

From: Courtney Stoker <courtneymstoker@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 2:29 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public Comment 9/15

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Council,

In anticipation of Resolution 40652 passing with unanimous support, thank you for listening to the community and our desire to have our voices heard regularly at council meetings. While I appreciate the actions being taken, I think it is worth pointing out the amount of energy the community had to expend just to uphold the core tenants of our democracy. Energy that could have been channeled into wading through the complex nuances of resource funding and its repercussions on public safety.

Thank you,
Courtney Stoker
Dist. 2

From: Sandy Anthis <sandyrocks@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 1:07 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: In regards to items on City Council Agenda (Sep. 15, 2020)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Greetings, (This is for the record)

This response is in regards to items 19. 20-0584 Proclaiming September 12-20, 2020, as Welcoming Week and 20. 20-0585 Proclaiming September 15 through October 15, 2020, as Hispanic Heritage Month.

I share the sentiments of Rachel Wilkie:

"These motions are perhaps positive, but I think it bears reminding the City Council again, and again, that we cannot claim to be a **Welcoming City** with the NorthWest Detention Center in our backyard.

The city has no power to control a federal lockup, to be clear, but they do have power to keep telling D.C. that they no longer want this facility operating, and there are small, bureaucratic ways that they can make NWDC's operations a little harder (like refusing to approve GEOGroup's business license to operate, and other measures).

If we can't close it down, at least the city can commit to miring operations in red-tape. The lockdown exists with zero oversight, and detainees are always treated poorly - with bad quality food, band-aid fix medical treatment, and forced labor for \$1/day in order to purchase things from the commissary or make phone calls home. Since COVID 19 - they are not allowed to social distance, or issued PPE, but pesticides are being routinely sprayed around the facility without proper ventilation, while detainees are present - and people are reporting high numbers of violent reactions to the chemicals.

We need to acknowledge the elephant in the room while we make proclamations that we are 'welcoming' and 'inclusive.' Particularly to communities that are disproportionately torn apart by ICE and the NWDC."

Thank you for reading,

Sandy Anthis

Eastside - Tacoma, WA

PS. If there is a better way to submit such items, please let me know. Thank you for your time.

From: Dylan Ruggeri <ruggerdn@plu.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 11:08 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: We Need Weekly Community Forums

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

I want to present you with some petitions the community has compiled (I have also sent these to the mayor). We believe that, as Tacoma is one of the only cities in the NorthWest that does not allow weekly community forums, that must change. We live in a large city with a lot of changes happening. 90 seconds a month is not enough to air all of our concerns when Manuel Ellis still hasn't seen justice, fossil fuels are expanding, the air is toxic, the economy is collapsing, a pandemic is present, and more.

With this in mind, [Sunrise Tacoma](#) and [Tacoma Protest Daily](#) are demanding weekly community forums in the City of Tacoma.

Thank you,

Dylan Ruggeri | (he/him/his)

From: Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow <lyzkurnitz@harbornet.com>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 6:21 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public Comment period restoration

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

GOOD IDEA!

Lyz Kurnitz-Thurlow

From: Rachel Kunze Wilkie <RachelLeAnnKunze@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 8:48 AM
To: City Clerk's Office; Woodards, Victoria; Beale, Chris
Subject: Welcoming Week/ Tacoma Hispanic Heritage Month

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good morning,

I'm writing in for public comment for the City Council items 19 & 20 for this week's meeting.

I do appreciate everything that the City is doing to move forward in a more equitable-for-all direction. As a person who has been protesting at the NWDC for several years, I just wanted to express my concern that, if the presence of the NWDC isn't a part of the "welcoming city" statement, I feel it will ring hollow. The proclamation itself hasn't been attached to the meeting agenda, so I can't read the verbiage to see if this is being done already.

I feel this also has impact on the Hispanic Heritage proclamation as well. If we express that we are welcoming, while at the same time, families from five states are being torn apart and sent to our detention center, this is sending mixed messages.

I would love to see Tacoma condemn the NWDC in any proclamations that touch on these issues. We can't claim to be welcoming with detainees being poorly treated, denied access to proper medical treatment, and regularly gassed with cleaning agents that have been classified as "pesticides" which are causing all sorts of allergic reactions, breathing problems, and chemical burns as we speak.

Thank you for your time,
Rachel Wilkie
6842 S Park Avenue

From: Z. B. <zephburt@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 3:51 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

City council members,

In planning the budget this biennium I invite you to take a long look at how the choice to fund the police at the expense of all else has effected this city. Increasing police presence to solve issues of homelessness, vandalism, and theft is at best treating a symptom, often ineffective, and at worst, deadly

As for the budget, it's good to learn that a 27 million dollar surplus has been found to reduce the deficit.

The plans to bring in revenue--tax increases--are unlikely to pass, as Pierce County has been very anti-tax in the past. A sales tax alone would hurt the poorest the most and not bring in enough revenue to make an impact. The rest of the deficit must be dealt with by defunding the police department by 50%. They are the only department where significant cuts can be made without impacting Tacoma's quality of life.

Defunding the Police is a moral and financial imperative.

