



TO: Mayor and Council Members
FROM: City Manager Elizabeth Pauli, on behalf of Mayor Woodards
COPY: City Clerk
SUBJECT: **Resolution to Amend the Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma – May 22, 2018**
DATE: May 11, 2018

SUMMARY:

A Resolution amending the *Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma*: Rule 9-Public Comment/Public Forum, Section C, by stating Citizens’ Forum will be held on the Second Tuesday of every month.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Woodards

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

This resolution best aligns with the following strategic priority by having a Citizens’ Forum every month on the second Tuesday for consistency so residents are aware of the opportunity to provide input for the purpose of assisting the City Council in making policy decisions:

- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

BACKGROUND:

At the November 28, 2017 Study Session, Former Council Member Walker Lee shared a Council Consideration Request to consider changes to the *Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma* related to Citizens’ Forums. On December 12, 2017, the City Council approved Resolution No. 39882, to amend the Rules of Procedure by suspending Citizens’ Forum on the Second Tuesday of each month to allow for a Citizens’ Forum Pilot Program. The amendment stated “Citizens’ Forums shall be held monthly at a date and location to be determined by the City Council.”

In addition through the same resolution, the City Council authorized the use of \$25,000 of City Council Contingency Funds for a professional services agreement with the Center for Dialog and Resolution to consult, facilitate and develop new methodologies for Citizens’ Forum and to develop an online survey and explore creative engagement options. In 2018, the consultant facilitated four Citizens’ Forums (February, March, April and May), conducted community focus groups and an online survey to receive input and recommendations from residents. The consultant will share recommendations and explore with the City Council and Staff how to best incorporate them. This will include communication strategies and conflict dynamics as well as new methodologies. The consultant will present final draft to the City Council and community by June 30, 2018.

ISSUE:

Amendments to be made to the *Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma* must be through a resolution and have two readings.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council can choose to adopt, modify or reject the resolution.



RECOMMENDATION:

Mayor Woodards is recommending that the City Council reinstate Citizens' Forum on the second Tuesday of each month to ensure consistency in providing opportunities for residents to share their views to assist the City Council in making policy decisions.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact if this resolution is adopted.