



**TO:** Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** Council Member Kristina Walker and Policy Analyst Christina Caan  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** **Resolution – Allocating \$10,000 in Contingency Funds to sponsor the Alchemy Skateboarding expansion project and youth access fund – October 1, 2024**  
**DATE:** September 25, 2024

---

**SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:**

A resolution authorizing \$10,000 in Council Contingency Funds to sponsor the Alchemy Skateboarding expansion project and youth access fund.

[Council Member Walker]

**COUNCIL SPONSORS:**

Council Members Kristina Walker, Council Member Kiara Daniels, and Council Member Sarah Rumbaugh

**BACKGROUND:**

I ask for your support for a Council contingency fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor the Alchemy Skateboarding expansion project and youth access fund. Alchemy is currently in the process of identifying and moving into a larger facility better suited to serve their continually growing community and maintain Alchemy as a regional hub for skateboarding, positive youth development programs, and alternative creative-cultural community interests. Alchemy is non-profit organization that provides a much-needed positive outlet for youth in Tacoma and is an important partner in our efforts to reduce youth violence and build confidence, creativity, and grit in our young people. The youth access fund provides financial assistance for Alchemy programming and park access to those in need under the age of 24.

- Alchemy has created skate-based curriculum for in and out of school time learning, partnered with local high schools to offer credit bearing skate classes, worked with the county’s Juvenile Court system to provide positive youth development programs to court-connected and at-risk youth, pioneered career development skill building opportunities related to art, advocacy, building, and design through an innovative after-school leadership program, and worked to teach 1,000’s of youth and adults how to skate.

Alchemy currently operates the only public indoor skate park in Pierce County and one of only four in Washington state. The 3,000 sq/foot building contains a 2,000 sq/ft skate space with ramps and skate features, a small program workshop, and a 1,000 sq/ft skateboard shop for participants, skaters, and community members to access high quality equipment, knowledge, and support. In addition to providing regular and affordable access to this indoor skate space, Alchemy also brings skateboarding out to the community by hosting or supporting public events with free skateboard programming, including pop-up skateboard ramps, boards and safety equipment, and instructors who help many first-time skaters safely experience the joy of skating.



With expanded facilities, Alchemy could accommodate more participants, reduce wait times, and offer a greater variety of youth programs. A larger space would also enable Alchemy to host bigger community events and workshops, fostering greater community engagement and cohesion. Enhanced facilities would provide more opportunities for educational outreach, integrating skateboarding with other disciplines like art, design, and urban planning on a larger scale. This expansion would not only support physical activity and creativity but also contribute to the personal and professional development of participants, ultimately strengthening the cultural fabric of Tacoma. The youth access fund would also help ensure that low-income young people in need can access Alchemy's programming and resources. Alchemy would include the City of Tacoma logo and name as a sponsor.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:**

Alchemy has a track record of more than ten years of impactful programs, innovative approaches to non-profit management, and a strong list of community non-profit partners and collaborators. Their participant numbers are also growing each year. Alchemy has served more than 6,500 participants in various programs this year and has offered more than 2,400 hours of programming.

**2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

**Equity and Accessibility:** The need for challenging, fun, engaging, physical activities for young people in Tacoma continues to grow, and Alchemy has demonstrated how well-suited skateboarding is to meet this need. The facility offers public access six days per week and the youth access fund helps to ensure flexible pricing and scholarships for youth in need of financial assistance that are 24 years old and under to ensure accessibility for all.

**Civic Engagement:** *Equity Index Score:* Moderate 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:* Moderate Opportunity

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

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

Alchemy aims to help build a future where skateboarders are recognized as positive contributors and an integral part of our vibrant community. By providing young people with valuable programming and the chance to learn skateboarding, Alchemy is having a positive impact on our community. In addition, Alchemy's mission is to support skateboarders on their journey and provide a framework and structure for them to improve the quality of their own lives and the lives of everyone in our community. By expanding their space, Alchemy can serve even more people in Tacoma and continue to foster learning, positive experiences, and joy for youth in our city.



**ALTERNATIVES:**

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
Provide less funding	Preserve some additional contingency funds for other Council priorities.	Alchemy would need to find alternative sources of funding to help with their expansion project and youth access fund.
Provide more funding	Alchemy may be able to increase additional services for youth in need and expand faster.	The Council would not have additional funds for other Council priorities.

**EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:**

These contingency funds are intended as a one-time funding source this year for the Alchemy Skateboarding expansion project and youth access fund. Alchemy 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.

**SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:**

Sponsors recommend providing \$10,000 for the Alchemy Skateboarding expansion project and youth access fund.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1. 1030- Council Contingency Fund	660000		\$10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$10,000

**What Funding is being used to support the expense?**

Council contingency funds.

**Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?**

No, Please Explain Below

The Council Contingency Fund provides an established amount of funding each year for unbudgeted Council sponsored initiatives.

**Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?**

No



**City of Tacoma**

**City Council Action Memorandum**

**Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?**

No

**Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?**

No

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None

## Contingency Commitments

<b>2024 - 2025</b>	\$	<b>225,000.00</b>
(Remaining balance that will be carried over in March / April 2024 )	\$	19,450.00

**Resolution 41354**

<b>Council Requested - Raising Girls Sponsorship</b>	\$	<b>10,000.00</b>
--	----	------------------

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**

<b>Council Requested - Moroccan Sister City Committee Cultural and Economic Exchange</b>	\$	<b>5,000.00</b>
--	----	-----------------

A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$5,000 request to sponsor the Moroccan Sister City Committee Cultural and Economic Exchange.

**Resolution 41373**

<b>Council Requested - Metro Park's Mosaic Arts and Culture Festival</b>	\$	<b>5,500.00</b>
--	----	-----------------

A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$5,500 to sponsor Metro Park's Mosaic Arts and Culture Festival.

**Resolution 41378**

<b>Council Requested - Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest</b>	\$	<b>10,000.00</b>
--	----	------------------

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**

<b>Council Requested - Tacoma Refugee Choir's First Annual Symposium Sponsorship</b>	\$	<b>10,000.00</b>
--	----	------------------

A Council contingency fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor the Tacoma Refugee Choir's first annual symposium, "From Welcoming to Cooperation."

**Resolution 41442**

<b>Council Requested - Facilitation of Pierce County Climate Conversation Meetings</b>	\$	<b>20,000.00</b>
--	----	------------------

Resolution authorizing \$20,000 in Council Contingency Funds to support the Pierce County Climate Conversation

**Resolution 41449**

<b>Council Requested - Broadway Street Broken Window Repairs</b>	\$	<b>25,000.00</b>
--	----	------------------

A \$25,000 Council Contingency Request for matching funds to support broken window replacement for businesses affected along Broadway

**Resolution 41448**

<b>Council Requested - Youth Sponsorship to Fuzhou, China</b>	\$	<b>12,500.00</b>
---	----	------------------

A Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$12,500 to support youth attendance at the Fuzhou Youth Week Convening in late June

**Resolution 41471**

<b>Council Requested - South End Neighborhood Council (SEnCo) Block Party &amp; Resource Fair</b>	\$	<b>10,000.00</b>
---	----	------------------

A resolution authorizing the \$10,000 in Council Contingency Funds to support the South End Neighborhood Council's 2024 Block Party & Resource Fair for the purpose of sharing information about public resources offered by the City of Tacoma and other organizations, and to build community connections and increase participation in SENCo meetings and activities.

**Resolution 41526**

<b>Council Requested - Historic Cushman Street Fair Support</b>	\$	<b>5,000.00</b>
---	----	-----------------

A Resolution for support for a Council contingency fund expenditure of \$4,000 to support the Historic Cushman Street Fair

**To Council October 1, 2024**

<b>Council Requested - Alchemy Skateboarding Expansion and Youth Access Fund</b>	\$	<b>10,000.00</b>
--	----	------------------

A Resolution for a Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor the Alchemy skateboarding expansion project and youth access fund.

**To Council October 1, 2024**

<b>Council Requested - Historic McKinley District Halloween Parade</b>	\$	<b>5,000.00</b>
--	----	-----------------

A Resolution for a Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$5,000 to sponsor the Historic McKinley District Halloween Parade.

**To Council October 8, 2024**

<b>Council Requested - Pride-themed Decorative Crosswalk</b>	\$	<b>35,000.00</b>
--	----	------------------

A Resolution for a Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$35,000 for a Pride-themed decorative crosswalk on Broadway in downtown Tacoma.

<b>Starting Balance</b>	\$	<b>244,450.00</b>
<b>Total Amount Allocated</b>	\$	<b>163,000.00</b>
<b>Current Balance</b>	\$	<b>81,450.00</b>