



CITY COUNCIL ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Anna Le, Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma City Liaison,
City Manager's Office
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution – Appointing individuals to the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma
– Requested for November 5, 2024
DATE: October 24, 2024

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution appointing and reassigning the following individuals to the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma Leadership Team to fill unexpired terms, to expire June 30, 2025.

- Reassigning Norah Gawryczik from the Justice & Safety Committee Vice Chair position to the Justice & Safety Committee Chair position;
- Appointing Deron Carston to the Justice & Safety Committee Vice Chair position;
- Appointing Caleb Rotchstein to the Social Health Committee Chair position;
- Appointing Aeris Clark to the Social Health Vice Committee Chair position; and
- Appointing Jayce Hartman to the Education, Arts, & Culture Committee Vice Chair position.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Victoria Woodards

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, Resolution 40502 established the formal structure of the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma and appointed the inaugural leadership team. Each year since then, the Mayor's Youth Commission elects a 10-member Leadership Team from the general membership to serve a one-year term: a Chair and Vice-Chair of the entire Commission, as well as a Chair and Vice-Chair of each of the four committees. The Leadership Team is confirmed by the City Council. The Leadership Team meets twice each month and hosts a General Assembly meeting once per month.

The Mayor's Youth Commission convened on June 15, 2024, to elect a new Leadership Team to represent all members of the Commission. Council confirmed the seven appointments Commission members elected during their July 2, 2024 meeting.

One Leadership Team member resigned after being appointed, bringing the total number of Leadership Team vacancies to four. The Commission held their first General Assembly meeting of the year on October 12, 2024 and held elections to fill Leadership Team vacancies.

At this time, four individuals are being recommended to the City Council for confirmation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Recruitment for Commissioners was led by the sitting Leadership Team members, with support from the City Commission Liaison, Deputy Mayor Hines, and Mayor Woodards.

The Leadership Team organized a citywide recruitment and attendance campaign where they created SMART goals, identified priority areas to target, established outreach methods, delegated responsibilities, and set interim deadlines to hold themselves and each other accountable for following through.



The City’s Commission Liaison, Deputy Mayor Hines, and Mayor Woodards conducted classroom visits at multiple Tacoma public high schools, including Mount Tahoma, Foss, Lincoln, and the School of the Arts. These class visits reached thousands of students and gathered contact information from students who expressed interest in the Mayor’s Youth Commission. Leadership Team members used this contact information to execute an attendance campaign in the days leading up to the first General Assembly meeting.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Education: *Equity Index Score:* High Opportunity

Increase the number of quality after-school-learning opportunities distributed equitably across the city.

Engagement: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the number of residents who participate in civic volunteering and voting. To that end, elected officials, boards, commissions, and volunteer leadership will reflect more of the diversity of the Tacoma community.

Youth engagement will increase the percentage of residents who believe they can have a positive impact in their communities, and develop trust in the public institutions of Tacoma.

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

The Mayor’s Youth Commission provides opportunities for out-of-school time enrichment, and engagement with City and community leaders. The Community Based Commission engages middle and high school students in a reciprocal opportunity for young people to participate in local government, impacting many of the Civic Engagement indicators.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Do not appoint new members.	All positions on the Mayor’s Youth Commission Leadership Team will be filled.	Four out of ten Leadership Team seats will remain vacant until the current Commission term ends on June 30, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This resolution fills vacancies on an existing City Commission. There is no fiscal impact.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Each year, the outgoing Leadership Team submits an Annual Report to the City Council that highlights what they have accomplished and outlines their ongoing goals/projects to be continued by the next Leadership Team. This serves as an opportunity for the Council to evaluate their work and engage in discussions with the Commission on continued actions.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the appointment of the four individuals elected by the Mayor’s Youth Commission General Assembly body to the Mayor’s Youth Commission Leadership Team for the remainder of the 2024-25 service year.