analyst III for Tacoma Water; This position is responsible for field and office work
    related to the Water AMI meter implementation. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing
    analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development and implementation of program
    work-streams.
  - Two Water Service Workers for Tacoma Water; These positions are field staff members responsible
    for performing planned and emergency response at individual water services before and during the
    field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and
    throughout the meter deployment project phase.
  - Two Utility Service Workers for Tacoma Water; These positions are field staff members responsible
    for performing planned and emergency support at individual water services and meters before and
    during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation
    for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.
  - Water Meter Repair Worker for Tacoma Water; This position is a field staff member responsible for performing planned and emergency response at individual water meters before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.
  - Lead Meter Technician for Tacoma Power; This position is responsible for acting as lead for Tacoma Power Meter Team, coordinating program activities, resources, and communication. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of AMI programs.
  - Management Analyst I for Tacoma Power; This position is responsible for office work related to Power. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of programs and operational support. This role will provide support by managing and tracking problems from the field.

- Summarized reason for resolution: The Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project will upgrade power and water meters across Tacoma Public Utilities' Service Territory at all homes and business. This is required to address an aging meter population, meet customer needs with time access to consumption data, and align TPU with the metering technology common to other utilities in the region. This request to expand the resolution will support Customer Service to convert 10 permanent positions into Projects of Limited Duration as positions are vacated by incumbents. It will also support the AMI Program Management Team to hire a Management Analyst I to assist the coordinating and managing of meetings. resources, and administrative tasks, a Management Analyst I to manage Budget and Analytics, and the Deployment Manager, RF/Communications Engineer, and the MDMS/IT Lead for the integration and implementation phases of the project. It will enable Tacoma Water to hire two Management Analyst III's to support both AMI and Water as a SME and an Engineer for field and office work to support both Water and the AMI Program, along with Two Water Service Workers, Two Utility Service Workers, and a Water Meter Repair Worker. It will also enable Tacoma Power to hire an AMI Electric Lead to act as a lead and SME for the Meter Team and a Management Analyst I to responsible for the field support of managing and tracking problems. Funding has been included in Tacoma Power's and Tacoma Water's 2019/2020 O&M and Capital budgets for these new positions except for the two UTS MA I and Power Lead Meter Technician. The AMI Project budgeted four positions for 19/20 that included an Engineering Sr. Principal, Power Engineer III, IT Analyst SR, and Power Eng IV, these new positions will supplement areas of need that have been identified
- 4. Attachments:

after the original request was made.

a. Memo to Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities/CEO from Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent/COO, Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent, Steve Hatcher, Manager or Customer Service dated November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

5. 🛛 Funds available 🔲 Proposed action has no budgetary impact			
Funds for the integration and implementation phases of the Special Project are included in the approved 2019-20 Capital Budgets for Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water. Additional funds will need to be made available for the new positions			
6. Deviations requiring special waivers:			
Originated by:	Requested by:	Requested by:	
John Lawrence	Scott Dewhirst	Class Perkerson	
Section Head	Division Head	Division Head	
Requested by.	Annual Casagagagan ang Andronius prophility for the partition of and the annual	Approved:	
Steve Hatcher		Gackie Flore	
Division Head		Director of Utilities	
Document1			



TO: Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities

FROM: Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent

Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent Steve Hatcher, Customer Services Manager

DATE: January 3, 2019

**RE:** Request for Resolution to establish a new "Special Project of Limited Duration" in

support for TPU's Advanced Metering Infrastructure Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Tacoma Public Utility is requesting to establish a new "Special Project of Limited Duration" to hire 26 positions in support of the Advanced Metering Program. These positions will support the systems integration and deployment phases of the program beginning January 2019 through 2022.

#### **EXPLANATION:**

Tacoma Public Utilities plans to deploy Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) across its entire water and electric service territories. The AMI Program will involve replacing all non-communicating power and water meters with advanced two-way communicating electric (with disconnect) and water meters, and installing new AMI two-way communication modules on water meters that are not replaced. AMI technology will capture interval data, enable two-way communications, include remote capabilities, and provide advanced outage/issue detection and verification. Advanced metering will modernize utility operations and improve services to customers.

