



# City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Council Chambers  
Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 848 3423 3126  
Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/84834233126](http://www.zoom.us/j/84834233126) Passcode: 349099  
**January 31, 2023**  
**5:00 PM**

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## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

## ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Diaz and Ushka

Council Member Ushka arrived at 5:01 p.m.

Council Member Diaz arrived at 5:06 p.m.

## FLAG SALUTE

Deputy Mayor Walker stated that we gratefully honor and acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.

The flag salute was led by Deputy Mayor Walker.

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Council Member Ushka arrived here, at 5:01 p.m.

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

## ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. [23-0079](#) Minutes of the Greater Tacoma Regional Convention Center Public Facilities District Board, October 27, 2022.
2. [23-0085](#) Minutes of the Joint Municipal Action Committee, November 18, 2022.
3. [23-0086](#) Minutes of the Joint Municipal Action Committee, December 9, 2022.

4. [23-0084](#) Minutes of the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board, December 5, 2022.

### AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to suspend the rules to consider Item 13, Resolution No. 41130, relating to the sale of Tacoma Rail Mountain Division right-of-way and operations situated outside of the City limits, at this time.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

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

**Absent:** 1 - Diaz

13. [RES41130](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a Quit Claim Deed and Master Utilities Easement Agreement, for the sale of Tacoma Rail Mountain Division right-of-way and operations situated outside of the City limits to Rainier Rail LLC, in the amount of \$2,210,000, to be deposited into the Tacoma Rail Mountain Division Fund, all in accordance with the Purchase and Sale Agreement.  
[Alan Matheson, Assistant Rail Superintendent; Kurtis Kingsolver, Interim Deputy City Manager, City Manager’s Office]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to continue Resolution No. 41130 to a date to be determined.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

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

**Absent:** 1 - Diaz

### CONSENT AGENDA

5. [23-0073](#) Minutes of the City Council study session, August 23, 2022.

6. [23-0074](#) Minutes of the City Council study session, August 30, 2022.
7. [23-0076](#) Minutes of the City Council study session, September 13, 2022.
8. [23-0081](#) Minutes of the City Council study session, September 20, 2022.

## **PAYMENTS**

9. [23-0083](#) Date Range - 01/02/2023 to 01/15/2023  
Payroll in the amount of \$22,765,483.30; Payments in the amount of \$35,950,367.01;  
for a total of \$58,715,850.31.

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt the Consent Agenda.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Diaz

## **PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no proclamations, recognitions, presentations, or announcements.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public Comment began at 5:03 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received three written comments for Public Comment on Resolution No. 41134, relating to the City's 2023 State Legislative Agenda.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Amanda Westbrook, speaking on Resolution No. 41134.

Council Member Diaz arrived here, at 5:06 p.m.

2. Docere Pharmakis, speaking on Resolution Nos. 41131 through 41133.
3. Kathy Lawhon, speaking on Resolution No. 41134.
4. Addo Aequitas, speaking on Resolution Nos. 41131 through 41134.

Public Comment ended at 5:14 p.m.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### APPOINTMENTS

10. [RES41127](#) A resolution appointing Esther Evans to the Community’s Police Advisory Committee.  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41127.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

**Ayes:** 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

11. [RES41128](#) A resolution appointing individuals to the Mayor’s Youth Commission of Tacoma leadership team.  
[Cathy Sims, Management Fellow; Kurtis Kingsolver, Interim Deputy City Manager, City Manager’s Office]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41128.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

**Ayes:** 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

12. [RES41129](#) A resolution appointing Ellana Meas to the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board.  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41129.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

**Ayes:** 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

## RESOLUTIONS

13. [RES41130](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a Quit Claim Deed and Master Utilities Easement Agreement, for the sale of Tacoma Rail Mountain Division right-of-way and operations situated outside of the City limits to Rainier Rail LLC, in the amount of \$2,210,000, to be deposited into the Tacoma Rail Mountain Division Fund, all in accordance with the Purchase and Sale Agreement.  
[Alan Matheson, Assistant Rail Superintendent; Kurtis Kingsolver, Interim Deputy City Manager, City Manager’s Office]

Resolution No. 41130 was continued to a date to be determined, earlier in the meeting.

14. [RES41131](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a Multi-Family Housing 12-Year Limited Property Tax Exemption Agreement with Chris Dunayski, for the development of eight multi-family market and regulated rate rental housing units, located at 610 South 34th Street, in the Lincoln Mixed-Use Center.  
[Debbie Bingham, Project Manager; Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41131.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

**Ayes:** 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

15. [RES41132](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a Multi-Family Housing 12-Year Limited Property Tax Exemption Agreement with Chris Dunayski, for the development of eight multi-family market and regulated rate rental housing units, located at 4502 and 4504 South Warner Street, in the Tacoma Mall Mixed-Use Center.  
[Debbie Bingham, Project Manager; Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41132.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

**Ayes:** 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

16. [RES41133](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a Multi-Family Housing 12-Year Limited Property Tax Exemption Agreement with Gordon T. Jacob LLC, for the development of eight multi-family market and regulated rate rental housing units, located at 4510 and 4512 South Warner Street, in the Tacoma Mall Mixed-Use Center.  
[Debbie Bingham, Project Manager; Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41133.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

**Ayes:** 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

- 17. [RES41134](#) A resolution amending the City’s 2023 State Legislative Agenda to include the City Council’s position on controlled substance laws, support for the Pierce County Council’s legislative agenda items, and immigration-related bills.  
[Sonja Hallum, Government Relations Officer; Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41134.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

**Ayes:** 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli reported that Dr. Dan Thompson, Business Operations Division Manager, Environmental Services, has been selected as a recipient of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies' 2023 National Environmental Achievement Award for utility leadership, noting background of the award and Dr. Thompson's years of experience.

**COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Community Vitality and Safety Committee

Council Member Ushka, Chair of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, reported at the January 12, 2023, meeting, the Committee held elections for Committee Chair and Vice Chair, and received a presentation on funding recommendations for the 2023-2024 General Fund; and on January 26, 2023, the Committee received a presentation on the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs' (CIRA) end-of-year report, including requests for funding for CIRA members and a Council Member to attend the Welcoming Interactive conference, greater influence on the appointment of CIRA commissioners, and more interaction with Council Members. She concluded by stating the next meeting will be held in a hybrid format on February 9, 2023, at 4:30 p.m., and will include presentations on closed captioning, code compliance, and the chronic nuisance law.

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Mayor Woodards highlighted a press release sent out today from the

Tacoma Police Department (TPD), noting that one gun is stolen out of vehicles in the City every 48 hours; 202 guns were stolen in 2022; and 227 guns were stolen in 2021; from January 1, 2023 to January 22, 2023, ten guns have been stolen; encouraged community members to stop leaving guns in vehicles and to lock up and safely store guns; and expressed appreciation to TPD for providing the statistics to the community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

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Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

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Doris Sorum, City Clerk