



# City of Tacoma

## Committee of the Whole 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](http://www.zoom.us/j/89496171192) Passcode: 896569

**September 13, 2022**

**3:00 PM**

---

### SPECIAL MEETING

#### Call To Order

Deputy Mayor Ushka called the special meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

#### Roll Call

**Present:** 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Woodards

**Absent:** 1 - Diaz

Council Member Diaz arrived at 3:26 p.m.

Mayor Woodards participated virtually.

#### Briefing Item

1. [22-1008](#) Budget Forecast Update and Preview of the Revenue Options

At approximately 3:03 p.m., Katie Johnston, Budget Officer, Office of Management and Budget, presented a budget forecast update and preview of the revenue options, including an agenda; budget process and timeline; General Fund financial forecasts; the current General Fund position, noting proposals to close the \$24 million budget gap, and to restore, maintain, and increase services.

Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance, presented revenue options and a proposal to change annual business license fees and gross income tiers, including the current and proposed fee structure, noting that fees were last increased in 2017; proposed annual business license tiers, noting the number of businesses in each gross income threshold; fee comparisons to other cities; and feedback from businesses regarding COVID-19 impacts and the proposed tiers.

Johnston reviewed funding related to litter and debris response, including background, noting blight removal services, removal of

encampment-related debris, funding sources, and efforts managed by multiple departments. Lewis Griffith, Solid Waste Management Division Manager, Environmental Services, further outlined sustainable litter and debris response, including proposals to establish new ongoing funding, expand current services, centralize and streamline current services, and provide a single central point of contact; changes to encampment response; and changes to litter and debris response.

Council Member Diaz arrived here, at 3:26 p.m.

Griffith continued presenting changes to litter and debris response, and providing a centralized response. Johnston concluded by describing the 2022 and 2023 phase-in plan and communication, noting the tax start date of April 2023; the tax impacts and spending plan; next steps; and a summary of outreach efforts.

Discussion ensued regarding the various fees paid by City residents; cleanup services and events; illegal dumping; impacts if new revenue sources are not approved; trash containers in public areas; annual business license fees, noting the tier structure, amounts, percent of business income paid, impacts on small businesses, outreach and feedback from businesses, and business and occupation taxes; centralized litter control services; communication with solid waste customers; providing service enhancements; and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on businesses.

## **Adjournment**

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

---

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

---

Doris Sorum, City Clerk