



RESOLUTION NO. 41539

1 BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS DIAZ AND WALKER

2 A RESOLUTION authorizing the one-time use of funds in the amount of \$35,000,
3 budgeted from the Council Contingency Fund, for a pride-themed decorative
4 crosswalk on Broadway in Downtown Tacoma.

5 WHEREAS decorative crosswalks are marked pedestrian crossings across a
6 roadway that include a colored and/or textured pattern, aesthetic, or artistic mural
7 element within its horizontal white stripe boundaries, and can also be referred to as
8 art crossings or creative sidewalks, and

9 WHEREAS a rainbow crossing or rainbow crosswalk is a pedestrian crossing
10 that has the art of the rainbow flag installed to celebrate the lesbian, gay, bisexual,
11 transgender, questioning, intersex, asexual, and two spirit (“LGBTQIA2S+”)
12 community, and

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14 WHEREAS following international temporary and early permanent
15 installations in 2012 and 2013, the symbolism of rainbow crossings has gained
16 widespread recognition as a symbol of community commitment to supporting the
17 rights of LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, and

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19 WHEREAS cities around the world have installed permanent pride-themed
20 decorative crosswalks, including Seattle, Kirkland, Spokane, and other Washington
21 State cities, and

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23 WHEREAS the crosswalks, created because of city-community partnerships
24 primarily for aesthetic enhancement, may also be implemented to emphasize and
25 alert roadway users of the designated pedestrian crossing, and

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WHEREAS the City has explored the use of temporary decorative crosswalks, and in 2017, the City permitted a Downtown on the Go (“DOTG”) outreach project, with DOTG adding temporary paint to all existing crosswalks at the intersections on South 9th Street and South 17th Street to highlight the crossing and to draw attention to pedestrian safety along Martin Luther King Jr. Way, and

WHEREAS from 2018 to 2023, temporary rainbow crosswalks were painted in Downtown Tacoma in coordination with the City’s Pride Festival, and

WHEREAS the City Council has the discretion to direct the installation of decorative crosswalks in the City, and this individual request was assessed and determined in consultation with the City Manager’s Office and the Public Works Department (“PW”), and

WHEREAS this resolution will provide resources to install one pride-themed decorative crosswalk between South 9th Street and South 11th Street on Broadway in Downtown Tacoma, and

WHEREAS the crosswalk design will take into consideration inclusive pride flag designs such as the Progress Pride Flag, with flexibility to adjust the design to allow for differing site conditions, and

WHEREAS the LGBTQIA2S+ communities are an integral and vibrant part of Tacoma’s economic, artistic, and social environments, and this Pride-themed decorative crosswalk uses art and public infrastructure to demonstrate the City’s commitment, and



1 WHEREAS the selected location is in the heart of downtown Tacoma, next to
2 schools, theaters, art, transit centers, public green space, and is where the
3 Downtown Farmers Market is located each summer and this installation will create
4 a welcoming and celebratory space that invites residents, workers, and tourists to
5 visit downtown, and
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7 WHEREAS The Tacoma Public Works Department will implement the
8 crosswalk through standard processes, and
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10 WHEREAS RCW 35.34.250 and 35.34.260 authorize a withdrawal from the
11 Council Contingency fund for any municipal expense, the necessity or extent of
12 which could not have been foreseen or reasonably evaluated at the time of
13 adopting the budget, and
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15 WHEREAS Ordinance No. 22569 requires an affirmative vote of not less
16 than six members of the Council in order to withdraw moneys from this fund; Now,
17 Therefore,

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

19 Section 1. That the foregoing Recitals are hereby adopted as the Council's
20 legislative findings.

21 Section 2. That one-time funding in the amount of \$35,000, budgeted from
22 the Council Contingency Fund, is hereby approved for a pride-themed decorative
23 crosswalk on Broadway in Downtown Tacoma, with a target of installing by June
24 2025, prior to Tacoma's Pride Month in July 2025.
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Section 3. That consistent with the terms of this Resolution, the City’s administration will proceed with the design and installation of a pride-themed decorative crosswalk between South 9th Street and South 11th Street on Broadway in Downtown Tacoma.

4. That the City Council further desires to study the feasibility of a citywide program to install decorative crosswalks in other locations in the City including outreach to Tacoma’s diverse communities regarding themes, designs, and locations, and hereby refers initiation of that study to the City Council’s Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee.

Adopted _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Chief Deputy City Attorney