

**From:** Susie Que <susie\_como@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2020 2:09 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Library Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Victoria Woodards, John Hines, and Tacoma City Council,  
I am writing to you in opposition to the proposed budget cuts to the Tacoma Public Library. I have lived in Tacoma for over 25 years and I am a retired teacher from Sheridan Elementary on the eastside. I have regularly used the vital services the library provides both personally and professionally. My main concern is for the many students whose access to the library would be curtailed and affected by the cuts. Many of the students and families with whom I worked during my career had limited economic means. Limiting access to the library would have a detrimental effect on these families in need. Please consider sparing the Tacoma Public Library from such a large budget cut. Thank you for your time and consideration especially during these difficult economic times.

Sincerely,  
Susie

McKenzie

**From:** Holly Rydel <teleskichica@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 6:21 PM  
**Cc:** City Clerk's Office; Beale, Chris; Blocker, Keith; Hines, John; Hunter, Lillian; McCarthy, Conor; Thoms, Robert; Ushka, Catherine; Walker, Kristina; Woodards, Victoria; City Manager  
**Subject:** Re: Public comment on city budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello Council members-

Please protect our library.  
Please implement a Cahoots model now.  
Please reallocate police funds to housing, domestic violence services, senior services, and youth services.

I've heard it said that we need the police because of the rise of violent crime. Violent crime is very rarely random and most often a byproduct of poverty and scarcity.

We need services in place to help the homeless, heal the sick, and provide safe spaces for families enduring domestic violence not to arrest, prosecute, and jail. The experience of domestic violence is personal to me. Too many times, domestic violence is further perpetuated by the fear of exacerbating a tenuous situation with police presence, so no one is called. And too many times, when the police are finally called, a family member goes to jail, jobs are lost, a parent is taken out of the community and our violent "justice" system begets further violence - whether it be housing insecurity, poverty, youth deviancy, etc. - we need to reallocate police funds to programs that provide whole family support and healing. Too many times I have heard: No, I didn't call for help because if the police came our stepmom would lose her job, lose our family healthcare, we would lose our house, and all we needed was help calming her down instead of hitting dad.

There has got to be a better model.

Thank you for reading this. I really hope that the city's commitment to equity and justice will be fully demonstrated in the upcoming budget with decisive action.

holly rydel kelly

**From:** Nancy Hausauer <nhausauer@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 5:40 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Regarding the proposed 2021-2022 biannual budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Council members:

I oppose cutting the library budget! Library services are not a luxury. They are crucial at any time, but especially in the time of COVID. As families are put at economic risk, the free and wholesome activities and pastimes (e.g. reading) that our libraries offer are a critical resource for Tacoma citizens. They help us access information for careers and school, as well as for engaged citizenship. Our library system is a jewel, even when closed. I check out e-books all the time, and they have helped to keep me sane during the pandemic. E-books are expensive to buy! As the pandemic worsens, we need the library more than ever.

I have to wonder why the City is proposing cuts to libraries while allowing a retroactive increase to police salaries. Why are police being prioritized over libraries and other community services, when they do so little for us, and are corrupt. They need to have their feathers trimmed waaaaay back. I'm not saying totally defund them, but let's bring some reason to the issue of police funding. They are out of control, and their budget is out of control, egged on by the corrupt and vile police unions.

Libraries are a clear and obvious social good. The police are .... complicated. Let's not give them any more money till they clean up their act and stop murdering citizens and covering it up. (Also, why did you ignore the citizen feedback you asked for on budget priorities? There was a strong sentiment to cut back police funding and put it into community service, and yet, here we are again, at the brink of pouring more money into the already bloated police budget.)

Sincerely,

Nancy Hausauer

Tacoma resident for over 40 years

**From:** Cody S Bakken <cody.s.bakken@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 4:37 PM

**To:** City Clerk's Office

**Subject:** 10/27/20 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

I wish to submit this video by the Tacoma Public Library staff as a statement of support to maintain the library funding without any cuts.

<https://youtu.be/mJVPQieRoL4>

This isn't about only jobs - its about protecting the community and keeping the City Council to adherence of the priorities it set for the city. This, notably, includes Racial Equity and Access - a priority that would be significantly reduced by cuts to the library budget. TPL serves many micro-communities within our city, and some of them would be devastated by the disruption or loss of any kind of service or staffing due to budget cuts.

It doesn't seem like \$2.2 million is a lot to City budget, nor even really to the TPL budget - but its 22 positions, out of just over 100 total. Why is that an acceptable hit to take?

Sincerely,

Cody S Bakken, CAPM

TPL Wheelock Page

Hilltop Resident

**From:** elle grey <ellegreymail@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 3:54 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Written Comment 10/27

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

City Council,

You know what we are calling for.

- 1) Push back on each other who are connected to the Police Union. McCarthy and Woodards, looking at you
- 2) Defund Tacoma Police Department
- 3) Reallocate funds to the communities LIKE THE LIBRARIES
- 4) stop supporting outrageous expenditures connected to policing in our community
- 5) Pauli, do your job and fire the officers and stop wasting our money
- 6) Shutdown the NWDC - we should not be supporting this federal contracted concentration camp being funded and ran in our city

Cheers

Elle Grey  
District 4

--

**From:** Amy QV <amyvan08@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 3:45 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Public Comment Submission

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Council Members,

As a resident of the east side of Tacoma I am hyper aware of the intensive policing that goes on in my community and the devastating contrast of the deficiency in resources for youth, resources for learning, and resources to help those at risk of homelessness or already homeless.

I urge you to reconsider the proposed budget that adds more money to Tacoma Police, while simultaneously defunding our much needed libraries and human services.

Please consider a budget that does the opposite: reduces the intensive policing in our neighborhoods and funds the services that help our kids learn, stabilizes our families, and builds up the wealth and health of our community.

Thank You,

Amy

**From:** Michael Mirra <MMirra@tacomahousing.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 3:36 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Cc:** Robinson, Jeff; Ushka, Catherine; Beale, Chris; Conor McCarthy - City Of Tacoma (conoremerymccarthy@hotmail.com); Hines, John; Blocker, Keith; Kristina Walker - Tacoma City Council; Hunter, Lillian; Thoms, Robert; Woodards, Victoria; Adria Buchanan; amanda@affordablehousingconsortium.org; Amber Miller (amber.miller@p-h-s.com); blaine.wolfe@absherco.com; Bob Peterson (bob.peterson@wshfc.org); Brian Michael; Caitlin Back (caitlinback@umpquabank.com); Denny Hunthausen - Catholic Community Services (DennyH@ccsww.org); eweaver@tpc-habitat.org; Jessie Gamble (jgamble@mbapierce.com); JGauthier@tpc-habitat.org; Joseph Nagel; Lua Pritchard - Asian Pacific Cultural Alliance (faalua@comcast.net); Maureen Howard (maureenhowardconsulting@gmail.com); robinc@mschelps.org; stewdahl@comcast.net; Theresa Baker (tbaker52@sprynet.com); bschmid@co.pierce.wa.us; Charlie Gray; Murillo, Daniel; doberst@bcradesign.com; Fife, Maureen (mfife@tpc-habitat.org); Janne@LASAWA.org; Lua Pritchard - Asian Pacific Cultural Alliance (lua.apcc@gmail.com); Mark Merrill (markm@sharedhousingservices.org); Michael A. Yoder (michaely@associatedministries.org); Pam Duncan - MDC (pduncan@mdc-hope.org); Peter Ansara - KWA (pansara@kwacares.org); Tory Quinn (VictoriaQuinn@UmpquaBank.com); Zac Baker  
**Subject:** Comment on Proposed City Budget Agenda Item #11 - 20-0686  
**Attachments:** City of Tacoma Resolution 38264 2011-5-17.pdf  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Tacoma City Clerk and Tacoma City Councilmembers:

I write on behalf of the Tacoma Pierce County Affordable Housing Consortium (TPCAHC). I am its current Board Chair and the Chair of the Board's Advocacy Committee.

We understand that the proposed budget presently before the City Council for consideration includes \$1 million for the City's Housing Trust Fund. This funding would help to preserve and create affordable housing in Tacoma. The TPCAHC strongly supports this proposal. We do so for reasons the Council knows well. Affordable housing is critical for its own value to stably house individuals and families, especially those who would otherwise be without a stable place to live.

Affordable housing is also critical for nearly every other civic interest: education, transportation, growth management, economic development, mental health, health, child welfare, criminal justice, racial justice, and justice. The COVID-19 pandemic has also reminded us that housing is necessary for public health. On May 17, 2011 by Resolution 38264, the City Council recognized the value of affordable housing to the City's prosperity, health, and welfare. I attach a copy of that resolution. It is worth rereading. We think it is one of the nation's finest municipal expressions of public policy on the question. As an abiding statement of Tacoma's policy, it reminds us why the Housing Trust Fund is so important.

