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

TO:	Mayor & City Council
FROM:	Council Member Latasha Palmer and Christina Caan, Policy Analyst
COPIES TO:	Hyun Kim, City Manager; Chris Bacha, City Attorney
SUBJECT:	**Resolution – Council contingency fund request to sponsor Beyond the Block**
DATE:	July 1, 2026

We ask for your support for a Council contingency fund expenditure of $10,000 to sponsor Beyond the Block.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Council Contingency Fund Request: We ask for your support for a Council contingency fund expenditure of $10,000 to sponsor the new program, Beyond the Block, that aims to help keep young people safe, engaged, and having fun during the summer. Beyond the Block offers culturally informed programming at free drop-in events for young people between the ages of 11 and 16 at the Bryant Neighborhood Center in collaboration with Our Sisters House, Sahale Outdoors, and Push for Dreams. Events will take place every Wednesday and Friday from 5:30pm to 8:00pm through July and possibly into August.

- Each session of the Beyond the Block program features different themes to help participants gain valuable life skills and support, including team building games, social media safety training, and discussion on topics such as conflict resolution, sportsmanship, public speaking, mental health, stress management, and self-esteem. Participants will also receive a free meal and snacks.

The City's sponsorship of Beyond the Block would help ensure sufficient staffing for all sessions, meals and snacks for participants, program supplies, and location costs at Bryant Neighborhood Center. Beyond the Block will feature the City of Tacoma logo on promotional and programming materials and City Council Members are invited to attend sessions as interested. The City of Tacoma's funding for Beyond the Block is also vital for advancing the City's Community Safety goals outlined in Tacoma 2035, helping to address food insecurity in low opportunity areas, and preventing youth violence by providing safe and engaging spaces for young people during evening summer hours.[1]

FUNDING REQUESTED: $10,000

DESIRED RESOLUTION DATE: July 14, 2026

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council Member Latasha Palmer, Council Member Jamika Scott, and Council Member Sarah Rumbaugh have spoken with staff members at the Bryant Neighborhood Center and Our Sister's

[1] Tacoma Strategic Plan | City of Tacoma; Youth Violence | City of Tacoma

House to discuss the Beyond the Block program and the needs these organizations have identified in the community. Council Member Palmer, Council Member Scott, and Council Member Rumbaugh have robust experience addressing youth violence issues and nurturing safe spaces. Council Member Scott serves and the Chair of the Executive Steering Committee for Building Resilience Against Youth Violence and Exploration, along with Council Member Palmer who serves as Co-Chair. This program works to increase safety and support systems for young people, while decreasing violence in our community.[2] Council Member Rumbaugh serves as the Vice Chair for the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center, along with Council Member Scott who serves as a Board Member, advocating for practices that promote safety and an end to domestic violence.[3]

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Equity and Accessibility: Beyond the Block will be held at the Bryant Neighborhood Center, which is an inclusive, neighbor-focused, non-profit community hub that welcomes everyone.[4] Located on the corner of 6th and Grant within the Bryant Neighborhood on the Hilltop of Tacoma, Beyond the Block will help make safe evening programming that is culturally informed accessible for all the young people in one of Tacoma's low opportunity areas.[5] In addition, Our Sister's House, Sahale Outdoors, and Push for Dreams stive to provide equitable opportunities designed to support and empower diverse and marginalized youth.[6]

Education: *Equity Index Score*: Moderate Opportunity
Increase the number of quality out of school time learning opportunities distributed equitably across the city.

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

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
Do not support the Beyond the Block program.	Council would preserve the contingency funding for other priorities.	Some young people may not have a place where they can be safe and engaged during evening hours.
Support the Beyond the Block program at a higher amount.	Beyond the Block would be able to extend the number of sessions they could hold during the summer.	Providing a higher amount would further deplete contingency funds for other City Council priorities.

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP
The City of Tacoma will provide information on how to apply for Special Events Funding to maintain the program in future years.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION
Sponsors recommend providing $10,000 in Council contingency funds to sponsor Beyond the Block.

[2] Youth Violence | City of Tacoma
[3] Pierce County Family Justice Center, WA | Official Website
[4] Bryant Neighborhood Center
[5] Tacoma Equity Index Map I City of Tacoma
[6] Home - Our Sisters' House; Sahale Outdoors – Play Outside; Home - Push For Dreams

FISCAL IMPACT
$10,000 from Council contingency funds.

If you have a question related to the Council contingency fund request, please contact Christina Caan, Policy Analyst, at (253) 219-0679 or ccaan@tacoma.gov.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: _____ _____
Council Member Latasha Palmer

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES

1. ___ _____ **POS#__3___**

2. _____ **POS#__2___**

Mayor Initials: _____