



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

TO: Hyun Kim, City Manager
FROM: Bucoda Warren, Chief Policy Analyst
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: A resolution authorizing the one-time use of Council Contingency Funds, in the amount of \$10,000, to sponsor Ride Transit Month.
DATE: June 3, 2026

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing the one-time use of Council Contingency Funds, in the amount of \$10,000, to sponsor Ride Transit Month.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Anders Ibsen, Deputy Mayor Joe Bushnell, and Council Member Kristina Walker.

BACKGROUND:

Ride Transit Month was originally started by Downtown on the Go, now Tacoma on the Go, in 2013 as Try Transit Month before it went statewide with Transportation Choices Coalition. Ride Transit Month is now an annual celebration in its second decade that brings transportation partners across Washington state together each June to show appreciation for transit and transit riders through community gatherings, special events, rider challenges, social media, and more. The goals of Ride Transit Month are to celebrate and promote transit, educate decision-makers about transit and active transportation, build camaraderie through partnerships, and boost transit ridership and advocacy.

Tacoma is served by Pierce Transit and Sound Transit, providing essential bus, paratransit, on-demand, and regional transit services connecting residents to work, school, medical care, and community activities. In 2025, Pierce Transit and Sound Transit together provided millions of passenger trips throughout Pierce County, including free youth rides and specialized transportation services for individuals with disabilities.

This sponsorship would support the Transportation Choices Coalition and Tacoma on the Go to continue their advocacy efforts state-wide around the year, build momentum and support for local transportation needs, and support specific events during ride transit month. Local advocacy support includes efforts to maintain, repair, and enhance Tacoma’s streets, sidewalks, and multimodal infrastructure, ensuring improved safety, accessibility, and connectivity; improve public transit service levels for more buses more frequently; and local town halls, events, and opportunities to get involved.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Tacoma regularly hears from our transportation partners and the public regarding community needs for improved transportation infrastructure. Transportation and Infrastructure remains a top priority for the City and is included in our strategic plan which incorporates intensive community engagement and comments. This priority focuses on delivering a safe, sustainable, and connected city transportation network that supports economic vitality, housing growth, and climate goals by investing in complete corridors.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

Public transportation strengthens our region by reducing traffic congestion and emissions, improving air quality, supporting local businesses, and expanding access to employment and economic opportunity. Public transit also



promotes healthier, more connected, and more equitable communities by increasing mobility and access for low-income residents, communities of color, youth, seniors, and people with disabilities. These actions meet our climate and mobility goals and improve the health and wellness of our community members.

Economy/Workforce: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the number of infrastructure projects and improvements that support existing and new business developments.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

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

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

Decrease the percentage of individuals who are spending more than 45% of income on housing and transportation costs.

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

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

Advocating for public transit and transportation investments gives the community an opportunity to volunteer and make an impact on their community through education and engaging their neighbors. These investments translate to direct development of our road networks and other infrastructure the supports business development, aims to reduce transportation expenses, and improve the quality of life for Tacoma resident.

ALTERNATIVES:

| Alternative | Positive Impacts | Negative Impacts |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1.Do not fund request | More funding is available for future contingency fund requests. | In a year of multiple transportation priorities for Tacoma, the City Council may be seen as less supportive of those priority needs and transportation advocacy organizations would have less funding to be able to effectively do their work. |
| 2.Adjust funding level of request | Adjustments to the level of funding could allow for more funding for future contingency fund requests or indicate greater support for transportation priorities through additional funding. | Less funding may be available for future funding requests, or the priorities related to transportation would be less visible and directly supported by these organizations. |



EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

The City of Tacoma works frequently with both organizations both for joint events and educational outreach, and shared advocacy. With so many local transportation interests' staff will continue to work closely with our partners to keep the communities needs front and center.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend adoption of this resolution authorizing funding for Ride transit month this year.

FISCAL IMPACT:

| Fund Number & Name | COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER) | Cost Element | Total Amount |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. 1030 – Council Contingency Fund | 660000 | 5412010 | \$10,000 |
| 2. | | | |
| TOTAL | | | \$10,000 |

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

COUNCIL CONTINGENCY FUND

Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?

YES

The Council contingency fund is budgeted each biennium for unplanned expenses and community support such as this request.

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

No

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

No

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?

No

ATTACHMENTS:

- Council Contingency Fund Tracker

Contingency Commitments 2026

| Resolution Number | Funding Amount |
|---|---------------------|
| Resolution 41859 | |
| Oasis Center | \$30,000.00 |
| Council Contingency Fund request of \$30,000 to fund the Oasis Youth Center’s HIV and STI self-testing for LGBTQ+ youth ages 14 and older in Pierce County. | |
| Resolution 41864 | |
| True Vine Community Church of God in Christ | \$25,000.00 |
| Council Contingency Fund request of \$25,000 to sponsor the 5th Annual Citywide Block Party. | |
| Resolution 41881 | |
| Northwest Immigrant Rights Project 2026 Gala Sponsorship | \$15,000.00 |
| A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$15,000 to sponsor the Northwest Immigration Rights Project’s 2026 Gala and make a public declaration of solidarity with Northwest Immigrant Rights Project’s values | |
| Resolution 41904 | |
| Tacoma Film Task Force Sponsorship | \$10,000.00 |
| Council contingency fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor the Tacoma Film Task Force. | |
| To Council June 9, 2026 | |
| Ride Transit Month Sponsorship | \$10,000.00 |
| Resolution authorizing the one-time use of Council Contingency Funds, in the amount of \$10,000, to sponsor Downtown on the Go’s Ride Transit Month. | |
| To Council June 9, 2026 | |
| NextGen GM Sports Executive Internship | \$20,000.00 |
| A Council contingency fund expenditure of \$20,000 to sponsor the “NextGen GM Sports Executive Internship” pilot program. | |
| Starting Balance | \$259,328.56 |
| Allocated Funding | \$110,000.00 |
| Remaining Balance | \$149,328.56 |