Thank you.

Michael Mirra  
Board Chair  
Tacoma Pierce County Affordable Housing Consortium

**Michael Mirra**

he/him

Executive Director

Tacoma Housing Authority

902 South L Street, Tacoma, WA 98405

(253) 207-4429

(253) 651-3289 CELL

[mmirra@tacomahousing.org](mailto:mmirra@tacomahousing.org)

[www.tacomahousing.net](http://www.tacomahousing.net)



***"Housing Tacoma Forward"***

Speak up for your community and yourself by participating in the 2020 census. Learn more and get started at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov).





## RESOLUTION NO. 38261

1 BY REQUEST OF DEPUTY MAYOR WALKER AND COUNCIL MEMBERS FEY,  
2 LONERGAN, AND MANTHOU

3 A RESOLUTION relating to affordable housing; authorizing the adoption of the  
4 Affordable Housing Policy Principles.

5 WHEREAS, throughout 2009, the Neighborhoods and Housing  
6 Committee ("Committee") worked to create an affordable housing policy  
7 recommendation for the City Council, and

8 WHEREAS, prior to recommending its final draft, the Committee  
9 recommended that the City Council pursue additional public feedback, and

10 WHEREAS, on April 27, 2010, the City Council created and appointed  
11 an Affordable Housing Policy Advisory Group ("Advisory Group") to perform the  
12 following: (1) review the prior work of the Committee's affordable housing  
13 policy development process and the work of the Pierce County Housing  
14 Affordability Task Force; (2) review demographic data and identify data  
15 development needs in order to inform planning efforts; (3) provide input and  
16 consultation necessary to refine the Committee's affordable housing policy  
17 recommendations; (4) recommend a series of supporting policy actions that are  
18 consistent with or complementary to the City's Comprehensive Plan; and  
19 (5) build a consensus of Advisory Group members, and

20 WHEREAS, on December 3, 2010, the Advisory Group provided a final  
21 report to the Committee, and  
22  
23  
24  
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WHEREAS the Committee is in the process of reviewing the recommendations of the Advisory Group and recommends that the City Council adopt the eight policy principles recommended by the Advisory Group in recommendation 3.1 of the report, and

WHEREAS, in summary the policy principles include the following:

A. The City's welfare requires an adequate supply of well-built and well-managed affordable housing serving the full range of incomes appearing among its residents. An adequate supply of this housing is vital to the following important civic needs and values:

- The City's prosperity, economic development, and growth of employment opportunities;
- The appropriate management of the City's projected population growth and transportation needs;
- The City's fulfillment of its legal obligations under the Growth Management Act to make "adequate provisions for existing and projected (housing) needs of all economic segments of the community" and to comply with the related directives of the Pierce County Countywide Planning Policies;
- The survival of green spaces throughout the City and Pierce County;
- The success of the City's schools;
- The effectiveness of the City's emergency services;
- The City's ability to continue its accommodation of a population that is increasingly diverse by income, race, ethnicity, ability, disability, and age;
- The City's ability to accommodate a population that, in the aggregate, is getting older; and
- The City's values of social justice.



1 B. Affordable housing developments by nonprofit developers, public and  
2 private, in the City, region, and nation have been among the most attractively  
3 designed, most environmentally innovative, and best managed in the market  
4 place.

5 C. Nonprofit developments of affordable housing will never likely be  
6 adequate to meet the City's needs. The City also needs a companion strategy  
7 to enlist the engine of private market rate developments to include a measure  
8 of affordable units. These strategies also provide the added benefit of  
9 economic and demographic integration.  
10

11 D. Affordable housing developments have spurred the revitalization of  
12 neighborhoods, encouraging both public and private investment, helping the  
13 City attain its desired density, and furthering a neighborhood's economic  
14 development.

15 E. Affordable housing is an asset to be encouraged and not a detriment  
16 to be tolerated and controlled.  
17

18 F. The City should promote the development of affordable housing in  
19 every City neighborhood.

20 G. In seeking the appropriate balance, the City should not have to  
21 compromise important neighborhood design standards in order to promote  
22 affordable housing. Instead, proper design should allow affordable housing to  
23 show the way for all developments servicing all incomes toward a greener,  
24  
25  
26



1 more sustainable urban future that accommodates the appropriate density that  
2 the City's planning documents anticipate to be necessary for the City's  
3 projected population allocations.

4 H. In a complex community like Tacoma, interests and policies often  
5 clash. Good governance is the effort to balance them appropriately. In doing  
6 so, the City should give a very high priority to the promotion of affordable  
7 housing development, and

8  
9 WHEREAS the City Council wishes to include consideration of these  
10 policy principles in future updates to the City's Comprehensive Plan,  
11 Consolidated Plan, and Human Services Strategic Plan; Now, Therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

13 Section 1. That the City Council hereby adopts the policy principles set  
14 out in recommendation 3.1 of the Affordable Housing Policy Advisory Group  
15 Final Report, received on December 3, 2010.

16  
17 Section 2. That the City Council requests the Planning Commission, the  
18 Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority, the Human Services  
19 Commission, and other appropriate City bodies to incorporate the policy  
20 principles into the City's Comprehensive Plan, Consolidated Plan, the Human  
21 Services Strategic Plan, and other appropriate policy documents.

22  
23 Section 3. That the City Manager is directed to make available staff from  
24 the Tacoma Community and Economic Development Department, the Human  
25  
26



1 Rights and Human Services Department, and other General Government  
2 Departments, as may be necessary, to assist the appropriate boards and  
3 commissions in the incorporation of these policy principles.

4 Adopted MAY 17 2011

5 Mark Bond  
6 Mayor

7 Attest:

8 Doris Seum  
9 City Clerk

10 Approved as to form:

11 [Signature]  
12 City Attorney  
13  
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# REQUEST FOR

☐ ORDINANCE ☒ RESOLUTION

Request #:

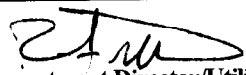

12934

Ord./Res. #:

38264

1. DATE: May 2, 2011

2. SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER(S) Deputy Mayor Walker, Council Member Manthou, Council Member Fey, and Council Member Lonergan

3a. REQUESTING DEPARTMENT/DIVISION/PROGRAM City Manager's Office	4a. CONTACT (for questions): Tansy Hayward	PHONE: 253-591-5133
3b. "DO PASS" FROM Neighborhoods and Housing <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To Committee as information only <input type="checkbox"/> Did not go before a Committee	4b. Person Presenting: Deputy Mayor Walker	PHONE: 253-591-5100
3c. DID THIS ITEM GO BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not required	4c. ATTORNEY: Elizabeth Pauli	PHONE: 253-591-5169
 Department Director/Utility Division	N/A Budget Officer/Finance Director	 City Manager/Director Utilities

5. REQUESTED COUNCIL DATE: May 17, 2011

(If a specific council meeting date is required, explain why; i.e., grant application deadline, contract expiration date, required contract execution date, public notice or hearing required, etc.)

6. SUMMARY AGENDA TITLE: (A concise sentence, as it will appear on the Council agenda.)

Adopting eight policy principles as recommended by the Affordable Housing Policy Advisory Group and directing further consideration of the policy principles in future planning and policy documents

7. BACKGROUND INFORMATION/GENERAL DISCUSSION: (Why is this request necessary? Are there legal requirements? What are the viable alternatives? Who has been involved in the process?)

Throughout 2009, the Neighborhoods and Housing Committee worked to create an Affordable Housing policy for recommendation to the full Council. Prior to recommending the committee's final draft, the committee sought additional public feedback through the creation and appointment of an Affordable Housing Policy Advisory Group. The Affordable Housing Policy Advisory Group provided a report to the Neighborhoods and Housing committee on December 3, 2010.

Since receiving the report, the Neighborhoods and Housing Committee has begun reviewing each recommendation and requesting additional evaluation by city staff, where appropriate. At this point, the Neighborhoods and Housing Committee is recommending that the full City Council adopt eight policy principles that were included in recommendation 3.1 of the report. In summary, the policy principles include:

(1) The city's welfare requires an adequate supply of well built and well managed affordable housing serving the full range of incomes appearing among its residents. An adequate supply of this housing is vital to the following important civic needs and values:

- The city's prosperity, economic development and growth of employment opportunities
- The appropriate amendment of the city's projected population growth and transportation needs;

## REQUEST (CONT)

CITY CLERK USE ONLY

Request #:

12934

Ord/Res #:

38264

- The city's fulfillment of its legal obligations under the Growth Management Act to make "adequate provisions for existing and projected [housing] needs of all economic segments of the community" and to comply with the related directives of the Pierce County Countywide Planning Policies;
- The survival of green spaces throughout the city and Pierce County;
- The success of the city's schools;
- The effectiveness of the city's emergency services;
- The city's ability to continue its accommodation of a population that is increasingly diverse by income, race, ethnicity, ability, disability and age;
- The city's ability to accommodate a population that, in the aggregate, is getting older; and
- The city's values of social justice.

