



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

TO: Mayor & City Council

FROM: Council Member Sarah Rumbaugh and Senior Council Policy Analyst Lynda Foster

COPIES TO: Hyun Kim, Interim City Manager; Allyson Griffith, Deputy City Manager; Chris Bacha, City Attorney

SUBJECT: **Resolution – Amending the City Council Rules of Procedure Rule 8 Subsection E - July 14, 2026**

DATE: July 8, 2026

I ask for your support for a Resolution amending the City Council Rules of Procedure Rule 8 – Miscellaneous, E. Public Requests for Presentations to limit this subsection to Public Requests for Presentations at regular meetings of the Council and change the process to make and review presentation requests.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT:

This resolution makes the following changes to the Council Rules and Procedures Rule 8 – Miscellaneous E. Public Requests for Presentations:

- Specifies Rule 8 subsection E. applies to presentations at regular council meetings, as defined in the Rules of procedure Rule 1.
- Removes presentations pertaining to an individual person, but retains presentation requests pertaining to events, organizations, or causes with local implications.
- Removes guidance that presentation requests should be made two weeks in advance of the requested Council meeting, and specifies the City Council will select the date of a presentation.
- Directs the City Manager and/or staff designee shall share all presentation requests with the full City Council.
- Removes the direction that the City Manager and/or staff designee or the Mayor will determine if the proposed presentation meets the intent of the policy. Instead, any member of the City Council can bring forward any individual request for discussion. The full City Council will determine if it meets the intent of the policy at a Study Session or Committee of the Whole meeting.
- Increases the maximum presentation length from 5 to 15 minutes.
- decreases the maximum number of presentations from two in one meeting to one presentation per month.

In addition to the changes to the Council Rules of Procedure, the resolution directs the City Manager to create and post an application to request to present at a Council meeting publicly on the City Council meeting webpage.

DESIRED RESOLUTION DATE: first reading July 28, 2026, second reading August 4, 2026

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ (CUSTOMER RESEARCH):

This proposal will allow several groups and sections of our community and opportunity to share presentations on issues or concerns that benefit the wider community. After speaking with council members and others in the community while Council discussed the community forum update, a way for community groups or organizations a chance to have more time to speak was not addressed. There was a desire to find a way for the council to provide a more formal ways for groups and organizations to present to council. Council has heard from many in the community that their voices are underrepresented in council meetings. Our community forum is not set up for groups to present where they can share issues, concerns, or asks of the community.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**Equity and Accessibility:**

Council will have the opportunity to provide accessible opportunities to hear from all parts of the community.

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.

Increase the number of residents who participate civically through volunteering and voting.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s)?

The opportunity for various organizations and groups to speak at council meetings provides more voices and opinions in a larger public setting. This sends a message to community that the Tacoma City Council wants to hear from those who are working hard on sharing their concerns and asks with both council and Tacoma residents. This proposal allows groups up to 15 minutes to share their presentation. During community forum, there is no way to provide a presentation, as it is set up to meet the needs of individuals with 3 minutes each.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
1. Reformat community forum	Community forum is a set up in place people know about. The Council has received feedback on the desire to have conversations or be better heard and presentations could provide more opportunities.	Other community members have expressed support for community forum in its current form and would not want to reconfigure it to limit individual comment.

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP:

The City Manager will create and post an application to request to present at a Council meeting publicly on the City Council meeting webpage. Applications should be shared with the full Council for consideration. Any member of the City Council can bring forward an application to the full Council for consideration at a Study Session or Committee of the Whole meeting.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

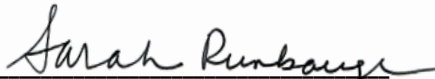
The sponsor recommends adopting this change to the Council Rules of procedures.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Staff time will be required to create and post the presentation application on the City Council meeting webpage, monitor and disseminate applications, and prepare materials for conversations

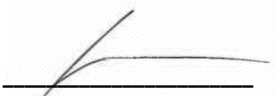
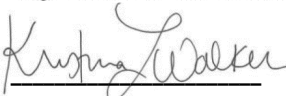
to come to Study Session or Committee of the Whole meetings. This can be incorporated into current staff work processes.

If you have a question related to the Council Contingency Fund Request, please contact Lynda Foster at 253.591.5166 or lfoster@Tacoma.gov.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: 
Council Member Rumbaugh

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# 6
2.  POS# 8

Mayor's initials  

(Mayor's initials for awareness only to ensure alignment and coordination of emergent policies.)