

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

TO:

City Council

FROM:

Council Member Marty Campbell and Chief Policy Analyst Anita Gallagher

COPIES TO:

Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Tadd Wille, Assistant City Manager; Mark Lauzier,

Assistant City Manager; Bill Fosbre, Acting City Attorney; Executive Leadership Team;

File

SUBJECT:

Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

DATE:

September 6, 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 Community Vitality and Safety Committee:

BRIEF BACKGROUND:

In January, 2017, the City Council passed a Resolution to convene an Immigrant and Refugee Task Force to gain a better understanding of issues faced by immigrants and refugees in our community. The Task Force convened community partners and conducted surveys to obtain diverse perspectives on how Tacoma can become a more inclusive and welcoming city. The Task Force developed a set of recommendations that have been conveyed to the City Manager and City Council with the assistance of staff from the Office of Equity and Human Rights.

One of the proposed action steps shared by the Immigrant and Refugee Task Force was to establish a Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs. This Commission would work to identify concerns of the immigrant and refugee community, develop recommendations as to how to address barriers to inclusion of immigrants and refugees, and conduct policy analysis to include recommendations to the City Council. Additionally, the Commission would be charged with identifying and developing opportunities to promote recognition of the contributions of foreign-born residents to the economic and cultural vitality of Tacoma.

I respectfully request that policy development on this topic, including but not limited to the jurisdiction of the commission in relation to the Human Rights Commission, be addressed at the soonest possible meeting of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee.

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 Marty Campbell, Position #4

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SUPPORTING COUNCILMEMBERS 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.)

POS # Mayor

POS #6