

From: Fred Dowell <freddowell54@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 6:38 PM
To: City Clerk's Office; Hines, John; Rumbaugh, Sarah; Walker, Kristina; Diaz, Olgy; Scott, Jamika; Bushnell, Joe; Daniels, Kiara; Woodards, Victoria; Sadalge, Sandesh
Subject: City of Tacoma Facebook post on the community survey

Sending you a link to the city of Tacoma Facebook post from a day ago regarding the community survey

Since I'm not sure if you follow these posts or not I thought you'd like to see it after it's been commented on by some of the citizens of Tacoma including me

Here is the link for you

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/qX7FiinPjpHGvu4D/?mibextid=qj2Omg>

From: Fred Dowell <freddowell54@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 9, 2024 12:14 AM
To: Hines, John; City Clerk's Office; Rumbaugh, Sarah; Walker, Kristina; Scott, Jamika; Diaz, Olgy; Bushnell, Joe; Daniels, Kiara; ssaldalge@cityoftacoma.org
Subject: Telephone numbers for city council members

While watching TV 12 with the slide presentations and it showed each city council member is having the same telephone number 253-591-5000.

Last year I wrote a letter to a few of the council members asking why they didn't have their phone numbers to their office and one of them replied that we'll get it changed and now you're only giving us the main phone number and that's wrong

Why won't you publish the phone numbers for each one of you and I know that you do share staff and phone numbers instead of hiding behind the main phone number?

I bring this up because when you call the main number or 311 you get the call center and many times you call and you don't get a live person you get a message saying leave us a message and that's wrong

And yes I know we can email you too but there's been a few times would be nice to call and get connected to your office

I hope you would reconsider and put the phone number for your staff member that takes I'm sure most of your calls

Just another way that you could be transparent

Fred Dowell
Tacoma

From: Deb Snavelly <deporodh@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2024 2:41 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District

I received a public hearing notice of extension to the existing moratorium. However, the map shown indicates that the northern boundary of said district ends at South 19th St. I live at 1456 South Fife Street, between S 15th and S Melrose, which places me about 4.5 blocks NORTH of the northern boundary of the district.

Either the map is incorrect, or Tacoma is wasting postage sending mail to people not in the district.

I write to bring this error to your attention for correction.

Deborah Snavelly
Tacoma resident since 2013

From: Brenda Loomis <loomisbrenda6@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2024 3:07 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Moratorium extension

Hi I was on plann for new growth apts I spoke about does city have police fire school street maintenance capacity or workers to cover impact well now this will continue to be impacted when building growth is done I vote yes potential extension all is impacted by grow development water sewer garbage as units get filled people as well as parking going to need more resources to compensate growth schools will b over crowded to prayers Brenda loomis

From: Laura Himes <himes2011@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2024 6:19 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: STGPD Moratorium Extension

I fully support this moratorium. Most USTs will become LUSTs regardless of the amount of regulatory equipment on them as most operators do not properly maintain them. Auto salvage operations frequently do not have BMPs in place to prevent migration of contaminants from their operations into the soil and ultimately groundwater. Tacoma needs to protect our groundwater.

Thank you,

Laura Himes
Resident in the STGPD

Sent from my iPhone

From: Nolan, Adam
Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2024 2:01 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: FW: South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District

Please include in written comments received.

Thanks,
Adam

From: Sally Radford <sallyradd@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2024 11:15 AM
To: Nolan, Adam <ANolan@cityoftacoma.org>
Subject: South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District

Hello,,

I live in the South Tacoma neighborhood, and I would like to express my concern with the proposed mega warehouse that is being built in the south tacoma district. This is an assault on our community and must be stopped. This is the perfect place to build a housing project that would better serve our community. If the ground can be cleaned at point ruston and many beautiful condos built, then the same thing could happen in south tacoma, if the city loved this area as much as we do, It appears to me, and to many others, that the city is trying to throw us all under the bus, so to speak. I am requesting that this monster not invade our loving, family oriented community and also that the City of Tacoma propose other uses for this large green space.

Please share this message with the city council member that is supposed to be representing this district. This project should have never been green lighted in the first place. The reason that other cities around the sound that are prospering and way ahead of Tacoma (which are much younger) is because their city leaders have a vision for their city, ALL OF THEIR CITY. Cities like Kirkland, Snohomish, Lake Stevens, Bellevue, etc, etc.

Sally Radford
6438 South Warner ST
Tacoma, WA 98409

253-389-2776

From: Ryan Spence <RyanS@tacomachamber.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2024 11:08 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: Andrea Reay
Subject: Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Moratorium Extension
Attachments: STGWPD-Moratorium-TCC-Letter 8_6_24.pdf

On behalf of the Chamber and the Manufacturing Industrial Council please accept our written comment for the Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Moratorium Extension for South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District on August 13.

Thank you.



Ryan Spence

Director

Manufacturing Industrial Council for the South Sound

A Program of the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber

T: (253) 682-1720 | E ryans@tacomachamber.org

TACOMA - PIERCE COUNTY CHAMBER

August 6, 2024

Council Members,

The Chamber and the MIC maintain our position that the STGWPD moratorium is unneeded and unwarranted when considered in the context of the existing regulations. We do not have a crisis in South Tacoma. There is no indication of groundwater contamination in South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District. The current regulations for the Groundwater Protection District and the ongoing monitoring of well sites are working and have been a successful strategy since their adoption in 1988. As written:

“The South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District is an overlay zone that protects the aquifer by imposing regulations on businesses in the area for the handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous substance. In order to preserve public health and safety, this overlay zoning district imposes additional restrictions on high-impact land use development.” Per cityoftacoma.org.

The moratorium puts an undue burden on our industrial recyclers. Industrial recycling is a key component of sustainability and is in alignment with the City’s Green Economy strategy. Allowing these industrial operations to scale is critical to expanding workforce and capacity to meet the needs of our growing community. Scaling will allow existing operations to activate rail lines and reduce truck traffic in South Tacoma. Transitioning to rail from trucking is an important step in reducing both carbon and particulate emissions as well as reducing traffic volumes. Industrial recycling supports our region’s shipyards, manufacturing, and building sectors. The ability to process these materials locally greatly reduces environmental impacts and supports economic development.

If the Council chooses to extend the moratorium, we are requesting to amend the moratorium to exclude existing permitted industrial recycling operations in South Tacoma. These permitted facilities are regulated and inspected for compliance every other year. This proposed amendment to exclude permitted industrial recyclers from the moratorium is consistent the recommendations of the IPS Committee relating to the moratorium:

“Expansion of Existing Uses: The IPS Committee found that a moratorium that is too restrictive on the expansion of existing uses could have the counter effect of prohibiting improvements that provide environmental benefit or reduce the risks and impacts of existing uses. Therefore, the moratorium should allow for reasonable facility and site development that improves environmental outcomes while avoiding the introduction of new risks to the City’s groundwater resources.” Per cityoftacoma.org.

It is important that the City differentiate between large scale permitted recyclers who are compliant with environmental regulations and have contemporary groundwater containment and mitigation infrastructure in place from pop-up scrap recycling operations that are largely unregulated or permitted and lack groundwater protection infrastructure. We thank the council for your work to support industrial recyclers through the proposed exemptions to the tax on commercial recycling operations.

Thank you for your consideration.



Andrea H. Reay, President & CEO Chamber of Commerce




Ryan Spence, Director Manufacturing Industrial Council



From: Jeanette McAllister <jeanettelmcallister@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 11, 2024 1:32 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District - Potential Moratorium Extension

As a lifelong resident of Tacoma -- mostly South Tacoma, I hope that nothing will be permitted that would endanger the safety of the water sources. I have enjoyed living in a neighborhood filled with all kinds of people -- working individuals and families, growing families with kids. How sad if families stop moving to this area because of pollution. There are so many neighborhoods at risk of losing vibrancy and diversity because the area has become too unhealthy to support active enjoyable living. Please extend the moratorium and do not permit additional metal recycling and auto wrecking facilities to move in and replace healthy neighborhoods that now support all kinds of individuals, couples, and growing families. Thank you for your time. Jeanette L. McAllister 253-475-2367.

From: Dale Bickenbach <BickDaleN@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 11:17 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: Moeinian, Maryam; Nolan, Adam; Heidi S.; Board@SouthTacoma.us; kkihs@pnws-awwa.org
Subject: Ordinance No. 28958, Extending the STGPD Moratorium for 6-month period

Yes, is my response to subject. More rational is not extending rather make permanent restrictions to protect our ground water. Underground storage tanks (UST) are a moot issue. There is very little to no economic need for additional facilities utilizing UST. Even double walled with alarm systems should not be allowed.

The aquifer extends over a vast area of Pierce County, and is a single source aquifer based on my reading. Apparently, the aquifer could provide up to 40% of current water needs. This could translate to a larger percentage if better water use was mandated. The total Pierce County, or known area of the aquifer must be considered, not political lines!

Tacoma water is excellent. See the American Water Works Association (AWWA), of which I am a member. The Pacific Northwest Section is very active, professional, and devoted to maintaining the highest potable water quality based on the best science. Stating water is essential is not an exaggeration.

Sixty some years ago when I was in school in Tacoma I do not remember any discussions of water wells or an aquifer. My life span is an extremely short interval for changes to our Earth. I did, recently, meet, a few weeks ago, a man who when young, around the period when I was too, remembering the poor taste of water in South Tacoma.

Management by Tacoma Utilities has provided a superb quality drinking water (potable). Keep it that way. Cleaning up an aquifer is not easy nor an issue any water professional would want to face.

Thanks.

dnb

Dale N Bickenbach
5232 South Mason Avenue
Tacoma, Washington
98409-1817
+ 1 253 475 5242

From: Heidi S. <heidigs@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 2:41 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public Hearing Comments for 8/13/24 STGPD Moratorium Extension

August 13th, 2024 Public Hearing
Re: South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District Moratorium Extension

I support the extension (for as long as the STGPD code remains outdated); however, this Council did not include, in the initial limited moratorium, the main reasons which residents had first called for it; so the limited moratorium didn't go far enough and is still needing consideration of:

- Impervious surface limitations for industry/commercial but also for residential zoning and construction, including
- Tree canopy preservation and open green space minimums,
- Prohibiting any "exceptions" to the code, as is currently allowed and is being misused, and preferably a
- Moratorium on all development (private, commercial, city, industrial, residential) until the STGPD code has been appropriately updated.

... because:

- The STGPD overlay supersedes zoning, but somehow the city has allowed PDS to somehow get that flipped,
- Residential construction is now just as "high impact" as commercial / industrial, due to many multi-unit constructions,
- The STGPD code update requires expert scientists, not the same city departments which have neglected and gotten us to this point,
- There's not adequate action/consequences for violations,
- The Green River will not be a lasting source of water (see articles, below); regardless of possibly more rain, the climate change is eliminating snowpack/river run-off, but will instead cause lower elevation stormwater flooding while not properly allowing best infiltration to recharge our vitally important aquifer.

Information still noticeably absent from PDS presentations:

- PDS has not correctly been conducting critical area permitting, completely omitting critical aquifer recharge in their reviews (the STGPD code is not a substitute for this) despite acknowledging in the 2/13/24 Study Session and in previous meetings confirming this is a critical area and that "critical aquifer recharge" is a category, yet PDS does not conduct required analysis of critical aquifer recharge in their Critical Area Permit reports (another example of City words opposite of City actions) and allowing for potential devastating and irreversible damage.
- Environmental Services addresses stormwater runoff, but that is different than groundwater aquifer infiltration,
- TPU-Water has discovered contaminant PFAS and needs to improve testing and well protection,
- TPCHD only does cursory monitoring of limited businesses,
- Nearly none of the public input was included in the original moratorium and needs to be.

Applicable Articles:

When More Rain Means Less Water

In the Pacific Northwest, snowpack recharges our drinking water and powers our lives. Now winter precipitation is increasingly falling as rain.

https://replica.seattletimes.com/popovers/dynamic_article_popover.aspx?artguid=e32a83ab-a76f-4eee-b0df-92f13cf5876c&appcode=SEATTL&equid=d1fd3cd1-27a8-4b4d-964b-0180c315635c&pnum=4&fbclid=IwAR1sZNFN4XdEfoQW-uO7EtOmueRsJPZnCTneFazmq5MuGvF4w_K2ultX1Q8#

Washington state drinking water, hydropower at risk as Pacific Northwest snowpack shrinks

https://www.columbian.com/news/2024/feb/12/washington-state-drinking-water-hydropower-at-risk-as-pacific-northwest-snowpack-shrinks/?fbclid=IwAR0Zw6RR43cp4HfkayvcOzpbXGkMluifaROkaSMaSeVT6n_DVChEqPcoGns

WA's mountain snow recharges our drinking water, powers our lives. Now it's turning to rain.

https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/wa-drinking-water-hydropower-at-risk-as-pnw-snowpack-shrinks/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=article_inset_1.1&fbclid=IwAR0CrEggAercu89yvZwislCfqwYM2t5eja_SWVH7HtQ6FH8RcEBDEFuKJEc

WA Dept. of Ecology: July drought declaration still in effect (into 2024)

https://ecology.wa.gov/blog/february-2024/washington-s-july-drought-declaration-still-in-effect/?fbclid=IwAR0bAG-onvHkmu15s603FwkXXxUIQI9vT3FvtLK00KKkqV_YpGIF8-Rnets

Thank you,
Heidi Stephens

From: Tim Smith <mr_tjsmith@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 3:25 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public Hearing Comments for 8/13/24 STGPD Moratorium Extension

Importance: High

August 13th, 2024 Public Hearing
Re: South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District Moratorium Extension

I support the extension (for as long as the STGPD code remains outdated).

