

RESOLUTION NO. 40046

1 BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS MCCARTHY, MELLO AND USHKA

2 A RESOLUTION providing for the submission of a proposition to the electors of
3 the City of Tacoma, at the General Election to be held on Tuesday,
4 November 6, 2018, authorizing the City to levy a one-tenth of one percent
5 increase on the sales tax for a period of seven years for the purpose of
6 funding arts, culture, science, and heritage programs in the City of
7 Tacoma; setting forth the ballot proposition; requiring an annual report;
8 and directing the City Clerk to transmit to Pierce County Auditor a certified
9 copy of this resolution.

10 WHEREAS the Washington Legislature declared, in Chapter 24, Laws of
11 Washington 2015, codified as 36.160 RCW, that there is a need to strengthen
12 communities by providing public and educational benefits and economic support
13 for arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations, and

14 WHEREAS the City adopted *Tacoma 2025*, its strategic plan intended to set
15 the course and guide the City's ten-year direction, and help the City direct its
16 efforts and resources toward a clearly defined vision for its future that reflects
17 community desires, current and future trends, and bolsters the City's unique
18 position within the region, and

19 WHEREAS *Tacoma 2025* identified Arts and Cultural Vitality as one of the
20 seven key areas to advance in order to promote equity and opportunity in its
21 residents and communities by leveraging Tacoma's arts and cultural assets,
22 potential for partnerships, and need to invest in our youth, and

23 WHEREAS the City adopted ARTFULL in 2016, a bold vision and plan to
24 promote greater civic engagement, to use arts and culture as a vehicle to address
25 and support important Tacoma priorities such as education, neighborhood
26

investment, civic engagement, economic and community development, tourism
1 and marketing, and human services, and

2 WHEREAS City residents would benefit greatly from improved public
3 access to programs produced by nonprofit arts, culture, science, and heritage
4 organizations that would be enabled by an increase in public funding for those
5 organizations, and
6

7 WHEREAS “Tacoma Creates” was born of the effort to promote arts,
8 culture, science, and heritage in Tacoma, in order to spark its creative energy and
9 inspire the very best of the City, its residents, neighborhoods, and communities,
10 and
11

12 WHEREAS Tacoma Creates would advance fair and equitable access to
13 arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations throughout the City and remove
14 barriers to access faced by many segments of Tacoma’s population, and
15

16 WHEREAS Tacoma Creates would allow arts, culture, science, and heritage
17 organizations to expand open public hours, offer discounted and free admission,
18 award scholarships, participate in public school access programs, and make
19 programs available in communities that do not have spaces for cultural activities,
20 and
21

22 WHEREAS Tacoma Creates would foster the creation and development of
23 new cultural organizations throughout the City, reduce geographic barriers, and
24 ensure all residents have easy access to arts, culture, science, and heritage
25 resources, and
26

WHEREAS providing increased financial support for arts, culture, science,
1 and heritage organizations in Tacoma will result in multiple public benefits,
2 including: (1) ensuring K-12 public school students in all Tacoma Public Schools
3 will have greater access to arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations
4 through programs in and out of classrooms, in before and after school programs,
5 and during the summer, and opportunities for free visits to cultural attractions,
6 leading to better engagement in the classroom, improved educational attainment,
7 support for social and emotional growth, and higher graduation rates; (2) creating
8 new resources for Tacoma's neighborhoods to support or promote cultural
9 activities, events, or projects reflecting our diverse cultures, lifestyles, and
10 interests; (3) expanding access and opportunities for the general public, including
11 students, seniors, and economically underserved populations or those on a fixed
12 income, to attend and experience cultural events, performances, festivals, exhibits,
13 and related programs and activities; (4) boosting the City's economy through an
14 enhanced cultural community, increased tourism, and support for creative jobs;
15 and (5) ensuring that arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations are
16 financially healthy and able to provide public programs and services, both within
17 their facilities and out in neighborhoods, communities, and public schools, and
18
19
20
21

WHEREAS Tacoma Creates will fund transportation for school-age children
22 to access and attend its programs, so as to overcome one of the recognized
23 barriers for such participation, and
24