This is required to address an aging meter population, meet customer needs with time access to consumption data, and align TPU with the metering technology common to other utilities in the region.

The Advanced Metering Infrastructure Program's objective is to plan, design, build, implement, and stabilize a comprehensive advanced metering solution for TPU that will be critical for delivering a range of benefits to the utilities and their customers.

As a transformative initiative, the AMI Program will require a significant effort across Tacoma Public Utilities to implement the new processes, applications, technologies, and integrations needed to fully enable the functions and features of the AMI solution. In addition, customer and stakeholder engagement and organizational change management will be essential to project success

After extensive resource planning and mitigation efforts, Tacoma Public Utilities recommends approval of the designation, which includes the transfer of 10 temporary positions to Project of Limited Duration and providing the hiring of 16 employees within UTS, Tacoma Water, Tacoma Power and the Customer Service department. Briefly, the 26 roles and services provided are described;

- Convert 10 permanent Customer Service Meter Reader Positions to Project Status
  of Limited Duration as positions are vacated by incumbent. These positions would
  continue to report to Customer Service and are necessary for supporting the daily meter
  read collection services.
- Two Management Analyst I for Customer Service (CS); These positions would report to the CS project team and are necessary to document and process map internal CS processes and hand offs within Customer Services and all TPU divisions. This work is an important and essential step to capture necessary changes for the successful implementation of AMI. Failure to approve these temporary positions adds significant risk to CS' ability to properly serve the customer base with solid, reliable processes and systems.
- Engineering Sr. Principal for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for leading the planning and supervision of the meter and network deployment.
- RF/Communications Engineer for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for the analysis, design review, implementation, optimization, monitoring and enhancement of the wireless AMI network.
- MDMS/IT Lead for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for implementing the new AMI Meter Data Ops. Organization and associated processes to ensure the integrity, reliability, accuracy and availability of the meter data.
- Lead Meter Technician for Tacoma Power; This position is responsible for acting as lead for Tacoma Power Meter Team, coordinating program activities, resources, and communication. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of AMI programs.
- Management Analyst I for Tacoma Power; This position is responsible for office work related to Power. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of programs and operational support. This role will provide support by managing and tracking problems from the field.
- Management Analyst I for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for the resource coordination and capacity planning, planning and facilitation of project meetings, developing stakeholder communication materials.
- Management Analyst I for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible
  for AMI Program budget and analytics, development and coordination of reporting for
  AMI Operations including managing the benefits realization and performance
  scorecards for the AMI program and organization, and developing reporting materials for
  the Executive Steering Committee and Business Advisory Council.
- Management Analyst III for Tacoma Water; This position is responsible for supporting the AMI program, the Tacoma Water AMI team, coordinating program activities, resources, and communication. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program and technical implementation, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of program work-streams.
- Management Analyst III for Tacoma Water; This position is responsible for field and
  office work related to the Water AMI meter implementation. Acting as a SME for the AMI
  Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development
  and implementation of program work-streams.
- Two Water Service Workers for Tacoma Water; These positions are field staff members responsible for performing planned and emergency response at individual water services before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.
- Two Utility Service Workers for Tacoma Water; These positions are field staff members responsible for performing planned and emergency support at individual water services and meters before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority

- of this position's work will occur in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.
- Water Meter Repair Worker for Tacoma Water; This position is a field staff member responsible for performing planned and emergency response at individual water meters before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.

HISTORY: In 2014, UTS conducted an assessment and prepared a strategy towards implementing Advanced Metering Infrastructure across Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water. In 2015, an initial business case was developed and refined further in 2016. The business case was supported with customer research on level of interest of products and services enabled by AMI and aligns with new technology initiatives in Tacoma Power's and Tacoma Water's Strategic Plans.

PROJECT MANAGER: Andre' Pedeferri, Utility Technology Services, Power UTS AMI Program, (253) 502-2308

**AUTHORIZED:** 

Jackie Flowers
Director of Utilities



# **RESOLUTION NO. U-11148**

A RESOLUTION authorizing approval to hire three additional positions for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project, a special project of limited duration for Tacoma Power.

