



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Council Member Joe Bushnell
COPY: City Council and Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution –First Annual Khmer New Year Celebration– March 21, 2023
DATE: March 15, 2023

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing the use of \$10,000 Council Contingency Funds to support the First Annual Khmer New Year Celebration.
[Council Member Bushnell]

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Woodards, and Council Members Bushnell, Daniels, and Ushka

BACKGROUND:

The Council Member’s Recommendation is Based On:

The Asian Pacific Cultural Center is presenting planning their first Khmer New Year celebration. This event will showcase arts, crafts, history, foods, drinks, clothing, storytelling, cooking, language, and more of Cambodia at the Asian Pacific Cultural Center on April 1, 2023. Cambodian people from all over the State will participate and be proud of their heritage being showcased. At the same time, the general public will learn about Cambodia history and culture, and will have the opportunity to enjoy the different craft making, game playing, and Cambodian food and drinks.

The Asian Pacific Cultural Center is subsidizing the event by providing the following services:

Staffing: \$10,000
Sound System: \$750
Utilities: \$1,000

This contingency fund request would provide funding for:

Foods/Drinks: \$2,000
Materials/Supplies: \$2,000
Decorations: \$1,000
Artists Honorariums: \$5,000

Planning for this first annual celebration occurred outside the standard City of Tacoma event grant application timeline. This request is intended to provide a one-time opportunity for contingency funds to support the annual Khmer New Year celebration in Tacoma. For future years, event organizers seeking City of Tacoma funds should apply for the City’s event and cultural grant opportunities.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

The Asian Pacific Cultural Center shared that Tacoma’s Cambodia community has long desired this type of festival to happen in Tacoma to honor their culture and people. Robust communication and promotion of the event has been shared to the general public, the Cambodia community, and the Asia Pacific nations.



2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility: (Mandatory)

According to the Tacoma Equity Index, 13% of Tacoma’s population is foreign born, and Cambodia is the fifth top country of immigration to Tacoma. The Asian Pacific Culture Center organizes cultural events including country days. These country days are opportunities to showcase and teach more and more people of who Tacoma’s AAPI nationalities are as a people. To connect the entire community to the heritage and culture of AAPI communities and break down assumptions and stereotypes about different nationalities.

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. 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).

This contingency fund will directly support the work of Cambodian Americans in Tacoma and their efforts to share their culture and heritage with the Tacoma community.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Refer organizers to apply for existing City of Tacoma event funding opportunities	Allocates City funds for events through a strategic, equitable process in alignment with Council goals and priorities	The application processes are not as accessible for new events that were not planned far in advance
2. Provide less funding	Preserve funds for other Council priorities, provide an opportunity for the nonprofit to seek private investment from the community	It would reduce the programming and resources for the event, minimizing the events’ value to the community
3. Provide more funding	Could increase amount of programming or community benefit	The nonprofit has not requested additional funds

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

These contingency funds are provided to support the first annual Khmer New Year Celebration in Tacoma, and contingency funds are intended as a one-time funding source. 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.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

The sponsor recommends approving \$10,000 for the Khmer New Year celebration, for food and beverages (\$2,000), materials and Supplies (\$2,000), decorations (\$1,000), and artists honorariums (\$5,000).



FISCAL IMPACT:

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

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

COUNCIL CONTINGENCY FUND

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

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

No

Will the legislation change the City’s FTE/personnel counts?

No

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution

2023 Council Contingency Commitments

2023-2024	\$	225,000.00
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Resolution 41151

Council requested - South Sound together	\$	12,000.00
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A Resolution authorizing 2023 membership in South Sound Together, in the amount of \$12,000.

Resolution 41150

Council Requested - Welcoming Interactive Conference Participation Sponsorship	\$	4,800.00
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Council Contingency Fund expenditure for \$4,800 to fund two Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs' Members and a Council Member Participation in the 2023 Welcoming Interactive Conference

To Council March 21, 2023

Council Requested - Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma Youth Summit 2023	\$	5,000.00
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Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$5,000 to sponsor the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma 2023 Youth Summit

To Council March 21, 2023

Council Requested - Raising Girls Care Package Initiative	\$	10,000.00
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Council Contingency Fund expenditure for \$10,000 to fund the Raising Girls Non-Profit Organization's "One Bag Drive" to support the creation and distribution of 500 care bags with essential hygiene items to youth and young adults in Tacoma.

To Council March 21, 2023

Council Requested - Wheelstops	\$	12,500.00
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Contingency Fund of \$12,500 expenditure to install wheelstops along South D street, from S. 72nd to S. 74th on the east side of the street.

To Council March 21, 2023

Council Requested - Khmer New Year Celebration	\$	10,000.00
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Council Member Bushnell provides the attached Council Action memorandum for a Resolution authorizing the use of \$10,000 of Council contingency funding to support the first annual Khmer New Year Celebration.

Starting Balance	\$	225,000.00
Total Amount Allocated	\$	54,300.00
Current Balance	\$	170,700.00