



**CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST (CCR)**

TO: Mayor & City Council
FROM: Council Member Keith Blocker and Council Assistant Rebecca Boydston
COPIES TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Mark Lauzier, Assistant City Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney; Executive Leadership Team; File
SUBJECT: Council Contingency Fund Request-Immigrant Legal Defense Fund
DATE: September 12, 2017

ITEM/ISSUE PROPOSED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

I ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda at the earliest available meeting of the Study Session:

I respectfully ask for City Council concurrence to direct the City Manager to allocate funding in the amount of \$50,000.00 from the City Council Contingency Fund, to support the seed money for the creation of an Immigrant Legal Defense Fund. Furthermore, I would respectfully ask the City Manager to consider fully funding the implementation of the Immigrant and Refugee Task Force's recommendation of allotting \$220,000 for partial representation, during the mid-biennial budget adjustment process.

BRIEF BACKGROUND:

At the July 18, 2017 Study Session, I shared a Council Consideration Request to bring a topic forward to the Community, Vitality and Safety Committee. The topic relates to the feasibility of the City establishing an Immigrant Legal Defense Fund for residents of Tacoma facing deportation to ensure these residents would have access to an attorney at their deportation hearing.

At the August 8, 2017 study session, the Immigrant and Refugee task force presented several recommendations, including the establishment of an Immigrant Legal Defense Fund. Their recommendation included two levels of funding: full representation at an annual cost of \$440,000 or partial representation at \$220,000 annually.

At the August 10, 2017 Community, Vitality and Safety Committee, we discussed the feasibility of the creation of such a fund, including questions on eligibility, administration, and source of funding. No consensus was reached as to full or partial representation, but there was some interest in immediately putting some money toward such a fund.

While we acknowledge this is substantially less than the amounts recommended by the task force, our hope is that this small amount will encourage our community partners and residents to donate to the fund, and provide an outlet for those wishing to show support to the immigrant community. We also hope the City Manager will consider allocating the funding recommended by the task force, as part of the mid-biennium adjustment process.

FUNDING REQUESTED:

***Please provide the Council Contingency Fund Biennial Budget Document if this request is for the use of this fund.**

In you have a question related to the Council Consideration Request, please contact Rebecca Boydston at 253-591-5164 or rboydston@cityoftacoma.org

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: 
Council Member

SUPPORTING COUNCILMEMBERS SIGNATURES (2 SIGNATURES ONLY)
(Signatures demonstrate support to initiate discussion and consideration of the subject matter by City Council for potential policy development and staff guidance/direction.)

1.  POS # 1

2. _____ POS# _____

2017-2018 Council Contingency Commitments

2017-2018 Biennium Budget	\$	500,000
Hilltop Regional Health Center (\$50K 2017, \$50K 2018)	\$	100,000.00
<i>Resolution No. 39693 (03/28/2017)</i>		
<i>To support the Hilltop Regional Health Center expansion, contingent upon the Center securing sufficient funds for building renovations and expansion [Council Member Blocker]</i>		
Developing an Anchor Institutions Strategy	\$	50,000.00
<i>Resolution No. 39701 (04/18/2017)</i>		
<i>To develop an anchor institutions strategy to complete a comprehensive study to align current planning efforts, identify gaps, and achieve Tacoma 2025 related goals [Council Member Ibsen]</i>		
Sister Cities Events for Festival of Sail Delegation	\$	12,000.00
<i>Resolution No. 39747 (6/13/2017)</i>		
<i>For expenses related to events for visiting Sister Cities' delegations during the Festival of Sail 2017 [Mayor Strickland, Deputy Mayor Thoms, and Council Members Ibsen and Lonergan]</i>		
Retail Enhancement Strategy Contract	\$	25,000.00
<i>Resolution No. 39776 (08/8/2017)</i>		
<i>Contract for \$25,000 to develop a Downtown retail enhancement study and recruitment strategy.</i>		
Affordable Housing Public and Private Asset Review and Mapping	\$	10,000.00
<i>Resolution No. 39790 (8/22/2017)</i>		
<i>Contract with Forterra for \$10,000 for a comprehensive review and mapping of public and private land that could be utilized for affordable housing.</i>		
Total 2017-2018 Approved by City Council Through Legislation	\$	197,000.00
2017-2018 Biennium Budget Remaining	\$	303,000.00

This balance does not include the two Council Consideration Requests on Tuesday's Study Session.