



TO: Hyun Kim, City Manager
FROM: Tanja Carter Director, Community and Economic Development Department
COPY: Economic Development Committee
PRESENTER: Debbie Bingham, Business and Economic Development Manager
SUBJECT: Uwajimaya Tacoma Update
DATE: April 28, 2026

PRESENTATION TYPE:

Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

An informational presentation of the proposed Uwajimaya store returning to Tacoma.

BACKGROUND:

Uwajimaya was originally founded in Tacoma in 1928 by Fujimatsu and Sadako Moriguchi, who operated the store until the 1940s. Denise Moriguchi, is the current CEO of Uwajimaya and third-generation leader of the company. Uwajimaya was founded in Tacoma's Japantown by her grandparents nearly 100 years ago and closed when they were forced into incarceration camp at Tule Lake during World War II. CEDD and other organizations have worked to reestablish a Uwajimaya in Tacoma for over 10 years. This 61,000 sq ft store with \$8M tenant improvement budget will be a cornerstone for the Tacoma Central shopping center.

ISSUE:

Informational Briefing Only

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing only. There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information briefing only. There is no recommendation.