



**CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

TO: Mayor & City Council
FROM: Council Member Joe Bushnell and Senior Council Policy Analyst Lynda Foster
COPIES TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Hyun Kim, Deputy City Manager; Melanie Harding, Assistant to the City Manager; Chris Bacha, City Attorney
SUBJECT: **Resolution – contingency fund request supporting the South End Neighborhood Council’s Block Party & Resource Fair**
DATE: June 26, 2024

I ask for your support for a Council Contingency Fund expenditure to provide \$10,000 in services for the South End Neighborhood Council Block Party & Resource Fair.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT:

The South End Neighborhood Council (SENC) is hosting their 2024 Block Party & Resource Fair on Saturday, July 20, from 3pm – 7pm, at S 72nd and S D Street. The event will provide 300 free meals to community attendees and include South End and culturally relevant music. Representatives from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, Safe Streets, Tacoma Public Library, Trust for Public Land, Impact Elementary, Pierce Conservation District, and others will host booths at the event and provide the community resources.

This location was selected because SENC is in year two of the S 72nd and D St. Green Space and Mural Project. This project came about as SENC looked to find a solution for a space that attracted nefarious activities and litter and dumping. SENC began to engage neighbors, occupy space with positive actions, and view the opportunities for green spaces differently. Nearly two blocks of residential right of way has been cleaned, soil amended, trees and understory planting added. Over 15 murals have been added to the retaining wall that runs along the space. Neighbors volunteer to maintain and improve the area so it continues to be a positive community space. The block party & resource fair continues to celebrate this community transformation and gathers community to come together and celebrate what is possible when South End residents band together to improve their neighborhood.

This resolution would support the event by providing up to:

- \$1,500 to pay for stage equipment, sound system, generator, and entertainment,
- \$7,100 to pay for food truck meals and picnicware for 300 people,
- \$900 to pay for special event insurance, and
- \$500 to pay for unanticipated costs and art supplies/sustainable giveaways for block party activity.

These services will support SENC in their efforts to attract attendees to the event in order to share information about public resources offered by the City of Tacoma and other organizations, and to build community connections and increase participation in SENC meetings and activities.

Background on City funding for SENCo’s 2024 Block Party & Resource Fair:

The South End Neighborhood Council has a contract with the City for \$4,000 a year for operating costs. SENCo applied for the City’s special event funding and received \$2,500 for this event that will be used for a community art activity during the event and funding ice cream for dessert.

FUNDING REQUESTED:
\$ 10,000

DESIRED RESOLUTION DATE: July 16, 2024

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ (CUSTOMER RESEARCH):

SENCo has led community organizing to transform the 74th and D Street open area into a green space that show cases public art and invites positive community activities. SENCo’s 2024 Block Party & Resource Fair is a continuation and celebration of these efforts. SENCo leadership requested this funding from Council contingency.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

This location is in an area that ranks very low opportunity on the City’s equity index. It is in an area of town that has access to fewer community events that create a sense of place and brings neighbors together.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score: Very Low Opportunity*

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

Livability: *Equity Index Score: Very Low Opportunity*

Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

Improve access and proximity by residents to diverse income levels and race/ethnicity to community facilities, services, infrastructure, and employment.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s)?

The South End Neighborhood Council has done significant work in this area through volunteers, community partners and others to create a once blighted space into a more desirable and less disruptive location to the community. SENCo has demonstrated that they are committed to continuing their work here and this block party & resource fair will solidify and celebrate the work of local artists and the reclamation of this space for the community, while connecting residents in very low opportunity areas to resources.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
1. Do not provide contingency funds to supplement the City’s special event funding	Directs organizations seeking event funding to our competitive funding process so all events are considered on an even playing field, which factors in a desire for equitable investments.	SENCo does not have enough funding to accomplish this event without additional support. Time spent recruiting sponsors would take away from efforts to promote the event and increase attendance.

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP:

These contingency funds are provided to support SENCo’s 2024 Block Party & Resource Fair, and contingency funds are intended as a one-time funding source and should not be used for this event in future years. Event organizers will be provided with information on how to apply for future grants and event funding opportunities at the City of Tacoma during standard application cycles. SENCo should share data after the event on how many individuals attended, what organizations participated in informational tabling and information sharing, and how many individuals engaged further with SENCo activities.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Sponsors recommend providing \$10,000 in contingency funds to SENCo’s Block Party and Resource Fair, in order to support SENCo’s efforts to create a community event in a very low opportunity area with few opportunities to gather neighbors, and to educate the community about City of Tacoma and other government’s programs and resources.

FISCAL IMPACT:

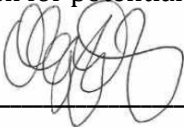
This resolution would allocate \$10,000 from the Council Contingency Fund.

If you have a question related to the Council Contingency Fund Request, please contact Lynda Foster at 253.591.5166 or lfoster@CityofTacoma.org.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: 
Council Member Bushnell

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS 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# 7

2.  POS# 8

Mayor’s initials 

(Mayor’s initials for awareness only to ensure alignment and coordination of emergent policies.)

Contingency Commitments

2024 - 2025	\$	225,000.00
(Remaining balance that will be carried over in March / April 2024)	\$	19,450.00
Resolution 41354		
Council Requested - Raising Girls Sponsorship	\$	10,000.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor 500 Raising Girls winter care bags with personal hygiene and menstrual products, as well as warm winter items, for low-income Tacoma students.		
Resolution 41372		
Council Requested - Moroccan Sister City Committee Cultural and Economic Exchange	\$	5,000.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$5,000 request to sponsor the Moroccan Sister City Committee Cultural and Economic Exchange.		
Resolution 41373		
Council Requested - Metro Park's Mosaic Arts and Culture Festival	\$	5,500.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$5,500 to sponsor Metro Park's Mosaic Arts and Cultural Festival.		
Resolution 41378		
Council Requested - Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest	\$	10,000.00
Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$10,000 to Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest (AIDNW) for their Phone Call Fund to support access to phone services for detainees in the Northwest Ice Processing Center		
Resolution 41386		
Council Requested - Tacoma Refugee Choir's First Annual Symposium Sponsorship	\$	10,000.00
A Council contingency fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor the Tacoma Refugee Choir's first annual symposium, "From Welcoming to Cooperation."		
Resolution 41442		
Council Requested - Facilitation of Pierce County Climate Conversation Meetings	\$	20,000.00
Resolution authorizing \$20,000 in Council Contingency Funds to support the Pierce County Climate Conversation		
Resolution 41449		
Council Requested - Broadway Street Broken Window Repairs	\$	25,000.00
A \$25,000 Council Contingency Request for matching funds to support broken window replacement for businesses affected along Broadway		
Resolution 41448		
Council Requested - Youth Sponsorship to Fuzhou, China	\$	12,500.00
A Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$12,500 to support youth attendance at the Fuzhou Youth Week Convening in late June		
To Study Session July 2, 2024		
Council Requested - South End Neighborhood Council Block Party & Resource Fair Sponsorship	\$	10,000.00
Starting Balance	\$	244,450.00
Total Amount Allocated	\$	108,000.00
Current Balance	\$	136,450.00