WHEREAS the City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Light Division, Utility Technology Services Section (d.b.a. "Tacoma Power") established the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project ("Project"), as a special project of limited duration from January 2019 through December 31, 2022, and

WHEREAS the Project of limited duration was approved through Resolution No. U-11055, on January 2, 2019, by the Public Utility Board, and

WHEREAS since that time, and after an extensive review of resource planning and mitigation efforts, in order to meet the fast paced schedule demanded during the Advanced Metering Infrastructure ("AMI") Project, an additional three new special project of limited duration employees are recommended, and

WHEREAS the three additional positions are classified as:

- Management Analyst II for Utility Technology Services;
- Management Analyst I for Utility Technology Services; and
- Water Utility Worker for Tacoma Water, and

WHEREAS this resolution will enable Tacoma Power's Utility Technology Services Section ("UTS") to staff the planning and design phases of the Project with technology and business process subject matter experts, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 1.12.155 and 1.24.187 of the Tacoma Municipal Code and Section 6.1(h) of the Tacoma City



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Charter, employees who are not regular employees and are hired as special project employees are paid as provided for by ordinance or resolution of the City Council, and

WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the Department of Public Utilities to establish three additional temporary positions to support the required activities for the duration of the special project; Now, Therefore:

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

Section 1. In accordance with the applicable provisions of TMC 1.12.140 and 1.12.155, the salaries and classes set forth in the Compensation Plan for regular City employees shall be applied, contingent upon funding, to similar project positions of the Project.

Section 3. That, in accordance with TMC 1.24.187 and 1.30.300, employees who have been hired or may be hired for positions expected to be of limited duration shall be designated unclassified special project employees as of the date of hire.

Section 4. That those special project employees who have been hired or may be hired to work on the Project as identified in this resolution, shall receive benefits, all in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of the compensation plan of the City of Tacoma. They shall be given a one-time binding and irrevocable election to participate in the City's Retirement System, pursuant to the retirement provisions of TMC 1.30.300.

Section 5. That because the positions to be filled pursuant to this resolution are of a temporary nature and are unique in that they pertain only to U-11148



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the aforementioned special project, they are deemed temporary positions, and persons so employed in such positions shall have no claim to further or continued employment with the City after cessation of such special project or after cessation of activities funded by said programs, except pursuant to their obtaining status as regular City employees under the provisions of the Tacoma Municipal Code or pursuant to further action of the City Council relating to this special project.

Section 6. That all acts by agents or employees of the City consistent with the intent of this resolution taken prior to the effective date of this resolution are hereby ratified.

Section 7. That the term of this Project shall not exceed the expiration of December 31, 2022, unless extended by appropriate action.

Section 8. That the Director of Utilities is hereby authorized to direct the appropriate City officers to proceed with the necessary actions for Project completion, including adding three additional temporary positions to support the required activities for the duration of the Project.

Approved as to form and legality:		
	Chair	
Ec Morull		
Chief Deputy City Attorney	Secretary	
	Adopted	
Clerk		





TO:

Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities

COPY: FROM:

Charleen Jacobs, Director and Board Offices Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent/COO

Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent/COO

**MEETING DATE:** 

March 11, 2020

DATE:

March 2, 2020

**SUMMARY:** Tacoma Public Utilities requests a resolution for approval to hire an additional three positions in support of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project. This project was established as a "Special Project of Limited Duration" by Resolution No. U-11055, which approved a total of 26 positions. This request for three additional positions will bring the total number of authorized project positions to 29. These additional positions are essential to support the system integration, training, and deployment phases of the program, from January 2019 through December 31, 2022.

**BACKGROUND:** On January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the Public Utility Board adopted Resolution No. U-11055 establishing the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project as a special project of limited duration.

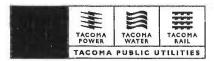
Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) plans to deploy Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) across its entire water and electric service territories. The AMI project will replace all non-communicating power and water meters with advanced two-way communicating electric (with disconnect) and water meters, and installing new AMI two-way communication modules on water meters that are not replaced. AMI technology will capture interval data, enable two-way communications, include remote capabilities, and provide advanced outage/issue detection and verification. Advanced metering will modernize utility operations and be a cornerstone to deliver customers improved services and benefits.

As a transformative initiative, the AMI Program has and continues to require a significant effort across TPU to implement the new processes, applications, technologies, and integrations needed to fully enable the functions and features of the AMI solution. In addition, customer and stakeholder engagement and organizational change management are essential to project success.

To meet the anticipated needs of the AMI project, 26 special project of limited duration positions were previously approved as part of Resolution No. U-11055. This was comprised of the transfer of 10 temporary positions to the special project of limited duration and the hiring of 16 new special project of limited duration employees.

After an extensive review of resource planning and mitigation efforts, and in order to best meet fast paced schedule demands during AMI mass meter deployment, Tacoma Public Utilities recommends the hiring of an additional three new special project of limited duration employees as part of the already approved special project of limited duration. In addition to the 26 positions identified in adopted Resolution No. U-11055, this will bring the total number of AMI related project positions to 29 within the Utility Technology Services, Tacoma Water, Tacoma Power, and Customer Services departments. Briefly, the three additional roles and services provided are described below:

 Management Analyst II for Utility Technology Services (Program Analyst); This position is responsible for meter deployment program coordination and administration, ensuring the meter



### **Board Action Memorandum**

installation vendor (MIV) is notified of timely utility data and meter read route updates. This position will also coordinate daily and weekly status reports with the meter deployment workstream lead and internal utility stakeholders.

- Management Analyst I for Utility Technology Services (Customer Liaison), This position will serve
  as the meter deployment customer liaison and is responsible for direct communications, planning
  and facilitating residential customer phone calls, and coordinating with utility account executives to
  ensure customers receive responsive, accurate information.
- Water Utility Worker for Tacoma Water; This position is a field staff member responsible for performing planned and emergency support at individual water services and meters before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes, expenses for additional project positions are budgeted within the planned and approved 2019-2020 biennium Advanced Meter Program contingency. Funds for the 2021-2022 biennium are planned and subject to budget approval.

IF THE EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED. 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: Resolution No. U-11055, Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project of Limited Duration

**CONTACT:** Andre' Pedeferri, Utility Technology Services, Advanced Meter Program Manager, (253) 502-8997



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**RESOLUTION NO. U-11055** 

A RESOLUTION authorizing the establishment of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project, as a special project of limited duration for Tacoma Power, and designating general salary classifications and benefits for persons employed on the project, pursuant to Tacoma Municipal Code Sections 1.12.155, 1.24.187, 1.30.300, and Section 6.1 (h) of the Tacoma City Charter.

WHEREAS the City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Light Division, Utility Technology Services Section (d.b.a. "Tacoma Power") requests Public Utility Board approval to establish the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project ("Project"), as a special project of limited duration from January 2019 through December 31, 2022, and

WHEREAS Tacoma Public Utilities ("TPU") plans to deploy Advanced Metering Infrastructure ("AMI") across its entire water and electric service territories that will modernize utility operations and improve services to customers, and

WHEREAS the AMI program will involve replacing all noncommunicating power and water meters with advanced two-way communicating electric (with disconnect) and water meters, and installing new AMI two-way communication modules on water meters that are not replaced, and

WHEREAS AMI will capture interval data, enable two-way communications, include remote capabilities, and provide advanced outage/issue detection and verification, and

WHEREAS the Project will provide for the transfer of 10 temporary positions for the Project, and the hiring of 16 employees within UTS, Tacoma Water, Tacoma Power, and the Customer Services departments, to work on the



 Integration and implementation phases of the Project, to upgrade power and water meters across Tacoma Public Utilities' Service Territory at all homes and businesses. This is required to address an aging meter population, meet customer needs with time access to consumption data, and align TPU with the metering technology common to other utilities in the region, and

WHEREAS this resolution will enable Tacoma Power's Utility Technology Services Section ("UTS") to staff the planning and design phases of the Project with technology and business process subject matter experts, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 1.12.155 and 1.24.187 of the Tacoma Municipal Code and Section 6.1(h) of the Tacoma City Charter, employees who are not regular employees and are hired as special project employees are paid as provided for by ordinance or resolution of the City Council, and

WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the Department of Public Utilities to establish a Special Project of Limited Duration and establish temporary positions to support the required activities for the duration of the special project; Now. Therefore:

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

Section 1. That the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project, designation as a special project of limited duration, is hereby approved and established as a special project of limited duration.

