

RESOLUTION NO. 41354

BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS DANIELS, RUMBAUGH, AND WALKER

A RESOLUTION authorizing the one-time use of funds in the amount of \$10,000, budgeted from the Council Contingency Fund, to support the distribution of 500 Raising Girls winter care bags with essential hygiene items and winter warm items to youth and young adults in the City.

WHEREAS the Raising Girls non-profit organization ("Raising Girls"), as a trusted community resource, partners with schools and local organizations to address hygiene insecurity and period poverty by providing and distributing care bags with essential products to elementary, middle, and high school students and young adults in need in the Puget Sound area, and

WHEREAS this sponsorship will allow Raising Girls to improve the health and well-being of students, encourage school attendance, and promote pride and dignity among young people by providing 500 students with hygiene products and winter warm items, and

WHEREAS Raising Girls has purchased, packed, and distributed more than 12,000 care bags to date and has partnered with nearly 97 schools, the Boys and Girls Clubs, Metro Parks, Eastside Community Center, People's Center, and the Tacoma Urban League, and

WHEREAS Raising Girls mainly focuses on schools that have the highest free and reduced lunch percentages, enabling them to support those most in need, and

WHEREAS youths who cannot afford hundreds of dollars a year on menstrual products often resort to problematic alternatives such as toilet paper,



paper towels, fast food napkins, rags, and socks or extend the use of menstrual products, and

WHEREAS the lack of access to proper and sufficient menstrual hygiene products can lead to health issues, infections, and toxic shock syndrome, and can also lead to anxiety and depression at a critical time in a young person's development, and

WHEREAS furthermore those who lack access to proper menstrual hygiene products are often absent from school during their periods, which is detrimental to their education, and

WHEREAS without proper period protection, students can become reluctant to participate in important confidence-building activities in the classroom, on the sports field, and in other extra-curricular school programs at a critical time in their development, and

WHEREAS each winter care bag costs approximately \$20.00 and contains full-sized hygiene supplies, including menstrual products, body wash, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrush brush, lotion, washcloths, and also includes warm hats, scarves, socks, and gloves, and

WHEREAS Raising Girls includes menstrual hygiene information and handwritten notes of love reminding young people to feel pride in who they are, and

WHEREAS, at the January 23, 2024, Study Session, Council Members

Daniels, Rumbaugh and Walker shared a Council Consideration Request to

authorize the one-time use of \$10,000, from the Council Contingency Fund for the



distribution of 500 Raising Girls winter care bags with essential hygiene items and warm winter items to youth and young adults in the City, and

WHEREAS City staff will execute a one-time donation in support of Raising Girls "winter care bags", and

WHEREAS RCW 35.34.250 and 35.34.260 authorize a withdrawal from the Council Contingency Fund for any municipal expense, the necessity or extent of which could not have been foreseen or reasonably evaluated at the time of adopting the budget, and

WHEREAS Ordinance No. 22569 requires an affirmative vote of not less than six members of the Council in order to withdraw moneys from this fund; Now, Therefore.

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

Section 1. That one-time funding in the amount of \$10,000, budgeted from the Council Contingency Fund, is hereby approved for the purpose of supporting the distribution of 500 winter care bags with essential hygiene items and warm winter items to youth and young adults in the City.



Section 2. That the proper officers of the City are hereby authorized to confirm deliverables with Raising Girls for the purposes hereinabove enumerated, and document as appropriate. Adopted _____ Mayor Attest: City Clerk Approved as to form: **Deputy City Attorney**