



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

TO: Mayor & City Council

FROM: Council Member Kristina Walker and Christina Caan, Policy Analyst

COPIES TO: Hyun Kim, City Manager; Chris Bacha, City Attorney

SUBJECT: **Resolution – Council contingency fund request to support “A Place at our Table.”**

DATE: August 12, 2026

We ask for your support for a Council contingency fund expenditure of \$2,500 to support “A Place at our Table.”

LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Council Contingency Fund Request: We ask for your support for a Council contingency fund expenditure of \$2,500 to support “A Place at our Table,” hosted by Nourish Pierce County. Nourish is a non-profit organization based in Tacoma whose mission is to provide nutritious food and support services to people in need with compassion, dignity, and respect.¹ The “A Place at our Table” event is a vital fundraiser to help advance their mission.

- Nourish operates six brick-and-mortar food pantries and 16 mobile sites countywide. Three of those brick-and-mortar pantries and eight of those mobile sites are located in Tacoma. In 2025, they served 28,756 unduplicated Tacoma residents across 23 sites in Pierce County, reaching about 12.5% of the city’s population at least once. These guests visited Nourish food pantries an estimated 194,767 times in 2025.
- As part of their programming, Nourish offers culturally responsive foods, facilitate a farm-to-food pantry that buys produce directly from local BIPOC-, women-, and veteran-owned farms, and operate grocery rescue program that helps prevent excess, mislabeled, or short-date products at local grocery stores from becoming food waste. Nourish also helps clients move to a more stable future by providing information on housing, medical support, government subsidies, and other community resources.

Nourish is providing services that help to advance key goals of the 2035 Tacoma Strategic Plan, including addressing community safety, homelessness, and economic development.² Food insecurity impacts 1 in 10 Pierce County residents and non-profit food banks have become especially important amid increased local demand.³ Hunger and food insecurity impede the health and wellbeing of our community members, as well as workforce productivity and overall community resilience.⁴

¹ [About - Nourish Pierce County](#)

² [Tacoma Strategic Plan | City of Tacoma](#)

³ [Food-Insecurity-Tacoma Pierce County Health Department.pdf](#)

⁴ [Community Resources | United Way of Pierce County](#)

- The City's support for "A Place at our Table" would include the placement of the City of Tacoma logo on the Nourish Annual luncheon program and presentation, along with bi-annual social media posts with the City logo. In addition, Nourish would provide a table for ten people at the Nourish Annual luncheon. The City of Tacoma will also be listed as a partner on the Nourish website.

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$2,500

DESIRED RESOLUTION DATE: August 25, 2026

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council Member Kristina Walker has met with Nourish regarding their "A Place at our Table" event and hears frequently about issues concerning food insecurity in Tacoma from community members across the city.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Equity and Accessibility: Nourish provides a critical support service for all community members who need assistance with nutritious food and support and helps expand food accessibility in our low opportunity areas. Nourish strives to ensure that no one is turned away hungry and that all interactions are guided by compassion, dignity, and respect.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

Livability: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
Do not support the Council contingency fund request.	Council would preserve the full amount of contingency funding for other priorities.	The City would miss an opportunity to help address food insecurity issues that impact our community members.
Support the Council contingency fund request at a higher amount.	Nourish would be able to further expand their work serving those in need.	Providing a higher amount would further deplete contingency funds for other City Council priorities.

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP

The City of Tacoma will provide information on how to apply for Special Events Funding to maintain the program in future years.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION

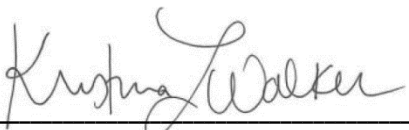
Sponsors recommend providing \$2,500 in Council contingency funds to support "A Place at our Table."

FISCAL IMPACT

\$2,500 from Council contingency funds.

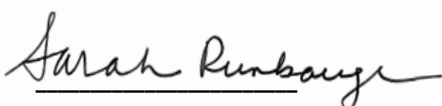
If you have a question related to the Council contingency fund request, please contact Christina Caan, Policy Analyst, at (253) 219-0679 or ccaan@tacoma.gov.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY:


Council Member Kristina Walker

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES

1.  _____ POS# 4

2.  _____ POS# 2

Mayor Initials:  _____