



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

TO: Hyun Kim, Interim City Manager
FROM: Mayor Anders Ibsen and Chief Policy Analyst Bucoda Warren
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: A resolution authorizing the flying a commemorative flag to recognize the Seattle Seahawks playing in the Superbowl, to be flown no earlier than February 4, 2026, and remaining up for no more than 7 days following the Superbowl to be played February 8, 2026 – Requested for February 3, 2026
DATE: January 28, 2026

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing the flying a commemorative flag to recognize the Seattle Seahawks playing in the Superbowl, to be flown no earlier than February 4, 2026, and remaining up for no more than 7 days following the Superbowl to be played February 8, 2026.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Anders Ibsen, Deputy Mayor Joe Bushnell, Council Member John Hines, and Council Member Jamika Scott

BACKGROUND:

In 2025, the City Council passed Resolution 41642, which created a new policy on commemorative flag displays at City Facilities. To request a flag be flown at City facilities that were not pre-approved as a part of the resolution, Council sponsors must either bring forward a resolution or a motion to request a flag be flown.

The Seattle Seahawks are a longstanding and unifying presence in the South Sound and throughout Washington State, with a fan base that spans generations and communities. In Tacoma, Seahawks fandom is deeply woven into the city's civic and cultural life bringing together residents, local businesses, neighborhood organizations, and families around a shared regional identity and sense of pride.

The request for a commemorative flag raising is prompted by the Seattle Seahawks' entry into the Super Bowl for the fourth time in franchise history, marking a significant regional milestone. The team's most recent prior Super Bowl appearance occurred in 2014, making this achievement particularly meaningful for long-time fans and for a new generation of residents who have experienced the team's impact on regional identity over the past decade.

A commemorative flag raising provides an opportunity for the City of Tacoma to recognize this achievement and celebrate the collective community connection it represents. Seahawks games and related events consistently generate community engagement, support local economic activity, and serve as informal gathering points that strengthen neighborhood ties across Tacoma.

Additionally, the Seahawks organization has a history of community investment and regional outreach, including youth programs, charitable initiatives, and partnerships that benefit residents throughout Pierce County. Recognizing the team through a commemorative flag raising aligns with the City's practice of acknowledging moments, institutions, and symbols that reflect shared values, regional pride, and community cohesion. This ceremonial recognition is intended as a one-time observance connected to a milestone achievement. This does not preclude any future flying of the Seahawks flags connected to another significant milestone and sponsored request.



Whenever a commemorative flag is displayed per the policy, it should be displayed at the following four locations:

- The Tacoma Municipal Building North (733 Market Street);
- The Tacoma Dome (2727 East “D” Street);
- The Tacoma Police Department Headquarters (3701 South Pine Street);
- The Tacoma Fire Department Headquarters (901 Fawcett Avenue).

The Tacoma Dome is proposed as the primary location for this commemorative flag raising because of its role as Tacoma’s premier sports and events facility. Focusing the flag raising to the Tacoma Dome reflects the Dome’s function as a regional sports and events venue and maintains consistency with the ceremonial intent of the request. City staff will make a good-faith effort to accommodate the request for flags at all locations, however, due to the short notice associated with the event, availability of appropriate flags may be limited.

Tacoma Venues and Events Staff will be the lead on procuring the flag for the Tacoma Dome from the Seahawks Organization and have already received commitment to provide flags. Staff as appropriate identified in the policy will facilitate the raising of flags at the Tacoma Dome.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Formal community engagement was not conducted for this commemorative flag-raising request, as the action is ceremonial only. The Seattle Seahawks maintain broad and longstanding support within the Tacoma community, and the proposed recognition reflects a widely shared regional affiliation and community interest. The one-time flag raising is intended as a symbolic gesture acknowledging a moment of regional significance rather than a decision requiring public input.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

The proposed commemorative flag raising aligns with the City of Tacoma’s Equity Framework by supporting community belonging, shared identity, and inclusive civic recognition. As a ceremonial, one-time observance, the action does not create barriers to access, impose costs, or result in disparate impacts across communities identified in Tacoma’s Equity Index. The recognition reflects a broadly shared regional moment that brings together residents across neighborhoods, cultures, and backgrounds in a way that supports social cohesion and inclusive civic participation.

Livability: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

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

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

By celebrating a positive, shared community moment, the commemorative flag raising supports civic pride and social cohesion, which contribute to improved perceptions of safety and overall quality of life. Visible, unifying civic activities help reinforce a sense of belonging and shared stewardship of public spaces, supporting community well-being.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1.Do not raise flag	Fewer flag raises provide greater emphasis when	Tacoma will not be visibly joining the regional recognitions and celebrations



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	commemorative flags are raised by the City.	of the Seahawks' entry into the Superbowl.
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EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Following the approval of this resolution staff will facilitate the raising of the flag at approved locations per the 2025 commemorative flag raising policy.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend adoption of this resolution to share in the community pride of our region approve the raising of the Seahawks flag.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is not direct fiscal impact to the city for procuring and raising the flags. Per the commemorative flag policy and timing of this resolution, the flags can be raised and lowered when most convenient to staff that does not require overtime.