



RESOLUTION NO. U-11569

1 A RESOLUTION relating to the Department of Public Utilities, authorizing the
2 advocacy of certain state and federal legislative agenda items for 2026.

3 WHEREAS the Department of Public Utilities, Community & Government
4 Relations Division, has proposed a legislative agenda of items they plan to
5 advocate for at state and federal levels during 2026, and
6

7 WHEREAS TPU's legislative agenda is a document which is annually
8 adopted to provide staff guidance on how to direct TPU's advocacy resources
9 and to provide external stakeholders clarity on TPU's priorities, and
10

11 WHEREAS the agenda is developed with input from staff, senior leaders,
12 and Board members, and
13

14 WHEREAS the agenda addresses a wide range of positions, including
15 support for carbon reduction polices, infrastructure funding, and additional key
16 items; Now, Therefore,

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

18 That the Community & Government Relations Division's proposed state
19 and federal legislative agenda items are approved for advocacy in 2026.

20 Approved as to form:

21 _____
22 /s/ _____
23 Chief Deputy City Attorney

24 _____
25 Clerk

Chair

Secretary

Adopted



Board Action Memorandum

TO: Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities
COPY: Charleen Jacobs, Director and Board Offices
FROM: Logan Bahr, Community and Government Relations Manager
MEETING DATE: November 5th, 2025
DATE: October 29th, 2025

GUIDING PRINCIPLE ALIGNMENT (select as many that apply):

Please indicate which of the Public Utility Board's Guiding Principle(s) is supported by this action.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☒ GP1 – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging | ☒ GP7 – Reliability & Resiliency |
| ☒ GP2 – Financial Sustainability | ☐ GP9 – Economic Development |
| ☐ GP3 – Rates | ☒ GP10 – Government Relations |
| ☐ GP4 – Stakeholder Engagement | ☐ GP12 – Employee Relations |
| ☒ GP5 – Environmental Sustainability | ☒ GP13 – Customer Service |
| ☒ GP6 – Innovation | ☒ GP14 – Resource Planning |

SUMMARY: A resolution approving TPU's 2026 Federal and State Legislative Agenda

BACKGROUND: TPU's legislative agenda is a document which is annually adopted and approved to provide staff guidance on how to direct TPU's advocacy resources and to provide external stakeholders clarity on TPU's priorities. The agenda is developed with input from staff, senior leaders, and Board members. The agenda addresses a wide range of positions, including support for carbon reduction policies, infrastructure funding, and additional key items. As shared in the October 8 Study Session and October 28th Joint Study Session, this agenda focuses on priority policy objectives for staff, although they are not the only items TPU staff will address at the federal and state level.

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes

IF THE ACTION REQUESTED IS APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT, INCLUDE LANGUAGE IN RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING \$200,000 INCREASE IN ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY TO DIRECTOR? No

ATTACHMENTS: TPU 2026 Federal and State Legislative Agenda

CONTACT:

Primary Contact: Logan Bahr, Community and Government Relations Manager, 253-439-8128
Supervisor's Name: LaTasha Wortham, Deputy Director for Customer Experience and External Affairs



2026 TPU Federal & State Legislative Agenda

Federal Agenda Items

TPU-Wide

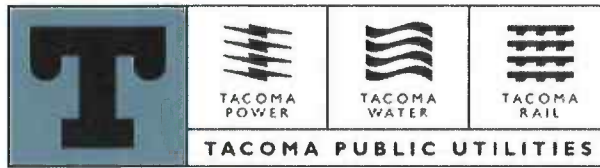
- Infrastructure Financing Tools: Expand and protect opportunities for federal infrastructure support, including restoring the tax-exempt status of advance refund bonds, broadening tax credit eligibility, and disbursing previously awarded grant funds.
- Low-Income Programs: Support policies and additional funding for programs that provide assistance to income-qualified residents.
- Supply Chain Solutions: Support policies that adequately address supply chain issues that affect customers and utility operations.

Tacoma Power

- BPA's Competitiveness: Continue to support federal proposals to maintain and improve BPA's cost competitiveness.
- Carbon Reduction: Actively engage in and seek to support proposals that decarbonize the economy at reasonable costs. Support policies that recognize hydropower as a carbon-free generating resource.
- Zero Emission Transportation Infrastructure: Support additional funding for zero emission transportation infrastructure.
- Maintain Pole Attachment Authority: Support legislation that ensures municipally owned utilities maintain their historic authority to safely manage attachments on utility poles.
- Reform Hydropower Relicensing Policies: Support streamlining the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's hydropower relicensing policies and procedures.
- Federal Disaster Relief Funds and Reform: Support and engage in policies that would dramatically speed up delivery of crucial disaster relief funds from FEMA to consumer owned utilities (COUs) devastated by natural disasters. This includes reimbursement by FEMA for the interest COUs must pay on loans needed to perform emergency work while waiting for the disaster relief funds.

Tacoma Water

- Howard Hanson Dam: Support and protect federal funding, and action to complete the Dam and additional water storage project while ensuring current cost-sharing agreements are honored. The Howard Hanson Dam fish passage and the additional water storage project are critical to salmon and orca recovery as a construction ready project with broad impact.
- Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA): Support appropriations to fully fund the legislation.



- Drinking Water State Fund: Support adequate appropriations to support the fund.
- PFAS Liability: Support legislation that exempts drinking water systems from the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) as it relates to PFAS liability.

Tacoma Rail

- Infrastructure Funding: Pursue funding opportunities for investments in locomotive modernization, track upgrades, locomotive modernization projects, and other improvements.

State Agenda Items

TPU-Wide

- Statewide Low-Income Program: Support policies and additional funding for programs that provide assistance to income-qualified residents.

Tacoma Power

- Carbon Reduction: Advocate for enhancements to the state's carbon reduction policies, including the Clean Energy Transformation Act and the Climate Commitment Act, that reduce administrative burden, address resource adequacy concerns, and align with developing energy markets.
- Building Decarbonization: Support reasonable policies to decarbonize the state's residential and commercial building sector, including additional funding for low-income customer fuel conversion.
- Clean Energy Infrastructure: Encourage increased state funding to expand zero-emission transportation systems, strengthen transmission and distribution networks, and expand renewable energy generation.

Tacoma Water

- Water Infrastructure Funding: Advocate for continued funding for critical water system infrastructure, including funding for the Public Works Trust Fund, state revolving loan funds, grant funding, and other state resources.

Tacoma Rail

- Rail Infrastructure Investments: Support efforts to maintain and enhance investments in locomotive modernization, track upgrades, locomotive modernization projects, and other infrastructure improvements through loans, grants, and tax credits.