

TO: City Council
FROM: Brad Medrud, Deputy Community Development Director
DATE: January 21, 2025
SUBJECT: Service Provider Agreement with the Dispute Resolution Center for the Tenant and Landlord Mediation Project and Conflict Resolution Resource Line

1) Recommended Action:

Approve the Service Provider Agreement with the Dispute Resolution Center for the Tenant and Landlord Mediation Project and Conflict Resolution Resource Line and authorize the Mayor to sign. This was recommended for approval on the Council consent agenda by the City Council at the January 14, 2025, work session.

2) Background:

In September 2021, the City Council adopted the Tumwater Housing Action Plan, which informs the City's Comprehensive Plan policies and development regulations and guides implementation strategies.

At its March 22, 2022, work session, the City Council discussed potential actions that the City could undertake alone or on a regional basis to address tenant protection. At the conclusion of that discussion, the City Council asked staff to prepare a scope for a contract with the Dispute Resolution Center for a tenant and landlord mediation project for further consideration.

The City Council approved the original scope of services for a tenant and landlord mediation project with the Dispute Resolution Center in 2023.

In the fall of 2024, as part of its 2024 Community Human Services program funding discussions, the City Council moved funding for the Dispute Resolution Center's conflict resolution resource line from the City's Community Human Services program and combined it with the Dispute Resolution Center's tenant and landlord mediation project.

After City Council approval of the 2025 – 2026 biennial budget, the new service provider agreement creates a new two year agreement with the Dispute Resolution Center's conflict resolution resource line and landlord mediation project.

3) Policy Support:

Strategic Priorities and Goals 2025 – 2026: Build a Community Recognized for Quality, Compassion, and Humanity – Implement the Tumwater Housing Action Plan.

4) Alternatives:

None.

5) Fiscal Notes:

This is an internally funded work program task.

6) Attachment:

- A. Service Provider Agreement with the Dispute Resolution Center for the Tenant and Landlord Mediation Project and Conflict Resolution Resource Line