Zephyra Burt
Defund Police Tacoma

From: Kit Burns <kburns.wcb@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 3:41 PM
To: City Manager; City Clerk's Office
Cc: Blocker, Keith; Ushka, Catherine; Walker, Kristina; Hines, John; Thoms, Robert; Hunter, Lillian; Beale, Chris; Flint, Bryan; Cooley, Christine; Watson, Carlos; Larkin, Karen; Mark Patterson; Gaines, John; Flowers, Jackie; Tacoma Public Utility Board
Subject: AMI to cost more than \$100 million -
Attachments: Billing Plans.png

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

City of Tacoma

City Manager

Ms. Elizabeth Pauli

September 15, 2020

AMI Meters – There is no business case –

Dear Ms. Pauli,

Please wind down and terminate the AMI program. It is expected to cost more than \$100 million including initial costs, financing, and annual maintenance and meter replacement.

Currently as a community we have higher priorities that cost less and are a greater benefit to the community. As an example Internet connections for all community members.

The City of Tacoma should not spend more than \$100 million for a program which does not serve the urgent needs of the citizens . There is no measurable or significant financial benefit.

Low utility costs are a community priority. Citywide Internet access is a higher priority for students and community members. Stable housing; \$100 million would provide at least 500 one-bedroom apartments and is a serious community need.

Most of the items suggested to support a business case *are already available from the TPU My Account website.*

It is clear that the priorities of the community can be better met without AMI meters and with a less costly program for Internet connections.

I would like to confirm that the city has a plan to ensure the school district students and community members are connected. I would like to know who is working to resolve this. It is both an equity and an equality issue that is urgent and must not be neglected.

BUSINESS CASE – AMI METERS ARE NOT REQUIRED

PRE-PAY: I have confirmed this with the customer service office. It can be done now and can be done on-line. It can also be done in the TPU lobby.

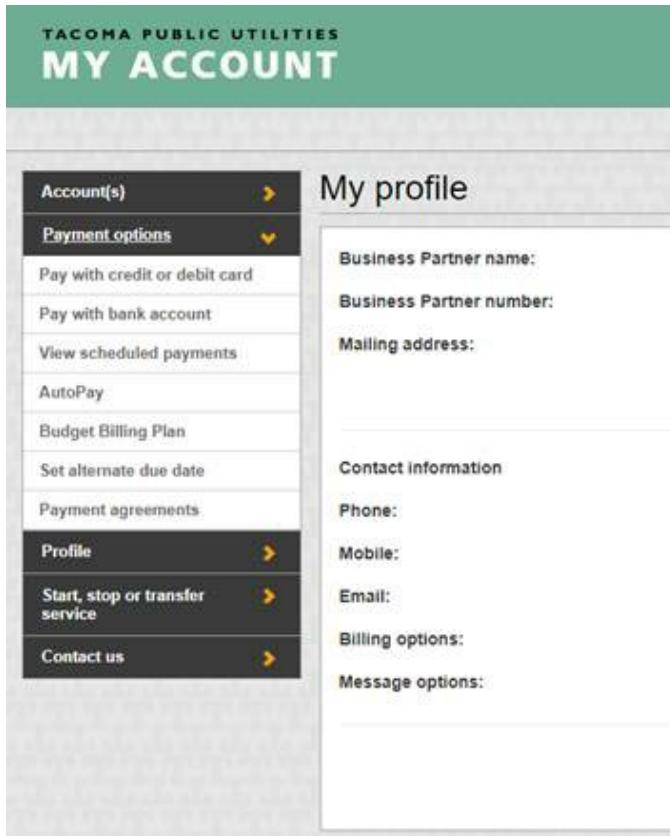
SET YOUR OWN BILLING DATE: This is available on the TPU website. Customers can arrange this now. Based on a recent TPU customer survey some 73% of customers would like this. They should be informed that it is available.

MONTHLY BILLING: Any customer can change to monthly billing or to average billing now from the TPU website.

MOBILE APP: The TPU website is accessible from any mobile phone. I checked and will pay my bills from my phone or from my home computer. The TPU My Account website is superb and top quality; it is really well done. There is no need to have an additional mobile app.

START, STOP, OR TRANSFER: Having a TPU representative work directly with customers to assist these changes in service is a means of promoting TPU. It ensures that TPU is listening to customer needs and verifying they are met. In the case of changes at duplexes and apartment housing TPU has an opportunity to verify that a meter bank is up to code and not in need of maintenance. It is an important visual check.

MICRO-MANAGE MY ENERGY USE: I doubt if many people need or have the desire to micromanage energy use. The average customer can do this effectively with general education and awareness. The average user uses about 30 kWh in a 24 hour period over the course of a year. About 1 kWh per hour. TPU's long term conservation programs are much more effective than expecting customers to check their daily use and become programming micro-managers.



Above is the drop down menu with multiple offerings.

I attended the TPU board meeting last week. Based on the survey of customers done in May, the majority of Customers will be better served by having an internet connection. The AMI meter program is expensive and does not meet the needs of the community. The program costs exceed \$100 million for the initial program and there are additional ongoing costs for yearly software updates, security, and meter replacements.

I don't have the cost of financing but have asked TPU to provide what they have calculated as an estimate in the NPV calculation.

Please contact me to discuss this critical issue.

I would be happy to make a presentation to the City Council on this subject and have an open public discussion. This program should not go forward. It is not financially feasible for our community.

We have other priorities and urgent needs.

