

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

**TO:** Mayor & City Council

**FROM:** Mayor Victoria Woodards and Chief Policy Analyst Bucoda Warren

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

SUBJECT: a resolution authorizing a Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the

amount of \$30,000 for matching funds to support the Sister Cities Sign

installation near Tollefson Plaza - Requested for December 2, 2025

**DATE:** November 18, 2025

I ask for your support for a resolution authorizing a Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$30,000 for matching funds to support the Sister Cities Sign installation near Tollefson Plaza.

#### **LEGISLATIVE INTENT:**

# **Council Contingency Fund Request:**

The intent of this funding request is to support the installation of a permanent Sister Cities Sign Project that celebrates and visually represents the City's longstanding international partnerships. The project is designed to highlight each of the City's sister city relationships through an attractive, durable sign installation placed in a prominent civic location.

This initiative reflects the City Council's commitment to fostering global understanding, cultural exchange, and economic cooperation through the Sister Cities program. The installation will serve both as a public art feature and an educational element, reinforcing the City's identity as a globally engaged community and a welcoming destination for international visitors, delegations, and residents alike.

Funding for this project aligns with the City's broader goals of enhancing civic pride, promoting cultural diplomacy, and creating visually engaging public spaces that reflect community values and international connections.

\$25,000 in funds are intended to match funding put forward by the Sister Cities Council for the development and installation of the signage. The City is supporting the process to clarify permitting needs for the Tollefson Plaza site and will be supportive of the installation and future maintenance. \$5,000 in funding is to be provided to Public Works for ongoing basic maintenance costs and support in the near term, with an expectation that an MOU with Sister Cities Council will outline their responsibility to fund damage, replacement, etc in the future.

**FUNDING REQUESTED:** 

\$ 30,000

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ (CUSTOMER RESEARCH):**

The Sister Cities Sign Project has been developed with input and support from key community partners, including members of the local Sister Cities Council, cultural organizations, and community representatives connected to each sister city relationship. The Sister Cities Council has led the engagement efforts that have focused on ensuring that the design and placement of the sign reflect the diversity and shared values of the community while honoring the unique cultural identities of each partner city. In addition, then Sister Cities Council has led the design of the signage itself.

# **2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

#### **Equity and Accessibility:**

The Sister Cities Sign Project has been developed with a focus on equity, inclusion, and accessibility. The project design and location will ensure that the installation is welcoming and accessible to all community members, including individuals with disabilities. Universal design principles will guide site selection, sign height, and wayfinding features to support clear visibility, safe access, and ease of interaction for all visitors.

In keeping with the City's equity commitments, the project also aims to represent the full diversity of the community and its international partners. Each sister city will be acknowledged equally in design and presentation, reflecting mutual respect and shared global connection. The sign will serve as a tangible expression of belonging, inviting all residents, regardless of background or ability, to engage with and take pride in the City's international relationships.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	
1.Do not Fund	More funding available for	Match not funded, and sign	
	emergent issues	unlikely to be completed.	

#### **EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP:**

The Mayor's Office as the lead on the Sister Cities Program will continue to have regular engagement with the Sister Cities Council to navigate challenges and needs throughout the project and can update the full Council as needed.

## **SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:**

We recommend approval of this funding to support the long overdue installation of this signage in Tacoma.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Up to \$30,000 in appropriate reimbursable costs to the organization from the Council Contingency Fund.

If you have a question related to the Council Contingency Fund Request, please contact Bucoda Warren at 253-318-0594 or <a href="mailto:Bwarren@citvoftacoma.org">Bwarren@citvoftacoma.org</a>.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: Mayor Victoria Woodards

# SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES

POS#\_\_\_5\_\_\_

POS#\_\_\_8\_\_\_ 1.

2.

Contingency Commitments		
2025	Fur \$	nding Amount <b>321,709.00</b>
Resolution 41610		
Council Requested - Golden Gloves Sponsorship Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$10,000 to support the 76 <sup>th</sup> Annual Golden Gloves Boxing Tournament in Tacoma.	\$	10,000.00
Substitute Ordinance 29002 Grand Cinema Capital Campaign Dedicate \$50,000 of the 2025-2026 Budget for Council Contingency to the Grand Cinema Capital	\$	50,000.00
Campaign for improvements to the Merlino Building.  Substitute Ordinance 29002		
Rebuilding Hope Capital Campaign Dedicate \$25,000 of the 2025-2026 Budget for Council Contingency for the Rebuilding Hope Capital Campaign.	\$	25,000.00
Resolution 41681	•	10.000.00
Tacoma Porchfest Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor Tacoma Porchfest.	•	10,000.00
Resolution 41968 South Tacoma Green Blocks Program	\$	15.000.00
Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$15,000 to Supplement the \$30,000 South Tacoma Neighborhood Planning Booster funding to conduct a full green blocks-scale program in the South Tacoma Neighborhood.		
Resolution 41724 Historical Society 2025 Destiny Dinner Sponsorship	\$	10,000.00
Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$10,000 to support the Tacoma Historical Society's 2025 Destiny Dinner.		
Resolution 41723 BIPOC Health & Wellness Fair	\$	5,000.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$5,000 to support the 2025 BIPOC Health & Wellness Fair.		
Resolution 41140 Grit of Destiny Sponsorship	\$	15,000.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$15,000 for a "Grit of Destiny: City of Tacoma" Documentary		,
Resolution 411735 Tacoma Labor Standards Task Force A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$50,000 for staffing and facilitation of the Tacoma Labor Standards Task Force.	\$	50,000.00
Resolution 41757 AIDNW	\$	20.000.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$20,000 to Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest for their phone call fund.	•	25,650.00
Resolution 41773 2nd Cycle Bike Stories	\$	2,500.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$2,500 to sponsor 2nd Cycle's Bike Stories.		
Resolution 41774 Trick or Streets A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$7,500 to sponsor Trick or Streets community event.	\$	7,500.00
Resolution 41791 Larchmont Community Schoolyard Project	\$	22 200 44
A Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$32,380.44 in support of the Larchmont Community Schoolvard proiect.	•	32,380.44
To Council November 18, 2025 Year of Belonging	s	25,000.00
A Council Contingency Expenditure of \$25,000 to Sponsor Year Belonging Initiative		
To Study Session November 18, 2025 Tacoma a Rescue Mission's Youth Program	\$	10,000.00
A Council Contingency Expenditure of \$10,000 to Support Expanded Services for the Tacoma Rescue Mission's Youth Program.		
To Study Session November 18, 2025 Tacoma Labor Task Force Standards Allocation Back to Council Contingency A Resolution Cancelling Authorization for a Council Contingency Fund Expenditure in the amount of	\$	(50,000.00)
50,000 as approved by Resolution 41735.		
To Study Session November 18. 2025 Holiday on Broadway Support and Ease of Activation Plan	\$	35,000.00
A Resolution authorizing a Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$35,000 to support Holiday on Broadway and the plan to ease the activation of Broadway and other areas downtown.		
To Study Session November 18, 2025 Sister Cities Sign Installation	\$	30,000.00
A Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$30,000 for matching funds to support the Sister Cities sign installation near Tollefson Plaza.		
Starting Balance		201 200 00
Starting Balance Total Amount Allotted Current Balance	\$ \$ \$	321,709.00 302,380.44 19,328.56