



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Mayor Victoria Woodards and Interim Chief Policy Analyst Bucoda Warren
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Council Contingency Fund Request - Tacoma Reads - March 22, 2022
DATE: March 10, 2022

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing the one-time use of \$10,000 from the Council Contingency fund to support the 2022 Tacoma Reads program.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Victoria Woodards, Deputy Mayor Catherine Ushka, and Council Member John Hines

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 the following titles have been selected:

- The children’s and families selection for the 2022 Tacoma Reads program is a Caldecott Honor, a New York Times Editors' Choice, and a Junior Library Guild selection, Thank you, Omu by Oge Mora, a beautifully illustrated picture book about the concepts of generosity and care for one’s community for our youngest Tacoma readers.
- For young adults, this year’s selection is We Belong by Cookie Hionia, is an immigration story of resilience with elements of Filipino folklore woven throughout. The unique format of this book, as it’s told in verse, will inspire our teen readers to tell their own stories.
- The 2022 adult title is Afterlife by Julia Alvarez, a trailblazing Latinx author who wrote the beloved novels “How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents” and “In the Time of the Butterflies”. In this brilliant book, Julia asks the meaningful question, “How do we live in a broken world without losing faith in one another or ourselves?”

If approved, this would mark the fourth 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. Sponsorship in recent years has allowed us to expand to selecting titles for all ages.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

In alignment with Resolution No. 40622 and after careful review, the 2022 Tacoma Reads titles were chosen to engage the community in conversations and programming that explore the topics of race, social justice, and healing, and they have the support of the program’s primary sponsor.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

In alignment with Resolution No. 40622, the 2022 Tacoma Reads will engage the community in conversations and programming that explore the topics of Race, Social Justice, and Healing. Conversations around race, social justice, and healing can contribute to the learning and raising of awareness and have the potential to limit the impacts of and/or reverse the impacts of systemic racism within the community and public institutions.

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:* Moderate Opportunity

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

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

Tacoma Reads provides quality out-of-school learning opportunities by encouraging the community to read, think, and discuss compelling and meaningful themes from selected books. 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. By engaging in shared conversations on important topics together we can also inspire our youth and community to get more involved in building their community.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1.do not fund request	More funds are available for future emergent needs	Tacoma Reads will be without necessary funding that may lead to scaled down events

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Tacoma Public Library has performance metrics for programming. No additional follow up is needed.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

The sponsor recommends that Council approve the resolution allocating \$10,000 from the Council Contingency Fund for the 2022 Tacoma Reads program.



FISCAL IMPACT:

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1.1030 – Council Contingency Fund	660000		\$10,000
TOTAL			\$10,000

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

2022-2023 Council Contingency Commitments

2022-2023	\$ 250,000.00
(Remaining balance from 2021 that will be carried over)	\$ 88,592.09
Council Requested - Seed Internships	\$ 31,000.00
Resolution 40919	
<i>A Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$31,000 to fund the full or partial costs of five or more Tacoma-based small businesses or non-profits of hosting a Seed Internship.</i>	
Council Requested - Daffodil Parade	\$ 20,000.00
Resolution 40925	
A resolution authorizing the one-time use of \$20,000 from the Council Contingency Fund to be applied to the cost of in-kind services provided by the City of Tacoma such as traffic control devices and traffic control services.	
Council Requested - Tacoma Reads	\$ 10,000.00
To Council March 22, 2022	
A request for City Council concurrence for a \$10,000 City Council Contingency Fund request to support the 2022 Tacoma Reads Together events.	
	\$ 338,592.09
Total Amount Allocated	\$ 61,000.00
Current Balance	\$ 277,592.09