Sincerely,

Kit Burns

253.820.7392

Kburns.wcb@gmail.com

Cc: Victoria Woodards, Mayor of Tacoma

Keith Blocker, Deputy Mayor

City Council

City Clerk

Public Utility Board

Tacoma Public School District

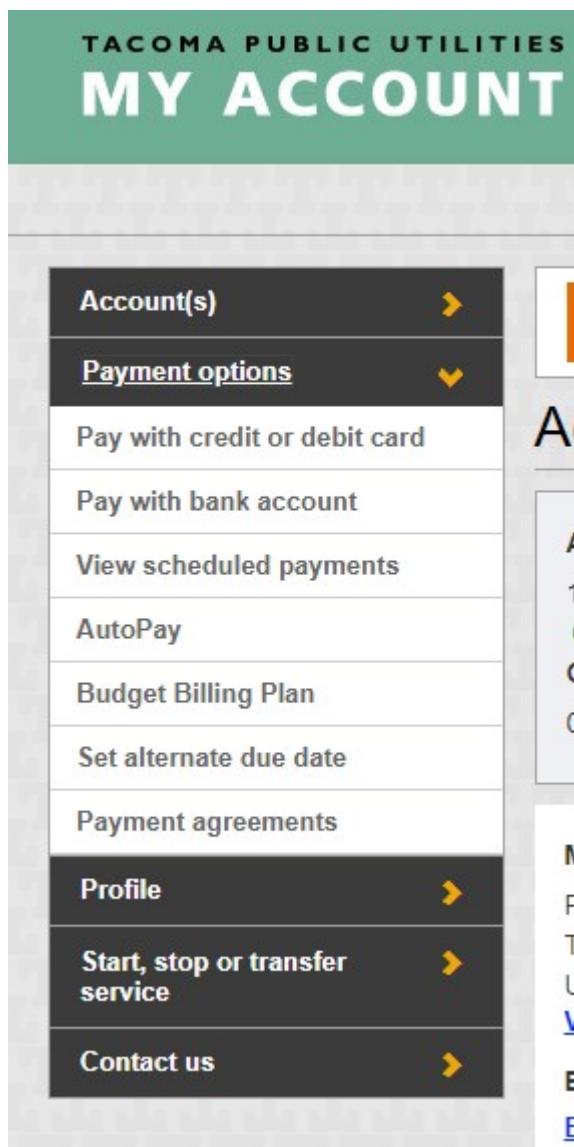
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Kit Burns

PO Box 2341

Tacoma, WA 98401

"We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility,....., promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America. . . "



From: Jennifer Barfield <jennbar77@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 2:04 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public Comment 9/15/2020

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

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Dear Council Members:

It has become increasingly clear to many in this community that the Tacoma Police Department is broken. Policing in the U.S. is broken. This is a system that cannot be reformed. So why are we spending the largest portion of our taxpayer dollars on a system that has failed the people time and time again? Why are the citizens of Tacoma being asked to cover the salaries of the officers on paid leave in the Manuel Ellis case pending a perpetually delayed investigation? No one else, no one but a police officer, would ever be afforded this kind of support or treatment by those in power, but we have seen it happen time and time again.

Tacoma has major problems that need fixing. We have individuals and families living on the streets with some of the worst air quality on earth right now. We have a housing affordability and economic crisis that threatens to push even more people out of their homes and onto the street. This is unacceptable! I understand that it now appears the budget deficit for 2021-2022 will be \$40 million. Any cuts to balance the budget MUST be taken from the Police and reallocated to programs that provide direct aid to the community for housing and other vital programs. This should be a primary concern for the City, especially during an ongoing pandemic that is predicted to worsen before the end of this year. TPD has seen millions of dollars of increases in funding over the past few budget cycles. It is time that the community is cared for above the police. I ask the City Council to consider the following demands moving forward:

1. Defund Tacoma Police Department by at least 50%, redirecting funding to housing and community programs with priority to those serving historically marginalized communities.
2. Remove all police presence from schools and eliminate programs designed to recruit students to policing (Explorers).
3. Maintain and increase funding to programs that protect the rights of Tacoma citizens, like the Civil Rights Investigators.
4. In solidarity with the families of Manny Ellis, Bennie Branch and other victims of police violence, call for the firing and charging of the officers involved and for the accountability of officials involved in cover-ups. Each incident of police violence should be independently investigated.

It is time to prioritize programs that truly help people, and dispense with the idea that police presence reduces crime. It is time for Tacoma to consider a new approach and model for addressing social problems that does not threaten the lives and livelihoods of our residents.

Regards,

Jennifer B, Defund Police Tacoma

From: Venus Dergan <vadergan@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 12:40 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: STNC Board; Greg Tanbara; Peter Mayer; treid@tacomaparks.com; jbaines@tacomaparks.com
Subject: Re: Large gathering and events in Tacoma Parks- Photos July 5th, July 25th, August 2, 8, 22, Sept. 12, 2020 events at Manitou Park and Wapato Hills Park.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Tacoma City Clerk,

Please add on record the addition to my comments from prior weeks regarding the concerns of large events and gatherings in public parks.

The photos below are of a BBQ held at Manitou Park Saturday afternoon Sept 12, 2020 until dark.

15+ people (10+vehicles) with canopies, tables , chairs and barbecue.

All major violations were observed and reported - again NO ACTION.

This event occurred during a:

*STATEWIDE BURN BAN.

*METRO PARKS BURN BAN IN PARKS-NO BBQ'S AS HIGH RISK /FIRE HAZARD.

*UNHEALTHY AIR QUALITY /SMOKE ADVISORY.

*COVID 19 PANDEMIC ORDER OF NO LARGE GATHERINGS.

No park ambassadors were observed. Metro parks after hours phone number was called by two STNC board members. NO ACTION TAKEN.

MPT staff advised on call they could not do anything.

TPD was contacted but advised busy on priority calls

Still no collaboration between Metroparks, the City of Tacoma, and PCHD.

This an ultimate failure on all levels.

Respectfully,

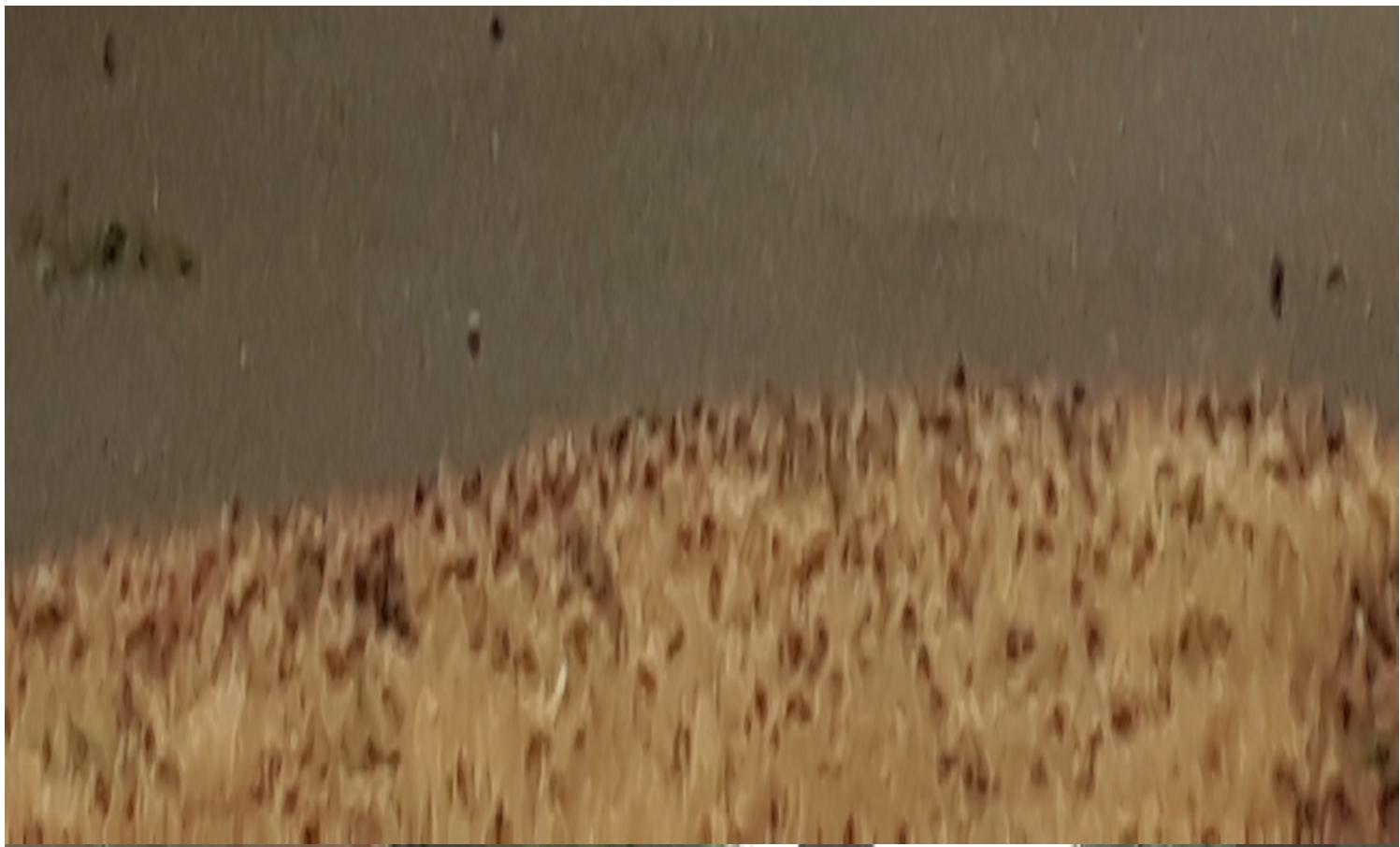
Venus Dergan

Manitou Resident and Representative

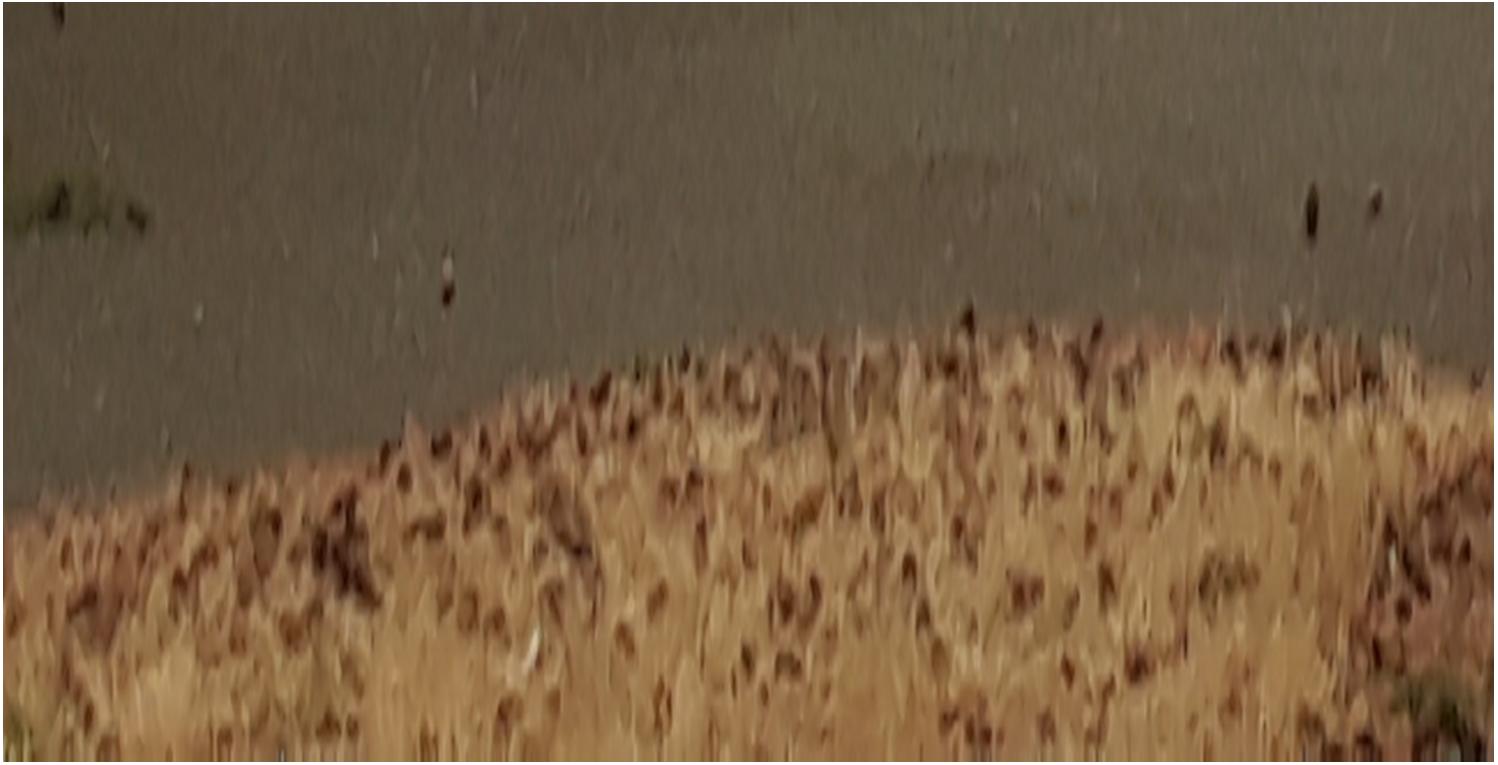
South Tacoma Neighborhood Council











On Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 2:32:47 PM PDT, Venus Dergan <vadergan@yahoo.com> wrote:

Tacoma City Clerk,

Please add on record the addition to my comments from week 8.11.2020 regarding the concerns of large events and gatherings in public parks.

Attached are additional photos from two large gatherings at two public parks in South Tacoma this past weekend.

Below are photos of a food truck and bouncy house party at Wapato Hills Park, and a party at Manitou Park both on Saturday 8:22.20.

I met with two Metroparks directors last week and the directors attended our STNC General meeting last Wednesday outlining plans for addressing the behaviors. No response again this weekend.

I have expressed the concern of the spread of the corona virus through the activities for more than 6 weeks with no compliance to the phase 2 Safestart proclamation, yet MPT posted notices on their Facebook page last Friday, regarding immediate action closing part of the Ruston walking area due to a baby seal on the beach on Ruston way!

Still no collaboration between Metroparks, the City of Tacoma, and PCHD.

Reckless behavior continues to spread and infect others, businesses struggle under strict guidelines and fines, and children are unable to attend school in person.

Where are the priorities? Where is the concern and compassion for the health & well-being of Tacoma residents?

