



RESOLUTION NO. 39116

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR STRICKLAND AND COUNCIL MEMBERS CAMPBELL
2 AND MELLO

3 A RESOLUTION authorizing the City's membership in the Welcoming Cities and
4 Counties Initiative, which encourages communities to create more
5 welcoming, immigrant-friendly environments that maximize opportunities
6 for economic growth and cultural vitality.

7 WHEREAS recent census figures report that 13.4 percent of the City's
8 population is foreign-born, with the majority immigrating from Asia, Latin America,
9 and Europe, and that 19 percent of its residents speak a language other than
10 English in their homes, and

11 WHEREAS the City passed an Equity and Empowerment Initiative that
12 seeks to (1) have a municipal workforce that reflects the community it serves;
13 (2) have purposeful community outreach and engagement; (3) provide equitable
14 service delivery to all residents and visitors; (4) support human rights and
15 opportunities for every person to achieve their full potential; and (5) commit to
16 equity in local government decision-making, and

17 WHEREAS the City Council, at its 2014 Annual Work Session, expressed a
18 desire to make the City a more welcoming place that is inclusive and an
19 immigrant-friendly place to live, work, and visit, and

20 WHEREAS the City will connect with community partners to share ideas,
21 develop new tools, give recognition for efforts that create a more welcoming
22 community, and improve the quality of life and economic potential for immigrants
23 and non-immigrants alike, and
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WHEREAS the City wants to foster a knowledgeable, safe, and connected community by including immigrants in conversations surrounding education, business and economic development, arts and culture, local government and the justice system, and social and health services, and

WHEREAS Tacoma has a vested interest in building immigrant leadership, engagement, and inclusion, and encouraging immigrant entrepreneurship; Now, Therefore,

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

That the City Council hereby authorizes the City's membership in the Welcoming Cities and Counties Initiative, which encourages communities to create more welcoming, immigrant-friendly environments that maximize opportunities for economic growth and cultural vitality, and further, that the City Council supports all efforts to make the City more vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming for all people, including its immigrant community.

Adopted _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

City Attorney