



RESOLUTION NO. 41463

1 A RESOLUTION relating to stormwater; authorizing the execution of an interlocal
2 agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology, in the amount
3 of \$1,224,287, and accepting and depositing said sum into the Stormwater
4 Fund, to monitor stormwater transport of contaminants of emerging concern
5 in Western Washington, through December 31, 2025.

6 WHEREAS persistent, bio accumulative, and toxic compounds are
7 hazardous to human and environmental health, and several higher profile
8 chemicals have not been previously characterized in municipal stormwater
9 systems in Western Washington, and

10 WHEREAS Environmental Services ("ES") has one of the nation's richest
11 datasets for stormwater and storm sediment pollutant management, and

12 WHEREAS these datasets will be leveraged to explore correlations with
13 several other contaminants of emerging concern ("CEC") that need to be
14 characterized in typical Municipal Stormwater Separate Stormwater Systems,
15 specifically per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS"), 6PPD-Quinone
16 ("6PPDQ"), and microplastics, and

17 WHEREAS 6PPDQ was identified by the University of Washington –
18 Tacoma ("UWT") in December 2020 as an abundant compound in stormwater,
19 and

20 WHEREAS 6PPDQ comes from preservatives used in rubber, particularly
21 vehicle tires, and is incredibly toxic to coho salmon and other Washington
22 endangered and threatened fish in the Puget Sound, and
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1 WHEREAS the Washington State Legislature has funded the Department
2 of Ecology ("Ecology") to identify use of these rubber preservatives in other
3 consumer products that may find their way into wastewater and stormwater, and
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5 WHEREAS the Environmental Protection Agency and Ecology are actively
6 pursuing regulation of these chemicals in stormwater discharge permits as well
7 as scientific and engineering studies to better understand fate, transport, and
8 treatment, and
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10 WHEREAS ES staff and its laboratory are in partnership with UWT and
11 their work with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, several
12 Washington tribes, and Washington State University Puyallup, and
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14 WHEREAS this project will use the new method developed by our ES
15 laboratory for 6PPDQ to analyze storm sediment samples, which will help us for
16 compliance sampling in the future, and these findings will be incorporated into
17 several of the City's stormwater planning strategies for stormwater management,
18 each of which have their own topical and public meetings, and
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20 WHEREAS laboratory results from stormwater monitoring studies will also
21 be used in the City's new modeling tool developed in the Urban Watersheds
22 Protection Plan, and
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24 WHEREAS in the City, the abundance of some toxic contaminants such as
25 metals and polychlorinated biphenyls are well understood, but the concentration of
26 new CEC such as PFAS, 6PPDQ, tire-wear particles, and other microplastics are
not well studied anywhere in Western Washington, and



1 WHEREAS this interlocal agreement will support a field study to gather
2 the first comprehensive Western Washington dataset to understand the
3 abundance of these CEC, and this data will inform the following strategic policy
4 goals: (1) to strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents, (2) to
5 ensure all City residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their
6 needs, (3) to assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built
7 environment, and (4) to encourage and promote an efficient and effective
8 government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents, and
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11 WHEREAS this interlocal agreement provides funding to gather data to
12 better understand the abundance of CEC in stormwater and will be among the
13 first projects in the region to do so, as such, no significant outreach has been
14 performed by the City to date, and

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16 WHEREAS this award will also support the ES project management staff
17 and a field study on stormwater in the City's stormwater pipes, as well as
18 coordination with 13 other Western Washington jurisdiction's stormwater pipes,
19 stormwater sample collection, laboratory coordination, and data analysis and
20 reporting, and; Now, Therefore,

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

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23 That the proper officers of the City are hereby authorized to enter into an
24 interlocal agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology for
25 Environmental Services, in the amount of \$1,224,287, and accepting and depositing
26 said sum into the Stormwater Fund, to monitor stormwater transport of contaminants



1 of emerging concern in Western Washington, through December 31, 2025, as more
2 specifically set forth in the document on file in the office of the City Clerk.

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4 Adopted _____

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Mayor

7 Attest:
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9 _____
City Clerk

10 Approved as to form:
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12 _____
Deputy City Attorney

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