



TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Ramiro A. Chavez, P.E. PgMP, Public Works Director/City Engineer
COPY: Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee
PRESENTER: Brennan Kidd, P.E. PTOE, Assistant Division Manager, Public Works
SUBJECT: Decorative Crosswalks
DATE: May 14, 2025

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PRESENTATION TYPE:

Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

An informational briefing requested by Council as part of the adoption of Resolution 41539 on October 15, 2024, regarding support for establishing a pride-themed decorative crosswalk on Broadway in Downtown Tacoma. The City's Arts & Cultural Vitality Division of the Community & Economic Development Department and the Public Works Department's Street Operations Division, Transportation Division, and our artist-in-residence have coordinated to plan the conversion of the existing mid-block crosswalk at approximately 930 Broadway to a decorative pride-themed crosswalk. Steps of the process have been initiated and completed, including final determination of the crosswalk design, and the installation schedule is on-track for mid-June of this year. This briefing will also include an update on progress towards the City having policy/guidance documentation to inform any future requests for decorative or aesthetic treatments on traveled portions of the City's public rights-of-way.

BACKGROUND:

In October 2024, Resolution 41539 was initiated by Councilmembers Diaz and Walker and heard by Council to utilize a one-time use of Council Contingency Funds (\$35,000) to install a pride-themed crosswalk, including specific aesthetic elements as described in the Resolution. Council directed City staff to implement the decorative crosswalk at a location on Broadway between South 9th Street and South 11th Street. Some of the objectives intended by this effort, as described in the Resolution, are to acknowledge and celebrate Tacoma's communities of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex, asexual, and two spirit (LGBTQIA2S+) people. The selected aesthetic of the rainbow, including of price flag designs such as the Progress Pride Flag, is supported by other actions taken within the state and nationally to bolster city-community partnerships.

ISSUE:

This informational briefing will provide assurance and support for the proper and diligent use of the Council Funding appropriated by Resolution 41539. The opportunity to convey the progress of the effort also allows for conveying known details, answering potential questions, and providing initial feedback regarding policies for vetting any future requests for decorative or aesthetic treatments on traveled portions of the City's public rights-of-way.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing only. There is no fiscal impact. Staff will provide an update on the allotted budget as part of the informational presentation.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information briefing only. There is no recommendation.