



City of Tacoma

City Council

July 1, 2026

Letter of Support

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Evaluation Committee,

The City of Tacoma is pleased to write in strong support of Parks Tacoma's grant request through the WWRP Local Parks program for the Wapato Park Playground Improvements project.

This project will renovate aging play equipment and surfacing within the existing playground and expand the play area boundary, providing enhanced play opportunities and increased recreational value at Wapato Park in Tacoma. The project will include new site furnishings, additional day-use amenities, accessibility improvements, and enhanced vegetation. The play equipment will be designed to accommodate both 2-5 year-old play and 5-12 year-old play and will be designed based on community input and prioritize youth voice in the design process.

Wapato is considered a signature community park with unique character and a wide community appeal based on a diverse range of recreational offerings. This park serves an important role for both passive open space and active recreation for more than 6,000 residents within a 10-minute walk of the park. Wapato Park is located within the South End neighborhood of Tacoma, which is a historically underserved community and a high priority area for improvements based on Parks Tacoma's 2024-2030 System and Strategic Plan. The existing playground at Wapato Park is one of the oldest playgrounds in Parks Tacoma's system and replacement parts are increasingly hard to source. This project will provide enhanced active play in Wapato Park and be an asset to the surrounding community.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Mayor Anders Ibsen

Council Member John Hines – Position 1

Council Member Sarah Rumbaugh – Position 2

Council Member Jamika Scott – Position 3

Council Member Sandesh Sadalge – Position 4

Council Member Joe Bushnell – Position 5

Council Member Latasha Palmer – Position 6

Council Member Olgy Diaz – Position 7

Council Member Kristina Walker – Position 8