Respectfully,

Venus Dergan

Manitou Resident and Representative

South Tacoma Neighborhood Council

Manitou Park 8.22.2020











Wapato Hills Park 8.22.20



DOWN D'S BBQ

American Grill a Southern Cuisine
Family of Tradition and Excellence

253-830-2086

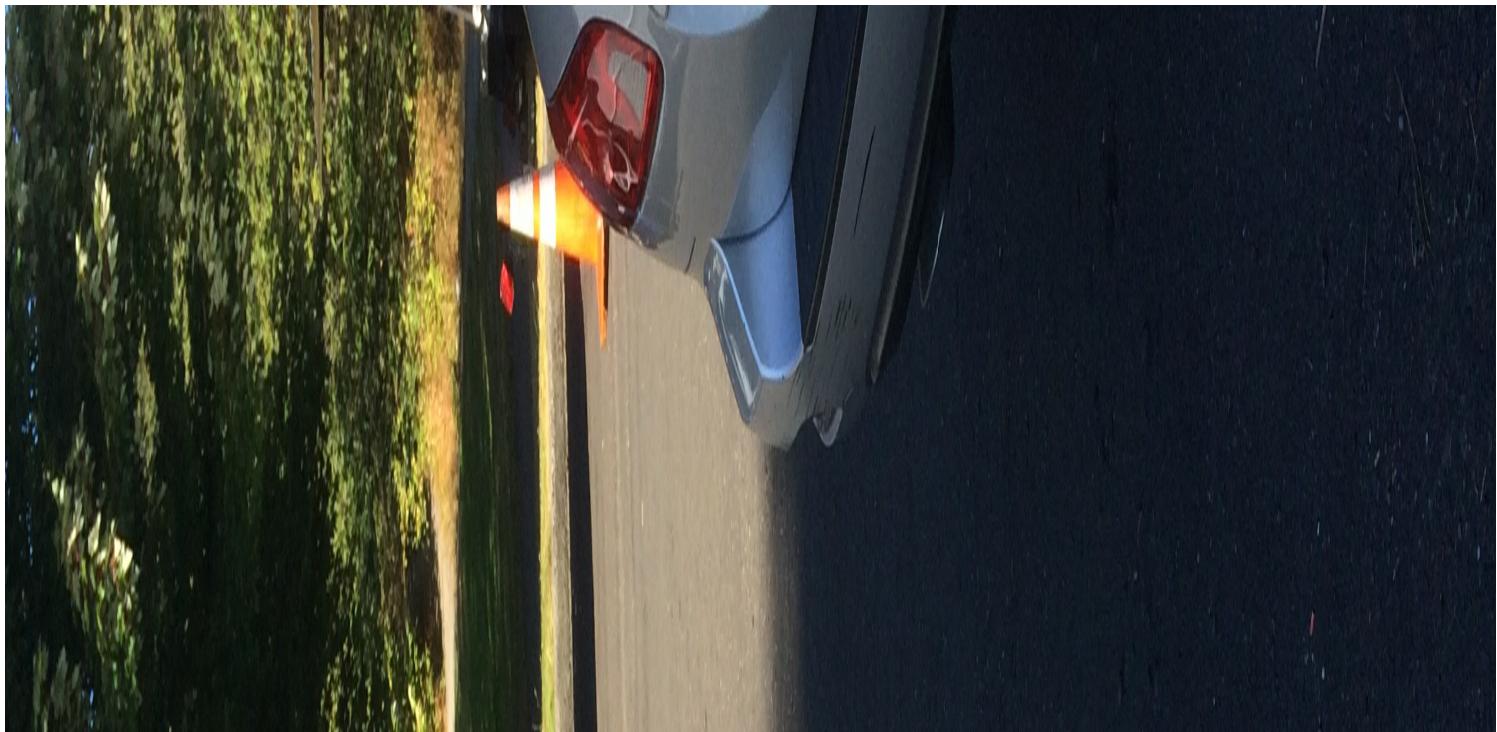
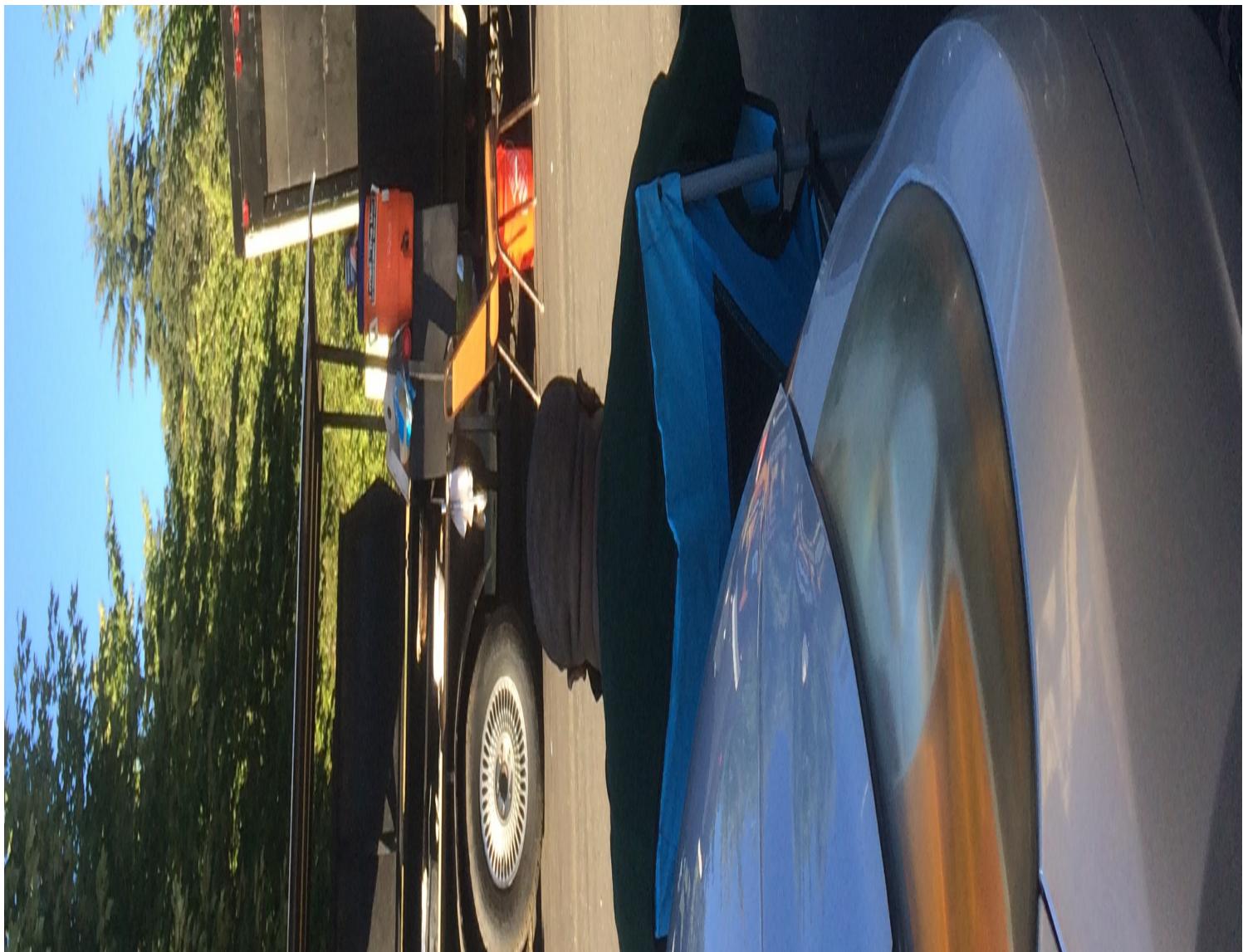
Company Functions

