



**CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

**TO:** Mayor & City Council  
**FROM:** Council Member Catherine Ushka and Council Assistant Lynda Foster  
**COPIES TO:** Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Tadd Wille, Deputy City Manager; Bill Fosbre,  
City Attorney  
**SUBJECT:** **Expanding Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Membership to  
Thirteen Positions**  
**DATE:** October 14, 2021

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**I ask for your support for a resolution to increase the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs membership from 11 to 13.**

**LEGISLATIVE INTENT:**

On December 12, 2017, The Tacoma City Council adopted Resolution 39892, a resolution establishing a Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (CIRA), to be composed of eleven members and an alternate, for the purpose of better engaging immigrant and refugee communities, and to work with community partners and staff to identify and advance positive outcomes related to removing barriers for said communities

On September 23, 2021, CIRA presented their annual report to the Community, Vitality and Safety Council Committee. One item highlighted in the presentation is that CIRA is an active commission with work being done in multiple subcommittees. Currently, some Commissioners serve on more than one subcommittee and it creates capacity limitations for CIRA's work. CIRA requested the Council expand CIRA's membership by two members in order to better distribute the work of the Commission.

DESIRED RESOLUTION DATE: October 26, 2021

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

This program, project, or event is best aligned with the following (Check all that apply):

**Civic Engagement:** *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the number of residents who participate civically through volunteering and voting.

Elected officials, boards, commissions, and volunteer leadership will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma community.

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.

Representation at public meetings will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma community


**If you have a question related to the Council Contingency Fund Request, please contact Lynda Foster at 253.219.0339 or [Lynda.Foster@CityofTacoma.org](mailto:Lynda.Foster@CityofTacoma.org).**

**SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member Ushka

**SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS 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# 1 \_\_\_\_\_