



RESOLUTION NO. U-11518

1 A RESOLUTION related to the Department of Public Utilities; adopting the City
2 of Tacoma's Commemorative Flag Policy set forth in City Council
3 Resolution 25-0193, as may be amended from time to time, for the
4 Tacoma Public Utilities main administration building located at 3628
5 South 35th Street, Tacoma WA 98409 and authorizing the Director of
6 Public Utilities to implement the same.

7 WHEREAS the City of Tacoma has recently adopted a Commemorative
8 Flag Policy as set forth in City Council Resolution No. 25-0193, and

9 WHEREAS a commemorative flag is a flag that identifies with a specific
10 event, cause, theme, or group of people the Board chooses to honor,
11 recognize, or commemorate consistent with the City's official policies, priorities,
12 and sentiments, and

13 WHEREAS commemorative flags do not include advertising media, such
14 as banners, and

15 WHEREAS adoption of the City's Commemorative Flag Policy will reflect
16 alignment with the viewpoint and values of the City as a government and the
17 City Council as a governing body through the selection and display of
18 commemorative flags on TPU's main administration building, and

19 WHEREAS TPU desires to adopt the same policy adopted by City
20 Council Resolution 25-0193 aligning TPU with the City's general government on
21 raising commemorative flags; Now, therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

23 That the Public Utility Board of the City of Tacoma hereby approves the
24 Commemorative Flag Policy of the City of Tacoma adopted by City Council
25 Resolution 25-0193 and set forth therein, and as may be amended from time to
26



time, for the Tacoma Public Utilities main administration building located at
3628 South 35th Street, Tacoma, WA 98409 and directing the Director of Public
Utilities to implement the same.

Approved as to form:

/s/

Chief Deputy City Attorney

Chair

Secretary

Clerk

Adopted _____



Board Action Memorandum

TO: Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities
COPY: Charleen Jacobs, Director and Board Offices
FROM: Engel Lee, Chief Deputy City Attorney
MEETING DATE: March 26, 2025
DATE: March 17, 2025

GUIDING PRINCIPLE ALIGNMENT (select as many that apply):

Please indicate which of the Public Utility Board's Guiding Principle(s) is supported by this action.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GP1 – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging | <input type="checkbox"/> GP8 – Telecom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GP2 – Financial Sustainability | <input type="checkbox"/> GP9 – Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GP3 – Rates | <input type="checkbox"/> GP10 – Government Relations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GP4 – Stakeholder Engagement | <input type="checkbox"/> GP12 – Employee Relations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GP5 – Environmental Sustainability | <input type="checkbox"/> GP13 – Customer Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GP6 – Innovation | <input type="checkbox"/> GP14 – Resource Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GP7 – Reliability & Resiliency | |

SUMMARY: A resolution mirroring City Council Resolution 41642 which directs the Director of Utilities to implement a policy on where and when commemorative flags are to be flown at TPU facilities.

BACKGROUND: This action is taken to create alignment with City Council Resolution 41642 passed on March 18, 2025, which provides direction on where and when to fly commemorative flags. A commemorative flag is a flag that identifies with a specific event, cause, theme, or group of people the Board chooses to honor, recognize, or commemorate consistent with the City's official policies, priorities, and sentiments. Commemorative flags do not include advertising media, such as banners. The location of commemorative flags is the TPU main administration building located at 3628 South 35th Street, Tacoma WA 98409.

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? No

IF THE EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW IT IS TO BE COVERED.

Cost of flags are expected to be de minimis.

ATTACHMENTS: 1) Council Resolution 41642; 2) Council Member Diaz Council Consideration Memorandum; 3) City Council Action Memorandum; 4) City of Tacoma flag policy

CONTACT:

Primary Contact: Engel Lee, Chief Deputy City Attorney



RESOLUTION NO. 41642

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR WOODARDS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS BUSHNELL
2 AND DIAZ

3 A RESOLUTION adopting a policy that provides guidance of when and where
4 commemorative flags may be raised in the City of Tacoma.

5 WHEREAS federal and state laws provide protocols for flying the
6 United States, Washington State, and the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action
7 ("POW/MIA") flags at certain government buildings, and

8 WHEREAS Tacoma is an inclusive, welcoming city, that strives to build belief
9 and trust with all people in our community, and

10 WHEREAS the selection and display of commemorative flags on city
11 facilities communicates messages that reflect the viewpoint and values of the City
12 as a government and the City Council as a governing body, and

13 WHEREAS providing a clear process when honoring our diverse
14 communities when raising commemorative flags further strengthens trust in public
15 institutions in the City, and

16 WHEREAS the City Council desires to adopt a policy for display of
17 commemorative flags on certain city buildings that will provide clear direction to the
18 public and clarify how to honor and celebrate our communities and issues through
19 display of commemorative flags; Now, Therefore,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

21 Section 1. The City hereby adopts the policy set forth in attached Exhibit
22 "A" as the Commemorative Flag Policy of the City of Tacoma and directs the
23
24
25
26



City Manager to implement the Commemorative Flag Policy as set forth therein,
and may be amended from time to time.

Section 2. That commemorative flag policies for Tacoma Public Utilities, the
Tacoma Public Library, and the Tacoma Municipal Court are to be determined by
the Public Utilities Board, Library Board, and Tacoma Municipal Court, respectively.

Adopted March 18, 2025

M. Woodard
Mayor

Attest:

[Signature]
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

[Signature]
City Attorney



EXHIBIT "A"

CITY OF TACOMA COMMEMORATIVE FLAG POLICY

The Commemorative Flag Policy establishes the guidelines for display of commemorative flags on City of Tacoma facilities, provided that, commemorative flag policies for Tacoma Public Utilities, the Tacoma Public Library, and the Tacoma Municipal Court are to be determined by the Public Utilities Board, Library Board, and Tacoma Municipal Court, respectively:

1. Definitions. The following terms shall have the meaning given herein:

"Commemorative Flag" shall mean a flag that is associated with a specific event, cause, theme, or group of people that the City Council chooses to honor, recognize, or commemorate consistent with the City's official policies, priorities and sentiments, and does not include advertising media, such as banners.

2. Dimensions of commemorative flags. A commemorative flag must be the same size or smaller than the United States or Washington State flags being displayed adjacent to the commemorative flag.

3. Approved commemorative flags. The City Council approves the display of the following flags as commemorative flags on the dates as set forth below and at the locations set forth in subsection 4 herein:

A. The Progress Pride Flag. The Progress Pride flag is typically flown in the month of July, is raised in support of the LGBTQIA2S+ community, in celebration of PRIDE events, and as a statement to the public that



discrimination, harassment and harm to LGBTQIA2S+ individuals is not acceptable and will not be tolerated;

1
2
3 B. The Trans Pride Flag. The Trans Pride Flag is typically flown on
4 March 31 and November 20, is in support of the transgender community
5 to recognize the Transgender Day of Visibility and the Transgender Day
6 of Remembrance, in celebration of the lives and contributions of trans
7 people, while also drawing attention to the public of the shared
8 responsibility our community has to our trans friends, family, and
9 neighbors, to continue to support them, help educate the public, fight for
10 change, and eliminate hate-filled violence;

11
12 C. The Juneteenth Flag. The Juneteenth Flag is typically flown on June 19,
13 in honor of the City, State and Federal Juneteenth holiday, is a
14 celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States
15 and is raised to encourage City employees and community members to
16 learn more about this period in our history and commit to working for a
17 society in which all people are truly free; and

18
19 D. Orange Commemorative Flag (gun violence awareness). An orange
20 commemorative flag is typically flown for Gun Violence Awareness Day
21 and Wear Orange Weekend, which fall on the first Friday and weekend of
22 June and is raised to bring awareness about gun violence prevention,
23 and as a statement of the City's commitment to end senseless gun
24 violence with evidence-based solutions, pledge to do all we can to keep
25 firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun
26



ownership to help keep our children safe and protect everyone in our community.

4. Display of Commemorative Flags - Location. Whenever a commemorative flag is displayed, it should be displayed at the following four locations, provided that, additional locations to display commemorative flags may be identified by the City Manager:

- A. The Tacoma Municipal Building North (733 Market Street);
- B. The Tacoma Dome (2727 East "D" Street);
- C. The Tacoma Police Department Headquarters (3701 South Pine Street);
- and
- D. The Tacoma Fire Department Headquarters (901 Fawcett Avenue).

5. Approval of Display of Commemorative Flags. Commemorative flags that are not pre-approved as set forth in Section 3 above, may be displayed on the city facilities set forth in Section 4 above, if the display is approved by motion or resolution of the City Council following a determination that the commemorative flag proposed for display communicates messages that reflect the viewpoint and values of the City of Tacoma as a government and the City Council as a governing body.

