



RESOLUTION NO. 41355

1 BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS BUSHNELL, HINES, AND RUMBAUGH

2 A RESOLUTION setting Tuesday, March 5, 2024, upon completion of Regular
3 Agenda Items, no earlier than 5:15 p.m., as the date for a public hearing
4 by the City Council on a proposed moratorium on the nomination and
5 designation of new Historic Special Review and Conservation Districts, for
6 a period of one year.

7 WHEREAS Tacoma Municipal Code 13.07.060 outlines regulations for the
8 local Tacoma Register of Historic Places (“Register”) and the nomination and
9 designation process for Historic Special Review and Conservation Districts, and

10 WHEREAS the Landmarks Preservation Commission (“LPC”) and the
11 Planning Commission (“PC”) are both responsible for reviewing nominations and
12 making recommendations, and in 2022 both bodies reviewed an application to add
13 a district to the Register, and

14 WHEREAS the LPC made recommendations on April 25, 2022, and the
15 PC denied the request on November 2, 2022, and

16 WHEREAS following the denial, a similar request was resubmitted to the
17 LPC on March 9, 2023, which was also forwarded to the PC by the LPC; the PC
18 declined further review of the proposal at its meeting on August 16, 2023, and

19 WHEREAS during their reviews, both Commissions noted concerns about
20 the existing historic district designation process and recommended that a review
21 and potential update to the process should be conducted in the earliest possible
22 Plan and code amendment cycle, and
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1 WHEREAS the requested review is planned to be included in the upcoming
2 Plan periodic update process, however, in the interim, the City is still able to accept
3 applications for Historic Special Review and Conservation Districts, and

4 WHEREAS it takes a great deal of volunteer and staff time to review these
5 requests, and any review at this time may encounter the same concerns that these
6 Commissions have already identified and requested the City address, and

7 WHEREAS on June 20, 2023, the City Council adopted Resolution
8 No. 41226, which directed the PC, in coordination with the LPC, to conduct a
9 public process to develop findings of fact and recommendations as to whether a
10 moratorium on nomination and designation of local historic districts is warranted,
11 and
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13 WHEREAS the PC adopted a review schedule and set a public hearing for
14 September 20, 2023, and following the public hearing, the PC also sought feedback
15 and input from the LPC, and
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17 WHEREAS the PC found that there are significant unresolved policy and
18 code questions relating to historic district creation, and the PC workplan would
19 benefit from a temporary pause on historic district review afforded by a moratorium
20 due to the potential impacts to the PC work program that unscheduled historic
21 district nominations could have, and
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23 WHEREAS the PC adopted its Work Program for 2023-2025 in November
24 of last year, and the City Council's Infrastructure Planning and Sustainability
25 Committee concurred with the work program in December of last year, and
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WHEREAS the work program includes the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update, which is anticipated to be completed in mid-2025, and

WHEREAS a Historic Preservation Plan Update including a policy/code review of local historic districts is included in the current scope for the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update, and

WHEREAS on November 15, 2023, the PC voted to recommend that the City Council establish a moratorium on the consideration and adoption of new local historic special review districts for a period of one year while the PC’s workplan on the subject is implemented, and

WHEREAS the City desires to fix a time and date for public hearing for the purpose of considering the proposed moratorium on the nomination and designation of new Historic Special Review and Conservation Districts, for a period of one year; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Section 1. That Tuesday, March 5, 2024, upon completion of Regular Agenda Items, no earlier than 5:15 p.m., is hereby fixed as the time, and the City Council Chambers on the First Floor of the Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington, and may be offered in a hybrid format that includes a remote option, as the place when and where a public hearing shall be held on the proposed moratorium on the nomination and designation of new Historic Special Review and Conservation Districts, for a period of one year in accordance with the Planning Commission’s workplan.



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Section 2. That the City Clerk shall give proper notice of the time and place of said hearing.

Adopted _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Deputy City Attorney