



## City of Tacoma

## City Council Action Memorandum

**TO:** Hyun Kim, City Manager  
**FROM:** Mayor Victoria Woodards and Policy and Administrative Assistant Paige Armstrong  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** A resolution authorizing a Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$25,000 to support the Year of Belonging Initiative in partnership with Tacoma Community House – requested for November 18, 2025.  
**DATE:** November 13, 2025

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### **SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:**

A resolution authorizing a Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$25,000 to support Tacoma Community House and the administration of the Year of Belonging Initiative.

### **COUNCIL SPONSORS:**

Mayor Victoria Woodards and Council Members Jamika Scott and Sandesh Sadalge

### **BACKGROUND:**

On September 9, 2025, the Mayor's Office announced the establishment of the Year of Belonging in partnership with Tacoma Community House and the Tacoma Public Library. Year of Belonging is a year-long initiative, beginning on Welcoming Week in 2025 (September 12-21, 2025) and extending through Welcoming Week in 2026.

The Year of Belonging initiative is a series of events, community convenings and discussions, as well as a communications campaign to proactively promote the feeling of belonging for every resident of Tacoma. The Year of Belonging will specifically cultivate belonging among our immigrant and refugee community, our BIPOC community, our LGBTQIA + community and all residents to embrace collective unity.

Tacoma Community House is a nationally recognized non-profit serving the immigrant and refugee community of Tacoma, as well as long-time residents seeking education, support, and pathways out of poverty. Tacoma Community House also provides extensive victim-advocacy and youth engagement programming.

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 both hosted and supported by Tacoma Community House. This year's Tacoma Reads program was also in partnership with the Year of Belonging, featuring an author interview with Valerie Kaur and a large community event produced by the Tacoma Public Library.

Funding will support costs such as production of community events, advertising and program printing, invitations and mailers, production of an initiative website, and resources for community members served by Tacoma Community House.

### **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 solely focused on our immigrant and refugee community, our BIPOC community, our LGBTQIA + community and increasing inclusion and positive well-being for these Tacoma residents.

**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.

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

In alignment with the Council's commitment to cultural preservation, civic pride, 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(s) | Positive Impact(s)                         | Negative Impact(s) |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.Do not fund  | More funding available for emergent issues |                    |

## EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

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

## STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend approval of this resolution to support disenfranchised communities throughout Tacoma as well as community events and opportunities for every resident of Tacoma to improve engagement and connection.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

| Fund Number & Name         | COST OBJECT<br>(CC/WBS/ORDER) | Cost Element | Total Amount    |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1.Council Contingency Fund | 660000                        |              | \$25,000        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               |                               |              | <b>\$25,000</b> |



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**What Funding is being used to support the expense?**

COUNCIL CONTINGENCY FUND

**Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?**

**NO, PLEASE EXPLAIN BELOW**

The Council Contingency Fund provides an established amount of funding each year for unbudgeted Council sponsored initiatives.

**Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?**

No

**Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?**

No

**Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?**

No

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 2025-2026 Council Contingency Commitments

## Contingency Commitments

|                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Funding Amount       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>2025</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>\$ 321,709.00</b> |
| <b>Resolution 41610</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |
| <b>Council Requested - Golden Gloves Sponsorship</b>                                                                                                                                                          | <b>\$ 10,000.00</b>  |
| Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$10,000 to support the 76 <sup>th</sup> Annual Golden Gloves Boxing Tournament in Tacoma.                                                                            |                      |
| <b>Substitute Ordinance 29002</b>                                                                                                                                                                             |                      |
| <b>Grand Cinema Capital Campaign</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>\$ 50,000.00</b>  |
| Dedicate \$50,000 of the 2025-2026 Budget for Council Contingency to the Grand Cinema Capital Campaign for improvements to the Merlino Building.                                                              |                      |
| <b>Substitute Ordinance 29002</b>                                                                                                                                                                             |                      |
| <b>Rebuilding Hope Capital Campaign</b>                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>\$ 25,000.00</b>  |
| Dedicate \$25,000 of the 2025-2026 Budget for Council Contingency for the Rebuilding Hope Capital Campaign.                                                                                                   |                      |
| <b>Resolution 41681</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |
| <b>Tacoma Porchfest</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>\$ 10,000.00</b>  |
| Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$10,000 to sponsor Tacoma Porchfest.                                                                                                                                 |                      |
| <b>Resolution 41968</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |
| <b>South Tacoma Green Blocks Program</b>                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>\$ 15,000.00</b>  |
| Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$15,000 to Supplement the \$30,000 South Tacoma Neighborhood Planning Booster funding to conduct a full green blocks-scale program in the South Tacoma Neighborhood. |                      |
| <b>Resolution 41724</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |
| <b>Historical Society 2025 Destiny Dinner Sponsorship</b>                                                                                                                                                     | <b>\$ 10,000.00</b>  |
| Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$10,000 to support the Tacoma Historical Society's 2025 Destiny Dinner.                                                                                |                      |
| <b>Resolution 41723</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |
| <b>BIPOC Health &amp; Wellness Fair</b>                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>\$ 5,000.00</b>   |
| A Council Contingency Fund expenditure in the amount of \$5,000 to support the 2025 BIPOC Health & Wellness Fair.                                                                                             |                      |
| <b>Resolution 41140</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |
| <b>Grit of Destiny Sponsorship</b>                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>\$ 15,000.00</b>  |
| A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$15,000 for a "Grit of Destiny: City of Tacoma" Documentary                                                                                                        |                      |
| <b>Resolution 411735</b>                                                                                                                                                                                      |                      |
| <b>Tacoma Labor Standards Task Force</b>                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>\$ 50,000.00</b>  |
| A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$50,000 for staffing and facilitation of the Tacoma Labor Standards Task Force.                                                                                    |                      |
| <b>Resolution 41757</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |
| <b>AIDNW</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>\$ 20,000.00</b>  |
| A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$20,000 to Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest for their phone call fund.                                                                              |                      |
| <b>Resolution 41773</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |
| <b>2nd Cycle Bike Stories</b>                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>\$ 2,500.00</b>   |
| A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$2,500 to sponsor 2nd Cycle's Bike Stories.                                                                                                                        |                      |
| <b>Resolution 41774</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |
| <b>Trick or Streets</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>\$ 7,500.00</b>   |
| A Council Contingency Fund expenditure of \$7,500 to sponsor Trick or Streets community event.                                                                                                                |                      |
| <b>Resolution 41791</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                      |
| <b>Larchmont Community Schoolyard Project</b>                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>\$ 32,380.44</b>  |
| A Council Contingency fund expenditure of \$32,380.44 in support of the Larchmont Community Schoolyard project.                                                                                               |                      |
| <b>To Study Session November 12, 2025</b>                                                                                                                                                                     |                      |
| <b>Year of Belonging</b>                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>\$ 25,000.00</b>  |
| A Council Contingency Expenditure of \$25,000to Sponsor Year Belonging Initiative                                                                                                                             |                      |
| <b>Starting Balance</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>\$ 321,709.00</b> |
| <b>Total Amount Allotted</b>                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>\$ 277,380.44</b> |
| <b>Current Balance</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>\$ 44,328.56</b>  |