



Proclamation of Emergency Rule No. 4

Emergency Rule No. 4 – Public Meetings To Be In Virtual Format

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

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

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

12 WHEREAS the City Council has begun holding hybrid study sessions and
13 business meetings consistent with Second Amended Rule No. 1, concerning the
14 maximum occupancy of the Council Chambers; and

15 WHEREAS the Public Utility Board has discussed holding hybrid study
16 sessions and business meetings; and

17 WHEREAS the Governor is implementing vaccination requirements and a
18 statewide mask mandate due to an increase of cases and hospitalizations related
19 to COVID-19; and

20 WHEREAS, in light of the increase of cases and hospitalizations related to
21 COVID-19 and due to the fact that the virus spreads from person-to-person
22 contact, the Mayor now desires to protect public health and the health and safety
23 of the Council Members, Board Members, City staff and members of the public
24 by limiting public meetings to virtual only with no hybrid option; Now, Therefore,

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

26 Effective August 19, 2021, City Council and Public Utility Board study
sessions and business meetings, and any other public meetings of the City of
Tacoma, will be held in virtual format only. I am also directing the Government
Performance and Finance Committee (“GPFC”) to develop proposed guidelines
to potentially allow certain study sessions to be done in hybrid format. The
guidelines should be presented to the City Council by the end of September and
must be consistent with current COVID-19 guidelines and staff safety protocols.



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This emergency rule shall remain in effect until the Proclamation of Emergency has been terminated or the rule has been amended based on the guidelines to be developed by the GPFC.

Dated AUG 19 2021

V R Woodards
Mayor

Attest:

Deas Dornum
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Th C Powell
Acting City Attorney