



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Council Member Joe Bushnell
COPY: City Council and Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution – Wheelstops along South D Street, between S 72nd and S 74th Street – March 21, 2023
DATE: March 15, 2023

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing the use of \$12,500 Council Contingency Funds to install wheelstops along South D Street, from South 72nd Street to South 74th Street on the East side of the street.
[Council Member Bushnell]

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Deputy Mayor Kristina Walker, Council Member Joe Bushnell, and Council Member Olgy Diaz

BACKGROUND:

The Council Member’s Recommendation is Based On:

This request to fund wheelstops supports the on-going place-making efforts of the South End Neighborhood Council (SENCo) on South D Street. The east side of this street, between South 72nd and South 74th Streets, was until recently vacant, gravel-covered right of way. It has a history of encampments, litter and dumping, and graffiti along a retaining wall. SENCo has long advocated for investment along this street, and in recent months has taken a leadership role in finding funding and community partners to create positive change. This has included applying for and receiving grants for planting trees and for a 40 foot mural along the retaining wall. Through a partnership with the City’s Environmental Services depave program, select gravel areas have been removed and replaced with Tagro where trees will be planted. Pierce Conservation District and SENCo partnered in recruiting volunteers to plant the trees and spread mulch, and to water the trees for at least three years to preserve their health. SENCo also received a grant to host a block party this summer to celebrate the space and bring together community.

The requested contingency funds would fund wheelstops to act as a semi-permanent curbing to protect the trees being planted and maintain this area as positive space for the community. This is especially important as the new trees establish themselves. The estimate to install the wheelstops was provided by the City’s Public Works department. An installation timeline has not been determined; the intent is to have work done during regular work hours during the week in order to avoid extra costs that would be needed for work done during overtime hours.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

For years, neighbors around South D Street, between S 72nd and S 74th, have asked the City to make infrastructure investments in the area to deter negative behavior and enhance the sense of space and community. Sponsors of this resolution met with the South End Neighborhood Council to learn more about their overall vision for the space, and how SENCo is leading this project by applying for grants and organizing community partners. This request supports their efforts and preserves the investments community is rallying around.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility: (Mandatory)

This location is in an area that ranks very low opportunity on the City’s equity index. This score mirrors known data on the reduced tree canopy cover in the South End of Tacoma and acknowledges the health impacts and



increased temperatures of neighborhoods with fewer trees. SENCo volunteers have organized the planting of over 30 street trees and are asking the City to partner by providing a semi-permanent curbing option that would help preserve this investment and improve health outcomes for the community.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score:* Low Opportunity

Increase the number of residents who participate civically through volunteering and voting.

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:* Very Low Opportunity

Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

How does your policy, program, or service help or harm the health of the natural environment?² (e.g. reduction in carbon emissions, open space conditions, sustainability, clean air, water and soil, and noise and light pollution).

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

The South End Neighborhood ranks as “low opportunity” on the equity index. The specific area of investment ranks as “Very low opportunity”. The South End Neighborhood Council is organizing community throughout their neighborhood council district, showing residents across the south end how valuable their participation is and how neighbors can collectively make a large impact in their own quality of life. The specific investments made will improve health outcomes and livability for a very low opportunity area. Increased tree canopy has positive health impacts that will improve quality of life and increase the health of the natural environment.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Do not fund any curbing	Preserves funding for other community priorities	Leaves newly planted trees vulnerable to vehicles, does not show Council partnership to an outstanding community effort
2. Seek to fund a curbing option as part of the biennium budget	Allows for strategic, long-term planning	Slower process, might take too long to install and trees could be harmed in the interim
3. Seek a different barrier to place along the street	Allows for creative, potentially lower cost solutions	Could be time intensive, could be less effective

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Staff should determine how to incorporate the installation of these wheelstops into their work plan after street trees planting is complete.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

The recommendation is to augment the work of the South End Neighborhood Council by installing wheelstops along the east side of South D Street, between 72nd and 74th Streets.



FISCAL IMPACT:

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1. 1030 - Council Contingency Fund	660000		\$12,500
TOTAL			\$12,500

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

COUNCIL CONTINGENCY FUND

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

NO, PLEASE EXPLAIN BELOW

The Council Contingency Fund provides an established amount of funding each year for unbudgeted Council sponsored initiatives.

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

No

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

No

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

No

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution

2023 Council Contingency Commitments

2023-2024	\$	225,000.00
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Resolution 41151

Council requested - South Sound together	\$	12,000.00
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A Resolution authorizing 2023 membership in South Sound Together, in the amount of \$12,000.

Resolution 41150

Council Requested - Welcoming Interactive Conference Participation Sponsorship	\$	4,800.00
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Council Contingency Fund expenditure for \$4,800 to fund two Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs' Members and a Council Member Participation in the 2023 Welcoming Interactive Conference

To Council March 21, 2023

Council Requested - Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma Youth Summit 2023	\$	5,000.00
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Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$5,000 to sponsor the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma 2023 Youth Summit

To Council March 21, 2023

Council Requested - Raising Girls Care Package Initiative	\$	10,000.00
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Council Contingency Fund expenditure for \$10,000 to fund the Raising Girls Non-Profit Organization's "One Bag Drive" to support the creation and distribution of 500 care bags with essential hygiene items to youth and young adults in Tacoma.

To Council March 21, 2023

Council Requested - Wheelstops	\$	12,500.00
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Contingency Fund of \$12,500 expenditure to install wheelstops along South D street, from S. 72nd to S. 74th on the east side of the street.

To Council March 21, 2023

Council Requested - Khmer New Year Celebration	\$	10,000.00
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Council Member Bushnell provides the attached Council Action memorandum for a Resolution authorizing the use of \$10,000 of Council contingency funding to support the first annual Khmer New Year Celebration.

Starting Balance	\$	225,000.00
Total Amount Allocated	\$	54,300.00
Current Balance	\$	170,700.00