



RESOLUTION NO. 39208

1 A RESOLUTION relating to the acquisition of real property; authorizing the
2 purchase of property located at 625 Commerce Street for the preservation
3 of Old City Hall at a purchase price of \$4,000,000, plus closing costs,
4 budgeted from the Economic Development Special Revenue Fund.

5 WHEREAS 625 Commerce Street ("Property") is the location of Old City
6 Hall, a five-story historic structure that represents the earliest days of City
7 municipal government, and

8 WHEREAS the building, completed in 1893, was heavily influenced by
9 Italian Renaissance architecture and, along with Union Station, is one of the most
10 architecturally and historically significant buildings in the City, and

11 WHEREAS Old City Hall served as the hub of the local government for
12 66 years and originally included the offices of the Mayor and City Council,
13 Municipal Court, Public Library, and Public Utilities, and

14 WHEREAS the Property was renovated in 1974 for commercial office/retail
15 use, and in 2005, was sold to Old City Hall LLC, which planned to convert the
16 building to residential use; however, those plans did not materialize, and

17 WHEREAS the building has been vacant and in disrepair for several years,
18 suffering from neglect, flooding, and other damage, and since 2013, its condition
19 has been addressed through multiple City code enforcement actions, and

20 WHEREAS, with the City's purchase of the Property, staff will work to
21 prevent further deterioration and preserve the historic elements of the building,
22 and, at a future date, the building will be made available for private development
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consistent with the City's goals for downtown development in the historic district;

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Now, Therefore,

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

That the proper officers of the City are hereby authorized to acquire the property located at 625 Commerce Street for the purchase price of \$4,000,000, plus closing costs, budgeted from the Economic Development Special Revenue Fund, for the preservation of Old City Hall.

Adopted _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Deputy City Attorney