



**THE CITY OF FIRCREST**

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16 May 2022

City of Tacoma City Council  
747 Market Street  
Tacoma Municipal Building  
Tacoma, WA 98402

RE: NewCold 2<sup>nd</sup> Building

Dear Tacoma City Council,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Fircrest City Council. Fircrest City Manager Scott Pingel recently provided comments regarding the Land Use Designation Change proposal for NewCold as they prepare to build a second building. City Manager Pingel noted that when NewCold presented their development and operation to the Fircrest City Council on February 27, 2018, NewCold made representations that prior to building an additional building they would be working with the City of Tacoma to make improvements to S. Mullen Street in order to alleviate traffic impacts to Orchard Street. This current project now appears to ignore those representations previously made to the City of Fircrest. This project does not only impact City of Tacoma right of way, but it also greatly impacts City of Fircrest right of way. The section of Orchard Street that is impacted is already showing signs of extreme wear.

It was further noted that the traffic impact analysis being used for this Land Use Designation Change indicated no major traffic impacts with the development of an additional NewCold building. This is extremely concerning to the City of Fircrest since Orchard Street is already showing signs of traffic impacts. Further, the TIA does not seem to consider whether the Center Street and Orchard Street intersection is sufficient to handle the truck traffic coming through it. Any lay observer can see that the double left turn lanes from Center Street onto southbound Orchard Street are not sufficient for these trucks, and in fact, may be outright dangerous. Again, where this impact is being most prominently felt is the portion of Orchard Street that is in City of Fircrest right of way.

As Mayor, and on behalf of the Fircrest City Council, I most ardently request the City of Tacoma require additional study of the traffic impacts of an additional NewCold building. Further, I request that, as previously indicated by NewCold, the City of Tacoma require improvements to S. Mullen Street in order to alleviate the traffic impacts to Orchard Street prior to approving the development of second NewCold building.

Respectfully,

Brett L. Wittner, Mayor  
City of Fircrest