

RESOLUTION NO. 39503

BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL MEMBER CAMPBELL

A RESOLUTION accepting the July 2016 Final Report from the Latino Town Hall Task Force, and directing the City Manager to work with staff to identify opportunities for collaboration, education, greater representation, and enhanced community engagement with the Latino community.

WHEREAS the City joined the Welcoming Cities Initiative in 2014, which is a national network of over 40 localities that actively work to create more welcoming, immigrant-friendly environments to maximize opportunities for economic growth and cultural vitality, and

WHEREAS the City's membership in the Welcoming Cities Initiative, combined with the City's Equity and Empowerment framework, has created a pathway to directly address specific challenges that foreign-born residents experience, and

WHEREAS, at the request of Council Member Campbell, supported by Mayor Strickland and Council Member Blocker, the City Council, pursuant to Resolution No. 39391, authorized funding for two Latino Roundtable town hall meetings that were held in March and May 2016, and

WHEREAS the meetings revealed many important concerns for Latino residents, namely, the lack of culturally appropriate resources and cultural awareness among City residents with regard to the Latino community, the impacts of federal immigration policies, concern for the environment and stewardship of natural resources, lack of educational opportunities for Latino youth, and the safety and security of the Latino community in the City, and

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WHEREAS the data collected at the Town Hall meetings, in the form of survey results and notes from breakout discussion groups, was compiled into a report that was presented at the City Council at the July 12, 2016, Study Session, and

WHEREAS the report gives City employees and other service providers the opportunity to better engage with and provide greater service to the Latino community, and

WHEREAS the City Council is directing the City Manager to work with staff to identify opportunities for collaboration, education, greater representation, and enhanced community engagement to ensure Latino residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs; Now, Therefore,

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

That the City Council hereby accepts the July 2016 Final Report from the Latino Town Hall Task Force, and directs the City Manager to work with staff to identify opportunities for collaboration, education, greater representation, and enhanced community engagement with the Latino community.

Mayor

Chief Deputy City Attorney