

CHAPTER X **Utilities and Government Facilities**

Providing essential government services is a valued and important work. The Tulalip Tribal government and other tribal entities take pride in serving our people. Together we are committed to improving existing and developing new services to meet the community's needs. Planning ahead for both utilities and government facilities is vital to maintaining a high level of service for a growing tribal population.

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ʔaciʔtalbixʔčəʔ
It is valued work to uphold and serve our people.



Utilities and Government Facilities

Goal UGF 1

Ensure government facilities meet the needs of the community and are adequate to support existing and future government service development.

Policy UGF 1-1: Through coordination with other Tribal Departments, prepare, adopt, and implement a government facilities capital improvement plan every 5-7 years that evaluates government facility needs, prioritizes government facility projects, designates funding sources, and schedules improvements.

Policy UGF 1-2: Establish and maintain appropriate Level-of-Service Standards for government facilities to meet needs of the community and governmental staff.

Policy UGF 1-3: Establish, develop, and maintain strong partnerships and agreements with other agencies, jurisdictions, or service provider's in order to support and improve fire, police, and emergency response services throughout the reservation.

Policy UGF 1-4: Prioritize projects that eliminate current capital facilities deficiencies, encourage full use of existing facilities, consolidates departments, services or programs, or replace obsolete facilities.

Policy UGF 1-5: Ensure that all capital improvements, and siting of government facilities and services are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

Goal UGF 2

Provide and maintain adequate water and sewer capacity and support the development of efficient utilities services to accommodate existing and future residential, commercial, and institutional growth.

Policy UGF 2-1: Prepare, adopt, and implement a sewer and water plan every 5–7 years that evaluates utility needs and deficiencies, prioritizes utility projects, designates funding sources, and schedules projects for both Tulalip and Quil Ceda Village Utility districts.

Policy UGF 2-2: Maintain and update a utility infrastructure inventory through coordination with contractors and through GIS mapping and asset management software.

Policy UGF 2-3: Coordinate with other tribal departments on planning efforts in order to schedule timely expansion and replacement of utility infrastructure necessary to support priority residential, commercial, transportation, and institutional development projects.

Policy UGF 2-4: Extend water lines and sewer lines to the nearest high density residential areas first in order to maximize efficiency of existing and new infrastructure expansion.

Policy UGF 2-5: Consider utilizing the newest technology in waste water treatment in order to develop a more decentralized sewer treatment

network necessary to support development in areas where sewer expansion is too costly or far away from existing treatment plants.

Policy UGF 2-6: In areas where housing development opportunities exist further away from public water and sewer availability consider sale of individual housing lots to tribal members so that private septic or water service costs are covered by Indian Health Services.

Policy UGF 2-7: Continue coordination with other jurisdictions in water supply and distribution planning especially in areas with known or anticipated water supply or distribution deficiencies.

Policy UGF 2-8: Support the improvements and expansion of water, electricity, cable, telecommunications, and nature gas services on reservation where service improvements are most needed and feasible.

Goal UGF 3

Provide and support utility services in a safe and environmentally sound manner to ensure the protection of public health and the environment.

Policy UGF 3-1: Update and administer a utility code and other regulatory policies and programs necessary to uphold safe operating and maintenance of public and private utilities.

Policy UGF 3-2: Promote co-location of underground utility lines or joint use of utility corridors by private and public utilities whenever physically and financially feasible in order to save cost and minimize environmental impact.

Policy UGF 3-3: Facilitate the proper care and maintenance of septic systems to protect environmental quality and public health.

Policy UGF 3-4: Collaborate with local governments and agencies to support public health safety, and welfare resulting in more effective service delivery and environmental protection.

Goal UGF 4

Continue to explore opportunities for Tulalip to purchase, develop, expand, and operate its own utilities and government services in order to strengthen Tribal sovereignty and build self-sufficiency.

Policy UGF 4-1: Explore opportunities and feasibility of purchasing on-reservation private and other public water and sewer systems.

Policy UGF 4-2: Explore opportunity and feasibility of developing a new Tulalip Utility District in order to provide independent power production and distribution systems to areas of the Reservation.

Policy UGF 4-3: Develop and site a Tulalip owned and operated solid waste facility that utilizes sustainable and innovative technology for recycling, reuse, waste transfer, and processing.

Policy UGF 4-4: Explore opportunities and feasibility to construct, purchase, expand, lease, operate and provide telecommunication facilities to meet residential, institutional, commercial, and first responder needs on the Tulalip Reservation.

Goal UGF 5

Promote and provide sustainable government services, gaming operations, and public utilities with the aim of conserving resources, saving money, reducing emissions, and minimizing the overall environmental impact of the Tulalip Tribes.

Policy UGF 5-1: Develop Tribal wide sustainable operations team/plan that looks into the latest

technology and resources for sustainable government operations.

Policy UGF 5-2: Improve Tulalip’s waste management and recycling program by developing and implementing an integrated solid waste management plan.

Policy UGF 5-3: Continue to develop and implement custodial maintenance services that implement sustainable green practices for tribal government and government facilities.

Policy UGF 5-4: Develop supporting electrical vehicle infrastructure to adequately support the transition of government vehicles from gas to electric.

Policy UGF 5-5: Implement and promote water conservation measures through water service metering, water reutilization, and water recycling.

Goal UGF 6

Identify and implement strategies to improve Tulalip public utilities and government facilities resiliency to climate change.

Policy UGF 6-1: Utilize hazard mitigation plan to ensure that utilities and government facilities can effectively provide support against hazards posed by Climate Change.

Policy UGF 6-2: Manage grounds around government facilities and vacant lots to reduce fire risk.

Policy UGF 6-3: Increase power supply independence and or redundancy for identified critical government and utility facilities.

Policy UGF 6-4: Allow environmentally friendly retrofits or redevelopment for essential utilities or

government facilities in areas not identified as high risk for managed retreat.

Goal UGF 7

Identify utilities and government facilities at high risk and implement managed retreat strategies pro-actively in order to mitigate safety concerns, reduce cost, and minimize the need for emergency response or environmental clean-up in hazardous areas.

Policy UGF 7-1: Incorporate an incremental or phased approach for managed retreat for the Tulalip Reservation coastlines properties prone to erosion, flooding, storm surge, and sea level rise.

Policy UGF 7-2: Use the best available science to evaluate risk and monitor vulnerable areas in order to create a priority timeline for managed retreat.

Policy UGF 7-3: Identify high risk government facilities and utilities and incorporate managed retreat into government facility and utility capital improvement plans that discourages re-investment, estimates the cost, and identifies specifics for abandonment/demolition, relocation, or replacement.

Policy UGF 7-4: Work with partners (e.g., Snohomish County, Marysville, BIA, FEMA, EPA) to help manage retreat in high-risk areas where public utilities and government services are provided to non-tribal owned and tribal member owned lands.

Policy UGF 7-5: Work with partners to identify areas where private utilities that can no longer serve areas of high risk and work with them to relocate utilities where feasible.

Policy UGF 7-6: Identify high risk areas and where new public utilities service or essential government facilities should not be allowed and begin to

disinvest in those areas to avoid putting new public infrastructure at risk.

Policy UGF 7-7: Utilize land acquisition strategies and promote opportunities for private utility providers and homeowners in high risk areas to utilize buyouts, fee to trust land acquisitions, conservation easements, land swaps, life-use reservations, defeasible estates, executory interests, and sea level purchase option (SLPO).

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