



**CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST (CCR)**

**TO:** Deputy Mayor Blocker & Members of the City Council  
**FROM:** Mayor Victoria Woodards and Chief Policy Analyst Melanie Harding  
**COPIES TO:** Elizabeth Pauli, City Mgr; Tadd Wille, Deputy City Mgr; Bill Fosbre, City Atty  
**SUBJECT:** **A Request for Council Contingency Funds for 2021 Tacoma Reads**  
**DATE:** May 20, 2021

---

**ITEM/ISSUE PROPOSED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

I respectfully request City Council concurrence for a \$10,000 City Council Contingency Fund request to support the 2021 Tacoma Reads Together events.

**BRIEF BACKGROUND:**

“Tacoma Reads” is our beloved, local community reads program, where the larger community is encouraged to read, think, and discuss compelling and meaningful themes from a selected book. The City works with Tacoma Public Library to select titles for adult, young adult, and children and their families around a shared theme; develop programming; and arrange for a Tacoma event with the author of the adult selection. This year, in partnership with the support of the Tacoma Urban League as our primary event sponsor, the following titles have been selected:

The children’s selection for the 2021 Tacoma Reads program is Jacqueline Woodson's The Day You Begin, a beautifully illustrated picture book about finding the courage to connect even when you feel scared and alone.

For young adults, this year’s selection is A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Moore Ramee, about a young woman who learns about family, friendship, and standing up for what's right

The 2021 adult title is the #1 New York Times Bestseller Caste by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson. In this brilliant book, Isabel Wilkerson gives us a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores, through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings. Tacoma Reads programming will include a virtual event with Isabel Wilkerson that is tailored to the Tacoma community.

In alignment with Resolution No. 40622, the 2021 Tacoma Reads will engage the community in conversations and programming that explore the topics of Race, Social Justice, and Healing. Tacoma Urban League is providing a sponsorship of \$25,000 to expand on the programming for this year’s titles. If approved, this would mark the third year that the City Council has provided a \$10,000 sponsorship of Tacoma Reads. This support has expanded Tacoma Reads to include titles for readers of all ages and allowed a broader range of outreach and greater community conversation on the selected titles, even as Tacoma Public Library has moved to virtual programming.

**ALIGNMENT WITH TACOMA 2025 KEY FOCUS AREAS:**

This legislation, program, project, or event is best aligned with the following:

**Education:** *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the number of quality out of school time learning opportunities distributed equitably across the city.

**Civic Engagement:** *Equity Index Score:* N/A

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

**POLICY DEVELOPMENT PATH:**

Request for Resolution

**FUNDING REQUESTED:**

Council Contingency Fund Request for \$10,000

\*Please provide the Council Contingency Fund Biennial Budget Document if this request is for the use of this fund.

Does the request require some other type of funding?  One-time  Ongoing

In you have a question related to the Council Consideration Request, please contact Chief Policy Analyst to the Mayor Melanie Harding at 253-591-5156 or [melanie.harding@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:melanie.harding@cityoftacoma.org).

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY:

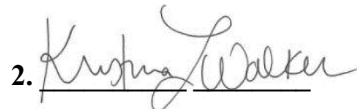
  
Mayor

**SUPPORTING COUNCILMEMBERS SIGNATURES (2 SIGNATURES ONLY)**

*(Signatures demonstrate support to initiate discussion and consideration of the subject matter by City Council for potential policy development and staff guidance/direction.)*

1. 

POS # 3

2. 

POS# At-large

## 2021-2022 Council Contingency Commitments

<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>
	Committed
<b>Council Requested- South Sound Together</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>
<i>Resolution 40747</i>	
A resolution authorizing the one-time use of \$12,000, budgeted from the Council Contingency Fund, for City membership in South Sound Together, for the year 2021.	
<b>Council Requested- Joint Municipal Action Coalition</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>
<i>Resolution 40751</i>	
A resolution authorizing the one-time use of \$6,000, budgeted from the Council Contingency Fund, as the City's contribution towards a Joint Municipal Action Committee sponsored Request for Proposal to provide consulting services to better align the work of participating organizations.	
<b>Council Requested- Opioid Task Force</b>	
<i>Resolution 40753</i>	<b>\$2,000</b>
A resolution directing the City Manager to allocate \$2,000 from the City Council Contingency Fund to the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department to support media and broadcasting for the 2021 Pierce County Opioid Summit.	
<b>Council Requested- Gun Violence Prevention</b>	
<i>Resolution 40767</i>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>
A resolution directing the City Manager to allocate \$25,000 from the City Council Contingency Fund in order to hire a facilitator to convene workgroups to determine best practices for funding gun violence prevention efforts, and hire a research team to review best practices to address gun and youth violence reduction.	
<b>Council Requested- Tacoma Reads</b>	
<i>To Council June 8, 2021</i>	<b>\$ 10,000.00</b>
City Council concurrence for a \$10,000 City Council Contingency Fund request to support the 2021 Tacoma Reads Together events	
<b>Council Requested - Alling Park</b>	
<i>To Council June 8, 2021</i>	<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>
Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$1,500 to support neighborhood outreach around Alling Park to address illegal use of fireworks by the Safe Streets Campaign, a grassroots organization that unites and inspires neighbors, youth, and businesses to build safe, healthy, and thriving communities.	

**\$56,500**