



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

TO: Hyun Kim, Interim City Manager
FROM: Mayor Victoria Woodards and Chief Policy Analyst Bucoda Warren
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: A Resolution expressing support for the passage of Proposition No. 1 for replacement of Expiring Levy for K-12 Educational Programs and Operations; and Proposition 2, Replacement of Expiring Levy for K-12 Technology Improvements and Upgrades, submitted by Tacoma Public Schools to be considered at the February 10, 2026, special election. – Requested for December 9, 2025
DATE: November 19, 2025

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A Resolution expressing support for the passage of Proposition No. 1 for replacement of Expiring Levy for K-12 Educational Programs and Operations; and Proposition 2, Replacement of Expiring Levy for K-12 Technology Improvements and Upgrades, submitted by Tacoma Public Schools to be considered at the February 10, 2026, special election.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Victoria Woodards

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this resolution is to formally express the City's strong support for the Tacoma Public Schools' renewal of two expiring levies that are essential to ensuring high-quality, equitable, and safe educational opportunities for all students. These levies supporting educational programs and operations, and technology improvements and upgrades represent foundational investments in the day-to-day functioning of neighborhood schools across the District.

This support is grounded in the City's longstanding commitment to supporting environments where every child, regardless of race, background, or economic circumstance, can learn, grow, and succeed. The levies help close persistent opportunity gaps for students of color and students from families experiencing poverty by funding the educators, instructional supports, programs, and tools necessary for student success. They also ensure access to critical programs ranging from early learning and after-school enrichment to arts, music, athletics, and career and technical education. All programs that improve academic outcomes and expand pathways to college, careers, and economic mobility.

The levies further provide for essential safety, maintenance, and technology investments that allow students to learn in secure, well-maintained facilities and to benefit from modern instructional tools, up-to-date security systems, and technology-enabled learning environments. These investments strengthen building longevity, protect student and staff safety, and support transparent communication and academic tracking among students, families, and educators.

By bringing forward this resolution, the City affirms the public value of these levies, recognizes their role in sustaining approximately 17% of the District's day-to-day operations, and underscores the importance of a strong, well-resourced public school system to the long-term health and resilience of the community. Consideration of this resolution at a public meeting provides an opportunity for both supporters and opponents to share their perspectives, consistent with principles of open and transparent government.



RCW 42.17A.555, according to the state Public Disclosure Commission, allows elected boards, councils and commissions to "express a collective decision, or to actually vote upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance, or to support or oppose a ballot proposition so long as (a) any required notice of the meeting includes the title and number of the ballot proposition, and (b) members of the legislative body, members of the board, council, or commission of the special purpose district, or members of the public are afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of an opposing view.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Working with Tacoma Public Schools through the Joint Municipal Action Committee and other venues we have worked to align priorities and continue to invest in policies and programs Tacoma residents need. Engaging in various programs, initiatives, and public services often brings us together to increase the impact we have on the community. We also share many goals including Safe Routes to Schools, Vision Zero, livability, health, and safety which are guided by Tacoma 2025 and our Council priorities. Proposition No. 1 and No. 2 will support priorities identified by our community.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

This legislation emphasizes the City's commitment to advancing educational equity, supporting safe and thriving learning environments, and promoting investments that benefit all neighborhoods by supporting vital funding for our governmental partners.

Education: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Demonstrate community support for education by increasing support for school levies and bonds; volunteering and mentoring youth.

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

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

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

This legislation indicates support for the Propositions and will improve civic engagement by bringing more public support in front of the residents and giving them more reason to trust in the City. The funding also continues vital support for school district programs and resources that will ensure our student have what they need to thrive and succeed to improve their quality of life.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
1.Do not pass resolution	Overall tax burden will be decreased	Council would not share public support for school



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		improvements and safety upgrades
2.Pass resolution	would endorse voter support of both school district propositions	Tax payers will continue to pay taxes that support public school programs and resources.

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP:

Passage of Proposition No. 1 and No. 2 would indicate success of this resolution. If the Propositions passes, then City staff will have multiple points of contact and coordination with Tacoma Public Schools to understand the impact of the improvements.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend the adoption of this resolution to express support for Tacoma Public Schools proposition No. 1 and No. 2 on the February 10, 2026, ballot.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the City of Tacoma for passing this legislation.