



# City of Tacoma Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 860 9046 9640

Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/86090469640](http://www.zoom.us/j/86090469640) Passcode: 614650

**December 02, 2020**

**4:30 PM**

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Chair Conor McCarthy, Vice Chair Chris Beale, Lillian Hunter,  
Kristina Walker, Catherine Ushka (alternate)

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

### **Call To Order**

Vice Chair Beale called the special meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

### **Roll Call**

**Present:** 3 - Beale, Hunter and Walker

**Absent:** 1 - McCarthy

All Council Members participated virtually.

### **Approval of Minutes**

1. [20-0917](#) Approval of the minutes of the October 14, 2020 meeting.
2. [20-0919](#) Approval of the minutes of the October 28, 2020 meeting.

**MOTION: Council Member Hunter moved to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2020, and October 28, 2020, meetings.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.**

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

**Ayes:** 3 - Beale, Hunter and Walker

**Absent:** 1 - McCarthy

## Briefing Items

3. [20-0912](#) Proposed building and fire code amendments to TMC Title 2 and Title 3 [Sue Coffman, Building Official, Planning and Development Services; Ryan Erickson, Fire Code Official, and Chris Seaman, Senior Principal Engineer, Tacoma Fire Department]
- At approximately 4:37 p.m., Sue Coffman, Building Official, Planning and Development Services, and Ryan Erickson, Fire Code Official, Tacoma Fire Department (TFD), provided opening remarks and introduced Chris Seaman, Senior Fire Protection Engineer, TFD. Together, they presented on the proposed adoption of the 2018 International Building and Fire Codes, including an overview; background, noting key changes in state codes; issues; proposed revisions to the Tacoma Municipal Code, noting the Building Code, residential building code, and the Fire Code; the health, equity, and sustainability analysis; outreach; and next steps.
- Discussion ensued regarding regulations for tiny homes, townhomes, and attached single-family homes; bringing older buildings up to code; mobile fueling; possible impacts of the code on the cost of new construction; sprinkler requirements in townhomes; minimum dwelling unit size; and earthquake emergency evacuation plans.
- MOTION: Council Member Hunter moved to forward the proposed Building and Code amendments for Tacoma Municipal Code Titles 2 and 3 to the full City Council for consideration.**
- SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.**
- ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**
- Ayes:** 3 - Beale, Hunter and Walker  
**Absent:** 1 - McCarthy
4. [20-0913](#) Climate impacts on air quality in low income neighborhoods [Jim Parvey, Division Manager, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability]
- At approximately 5:28 p.m., Jim Parvey, Environmental Policy and Sustainability Division Manager, Environmental Services (ES), introduced Mike Carey, Urban Forest Program Manager, and Leah Michaelson, Community Relations Officer, ES; and Joel Baker, Professor and Port of Tacoma Chair in Environmental Science, University of Washington Tacoma.

Together, they presented an update on climate change impacts on low-opportunity neighborhoods, including an overview; adopted policies, noting the Climate Resilience Study, the Environmental Action Plan, and the Urban Forest Management Plan; background, noting redlining, land cover, equity related to the Urban Heat Island index, and tree canopy cover; trees as urban heat mitigation; analysis, noting tree planting potential, tree height, and air quality; conclusions; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding the PurpleAir air quality monitoring project, air quality monitors, tree planting potential, the tree canopy studies, tree retention and protection measures, putting focus on low-opportunity census tracts, roadblocks to planting trees, funding for tree planting programs, and building a legacy program for planting trees.

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

5. [20-0914](#) December 9, 2020 - Board of Building Appeals Interviews; Landmarks Commission Recommendations for Historic Designation of 201-205 N Yakima Avenue

Claire Goodwin, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on December 9, 2020, and will include interviews for the Board of Building Appeals and the Landmarks Preservation Commission's recommendation for the historic designation of 201 North Yakima Avenue, and that the December 23, 2020 meeting has been cancelled.

## Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Kit Burns, 1010 6th Avenue.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the special meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



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Conor McCarthy, Chair



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Katie Foster, City Clerk's Office