



**TO:** Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** D'Angelo Baker, Management Fellow, City Manager's Office; Bucoda Warren, Chief Policy Analyst to the Mayor; Hyun Kim, Deputy City Manager  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution – Appointing individuals to the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma – Requested for July 18, 2023  
**DATE:** July 7, 2023

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**SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:**

A resolution appointing and reappointing the following individuals to the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma Leadership Team to serve a one-year term to expire June 30, 2024.

- Ashley Brewster, Commission Chair
- Theodore Wygle, Commission Vice-Chair
- Issiah Reiner, Justice & Safety Committee Chair
- Kaitlyn Zeigler, Justice & Safety Committee Vice-Chair
- Anastasia Markham, Environmental Health Committee Chair (Reappointment)
- Yanfei Jia, Environmental Health Committee Vice-Chair
- Beyla Kisembo, Social Health Committee Chair
- Vivian Keough, Social Health Committee Vice-Chair
- Ava Sims, Education, Arts, & Culture Committee Chair (Reappointment)
- Begina Kisembo, Education, Arts, & Culture Committee Vice-Chair

**COUNCIL SPONSORS:**

Mayor Woodards, Council Member Blocker, and Council Member Ushka

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2019, Resolution 40502 established the formal structure of the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma and appointed the inaugural leadership team. Each year since then, the Mayor's Youth Commission elects a 10-member Leadership Team from the general membership to serve a 1-year term: a Chair and Vice-Chair of the entire Commission, as well as a Chair and Vice-Chair of each of the four committees. The Leadership Team is confirmed by the City Council. The Leadership Team meets twice each month and hosts a General Assembly meeting once per month.

The Mayor's Youth Commission convened on June 17, 2023, June 28, 2023, and July 7, 2023, to elect a new Leadership Team to represent all members of the Commission and have submitted their names for confirmation. At this time, 10 individuals are being recommended to the City Council for confirmation.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:**

The recruitment for new leadership was led by the Mayor's Youth Commission, with support from the Commission Liaison from the City, Graduate Tacoma, and from the Foundation for Tacoma Students. The primary method of recruitment was through emails to existing members, social media campaigns through the Commission's Instagram, and through partner channels of the Foundation for Tacoma Students and the City.



**2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

**Equity and Accessibility:**

The youth commission is focused on engaging in projects and programs that support anti-racism work and encourages courageous conversations and efforts to support marginalized communities in Tacoma. The sessions during this summit will focus on themes of social justice, health & safety, education, arts & culture, and environmental justice & climate.

**Education:** *Equity Index Score:* Moderate

Increase the number of quality, after-school-learning opportunities distributed equitably across the city.

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

Increase the number of residents who participate in civic volunteering and voting. To that end, elected officials, boards, commissions, and volunteer leadership will reflect more of the diversity of the Tacoma community. Youth engagement will 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 of Tacoma.

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

The Mayor’s Youth Commission provides opportunities for after-school-learning, and engagement with City and community leaders. The Community Based Commission engages middle and high school students in a reciprocal opportunity to have young people engaged with government, impacting many of the Civic Engagement indicators.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Do not appoint or reappoint members		The commission will have no appointed members to take official actions as the existing youth term ended June 30, 2023

**EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:**

Each year, the outgoing Leadership Team submits an annual report to the City Council that highlights what they have accomplished and outlines their ongoing goals/projects to be continued by the next Leadership Team. This serves as an opportunity for the Council to evaluate their work and engage in discussions with them on continued actions.

**STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the appointment and reappointment of all individuals elected by the 2022-23 Mayor’s Youth Commission members to the Mayor’s Youth Commission Leadership Team for the 2023-24 service year.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None. Biennium support of Mayor’s Youth Commission of Tacoma was allocated in the budget process