Proclamation of Emergency Rule No. 2

Emergency Rule No. 2 – Postponing City Utility Shutoffs

WHEREAS COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus), is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is caused by a virus easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the City Manager and the Mayor of Tacoma, pursuant to Chapter 1.10 of the Tacoma Municipal Code and Chapter 38.52 of the Revised Code of Washington ("RCW"), proclaimed that an emergency exists caused by COVID-19 ("Proclamation") in the City of Tacoma; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Proclamation, the Mayor is authorized to issue rules reasonably related to the protection of life provided, and such rules must be confirmed at the earliest practicable time by the City Council; and

WHEREAS the City of Tacoma utilities (electricity, water, sanitary sewer, storm water, and solid waste) provide vital necessities of life; and

WHEREAS, to protect the health and safety of the public, the City should postpone utility shutoffs for nonpayment of utility rates, fees, and charges incurred by customers during the period of the emergency; Now, Therefore,

BE IT ORDERED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Effective March 17, 2020, the City of Tacoma electricity, water, sanitary sewer, storm water, and solid waste utilities shall postpone shutoff for nonpayment of utility rates, fees, and charges for residential and commercial customers who seek to establish payment plans with the utilities during the term of the Proclamation of Emergency. Nothing in this Rule shall be construed as forgiving, cancelling, or excusing the collection of utility rates, fees, and charges incurred by customers in the past, the present or in the future.

Dated MAR 16 2020

Victoria R. Woodards
Mayor

Attest:

Doris Sorum
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

William Fosh
City Attorney