

Current Language:

None

Proposed Language:

New Article X, Section 18

Neighborhood Business Districts

Section 10.18 - In order to build and maintain healthy business districts throughout City neighborhoods and to improve economic growth and redevelopment within Tacoma's oldest neighborhood business areas - those which have traditionally supported surrounding residential neighborhoods, there shall be a Neighborhood Business Program. The Neighborhood Business Program shall establish Neighborhood Business Districts and their supporting organizations of Neighborhood Business District Associations. The Neighborhood Business Program shall also establish one Cross District Association acting as a peer coalition of the independent Neighborhood Business District Associations. Neighborhood Business Districts will be established and recognized according to criteria set out ordinances of the City of Tacoma.

The Neighborhood Business District Associations and the Cross District Association shall act as advisors to the City Council, Mayor, and City Manager. The Neighborhood Business District Associations and the Cross District Association shall carry out their functions and shall have the power to make bylaws and rules for the conduct of their business not inconsistent with this Charter or ordinances of the City of Tacoma. Said Neighborhood Business Districts and Cross District Association members shall serve without pay.

Rationale:

The proposed amendment parallels the proposed amendment to place Neighborhood Councils in the Charter. Programs described in the Charter cannot be eliminated absent a Charter amendment. Placing this Program in the Charter signifies the value and importance of the Neighborhood Business District Program to the City's economic growth.

Rationale against Change:

None presented.