Section 2. That, in accordance with the applicable provisions of TMC 1.12.140 and 1.12.155, the salaries and classes set forth in the U-11055



Compensation Plan for regular City employees shall be applied, contingent upon funding, to similar project positions of the Project.

Section 3. That, in accordance with TMC 1.24.187 and 1.30.300, employees who have been hired or may be hired for positions expected to be of limited duration shall be designated unclassified special project employees as of the date of hire.

Section 4. That those special project employees who have been hired or may be hired to work on the Project as identified in this resolution, shall receive benefits, all in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of the compensation plan of the City of Tacoma. They shall be given a one-time binding and irrevocable election to participate in the City's Retirement System, pursuant to the retirement provisions of TMC 1.30.300.

Section 5. That because the positions to be filled pursuant to this resolution are of a temporary nature and are unique in that they pertain only to the aforementioned special project, they are deemed temporary positions, and persons so employed in such positions shall have no claim to further or continued employment with the City after cessation of such special project or after cessation of activities funded by said programs, except pursuant to their obtaining status as regular City employees under the provisions of the Tacoma Municipal Code or pursuant to further action of the City Council relating to this special project.



Section 6. That all acts by agents or employees of the City consistent with the intent of this resolution taken prior to the effective date of this resolution are hereby ratified.

Section 7. That the term of this Project shall not exceed the expiration of December 31, 2022, unless extended by appropriate action.

Section 8. That the Director of Utilities is hereby authorized to direct the appropriate City officers to proceed with the necessary actions for Project completion, including the transfer of 10 temporary positions for the Project, and the hiring of 16 employees within UTS, Tacoma Water, Tacoma Power, and the Customer Services departments to support the required activities for the duration of the Project.

Approved as to form and legality:

Chair

Chief Deputy City Attorney

Secretary

Adopted

Clerk Jacob

Request for Board meeting

### CITY OF TACOMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

of January 9, 2019 Date: January 3, 2019

### REQUEST FOR RESOLUTION

INSTRUCTIONS: File request in the Office of the Director of Utilities as soon as possible but not later than nine working days prior to the Board meeting at which it is to be introduced. Completion instructions are contained in Administrative Policy POL-104.

Summary title for Utility Board agenda: (not to exceed twenty-five words)
Requesting to expand the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) "Special Project" in the Utility
Technology Services Section of Tacoma Power for additional resources. The project of limited
duration for the Implementation and Deployment phase of the AMI Program is anticipated to begin
January 2019 and will be completed by the end of 2021.

- 2. A resolution is requested to: (brief description of action to be taken, by whom, where, cost, et) Utility Technology Services recommends that the Public Utility Board approve the request to expand the special project under TMC Section 1.24.187 of the Administrative Code which will provide for the transfer of 10 Temporary Positions to Project of Limited Duration, hiring of two Project of Limited Duration positions for Customer Service, hiring of two Project of Limited Duration positions and five Field Service Workers for Tacoma Water, and hiring of two Project of Limited Duration position for Tacoma Power to work on the integration and implementation phases of the AMI Program.
  - Two Management Analyst I for Customer Service; These positions would report to the CS project team and are necessary to document and process map internal CS processes and hand offs within Customer Services and all TPU divisions. This work is an important and essential step to capture necessary changes for the successful implementation of AMI. Failure to approve these temporary positions adds significant risk to CS' ability to properly serve the customer base with solid, reliable processes and systems.
  - Engineering Sr. Principal for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for leading the planning and supervision of the meter and network deployment.
  - RF/Communications Engineer for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for the analysis, design review, implementation, optimization, monitoring and enhancement of the wireless AMI network.
  - MDMS/IT Lead for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for implementing the new AMI Meter Data Ops. Organization and associated processes to ensure the integrity, reliability, accuracy and availability of the meter data.
  - Management Analyst I for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for the resource coordination and capacity planning, planning and facilitation of project meetings, developing stakeholder communication materials.
  - Management Analyst I for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for AMI Program budget and analytics, development and coordination of reporting for AMI Operations – including managing the benefits realization and performance scorecards for the AMI program and organization, and developing reporting materials for the Executive Steering Committee and Business Advisory Council.
  - Management Analyst III for Tacoma Water; This position is responsible for supporting the AMI
    program, the Tacoma Water AMI team, coordinating program activities, resources, and
    communication. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program and technical implementation, providing
    analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of program work-streams.
  - Management Analyst III for Tacoma Water; This position is responsible for field and office work
    related to the Water AMI meter Implementation. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing
    analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development and implementation of program
    work-streams.
  - Two Water Service Workers for Tacoma Water; These positions are field staff members responsible
    for performing planned and emergency response at individual water services before and during the
    field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and
    throughout the meter deployment project phase.
  - Two Utility Service Workers for Tacoma Water; These positions are field staff members responsible
    for performing planned and emergency support at individual water services and meters before and
    during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation
    for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.
  - Water Meter Repair Worker for Tacoma Water; This position is a field staff member responsible for performing planned and emergency response at individual water meters before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.
  - Lead Meter Technician for Tacoma Power; This position is responsible for acting as lead for Tacoma Power Meter Team, coordinating program activities, resources, and communication. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of AMI programs.
  - Management Analyst I for Tacoma Power; This position is responsible for office work related to Power. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of programs and operational support. This role will provide support by managing and tracking problems from the field.

