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

TO:	Mayor & City Council
FROM:	Council Member Olgy Diaz and Senior Council Policy Analyst Lynda Foster
COPIES TO:	Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Hyun Kim, Deputy City Manager; Melanie Harding, Acting Deputy City Manager; Chris Bacha, City Attorney
SUBJECT:	**Resolution – Allocating Contingency Funds for a Pride-themed decorative crosswalk on Broadway in Downtown Tacoma – 9/24/2024**
DATE:	September 18, 2024

I ask for your support for a $35,000 Contingency Fund expenditure for a Pride-themed decorative crosswalk on Broadway in Downtown Tacoma.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT:
A rainbow crossing or rainbow crosswalk is a pedestrian crossing that has the art of the rainbow flag installed to celebrate the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex, asexual, and two spirit (LGBTQIA2S+) community. Following international temporary and early permanent installations in 2012 and 2013, the symbolism of rainbow crossings has gained widespread recognition as a symbol of community commitment to supporting the rights of LGBTQIA2S+ individuals. Cities around the world have installed permanent Pride-themed decorative crosswalks, including Seattle, Kirkland, Spokane, and other Washington State cities.

Decorative crosswalks are marked pedestrian crossings across a roadway that include a colored and/or textured pattern, aesthetic, or artistic mural element within its horizontal white stripe boundaries. They can also be referred to as art crossings or creative crosswalks. The crosswalks, created because of city-community partnerships primarily for aesthetic enhancement, may also be implemented to emphasize and alert roadway users of the designated pedestrian crossing.[1]

The City of Tacoma has explored the use of temporary decorative crosswalks. In 2017, the City permitted a Downtown on the Go (DOTG) outreach project. DOTG added temporary paint to all existing crosswalks at the intersections on S. 9th and S. 17th to highlight the crossing and to draw attention to pedestrian safety along MLK. From 2018 to 2023, temporary rainbow crosswalks were painted in downtown Tacoma in coordination with the Pride Festival.

City Council has the discretion to direct the installation of decorative crosswalks in Tacoma. This individual request was assessed and determined in consultation with the City Managers Office and the Public Works Department. This contingency fund request would provide resources to install a Pride-themed decorative crosswalk between 9th and 11th Street on Broadway in Downtown Tacoma. This is one-time funding for a single decorative crosswalk. Once directed by Council, Public Works will work with the City's arts program to develop design details. Design should take into

[1] https://www.ksdot.gov/Assets/wwwksdotorg/bureaus/burRail/bike/Documents/ITE_DecorativeCrosswalks_FINAL.pdf

consideration inclusive Pride flag designs such as the Progress Flag, while also having the flexibility to adjust the design to allow for differing site conditions.

FUNDING REQUESTED:
$ 35,000

DESIRED RESOLUTION DATE: October 8, 2024

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ (CUSTOMER RESEARCH):
LGBTQIA2S+ community members and allies, organizations including the Rainbow Center and Oasis Youth Center, elected leaders, and businesses have contacted City Council Members to ask for the installation of a Pride-themed decorative crosswalk. Tacoma residents have seen other municipalities across the northwest lead on celebrating their LGBTQIA2S+ communities in this way and are asking City Council members to join this movement.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:
Equity and Accessibility:
City of Tacoma is proud to be home to a LGBTQIA2S+ community. According to the Census Pulse survey data averaged between July 2021 and May 2023, about 516,000 (17%) adults identify as LGBTQ+ in the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA Metropolitan Statistical Area.[2] Even with committed public leaders and legal protections, LGBTQIA2S+ people experience structural and interpersonal discrimination that adversely affects their well-being and drives disparate outcomes across crucial areas of life. These desperate impacts increase when LGBTQIA2S+ individuals face intersecting forms of discrimination, such as sexism, racism, and ableism, all at the same time.

Economy/Workforce: *Equity Index Score*: Very Low Opportunity
Increase the number of infrastructure projects and improvements that support existing and new business developments.
Increase positive public perception related to the Tacoma economy.

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.
Representation at public meetings will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma community

Livability: *Equity Index Score*: Very Low Opportunity
Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s)?
The Tacoma City Council proudly affirms that contributions by our diverse communities enrich our city and strengthen our values to ensure that everyone's identity and right to live freely as their authentic selves are valued, respected, and celebrated. LGBTQIA2S+ communities are an integral and vibrant part of Tacoma's economic, artistic, and social environments. This Pride-themed decorative crosswalk uses art and public infrastructure to demonstrate the City's commitment. The selected location is in the heart of downtown Tacoma, next to schools, theaters, art, transit centers, public green space, and is where the Downtown Farmers Market is located each summer. This installation will create a welcoming and celebratory space that invites residents, workers, and tourists to visit downtown.

[2] https://www.psrc.org/media/7771

ALTERNATIVES: .

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
1. Take no action	Preserve resources for other council priorities.	Does not join the international movement of Pride crossings to celebrate LGBTQIA2S+ community members.
2. Fund a public art project outside of the roadway	Greater flexibility in design and visual impact. Could be used to activate priority areas in downtown.	Does not join the international movement of Pride crossings to celebrate LGBTQIA2S+ community members.
3. Fund a crosswalk at a different location	Enhances other spaces, has the potential to be more visible and prominently displayed.	Potential additional costs and restrictions in design.

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP:
Staff should determine the appropriate steps to install the Pride-themed decorative crosswalk, with a target of installing by June 2025, prior to Tacoma's Pride Month in July 2025.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:
The sponsors recommend adopting this resolution to authorize a special case recognition to direct the installation of a Pride-themed decorative crosswalk as a symbol of our community's commitment to uplifting and celebrating LGBTQIA2S+ individuals who live, work, or travel to Tacoma.

FISCAL IMPACT:
This resolution will allocate $ 35,000 from the Council Contingency Fund.

If you have a question related to the Council Contingency Fund Request, please contact Lynda Foster at 253.591.5166 or Lynda.Foster@CityofTacoma.org.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: _____
Council Member Diaz

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES
(Signatures demonstrate support to initiate discussion and consideration of the subject matter by City Council for potential policy development and staff guidance/direction.)

1. _____ **POS#____8_____**

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

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

Resolution 41471

Council Requested - South End Neighborhood Council (SENCo) Block Party & Resource Fair	**$**	**10,000.00**

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.

Resolution 41526

Council Requested - Historic Cushman Street Fair Support	**$**	**5,000.00**

A Resolution for support for a Council contingency fund expenditure of $4,000 to support the Historic Cushman Street Fair

To Study September 24, 2024

Council Requested - Pride-themed Decorative Crosswalk	**$**	**35,000.00**

A Resolution for a Council Contingency fund expenditure of $35,000 for a Pride-themed decorative crosswalk on Broadway in downtown Tacoma.

To Study Session September 24, 2024

Council Requested - Alchemy Skateboarding Expansion and Youth Access Fund	**$**	**10,000.00**

A Resolution for a Council Contingency fund expenditure of $10,000 to sponsor the Alchemy skateboarding expansion project and youth access fund.

To Study Session September 24, 2024

Council Requested - Historic McKinley District Halloween Parade	**$**	**5,000.00**

A Resolution for a Council Contingency fund expenditure of $5,00 to sponsor the Historic McKinley District Halloween Parade .

Starting Balance	***$***	***244,450.00***
Total Amount Allocated	***$***	***163,000.00***
Current Balance	***$***	***81,450.00***