



**CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

**TO:** Mayor & City Council  
**FROM:** Council Member John Hines and Policy Analyst Christina Caan  
**COPIES TO:** Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney  
**SUBJECT:** **Resolution – Historic Cushman Street Fair – September 12, 2023**  
**DATE:** September 6, 2023

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**I ask for your support for a Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$8,000 for the Historic Cushman Street Fair, sponsored by the North End Neighborhood Council (NENC).**

**LEGISLATIVE INTENT**

**Council Contingency Fund Request:** The North End Neighborhood Council (NENC) is sponsoring the Historic Cushman Street Fair, a family-friendly event designed to celebrate community and raise public awareness about Tacoma’s historical Cushman and Adams Substations. The event will also celebrate the re-launch of the commitment by the City of Tacoma and Tacoma Public Utilities to finding three potential future uses for the Cushman and Adams Substations buildings and properties. The event will include music, food, drinks, free treats for kids, family activities, a video tour inside the Cushman Substation, and a chance to learn more about the City’s Proctor Neighborhood Plan. The event is planned for September 23 and builds on the tradition of the first Cushman Street Fair held in 2018. Community members from across Tacoma are invited to participate and event organizers are stressing messaging that “these historical buildings belong to all Tacomans.”

This contingency fund request would provide funding for:

Entertainment/Music/Rentals:	\$3,500
Barricades/Permits/Insurance:	\$1,500
Foods/Drinks:	\$1,500
Materials/Supplies/Decorations:	\$1,500

Planning for this event occurred outside the standard City of Tacoma event grant application timeline due to new information regarding Tacoma Public Utilities’ efforts to surplus the Cushman and Adams Substations. This request is intended to provide a one-time opportunity for contingency funds to support the Historic Cushman Street Fair. For future years, event organizers seeking City of Tacoma funds should apply for the City’s event and cultural grant opportunities.

**FUNDING REQUESTED: \$8,000**

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ (CUSTOMER RESEARCH)**

The NENC has long been helping to raise awareness among residents in the community and across the city about the Cushman and Adams substations and potential future uses for the locations. The event is being promoted with the public, the Proctor neighborhood, and historical building enthusiasts.

## 2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

**Equity and Accessibility:** This event will help expand the public’s awareness and knowledge of the historical Cushman and Adams Substations, bolstering the public’s ability to provide input for the City of Tacoma and Tacoma Public Utilities regarding the future use of the buildings and properties. The event will bring people from across Tacoma into the conversation about the future use of these community assets as early as possible, helping to ensure a more inclusive dialogue. In addition, the event will be an opportunity for all community members to have broad access to the grounds of these sites, as well as a video showing of the inside of the Cushman Substation.

The Cushman and Adams Substations are an important part of Tacoma’s history for all residents and notable assets to the City as a whole. Located at the intersection of N. 21st St. and N. Adams St., the Cushman and Adams Substations were built in the mid-1920s to bring electricity from Cushman Dam to Tacoma. For many years, the substations served as active parts of the electric system. In June 2017, the Tacoma City Council placed both substations on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places.

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

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

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicators?

This contingency fund will help expand public awareness and broaden the accessibility of historical locations that are City assets. In addition, the event will provide the public with an opportunity to learn more about these historical properties and how to get involved in helping to determine their potential future uses, creating a more inclusive dialogue. The public will also have an opportunity to share their views and input on the Proctor Neighborhood Plan with City staff. The NENC is an all-volunteer neighborhood council, and this event will help build support for their work and engagement with the community.

## ALTERNATIVES

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
Provide less funding	Preserve some additional contingency funds for other Council priorities.	The Historic Cushman Street Fair would be unable to purchase planned resources for the event, minimizing the event’s value to the community.
Provide more funding	Enable the event to increase programming and community benefit.	The NENC has not requested additional funds.

**EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP**

These contingency funds are intended as a one-time funding source for the Historic Cushman Street Fair. Event organizers will be provided with information on how to apply for future grants and event funding opportunities at the City of Tacoma during standard application cycles.

**SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION**

Sponsors recommend providing \$8,000 for the Historic Cushman Street Fair.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

\$8,000 from Council Contingency Funds.

**If you have a question related to the Council Contingency Fund Request, please contact Christina Caan, Policy Analyst, at (253) 219-0679 (phone) or [ccaan@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:ccaan@cityoftacoma.org).**



**SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Council Member John Hines**

**SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES (2 SIGNATURES ONLY)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ **POS#** 8

2. \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ **POS#** 2

**Mayor's initials** Victoria R. Woodards

## 2023 Council Contingency Commitments

**2023-2024** \$ 225,000.00

**Resolution 41151**

**Council requested - South Sound together** \$ 12,000.00

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

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

**Resolution 41163**

**Council Requested - Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma Youth Summit 2023** \$ 5,000.00

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

**Resolution 41162**

**Council Requested - Raising Girls Care Package Initiative** \$ 10,000.00

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.

**Resolution 41161**

**Council Requested - Wheelstops** \$ 12,500.00

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.

**Resolution 41160**

**Council Requested - Khmer New Year Celebration** \$ 10,000.00

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.

**Resolution 41173**

**Council Requested - Mi Centro's First Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Conference** \$ 20,000.00

A Council Contingency Fund expenditure to sponsor Mi Centro's First Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault conference for \$20,000.

**Resolution 41181**

**Together We End Gun Violence Conference** \$ 10,000.00

A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor the Together We End Gun Violence Conference.

**Resolution 41216**

**Mitigating Impact of City's Light Rail Investment** \$ 20,000.00

Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$20,000 to support efforts to mitigate the impact of the City's light rail investment for the Hilltop Street Fair and Stadium Business District events.

**Resolution 41217**

**City of Tacoma 2023 Juneteenth Celebration** \$ 2,500.00

Council Contingency Fund expenditure to sponsor the City's 2023 Juneteenth Celebration.

**Resolution 41215**

**Summer Coding Workshop Series Sponsorship** \$ 7,000.00

Council Contingency Fund expenditure of up to \$7,000 to sponsor the Summer Coding Workshop Series developed by the Lifelong Kindergarten group at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media Lab and hosted by Tacoma Public Libraries.

**Resolution 41225**

**Buffalo Solider Museum Event Sponsorship** \$ 6,000.00

Council contingency fund expenditure of \$6,000 to sponsor the Buffalo Soldiers Museum's event, "Honoring Our Military Labor Force."

**Resolution 41246**

**2023 National Association of Local Boards of Health Conference Sponsorship** \$ 20,000.00

Resolution authorizing \$20,000 in Council contingency funds to sponsor the 2023 National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) conference.

**Resolution 41245**

**6th Avenue Business District's Art on the Avenue Festival** \$ 10,000.00

A resolution authorizing \$10,000 in Council contingency funds to support the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Business District's 2023 Arts on the Avenue event.

**To Study Session September 12, 2023**

**Historic Cushman Street Fair Sponsorship** \$ 8,000.00

Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$8,000 for the Historic Cushman Street Fair, sponsored by the North End Neighborhood Council (NENC).

**To Study Session September 12, 2023**

**Poverty to Possibilities Summit Sponsorship** \$ 5,000.00

A \$5,000 Council Contingency Fund expenditure to sponsor the Poverty to Possibilities Summit.

<b>Starting Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>225,000.00</b>
<b>Total Amount Allocated</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>162,800.00</b>
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>62,200.00</b>