



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Council Member Sarah Rumbaugh
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution – Restoring the LeRoy Street Clock – December 20, 2022
DATE: December 14, 2022

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing a Council Contingency Fund expenditure of up to \$35,000 for the restoration of the LeRoy Street Clock on Broadway Street in downtown Tacoma.
[Council Member Rumbaugh]

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Deputy Mayor Ushka, Council Member Bushnell, and Council Member Rumbaugh

BACKGROUND:

The Council Member’s Recommendation is Based On:

Background on the history of the LeRoy Street Clock was provided by Steph Farber of LeRoy Jewelers. The Street Clock presently located in front of LeRoy Jewelers was first brought to Tacoma in 1920. Abraham Rose had the clock installed in front of his jewelry store on S 14th Street and Pacific Avenue where it provided service to the community for about 50 years. Sometime in the late 60s or early 70s, a delivery truck ran into the clock and knocked it down. The broken timepiece was stored in a city warehouse for over a decade. In 1985, LeRoy Jewelers decided to make a statement. They knew about the old Rose Street Clock; they knew the Roses, and they began the search to bring that old clock back to life. LeRoy Jewelers paid over \$10,000 for the reconstruction of the clock; Simon Rose agreed to gift the clock to the City of Tacoma under the condition that the City would maintain it. In 1987 the Clock was finished, set up in its present location on Broadway Street between S 9th Street and S 11th Street, and was dedicated in a community celebration. The clock was stopped intentionally early this year. The gears, after 35 years of constant wear, need to be repaired. Allowing the clock to keep running in its present condition invites a catastrophic failure which would destroy the clockworks entirely. Other structural and cosmetic concerns also need to be addressed to fully restore the clock.

The City of Tacoma researched repairing this historic street clock. In May 2022, the City of Tacoma received a recommendation and estimate of cost. Recommended work included repairs to the case & motion, movement general, gear train, escapement mechanism, winding mechanism, cosmetic improvements, and final regulation and adjustments.

Cost estimates were only provided for four of the eight areas of work. The known estimated costs start at \$17,160, which does not account for unforeseen faults or challenges, materials, and any applicable taxes or fees. A full estimation of work is not possible until after examining the internal workings of the clock. Additionally, funds to repair and repaint the external clock structure also fall outside this initial cost estimation. Staff also identified the need for funds to safely relocate the clock for this restoration work. This request of up to \$35,000 recognizes the broad scope of work necessary to restore the LeRoy Street Clock.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Council Member Rumbaugh received this request from a business owner in downtown Tacoma.



2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility: (Mandatory)

This clock is significant to the Jewish community. It came from the jewelry store on Pacific owned by a Jewish family engaged in a local temple in Tacoma. It is important to save this clock as a part of the history of the Jewish people who came to Tacoma and settled in this area.

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

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate 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:* Moderate Opportunity
Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

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

Since 1987, the Clock has been wound regularly, once a week, by community members and City officials, has been kept on time by the people at LeRoy Jewelers, and has been the sign of presence, stability, dependability and usefulness, as was intended. Pedestrians walking by would glance up to check the time. People on the street would stop and gaze at the working clock movement. Young people would stare at the moving pendulum as it measured the passage of time. The clock connects the downtown business district to its history, creating a more positive perception of the Broadway business area and improving the local quality of life.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Do not invest in historic clock restoration	Save City funds for other priorities	The LeRoy Street Clock is unable to be restored
2. Review historic clocks and develop criteria to prioritize and invest in historic restoration	This would allow for a systemic, City-wide approach to restoring street clocks that are known to be throughout the City	Researching street clocks and developing criteria for investment would be a lengthy process that delays any improvement happening

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

The City of Tacoma will use the provided funds to restore the LeRoy Street Clock. Council will be notified upon the completion of this product, or if these funds are insufficient to complete the work.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Sponsors recommend the City of Tacoma use up to \$35,000 for the restoration of the LeRoy Street Clock in downtown Tacoma.



FISCAL IMPACT:

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1. 1030- Council Contingency Fund	660000		\$35,000
TOTAL			\$35,000

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:

List attachments using bullet points.

- 2021-2022 council Contingency Commitments

2022 Council Contingency Commitments

2022-2023	\$ 250,000.00
(Remaining balance from 2021 that will be carried over)	\$ 85,521.09
Council Requested - Seed Internships	\$ 31,000.00

Resolution 40919
A Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$31,000 to fund the full or partial costs of five or more Tacoma-based small businesses or non-profits of hosting a Seed Internship.

Council Requested - Daffodil Parade	\$ 20,000.00
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Resolution 40925
A resolution authorizing the one-time use of \$20,000 from the Council Contingency Fund to be applied to the cost of in-kind services provided by the City of Tacoma such as traffic control devices and traffic control services.