WHEREAS, in order to provide for such public benefits, Tacoma Creates
25 will ensure that a minimum of 52 percent of all collected revenues will be dedicated
26

1 for programming located equitably throughout Tacoma's neighborhoods, including
2 programs for youth, neighborhood events, and community activities, and including
3 up to 8 percent to fund youth transportation, and

4 WHEREAS Tacoma Creates will be accountable for its funding through
5 regular reporting of expenditures and program data, including measurable
6 outcomes and records of participants by City Council district, and

7 WHEREAS, as a further accountability measure, applicants for and
8 recipients of Tacoma Creates grants will be required to identify and demonstrate
9 community benefit, based on criteria to be adopted by the City Council, which will
10 ensure benefit to all Tacoma communities and generations within the general
11 criteria of youth and student programs, free or reduced cost programs,
12 neighborhood and community based programs, geographic equity, economic
13 development, and arts incubation on all levels, and

14
15 WHEREAS Tacoma Creates would support the growth and development of
16 arts, culture, science, and heritage in our neighborhoods and communities to
17 promote a healthy, more inclusive, and vibrant Tacoma; Now, Therefore,

18
19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

20 Section 1. That the Pierce County Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of
21 elections in Pierce County, Washington, is hereby requested to submit to the
22 qualified electors of the City of Tacoma, for their approval or rejection at the
23 General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, a proposition
24 authorizing a one-tenth of one percent increase in the sales tax over a period of
25
26

seven years for the sole purpose of funding arts, culture, science, and heritage programs in the City of Tacoma.

Section 2. That the City shall submit a proposition to the electorate of the City of Tacoma in the form substantially as follows:

**CITY OF TACOMA
PROPOSITION NO. 1**

The Tacoma City Council passed Resolution No. 40046 concerning Tacoma Creates to support arts, culture, science, and heritage programs.

As proposed, Tacoma Creates includes arts, culture, science and heritage programs for youth after school and during summer. Tacoma Creates also offers residents free and discounted access to cultural activities, programs for every neighborhood and age, and expanded services to diverse, underserved and low-income populations. Funding Tacoma Creates is a sales tax increase of one-tenth of one percent, expiring in seven years, beginning January 1, 2019. An average Tacoma household will pay \$13 per year.

Should this proposition be:

Approved _____
Rejected _____

Section 3. That, prior to August 6, 2018, the City Clerk shall send to the Pierce County Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections, a certified copy of this resolution, together with the proposition substantially in the form as set forth above, for the November 6, 2018, General Election.

Section 4. That, should the voters approve this proposition, the City Manager is directed to work with the City's Office of Arts and Cultural Vitality to:
(a) establish a Tacoma Creates Advisory Board, whose purpose is to guide and

1 oversee the implementation of the program, and whose members will be
2 appointed by the City Council; and (b) deliver an annual progress report to the
3 public so that citizens may easily understand the benefits provided and
4 achieved, among other performance indicators, important for transparency and
5 accountability of these public resources.
6

7 Section 5. That, should the voters approve this proposition, of the tax
8 revenues collected: (a) costs to administer the program will be capped at
9 8 percent; (b) a minimum of 52 percent of all revenues will be dedicated for
10 programming located in Tacoma’s neighborhoods, including programs for youth,
11 neighborhood events, and community activities; (c) 8 percent of all revenues will
12 be dedicated to provide children enrolled in Tacoma Public Schools
13 transportation to programs established or offered under Tacoma Creates;
14 (d) 6 percent of all revenues will be dedicated to provide technical assistance
15 and capacity building to promote broad participation and equity on behalf of the
16 community and by local non-profit cultural organizations; and (e) the remainder
17 of funds will be used to provide enhanced access for the benefit of Tacoma
18 residents to attend or participate in cultural programs, events, or activities.
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

Section 6. That the City Manager is directed to bring forward an ordinance establishing dedicated and restricted funds to ensure any revenue generated as a result of this measure is used solely as outlined in the approved ballot measure.

Adopted _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Deputy City Attorney