

**From:** Robb Krehbiel <robb.krehbiel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 31, 2020 8:27 PM  
**To:** Woodards, Victoria; Hines, John; Thoms, Robert; Blocker, Keith; Ushka, Catherine; Beale, Chris; Hunter, Lillian; McCarthy, Conor; Walker, Kristina  
**Cc:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Public Comment: ORD # 28687. Support for 72nd Street Improvements

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

Mayor Woodards and City Councilmembers,

As the city council considers the 6-year TIP ordinance, I urge you to include improvements to 72nd street between South D Street and Pacific Ave. This is one of the most dangerous stretches of 72nd Street in southeast Tacoma. I drive along this section regularly and witness countless car accidents and near-misses. Safety and environmental improvements are needed for this section of 72nd street.

Pedestrian and bicycle safety is a major concern. While the grocery store and other businesses in the area are along bus routes, crossing the street is dangerous without protective crossings. There are also no bike lanes (protected or otherwise) on the road. Safer biking routes along 72nd street would provide more opportunities for people to safely bike from Blueberry to Wapato park.

This section of 72nd Street is also full of asphalt, increasing the surrounding heat of the area and contributing to polluted stormwater runoff. Street trees and bioswales (like those on 40th St. in East Tacoma) can help reduce both urban heat island effect and stormwater runoff. Studies also show that tree canopies over roads can reduce traffic speeds, improving safety.

South and East Tacoma have both been historically underinvested in (partially because of years of racist redlining policies). As these neighborhoods grow, the problems at 72nd street will only get worse. Investing in improvement now can address both current and future issues on this stretch of road.

I urge you to include funding for the 72nd Street Improvement Project in the 6-year TIP ordinance.

Respectfully,

Robb Krehbiel  
7521 E. E St.  
Tacoma, WA 98404

**From:** Richard Gardner <rgardner02@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 31, 2020 10:00 PM  
**To:** Woodards, Victoria; Hines, John; Thoms, Robert; Blocker, Keith; Ushka, Catherine; Beale, Chris; Hunter, Lillian; McCarthy, Conor; Walker, Kristina  
**Cc:** City Clerk's Office; Darren Pen  
**Subject:** Sept 1 City Council - Proposed Amendment to ORD # 28687 - 6-Year TIP

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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As the leader of the Pac-Yak Safe Streets Group (64-72nd, Pacific-Yakima) I fully support the proposed Amendment to the 6-Year Transportation Improvement Program (proposed by Councilman Beale). I feel this gives us an opportunity to plan in advance of expected (and currently under construction) development along WA-7 (AKA Pacific Avenue), rather than react to the changes that are coming such as Grand Pacific Apartments (135 units), Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) with more Transit Oriented Development (TOD), and even more development in the Mixed Use Center (such as the 18-unit infill apartments ~7400 S D St). In 20 years I believe this Mixed Use Center will be significantly changed (higher density), largely due to the CCX Zoning and city incentives (Opportunity Zone).

Near term, the proposed HAWCS crosswalk at 72/D St is a particular safety issue with the new Grand Pacific Apartments (plus access to Zips Cannabis, busy place).

I realize this is without funding for now, but this amendment gives authority to plan and seek grants, and possibly reduce costs and disruption by piggybacking onto the BRT construction; the timing is right. In a perfect fully funded world we'd also be looking at the other major arterials crossing Pacific Ave, but this is the busiest.

I'm also a member of the Tacoma Transportation Commission and I do not speak for them in this, but I feel this meets key metrics such as equity and health (encouraging walking).

I will note that I crossed 72nd at D St on Saturday - briskly. The sidewalks on 72nd are uninviting to walkers - but we expect folks to use them to get to the BRT in a few years (Fall 2023?).