The staff has failed to include the appropriate outside agencies need for a complete review of the actual code. TCPHD should be involved as they have the punishment piece for enforcement and yet they have not been involved for months. The State and Federal agencies have not been involved even though they have control over 1/2 of the potential source of contamination. Key best science studies are underway but not one bit has been discussed or shared with those that submitted the Code Amendment. The staff has treated this as a joke and been dismissive of the residents and the neighborhood that proposed this.

It has been an insulting 2 years to not be heard or listened to and an embarrassment with all the recognition received for "equity" and "Green Economic Plans" which were the core of this proposal over 3.5 years ago. NOT once have those in South Tacoma been recognized for what they were doing - they have been ridiculed, diminished, and pushed aside. Emails and records obtained from the State Dept of Ecology and other agencies using Public Document request show what you really think you should be ashamed, and I should release them all.

This Council did not include, in the initial limited moratorium, the main reasons which residents had first called for it; so the limited moratorium didn't go far enough and is still needing consideration of:

- Impervious surface limitations for industry/commercial but also for residential zoning and construction, including
- Tree canopy preservation and open green space minimums,
- Prohibiting any "exceptions" to the code, as is currently allowed and is being misused, and preferably a
- Moratorium on all development (private, commercial, city, industrial, residential) until the STGPD code has been appropriately updated.

... because:

- The STGPD overlay supersedes zoning, but somehow the city has allowed PDS to somehow get that flipped,
- Residential construction is now just as "high impact" as commercial / industrial, due to many multi-unit constructions,
- The STGPD code update requires expert scientists, not the same city departments which have neglected and gotten us to this point,
- There's not adequate action/consequences for violations,
- The Green River will not be a lasting source of water (see articles, below); regardless of possibly more rain, the climate change is eliminating snowpack/river run-off, but will instead cause lower elevation stormwater flooding while not properly allowing best infiltration to recharge our vitally important aquifer.

Information still noticeably absent from PDS presentations:

- PDS has not correctly been conducting critical area permitting, completely omitting critical aquifer recharge in their reviews (the STGPD code is not a substitute for this) despite acknowledging in the 2/13/24 Study Session and in previous meetings confirming this is a critical area and that "critical aquifer recharge" is a category, yet PDS does not conduct required analysis of critical aquifer recharge in their Critical Area Permit reports (another example of City words opposite of City actions) and allowing for potential devastating and irreversible damage.
- Environmental Services addresses stormwater runoff, but that is different than groundwater aquifer infiltration,
- TPU-Water has discovered contaminant PFAS and needs to improve testing and well protection,
- TPCHD only does cursory monitoring of limited businesses,
- Nearly none of the public input was included in the original moratorium and needs to be.

-

Tim Smith
South Tacoma

From: Michelle Mood <moodm@kenyon.edu>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 3:45 PM
To: City Clerk's Office; Scott, Jamika; Warren, Bucoda
Subject: Comment on the STGPZ Moratorium extension

We keep getting South Tacoma Groundwater Protection Zone moratorium extensions and here's another one -- but what are we doing? Action has to take place!

We NEED A CODE UPDATE!!! We are not in compliance!

The Code update is not only for the Zoning overlay and construction or building requirements it is also for the actual function and intent. This is not just the sole scope of the PDS -- it is your responsibility. Thousands of pages of written input, hundreds of hours of meeting, testimony and documentation supports this over the last several years.

This review and update is also a requirement for the Pierce County Council as the Pierce County health department has enforcement responsibilities and punitive actions, monitoring and reporting -this needs to be reviewed by them as well. The total number of potential contamination sources needs reviewed and updated. This is the purview of the TPCHD since after the year 2000! Additionally, there is the post-2000 WA State DOE and WA State DFWS.

We have had no discussion of the monitoring program and its effectiveness, potential changes to the permitting system, changes to the fines and penalties, alignment with Pierce County impervious surface existing standards, enhanced water monitoring reporting requirements for PFAS and 6-PDDD, or any input for best science quantitative and qualitative analytical standards for critical aquifer recharge impacts.