Weddings

Banquets

Large Events

WASHINGTON
BFZ8954













From: Lana <illyanazeski@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 12:10 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Once again, calling upon you to close the NWDC

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon,

I'm aware that the city of Tacoma is faced with many issues, many large problems to solve. There are so many, of such great magnitude, that only together, as a community we can solve them. But it feels so often, that the city council of Tacoma takes measures to preserve the well-being of those with economic interest in our city over the well-being of those who live in our city.

This extends from real estate developers to beneficiaries of the prison industrial complex.

With this email, I mean to implore you to do what you can as city council, to wrap the Northwest detention center in as many layers of red tape as you possibly can; from filing nuisance claims, to blocking business licenses, you have the power to peacefully discourage the detention center from its continued operations within our city.

If you do not feel like you have the power as city council members to close this concentration camp, then you should do what you can as a member of our community. You should stand out with us and protest. You should bring a mask and a homemade sign, and force the closure of this inhumane facility.

Thank you for your time, I look forward to seeing members of city council and other city staff standing with their community against The mistreatment of their fellow man in the name of profits, like is done at the Northwest detention center.

Have a nice one,

Lana

From: Kit Burns <kburns.wcb@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 3:42 PM
To: Keith Blocker
Cc: Woodards, Victoria; Beale, Chris; Thoms, Robert; Walker, Kristina; Ushka, Catherine; McCarthy, Conor; Hines, John; City Clerk's Office; City Manager; Hunter, Lillian
Subject: City of Tacoma - Equity Internet Broadband Connection - Education Equity
Attachments: 2020-0909-AMI Meter Program NPV Program Cost.docx.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Keith,

I would like to find out what the City of Tacoma is doing to ensure that ALL students are connected to the internet and have broadband for instruction. Especially in this time of COVID.

Who in the City is leading this charge and coordinating with Tacoma Public Schools to ensure that no child is left behind? This unfortunately as happened at the end of the school year this past spring.

It is my understanding that there are more than 10,000 students without access. In the Tacoma School District with 30,000 students there are about 58% of the students on the supplemental breakfast and lunch programs. That is nearly 17,000 that are in need of support.

Tacoma has installed fiber throughout the city.

Having 30 hotspots in the city puts these students without access on the wrong side of the digital divide. We will never reach digital equity without a commitment to ensure that they are connected this year. It must be done in the next few months.

Please call me to discuss this. I would be happy to discuss and help with the effort to ensure that all students in Tacoma are connected. Not just the students in Tacoma Public School District but in all educational programs and regardless of age.

I have asked that rather than spend more than \$150 million on the AMI meter program the city terminate and wind down this program. We have more important community needs that are priorities.

The "business case" does not stand scrutiny as the cost of the program has little added value to the community. All of the functions that are claimed for the "business case" are available now. Using the TPU website all functions are available today. See the attached letter that I shared with Chair Flint of the Public Utility Board.

Instead we need to focus on the future by investing in all of our students in educational programs today. This needs to be our priority.

Please call me and lets talk! Thanks.

Kit Burns 253-820-7392 cell

I can set up a zoom call also.

See attachment.

--

Kit Burns

PO Box 2341

Tacoma, WA 98401

"We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility,....., promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America. . . "

Tacoma Public Utilities Board
3628 S 35th St, Tacoma, WA 98409

September 9, 2020

Dear Chair Flint,

AMI Meter Program Cost of more than \$100 million.

My comment on the cost of the AMI program being over \$100 million is based on the information I have. I recognize that I am missing some information and would like your help to fill in the blanks and be sure that I am accurate when I discuss the AMI program and its cost to the community over the next 20 years.

