



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

TO: Mayor & City Council
FROM: Council Member Kristina Walker and Council Assistant Joseph Franco
COPIES TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Kurtis Kingsolver, Deputy City Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney
SUBJECT: **Council Contingency Request – Support for Infant Formula through Multicultural Childcare Center**
DATE: June 1, 2022

I ask for your support for a Council Contingency Fund request to purchase infant formula to support the Multicultural Childcare Center formula drive in the amount of \$5,000.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT:

Council Contingency Fund Request:

This year, the United States has experienced a severe shortage of infant formula because of the 2021-2022 global supply chain crisis compounded by a large-scale product recall, import restrictions, and market concentration. Unlike other food products, infant formula often does not have an available and acceptable substitute as a source of nutrition for those who rely on it. Without formula, our most vulnerable populations both from an income and health perspective are suffering from these shortages.

As of May 14, nation out-of-stock rates were reported to be 43% up from 31% two weeks prior; and by May 22, they had surged to 70%. The normal rate is typically 10% out of stock on store shelves. In the City of Tacoma, we are not immune to the global supply chain crisis. Many of our local parents have driven across the State to locate infant formula for their baby. The Multicultural Childcare Center has decided to start a drive to support parents that need infant formula.

Though supply chains are beginning to move and slowly return to regular levels, we are still seeing the impacts of the supply chain crisis and will for some time. This funding will help to alleviate the impact to families across Tacoma and provide needed formula now until regular supply chain and stock levels return.

I am requesting to support the Multicultural Childcare Center Infant Formula Drive to address the infant formula needs of our community in the amount of \$5,000.

FUNDING REQUESTED:
\$ 5,000

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Parents of infants that have been affected by the recall of baby formula and the global supply chain shortage will be affected the most as they will be able to take advantage of these funds.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

The cost of infant formula is at an all-time high right now, and by helping to provide cost-free formula for our low-income and BIPOC families, we can help to alleviate one burden of many that have only been exasperated by the pandemic. Ensuring access to formula will also ensure we are improving the overall health outcomes for these youth and addressing our goals as a community for healthier infants.

Livability: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

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

Improve health outcomes and reduce disparities, in alignment with the community health needs assessment and CHIP, for all Tacoma residents

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

Addressing the infant formula shortages will improve health outcomes and reduce disparities in our community, especially for our low-income families. When families cannot access necessary nutrition through formula for their infants, the infants' development will suffer and future health outcomes will be impacted. Providing a vital resource at a time when shelves are empty will help to instill hope and ensure there is a positive perception of our overall quality of life.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
1. Take no action	Save contingency funds for other Council priorities.	Does not address the barriers of access to infant formula
2. increase funding for this request	More access to infant formula for those that are experiencing the shortage	This is not the most sustainable long term to address the needs of the global supply chain for infant formula.

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP:

Through the contract with the Multicultural Childcare Center staff will request that the Multicultural Childcare Center provide a report on how the funds were utilized including amount of formula that the funds will be able to acquire, and how many families were served by this drive.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend that the City Council fully fund this request to support infants and families in Tacoma.

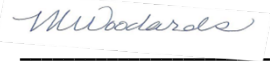

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$5,000 from the Council Contingency Fund account.

If you have a question related to the Council Contingency Fund Request, please contact Joseph Franco at 253-242-0512 or jfranco@cityoftacoma.org.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: 
Council Member Walker

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES (2 SIGNATURES ONLY)

1.  POS# Mayor
2.  POS# 2

Mayor's initials VW

(Mayor's initials for awareness only to ensure alignment and coordination of emergent policies.)

2022 Council Contingency Commitments

2022-2023	\$ 250,000.00
(Remaining balance from 2021 that will be carried over)	\$ 88,592.09
Council Requested - Seed Internships	\$ 31,000.00
Resolution 40919	
A Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$31,000 to fund the full or partial costs of five or more Tacoma-based small businesses or non-profits of hosting a Seed Internship.	
Council Requested - Daffodil Parade	\$ 20,000.00
Resolution 40925	
A resolution authorizing the one-time use of \$20,000 from the Council Contingency Fund to be applied to the cost of in-kind services provided by the City of Tacoma such as traffic control devices and traffic control services.	
Council Requested - Tacoma Reads	\$ 10,000.00
Resolution 40934	
A request for City Council concurrence for a \$10,000 City Council Contingency Fund request to support the 2022 Tacoma Reads Together events.	
Council Requested - Tacoma Refugee Choir	\$25,000
Resolution 40941	
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure for \$25,000 to assist the Tacoma Refugee Choir in funding the music video portion of their 2022 spring projects.	
Council Requested - Litter Free 253	\$ 2,500.00
Resolution 40940	
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$2,500 to fund litter pick-up tools "litter grabbers," for the annual volunteer-led Litter Free 253 event.	
Council Requested - South Sound Together	\$ 12,000.00
Resolution 40948	
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$12,000 to fund grants that support community engagement programs sponsored through South Sound.	
Council Requested - Multicultural Childcare Center	\$ 5,000.00
To Study Session June 7, 2022	
A Council Contingency Fund request to purchase infant formula to support the Multicultural Childcare Center formula drive.	
Starting Balance	\$ 338,592.09
Total Amount Allocated	\$ 105,500.00
Current Balance	\$ 233,092.09