



RESOLUTION NO. 41904

1 BY REQUEST OF DEPUTY MAYOR BUSHNELL, AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
2 DIAZ, PALMER, AND SCOTT

3 A RESOLUTION authorizing the one-time use of funds in the amount of \$10,000,
4 budgeted from the Council Contingency Fund, to sponsor the Tacoma Film
5 Task Force.

6 WHEREAS filmmaking can be a powerful economic development tool for
7 cities, and from commercials to feature films, the film industry can foster a range of
8 jobs, local businesses engagement, and tourism, and

9 WHEREAS in 2025, Seattle's Office of Economic Development coordinated
10 360 film permits and reported that more than 4,000 local cast and crew had been
11 hired to work on film projects, while the small town of Forks, Washington, saw a
12 massive jump in tourism —from 10,000 people a year to more than 70,000—
13 following the popularity of the Twilight film series, sparking robust revenue gains for
14 local food, retail, and accommodation services, and

15 WHEREAS the City provides fantastic locations for filming, including both
16 sophisticated and gritty environments often within a short distance, and has key
17 infrastructure that the film industry requires, such as large hotels and convenient
18 parking, as well as a talented and passionate filmmaking community, and

19 WHEREAS despite its appeal, the City continues to attract only a handful of
20 film projects, and the City issued only 11 permits for filming in 2025, and

21 WHEREAS community members have shared that a task force would help to
22 foster leadership and organization in the film community and could evaluate options
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1 for helping the local film industry expand and advance closer collaboration with
2 businesses and community members, and

3 WHEREAS The Grand Cinema (the “Grand”) plans to organize and convene
4 a Film Task Force (“FTF”) to help organize the film community and develop a set of
5 recommendations for the City Council that are focused on enhancing and
6 expanding the film industry in the City, and

7 WHEREAS the Grand is the only nonprofit cinema in Pierce County and has
8 been working to enhance cultural vitality through quality film and educational
9 programming since 1997, and

10 WHEREAS the Grand has a wealth of experience managing programs and
11 public discussions aimed at building community and sharing knowledge, including
12 the Tacoma Film Camp, 253 Short Film Competition, and the Tacoma Film Festival,
13 and

14 WHEREAS the scope of work for the FTF would include developing
15 proposals and recommendations for topics such as:

16 (1) Providing feedback on updating the Motion Picture Municipal Code;

17 (2) Providing feedback on streamlined film permit regulations to ensure
18 the process for filmmaking in the City is easy, accessible, and transparent;

19 (3) Developing a list of location and industry assets to help promote the
20 city for filmmakers and attract new projects;

21 (4) Providing recommendations for updating the Tacoma Public Library’s
22 visual media lab;



1 (5) Providing advice on a potential series of speaker events or incubator
2 efforts to connect filmmakers and support skill building;

3 (6) Building a contact list of people involved in the film industry, including
4 connections to local universities;

5 (7) Connecting the film industry with local businesses; and

6 (8) Providing other general recommendations for expanding the film
7 industry in the City, and
8

9 WHEREAS the City's funding for the FTF would help advance key priorities
10 identified in the 2035 Strategic Plan, including building a thriving, resilient, and
11 strong economy with good jobs, and in addition, the FTF's work would contribute to
12 supporting the City's Community and Economic Development ("CED") Strategic
13 Plan, and
14

15 WHEREAS the CED Strategic Plan makes specific mention of supporting
16 and expanding the City's entrepreneurial ecosystem and developing emerging
17 industries, which aligns well with the aims of the FTF, and
18

19 WHEREAS, at the April 28, 2026, Study Session, Council Member Scott
20 shared a Council Consideration Request to authorize the one-time use of \$10,000
21 from the Council Contingency Fund to sponsor the FTF, and
22

23 WHEREAS City staff will negotiate and execute an agreement for services,
24 with terms and deliverables for the City's contribution, and

25 WHEREAS RCW 35.34.250 and 35.34.260 authorize a withdrawal from the
26 Council Contingency fund for any municipal expense, the necessity or extent of



1 which could not have been foreseen or reasonably evaluated at the time of
2 adopting the budget, and

3 WHEREAS Ordinance No. 22569 requires an affirmative vote of not less
4 than six members of the Council in order to withdraw moneys from this fund; Now,
5

6 Therefore,

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

8 Section 1. That the foregoing Recitals are hereby adopted as the City
9 Council's legislative findings.

10 Section 2. That one-time funding in the amount of \$10,000, budgeted from
11 the Council Contingency Fund, is hereby approved for the purpose of sponsoring
12 the Tacoma Film Task Force.

13 Section 3. That the proper officers of the City are hereby authorized to
14 confirm deliverables with The Grand Cinema for the purposes hereinabove
15 enumerated, and document as appropriate.
16

17 Adopted _____
18

19 _____
20 Mayor

21 Attest:
22 _____
23 City Clerk

24 Approved as to form:
25 _____
26 City Attorney