



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Mayor Victoria Woodards and Chief Policy Analyst to the Mayor Bucoda Warren
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: A resolution authorizing a Council Contingency Fund expenditure for \$2,500 to support the Peace Bus and the “Every Kid Eats” summer program. – Requested for August 9, 2022
DATE: August 3, 2022

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing a Council Contingency Fund expenditure for \$2,500 to support the Peace Bus and the “Every Kid Eats” summer program.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Victoria Woodards, Deputy Mayor Catherine Ushka, and Council Member Kiara Daniels

BACKGROUND:

The Peace Bus, and its founder and heart Kwabi Amoah-Forson, are known for tireless humanitarian aid efforts around south Puget Sound. He's spent years advocating for peace, feeding hungry kids and offering essentials like clean socks to those struggling with homelessness. He even put on a TV show for kids amid the pandemic and took his peace bus to the southern border to speak with border patrol, and those impacted by immigration policies. Most recently, he has partnered with restaurants across Tacoma to ensure children can eat out this summer.

From July 1st until September, kids 18 and under in Tacoma will be able to go to designated restaurants everyday throughout the week and get a meal for free. Restaurants supporting this program include: Cooper's Food and Drink, Tacoma Pita Pit, Only Oatmeal Cookie Creations, Crisp Greens, Happy Belly, Buddy's Chicken & Waffles, and Shakabrah Java. Full details can be found on their website at thepeacebus.org. Some restaurants are donating food for these efforts, but others will be reimbursed by fundraising efforts led by the Peace Bus. The funds provided by the City will help this fundraising effort to provide food for the youth.

In March of 2022, Mayor Woodards joined the Mayors Alliance to End Childhood Hunger. The alliance is focused on using the collective power of Mayors across the country to take meaningful actions to end childhood hunger in cities nationwide. This program is one immediate step to support food security for children in Tacoma while continuing to support larger efforts.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

This program will impact all children under 18 in Tacoma and their families. About 1 in 5 students in Tacoma Public Schools reported being food insecure, and almost half of Tacoma students qualify for free and reduced lunch. It will allow children to get meals at our local restaurants and give families the opportunity to eat out together this summer. Food access is important in Tacoma to address the many food deserts, and food insecurity that has been especially exasperated by the pandemic. Increasing opportunities for food access will address those we know are food insecure, and help others who may be just above the qualifications for free and reduced lunch or



other similar programs.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

Federal Programs and partnerships with other agencies such as the Tacoma Public Schools can open opportunities to free food for children and meet many of the needs on a larger scale. However, grassroots efforts such as this that not only provide food directly to the community through local restaurants, is new. It also allows children to try new food they may not usually have access to, and builds more connection and support in the community for future efforts.

Livability: Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity

Improve health outcomes and reduce disparities, in alignment with the community health needs assessment and CHIP, for all Tacoma residents

Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

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

Programs that continue to provide food access to students, especially opportunities to eat out and experience food the way many others are able to, helps to not only meet basic human needs, but allow new experiences and dignity in their access to food. This will improve health outcomes over time, and help both impacted families and the communities around to have a more positive perception of the livability of Tacoma.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1.Do not fund request	More funding available for other emerging issues in 2022.	Less funding available to feed children over the summer
2.Increase funding request	Additional funds available to feed children during the summer	Less contingency funds for other emerging issues in 2022.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Staff has advised the program how they might collect data on the number of students served and meals provided, as well as gather stories to share about the program’s success. Following the end of the summer program, staff will follow up to learn how this funding impacted the program and share stories with Council.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend approval of this request to support the Peace Bus summer program “Every Kid Eats”.



FISCAL IMPACT:

\$2,500 from the Council Contingency Fund Account

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1.1030- Council Contingency Fund	660000		\$2,500
TOTAL			\$2,500

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:

- 2022-2023 council Contingency Commitments