



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

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

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

April 06, 2021

12:00 PM

JOINT MEETING WITH THE TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the joint study session to order at 12:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, Thoms, Ushka and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 2 - McCarthy and Walker

Library Board of Trustees:

Present: 3 - Irish, LaFrance, Williams

Absent: 2 - Colón, Craig

All Council Members and Trustees participated virtually.

Joint City Council / Library Board Briefing Item

1. [21-0314](#) Review of Library Board Strategic Goal Alignment

At approximately 12:04 p.m., Kate Larsen, Director, Tacoma Public Library (TPL), presented a review of the Library Board of Trustees strategic goals, including TPL's 2020-2025 strategic plan, noting the mission, vision, values, and strategic priorities; the 2020 annual report, noting an equity focus, electronic resources, broadening access, learning, creativity, innovation, investment in youth, cultivating and engaging the community, updated technology infrastructure, equipping staff for remote work, budget challenges, looking ahead in 2021, the TPL foundation, and the Board.

Discussion ensued regarding challenges related to COVID-19 and funding, the value of libraries, partnership between the Board and City Council, restoring funding for the needs survey and other services, increased service to marginalized communities, innovation, print books, and student support.

The joint study session concluded at 12:48 p.m.

The regular study session convened at 12:49 p.m.

City Council Briefing Items

2. [21-0315](#) Historic Designation 201 N. Yakima

At approximately 12:49 p.m., Rueben McKnight, Historic Preservation Officer, Planning and Development Services, presented the proposals to place buildings located at 201 N Yakima and 205 N Yakima on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places, noting background of the 201 N Yakima building, previously known as Whalgren's Florist Shop; background of the 205 N Yakima house; review of the initial historic assessment report in 2020; nomination by Historic Tacoma to place 201 N Yakima on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places; issues for consideration; design alternatives; a health, equity, and sustainability analysis; outreach and comments; and the Landmarks Preservation Commission recommendation.

Discussion ensued regarding recent revisions to the Tacoma Municipal Code related to demolition review, staff recommendations, timing of the nomination, negative impacts on the new property owner and their proposed development, lack of citywide design standards, alternative designs proposed by the property owner, balancing preservation and growth, examples of similar projects elsewhere, parking requirements, enhancing neighborhood access and equity, and impacts to individual property owners.

3. [21-0316](#) Recommendation for Expansion of Hygiene Stations at Existing Encampments

At approximately 1:39 p.m., Linda Stewart, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services, provided a summary of new homeless encampment waste management services, and presented an update on the hygiene station pilot program, including an overview; the goal to support community health and safety, noting COVID-19 considerations and City Council input; a review of the hygiene station pilot program; possible expansion of the pilot, noting the City Council request, analysis process, and additional temporary locations; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding whether the program is successful, perceptions, cost, program length, increased 911 calls, lessons learned, gathering feedback from the surrounding community and individuals using services, issues at specific locations, mitigation stabilization site options, funding

sources, illegal dumping, short-term impacts and long-term strategies, Federal Emergency Management Act reimbursement, options for property owners, and next steps.

Other Items of Interest

- 4. [21-0333](#) Council Consideration Request - An Ordinance Amending the State of Emergency Related to Homelessness and Committing to Participation in the Citywide Efforts to End Homelessness

Mayor Woodards presented a Council Consideration Request for an ordinance declaring support for the Coalition to End Homelessness, directing the City Manager or designee to participate in Pierce County’s End Homelessness Ad Hoc Committee, and amending the State of Emergency related to homelessness.

Discussion ensued regarding Council Member support, communicating about the City’s long-term strategy, and alignment with Council Member Thoms’ proposed camping ordinance.

- 5. [21-0332](#) Council Consideration Request - Gun Violence Prevention

Deputy Mayor Blocker and Council Member Ushka presented a Council Consideration Request to allocate \$25,000 of City Council Contingency Funds to support gun violence prevention efforts, noting stakeholder engagement and previous legislation.

Discussion ensued regarding past public input, gun violence rates, funding recommendations, and reporting.

- 6. [21-0344](#) Systems Transformation

Deputy City Manager Tadd Wille presented an update on systems transformation, including new items, noting workshops focused on high-level anti-racist objectives, the upcoming presentation by 21CP Solutions at the April 20, 2021, study session, legislative updates, the systems transformation update table, next steps timeline, and long range transformation timeline.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding Washington House Bill 1267.

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Mayor Woodards provided an update on the Mayors for a Guaranteed Income pilot program, including stakeholder discussions, development of a work plan

and focus groups, preparing for the City's demonstration, available resources and staff, funding efforts, and next steps.

Committee Reports

7. [21-0336](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, April 1, 2021

Deputy City Manager Wille stated there is one ceremonial on tonight's agenda, proclaiming April 5 to 11, 2021, as National Public Health Week, and that no changes are expected to tonight's agenda.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk