



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Allyson Griffith, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)
COPY: Community Vitality and Safety Committee (CVS)
PRESENTER: Vicky McLaurin, Interim Assistant Director, NCS
SUBJECT: Community Trauma Response Team (CTRT)
DATE: February 23, 2023

PRESENTATION TYPE:
Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

Since 2019, JCW & Associates (also known as: Tacoma Ceasefire) has offered social and emotional support to the community. Staff will be providing the Committee an update on the launch of a Community Trauma Response Team (CTRT) program.

BACKGROUND:

In 2015, the community sent the Tacoma City Council a petition to form a “Community Trauma Response Team” to be deployed when acts of violence, such as shootings, take place that may cause trauma for community members who witness those incidents. In 2016, the Community Police Advisory Committee (CPAC) engaged with staff to review similar teams from a group referring to themselves as The Conversation, to establish a volunteer-based organization providing on-scene support for families and community members experiencing qualifying traumatic events. Due to staff turn-over, the project did not move forward until 2019.

In 2019, the City released a Request for Proposal to identify a service provider to respond to a wide range of community trauma involving violence such as homicides, incidents of gun violence and violent crimes, natural disasters, and other incidents resulting in community trauma and crisis. In 2020, the City contracted with a third-party agency, however at the request of the community the contract was terminated in June 25, 2021. The City has been seeking an alternate provider since that contract termination.

ISSUE:

JCW & Associates operates the Tacoma Ceasefire a similar program and is able to expedite implementation of the program, incorporating a community response component to the existing service model. The CTRT will assist the community in healing and provide community volunteer who will listen to the community and allow them to express their opinions and concerns. CTRT will provide support and referrals designed to offer immediate, compassionate, equitable, and practical resources for community members impacted by trauma and serious loss. CTRT responders will focus on the community’s emotional needs while the Tacoma Police Department (TPD) and Tacoma Fire Department (TFD) focus on the incident response. Staff and the provider will attend the CVS meeting to provide an update on program launch.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.



FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing only. However, the fiscal impact to the budget for one year is \$150,000.

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1185 - MHCD	859310	5330100	\$150,000
TOTAL			\$150,000

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information briefing only.