



**Contract and Award Letter
Purchase Resolution – Exhibit “A”**

TO: Board of Contracts and Awards
FROM: Vicky McLaurin, Interim Director, Neighborhood & Community Services
Caleb Carbone, Program Manager, Neighborhood & Community Services,
Homeless Strategy, Systems and Services (HSSS)
COPY: City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, EIC Coordinator, LEAP Coordinator, and
Sara Bird, Senior Buyer, Finance/Procurement
SUBJECT: Street Medicine Programming Contract Amendment with the Tacoma-Pierce
County Health Department, Contract No. CW2269337 – October 21, 2025, City
Council
DATE: September 29, 2025

RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY:

Neighborhood & Community Services requests approval to increase and extend Contract No. CW2269337 with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department (TPCHD), Tacoma, WA, by \$1,432,000, plus applicable taxes, 1185 – HRHS Special Revenue fund, or Street Medicine Programming, for a projected contract total of \$2,432,000, plus applicable taxes. and extend the contract through June 30, 2027.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.

BACKGROUND: In October 2024, the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) provided the City of Tacoma \$1,000,000 in funding for Street Medicine programming. Utilizing a direct negotiation waiver, the City of Tacoma entered into contract with the TPCHD to provide Street Medicine programming in the City of Tacoma.

The integrated care team, including medical and behavioral health specialists, conducts on-site assessments at encampments and other locations to evaluate individuals' physical and mental health needs. Medical providers will provide basic medical care, including but not limited to urgent care (addressing acute medical concerns), infectious disease control (HIV screening, HCV screening and treatment, wound and foot care), medication counseling, prescribing, and distribution of medications. Additionally, the providers will offer behavioral health services that include substance use disorder services, including provision of harm reduction supplies as appropriate, and care coordination and case management services

The City of Tacoma is committed to advancing the priorities set by the City Council, which focus on improving community well-being, safety, and equity. In collaboration with regional partners, including the TPCHD, the City provides immediate, on-the-ground support to individuals in encampments through emergency shelter, health and wellness services, and pathways to permanent housing. The Street Medicine Program is a pilot program that aims to develop a program that delivers on-site assessments, treatment, prescriptions, referrals, and resource navigation for people experiencing homelessness.

ISSUE: This issue is critical because individuals experiencing homelessness often face significant barriers to accessing healthcare, housing, and supportive services, which can lead to worsening health outcomes, increased mortality, and strain on emergency systems. To address



this, the City is partnering with the TPCHD to implement a Street Medicine Program. This program delivers on-site assessments, wound care, treatment for minor health issues, prescriptions for OUD, and referrals to additional medical, mental health, and housing services. It also supports Medicaid and insurance enrollment to ensure continuity of care.

The purpose of this project is to address the urgent and complex issue of homelessness in Tacoma by providing immediate, on-site medical and behavioral health support to individuals living in encampments and other unsheltered locations. Homelessness remains one of the City of Tacoma’s top priorities, as outlined in its 5-Year Homelessness Strategy, which aims to reduce homelessness through increased shelter capacity, decreased unsanctioned encampments, and expanded access to affordable housing—with the ultimate goal of achieving zero homeless deaths and long-term housing stability.

By bringing services directly to where people are, this initiative offers a compassionate, effective, and strategic response that aligns with the City’s broader goals of Community Safety, Housing and Homelessness, Access to Services, and Human and Environmental Health, as well as the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan’s focus on equity, public health, and engagement.

ALTERNATIVES: The primary alternative to approving this contract amendment would be for the City to withhold ongoing funding for TPCHD’s Street Medicine program. The City of Tacoma has accepted this grant from HCA, council could direct staff to release a competitive process rather than directly funding TPCHD. However, this would likely have negative impacts on health outcomes for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness within Tacoma for a period of time until that competitive process is completed. Without continued support, more individuals may go without timely or preventative care, leading to worsening health conditions and greater reliance on emergency medical services.

COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS: The original contract with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department was established through a Direct Negotiation Waiver (DNW). TPCHD was uniquely positioned to develop and implement the Street Medicine program given their expertise, existing infrastructure, and established partnerships in the community. These factors made a competitive solicitation process not practicable, as no other provider could reasonably deliver the program at the required scale and within the necessary timeframe.

CONTRACT HISTORY: This contract was originally awarded to the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department under Contract CW2269337 in the amount of \$1,000,000, as a result of a DNW in October 2024.

SUSTAINABILITY: Sustainability was not considered in contract award.

EQUITY IN CONTRACTING (EIC) COMPLIANCE: Not applicable - EIC Exception: Direct Negotiation Waiver

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (LEAP) COMPLIANCE: Not applicable.



FISCAL IMPACT:

This action commits the City to expend funds awarded by the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) specifically for the Street Medicine program. No additional City funds are required beyond the HCA allocation.

EXPENDITURES:

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1185 – HRHS Special Revenue fund	858700	5330100	\$1,432,000
TOTAL			Up to \$1,432,000

REVENUES:

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1185 – HRHS Special Revenue fund	858700	4334390	(\$1,432,000)
TOTAL			Up to (\$1,432,000)

FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$1,432,000

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes

IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED. N/A