



RESOLUTION NO. 40380

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR WOODARDS AND COUNCIL MEMBER MELLO

2 A RESOLUTION directing the City Manager to review the City's *Policy on Place*
3 *Names and Name Changes* and provide recommendations for policy
4 updates to the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee.

5 WHEREAS the City's *Policy on Place Names and Name Changes*, last
6 updated in 2010, sets criteria and parameters around the naming of municipally
7 owned property and streets, and

8 WHEREAS the scope of the policy includes buildings and structures,
9 including overpasses, bridges and viaducts; real property, including open spaces
10 and parks; and rights-of-way, including, under certain circumstances, streets, and
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12 WHEREAS, since the last update, certain issues with the current policy and
13 its procedural process have been identified, including the following:

- 14 • The policy criteria are not well-aligned with current City policy priorities,
15 including the concepts of equity, inclusion, and reconciliation, although a
16 growing number of requests are driven by these goals;
- 17 • The policy limits the discretion of the City Council, and instead designates
18 the Landmarks Preservation Commission as the primary forum for the
19 process, regardless of whether there is a historical component to the
20 request or whether the name change request is sponsored or endorsed by
21 the Mayor or Council Members;
- 22 • The policy is not well-suited for time-sensitive or noncontroversial requests
23 that already have the stated support of the City Council; and
- 24 • The policy pertaining to the naming of property after an individual limits the
25 practice to only those who have passed away,

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WHEREAS, at the Study Session of July 16, 2019, Council Member Mello
shared a Council Consideration Request relating to improving the City's
responsiveness to naming/renaming requests of municipally owned property, and



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recommending that the City undertake a review of the policy to address the issues identified above and implement improvements to reduce the bureaucracy involved in the process, while being mindful of the staff time and other costs to the City, private sector, and other government agencies related to these requests, and

WHEREAS the proposed recommendations for policy updates shall be provided to the Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee no later than Fall 2019; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

That the City Manager is hereby directed to review the City's *Policy on Place Names and Name Changes* and provide recommendations for policy updates to the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee no later than Fall 2019.

Adopted _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Deputy City Attorney