

RESOLUTION NO. 41038

A RESOLUTION relating to the Tideflats Subarea Plan; affirming the future development alternatives to be evaluated within the Tideflats Subarea Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, as recommended by the Tideflats Steering Committee.

WHEREAS, in recognition of the regional significance of Port of Tacoma Manufacturing-Industrial Center ("MIC"), the City of Tacoma, Port of Tacoma, Puyallup Tribe of Indians, City of Fife, and Pierce County have partnered to develop a Tideflats Subarea Plan for adoption by the City as part of the City's Comprehensive Plan, and

WHEREAS, the partner governments approved a Work Plan on February 10, 2019 which memorialized the roles and responsibilities of each partner, and established the Tideflats Steering Committee ("Steering Committee"), comprised of two elected representatives from each government, and

WHEREAS, the Tideflats Subarea Plan ("Subarea Plan") and companion Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") process is intended to create a shared long-term vision and more coordinated approach to development, environmental review, and strategic capital investments in the Tideflats, and

WHEREAS, completion of the Subarea Plan will support the ongoing eligibility for and prioritization of transportation funding in the regional MIC, and

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2020, the Steering Committee approved a Public Engagement Plan to identify the key notification strategies and engagement methods for ensuring broad and representative community participation in the development of the Subarea Plan and EIS, and to describe the decision-making

process for the Subarea Plan and EIS, the role of the partner governments, and methods for accountability and evaluation of the engagement process, and

WHEREAS a visioning phase was also implemented and lasted from January 2021 through the final public meeting in May 2021, and

WHEREAS the purpose of this phase was to provide an opportunity to think broadly about the desired future in the Tideflats Subarea and develop preliminary future scenarios for further consideration and analysis, and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee, on March 24, 2022, unanimously recommended a range of preliminary future development alternatives for the Tideflats, and

WHEREAS, following the Steering Committee recommendation the City initiated the public scoping process, and

WHEREAS the expanded scoping process was conducted in accordance with Washington Administrative Code ("WAC") 197-11-410, and

WHEREAS the scoping comment period started on June 21, 2022, and ended on August 5, 2022, and

WHEREAS, at the September 13, 2022, Study Session, staff presented a summary of comments received during the scoping comment period and following, the City Council conducted a public hearing to receive and consider public comment on the proposed EIS alternatives, and

WHEREAS, upon finalization of the EIS future development alternatives, an EIS under Revised Code of Washington 43.21C.030(2)(c) will be prepared, and

WHEREAS this resolution is a procedural step that will establish a reasonable range of future development alternatives to be evaluated within an EIS for the Port of Tacoma MIC, and

WHEREAS the EIS will evaluate impacts to the following Washington State Environmental Policy Act ("SEPA") environmental elements: air quality, stormwater and water quality, plants and animals, land and shoreline use/plans and policies, population, employment, housing, cultural resources, transportation, public utilities, and public services, and

WHEREAS, in addition, there will be an emphasis on health impacts to communities that work within the Tideflats, Tribal communities, and communities surrounding the Port of Tacoma Manufacturing and Industrial Center, and

WHEREAS the proposed future development alternatives have been unanimously recommended by the Steering Committee for inclusion as the basis for the Subarea Plan EIS; Now, Therefore,