



**TO:** Hyun Kim, City Manager  
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**COPY:** Economic Development Committee; Anna Le  
**PRESENTERS:** Shari Hart, Business & Economic Development Analyst  
**SUBJECT:** Farmers Markets Update and Transition Plan  
**DATE:** July 8, 2025

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**PRESENTATION TYPE:**

Informational Briefing

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this presentation is to provide an update on support to existing farmers market and process changes to that funding.

**BACKGROUND:** The Community and Economic Development Department has provided non-competitive funding for two Farmers Market organizations – Tacoma Farmers Market and Proctor Farmers Market since 2011. Farmers Markets provide several benefits that include placemaking, access to healthy foods and the incubation of small businesses.

**ISSUE:** Continuing non-competitive funding to two organizations limits opportunities for farmers market benefits to be experienced in other communities throughout Tacoma. There are a variety of small markets around Tacoma that are created and managed outside of the Tacoma Farmers Market and Proctor Farmers Market organizations, and communities that would like to host a farmers' market that have not had the same access to City funds.

Community and Economic Development plans to open the funding in 2026 through a request for proposal (open bid) model, focusing on underserved areas and newer markets in greater need of organizational support.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

This is an informational briefing only. No alternatives are being presented.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This is an informational briefing only. There is no fiscal impact.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This is an informational briefing only. No recommendation is being made.