



1211 South Pearl St. | Tacoma, WA 98465
253.272.2112 | www.masterbuilderspierce.com

December 16, 2024

Tacoma City Council
747 Market Street
Tacoma, WA 98402

RE: Ordinance 29006

Dear Tacoma City Council,

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to submit comments on Ordinance 29006 regarding the Gross Earnings Tax and the removal of deductions for Contributions in Aid of Construction (CIAC). As the leading voice for the building industry in the South Sound, Master Builders Association Pierce County (MBAPC) represents more than 800 builders, remodelers and industry professionals employing over 10,000 people in Pierce County.

We are writing today to express our concern about the removal of the CIAC deductions and the implications it has for development in Tacoma. The MBAPC remains committed to being a part of the solution to bring more attainable housing to Tacoma, especially after the passage of Home In Tacoma, but worry this may only introduce more barriers for developers to deliver projects in a timely and cost-effective manner. It is our understanding that the utilities may pass the cost on to the developer, adding an additional expense to home building. It remains to be seen exactly how this will be implemented, but we look forward to working with the City and Utility to find creative solutions to mitigate and not contribute to rising development costs and housing prices.

We look forward to hearing from you and learning more about how we can move forward reducing barriers and costs to housing in Tacoma.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Kaul".

Scott Kaul
Legislative Strategy Committee Chair
Master Builders Association of Pierce County