



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Troy Stevens, Senior Real Estate Specialist, Public Works
Ramiro A. Chavez, P.E. PgMP, Director/City Engineer, Public Works
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution – Setting Public Hearing for Street Vacation 124.1459 – Board of Regents of the University of Washington – June 17, 2025
DATE: May 15, 2025

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SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution setting Thursday, July 24, 2025, at 1:30 p.m., as the date and time for a hearing before the Hearing Examiner for petitioner's request to vacate a portion of South 19th Street, lying between Market Street and Jefferson Avenue, to allow for future growth and development of the University of Washington Tacoma campus.

BACKGROUND:

This Department's Recommendation is Based On: Receipt of a Petition to Vacate public right of way, as filed by Board of Regents of the University of Washington.

The street right of way was dedicated to the public in the Map of New Tacoma, W.T. in 1875. The Board of Regents of the University of Washington is filing the petition to vacate a portion of the South 19th Street right of way to allow for future growth and development of the University of Washington Tacoma campus.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

This resolution to set a hearing date before the Hearing Examiner will initiate the public notice/community engagement process.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

The setting of a hearing date will allow for community engagement and inclusion in the street vacation process.

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

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they can have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

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

Pursuant to Revised Code of Washington 35.79 and Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) 9.22, setting a hearing date will allow the Petition to Vacate to be heard by the Hearing Examiner, who in turn will issue a report of the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommendations to the City Council for their consideration.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Council could decide not to approve the resolution setting the hearing date.	None	Petitioner's street vacation petition would not advance, UW Tacoma may need to reconsider their campus expansion and master planning efforts.



EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Evaluation and follow up will consist of the Hearing Examiner report and recommendation to City Council for final determination.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

The Public Works Department recommends City Council approve this request to set the Hearing Examiner's public hearing date for July 24, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact. This action only sets the date of the hearing before the Hearing Examiner.

Fund Number & Name	COST (CC/WBS/ORDER)	OBJECT	Cost Element	Total Amount
N/A				
TOTAL				

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

There is no Funding source to support the expense of setting a hearing date for street vacation petitions other than the \$500 application fee received from the petitioner to process the Petition to Vacate, which may or may not be full cost recovery for staff time.

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

No, PLEASE EXPLAIN BELOW

There are no expenditures/revenues planned and budgeted related to the setting of hearing dates for street vacations. However, any compensation received from petitioner for the value of the right of way shall be deposited in City funds in accordance with TMC 9.22.010.

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

No.

There are no financial costs to the City for not setting a hearing date. However, there may be financial costs to the petitioner.

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

No.

Setting a hearing date does not have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact.

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

No.

Setting a hearing date does not change the City's FTE/personnel counts.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Aerial Map
- Street Map