Toward that end I would like to have the following information:

1. What is the cost of financing the AMI program?

A finance cost was mentioned in the **Feb 2019 Exergy Advanced Meter Program Business Case Narrative – Section 6 Overall Value of AMI; Article 6.2 Financing Cost** but no value was listed.

Assuming that the program cost is \$82 million plus \$12 million and with the \$94 million financed for 20 years at 5%, the cost may add an additional approximate \$50 million. Therefore the actual cost of the program may be as much as \$144 million. I would like to verify this value and find out if I have overlooked something.

2. I would like a current NPV calculation using the current contingency, assumed interest rates (and clarify these costs are actually included or not included in the NPV calculation), and an explanation of each value used to calculate the NPV.

Also, what value is used specifically for meter reading in the NPV? Is it calculated using a monthly reading? Or every other month reading? The NPV should be calculated showing both options it seems to me.

3. What is the estimated Annual O&M cost of programming over the next 20 years? In what report is this shown?

Does this include annual software upgrades, virus protection? Who writes the software? Will TPU be doing writing code internally or will it be annually contracted out?

Can another vendor compete to provide software updates and management?

With Wall Street and their Private Equity firms, what will happen when the company providing the software is sold (As Tribus apparently was sold recently) or goes bankrupt via “financial engineering”?

Is the software source code open to other vendors or is it proprietary and restricted use to the original company? Please indicate if the costs for software are in addition to the original program costs of the program. Are those costs included in the NPV calculations?

4. What is the assumed rate of failure and replacement of the meters? Over 20 years? At the end of 20 years is the assumption that all meters will be replaced and updated with the latest technology? What cost is assigned for the replacements? Perhaps a review and comparison report of the Gateway meter program would help.

As I have mentioned to the Utility Board and the Tacoma City Council, there are four states that have decided not to use the AMI meter replacement program. Largely based on the fact that there is no business case.

I have pointed out that the benefits of the program are available today. Going to monthly billing, paying bills in advance, greater personal security, notification of outages via phone, flexible payment options, and choosing my billing date do not require an AMI meter. I have no intention of “micro-managing my electric use”. The average customer uses 31 kWh per day according to TPU. 1.39 kWh is very hard to micro manage at a more ‘granular’ level.

I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this information and my concerns as a citizen.

To meet the needs of the community the amount of money can be spent in ways that will benefit the community. Such as ensuring that every student and every home is connected to the Internet. There are better options than AMI meters.

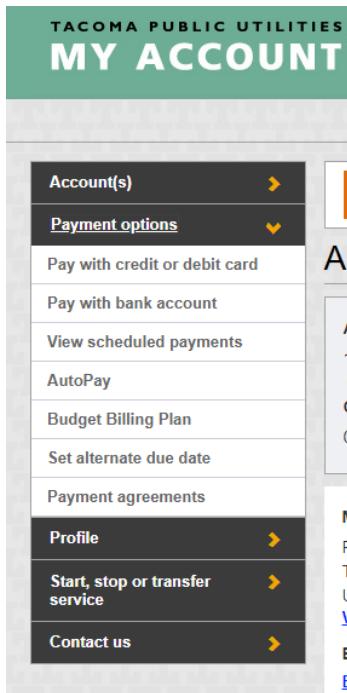
Sincerely,

Kit Burns,

PO Box 2341

Tacoma, WA 98401

Cell phone: 253-820-7392



AMI benefits are available today without AMI meters. I can view my bills and usage over the past two years on-line. My patterns are establish and even for monthly billing it is not necessary for reading my meter more frequently than is being done today.

Your benefits over time



Monthly Billing



Easier Move In, Out,
and Reconnection



Faster Outage and
Leak Detection



Improved
Operational Efficiency



Automated Meter Reading



Enhanced Personal Privacy



Expanded Ways to Save



Flexible Payment Options



Reduced
Environmental Impact

From: Luke Byram <lukebyram98406@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 10:58 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: Beale, Chris; City Manager
Subject: Public Comment: Reconsider Police Department Assessment Consultants

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

City Council:

Why was 21st Century Policing Solutions selected to provide assessment of the police department? Were other consultants considered? After a review of the "Our Team" section of the website I notice that well known former Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey, as well as former King County Sheriff Sue Rahr (who is currently ED for WA State Criminal Justice Training Commission) and former Seattle Police Chief Kathleen O'Toole. Clearly, some of these consultants are familiar with the area to some degree, but I would challenge you to get multiple perspectives. I would encourage you to look at consulting with [Dr. Phillip Atiba Goff of the Center for Policing Equity](#). He is a social psychologist from John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City. Perhaps he may have a view of the police department from an equity lens that the other consultants do not have.

Kind Regards,

Luke Byram

From: SCOTT KUBISZEWSKI <scottkubi@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 6:29 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Tideflats interim regulations.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello, the “interim” regulations have been in place for nearly three years. This is hardly interim. If the council's goal is to push business from a state/country with good environmental regulations to countries with no environmental regulations then they are succeeding. The council should do the job they were elected for and put in place permanent regulations if they want to. And quit punting every six months.

Scott Kubiszewski, CSP, CHST, LEED AP
Cell = 1-206-919-6824

From: billclarke64 <billclarke64@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 2:08 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Why is the City of Tacoma, paying for something they very little control of a railroad crossing?
When is the quiet zone be finished in west Tacoma?

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Sent on my Boost Mobile Samsung Galaxy Phone.