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

TO:	Mayor & City Council
FROM:	Council Member Sandesh Sadalge and Senior Council Policy Analyst Lynda Foster
COPIES TO:	Hyun Kim, City Manager; Allyson Griffith, Deputy City Manager; Chris Bacha, City Attorney
SUBJECT:	**Resolution – Contingency Fund Request for Wayfinding Signs to Eastside Community Center – July 21, 2026**
DATE:	July 15, 2026

I ask for your support for a Council Consideration Request of $1,225 to fund production and installation of up to three wayfinding signs near E. 56th and Portland Ave for the Eastside Community Center.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT:
The Eastside Community Center is more than a recreation facility. It is a cornerstone of Tacoma's Eastside community. Built through years of grassroots advocacy and a shared commitment to creating a safe and welcoming place for youth and families, the center reflects the resilience, strength, and aspirations of a neighborhood that worked tirelessly to secure greater access to quality public amenities. Since opening in 2018, it has become a hub for health, learning, recreation, and connection, serving thousands of residents each month through its pool, gymnasium, fitness center, youth and teen programs, senior services, arts programming, and community gathering spaces. As demand for these resources continues to grow, expanding access to the Eastside Community Center represents an investment in the well being, safety, and future of the entire community. Ensuring that more residents can benefit from this vital public resource will strengthen neighborhood connections, improve health outcomes, and continue the vision that brought the center to life.

The Eastside Community Center is accessed from E. 56th Street directly east of Portland Avenue behind a crop of trees that hide the view of the building from drivers down the main Portland Avenue thoroughfare. This resolution authorizes funds and directs the City Manager to install three wayfinding signs around this intersection to direct visitors to the community centers. The City's Public Works Street Operations provided the cost estimation used for this request.

DESIRED RESOLUTION DATE: August 4, 2026

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ (CUSTOMER RESEARCH):
This request came directly from Eastside community members who have missed the turnoff for the Eastside Community Center. Drivers passing by 56th Street and Portland Avenue see signs for First Creek Middle School and not the Eastside Community Center. Parks Tacoma expressed support and excitement for the installation of these wayfinding signs. Parks Tacoma's long-term goal is to identify funds to erect a monument sign on the corner similar to signs identifying other community centers. The wayfinding signs were identified as a great start.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

Located in a very low-equity area of the City of Tacoma, the Eastside Community Center advances equity by intentionally addressing long standing disparities in access to recreation, health, education, and community resources in one of Tacoma's historically underserved neighborhoods. It serves East Tacoma, a minority majority area of Tacoma, and is within walking distance of the Salishan neighborhood, which is recognized as one of the most culturally, linguistically, and racially diverse communities in Pierce County. The Eastside Community Center also serves as a dedicated Senior Hub in a strategic partnership between the City and Parks Tacoma.

Education: *Equity Index Score*: Very Low Opportunity
Increase digital access and equity across the city.
Increase the availability and accessibility of early childhood education programs.

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 the number of Complete Compact Communities/ 20-Minute Neighborhoods throughout the city.
Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s)?
Improved wayfinding to the Eastside Community Center will increase awareness of and access to a key community resource in one of Tacoma's lowest opportunity areas. By making it easier for residents and visitors to locate the center, the legislation will help connect more people to recreation, educational programs, senior services, and civic activities, supporting the City's goals of improving equity, increasing community engagement, and enhancing quality of life.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
1. Take no action	Preserve resources for other priorities	Does not address wayfinding challenges
2. Fund a monument sign	Place making opportunity, support Parks Tacoma as a community partner, maximum wayfinding tool	More costly investment that would divert resources from other priorities

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP:

Design and install three Wayfinding signs on E 56th Street and Portland Avenue.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Pass this resolution and support access to the Eastside Community Center.

FISCAL IMPACT:

$1,225 in council contingency funds.

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

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: S. Sadalge

Council Member Sadalge

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES (2 SIGNATURES ONLY)
(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# 7**

2. **POS# 8**

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

Contingency Commitments 2026

Resolution Number	Funding Amount
Resolution 41859	
Oasis Center	**$30,000.00**
Council Contingency Fund request of $30,000 to fund the Oasis Youth Center's HIV and STI self-testing for LGBTQ+ youth ages 14 and older in Pierce County.	
Resolution 41864	
True Vine Community Church of God in Christ	**$25,000.00**
Council Contingency Fund request of $25,000 to sponsor the 5th Annual Citywide Block Party.	
Resolution 41881	
Northwest Immigrant Rights Project 2026 Gala Sponsorship	**$15,000.00**
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of $15,000 to sponsor the Northwest Immigration Rights Project's 2026 Gala and make a public declaration of solidarity with Northwest Immigrant Rights Project's values	
Resolution 41904	
Tacoma Film Task Force Sponsorship	**$10,000.00**
Council Contingency fund expenditure of $10,000 to sponsor the Tacoma Film Task Force.	
Resolution 41932	
Ride Transit Month Sponsorship	**$10,000.00**
Resolution authorizing the one-time use of Council Contingency Funds, in the amount of $10,000, to sponsor Downtown on the Go's Ride Transit Month.	
Resolution 41933	
NextGen GM Sports Executive Internship	**$20,000.00**
A Council Contingency fund expenditure of $20,000 to sponsor the "NextGen GM Sports Executive Internship" pilot program.	
Resolution 41940	
Juneteenth Prayer Breakfast Sponsorship	**$1,000.00**
A one-time Council Contingency fund expenditure of $1,000 to sponsor the Juneteenth Prayer Breakfast	
Resolution 41957	
Savor Fest PNW	**$16,000**
A resolution allocating $16,000 in Council Contingency Funds to support the 2026 Savor Fest PNW	
Resolution 41959	
Beyond the Block	**$10,000.00**
A resolution allocating $10,000 in Council Contingency Funds to support the Beyond the Block program.	
Going to Council on August 4, 2026	
Grit City Gala	**$7,000.00**
A resolution allocating $7,000 in Council Contingency Funds to support the Tacoma Farmer's Market Grit City Gala	
Going to Council on August 4, 2026	
Wayfinding Signs to Eastside Community Center	**$1,225.00**
A resolution allocating $1,225 in Council Contingency Funds to support the production and installation of up to three wayfinding signs for the Eastside Community Center	
Going to Council on August 4, 2026	
Food Access	**$15,000.00**
A resolution allocating $15,000 in Council Contingency Funds to support St. Leo Food Connection's pilot partnership with the Tacoma Public Library.	
Starting Balance	**$259,328.56**
Allocated Funding	**$160,225.00**
Remaining Balance	***$99,103.56***