



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

November 28, 2017

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Thoms called the study session to order at 12:14 p.m.

Present: 6 - Blocker, Ibsen, Lonergan, McCarthy, Thoms and Walker Lee

Absent: 3 - Campbell, Mello and Mayor Strickland

Council Member Campbell arrived at 12:16 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. [17-1215](#) 2018 State and Federal Legislative Agendas

At approximately 12:14 p.m., Randall Lewis, Government Relations Officer, reviewed the agenda of today's presentation and provided an overview of the accomplishments of the 2017 State legislative agenda.

Council Member Campbell arrived here, at 12:16 p.m.

He noted the 2018 State legislative session will be a continuation of the 2017 State legislative session and reviewed the new items on the 2018 State legislative agenda priorities, including supporting continued development of a proposed jobs investment fund, supporting budget authorization to allow the City to negotiate acquisition of the Rhodes Buildings from the State, supporting changes to State building code to allow cross-laminate timber construction, prioritizing funding for projects on proven programs to provide funding for greenhouse gas reduction, allowing cities to utilize unit-price contracting, supporting authorization of a non-judicial process to remove illegal restrictive covenant language, supporting a comprehensive study of passenger ferry routes, and continuing the remaining 2017 State legislative agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the State building code and a petition process for removing illegal restrictive covenant language through the Pierce County Auditor's Office.

Alisa O'Hanlon, Government Relations Analyst, stated Council Member Blocker and she attended the National League of Cities Conference where an appeal letter was presented urging all local leaders to sign to address the Congress and Administration regarding the support for local governments, and read a portion of the appeal letter. She then reviewed the 2017 and 2018 Federal legislative agenda priorities, including mental health; opioid epidemic; Community Oriented Policing Services funding/Project PEACE; private prisons; adding citizenship language for undocumented Dreamers; support for small business innovation; support for clean water innovations and adding language for combatting climate change; and support for housing and homelessness and opposing the elimination of HOME Investment Partnerships Program and the Community Development Block Grant. She continued to review the new items on the 2018 Federal legislative agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for sharing the appeal letter with other cities, Pierce County, and State.

Mr. Lewis concluded by reviewing the 2017-2018 calendar.

Discussion ensued regarding the City's position on the proposed tax plan in the Senate and House of Representatives, clarification on penalties for defaulting on federal student loans, commercial property tax, and the need to work with the State on real-time air quality monitoring.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

2. [17-1216](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, November 22, 2017

City Manager Pauli stated there are no ceremonials and there are no expected changes to tonight's agenda.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Robert Thoms, Deputy Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk