



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Council Chambers

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 894 9617 1192

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/89496171192 Passcode: 896569

February 14, 2023

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Walker called the study session to order at 12:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 2 - Blocker and Mayor Woodards

Mayor Woodards arrived at 12:05 p.m.

Council Member Diaz initially participated virtually and arrived in-person at 12:22 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. [23-0148](#) Tacoma Violent Crime Reduction Project Period 2 Results

At approximately 12:02 p.m., Avery Moore, Chief, Tacoma Police Department (TPD), provided opening remarks regarding the TPD Violent Crime Reduction Plan, and introduced Dr. Mike Smith, Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio. Smith presented the Period 2 results, including background, and the hot spots policing strategy implemented in July 2022.

Mayor Woodards arrived here, at 12:05 p.m.

Smith continued by reviewing the treatment methodology; Period 1 hot spot treatment results from July 6 to October 5, 2022; the Period 2 hot spot treatment timeline from October 6 to December 5, 2022; and the plan for analyses. He further outlined results from Period 2, noting fidelity, monthly comparisons of Citywide violent crime incidents, a year-to-year comparison during pre-treatment and treatment periods, and a comparison of activity with the previous 12-month average; and a summary. He concluded by outlining next steps and the mid-term strategy for the problem-oriented, place-based policing (POPBP).

Discussion ensued regarding crime rates; public perception; recurring hot spots; types, definitions, and rates of different types of crime; the POPBP strategy, noting a comparison with the hot spot strategy, scope and locations, and the difference between treatment areas and catchment areas; stakeholder groups, noting the internal staff group, community member involvement, methods, reporting back to the City Council, member selection, and relationships with other groups; over-policing; reporting crimes; a request for an overall crime update; community outreach and engagement, noting perceptions, crime prevention education, reporting on the City's efforts, and what people can do to make Tacoma safer; reductions in overall crime and violent crime rates; appreciation for TPD officers; and recognizing public concerns and fears.

2. [23-0149](#) South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District Moratorium Public Hearing Debrief

At approximately 1:14 p.m., Stephen Atkinson, Principal Planner, Planning and Development Services (PDS), presented a debrief of the public hearing regarding consideration of a moratorium in the South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District (STGPD), including an overview; STGPD outline; initiation through the 2022 Annual Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code; the public hearing held on February 7, 2023, noting the proposed moratorium, public notice and engagement, and a summary of comments received; and background on how the Planning Commission considered issues related to aquifer recharge and impervious surfaces. Glen George, Principal Civil Engineer, Tacoma Water, reviewed the City's water supply, including that the City's primary water source is the Green River, the City's Integrated Resource Plan, water supply in South Tacoma aquifers and other sites, and the South Tacoma groundwater recharge area. Craig Downs, Assistant Division Manager, Tacoma Water, outlined per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), including impacts, Tacoma Water PFAS sampling, and long-term planning regarding PFAS. Atkinson concluded by summarizing the conclusions, upcoming planning and regulatory updates, and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding water sources, noting capacity, water quality, drinking water, contamination risks, and protection of areas outside the City limits; impervious surfaces, noting stormwater runoff and remediation issues; aquifer use, noting historic and average usage during normal years and droughts; climate change; zoning in the STGPD; the proposed Bridge Industrial warehouse project, noting permitting and potential impacts; regulations, noting compliance and enforcement; funding for the proposed Economic Green Zone; agencies in the STGPD; and the models used.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [23-0150](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, February 9, 2023

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there is one ceremonial on tonight's meeting agenda, for a Compassionate Tacoma recognition; one expected change to tonight's meeting agenda, to move Greg Tanbara's recognition to the February 21, 2023, meeting; and that Community Forum will be held during tonight's meeting.

Executive Session - Pending Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to convene to an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending litigation, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 8 - Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Blocker

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 2:11 p.m. City Attorney Bill Fosbre and Jennifer Taylor, Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office, were present.

The Executive Session concluded, and the study session reconvened, at 2:34 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk