

TO: City Council
FROM: Kelly Adams, Assistant City Administrator
DATE: April 21, 2026
SUBJECT: Resolution No. R2026-006, Supporting Tumwater's Opportunity Zone Application

1) Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution No. R2026-006, expressing support for the city's Opportunity Zone application to the Washington State Department of Commerce.

2) Background:

The federal Opportunity Zone program was established under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 to promote private investment in designated economically distressed areas through federal tax incentives. Portions of the City of Tumwater have been designated as potential Opportunity Zones, presenting opportunities to attract private capital for redevelopment, infrastructure improvements, business expansion, housing development, and job creation.

The Washington State Department of Commerce serves as the state's lead agency for economic development and community revitalization and coordinates state-level support related to Opportunity Zone activities. As part of this effort, the City of Tumwater is working with regional partners including the Port of Olympia, the Thurston Economic Development Council, the Cities of Lacey and Olympia, as well as Thurston County to prepare and submit an Opportunity Zone application to the Department of Commerce seeking participation, coordination, and support under the program.

Formal City Council endorsement is requested to demonstrate that the application reflects City policy direction and aligns with adopted planning documents and economic development strategies.

3) Policy Support:

2026-2032 Strategic Plan

Focus Area: Growth and Development

Action Item: Leverage brownfield revitalization opportunities.

4) Alternatives:

Do not support the application process.

5) Fiscal Notes:

N/A

6) Attachments:

- A. Resolution No. R2026-006, expressing support for the city's Opportunity Zone application to the Washington State Department of Commerce