(2) Affordable housing developments by nonprofit developers, public and private, in the City, region and nation have been among the most attractively designed most environmentally innovative and best managed in the market place.

(3) Nonprofit developments of affordable housing will never likely be adequate to meet the City's need. The City also needs a companion strategy to enlist the engine of private market rate developments to include a measure of affordable units. These strategies also provide the added benefit of economic and demographic integration.

(4) Affordable housing developments have spurred the revitalization of neighborhoods, encouraging both public and private investment, helping the City attain its desired density, and furthering a neighborhood's economic development.

(5) Affordable housing is an asset to be encouraged and not a detriment to be tolerated and controlled.

(6) The City should promote the development of affordable housing in every City neighborhood.

(7) In seeking the appropriate balance, the City should not have to compromise important neighborhood design standards in order to promote affordable housing. Instead, proper design should allow affordable housing to show the way for all developments servicing all incomes toward a greener, more sustainable urban future that accommodates the appropriate density that the City's planning documents anticipate to be necessary for the City's projected population allocations.

(8) In a complex community like Tacoma, interests and policies often clash. Good governance is the effort to balance them appropriately. In doing so, the City should give a very high priority to the promotion of affordable housing development.

In addition to adopting the policy principles, this resolution would request that the Planning Commission, the Human Services Commission, the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority, and other appropriate boards and commission incorporate these policy principles into appropriate policies and planning documents including the Comprehensive Plan, Consolidated Plan and Human Services Strategic Plan. It would also direct the City Manager to make staff available to support these boards and commissions.

**REQUEST (CONT)**

**CITY CLERK USE ONLY**

Request #:

12934

Ord/Res #:

38264

**8. LIST ALL MATERIAL AVAILABLE AS BACKUP INFORMATION FOR THE REQUEST AND INDICATE WHERE FILED:**

Source Documents/Backup Material	Location of Document
Affordable Housing Policy Advisory Group Policy Recommendations to the City, dated December 3, 2010	City Clerk's Office

**9. WHICH OF THE CITY'S STRATEGIC GOALS DOES THIS ITEM SUPPORT? (CHECK THE GOAL THAT BEST APPLIES)**

- A. ☐ A SAFE, CLEAN AND ATTRACTIVE COMMUNITY
- B. ☒ A DIVERSE, PRODUCTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY
- C. ☐ A HIGH-PERFORMING, OPEN AND ENGAGED GOVERNMENT

**10. IF THIS CONTRACT IS FOR AN AMOUNT OF \$200,000 OR LESS, EXPLAIN WHY IT NEEDS LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL:**

**11. FINANCIAL IMPACT:** ☐ EXPENDITURE ☐ REVENUE

- A. ☒ NO IMPACT (NO FISCAL NOTE)
- B. ☐ YES, OVER \$100,000, Fiscal Note Attached
- C. ☐ YES, UNDER \$100,000, (NO FISCAL NOTE)
- Provide funding source information below:

**FUNDING SOURCE: (Enter amount of funding from each source)**

Fund Number & Name:	State \$	City \$	Other \$	Total Amount
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If an expenditure, is it budgeted? ☐ Yes ☐ No Where? Cost Center:  
Acct #:



Resolution No. 3826

Adopted: MAY 17 2011

Maker of Motion: WALKER

Seconded: LONERGAN

Voice Vote:

MEMBERS	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Boe	✓			
Mr. Campbell	✓			
Mr. Fey	✓			
Mr. Lonergan	✓			
Mr. Manthou	✓			
Mr. Mello	✓			
Ms. Walker	✓			
Ms. Woodards	✓			
Mayor Strickland	✓			

Roll Call Vote:

MEMBERS	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Boe				
Mr. Campbell				
Mr. Fey				
Mr. Lonergan				
Mr. Manthou				
Mr. Mello				
Ms. Walker				
Ms. Woodards				
Mayor Strickland				

**From:** Nathan Schumer <nss2108@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 3:30 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** comments in favor of increasing library funding, decreasing police funding, and moving to mental health responders

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello!

I'm Nathan (I live in Council Member Hines district) and I'm writing to request the following in the budget:

- decrease police funding 15% as part of a general deescalation of policing as the main security strategy
- use the saved dollars to cover the budget shortfalls of the library
- use extra money to fund larger investments in affordable housing
- implement non-lethal first responders a la CAHOOTS or Denver in a new Office of Safety
- study the implementation of an income tax based on express authority granted to the city in Kunath v. City of Seattle.

Nathan

**From:** marcinda@harbornet.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 3:06 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** City Council meeting - Preserve our Libraries!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To the Mayor and City Council of Tacoma,

I have been a resident of Tacoma for 20 years and I am writing to assert that WE NEED TO KEEP OUR LIBRARIES INTACT. I'm a lifelong Library member in every city I've lived in and, having raised my daughter in Tacoma, have been a frequent patron at all levels of the library. We've spent a good part of her childhood in the children's room at several libraries. We've taken classes, looked at magazines, participated in reading challenges, watched movies, connected with other parents. Right now, ESPECIALLY right now, we need safe, public spaces - virtual or otherwise where people of all income levels are able to access stories, information and many other resources to support them through all the crisis our city faces during this Pandemic. The library is an institution for people of all ages to learn, grow and escape into a good story. Our librarians are smart, caring, and can direct people to whatever it is they need.

I am not a lone voice - all my neighbors feel this way. I urge you to keep the well-being of our stories and our imagination intact by keeping our libraries funded.

Thank you,

Marcy Rodenborn  
818 N Trafton St  
Tacoma, WA

**From:** Katie Mattran <katie.mattran@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 3:00 PM

**To:** City Clerk's Office

**Cc:** NETNC Board

**Subject:** Proposed Budget Cuts to the Library

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello Mayor Woodards and Members of the City Council,

I'm writing this public comment to reiterate the previous comments I made to Katie Johnston at the budget presentation that was given to the Northeast Tacoma Neighborhood Council on 10/15/2020. As a Tacoma resident and frequent library user, I'm frustrated to be back in this place where we're fighting against cuts to library services. I'm sure you'll frame it as a pandemic problem, yet these slashes in library services have come up in each of the previous biennial budgets as well. The library is an essential service, an equitable service, an educational service that benefits all residents of Tacoma. In a time where access to resources and services is being cut off due to health concerns, the library has stepped up and continued to deliver and meet the demand from its users. In my opinion, we should be adding funds to continue to grow and develop the library system at a time when usage is skyrocketing.

For me, this is a quality of life issue as well. A thriving, vibrant community champions access and support for its cultural resources. Libraries are central to that goal, and have the benefit of being well distributed across the city and free to use. I understand there are difficult decisions ahead, but I respectfully request that the City Manager and City Council reconsider the proposed cuts to the library system.

Sincerely,

Katie Mattran

Northeast Tacoma resident and Kobetich Library patron

**From:** Jennifer Barfield <jennbar77@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 2:09 PM

**To:** City Clerk's Office

**Subject:** Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Council Members:

The 2021-2022 proposed budget does not go far enough in addressing the needs of the City. The city should prioritize funding to programs that directly assist citizens impacted by the housing and economic crisis. We are in the midst of a pandemic and winter is basically here. Temps this past week have been at or below freezing and the available shelter options are inadequate.

Defund the Tacoma Police Department, increase funding to libraries, homeless services, affordable housing, and other programs that will directly impact and improve people's lives. Retroactive pay increases to police and a "cost of living" pay increase for the City Manager feel like a slap in the face, especially when cuts to libraries and jobs are proposed. You can do better.

Jennifer B, Defund Police Tacoma

**From:** LilyLove2012 <musicatboatshop@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2020 11:19 AM

**To:** City Clerk's Office

**Subject:** comments for biannual budget review

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello,

I would like to submit my comments for the City Council as the proposed 2021-2022 biannual budget is reviewed. Cutting funds for the Tacoma Public Library is absolutely unacceptable. The Library serves a vital public function, especially during the time of covid-19. The police department, however, seems bloated. There has been nothing done regarding justice for Manuel Ellis. How many more members of our Tacoma community are unsafe with the current policing approach? It's hard to imagine Ellis' death was an isolated incident with "a few bad apples." The TPD budget should be closely evaluated for where it could be reduced and the whole department reviewed.

If budget cuts must be made, they should be directed at TPD. It is beyond time to reevaluate how we keep our community safe and improve the quality of life here for everyone. Shooting unarmed citizens of color is obviously not the way and should not be rewarded with public funds. (The City of Olympia is doing outstanding work with social workers riding along with police, by the way -- their Crisis Response Unit. Why isn't Tacoma being proactive with de-escalation/drug/mental health related call response models? That would be worth funding!)

Thank you for your attention,

Susan Johnson

Hilltop resident

**From:** rachel.lodine@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2020 9:49 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Libraries

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Council Member,

Libraries are vital to our community's health. The pandemic has made that clearer than ever. With schools and other facilities closed, people are turning increasingly to library services:

Community members need help finding jobs or identifying resources for housing and food; families seek help finding materials to enrich their students' virtual classrooms; our elders, living in isolation, need to connect with library staff for book suggestions or just a chat on the phone.

I use the library to find new children's books for my kids to explore and to find enjoyable books for myself. We've gone to many baby and toddler story times over the years and love what those programs have to offer.

My family loves to check out all kinds of children's books and we love the Creative Kits!

I love being able to pick up my holds at TPL To Go to supplement the school work we do at home.

For all these reasons, library usage has exploded. People can't wait for their libraries to reopen! And yet the library is currently facing large cuts. Library Director Kate Larsen has had to make the heartbreaking decision to lay off 22 staff members to meet the budget shortfall. Times are tough, but that's why we need to fully fund our libraries. Our libraries will help us get through this crisis.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** susannemarten2014@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2020 12:19 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** October 27, 2020 Budget hearing  
**Attachments:** letter to Mayor.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please forward the attachment to the Mayor and two council reps. Thank you, Susanne Marten

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



**October 27, 2020**

**TO: Honorable Mayor Woodards and Council members**

**Catherine Ushka and Christopher Beale**

**FROM: Susanne Marten**

**RE: Preservation of Anti-racist and Equitable Infrastructure**

I wish to express grave concern over the severe reduction in biennium funding for the Tacoma Library system. Specifically, I want you to know that our community libraries make it possible for impoverished families, BIPOC and ALAANA owned and operated small businesses to not only borrow books and videos but to also access Wi-Fi, computers, printers, fax and copying machines. In doing so, Library staff are available to assist patrons to use the software programs and offer advice on accessing employment opportunities, local business resources and technical writing instruction to draft business letters and proposals.

Another anti-racist and equitable response to community need includes the vibrant out-of-school educational programs offered for parenting families and youth. For example, since 2016 the Tacoma Library Media Center has collaborated with community organizations to convene a Summer Film Camp for middle and high school age students. Summer Film Camp sessions have been held for six weeks in the Community Room of the Moore Library. Consistently, class attendance has been 97% with 70% of the students representing BIPOC and ALAANA youth. Students have experienced the use of professional film equipment and a mock film-stage, introduction to International filmmakers and culturally diverse traditions, screen writing, acting and movement, use of effective sound and music scores, editing, team management and competition through entry in the annual Hilltop Film Festival. In addition, Students who have completed a Summer Film Camp session are eligible to apply for a paid Internship.

In view of the proposed Tacoma Public Library General Revenue reductions it is very unlikely that the necessary educational support and technology resources will be sufficient to sustain a successful anti-racism and equity transformation. Please reconsider the proposed General Revenue allocation to Tacoma's Public Library system.

**From:** Nancy Fischer <fischenet@comcast.net>

**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2020 10:14 AM

**To:** City Clerk's Office

**Subject:** Save our libraries

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Council Member,

Libraries are vital to our community's health. The pandemic has made that clearer than ever. With schools and other facilities closed, people are turning increasingly to library services: Community members need help finding jobs or identifying resources for housing and food; families seek help finding materials to enrich their students' virtual classrooms; our elders, living in isolation, need to connect with library staff for book suggestions or just a chat on the phone.

I am retired and count on the library to stretch my income and to make human contact, if only for a short moment while getting my TPL to Go holds. I'm a retired teacher and I spend a lot of time reading, mostly history, current events and mysteries. With Covid -19 running strong, sometimes these books are some of the only tactile interaction I have. The digital form Of books is not the same. I miss the Aisles of DVDs I used to walk through, for extending my learning and for catching me up on missed series. That has been a loss for me.

I remember the library of my youth, taking the bus 30 minutes to get there. It was a place of open arms! Like school, the library was a fertile ground for growing my ideas, planting seeds of hopes for me. Today we may not immediately see how important these places are because their impact may not be seen until years later. To de-fund and close the libraries is to Interrupt this rich process of growth. Now more than ever, we need to know the libraries are "there," are open, even in this Covid restricted way.

The library remains a community gathering spot, even in Covid time. Families depend on it. Our elders depend on it. So much else is closed down now. Please don't close this one community place. Keep it open, please!

For all these reasons, library usage has exploded. People can't wait for their libraries to reopen! And yet the library is currently facing large cuts. Library Director Kate Larsen has had to make the heartbreaking decision to lay off 22 staff members to meet the budget shortfall. Times are tough, but that's why we need to fully fund our libraries. **Our libraries will help us get through this crisis.**

Thank you,

Nancy Fischer

**From:** Wally Croshaw <wcroshaw@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, October 25, 2020 4:17 PM

**To:** City Clerk's Office

**Subject:** Library Budget Cuts

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Tacoma City Council members at large,

I know there are tough budget decisions ahead for the City of Tacoma due in large part to the pandemic. I hope you will find a way to avoid drastic cuts to staffing at Tacoma Public Libraries. The same pandemic creating the shortfall has made clear that libraries are more important than ever to our community's mental and physical health.

I make regular use of the library system and especially appreciate the materials holds system the Tacoma Libraries have adapted to deal with the pandemic. I understand that library usage has increased tremendously during this time.. People like me can't wait for their libraries to reopen in person. Students and citizens facing their own family challenges are especially hard hit by any library cutback.

Unfortunately, we learn that library Director Kate Larsen has had to make the heartbreaking decision to lay off 22 staff members to meet their budget shortfall. Times are tough, but that's why we need to fully fund our libraries. Our libraries will help us get through this crisis.

Sincerely,

Walter Croshaw

3017 N 10th ST

Tacoma, WA 98406

**From:** Lea Anne Fischer <finny426@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Saturday, October 24, 2020 3:42 PM

**To:** City Clerk's Office

**Subject:** Support Public Libraries

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Council Member,

Libraries are vital to our community's health, but the library is currently facing large cuts. Library Director Kate Larsen has had to make the heartbreaking decision to lay off 22 staff members to meet the budget shortfall. Times are tough, but that's why we need to fully fund our libraries. Our libraries will help us get through this crisis.

Our local libraries have played an important role in my family. For their entire lives, my children have visited the library weekly where we enjoyed loading up on a new batch of books, meeting up with friends for storytime, crafting with summer Creative Kits, and (most importantly!) setting the foundation for curious, thoughtful, lifelong readers. In addition to frequently borrowing books, the adults in our family have benefited from the many library services. We have borrowed museum passes, watch movies through Kanopy, utilized tax support, and discovered new programs through library outreach (our thriving trees in our yard were provided through Grit City Trees). As an academic tutor, I have used the library as a studios space and resource to work with my students.

Please continue to support the library. These are just a few personal ways my family uses the libraries, but I fully understand that the library provides essential services to many: internet and computer access, services for tutoring and job applications, a warm and safe place to be for people who are housing insecure. The libraries take care of our communities, and I hope that the city continues to support the libraries.

Regards,

Lea Anne Fischer

**From:** Justin Wadland <justin.wadland@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2020 7:44 AM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Community Forum: Tacoma Public Library Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

To the City Council of Tacoma,

I am writing to urge City Council to consider minimal negative impacts to public library services in the 2020-21 fiscal budget. My family and I live in Tacoma, and I work as a librarian at the University of Washington Tacoma Library.

I care deeply about the Tacoma Public Library because it provides critical services, resources, and spaces to our community. With adequate support and funding, TPL will contribute to resilience and recovery in our city, and I am deeply concerned that the pressures of the moment will lead to decisions that will have long-term consequences.

I can speak to these issues from many perspectives:

*As a father of two children who attend Tacoma Public Schools:* With schools facilities closed as a result of COVID-19, we do not have access to the books we would normally check out from the school library. We regularly rely on the public library to provide books for our children. It offers an seemingly endless supply of high quality, age-appropriate books that keep reading fun and interesting. **When deciding about the TPL budget, consider the thousands of children in the city who use the collections and programs to learn to love reading.**

*As a resident of Tacoma concerned about economic recovery:* The pandemic has brought serious economic hardship and unemployment to Tacoma. TPL provides many services to those in need, including access to technology and resources for people looking for work and educational opportunities. I am deeply concerned that when facilities can re-open, TPL will be forced to reduce hours because of inadequate staffing, and this in turn will limit access when people will need these services the most. **When making decisions about the TPL budget, consider all of the people who need access to technology and educational and career resources to find work.**

*As Interim Director of the UW Tacoma Library:* We routinely refer faculty and students to the extensive digital and print collections available from the Tacoma Public Library Northwest Room. The staff in the Northwest Room provide essential services as they digitize, describe, and help users navigate primary sources that document the city's history. Building on this reputation, TPL has partnered with us and other cultural institutions in the city on a grant project to support community histories. I fear that cuts would hamper TPL's ability to continue steward the city's history and legacy. **When making decisions about the TPL budget, consider the services and collections of the TPL Northwest Room for present and future generations.**

TPL is much, much more than a collection of books. It is a generous institution that serves and benefits all people of Tacoma, providing countless pathways for discovery, learning, building community, and civic engagement. During a time when difficult choices must be made during a budget shortfall, I urge the City Council to ensure that TPL can sustain itself during these challenging times so that our communities will flourish when the recovery comes.

Sincerely,  
Justin Wadland

[Interim Director, UW Tacoma Library / Interim Dean, University Libraries](#)

Note: Sent from my personal email address.

**From:** Spencer <spencerbowman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2020 8:46 PM  
**To:** Sorum, Doris  
**Subject:** Please don't make cuts to our Public Libraries.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Council members,

The librarians, assistants, and pages are **equity first responders**. Please find another way to balance the budget other than cutting from the library already small budget.

Tacoma Public Library's Proposed Budget has been reduced by \$2.2M, leading to potential reductions in programs and services and the elimination of **22 library staff members**, including three library managers and **18 public services staff**.

These are **deep** cuts that will lead to less service and more work for less staff. Tacoma needs strong public libraries to help people in this unprecedented time of need.

Thank you,  
-Spencer

**From:** Saskia Surf Milk <saskiasurfmilk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2020 3:12 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Cc:** City Manager  
**Subject:** FOR 10/27 CITY COUNCIL MEETING - Please Spare Tacoma Public Libraries!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Tacoma City Council,

We all recognize what trying times these are and that the City of Tacoma is experiencing a budget shortfall. Despite this, I implore you to *reduce* the \$2.2 million budget cut you are requiring from the Tacoma Public Library (TPL). Please save money some other way. Please exercise wisdom by having TPL limit their budget by an amount *less* than \$2.2 million.

By having TPL cut its budget by \$2.2 million dollars you are effectively firing 22 City of Tacoma employees, causing them to lose their livelihood and lose their stability. Furthermore, most of the 22 employees are paid near minimum wage, and represent some of the most vulnerable employees on the City of Tacoma's payroll. How could you do this when you just passed Resolution 40622 in the name of equity? Also, how does the Tacoma Public Library have the hypocritical audacity to fire 1/6<sup>th</sup> of its employees, the most marginalized of its employees - and at the same time request the funding for a new Equity Officer position? How is this equitable? How is this right?

Libraries are an indisputable asset to every community. Library staff are essential workers. **Please let us treat them as such.**

Kind regards,  
Saskia  
1905 1/2 N Anderson St.  
Tacoma, WA 98406



**From:** marc mangel <marcmangel@protonmail.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, October 18, 2020 9:29 AM

**To:** City Clerk's Office

**Subject:** Cuts to the library budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Council Members

It is my understanding that the proposed budget involves serious cuts to the library.

This is a bad idea -- at this time libraries are even more important than ever. I encourage you to find a way to restore the budget for the library.

Sincerely yours

Marc Mangel

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Adjunct Professor, University of Bergen

Research Affiliate Professor, Puget Sound Institute, University of Washington, Tacoma

Chair Emeritus, Board of Directors, FishWise (<https://fishwise.org/>)

Mailing address: 3113 N. Claremont Drive, Tacoma, WA 98407, USA

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

**From:** Kit Burns <kburns.wcb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2020 10:15 AM  
**To:** City Manager; City Clerk's Office  
**Cc:** Woodards, Victoria; Tacoma Public Utility Board  
**Subject:** RE: TPU – Tacoma Public Utilities Debt Service Concerns

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Ms. Pauli,

In reviewing the 2019 Tacoma Power Annual Financial Report, I see that on page 32 the total long-term debt is \$470,424,575.

On page 33 of the Report there is a schedule showing that the Principal and Interest due from 2020 through 2047 is \$382,940,000 and \$272,872,886, for a total balance of \$655,812,886.

Also, I note that the 2019 Tacoma Water Annual Financial Report shows on page 31 the total for the Long-term Portion of Revenue Bond Debt to be \$359,501,868.

On page 32 the Principal and Interest due from 2020 extending through 2047 is \$358,340,000 and \$269,222,746 for a total balance of \$627,562,746.

Several loans have been taken out which appear to not have had any principal or interest paid.

Each of these loans need to have a discussion and explanation. All of this information needs to be reviewed prior to a discussion for proposed rate increases.

Currently the debt service payments for each of Tacoma Powers 180,000 customers and 107,000 Tacoma Water customer is \$118.2 million per biennium.

This means each of us are paying \$419 debt service every year for power and water per year.

As TPU is a significant part of the City's budget. I would like to request a meeting of the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE with appropriate TPU personnel to explain these reports to the Council and Community.

We need to review TPU's plan to take on further debt by issuing a \$150,000,000 bond next year.

As an engaged citizen I would like to be a part of that discussion.

Sincerely,

Kit Burns

Tacoma, WA 98405

CC: Mayor Woodwards, City Council, TPU Public Utility Board, Interested Parties

--

Kit Burns

PO Box 2341

Tacoma, WA 98401

*"A nation that continues to spend year after year on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom" - Martin Luther King, Jr.*

**From:** Kit Burns <kburns.wcb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2020 11:37 AM  
**To:** City Manager; City Clerk's Office  
**Cc:** Woodards, Victoria; Blocker, Keith; Tacoma Public Utility Board  
**Subject:** Kit Burns - AMI Meter Program does not have a Business Case

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

October 16, 2020

City Manager – City of Tacoma

Ms. Elizabeth Pauli

747 Market Street

Tacoma, WA

**RE: TPU – AMI Meter Program does not have a Business Case**

Dear Ms. Pauli,

In view of the epidemic/pandemic (a Force Majeure event), the economic downturn, and considerable debt that TPU carries, and *the fact that there is no reasonable business case for the AMI meter program*, in the interest of the City, a discussion of terminating this program needs to occur with the City Council and its citizens.

The idea of spending more than \$100 million on these meters does not make economic sense.

It is an unnecessary cost which will be a financial burden to the community for many years to come. The AMI Program will result in higher bills with few, if any, proven benefits.

We are told that the “business case” includes future benefits. The evidence is based on unsupported assertions without creditable evidence.

In fine print from the manufacturer of “Sensus” AMI meters the AMI Agreement states:

*“Sensus makes no promise of improving Customer’s operations or saving Customer money, nor is Sensus liable for any damages resulting from decisions made by Customer related to Customer’s use of Sensus Analytics.”*

Additionally, it is important to know that benefits claimed for a “business case” are currently available from the TPU website, without an AMI meter.

The TPU bill is very well organized, clear, and documented. We can use our mobile device or home computer to access our accounts and make desired account changes.

An AMI meter is not required to change our billing date, AMI is not required to change to monthly billing, we have flexible payment options, we can pay our bill in advance (this has been confirmed with customer service), and AMI is not required to examine our water/power use patterns. We have access to the past two years of bills.

We have rock solid cyber security *without AMI meters*. There are troubling “caveats and escape clauses” in the ordinances that purport to protect our personal data. Often called “weasel words” that appear to provide protection but are largely meaningless.

Power outages have not been an issue. Leaks have not been an issue. TPU’s documentation shows that TPU performs better than most utilities.

TPU scores well below the American Water Works Association metrics for service disruption. This applies to Power as well. Our utility is very reliable. TPU deserves its reputation for outstanding service.

Please note the following assessment:

*“...Massachusetts, Virginia, Kentucky and New Mexico have blocked multimillion-unit smart meter deployments over concerns of cost-effectiveness as well as lack of clear metrics on how they’ll benefit customers.”*

We need to join them and have a discussion to reassess our future. We need to terminate this program.

We have the listed AMI capabilities now without AMI meters. They are not needed. We need connection to the Internet. We need housing. We need low utility rates.

I believe a discussion with the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE to discuss this at this time is warranted. As an engaged citizen, I would like to be a part of that discussion.

Sincerely,

Kit Burns

Tacoma, WA 98405

CC: Mayor Woodward, City Council, TPU Public Utility Board, Interested Parties

--

Kit Burns

PO Box 2341

Tacoma, WA 98401

*"A nation that continues to spend year after year on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom" - Martin Luther King, Jr.*

**From:** Kit Burns <kburns.wcb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2020 5:35 PM  
**To:** Tacoma Public Utility Board  
**Cc:** City Manager; City Clerk's Office; Woodards, Victoria  
**Subject:** Kit Burns - Full Estimated Cost of AMI Meter Program –with Financing  
**Attachments:** AMI Debt Financing PUB Memo 2020-06-05.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Attn: Bryan Flint, Chair  
October 16, 2020  
Tacoma Public Utilities Board  
3628 S. 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tacoma, WA 98409

RE: Full Estimated Cost of AMI Meter Program – with Financing

Dear Chair Flint,

I wish I shared the enthusiasm that others do for the AMI Program. I have been looking at AMI meters since sometime in 2008/2009. This includes TPU's previous Gateway Program. I have not been able to find the same enthusiasm as others do.

I appreciate the efforts made and the earnestness shown in all presentations by staff, but still see issues that at least four other states have also come to agree upon. Massachusetts, Virginia, Kentucky, and New Mexico have determined that *there is no business case for AMI meters*.

The AMI meters do not show the return and savings that are claimed on their behalf. Even the **Sensus AMI Agreement** clearly states that they make "no promises of improving Customer's operations or saving Customer money. . . "

There are a number of other reasonable concerns. Including meter radiation, system/ meter cyber security, the simple fact that benefits are presently available without AMI meters, and of course the full inclusive cost of the program. The break-even point is years away, if even possible.

In a way the AMI program is the privatization of meter reading. Instead of paying employees to read meters, a private company will "read them automatically" and collect mega data. This requires annual costs for TPU - software upgrades, security patches, and meter operations.

The software coding is proprietary as are the meters. We are locked into a specific corporation for equipment, software, upgrades,

and security updates. I believe this is known as “Software as A Service”. It comes at a cost.

At a Utility Board Meeting earlier this year I made the statement that this program will cost over \$100 million. Attached is information showing the potential cost of the program with an estimated cost for a 30-year loan as proposed. (Part of the \$150 million bond issue)

This is based on a 30-year term at 5%. One hopes that the actual interest rate would be considerably less as banks are getting essentially ‘free money’ from the Federal Reserve.

I have included an estimated O&M cost. This value comes from the Feb 2019 Excergy “Advanced Meter Program Business Case Narrative”. Although 14 meter readers would lose their position, at a minimum 4 additional techs at a higher salary would be required to operate the system.

It might be a good time to do a complete update on the (NPV) Net Present Value Calculation as more information is currently known. This should include an update on the amount of contingency remaining. The additional cost of credit card fees (\$2.5 million). The cost of the Customer Portal (\$2.8 million) as presented at the September 23 Board Meeting.

The cost of labor for reading meters should be made using the present “bi-monthly” readings with an ‘estimated’ intermediate reading based on previous meter readings. They can reasonably be read bi-monthly and then use estimated figures for in-between readings.

Below are calculations and assumptions:

Power		Water	
\$ 11,430,090		\$ 6,794,370	
\$ 23,398,522		\$ 17,122,719	10/16/2020
\$ 13,104,155		\$ 8,315,961	
			<b>Project Cost</b>
\$ 47,932,767	plus	\$ 32,233,050	equals
		(water assumed to be paid with Water Cash Reserves)	\$ 80,165,817
(debt financed assumption for Power from ‘May 13 AMI Financing Memo’)		TPU Internal Management Costs	\$ 11,965,413
		Financing Cost 5% @ 30 years	
\$ 47,932,767		\$ 44,702,875	\$ 44,702,875
<b>Advanced Meter Program Business Case Narrative 2020</b>		Yearly O&M est.	\$ 24,476,176

\$ 161,310,281
----------------

I believe that in the time of COVI-19, with the economic downturn that is unfolding, this program should be re-evaluated. An update at this juncture is appropriate I believe.

Sincerely,

Kit Burns

Tacoma, WA 98405 [kburns.wcb@gmail.com](mailto:kburns.wcb@gmail.com)

CC: TPU Public Utility Board, Mayor Woodward, Tacoma City Council, Interested Parties

--

Kit Burns

PO Box 2341

Tacoma, WA 98401

*"A nation that continues to spend year after year on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom" - Martin Luther King, Jr.*



## AMI FINANCING

*Response to Board Member Flint's question at the May 13, 2020 Public Utility Board Study Session about how much of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project is debt financed.*

### AMI FUNDING

Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water anticipate the following estimated Operations and Maintenance (O&M) and Capital expenses provided in the preliminary 2021/2022 budget for AMI. The actual O&M expenses will be financed with revenue for both utilities. Capital expenses will be debt-financed by Tacoma Power and financed with cash reserves in Tacoma Water. Currently, Tacoma Power's capital expenses are expected to equal between 82 to 90 percent of their total expenses annually through 2022.

The estimated expenses are summarized below by utility. O&M expenses include estimated business case benefits but do not include the additional costs of changing processes and systems to switch to monthly billing.

POWER AMI ESTIMATED COSTS				
	2020	2021	2022	
O&M Expenses	\$1,676,539	\$2,232,277	\$2,298,652	
Debt Financed Capital Expenses	\$9,753,551	\$21,166,245	\$10,805,503	
Total AMI \$	\$11,430,090	\$23,398,522	\$13,104,155	
% AMI Debt Financed	85%	90%	82%	

WATER AMI ESTIMATED COSTS				
	2020	2021	2022	
O&M Expenses	\$620,090	\$825,637	\$850,187	
Cash Financed Capital Expenses	\$6,174,280	\$16,297,083	\$7,465,775	
Total AMI \$	\$6,794,370	\$17,122,719	\$8,315,961	
% AMI Debt Financed	0%	0%	0%	

**From:** Kit Burns <kburns.wcb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2020 7:41 AM  
**To:** Kit Burns  
**Subject:** Fwd: Kit Burns - AMI–Project Cost Calculations Estimates  
**Attachments:** SmartMeters-AMI Financing.pdf; SmartMeters-FailToDeliver.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

October 20, 2020

City Manager – City of Tacoma

Ms. Elizabeth Pauli

747 Market Street

Tacoma, WA

**RE: *AMI–Project Cost Calculations Estimates***

Dear Ms. Pauli,

What is the actual cost of the AMI Program?

The states of *Massachusetts, Kentucky, New Mexico, and Virginia* have all decided against deployment of AMI meters. The reasons vary and are multiple, but in general they find that savings claimed for AMI meters fail to deliver.

There is a report from January 2020 titled “*Leveraging Advanced Metering Infrastructure to Save Energy*”. It is from the ACEEE – American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. It states that the features for AMI are *underutilized and a great deal of effort is needed to achieve savings and benefits*. Essentially AMI meters are not showing the promised benefits.

In the ***Sensus AMI Agreement*** notes that the manufacturer “*makes no promise of improving Customers Operations or saving Customer money, . . .*”

As an Architect familiar with estimating costs for building projects, I understand there are variables and uncertainties in producing cost estimates. The cost of the TPU AMI project has been growing from earlier estimates.

Program Cost Factors include:

1. Hardware, Software, and Systems Integration
2. Internal TPU Support Costs (using current staff)
3. Project Financing Costs
4. O&M costs over 20-year life for continued meter support

Based on the response to Chair Flint’s May 13<sup>th</sup> question on how much of the AMI Program will be financed, we can calculate a values for interest on amounts being debt financed.

Assuming an interest rate 5% over a 20-year period.

**AMI Financing** - Amounts shown below are from the May 13 Memo to Board Member Bryan Flint.

## Calculation 1

Power

Debt Financed Amount - \$41,725,299 (plus \$38,911,254 interest)

Amount to be paid with Interest - \$66,088,441 + \$6,207,468 (revenue funded)

Water

Assumed paid directly from current Cash Reserves - \$32,856,857

Project Cost -

$\$66,088,441 + \$6,207,468 + \$32,856,857 = \mathbf{\$105,161,766}$

This does not include recent known *cost increases* for:

Credit Card Discount Fees (\$2.5 Mil) from TPU PUB meeting on 9/23

Customer Engagement Portal (\$2.8 Mil) from TPU PUB meeting on 9/23.

Internal project management costs - \$11,965,413.

20-year O&M costs -\$24,476,174

## Calculation 2

This assumes both Power and Water costs funded using debt financing.

Not included in these calculations are recent additional cost increases to the project. Not included is the 20-year O&M costs.

Although we are told that costs for Water will be taken from existing funds, it is reasonable to expect that amounts claimed to be funded by existing funds should be considered as debt funded as well. The use of existing funds for the AMI program will “force” other programs to be debt financed. As a result, we should at them “as if they are debt financed” as part of our analysis.

Power

\$47,932,767 (with interest @5%, 20-year becomes \$75,920,411)

Water

\$32,233,050 (with interest @5%, 20-year becomes \$51,053,727)

Project Cost –

$\$75,920,411 + \$51,053,727 = \$126,974,138$

### *Additional Project Costs per Public Utility Board 9/23 Meeting*

The cost of the **Customer Engagement Portal** has increased from \$200,000 to a current cost of \$2,800,000. (slide 23)

The cost of **Credit Card Discount Fees** added due to monthly billing - \$2,500,000.

Cost of Annual O&M software maintenance - \$24,476,174 (taken from **February 2019 Exergy Advanced Business Case Narrative**)

It is assumed these additional costs will be taken from the contingency.

Most of the promised features, with the exception of remote access, are achievable today from the TPU website and your mobile phone.

We need to be concerned about Cyber Security. Every meter is at risk of being hacked as is the entire network. We always find out later that “partner affiliates” can be hacked as they often are. They have access to all of data even though they promise not to share.

These meters silently invade our homes collecting data without our knowledge. The issues of cyber-security are not secured by legislative promises of local, State, and Federal Governments.

The issue of radiation in homes zapping us 24 times a day (think dental X-Rays, 365 days x 24 hours) has not been discussed. This is a legitimate concern. The FCC says there are no “known issues”. Did they look?

The FCC has no doctors on staff. It has not done independent long-term radiation health studies. The meter manufacturers are using the *tobacco standard playbook* to delay, confuse, and prevent investigation. Avoiding responsibility for subsequent harm to personal health. The “standards for safety” have been set by corporations without consideration for human safety.

The NPV shows a loss when the cost of labor is calculated using the current bi-monthly reading schedule. The number of meter readings do not have to increase for monthly billing. TPU can accurately estimate intermediate readings for monthly billing based on past usage patterns.

The total cost of the program exceeds what the community has been told. The TPU website has incorrect information last time I looked, which is recently.

A recalculation of the NPV – Net Present Value should be made. A full review of program cost needs to be made with an open discussion of the actual “business case.” The two year and long-term impact needs to be evaluated.

Terminating the AMI Program can save the City and citizens a considerable amount over the next two years and much more in the following years.

I would like to discuss this with you, the Mayor, and the City Council. As rate increases and budgets are being considered, this is a very high priority. Please contact me.

Sincerely,

Kit Burns - Architect

Tacoma, WA 98405

CC: Mayor Woodward, City Council, TPU Public Utility Board, Interested Parties

--

Kit Burns

PO Box 2341

Tacoma, WA 98401

*"A nation that continues to spend year after year on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom" - Martin Luther King, Jr.*

--

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Tacoma, WA 98401

*"A nation that continues to spend year after year on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom" - Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## AMI FINANCING

*Response to Board Member Flint's question at the May 13, 2020 Public Utility Board Study Session about how much of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project is debt financed.*

### AMI FUNDING

Tacoma Power and Tacoma Water anticipate the following estimated Operations and Maintenance (O&M) and Capital expenses provided in the preliminary 2021/2022 budget for AMI. The actual O&M expenses will be financed with revenue for both utilities. Capital expenses will be debt-financed by Tacoma Power and financed with cash reserves in Tacoma Water. Currently, Tacoma Power's capital expenses are expected to equal between 82 to 90 percent of their total expenses annually through 2022.

The estimated expenses are summarized below by utility. O&M expenses include estimated business case benefits but do not include the additional costs of changing processes and systems to switch to monthly billing.

POWER AMI ESTIMATED COSTS			
	2020	2021	2022
O&M Expenses	\$1,676,539	\$2,232,277	\$2,298,652
Debt Financed Capital Expenses	\$9,753,551	\$21,166,245	\$10,805,503
<b>Total AMI \$</b>	<b>\$11,430,090</b>	<b>\$23,398,522</b>	<b>\$13,104,155</b>
<b>% AMI Debt Financed</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>82%</b>

WATER AMI ESTIMATED COSTS			
	2020	2021	2022
O&M Expenses	\$620,090	\$825,637	\$850,187
Cash Financed Capital Expenses	\$6,174,280	\$16,297,083	\$7,465,775
<b>Total AMI \$</b>	<b>\$6,794,370</b>	<b>\$17,122,719</b>	<b>\$8,315,961</b>
<b>% AMI Debt Financed</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>

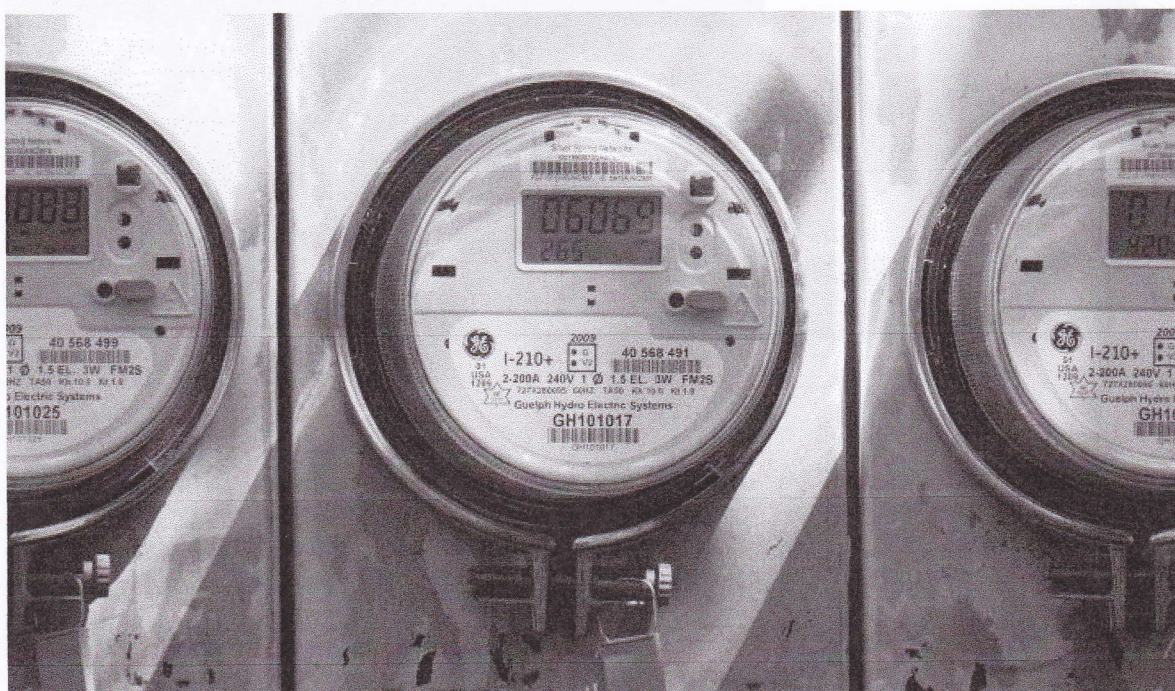


<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/why-most-u-s-utilities-arent-making-the-most-of-their-smart-meters>

# Why Most US Utilities Are Failing to Make the Most of Their Smart Meters

Many utilities are wasting their ratepayer-funded smart meters, a new report finds. State regulators may begin rejecting new programs.

JEFF ST. JOHN JANUARY 10, 2020



*Smart meters help customers consume power more efficiently — which is not necessarily in utilities' interest.*



**From:** Heidi <batlmaidn3@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 21, 2020 6:26 PM  
**To:** Beale, Chris; City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Fwd: Update from your District 5 Council Member

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

-----Original Message-----

From: Heidi <batlmaidn3@aol.com>  
To: cityoftacoma@public.govdelivery.com <cityoftacoma@public.govdelivery.com>  
Sent: Wed, Oct 21, 2020 6:14 pm  
Subject: Re: Update from your District 5 Council Member

Hi Chris,

This was unfortunate that this Budget Meeting is during our STNC general meeting, but attached are some of my comments. I sent this to City Clerks to be on record and the Planning Commission, but do not know if it got to the Clerks office.

To whom it may concern:

I am a life long resident of Tacoma and am opposed to the Heidelberg - Davis land use designation change from open space and R2 to "Major Institutional Campus". We do not need a soccer complex, unaffordable apartments, and a sports medicine/retail building with all the bells and whistles. Many residents have no idea about what is being proposed for this area and the amount of money the City and Metro Parks with letters of intents would be giving (money) for this project. The City along with Metro Parks will have huge deficits do to the Covid pandemic.

Something else to think about is where will the ball fields be moved. At the last Metro Parks meeting on this issue Aaron Pointer said that there are no new ball fields being proposed to replace what is there. That to me was disturbing because those ball fields are for our youth in our city. I was a soccer player, coach and volunteer mom and like everything else soccer fades away, but baseball for some reason does not.

At the Metro Parks meeting on the this subject there were many out of towners that came to support this project, but they do not live here. People in Olympia, Snohomish, Seattle, Issaquah, Federal Way and many more places should not be able to dictate what is built here. We the people should have the say and like I said earlier many have no idea that this is being proposed. The traffic impacts that will be brought upon the citizens of Tacoma from this project will be a burden for us and I do not want to hear they will take transit because they will not. This project will cater to few in the City of Tacoma and take away from our youth with the use of the Soccer stadium only being able to be used very few times a year probably with some costs associated.

If the City and Metro Parks want to help, build affordable houses (less than \$700.00 for a one bedroom) on the area where the apartments are for families that cannot afford the ridiculous housing costs. Most people still want the American dream of home ownership and not cramped apartment life with no parking stalls.

Please do not approve this land use designation change and just leave it open space and R2. Do this for the people of Tacoma not the out of towners.

Sincerely,

Heidi White, Resident of Tacoma

-----Original Message-----

From: City of Tacoma <cityoftacoma@public.govdelivery.com>

To: board@southtacoma.us

Sent: Tue, Oct 20, 2020 11:22 am

Subject: Update from your District 5 Council Member

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Council Member Chris Beale

Greetings,

Fall is officially here, and with the change in season the City Council is once again considering our next biennium budget. These funding decisions will set the agenda for the next two years and are the culmination of priorities set forward by the City Council, including our commitment to addressing impacts of climate change and to transforming every part of the City into an anti-racist institution. This e-newsletter includes information on how your voice can be heard as we make these decisions for the City. I look forward to hearing from you about your priorities during the final stages of budget development.

Election season is here! Voters this year will decide the presidential election, as well as important candidate and referendum elections in Washington State. Washington is a Vote-by-Mail state and ballots were mailed out on October 16, 2020. As of October 19, over 37 thousand Pierce County voters had already returned their ballot! That's three times as many as at this point in 2016. Be sure to make your voice heard and vote by 8:00 pm on November 3rd.

- [Find a Ballot Drop Box](#)
- [Check if I'm registered](#)
- [Register to Vote \(you can register in person and vote the same day!\)](#)
- [Request a replacement ballot](#)
- [Read the State and Local Voters' Pamphlet](#)

Gratefully in service,

Chris Beale, AICP  
Tacoma City Council Member, District 5

Topics in this newsletter:

- [Community Feedback and Engagement Opportunities on our 2021-2022 budget](#)
- [Small Business Resiliency Grant](#)
- [What would you like to see in our next Police Chief?](#)
- [More ways to report and track power outages and other updates from Tacoma Public Utilities](#)
- [Council Member Bike Tour Across the South End](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources](#)

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## 2021-2022 Budget

## Community Feedback and Engagement Opportunities on our 2021-2022 budget

### Tell Us If or How You'd Adjust the Proposed Budget with Our Balancing Act Exercise

On October 6, 2020, [the City Manager presented her proposed budget to the City Council](#). Use our interactive budgeting tool, called Balancing Act, to provide the City with feedback on how you would continue to reprioritize services within the General Fund or support some of the funding for services

included in the Proposed Budget. You can then share this information online or with friends and your responses are also submitted to the City as feedback on the 2021-2022 Budget. The deadline to complete the [Balancing Act exercise](#) is November 13, 2020.

### **Community Town Hall on October 21, 2020**

On October 21, 2020 the City will host a virtual town hall meeting with the Tacoma City Council from 6-7:30 PM via Zoom. Staff will give a brief presentation on the budget and then offer opportunities for attendees to provide their thoughts on its contents and ask questions.

Please use this link to join the webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83541927915?pwd=U2lMb3U3UWUzYmtvTTMzTDdrRjNjQDz09>

Passcode: 219278

Or call in at: (253) 215-8782

Webinar ID: 835 4192 7915

### **Public Hearings on the Budget**

The City will host two public hearings on the budget. They will be held on October 27, 2020 and November 10, 2020 at 5:15 PM. Please check back here for more information on these public hearings.

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## **Small Business Resiliency Grant**

The [Small Business Resiliency Grant](#) is a one-time payment of \$10,000 to eligible businesses that are located and licensed in Tacoma. These funds are for microenterprise owners impacted by COVID-19 to stabilize your business in our community. Businesses are not required to pay the grant back.

The grant can be used for any eligible business operating expense that has not been previously paid for by other federal, state, county, or local programs (for example: if you received funding to pay for rent for the months of September-December, you may not use the Small Business Resiliency Grant to pay for September-December rent). Operating expenses may include: rent, utilities, payroll, utilities, etc.

To request assistance you must meet the program requirements, submit required documentation, and certify this form by 5:00 PM on Friday, October 23rd, 2020. [Learn more by viewing the resiliency grant application here.](#)

Funds are available on a limited basis. Submitting this application is not a guarantee of assistance. For your privacy, information collected will remain confidential, used only to meet federal and state record keeping requirements, and withheld as applicable from disclosure.

Learn more about this and other resiliency support offered to Tacoma businesses on our [MakeitTacoma.com](#) website.

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What would you like to see in our next Police Chief?

## What would you like to see in our next Police Chief?

The City of Tacoma is seeking an experienced, transformational leader to serve as its next Chief of Police for the Tacoma Police Department, and community members are invited to attend a community conversation on Oct. 29 at 6 p.m. The purpose of this virtual event is to gather community input that will inform the development of interview questions for candidates.

**Oct. 29 6 – 7:15 p.m.** [Click this link to join on Zoom.](#)

Event ID: 835 4575 3757 Passcode: 758963

You can also join by calling (253) 215-8782.

The City is also asking residents to take a survey to tell us more about what they would like to see in our next police chief. We want to hear from you! Please take this brief survey by October 23. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RS5H9FN>

The Chief of Police is responsible for the oversight and administrative management of the department's daily operations and for achieving the department's mission, vision, and strategic objectives in alignment with the vision, goals and priorities of the City Council and the community.

You can learn more about the Police Chief recruitment process and stay up to date on future outreach virtual conversation events on our [Chief of Police Recruitment webpage](#).

## Tracking Tacoma Power Outages

## More ways to report and track power outages and other updates from Tacoma Public Utilities

As we head into storm season, add a new tool to your preparedness kit: Tacoma Power's outage portal. The enhanced outage map and new portal offers more features and information, and allows you to easily report a power outage online. You can also choose to receive updates about outages impacting your business via email and text message. Enroll today at [MyTPU.org/Outage](https://MyTPU.org/Outage)

Check out these other resources for residential customers:

- [Emergency Assistance Program](#): COVID Emergency Assistance could give their residential account up to a *\$270 utility bill credit* if income-qualified (the online application is available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese)
- [Install instant savings with your free water savings kit](#)
- [Install instant savings with your free Energy Savings Kit](#)
- [Residential Rebates](#). See if you could qualify to get a rebate, loan or deferred loan to purchase energy-efficient products for their home

Do you want to stay up to date on all the resources Tacoma Public Utilities has to offer? [Sign up for TPU emails](#).

## Council Members biking

### Council Member Bike Tour Across the South End

Last Saturday, Council Members Ushka and Walker joined me for a bike ride around the South End of Tacoma to see up close each neighborhood's infrastructure needs. CM Ushka toured us through the north part of the South End, and I toured us through Southeast Tacoma.

District 5 residents know that the South Tacoma and the South End isn't a monolith, each neighborhood looks and feels different and has different infrastructure needs. On this trip we road by the 72nd and D street intersection, where we recently added a HAWK Signal to our 6-year Transportation Improvement Plan. We took a look at new development, like the Grand Pacific project, and discussed the impact these have had on neighborhoods. We also road down Park Avenue and saw how high quality bike infrastructure makes it possible to safely ride bikes through Tacoma.

Each of your Council Members are committed to investing in Tacoma's infrastructure and I appreciate CMs Ushka and Walker taking the time to learn about southeast Tacoma and share their vision for how we invest in the entire City.

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### COVID-19 Resources

City of Tacoma – [cityoftacoma.org/coronavirus](https://cityoftacoma.org/coronavirus)



Make It Tacoma – [makeittacoma.com](http://makeittacoma.com)

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department - [tpchd.org](http://tpchd.org)

TPU Bill Assistance - [mytpu.org/payment-billing/payment-information/payment-assistance](http://mytpu.org/payment-billing/payment-information/payment-assistance)

Washington State Governor Jay Inslee COVID-19 Response - [coronavirus.wa.gov](http://coronavirus.wa.gov)

SFMTA Logo

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Washington · 747 Market St., Tacoma, WA 98402 · (253) 591-5000

**From:** rshodgin <rshodgin@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 26, 2020 10:13 AM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Fossil fuels

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please stop the expansion of the fossil fuels industry in Tacoma.

Richard Hodgkin

98115

206-729-8900

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device