



City of Tacoma

Government Performance and Finance Committee Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402, Conference Room 248
Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 844 1669 0206
Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/84416690206 Passcode: 614650

July 05, 2022
10:00 AM

Chair John Hines, Vice Chair Kristina Walker, Joe Bushnell,
Sarah Rumbaugh, Kiara Daniels (alternate), Christine Cooley
(ex officio)

Call To Order

Chair Hines called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Bushnell, Hines and Rumbaugh

Absent: 1 - Walker

Council Member Bushnell participated virtually.

Ex Officio Member Christine Cooley was also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

1. [22-0753](#) Approval of the minutes of the May 3, 2022 meeting.

2. [22-0751](#) Approval of the minutes of the May 17, 2022 meeting.

MOTION: Council Member Rumbaugh moved to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2022, and May 17, 2022, meetings.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Bushnell.

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

Ayes: 3 - Bushnell, Hines and Rumbaugh

Absent: 1 - Walker

Briefing Items

3. [22-0748](#) Digital Equity Program Briefing
[Kipling Morris, Information Technology Manager,
Information Technology Department]

At approximately 10:03 a.m., Kipling Morris, Manager, Information Technology Department, presented the digital equity program, including an overview, background, issues, noting opportunities in areas of control and concern; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding how digital programs affect the non-English speaking and less technology savvy populations, public outreach, availability of different languages, expanding the City's portion of the network through different programs, the number of fiber strands that fit through the conduit, how digital and physical space fits together in the City, transforming the City's municipal buildings to better represent the 21st century, and how the City can support public/private partnerships in the City.

4. [22-0749](#) Tacoma Public Library & Digital Equity
[Kate Larsen, Director, Tacoma Public Library]

At approximately 10:23 a.m., Kate Larsen, Tacoma Public Library (TPL), presented on the TPL and digital equity, including a review of existing services, assisting job seekers with digital skills, virtual services, partnerships, what causes the digital divide, the community impact model, access and training, approaches and assets needed, and possible next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding implementing the model of a common work space for residents, how the cost of digital materials is affecting the budget, bringing a social worker into the library, WiFi hotspots that the library loans out, possible partnerships with Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU), the possibility of Rainier Connect paying for the TPL's internet services, buying digital materials in bulk for a cheaper price, deferred maintenance in library buildings, and how the TPL needs more support from the City.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

5. [22-0750](#) July 19, 2022 - Monthly Budget Update; TPU Utility Burden/Customer Assistance; Redistricting
August 2, 2022 - Monthly Budget Update; Annual Business License Fees; TPU Outreach Efforts and Plans

Claire Goodwin, Committee Liaison, stated that the next meeting will be on July 19, 2022, and will include updates on the monthly budget, TPU utility burdens and customer assistance, and redistricting, on August 2, 2022, there will be another monthly budget update, an update on the annual business license fees and TPU outreach efforts and plans.

Other Items of Interest

Council Member Rumbaugh stated she would like to connect with the TPL to further incorporate work from the City.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

John Hines, Chair

Kiaira Thomas, City Clerk's Office