**From:** Tracy Turner <coachtracyt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 1, 2020 8:53 AM  
**To:** Woodards, Victoria; Hines, John; Thoms, Robert; Blocker, Keith; Ushka, Catherine; Beale, Chris; Hunter, Lillian; McCarthy, Conor; Walker, Kristina  
**Cc:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Ordinance 28687 Amendment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

RE: Ordinance 28687 Amendment

Good Morning Mayor and Council Members,

I am emailing today to express support of the proposed amendment, South 72nd Improvements, to the Transportation Improvement Program. This area of Tacoma badly needs safety upgrades, including, but not limited to crosswalks, sidewalk repair, etc. Safe accessibility for our ADA neighbors is also needed to access the main shopping/business hub in this area. Currently there are no short, safe routes to these destinations from the new Grand Pacific development for our disabled neighbors. This development will add hundreds of people and cars to the area near 72nd and Pacific making it imperative for our neighborhood to get a crosswalk at S 72nd and D St, as well as other much needed safety improvements.

Please help our South Tacoma community by supporting the proposed amendment to the current TIP.

Thank you,

Tracy Turner

"Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference."

Winston Churchill

**From:** Paul Chromey <pchrmy@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 1, 2020 10:12 AM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Safe Streets/Improvements 72nd Pacific Ave

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

Morning Mayor and City Council Members: As we see Tacoma grow and potential huge growth in the South End. I would highly encourage the support for Council Member Beale's amendment to the 6 year Tacoma Transportation plan. Improvement and Safety to 72nd Pacific Ave.

As an active Safe Streets Member, we have worked extremely hard on improving this 72nd Pacific Ave area and have been very successful. (with help from TPD,NCS,TFD, and others.) And now we are seeing businesses and housing being developed.

We all now have to continue this growth with improvements to 72nd Pacific Ave. We have seen Grand Pacific Development with no improvements to public safety. Zips Cannabis huge traffic congestion and Fred Meyer's busy store. Apartments being built 7400 Block South D. Developer in negotiations to purchase and build apartments 7200 block Pacific Ave. Another developer in negotiations to purchase Holiday Manor apartments remodel and add to existing building. This area has huge potential growth. And now we need to look at improvements to this area too.

I highly encourage Council Members to support Council Member Beale's 72nd Pacific Ave.,amendment to the 6 year transportation plan.

Thank You all Council Members for your service to Tacoma during these difficult times. Please stay safe-stay healthy.  
Sincerely Paul Chromey Safe Streets Volunteer

**From:** Kit Burns <kburns.wcb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 1, 2020 3:59 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Kit Burns - Meeting 0901-2020 ORD 282869  
**Attachments:** 2020-0901-Dear Mayor Woodards-ORD-28689.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

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Please see attached comments and distribute. Thank you.

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*Kit Burns*

# ORD-28689

Dear Mayor Woodards,

September 1, 2020

I am writing this to you, the City Manager, the City Council, the City Clerk, ,and the Public Utility Board.

These are comments to inform you that the Ordinance 28689 is not necessary as part of the City's TMC code as the AMI Program should be terminated and wound down. The expenses so far will become stranded assessts.

Financially spending \$3 million to ensure that every student in educational programs, K-12, college, and all skills building programs are connected.

Spending more than \$100 million to provide 500 housing units is a better investment. We need those investments. Not to replace working meters.

There is not a Business Case for the AMI meter program. The benefits claimed in the presentations that have been made are in most cases already available.

To spend these funds is to privatize the meter reading function of the City and to turn our electrical network over to a private company to read our meters.

Please consider the following:

**TPU Customer Benefits Overtime - the business case: AMI = 0**

There is not a business case for the City of Tacoma to spend more than \$100 million on AMI meters.

The suggested benefits do not pencil out and will be an unnecessary cost to the City Residents without benefit. Most everything claimed to be a "benefit" is available now, from existing infrastructure.

*TPU Business Case Presentation Information - Analysis -*

**Your Control, Choice, and Convenience:**

Access more usage data anytime to manage your use and cost.

I can't keep track of my phone updates, my computer updates, my Medicare options. I don't need to become an electrical systems engineer to track my energy use. I can't see myself in the Olympic National Park "adjusting my home energy programs".

After 29 years I know what I use and where to make changes. Using the last two years of billings will quickly show where I might make adjustments. There is no need for a AMI meter for this. It is of no "benefit". It would unnecessarily add to the burdensome "management" of technology in my life. AMI = 0

### **Monthly Billing**

Advanced meters will allow a switch to monthly utility bills, which most people prefer.

You should know that I can change to monthly billing now. It is available now, if I want to. Everyone can if they want to. You don't need an AMI meter to do this. This is done from the TPU MyAccount website.

After 2 years a pattern of use can be easily determined. A meter reading every month is not necessary after two years, in between months can be easily estimated for almost everyone. No need to add readings or staff to change to monthly billing. The calculations used in the NPV use incorrect values as they don't use this reasonable solution. AMI = 0

### **Easier Move In, Out, and Reconnection**

Remote turn on and off of electric service saves you time.

Not really. I have lived in the same place for. 29 years. Even someone moving into and out of an apartment, this is not a big issue. The time is minimal. There is a benefit to TPU to review/inspect an installation if it is any kind of rental. A physical inspection of rentals throughout the city helps ensure that everything is in good condition and meeting code. This should be required of rentals/ apartments at least twice a year. AMI = 0

### **Faster Outage and Leak Detection**

Locating and fixing issues helps us restore service to you sooner.

In 29 years I have only one "blown" transformer with an outage. TPU arrived within 30 minutes and had everything up and running in 45 minutes. This has never been an issue with me nor any other place in TPU that I am aware of. TPU is consistently a top performer in reliability.

### **Improved Operational Efficiency**

Better information about our systems helps us manage costs.

I have attended a number of board meetings and study sessions and have never had an explanation how this will work. I have been impressed with the staff and their performance and management of TPU but they have not offered an explanation of what the "granular data" is used for. Statistically this can be determined with information available today. The above claim makes not financial sense. It is an assertion that is unsupported. AMI = 0

### **Automated Meter Reading**

More accurate, timely bills based on real-time data.

This makes little sense. Having a bill that tells me I have used so much energy to the nth digit is of no benefit. If one bill is off slightly for one reading I can expect it to be corrected and balanced in the next reading. Over the course of several months, and especially over a year, this has never been an issue.

The accuracy of the AMI meters are hard to verify and if TPU goes to TOU (time of use) charges with “dynamic billing rates” we will not be able to even challenge our bills or verifiable use. There will be no verifiable record.

### **Enhanced Personal Privacy**

No need for regular physical access to read your meter.

This has never been an issue. I prefer to have someone from TPU check in. If there is a human being looking things over this is a value in the community. The USPS will continue to come by. I hope. AMI = 0

### **Cyber-Security – Hacking and Electronic Hostage Tacking is an Issue World Wide**

The issue of cyber security is of paramount concern. Nothing is really secure in cyber space. Who writes the code? Did they put in a back-door? Is this out sourced? Is it proprietary? What will be the annual fee to make code adjustments, rate changes to all of the meters? How many staff will be manage it? Will it be the 4 listed in the February 2019 AMP Business Case Narrative or will there be more? Has a salary estimate analysis been made of the 14 meter readers versus the 4 to 6 AMI systems engineers? I think the systems staffing will have a similar FTE cost. We should find out.

Each AMI meter is a small computer. Based on my phones over the last 10 years and my computers and replacements I would expect these AMI meters to require frequent updates and replacement. What do you think based on your experience?

### **Expanded Ways to Save**

Providing Data about your use increases your ability to save money, water, and energy.

The planned annual increases in rates at TPU curtails the possibility of any money savings. My ability to “save” is not helped with an AMI Meter. Nor is anyone else’s.

The average TPU customer uses about 11,500 kWh annually. This is 31.5 kWh per day. Only 1.31 kWh per hour. I will not become an “energy manager” and watch my meter hourly and check in daily. I can make large living adjustments. Please don’t expect any benefits for this.

AMI = 0

### **Flexible Payment Options**



More options over time include prepay for electric service and custom due dates.

I can do this now. I checked with TPU customer service and I can do this now. It can be done on the website. Both prepay and custom dates are listed for my account. We don't need AMI meters to do this. AMI = 0

### **Reduced Environmental Impact**

Fewer vehicle miles traveled for meter reading, basic field services, and outage detection lowers our carbon footprint.

The use of electricity is declining nationwide. This has been discussed in Study Sessions and also in articles I have read over the past four years. Changing the fleet to all electric and change the duration of the fleet vehicle use from 4 years to a service use of 6 to 8 years will more than save fleet costs.

