



TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Brennan Kidd, P.E. PTOE, Assistant Division Manager, Public Works
Ramiro A. Chavez, P.E. PgMP, Director/City Engineer, Public Works ^{DS} RACPP
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution - Honorary Street Naming Request - Puyallup Tribe of Indians – October 8, 2024
DATE: September 20, 2024

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution conferring honorary street names in the Puyallup Tribe of Indians’ native Twulshootseed language for 28 public roadways, comprising 62 intersections, and resulting in approximately 174 honorary signs to be installed within the 1873 Survey Area of the Puyallup Reservation.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Woodards, and Council Members Sadalge and Walker

BACKGROUND:

This Department’s Recommendation is Based On: In accordance with Resolution No. 41009, which adopted the amendments to the City’s *Policy on Place Names and Name Changes*, honorary street naming requests are reviewed and vetted at several levels: Mayor’s Office, individual Departments/Divisions, and the Council’s Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee. The final review and decision to approve naming requests lies with the City Council. City staff reviewed the naming proposal in accordance with the City’s adopted policy and presented the findings to the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee (IPS). On September 11, 2024, the IPS Committee unanimously approved forwarding the proposal to the full City Council for consideration. If the proposed resolution is adopted, approximately 174 honorary signs—displaying varying names in the Twulshootseed language (along with standardized tribal pictograph) and with translated meanings pertinent to the heritage of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians (Puyallup Tribe)—will be coordinated with the City and contracted forces to be fabricated and installed at approximately 62 intersections within the 1873 Survey Area of the Puyallup Reservation (within Eastern Tacoma). The existing and official street names of the roadways and intersections involved will remain in effect, and the honorary naming/signs will be informational, but they will also be an important way for the Puyallup Tribe to convey their oral history to tribal community areas and the Eastside of Tacoma.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

As conditioned in the *Policy on Place Names and Name Changes*, Puyallup Tribal Council or designee initiated honorary requests within the 1873 survey area of the Puyallup Reservation are not required to produce a signed petition in support of the proposal. Instead, these proposals should demonstrate broad community support in the vicinity of the location of the honorary name. To address this expectation, the Puyallup Tribe is planning a companion website for more information as well as other interpretive signs to be placed on Tribal land within the general areas of the honorary street name signing. The sum of these various efforts will increase knowledge and visibility of their language and make resources available to the community to help them to learn and grow with the Puyallup Tribe. The Puyallup Tribe hopes for future walking tours and local school involvement and will update their website with additional resources as needed.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

Approval of this proposal would help reduce racial and other inequities, disparities, and/or discrimination for the under-represented people and government of the Puyallup Tribe. Honorary naming of the requested roadways



within the 1873 Survey Area of the Puyallup Reservation is fitting and appropriate and supports the Puyallup Tribe’s efforts to revitalize the Twulshootseed language—the original language of this area. The proposed honorary street name signs will provide a Puyallup creation story context to the Eastside of Tacoma using the names for different objects, figures, and places as the honorary street names displayed in Twulshootseed. It is an opportunity to reconcile and breathe life into the Puyallup language once again, after having been historically suppressed and shunned from being spoken.

Economy/Workforce: *Equity Index Score: Very Low Opportunity*
Increase positive public perception related to the Tacoma economy.

Education: *Equity Index Score: Low Opportunity*
Increase the number of quality out of school time learning opportunities distributed equitably across the city. Demonstrate community support for education by increasing support for school levies and bonds; volunteering and mentoring youth.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score: Low Opportunity*
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.

Livability: *Equity Index Score: Low Opportunity*
Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

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

Economy/Workforce: the support/approval/investment of acknowledging honorary street name signing within the 1873 Survey Area of the Puyallup Reservation shows City support for promoting Tribal heritage and opportunity to understand it better through public display. **Education:** The Council’s support of the honorary naming will be heightened through the Puyallup Tribe’s planned engagement at different levels including educating school children and the surrounding community about tribal heritage and their Twulshootseed language. **Civic Engagement:** the presence of the honorary street name signs may encourage Tribal and other community residents and visitors to inquire more about the honorary naming—as displayed in a different language than English—and in the process, learn more about the Puyallup Tribe, their heritage, and their language. **Livability:** the time and investment in enhancing a portion of the City—and specifically one that has been historically under-served, under-represented, and generally a low area of opportunity—shows City support for the diverse areas that comprise our community and its people.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Do not approve.	Eliminates introduction of new infrastructure assets that eventually require maintenance (or replacement).	Significantly detracts from years of collaboration with the Puyallup Tribe on an updated Place Naming policy and how to respectfully include opportunities for our Tribal neighbors.
2. Approve for an area less than/more concentrated than proposed.	Introduces less new infrastructure assets that eventually require maintenance (or replacement).	In addition to the above, having only a portion of the “story” that is intended to be told by the full complement of signs and selected/assigned names diminishes the full value of the proposal and the Tribe’s plan for associated educational opportunities once the signs are in place.



EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

If the proposed resolution is adopted, the honorary street names will be in effect for 15 years. The City, in written partnership with the Puyallup Tribe, will facilitate the fabrication and installation of the signs, and then maintain the honorary signs, as needed, during the 15-year period. At the end of the 15-year period, the signs will be at the end of their expected useful life and will likely need replacement. Per Resolution No. 41009, if the applicant desires the name to remain in place after the 15-year period, the City will reconvene the staff workgroup to evaluate the proposal, and if approved, the applicant will be responsible for the cost to install any replacement signs.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Staff and IPS Committee’s recommendation is for Council approval of this request. Honorary naming of this nature and for the proposed extent is a remarkable opportunity to partner with the Puyallup Tribe and support their efforts at preserving and publicizing their cultural heritage in an unprecedented way.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Pre-emptively, and in the interest of expediting realization of this proposal if approved by Council, the City and Puyallup Tribe have established a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in March of 2024 which includes terms such as: “The City agrees to complete the project either (a) by using its own personnel, (b) by contracting for performance of the work, or (c) through a combination of both of the foregoing; and that “the Tribe agrees to pay/reimburse the City for the full cost of completing the project as set forth herein.”

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1065 PW Street Fund	PWK-01041-01-01	Various	\$161,146.83
TOTAL			\$161,146.83

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

The Puyallup Tribe will reimburse the City for project-related expenses.

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

NO, PLEASE EXPLAIN BELOW

The Puyallup Tribe will be reimbursing the City for project-related expenses, as documented in an MOU.

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

No

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

YES. The City will incur nominal additional maintenance costs for the expanded infrastructure during the expected 15-year life of the signs. These costs are expected to be offset by the upgrading of existing signs as agreed in the MOU.

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

No

ATTACHMENTS:

- Memorandum of Understanding
- Application Materials