



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Lynda Foster, Council Assistant on behalf of Council Member Ushka
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution – Support funding for Tacoma Reads 2019 Events – April 23, 2019
DATE: April 10, 2019

SUMMARY:

Resolution authorizing up to \$10,000 of Council Contingency Funds for expenditures related to the 2019 Tacoma Reads Together program, to include bringing the author of the book *There There*, Tommy Orange, to Tacoma for a book reading, discussion and signing.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Woodards and Council Members Mello and Ushka

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

The strategic policy priorities aligned with this action are:

- Encourage thriving residents with abundant opportunities for life-long learning.
- Cultivate a vibrant cultural sector that fosters a creative, cohesive community.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, Mayor Woodards chooses a book for Tacoma Reads Together, our local community reads program, where the larger community is encouraged to read, think and discuss compelling and meaningful themes from a single book. The Tacoma Public Library works with the City to develop programming, and when possible, to bring the author to Tacoma for a book reading, discussion and book signing. This fall, in partnership with the Puyallup Tribe, we will be bringing award-winning author, Tommy Orange, to Tacoma to discuss his bestselling and award-winning novel *There There*.

This book touches on the concept of identity and how people’s lives are shaped by history, the passage of time and the impact of trauma, poverty and urban life. It was written by a Native American author who weaves the brutal history of American’s first nations through the stories of modern-day, city-dwelling indigenous people. Tacoma Public Library will work with the Mayor’s Office, the Puyallup Tribe, and members of the Mayor’s Youth Commission to plan rich and educational programming and make the book available in a wide variety of formats.

The total funding package for the 2019 programming is \$55,000. At the April 9, 2019 Study Session, Council Member Ushka shared a Council Consideration Request to use \$10,000 of the City Council’s Contingency Fund to assist with these programming costs. The Library will contribute \$20,000 and the Puyallup Tribe of Indians has committed to a \$25,000 contribution. The expenditures will include venues, marketing materials, licensing fees (for film screenings, for example) and honorariums for speakers/artists/scholars etc.

ISSUE

In order to authorize the use of the City Council Contingency Funds for this purpose, a resolution must be adopted.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council could choose to modify or to not approve the requested expenditure.



RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the expenditure of up to \$10,000 of Council Contingency Funds to support the events planned for the 2019 Tacoma Reads Together program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

EXPENDITURES:

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1030 Council Contingency Fund	660000	5310100	\$10,000
TOTAL			\$10,000

* General Fund: Include Department

REVENUES:

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1030 Council Contingency Fund	660000	6311010	\$10,000
TOTAL			\$10,000

FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$10,000

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes

IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED.

N/A