



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

April 04, 2023

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 2 - Daniels and Rumbaugh

Council Member Daniels arrived at 12:02 p.m.

Council Member Diaz participated virtually.

Briefing Items

1. [23-0332](#) Association of Washington Cities Overview

At approximately 12:01 p.m., Sonja Hallum, Chief Government Affairs Officer, City Managers Office, provided opening remarks on the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) and introduced Deanna Dawson, Chief Executive Officer, AWC.

Council Member Daniels arrived here, at 12:02 p.m.

Dawson presented an overview of the ACW, including their mission, structure, and membership; and their four separate, but related corporations, noting the AWC 501(c)(4) entity, Employee Benefit Trust, Risk Management Service Agency, and Center for Quality Communities. She continued by reviewing the Board of Directors districts over Washington State, noting how they were formed and function; Board Members; strategic goals, noting lead, promote, educate, empower, engage, and deliver; the Executive Committee; and governance structure, noting internal board and committees and Tacoma's representation. She concluded by outlining core principles that guide AWC's advocacy; city and federal legislative priorities; training and networking opportunities for elected officials, noting the Certificate of Municipal Leadership (CML) program, core competencies, advanced trainings, and data;

the upcoming AWC Annual Conference on June 20-23, 2023; resources for data and publications; goals for the upcoming year; AWC's new Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Cabinet; and engagement with the National League of Cities.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for AWC's outreach and advocacy to all cities and towns in Washington State; the focus on good government policy, and civil conversations; how AWC can support Tacoma; encouraging all colleagues to engage in AWC; and the CML program.

2. [23-0333](#) City of Tacoma's Annual Action Plan

At approximately 12:51 p.m., Felicia Medlen, Housing Division Manager, Community and Economic Development (CED), presented the 2023 Annual Action Plan (AAP) for housing and community development, including an overview; the spending plan and grant allocations towards housing assistance programs, economic development, administration, and public services; programs managed by CED and Neighborhood and Community Services; Emergency Solutions Grant allocations, noting categories of administration, Homeless Management Information System, and external contracts; Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) allocations that are primarily focused on affordable housing, noting categories of administration, City of Tacoma housing programs, and City of Lakewood housing programs; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding new senior housing projects; appreciation for staff; allocations under the HOME grant funding; City housing programs, noting homeownership and rental housing development; and updating the City's down payment assistant program.

Other Items of Interest

3. [23-0334](#) Council Consideration Request - Mi Centro Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Conference Sponsorship

Council Member Diaz presented a Council Consideration Request to allocate \$20,000 of Council Contingency Funds to sponsor Mi Centro's first Breaking Barriers: Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Conference, including the goal to facilitate the successful implementation of the conference for first responders, law enforcement, and domestic violence advocates, noting these resources will aid in the building of trust in the community, educating with up-to-date research, and providing resources for prevention and cultural sensitivity.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for this work; the importance of breaking down barriers; confirming that five seats are available for Council Members or staff to attend the conference; a request for Mi Centro to present at a future study session; ensuring participation by first responders, noting Tacoma Police Department and South Sound 911; and confirmation that the proposed resolution will be on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, meeting agenda.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

- 4. [23-0336](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, March 30, 2023

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there are three proclamations on tonight’s meeting agenda, proclaiming April 3-9, 2023, as National Public Health Week, proclaiming April 2023 as Fair Housing Month, and proclaiming April 2023 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, that no changes are expected to tonight’s agenda; and that tonight’s meeting includes Community Forum.

Executive Session - Review the Qualifications of a Public Employee

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to convene to an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the qualifications of a public employee, and pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)(i) and (1)(i)(ii) to discuss potential litigation, not to exceed 65 min.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.

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

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

Absent: 1 - Rumbaugh

The study session recessed at 1:12 p.m.

The study session reconvened at 1:26 p.m.

* * * * *

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 1:26 p.m.
City Attorney Bill Fosbre was present.

The Executive Session was extended by 30 minutes at 2:35 p.m.,
and by 20 minutes at 3:09 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded, and the study session reconvened,
at 3:32 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk