RESOLUTION NO. 39894

BY REQUEST OF DEPUTY MAYOR THOMS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
LONERGAN AND McCARTHY

A RESOLUTION creating the Tacoma Permit Advisory Task Force to improve City
of Tacoma policies, codes, and procedures for the issuance of residential
and commercial permits, and directing the City Manager to appoint
members and provide staff support.

WHEREAS, Construction is a major economic driver in Tacoma, annually
producing millions of dollars in local income and tax revenue, and hundreds of
jobs, and

WHEREAS, an efficient, predictable, safe, and customer-oriented
permitting process is essential to the growth and transformation of our City by
boosting investment and development in our City, and

WHEREAS, the City is responsible for regulating and administering the
growth and renewal of its built environment, and having a proficient permitting
regime can truly facilitate and accelerate the revitalization of downtown, the
rejuvenation of the single family home stock, the ascension of multi-family and
residential infill, and the renaissance of commercial development, and

WHEREAS, daily, City staff and the development community, including
contractors, engineers, architects, and homeowners, work hand in hand to co-
produce permits which ensure that new structures and places are built safely and
meet the City’s planning objectives and aspirations, and

WHEREAS, this collaborative effort can be further improved through honest
and relevant dialogue with the permit system’s primary users, and
WHEREAS, the establishment of a Permit Advisory Task Force will provide constructive feedback to City staff and policy makers for the continual improvement of the City’s policies, codes, and procedures for the issuance of residential and commercial permits; Now, Therefore,

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

Section 1. That there is hereby established a Tacoma Permit Advisory Task Force which will:

a. Make Permit System Recommendations: Meet monthly with City staff to review, discuss, and provide recommendations to City Manager and City Council for the improvement of City policies, codes, and procedures for the issuance of residential and commercial permits. Review best practices in peer communities. Monitor implementation progress and recommend adjustments.

b. Review City Policies Under Consideration: Review and provide recommendations to the City Manager and City Council regarding proposed City policies and laws which affect the permitting system.

c. Consult on Customer Problems: Consult and advise on customer issues that arise in the permitting process.


Section 2. The Tacoma Permit Advisory Task Force will be appointed by the City Manager, and will generally be composed of 12-15 members representative of
a broad base of permit applicants who regularly apply to the City for permits. The task force will work closely with representatives from Tacoma Public Utilities and City staff, including Planning and Development Services, Public Works, Environmental Services, and Legal. To the maximum extent practicable, the member composition will be proportioned commensurate with the types of professionals and permit applicants which interface with the City, including agency representatives who represent categories of industries.

Section 3. The Tacoma Permit Advisory Task Force will operate under administrative rules and procedures to be established to ensure that the task force conducts its operations in a manner consistent with all other applicable laws, regulations and policies.

Adopted __________________________

________________________________________
Mayor

Attest:

________________________________________
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

________________________________________
Deputy City Attorney