### **Summary - -**

There are four states which have determined not to go forward with the AMI meters. To my knowledge, Massachusetts, Kentucky, New Mexico, and New Jersey have decided not to proceed with AMI Meters. There may be others.

The City of Tacoma and TPU needs to join them and stop the AMI program. Monies speeded will become "impaired assets". We need not dig a deeper hole.

The biggest priority in Tacoma is to ensure that EVERY STUDENT IN THE CITY has internet access. We currently are contributing to a digital divide by not connecting all students. We are failing at providing equity and equal opportunity to all community members. The AMI meter program does nothing for an urgent community need except ignore it.

I did a rough calculation one time and believe that all students in educational institutions could be connected for less than \$3 million. That needs to be verified. Providing an internet connection should be our community priority. Erasing the digital divide and providing an opportunity for all community members.

Sincerely,

Kit Burns  
1010 6th Avenue  
Tacoma, WA  
98405

253-820-7392

**From:** Kayla Quinn <kaylala427@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 1, 2020 3:11 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Written Comment for City Council Meeting 9/1/2020

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

Good afternoon,

Given that public comment has been drastically limited, I want to make sure that my voice is heard so I am submitting this public comment to the council which brings me to my first concern:

1. Limiting public comment to once per month and only 90 seconds is unacceptable. How can you advocate for the City of Tacoma if you can't hear the City of Tacoma? It's extremely important that you listen to your community and absorb our concerns and act on our demands. I fully support allowing the public to speak at every City Council meeting and for a longer duration. It isn't feasible (or respectful) to expect your community to boil down a month's worth of agenda items to so little time, especially when you are speaking on new topics every week.
2. The family of Manuel Ellis still does not have answers or justice for Manny's murder. The investigation is being unnecessarily drawn out while the Ellis family continues to suffer. Officers Rankine, Ford, Burbank, and Collins need to be fired, arrested, and charged with the crime they committed. The complaint and disciplinary history of these officers needs to be released to the family, as well as toxicology reports and release all the footage as well as the autopsy to the family.
3. I absolutely do not support the expansion or operation of an LNG export facility in Tacoma. Reliance on fossil fuel needs to be reduced, not encouraged or supported. It is in the city's best interest to halt all plans to expand this facility. Any economic benefit is not worth the health and wellbeing of the citizens of this city and are under scrutiny anyway.
4. Shut down the Northwest Detention Center and release all of the detainees. The conditions in that facility are disgusting and inhumane.
5. I am deeply concerned at the council's definition of "affordable housing". It wasn't long ago that the council passed an item that would build a new "affordable housing" complex which sounded like a good idea until I saw that the idea of "affordable" prices was over \$1,500 for a small studio and the prices only skyrocketed from there. The affordable housing concept needs to be readdressed and really look at minimum-wage earners and what they would actually reasonably afford and live off of. Not just survive, but thrive.

Now is the time to act and the council has the power and voice to enact change.

Kayla Quinn  
Tacoma resident - District 3

**From:** Rachel Kunze Wilkie <RachelLeAnnKunze@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 1, 2020 7:20 AM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Affordable Housing and Rent/Mortgage Support

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

Good morning,

I wanted to comment on a few things from previous weeks to show continued support.

First, I want to thank the City Council for continuing to move ahead on affordable housing units, even while tax revenue is down. I want to continue to draw attention to the plan that was discussed in a meeting earlier that included a [sic] 650sf unit at \$1400 as an 'affordable' rate. I feel that the size of the apartment, coupled with the rent doesn't really meet the needs of someone who is needing affordable housing. My mortgage is \$1410, for an 1100sf house, and we have two incomes to pay for it. A single person on a minimum wage scale would be hard pressed to afford a unit at that price. For someone working minimum wage, 40/week, the maximum rent that could be afforded, assuming 40% of income ideally goes towards housing, would be around \$1,000.

Additionally, there was an idea floated several meetings ago, about extending the rental relief program to include mortgage holders. I see on the website that the offer has not been extended to homeowners, at least as far as public information goes, and was wondering when that would be extended? I support any action that would give more Tacoma households a chance at some stability during this time.

Thank you,  
Rachel Wilkie