Council Requested - Tacoma Reads	\$ 10,000.00
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Resolution 40934
A request for City Council concurrence for a \$10,000 City Council Contingency Fund request to support the 2022 Tacoma Reads Together events.

Council Requested - Tacoma Refugee Choir	\$ 25,000.00
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Resolution 40941
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure for \$25,000 to assist the Tacoma Refugee Choir in funding the music video portion of their 2022 spring projects.

Council Requested - Litter Free 253	\$ 2,500.00
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Resolution 40940
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$2,500 to fund litter pick-up tools "litter grabbers," for the annual volunteer-led Litter Free 253 event.

Council Requested - South Sound Together	\$ 12,000.00
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Resolution 40948
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$12,000 to fund grants that support community engagement programs sponsored through South Sound.

Council Requested - Multicultural Childcare Center	\$ 5,000.00
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Resolution 40986
A Council Contingency Fund request to purchase infant formula to support the Multicultural Childcare Center formula drive.

Council Requested - LGBTQIA+ Pride Painting	\$ 2,500.00
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Resolution 40994
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$2,500 to fund three LGBTQ+ Pride painting projects including temporary rainbow crosswalks, permanent rainbow bricks, and temporary rainbow barriers.

Council Requested - Mayors Innovation Project Summer Conference in Tacoma	\$ 6,500.00
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Resolution 41000
A \$6,500 Council Contingency Fund expenditure to sponsor the Mayors Innovation Project Summer Conference in Tacoma.

Council Requested - Safe Youth Awareness Campaign	\$ 35,000.00
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Resolution 40995
A resolution authorizing the one time use of Council Contingency Funds, in the amount of \$35,000, to fund the partial costs to develop and implement an eight-week Safe Youth Awareness Campaign beginning in July 2022.

Council Request - Korean Association Tacoma Building Renovation	\$ 10,000.00
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Resolution 41004
Council Contingency Fund expenditure to support the Korean Association of Tacoma building renovation.

Council Requested - Peace Bus "Every Kid Eats" Summer Program	\$ 2,500.00
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Resolution 41015
Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$2,500 to support the Peace Bus and the "Every Kid Eats" summer program

Council Requested - Hilltop Street Fair	\$ 10,000.00
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Resolution 41018
Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$10,000 to fund entertainment and arts programming at the 2022 Hilltop Street Fair sponsored by the Hilltop Business Association.

Council Requested - UWT Celebrando Comunidad 2022 -Latinx Celebration and Awards	\$ 5,000.00
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Resolution 41028
Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$5,000 to support the 2nd Annual University of Washington Tacoma Celebrando Comunidad: Latinx Celebration and Awards.

Council Requested - Tacoma Urban League Empowerment Awards	\$ 5,000.00
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Resolution 41042
Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$5,000 to support the Tacoma Urban League Empowerment Awards.

Council Requested - Youth Commission of Tacoma Travel to NLC	\$ 5,000.00
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Resolution 41046
Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$5,000 to sponsor the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma travel to the National League of Cities Conference

Council Requested - 2022 Santa Parade	\$ 5,000.00
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Resolution 41074
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure to sponsor the 2022 Santa Parade

Council Requested - Dia de Los Muertos Event	\$ 9,019.84
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To Council December 13, 2022
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$9,019.84 to fund barricades that supported the community-organized and Tacoma Creates-sponsored Dia de los Muertos procession on October 29, 2022 and incurred this unexpected expense.

Council Requested - Faith Community Audit	\$ 10,000.00
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To Council December 20, 2022
A Resolution allocating \$10,000 in Council Contingency Funds to support a faith community audit

Council Requested - Homelessness Solutions Convening with UWT	\$ 20,000.00
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To Council December 20, 2022
A \$20,000 Council Contingency Fund expenditure to support the convening of community conversations at the University of Washington Tacoma to focus on solutions to homelessness in 2023.

Council Requested - Supporting Ukrainian Refugees	\$ 20,000.00
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To Council December 20, 2022
A contingency fund expenditure of \$20,000 to support the Tacoma Community House in assisting Ukrainian refugees with direct client specific assistance for essential needs and programs.

Council Requested - LeRoy Clock	\$ 35,000.00
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To Council December 20, 2022
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of up to \$35,000 for the restoration of the LeRoy Street Clock on Broadway Street in downtown Tacoma.

Council Request - Links to Opportunity Project Office	\$ 10,000.00
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To Council December 20, 2022
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$10,000 to fund existing Public Works Department and Community and Economic Development Department staff to provide education and outreach for the Links to Opportunity project during the construction phase to communicate broadly, consistently, and in real time so that community can actively participate in meaningful dialog to address concerns and issues during construction.

Starting Balance	\$ 338,521.09
Total Amount Allocated	\$ 296,019.84
Current Balance	\$ 42,521.25