



**TO:** T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
**FROM:** Mark Lauzier, Assistant City Manager, City Manager's Office  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution- Interlocal Agreement with the Metropolitan Parks District of Tacoma –  
September 20, 2016  
**DATE:** September 7, 2016

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**SUMMARY:**

Staff requests adoption of a resolution to approve a newly-negotiated Interlocal Agreement with the Metropolitan Parks District of Tacoma (Metro Parks). The City of Tacoma and Metro Parks agreed that there was a need to negotiate a new agreement that would address a change in policy related to City subsidy of property maintenance performed by Metro Parks, as well as adding language to improve the collaborative partnership going forward.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

The strategic policy priorities best aligned with this action are:

- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Tacoma has contracted with Metro Parks Tacoma (MPT) for the maintenance of City-owned properties, including properties transferred from the City to Metro Parks in past agreements. A maintenance-oriented Interlocal Agreement (ILA) has been in place since 2004 with the last agreement being executed in 2008. The 2008 agreement includes a funding decrement that does not reflect the 2015 – 2016 adopted City Council budget policy. Without a funding replacement option, a funding decrement policy would require MPT to identify replacement funding to maintain service levels or decrease future services as City support was systematically withdrawn. The City and MPT concluded that a “master” Interlocal Agreement removing the decrement and adding language that recognizes strategic inter-agency collaboration efforts was necessary to provide clarity to our mutual partnership going forward. Additionally, there was a need to revisit the level of service for each of the properties being maintained by Metro Parks on the City's behalf to gain a clear understanding of the baseline funding allocation usage.

A draft of the new agreement was approved to move forward to the full Council for consideration by the Government Performance and Finance Committee on May 18, 2016. The agreement was also presented to the MPT Board of Commissioners on August 22, 2016, at which time it was unanimously approved.

**ISSUE:**

While the City's current Interlocal Agreement with Metro Parks does not expire until the end of 2018, it contains decrement language that is incongruent with the City Council's 2015 – 2016 budget policy and the future 2017 – 2018 City Manager's budget recommendation currently being developed. The existing agreement also does not contemplate such concepts as baseline funding adjustments for inflation, jointly pursuing new revenue sources, a capital reserve for the maintenance and repair of assets, or a mechanism by which staff from our respective entities should collaborate on projects and issues of mutual interest, which both entities agree would be beneficial for the effective and efficient use of taxpayer resources.



**ALTERNATIVES:**

Disapproving the agreement would contradict the Council's adopted 2015 – 2016 budget policy and doing so would entail a decreased subsidy to Metro Parks that would negatively impact the level of service performed at the properties outlined in the agreement. Further, a failure to implement the additional terms outlined in the new agreement could negatively impact the two entities' efforts to work collaboratively on important pending community issues.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the City Council approve the proposed Interlocal Agreement with Metro Parks. The agreement maintains our higher level of support to Metro Parks that will ultimately improve the quality of life for Tacoma residents. It also provides for mechanisms by which staff shall be expected to work collaboratively to carry out the strategic visions of both entities. This will enhance the policymakers' ability to set direction and devote resources toward achieving the best outcomes for the community.



**FISCAL IMPACT:** Estimated expenditures for the 2017-2018 Biennial Budget are \$5,858,000 and contingent on future City Council appropriation in the 2017-2018 Biennial Budget Ordinance.

**EXPENDITURES:**

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
0010 General Fund Non-departmental	654000	5440100	2017: \$2,900,000 2018: \$2,958,000 (estimate)
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$5,858,000 (2017-2018)

\* General Fund: Include Department

**REVENUES:**

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
<b>TOTAL</b>			

**POTENTIAL POSITION IMPACT:**

POSITION TITLE	PERMANENT/ PROJECT TEMPORARY POSITION	FTE IMPACT	POSITION END DATE
N/A			
<b>TOTAL</b>			

*This section should only be completed if a subsequent request will be made to increase or decrease the current position count.*

**FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET:** None

**ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED?** Yes, pending 2017-2018 budget approval.

**IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED.**

N/A