- Summarized reason for resolution: The Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project will upgrade power and water meters across Tacoma Public Utilities' Service Territory at all homes and business. This is required to address an aging meter population, meet customer needs with time access to consumption data, and align TPU with the metering technology common to other utilities in the region. This request to expand the resolution will support Customer Service to convert 10 permanent positions into Projects of Limited Duration as positions are vacated by incumbents. It will also support the AMI Program Management Team to hire a Management Analyst I to assist the coordinating and managing of meetings, resources, and administrative tasks, a Management Analyst I to manage Budget and Analytics, and the Deployment Manager, RF/Communications Engineer, and the MDMS/IT Lead for the integration and implementation phases of the project. It will enable Tacoma Water to hire two Management Analyst III's to support both AMI and Water as a SME and an Engineer for field and office work to support both Water and the AMI Program, along with Two Water Service Workers, Two Utility Service Workers, and a Water Meter Repair Worker. It will also enable Tacoma Power to hire an AMI Electric Lead to act as a lead and SME for the Meter Team and a Management Analyst I to responsible for the field support of managing and tracking problems. Funding has been included in Tacoma Power's and Tacoma Water's 2019/2020 O&M and Capital budgets for these new positions except for the two UTS MA I and Power Lead Meter Technician. The AMI Project budgeted four positions for 19/20 that included an Engineering Sr. Principal, Power Engineer III, IT Analyst SR, and Power Eng IV, these new positions will supplement areas of need that have been identified after the original request was made.
- 4. Attachments:
- a. Memo to Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities/CEO from Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent/COO, Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent, Steve Hatcher, Manager or Customer Service dated November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

5. 🗵 Funds available 📋 Proposed action has no budgetary Impact		
	ation phases of the Special Project are includitional funds will need to be made available f	ded in the approved 2019-20 Capital Budgets for for the new positions
6. Deviations requiring special waive	ers:	
Originated by:	Requested by:	Requested by:
John Lawrence	Scott Dewhirst	Cho Probrem
Section Head	Division Head	Division Head
Requested by:		Approved:
Steve Hatcher		Jackie Flore_
Division Head		Director of Utilities
Descropped	······································	



TO:

Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities

FROM:

Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent

Steve Hatcher, Customer Services Manager

DATE:

January 3, 2019

RE:

Request for Resolution to establish a new "Special Project of Limited Duration" in

support for TPU's Advanced Metering Infrastructure Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Tacoma Public Utility is requesting to establish a new "Special Project of Limited Duration" to hire 26 positions in support of the Advanced Metering Program. These positions will support the systems integration and deployment phases of the program beginning January 2019 through 2022.

