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Neighborhood & Community Services Department (NCS)  
**COPY:** **Community Vitality & Safety Committee**  
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**SUBJECT:** Building Resilience Against Youth Violence and Exploitation (BRAYVE) Update  
**DATE:** March 12, 2026

**PRESENTATION TYPE:**  
Informational Briefing

**SUMMARY:**  
Neighborhood and Community Services will present an overview of Building Resilience Against Youth Violence and Exploitation (BRAYVE) and the progress of implementation.

**BACKGROUND:**  
In 2024, BRAYVE was established to reflect the City of Tacoma’s commitment in intervention and prevention strategies to reduce youth and young adult violence. BRAYVE rebranded the Youth and Young Adult Violence Reduction (YYAVR) work to build on more than a decade of implementing the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention’s (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model (CGM) and youth development work. Combining these two services areas created a continuum of services, including both prevention and intervention services, for youth and young adults who are court-connected, have high risk of being impacted by violence, or who have risk factors linked to violent or criminal behavior.

The goal of BRAYVE is to reduce the likelihood youth and young adults will become involved in criminal activity and violent crime. BRAYVE serves youth and young adults up to the age of 30. Services are focused in Hilltop, Eastside, South of Tacoma Mall, and the Hosmer communities.

Consistent with the past implementation, the City is using a structure with multiple opportunities for collaboration and community engagement at different levels of the work. The current model includes an Executive Steering Committee, Community Advisory Committee and Multidisciplinary Team.

- Executive Steering Committee (ESC): In 2025, the City reconvened the ESC to provide guidance and input from leaders within community systems with expertise in youth and young adult violence. An immediate focus of the ESC work will be to identify areas of the work within BRAYVE that may need to be updated to meet community need and better align with Council priorities.
- Community Advisory Committee (CAC): The CAC is focused on enhancing partnerships between community and providers as well as informing problem statements and strategy. The CAC will be reconvened by staff during the development of the BRAYVE strategy. The CAC would serve as a workgroup for community engagement, data analysis, and draft strategy development.



- Multidisciplinary Intervention Team (MDIT): MDIT creates a space for a provider network and address needs and services access by youth and young adults and is hosted by staff.

In order to provide opportunity to youth and young adults, the City provides access to quantifiable services with measurable results through external contracts. To accomplish this, the City allocated approximately \$2.9 million in the 2025-2026 biennium, from multiple funding sources, to fund 21 programs. The programs operate along the continuum from prevention through intervention.

**ISSUE:**

Funding and performance from 2025 services under BRAYVE will be reviewed, highlighting current strategies to address youth and young adult violence.

NCS uses an Issue Statement as an identification of need in the community coupled with goals and strategies for each funding priority. The Issue Statement is updated every two years to guide funding for the following biennium. BRAYVE data highlights from the update for 2027-2028 Issue Statement include:

- Tacoma Police Department reports people aged 24 and under accounted for 29.2% of the Tacoma Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter victims in 2025, up from 23.8% in 2024.
- For violent incidents, young people between the ages of 10 and 24 have emergency department visits at a rate of 92.5 per 10,000 people and is more common in the population 18 to 24 than the population 10 to 17.
- The Tacoma Public School student groups that have the highest discipline rates on average are overrepresented. These include male students; Black students; American Indian/Alaska Native; or two or more races; low-income students; students experiencing homelessness; youth in foster care; migrant; and students with disabilities.

Considering ongoing and changing needs in the community in addressing youth and young adult violence, the City will develop a new strategy for Building Resilience Against Youth Violence and Exploitation (BRAYVE). This will build on more than a decade of using the CGM and will consider the parts of CGM that the City has implemented previously and may continue moving forward. Additional models or approaches will be considered during development of the strategy. The ESC will inform strategy development. Planning for the BRAYVE Strategy will consider alignment with other funders addressing youth and young adult violence, identifying gaps in services for strategic investment while understanding how changes impact sustainability of other services, and identifying data across systems for consistent measurement. The planning process will consider recent changes to other youth services funding.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

There are no alternatives presented.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact at this time.

**RECOMMENDATION:**



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