



TO: Interim City Manager Hyun Kim
FROM: Teresa Green, Assistant Finance Director/Budget Officer *TG*
Andy Cherullo, Finance Director *AC*
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Memorandum of Understanding: City of Tacoma and Parks Tacoma re: Participatory Budgeting
DATE: February 24, 2026

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing the execution of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Parks Tacoma in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the design and construction of the Skate Park budgeted from Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding. A MOU is required between Parks Tacoma and the City to be able to provide funding to Parks Tacoma for the design and construction of the Skate Park that was the project selected through the Participatory Budgeting Program in Council District 2.

BACKGROUND:

Participatory Budgeting is a democratic process, by which a community decides how to spend a portion of their government's budget. The City started this process in Council District 2 in 2024 setting aside \$1,000,000 for participatory budgeting. The voting process took place in June-September of 2024 and a covered Skate Park under I-705 received the winning number of votes, with over 6,000 votes cast. Parks Tacoma has agreed to implement the project, and this resolution authorizes a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to provide Parks Tacoma \$1,000,000 in funding towards the design and construction of the Skate Park.

Parks Tacoma has agreed to manage the Skate Park project, including site acquisition through a lease with the Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT), design, planning, community outreach and engagement, permitting, and construction, and will develop a plan for Parks Tacoma's operation and long-term maintenance of the Skate Park. The MOU also recognizes that Parks Tacoma will need to secure additional funding to complete the project.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Participatory Budgeting in Council District 2 affects about 45,000 residents of that area, but the accessibility of the proposed location of the Skate Park means that it will be enjoyed by residents of all of Tacoma and will likely be a draw regionally as it will be located close to the Pierce Transit light rail station, and on several bus lines. It is accessible from the downtown area where several of the schools we involved are located. The 6,000 voters for this project were racially and ethnically diverse and included many voters under the ages of 18 as we went into the middle schools and high schools in this Council District. With this process we committed this funding to the community, and this was the winning project after more than 6,000 people cast their votes.

ALTERNATIVES:



Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Reject the Resolution		Parks Tacoma would not have funding to implement the project. City would not fulfill its commitment made through the Participatory Budgeting process, harming community trust.
2. Find another new agency or department to implement.		City departments are not equipped to implement this type of project based on feasibility findings during the Participatory Budgeting process. Searching for an alternative would delay implementation.

Some of the major benchmarks that indicate success include: Prepare Request for Quote for Design Professional, Procurement of Design Professional, Request for Proposal (RFP) for Design completed, Selection of a Designer, Feasibility and Preliminary Design, WSDOT Lease, RFP for Construction, Construction Contract, Construction and Completion of Project. We anticipate following up semi-yearly with Parks Tacoma staff and will anticipate yearly Council progress reports of successes and/or changes.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
Fund 3211-GGOV	814110	5600000	\$1,000,000
TOTAL			

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

Fund 3211 General Government Capital

Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget? YES

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

YES

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

NO

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?

NO

ATTACHMENTS:

MOU Parks Tacoma Skate Park