



**CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST (CCR)**

TO: City Council

FROM: Council Member Conor McCarthy and Chief Policy Analyst Anita Gallagher

COPIES TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Mark Lauzier, Assistant City Manager; Tadd Wille, Assistant City Manager; Bill Fosbre, Acting City Attorney; Executive Leadership Team; File

SUBJECT: Amendment to Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma

DATE: August 15, 2017

ITEM/ISSUE PROPOSED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

I ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda at the earliest available meeting of the Study Session:

I respectfully request that the City Council direct the City Manager to prepare a Resolution for Council consideration that would amend the Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma to add a rule indicating that no Council Member will directly influence or interfere with the work of a citizen committee, board or commission without a vote of the full Council.

BRIEF BACKGROUND:

The City Council holds a unique position of influence over the City of Tacoma's citizen committees, boards and commissions. Citizens are often recruited by Council Members to apply to serve on these advisory bodies, and applicants are interviewed by Council standing committees before being appointed to serve on commissions. While citizen committees, boards and commissions are volunteer groups charged with exploring and advising Council on a wide variety of current and emerging issues affecting the city, there is a risk of Council influence interfering with commission members' objectivity and the integrity of the commission's work.

Although the Tacoma City Charter, Section 3.2, addresses protocol on Council Members' engagement with City staff through the City Manager, there is a lack of clarity as to the extent of interaction and influence is appropriate with regard to Council and the City's citizen committees, boards and commissions. The requested Resolution would simply provide that clarity for the benefit of the Council, citizen commissions and City staff.

In you have a question related to the Council Consideration Request, please contact Anita Gallagher at 253.591.5156 or anita.gallagher@cityoftacoma.org

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY:

Council Member Conor McCarthy, POS #7