City of Tacoma
Committee of the Whole Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

9th Floor Visibility Center

March 04, 2014

3:00 PM

Call To Order

Mayor Strickland called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

Present: 8 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, Mello, Walker, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Thoms

Briefing Items

1.   14-0172   City Council's 2014 Strategic Direction

Council Members were given a memorandum outlining the planned March 18, 2014 resolution to approve the City of Tacoma Strategic Direction for 2014.

Mayor Strickland then reviewed the eight strategic objectives for 2014:

1. (a) Engage the community in an external initiative to ensure equitable access to foundational community assets with and between neighborhoods and populations; and (b) Build internal capacity for equity and empowerment, including racial equity, into the City of Tacoma policies, programs, initiatives, workforce, and budget decisions.

2. Focus on development of the South Tacoma and Lincoln District Mixed-Use centers.

3. Cultivate strong relationships with primary employers in Tacoma and leverage their presence to attract potential investors.

4. Develop a comprehensive Greenroads program to improve water quality and neighborhood infrastructure.

5. Make Tacoma a "Welcoming City" and cultivate an immigrant-friendly environment.

6. Make Tacoma more physically attractive.

7. Develop and implement a comprehensive transportation plan.

8. Develop and implement a marketing/communication campaign.

Council Members took turns speaking on objectives 1-5.

Council Consideration Requests

There were no Council consideration requests.

Committee Reports

Council Member Mello stated he attended Community Council last week and updated them on the 2014 Charter Review process, and various other City initiatives, including the Customer Support Center, CityQA, and 3-1-1.
He then reported on the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA), stating they are on track with their nonattainment goals, however, noting there may be a request by the PSCAA for additional revenues to remain out of nonattainment status once out. He also discusussed PSCAA's work on their Strategic Plan and efforts to address climate change at the local level.

Deputy Mayor Woodards stated the Foundation For Tacoma Students received a $50,000 grant from Comcast to help support programs within the Graduate Tacoma! movement. She noted the grant is part of a nationwide effort from Comcast called Internet Essentials, to connect families to low-cost home broadband internet. She then discussed programs that will benefit from the grant including SummerlearningTacoma.org, a hub that provides opportunities for parents and students to engage in learning activities online and in the community during the summer months; and Ready to Learn Camps for Kids.

Council Members Walker and Boe discussed the Pierce County Regional Council general assembly that occured last week.

Council Member Lonergan stated at a recent South Sound 911 Policy Board meeting they established a wellness program which allows them to receive a discount on health insurance premiums; and noted the Board continues to try and find a way to fold Puyallup into South Sound 9-1-1.

Council Member Ibsen stated Zoo Trek Authority will meet tomorrow to discuss capital budgets. He then discussed the enhancements and improvments needed at Point Defiance Park due to high attendance and use of the facilities.

Mayor Strickland discussed the Cities United conference she and Deputy Mayor Woodards attended recently in New Orleans regarding a

nationwide initiative to reduce violence-related deaths of young African American men and boys.

Council Member Lonergan asked if there is any assurance that the air quality goals won't change once the region gets out of nonattainment status.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

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Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

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Doris Sorum, City Clerk