



RESOLUTION NO. 41707

1 A RESOLUTION relating to the Tacoma Fire Department; authorizing the
2 execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Washington State
3 Department of Natural Resources, for forestland response to allow for
4 mutual assistance and cooperation in the control and suppression of
5 wildfires, for a three-year term.

6 WHEREAS the City has been experiencing a growing number of brush and
7 wildland urban interface ("WUI") fires due to hotter, drier, and longer summers, and

8 WHEREAS these fires often include heavy fuel loads, rugged terrain, limited
9 or absent water supply systems, and diminished access for standard Tacoma Fire
10 Department ("TFD") fire engines (Type 1 engines), and

11 WHEREAS these target hazardous WUI areas are capable of fire behavior
12 that can impact civilian and firefighter fire safety, commercial and residential
13 infrastructure, and the livelihoods of our community members, and

14 WHEREAS this Interlocal Agreement ("Agreement") will provide for mutual
15 aid assistance from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources
16 ("DNR") to assist TFD with the suppression of wildfires within our jurisdiction
17 which may include DNR air resources, dozers, heavy equipment, or other
18 resources deemed necessary to contain and control WUI fires within hard to
19 access areas within TFD's jurisdiction, and

20 WHEREAS this Agreement allows for TFD to provide fire protection services
21 within the jurisdiction of DNR, and for DNR to assist in fire suppression within TFD's
22 jurisdiction, and also establishes a process for TFD to be reimbursed by DNR for
23 apparatus and personnel costs related to TFD providing firefighting assistance to
24 DNR, and
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1 WHEREAS many areas within the City that are at the greatest risk for WUI
2 fires are within Very Low to Moderate range areas on the City's Equity Index Map,
3 and by increasing TFD's effectiveness in responding to wildland fires within the City,
4 carbon emissions generated by large wildfires will be reduced and air quality for our
5 residents will be improved, and

7 WHEREAS staff recommends the City enter into a three-year forestland
8 response Agreement with DNR as an avenue to increase the effectiveness of
9 TFD's wildland firefighting response by allowing for mutual aid from DNR; Now,
10 Therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

13 Section 1. That the request of the Tacoma Fire Department, to enter into
14 an Interlocal Agreement with the Washington State Department of Natural
15 Resources ("DNR"), for forestland response to allow for mutual assistance and
16 cooperation in the control and suppression of wildfires, for a three-year term, is
17 hereby approved.
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1 Section 2. That the proper officers of the City of Tacoma are authorized to
2 execute said Agreement substantially in a form on file with the City Clerk and as
3 approved by the City Attorney's Office.
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5 Adopted _____
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7 _____
8 Mayor

9 Attest:
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11 _____
12 City Clerk

13 Approved as to form:
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15 _____
16 Deputy City Attorney
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