



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

TO: Tacoma City Council

FROM: Mayor Victoria Woodards and Policy and Administrative Assistant Paige Armstrong

COPIES TO: Hyun Kim, Interim City Manager; Chris Bacha, City Attorney

SUBJECT: **A resolution authorizing a Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$25,000 to sponsor the Year of Belonging, administered by Tacoma Community House**

DATE: November 12, 2025

We ask for your support for a Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$25,000 to sponsor the Year of Belonging Initiative, administered by the Tacoma Community House.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Council Contingency Fund Request: The Year of Belonging initiative is a series of events, community convenings, and discussions, as well as a communications campaign, aimed at proactively promoting inclusion and a welcoming environment in Tacoma. The initiative helps advance connection, understanding, and collective growth across the city, with a special focus on celebrating and fostering unity with our immigrant and refugee community, BIPOC community, and LGBTQIA+ community. The Year of Belonging launched during Welcoming Week in 2025 (September 12-21) and extends through Welcoming Week in 2026.

- Mayor Victoria Woodards launched this initiative in partnership with the Tacoma Public Library and Tacoma Community House.¹² The Tacoma Community House, a nationally recognized non-profit serving immigrant and refugee communities as well as long-time residents seeking education, support, and pathways out of poverty, will continue administering the initiative.
- There have already been three successful events under the umbrella of the Year of Belonging including a community convening and discussion, as well as an educational symposium and lunch hosted and supported by Tacoma Community House. This year's Tacoma Reads program was also in partnership with the Year of Belonging, featuring an interview with author Valerie Kaur and a large community event produced by the Tacoma Public Library.³

If approved, this sponsorship would support ongoing costs for the initiative, such as the production of free community events that are open to the public, advertising and program printing, invitations

¹ [Year of Belonging | Tacoma Public Library](#)

² [Home | Tacoma Community House](#)

³ [Tacoma Reads 2025 | Tacoma Public Library](#)

and mailers, the production of an initiative website, and resources for community members served by Tacoma Community House.

The City's sponsorship would be acknowledged by using the City of Tacoma logo on promotional materials. In addition, the Year of Belonging initiative would help to advance several of Tacoma's strategic goals and plans. Most importantly, Tacoma is a member of the Welcoming Cities and Counties Initiative, which aims to encourage the creation of more welcoming, immigrant-friendly environments that maximize opportunities for economic growth and cultural vitality.⁴ In addition, the Community Safety Action Strategy and the Tacoma 2025 Framework advocate for fostering inclusive communities.⁵⁶

FUNDING REQUESTED: \$25,000

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ (CUSTOMER RESEARCH):

Tacoma Community House has been independently convening, producing, and marketing the Year of Belonging and completing extensive outreach to the community they serve as well, as the general public. Tacoma Public Library has also been promoting events and has completed the initial production of an initiative website that provides users access to information as well as a calendar of initiative events. This funding will support the ongoing work of Tacoma Community House in the administration of this initiative and allow for broader outreach and communications strategy.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

The Year of Belonging Initiative is focused on our immigrant and refugee community, our BIPOC community, our LGBTQIA + community and increasing inclusion and positive well-being for these Tacoma residents. The initiative seeks to foster inclusivity for all in alignment with City values as well as foster community connection and unity.

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)?

In alignment with the Council's commitment to equity and accessibility, and community engagement, this funding supports an initiative that uplifts Tacoma's legacy while fostering a deeper sense of belonging and inclusion among its residents. This can lead to increased engagement in volunteer opportunities and a greater perception of the quality of life for the community.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
1.Do not fund	More funding available for emergent issues	The event organizers may need to reduce the scope and

⁴ [RES39116 - Resolution No. 39116](#)

⁵ [Community Safety Action Strategy | City of Tacoma](#)

⁶ [Tacoma Strategic Plan | City of Tacoma](#)

		scale of the initiative, decreasing the ability provide community benefit.
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EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP:

The Mayor's Office will continue to be engaged in the Year of Belonging events and programming. Mayor's Office staff will assist in outreach efforts to ensure the success of the initiative and its emphasis on those in the community most in need of support.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Sponsors recommend approving \$25,000 in Council contingency funds to sponsor the Year of Belonging initiative.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Up to \$25,000 from Council contingency funds.

If you have a question related to the Council Contingency Fund Request, please contact Paige Armstrong at 253-686-2373 or parmstrong@tacoma.gov

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: Mayor Victoria Woodards

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES

1. S. Sadalge POS# 4

2. Jai S POS# 3