



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

TO: Mayor & City Council
FROM: Council Member John Hines and Policy Analyst Christina Caan
COPIES TO: Hyun Kim, Interim City Manager; Chris Bacha, City Attorney
SUBJECT: **Resolution – Council contingency fund request to sponsor the 5th Annual Citywide Block Party**
DATE: February 18, 2026

We ask for your support for a Council contingency fund expenditure of \$25,000 to sponsor the 5th Annual Citywide Block Party.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Council Contingency Fund Request: We ask for your support for a Council contingency fund expenditure of \$25,000 to sponsor the 5th Annual Citywide Block Party, hosted by True Vine Community Church.¹ The event is scheduled to take place in August 2026 at Cheney Stadium and will serve thousands of residents and families throughout Tacoma by connecting them to critical resources, including healthcare enrollment, housing support, utility assistance, employment services, and educational opportunities. In addition, the event will distribute thousands of backpacks and school supplies to local youth in need of assistance. True Vine Community Church expects about 5,000 people from across the city to participate.

- This free event is designed to provide a safe and engaging environment where neighbors can connect, enjoy entertainment, and access valuable community resources and services.² The event is youth and family friendly, offering activities such as free face painting, multiple bounce houses, a petting zoo, and more. Families can also enjoy free food, live entertainment, and interactive experiences designed to uplift and inspire.

The City of Tacoma's funding for the 5th Annual Citywide Block Party would help advance key priorities identified in the 2035 Strategic Plan, including improving perceptions of community safety, helping community members thrive, and increasing access to event experiences.³ True Vine Community Church will include top tier placement of the City of Tacoma logo on all major signage and promotional materials. City of Tacoma staff members will also have the option to host a resource table or booth at the event to interact directly with thousands of community members and families. Funding from the City of Tacoma would cover the Cheney Stadium rental fee, allowing a significantly increased capacity, accessibility, and overall event impact.

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$25,000

DESIRED RESOLUTION DATE: March 3, 2026

¹ [True Vine Community COGIC](#)

² [Annual Block Party – True Vine Community COGIC](#)

³ [Tacoma Strategic Plan | City of Tacoma](#)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council Member John Hines is receiving increased calls from community members and partner organizations asking for more support to nurture belonging and prosperity for all individuals, families, and neighborhoods.⁴ As one of the original supporters of the Neighborhood Planning Program, Council Member Hines has heard firsthand from community about the importance of ensuring equitable access to assistance and service programs, as well as building relationships and trust through joyful celebrations.⁵ Youth engagement is also a high priority for community members, who look to the City to provide a wide variety of programming support aimed at advancing education, violence prevention, and family support systems.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Equity and Accessibility: The Citywide Block Party is designed to welcome and celebrate all members of the community. By expanding this popular event to Cheney Stadium, True Vine Community Church aims to ensure all community members have equitable access to the festivities and an opportunity to engage with the vital resources and support systems that are available to them. Free activities for children also help ensure that families without childcare can attend.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

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

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

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
Do not support the 5 th Annual Citywide Block Party.	Council would preserve the full amount of contingency funding for other priorities.	True Vine Community Church would need to find alternative funding and support, potentially reducing the scope and scale of the Citywide Block Party and its community impact.
Support the 5 th Annual Citywide Block Party at a higher amount.	The Citywide Block Party could provide greater resources for community members.	True Vine Community Church has not requested funding above \$25,000 and sponsoring at a higher amount would further deplete contingency funds.

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP

The City of Tacoma will provide information on how to apply for the Special Events Funding Program Application in future years.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION

Sponsors recommend providing \$25,000 in Council contingency funds to sponsor the 5th Annual Citywide Block Party.

⁴ [Community Safety Action Strategy | City of Tacoma](#)

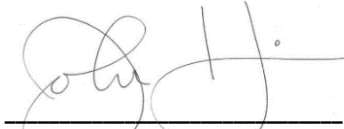
⁵ [Neighborhood Planning Program | City of Tacoma](#)

FISCAL IMPACT

\$25,000 from Council contingency funds.

If you have a question related to the Council contingency fund request, please contact Christina Caan, Policy Analyst, at (253) 219-0679 or ccaan@tacoma.gov.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY:



Council Member John Hines

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES

1.  _____ POS# 3

2.  _____ POS# 6

Mayor Initials: Anders Ibsen

Contingency Commitments 2026

Resolution Number	Funding Amount
To Council February 24, 2026	
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.	
To Study Session February 24, 2026	
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.	
Starting Balance	\$259,328.56
Allocated Funding	\$55,000.00
Remaining Balance	\$204,328.56