



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

TO: Mayor & City Council
FROM: Council Member Walker and Council Assistant Claire Goodwin
COPIES TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Tadd Wille, Deputy City Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney
SUBJECT: Attainable Housing Forum Sponsorship
DATE: January 30, 2020

I ask for your support for a Council Contingency Fund expenditure proposal.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Council Contingency Fund Request: The University of Washington-Tacoma, School of Urban Studies, is hosting its annual forum on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 on attainable housing and the future of prosperity and inclusion in Pierce County. The forum relies on sponsorships as part of its success. Current sponsors include Pierce County Regional Council, Korsmo Construction, bera, Neil Walter Company, and MultiCare Health System among others. The forum will bring experts from around the nation to discuss various housing policies, their implementation, and patterns of success and failure. This will include both housing experts and regional decision-makers. A panel of local policymakers will then present their approaches and strategies, while considering the wide array of presentations preceding them.

I ask for your support for the City of Tacoma to be a sponsor for this event in the amount of \$1,000.

Event details:

Wednesday, March 4, 2020
Time: 8:15 AM - 1:30 PM
UW Tacoma, William Philip Hall

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$ 1,000

ALIGNMENT WITH TACOMA 2025 KEY FOCUS AREAS

Livability: Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity

Decrease the percentage of individuals who are spending more than 45% of income on housing and transportation costs.

Improve access and proximity by residents to diverse income levels and race/ethnicity to community facilities, services, infrastructure, and employment.


If you have a question related to the Council Consideration Request, please contact Claire Goodwin (Council Assistant) at 253-591-5164 (phone) or claire.goodwin@cityoftacoma.org (email).

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: Council Member Kristina Walker

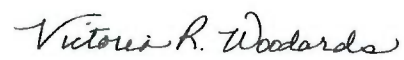
SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES (2 SIGNATURES ONLY)

(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# 8

2.  POS# 4

Mayor:



University of Washington Tacoma



2020 Urban Studies Forum: Attainable Housing and the Future of Prosperity and Inclusion in Pierce County

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Time: 8:15 AM - 1:30 p.m.

UW Tacoma, William Philip Hall

Access to attainable housing is a perennial challenge in American urban planning and policy. The ever-climbing housing costs in most metropolitan areas have far exceeded incomes, and every generation finds itself further distanced from the "American Dream." Cities that once produced the middle class have turned into consumers of the middle class, attracting only those that can afford their "lifestyles."

Over the last decade, median housing-sale prices have more than doubled, while incomes have barely kept up with inflation. The increase in home values has affected the rental market as well, putting certain neighborhoods and cities out of reach. The result is seen during every morning and afternoon rush hour. More than half of the households in Pierce County are cost-burdened, meaning that they pay more than 30 percent of their income for housing. Nearly a quarter are also severely cost-burdened, paying more than 50 percent of their income on housing. The "positive" direction of the county housing market, making it one of the hottest in the nation, creates additional worry about the future of housing for working families.

It is time for the region to formulate strategies and policies that prevent displacement and makes this region a producer and not a consumer of the middle class. Furthermore, given the historical and current data on the impact of housing costs and the resulting displacement on communities of color and their neighborhoods, housing policies need to fully consider social and spatial equity issues in our region.

This year's annual forum will bring experts from around the nation to discuss various housing policies, their implementation, and patterns of success and failure. This will include both housing experts and regional decision makers. A panel of local policymakers will then present their approaches and strategies, while considering the wide array of presentations preceding them.

City Council Policy Development Flowchart Worksheet

