

RESOLUTION NO. 39624

A RESOLUTION relating to community gardens; authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with Pierce County Public Works, the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, and Pierce County Conservation District, in the amount of \$477,601, budgeted from ES Wastewater Fund 4300, for continued support of the Harvest Pierce County community garden program for the period of January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2020.

WHEREAS community gardens are an excellent venue for community education on recycling, composting, biosolids, and water conservation, and

WHEREAS education about recycling, compost, and biosolids provides citizens with the knowledge and understanding of sewer and solid waste utility programs supporting environmentally friendly methods for reuse of yard waste and wastewater byproducts through the production, sale, and use of TAGRO and compost, and

WHEREAS the reuse of wastewater and solid waste byproducts reduces utility operational costs associated with disposal of yard waste and wastewater byproducts providing a benefit to utility customers and the community, and

WHEREAS the City believes that community gardens not only provide access to healthy food, but promote healthy lifestyles and a greater sense of community, and

WHEREAS the City has established a goal of having the greatest number of community gardens per capita of any city in the United States, and

WHEREAS Tacoma has more than 35 community gardens, including 11 on City-owned property, and



WHEREAS the City, in partnership with Pierce County and Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma ("Metro Parks"), has been supporting community gardens for more than four years through Memorandums of Understanding ("MOU"), and

WHEREAS the proposed MOU between the City, Pierce County Public Works, Metro Parks, and Pierce County Conservation District, includes a strategy to build a community-based food system by supporting all existing community gardens in the City and Pierce County, and encouraging the development of additional community gardens, and

WHEREAS the City currently provides over one-third of the funding for the Harvest Pierce County community garden program, and will provide the sum of \$477,601, budgeted from ES Wastewater Fund 4300, for the period of January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2020; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

That the proper officers of the City are hereby authorized to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Pierce County Public Works, the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, and Pierce County Conservation District, in the amount of \$477,601, budgeted from ES Wastewater Fund 4300, for continued support of the Harvest Pierce County community garden program for



the period of January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2020, said document to be substantially in the form of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding on file in the office of the City Clerk. Adopted _____ Mayor Attest: City Clerk Approved as to form: Chief Deputy City Attorney