



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Council Member Joe Bushnell and Senior Council Policy Analyst Lynda Foster
COPY: City Council and Clerk
SUBJECT: **Resolution – Allocating Council Contingency Funds to support the South End Neighborhood Council’s 2024 Block Party and Resource Fair – July 16, 2024**
DATE: July 3, 2024

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing the \$10,000 in Council Contingency Funds to support the South End Neighborhood Council’s 2024 Block Party & Resource Fair for the purpose of sharing information about public resources offered by the City of Tacoma and other organizations, and to build community connections and increase participation in SENCo meetings and activities.
[Council Member Bushnell]

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Council Members Joe Bushnell, Olgly Diaz, and Kristina Walker

BACKGROUND:

The Council Member’s Recommendation is Based On:

The South End Neighborhood Council (SENCo) is hosting their 2024 Block Party & Resource Fair on Saturday, July 20, from 3pm – 7pm, at S 72nd and S D Street. The event will provide 300 free meals to community attendees and include South End and culturally relevant music. Representatives from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, Safe Streets, Tacoma Public Library, Environmental Services, Trust for Public Land, Impact Elementary, Pierce Conservation District, and others will host booths at the event and provide the community resources.

This location was selected because SENCo is in year two of the S 72nd and D St. Green Space and Mural Project. This project came about as SENCo looked to find a solution for a space that attracted nefarious activities and litter and dumping. SENCo began to engage neighbors, occupy space with positive actions, and view the opportunities for green spaces differently. Nearly two blocks of residential right of way has been cleaned, soil amended, trees and understory planting added. Over 15 murals have been added to the retaining wall that runs along the space. Neighbors volunteer to maintain and improve the area so it continues to be a positive community space. The block party & resource fair continues to celebrate this community transformation and gathers community to come together and celebrate what is possible when South End residents band together to improve their neighborhood.

This resolution would support the event by providing up to:

- \$1,500 to pay for stage equipment, sound system, generator, and entertainment,
- \$7,100 to pay for food truck meals and picnicware for 300 people,
- \$900 to pay for special event insurance, and
- \$500 to pay for unanticipated costs and art supplies/sustainable giveaways for block party activity.

These services will support SENCo in their efforts to attract attendees to the event in order to share information about public resources offered by the City of Tacoma and other organizations, and to build community connections and increase participation in SENCo meetings and activities. This funding can be used to reimburse for services purchased prior to the resolution being approved on July 16, 2024.

Background on City funding for SENCo’s 2024 Block Party & Resource Fair: The South End Neighborhood Council has a contract with the City for \$4,000 a year for operating costs. SENCo applied for the City’s special event funding and received \$2,500 for this event that will be used for a community art activity during the event and funding ice cream for dessert.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

SENCo has led community organizing to transform the 74th and D Street open area into a green space that show cases public art and invites positive community activities. SENCo’s 2024 Block Party & Resource Fair is a continuation and celebration of these efforts. SENCo leadership requested this funding from Council contingency.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility: (Mandatory)

This location is in an area that ranks very low opportunity on the City’s equity index. It is in an area of town that has access to fewer community events that create a sense of place and brings neighbors together.

Civic Engagement: Equity Index Score: Very Low Opportunity

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 in Tacoma.

Livability: Equity Index Score: Very Low Opportunity

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

Improve access and proximity by residents to diverse income levels and race/ethnicity to community facilities, services, infrastructure, and employment.

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

The South End Neighborhood Council has done significant work in this area through volunteers, community partners and others to create a once blighted space into a more desirable and less disruptive location to the community. SENCo has demonstrated that they are committed to continuing their work here and this block party & resource fair will solidify and celebrate the work of local artists and the reclamation of this space for the community, while connecting residents in very low opportunity areas to resources.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Do not provide contingency funds to supplement the City’s special event funding	Directs organizations seeking event funding to our competitive funding process so all events are considered on an even playing field, which factors in a desire for equitable investments.	SENCo does not have enough funding to accomplish this event without additional support. Time spent recruiting sponsors would take away from efforts to promote the event and increase attendance.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

These contingency funds are provided to support SENCo’s 2024 Block Party & Resource Fair, and contingency funds are intended as a one-time funding source and should not be used for this event in future years. Event organizers will be provided with information on how to apply for future grants and event funding opportunities at the City of Tacoma. SENCo should share data after the event on how many individuals attended, what organizations participated in informational tabling and information sharing, and how many individuals engaged further with SENCo activities.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Sponsors recommend providing \$10,000 in contingency funds to SENCo’s Block Party and Resource Fair, in order to support SENCo’s efforts to create a community event in a very low opportunity area with few opportunities to gather neighbors, and to educate the community about City of Tacoma and other government’s programs and resources.



FISCAL IMPACT:

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1. 1030 - Council Contingency Fund	660000		\$10,000
2.			
TOTAL			\$10,000

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

COUNCIL CONTINGENCY FUNDS

Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?

NO, PLEASE EXPLAIN BELOW

The Council Contingency Fund provides an established amount of funding each year for unbudgeted Council sponsored initiatives.

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

No

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

No

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?

No

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution

Contingency Commitments

2024 - 2025	\$	225,000.00
(Remaining balance that will be carried over in March / April 2024)	\$	19,450.00
Resolution 41354		
Council Requested - Raising Girls Sponsorship	\$	10,000.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor 500 Raising Girls winter care bags with personal hygiene and menstrual products, as well as warm winter items, for low-income Tacoma students.		
Resolution 41372		
Council Requested - Moroccan Sister City Committee Cultural and Economic Exchange	\$	5,000.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$5,000 request to sponsor the Moroccan Sister City Committee Cultural and Economic Exchange.		
Resolution 41373		
Council Requested - Metro Park's Mosaic Arts and Culture Festival	\$	5,500.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$5,500 to sponsor Metro Park's Mosaic Arts and Cultural Festival.		
Resolution 41378		
Council Requested - Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest	\$	10,000.00
Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$10,000 to Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest (AIDNW) for their Phone Call Fund to support access to phone services for detainees in the Northwest Ice Processing Center		
Resolution 41386		
Council Requested - Tacoma Refugee Choir's First Annual Symposium Sponsorship	\$	10,000.00
A Council contingency fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor the Tacoma Refugee Choir's first annual symposium, "From Welcoming to Cooperation."		
Resolution 41442		
Council Requested - Facilitation of Pierce County Climate Conversation Meetings	\$	20,000.00
Resolution authorizing \$20,000 in Council Contingency Funds to support the Pierce County Climate Conversation		
Resolution 41449		
Council Requested - Broadway Street Broken Window Repairs	\$	25,000.00
A \$25,000 Council Contingency Request for matching funds to support broken window replacement for businesses affected along Broadway		
Resolution 41448		
Council Requested - Youth Sponsorship to Fuzhou, China	\$	12,500.00
A Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$12,500 to support youth attendance at the Fuzhou Youth Week Convening in late June		
To Study Session July 2, 2024		
Council Requested - South End Neighborhood Council Block Party & Resource Fair Sponsorship	\$	10,000.00
Starting Balance	\$	244,450.00
Total Amount Allocated	\$	108,000.00
Current Balance	\$	136,450.00