6. Requests for Display of Commemorative Flags. The City Council will only consider requests to display an additional commemorative flag if that request is made by a member of City Council and the request explains how the display of the flag represents and communicates the viewpoint and values of the City as a government and the City Council as a governing body. Requests to display a



commemorative flag made by an individual or other public or private group will not be considered by the City Council.

7. Display of City of Tacoma Official Flag. The City Manager may direct the display of the official flag of the City of Tacoma on City facilities to create civic pride, denote a sense of place, and reflect the vibrancy of our residents and our community, provided the City Council has not authorized another commemorative flag for the same location and same period of time.

8. Exceptions and Limitations. The following flag displays are not subject to this policy:

A. Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA). Display of the POW/MIA flag when required under federal or state law;

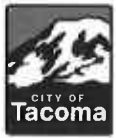
B. United States Flag – Half-Staff. Display of the United States flag when required to be flown at half-staff. The commemorative flag would also be required to fly at half-staff, and if the location does not have the infrastructure to fly the commemorative flag at half-staff, the commemorative flag should be removed during that time period;

9. Availability of Commemorative Flags. When a commemorative flag is approved or pre-approved by the City Council for display, the best practice is to work with community partners to secure flags to fly in association with the commemorative event being celebrated. The commemorative flag should be returned to the community partner after the event or securely stored for future use. Commemorative flags will not be displayed in circumstances in which the City is



unable to secure donated commemorative flags or funding for display of
commemorative flags.

10. Tacoma Venues and Event (TVE). Tacoma Venues and Events is
authorized to display flags at all TVE venues when the flag is associated with a
specific event held at that location.



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Council Member Olgy Diaz and Senior Council Policy Analyst Lynda Foster
COPY: City Clerk and City Council
SUBJECT: Resolution – Direction to City Manager on Commemorative Flag Raising – March 18, 2025
DATE: March 4, 2025

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution providing direction to the City Manager on where and when Commemorative Flags are flown at City of Tacoma facilities.

[City Council Member Olgy Diaz]

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Woodards and Council Members Bushnell and Diaz

BACKGROUND:

This Department's Recommendation is Based On:

This resolution provides direction to the City Manager on where and when Commemorative Flags should be flown at City of Tacoma Facilities. A "Commemorative Flag" is a flag that identifies with a specific event, cause, theme, or group of people that the City Council chooses to honor, recognize, or commemorate consistent with the City's official policies, priorities and sentiments. Commemorative Flag does not include advertising media, such as banners.

The current list of commemorative flags identified by the City Council to be raised, based on historical practice, is as follows:

- A Commemorative Progress Pride Flag in support of the LGBTQIA2S+ community, in celebration of PRIDE events, and as a statement to the public that discrimination, harassment and harm to LGBTQIA2S+ individuals is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. The flag is typically flown for the month of July.
- The Trans Pride Commemorative Flag in support of the transgender community to recognize the Transgender Day of Visibility and the Transgender Day of Remembrance, in celebration of the lives and contributions of trans people, while also drawing attention to the public of the shared responsibility our community has to our trans friends, family, and neighbors, to continue to support them, help educate the public, fight for change, and eliminate hate-filled violence. The flag is typically flown for the days of March 31 and November 20.
- The Juneteenth Commemorative Flag in honor of the City, State and Federal Juneteenth holiday. Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States. By raising the Juneteenth Flag and through other means, the City encourages employees and community members to learn more about this period in our history and commit to working for a society in which all people are truly free. The flag is typically flown for the day of June 19.
- An orange Commemorative Flag to raise awareness about gun violence prevention, and as a statement of our commitment to end senseless gun violence with evidence-based solutions, pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe and protect everyone in our community. The flag is typically flown for Gun Violence Awareness Day and Wear Orange Weekend, which falls on the first Friday and weekend of June.

Whenever a Commemorative Flag is raised, it should be raised at the locations identified below. Additional locations to raise Commemorative Flags may be identified by the City Manager.

- The Tacoma Municipal Building North (733 Market Street),
- The Tacoma Dome (2727 East "D" Street),
- TPD Headquarters (3701 South Pine Street), and
- TFD Headquarters (901 Fawcett Avenue).



Except as provided above, Commemorative Flags may be displayed and communicate messages, viewpoints and opinions only as authorized and approved by the City Council as an exercise of the City's official government speech. City Council shall only consider requests to display an additional Commemorative Flag if that request is made by a member of City Council. Council Member requests should explain how the flag represents the values of the City of Tacoma and articulate how raising the flag is government speech. The Council will not consider requests by an individual or other public or private group. Best practice is to work with community partners to secure flags to fly in association with the commemorative event being celebrated. Flags should be returned to the community partner or securely stored for use in future years.

Federal and state laws provide protocols for flying the United States, Washington State, and Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) flags at certain government buildings. Commemorative Flags must be the same size or smaller than the United States or Washington State flags being flown. The City Manager may also direct the display of the official flag of the City of Tacoma to create civic pride, denote a sense of place, and reflect the vibrancy of our residents and our community, provided the City Council has not authorized another Commemorative Flag for the same location and period of time.

Occurrences that may limit flying the Commemorative Flag as directed:

- The U.S. Flag Code requires flying the POW/MIA flag on certain days which would supersede local rules or council direction¹.
- If the U.S. flag is required to be flown at half-staff, the commemorative flag would also be required to fly at half-staff. If the location does not have the infrastructure to fly the Commemorative Flag at half-staff, the Commemorative Flag should be removed during that time period.
- If the City is unable to secure donated flags or funding for additional flags.

The Tacoma Dome may also reserve the right to fly flags at its venue when the flag is associated with a specific event held there. Commemorative Flag policies for Tacoma Public Utilities, the Tacoma Public Library, and the Tacoma Municipal Court are to be determined by the Public Utilities Board, Library Board, and Tacoma Municipal Court, respectively.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ (CUSTOMER RESEARCH):

Council Members have requested the City fly the current Commemorative Flags in collaboration with community-centered organizations to develop ways to acknowledge and celebrate our shared history. This has included the use of the three identified flags during annual recognitions. In June of 2023, the Mayor adopted a LGBTQIA2S+ PRIDE MONTH proclamation that included language on where Commemorative Flags would be raised at City facilities. Later, it was learned that there were challenges to achieving this goal, including the lack of flagpole infrastructure needed. This set up inaccurate expectations with the community and brought to light limitations to raising flags at all City facilities. The Queer City Collective (QCC) brought concerns to Tacoma City Council Members that identified the need a clear and consistent process.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Council Members have requested the City fly the current Commemorative Flags in collaboration with community-centered organizations to develop ways to acknowledge and celebrate our shared history. This has included the use of the three identified flags during annual recognitions. In June of 2023, the Mayor adopted a LGBTQIA2S+ PRIDE MONTH proclamation that included language on where Commemorative Flags would be raised at City facilities. Later, it was learned that there were challenges to achieving this goal, including the lack of flagpole infrastructure needed. This set up inaccurate expectations with the community and brought to light limitations to raising flags at all City facilities. The Queer City Collective (QCC) brought concerns to Tacoma City Council Members that identified the need a clear and consistent process.

¹ <https://www.dva.wa.gov/pow-mia-flag-display>



2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility: *(Mandatory)*

The City of Tacoma Proclamations play a critical role in the City of Tacoma in highlighting the positive impact different demographics and affinity groups have had in the City of Tacoma. There is no process set by Council to clarify how to honor and celebrate these communities and issues through display of Commemorative Flags.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity*

Elected officials, boards, commissions, and volunteer leadership will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma community.

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.

Representation at public meetings will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma community

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

Tacoma is an inclusive, welcoming City, that strives to build belief and trust with all people in our community. A clear, transparent process for how Commemorative Flags are selected and when and where they will be raised is needed to build that trust.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. No action	Maintains maximum flexibility and minimizes staff impacts.	Does not create clear, consistent, transparent process.
2. Fly flags at more locations	Maximizes Council's ability to honor, recognize, or commemorate consistent with the City's official policies, priorities and sentiments	Would require costly flagpole infrastructure improvements, as well as increase costs associated with acquiring flags, providing staffing, and tracking inventory.
3. Approve use of different Commemorative Flags	Honor, recognize, or commemorate additional priority topics.	Increase costs associated with acquiring flags, providing staffing, and tracking inventory.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

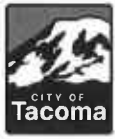
The City Manager should work with the Mayor and Council to identify community partners which have historically collaborated on providing Commemorative Flags to coordinate on acquiring the required Commemorative Flags for this directive. The City Manager should inform the City Council of any barriers to acquiring the necessary flags with ample time for the City Council to consider allocating funds through Council Contingency or other methods.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Sponsors recommend Council adopt this resolution to provide direction to the City manager on where and when to raise Commemorative Flags at City of Tacoma facilities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This policy would require staff support and coordination from various City staff who are responsible for flags. Impacts associated with these three commemorative flags will be incorporated into ongoing workload within staff's standard working hours. Future policy direction to add additional commemorative flags could have



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

additional fiscal impacts. This resolution does not provide funding to enhance any infrastructure needed to fly flags, nor does it provide funding to purchase Commemorative Flags.

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1. N/A			
2.			
TOTAL			

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

N/A

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

YES

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:

N/A.



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

TO: Mayor & City Council

FROM: Council Member Olgy Diaz and Senior Council Policy Analyst Lynda Foster

COPIES TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Hyun Kim, Deputy City Manager; Allyson Griffith, Interim Deputy City Manager, Chris Bacha, City Attorney

SUBJECT: **Resolution – Direction to City Manager on Commemorative Flag Raising
– February 25, 2025**

DATE: February 19, 2025

I ask for your support for a Resolution providing direction to the City Manager on where and when Commemorative Flags are flown at City of Tacoma facilities.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT:

This resolution provides direction to the City Manager on where and when Commemorative Flags should be flown at City of Tacoma Facilities. A "Commemorative Flag" is a flag that identifies with a specific event, cause, theme, or group of people that the City Council chooses to honor, recognize, or commemorate consistent with the City's official policies, priorities and sentiments. Commemorative Flag does not include advertising media, such as banners.

The current list of commemorative flags identified by the City Council to be raised, based on historical practice, is as follows:

- A Commemorative Pride Flag in support of the LGBTQIA2+ community, in celebration of PRIDE events, and as a statement to the public that discrimination, harassment and harm to LGBTQIA2+ individuals is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. The flag is typically flown for the month of July.
- The Trans Pride Commemorative Flag in support of the transgender community to recognize the Transgender Day of Visibility and the Transgender Day of Remembrance, in celebration of the lives and contributions of trans people, while also drawing attention to the public of the shared responsibility our community has to our trans friends, family, and neighbors, to continue to support them, help educate the public, fight for change, and eliminate hate-filled violence. The flag is typically flown for the days of March 31 and November 20.
- The Juneteenth Commemorative Flag in honor of the City, State and Federal Juneteenth holiday. Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States. By raising the Juneteenth Flag and through other means, the City encourages employees and community members to learn more about this period in our history and commit to working for a society in which all people are truly free. The flag is typically flown for the day of June 19.
- An orange Commemorative Flag to raise awareness about gun violence prevention, and as a statement of our commitment to end senseless gun violence with evidence-based solutions, pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe and protect everyone in our community. The

flag is typically flown for Gun Violence Awareness Day and Wear Orange Weekend, which falls on the first Friday and weekend of June.

Whenever a Commemorative Flag is raised, it should be raised at these four locations:

- The Tacoma Municipal Building North (733 Market Street),
- The Tacoma Dome (2727 E D St),
- TPD Headquarters (3701 S Pine St), and
- TFD Headquarters (901 Fawcett Avenue).

Except as provided above, Commemorative Flags may be displayed and communicate messages, viewpoints and opinions only as authorized and approved by the City Council as an exercise of the City's official government speech. City Council shall only consider requests to display an additional Commemorative Flag if that request is made by a member of City Council. Council Member requests should explain how the flag represents the values of the City of Tacoma and articulate how raising the flag is government speech. The Council will not consider requests by an individual or other public or private group. Best practice is to work with community partners to secure flags to fly in association with the commemorative event being celebrated. Flags should be returned to the community partner or securely stored for use in future years.

Federal and state laws provide protocols for flying the United States, Washington State, and Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) flags at certain government buildings. Commemorative Flags must be the same size or smaller than the United States or Washington State flags being flown. The City Manager may also direct the display of the official flag of the City of Tacoma to create civic pride, denote a sense of place, and reflect the vibrancy of our residents and our community, provided the City Council has not authorized another Commemorative Flag for the same location and period of time.

Occurrences that may limit flying the Commemorative Flag as directed:

- The U.S. Flag Code requires flying the POW/MIA flag on certain days which would supersede local rules or council direction¹.
- If the U.S. flag is required to be flown at half-staff, the commemorative flag would also be required to fly at half-staff. If the location does not have the infrastructure to fly the Commemorative Flag at half-staff, the Commemorative Flag should be removed during that time period.
- If the City is unable to secure donated flags or funding for additional flags.

The Tacoma Dome may also reserve the right to fly flags at its venue when the flag is associated with a specific event held there. Commemorative Flag policies for Tacoma Public Utilities, the Tacoma Public Library, and the Tacoma Municipal Court are to be determined by the Public Utilities Board, Library Board, and Tacoma Municipal Court, respectively.

DESIRED RESOLUTION DATE: March 18, 2025

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ (CUSTOMER RESEARCH):

Council Members have requested the City fly the current Commemorative Flags in collaboration with community-centered organizations to develop ways to acknowledge and celebrate our shared history. This has included the use of the three identified flags during annual recognitions. In June of

¹ <https://www.dva.wa.gov/pow-mia-flag-display>

2023, the Mayor adopted a LGBTQIA2S+ PRIDE MONTH proclamation that included language on where Commemorative Flags would be raised at City facilities. Later, it was learned that there were challenges to achieving this goal, including the lack of flagpole infrastructure needed. This set up inaccurate expectations with the community and brought to light limitations to raising flags at all City facilities. The Queer City Collective (QCC) brought concerns to Tacoma City Council Members that identified the need a clear and consistent process.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

The City of Tacoma Proclamations play a critical role in the City of Tacoma in highlighting the positive impact different demographics and affinity groups have had in the City of Tacoma. There is no process set by Council to clarify how to honor and celebrate these communities and issues through display of Commemorative Flags.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity*

Elected officials, boards, commissions, and volunteer leadership will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma community.

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.

Representation at public meetings will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma community

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

Tacoma is an inclusive, welcoming City, that stives to build belief and trust with all people in our community. A clear, transparent process for how Commemorative Flags are selected and when and where they will be raised is needed to build that trust.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
1. No action	Maintains maximum flexibility and minimizes staff impacts.	Does not create clear, consistent, transparent process.
2. Fly flags at more locations	Maximizes Council's ability to honor, recognize, or commemorate consistent with the City's official policies, priorities and sentiments	Would require costly flagpole infrastructure improvements, as well as increase costs associated with acquiring flags, providing staffing, and tracking inventory.
3. Approve use of different Commemorative Flags	Honor, recognize, or commemorate additional priority topics.	Increase costs associated with acquiring flags, providing staffing, and tracking inventory.

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP:

The City Manager should work with the Mayor and Council to identify community partners which have historically collaborated on providing Commemorative Flags to coordinate on acquiring the required Commemorative Flags for this directive. The City Manager should inform the City Council of any barriers to acquiring the necessary flags with ample time for the City Council to consider allocating funds through Council Contingency or other methods.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Sponsors recommend Council adopt this resolution to provide direction to the City manager on where and when to raise Commemorative Flags at City of Tacoma facilities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This policy would require staff support and coordination from various City staff who are responsible for flags. Impacts associated with these three commemorative flags will be incorporated into ongoing workload within staff's standard working hours. Future policy direction to add additional commemorative flags could have additional fiscal impacts. This resolution does not provide funding to enhance any infrastructure needed to fly flags, nor does it provide funding to purchase Commemorative Flags.

If you have a question related to the Council Contingency Fund Request, please contact Lynda Foster at 253.591.5166 or lfoster@cityoftacoma.org.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: _____


Council Member Diaz

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES (2 SIGNATURES ONLY)

(Signatures demonstrate support to initiate discussion and consideration of the subject matter by City Council for potential policy development and staff guidance/direction.)

1.  POS# _____ Mayor _____

2.  POS# _____ 5 _____

Resolution No. 41642

Adopted: MAR 18 2025

Maker of Motion: Hines

Seconded: Waller

Voice Vote:

MEMBERS	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CM Bushnell	✓			
DM Daniels	✓			
CM Diaz	✓			
CM Hines	✓			
CM Rumbaugh				✓
CM Scott	✓			
CM Sadalge	✓			
CM Walker	✓			
Mayor Woodards				✓

Roll Call Vote:

MEMBERS	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CM Bushnell				
DM Daniels				
CM Diaz				
CM Hines				
CM Rumbaugh				
CM Scott				
CM Sadalge				
CM Walker				
Mayor Woodards				