### **EXPLANATION:**

Tacoma Public Utilities plans to deploy Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) across its entire water and electric service territories. The AMI Program will involve replacing all non-communicating power and water meters with advanced two-way communicating electric (with disconnect) and water meters, and installing new AMI two-way communication modules on water meters that are not replaced. AMI technology will capture interval data, enable two-way communications, include remote capabilities, and provide advanced outage/issue detection and verification. Advanced metering will modernize utility operations and improve services to customers.

This is required to address an aging meter population, meet customer needs with time access to consumption data, and align TPU with the metering technology common to other utilities in the region.

The Advanced Metering Infrastructure Program's objective is to plan, design, build, implement, and stabilize a comprehensive advanced metering solution for TPU that will be critical for delivering a range of benefits to the utilities and their customers.

As a transformative initiative, the AMI Program will require a significant effort across Tacoma Public Utilities to implement the new processes, applications, technologies, and integrations needed to fully enable the functions and features of the AMI solution. In addition, customer and stakeholder engagement and organizational change management will be essential to project success.

After extensive resource planning and mitigation efforts, Tacoma Public Utilities recommends approval of the designation, which includes the transfer of 10 temporary positions to Project of Limited Duration and providing the hiring of 16 employees within UTS, Tacoma Water, Tacoma Power and the Customer Service department. Briefly, the 26 roles and services provided are described;

- Convert 10 permanent Customer Service Meter Reader Positions to Project Status
  of Limited Duration as positions are vacated by incumbent. These positions would
  continue to report to Customer Service and are necessary for supporting the daily meter
  read collection services.
- Two Management Analyst I for Customer Service (CS); These positions would report to the CS project team and are necessary to document and process map internal CS processes and hand offs within Customer Services and all TPU divisions. This work is an important and essential step to capture necessary changes for the successful implementation of AMI. Failure to approve these temporary positions adds significant risk to CS' ability to properly serve the customer base with solid, reliable processes and systems.
- Engineering Sr. Principal for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for leading the planning and supervision of the meter and network deployment.
- RF/Communications Engineer for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for the analysis, design review, implementation, optimization, monitoring and enhancement of the wireless AMI network.
- MDMS/IT Lead for Utility Technology Services; This position is responsible for implementing the new AMI Meter Data Ops. Organization and associated processes to ensure the integrity, reliability, accuracy and availability of the meter data.
- Lead Meter Technician for Tacoma Power; This position is responsible for acting as lead for Tacoma Power Meter Team, coordinating program activities, resources, and communication. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of AMI programs.
- Management Analyst I for Tacoma Power; This position is responsible for office work
  related to Power. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information,
  and technical assistance in the development of programs and operational support. This
  role will provide support by managing and tracking problems from the field.
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  for AMI Program budget and analytics, development and coordination of reporting for
  AMI Operations including managing the benefits realization and performance
  scorecards for the AMI program and organization, and developing reporting materials for
  the Executive Steering Committee and Business Advisory Council.
- Management Analyst III for Tacoma Water; This position is responsible for supporting the AMI program, the Tacoma Water AMI team, coordinating program activities, resources, and communication. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program and technical implementation, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development of program work-streams.
  - Management Analyst III for Tacoma Water; This position is responsible for field and office work related to the Water AMI meter implementation. Acting as a SME for the AMI Program, providing analysis, information, and technical assistance in the development and implementation of program work-streams.
- Two Water Service Workers for Tacoma Water; These positions are field staff members responsible for performing planned and emergency response at individual water services before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.
- Two Utility Service Workers for Tacoma Water; These positions are field staff members responsible for performing planned and emergency support at individual water services and meters before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority

of this position's work will occur in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.

 Water Meter Repair Worker for Tacoma Water; This position is a field staff member responsible for performing planned and emergency response at individual water meters before and during the field deployment of water meters. A majority of this position's work will occur in preparation for and throughout the meter deployment project phase.

HISTORY: In 2014, UTS conducted an assessment and prepared a strategy towards implementing Advanced Metering Infrastructure across Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water. In 2015, an initial business case was developed and refined further in 2016. The business case was supported with customer research on level of interest of products and services enabled by AMI and aligns with new technology initiatives in Tacoma Power's and Tacoma Water's Strategic Plans.

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**AUTHORIZED:** 

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