Instead, it's turned into landscaping for the MIC. For shame! If there's more, then why o why has the South Tacoma Neighborhood Council only been given information about MIC landscaping? Once again, nontransparent, non receptive, and non accountable? Say it ain't so!

-Michelle

Dr. Michelle S. Mood (she, her, hers)
3719 S. Gunnison St
Tacoma, WA 98409

(c) 740-233-6333

Long covid despite vaxxed, boosted, and Paxlovid
#covidsucks

From: Cathie Raine <cjrrd@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 4:59 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: STGPD Moratorium--Public Comments for 8/13/24 Public Hearing

Dear Mayor Woodards, Deputy Mayor Hines and City Council Members,

It is frustrating that the Planners/Planning and Development Services(PDS) Dept have been the group in charge of these updates to the STGPD code.

It is clear that these updates have remained at the bottom of their list of projects. While other Western communities and states have been facing and dealing with the visible impacts of Climate Change (decreasing mountain glaciers, decreasing rainfall/drought conditions with increasing populations, temperatures)..especially over the past 2 years, the Tacoma PDS Dept continues the delay with getting these STGPD code updates completed.

Instead, the PDS Dept has chosen to push through NEW housing/commercial and business development plans and codes..BEFORE assessing the status of this aquifer..an important 'back up' drinking water source for Tacoma residents. What other stakeholders have been included with their updates plan?

What studies have been conducted..or, will be done for these STGPD updates? Will these studies also be 'scoped' using the PDS Dept adopted practices? I hope all of you are paying attention with these updates.

Remember..this is the same department that approved the permit application for the Bridge Industrial warehouse..that included the loss of 100+ acres of pervious surfaces!

Cathie (Raine) Urwin

From: Bill Mc Cabe <billmccabeusa@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 8:15 AM
To: City Clerk's Office; Nolan, Adam
Subject: Public Hearing: South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District Moratorium Extension

Good day,

I reside in the area directly impacted by the South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District Moratorium Extension.

The case for extending the moratorium on high-impact uses within the South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District (STGPD) indefinitely hinges on several critical factors, each emphasizing the necessity of safeguarding public health, environmental sustainability, and economic resilience:

- 1. Protecting a Vital Drinking Water Source:** The South Tacoma aquifer is a significant source of drinking water, providing up to 40% of Tacoma's water during peak summer usage. Any contamination could have catastrophic consequences for thousands of residents, jeopardizing their access to clean, safe water. Historical instances of contamination from industrial activities in the area highlight the persistent risks posed by high-impact land uses, such as underground storage tanks and metal recycling facilities. An indefinite moratorium would ensure these risks are mitigated long-term, preserving the aquifer for future generations.
- 2. Preventing Irreversible Environmental Damage:** Groundwater contamination is notoriously difficult and expensive to remediate, often taking decades and costing millions of dollars, with no guarantee of complete recovery. By extending the moratorium indefinitely, the city can avoid the potential for irreversible damage to the aquifer, ensuring that the local environment remains healthy and capable of supporting the community's needs.
- 3. Aligning with Broader Sustainability Goals:** Tacoma has made strides in promoting sustainability and environmental stewardship, and maintaining an indefinite moratorium on high-impact activities in the STGPD would be consistent with these efforts. It would send a strong message that the city prioritizes long-term ecological health over short-term economic gains, aligning with broader goals of reducing pollution, promoting green spaces, and combating climate change.
- 4. Supporting Economic Resilience:** A clean and reliable water supply is essential for Tacoma's economic stability and growth. Contaminated water sources could lead to a range of economic consequences, including increased water treatment costs, loss of business confidence, and potential declines in property values. By extending the moratorium indefinitely, Tacoma can protect its water resources, ensuring a foundation for sustainable economic development.
- 5. Community Health and Safety:** Residents in and around the STGPD have expressed concerns over the health impacts of industrial activities in the area. An indefinite moratorium would address these concerns by limiting the potential for hazardous substances to leach into the water supply, thereby reducing the risk of adverse health effects like cancer, neurological disorders, and other illnesses associated with exposure to toxic chemicals.

In conclusion, an indefinite extension of the moratorium would provide a robust, proactive measure to protect Tacoma's essential water resources, support environmental and economic sustainability, and ensure the health and well-being of the community for generations to come.

Bill Mc Cabe
8811 South Alaska Street