



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 894 9617 1192

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/89496171192 Passcode: 896569

March 25, 2025

12:00 PM

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Present: 5 - Bushnell, Diaz, Rumbaugh, Sadalge and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 4 - Daniels, Hines, Scott and Walker

Council Member Diaz participated virtually.

Deputy Mayor Daniels and Council Member Walker arrived at 12:02 p.m.,

Council Member Hines arrived at 12:05 p.m., and Council Member Scott

arrived at 12:12 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. [25-0253](#)

Center for Strategic Priorities Update

[Sonja Hallum, Interim Deputy City Manager; Jacques Colon, Chief Strategy Officer; Kristin Lynett, Sustainability Manager, Center for Strategic Priorities]

At approximately 12:01 p.m., Sonja Hallum, Interim Deputy City Manager, provided opening remarks on the Center for Strategic Priorities; and introduced Jacques Colon, Chief Strategy Officer, and Kristin Lynett, Sustainability Manager, Center for Strategic Priorities.

Deputy Mayor Daniels and Council Member Walker arrived here, at 12:02 p.m.

Hallum provided an introduction to the Center offices, including launch and formation.

Council Member Hines arrived here, at 12:05 p.m.

Lynett presented an update on the Climate Action Plan (CAP), original CAP 2030 versus 2025, action updates, and key objectives.

Council Member Scott arrived here, at 12:12 p.m.

Lynett continued with the actions for 2025 through 2027, including near term, long term, supporting and departmental; and next steps. Colon presented the Community Safety Action Strategy (CSAS) purpose; results of community input; and CSAS table of contents, including goals and actions, noting places, people, response, and repair. Colon continued with the Office of Equity and Human Rights (OEHR), including framework, noting background and focus; and services. Hallum concluded with next steps and closing remarks.

Discussion continued regarding South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District project, including integration of the CAP; process and Council approval; partnership, including Parks Tacoma's Climate Action Plan; Sustainable Tacoma Commissions input; appreciation for layout, including short- and long-term goals and reinvigorated focus; federal funding; multi-agency relationships and collaboration; tracking the work to measure success, including annual reporting and metrics; Equity Index integration, including streets initiative; community and neighborhood input; alignment with Council priorities; OEHR role in coordination within City departments, including mechanisms and budget; Racial Equity Action Plan, including availability for community; and continued human rights work.

2. [25-0254](#)

2025 Budget Calendar and Revenue Strategy

[Reid Bennion, Interim Budget Officer, Office of Management and Budget]

At approximately 1:07 p.m., Reid Bennion, Interim Budget Officer, Office of Management and Budget, presented the 2025 budget calendar, including 2025-2026 budget overview, noting reappropriation and budget modification; Council touch points; revenue options and strategy, including new revenues and restructures; revenue, including items in development and options; examples of recent successful and failed revenue measures tried by other jurisdictions; election deadlines; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding cultural access property taxes versus Tacoma Creates funding; business license fees; updated materials for levy capacity; potential expansion of property tax proposals; single year versus multi-year levy lid lift; parameters and considerations around elections and funding options; impacts from Pierce County levies; timelines; limitations on excise taxes; and business and occupation tax complaints from community.

- 3. [25-0255](#) University of Washington Tacoma Campus Master Plan Presentation [Sylvia James, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, University of Washington Tacoma]

At approximately 1:41 p.m., Dr. Sheila Edwards Lange, Chancellor, University of Washington Tacoma (UWT), presented the UWT campus master plan, including a snapshot, noting student headcount and overall economic impact; land acquisition; planning for the future; community feedback; a vision in layers; building for the future; creating a 24/7 campus; green space; activation along campus edges; and support.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation and relationship; funding; connections within City departments; UWT street vacations and request for proposal approval; partners in downtown revitalization; honoring history of the land; future of sports at UWT, including the Foss Waterway rowing potential; and securing the remaining parcels and buildings.

Other Items of Interest

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Mayor Woodards reminded the Council to review the City Council Rules and provide any changes they want to be considered by Government Performance and Finance Committee and additions will be brought forward by staff to match changes that were adopted in the Charter last year.

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Council Member Walker presented an update on the work done at Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee regarding the urban forest management plan, including five potential actions to bring forward to full Council; and a citizens' initiative has been brought forward and the work is on hold while the initiative is reviewed.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

- 4. [25-0059](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, March 20, 2025

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there are two ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming Monday, March 31, 2025, as International Transgender Day of Visibility, and a presentation on the Economic Development Board 2025 Excellent 10 Award. She concluded by

stating there will be a settlement motion added to the agenda, and tonight's meeting includes community forum.

Closed Session - Labor Strategy

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Daniels moved to convene to closed session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a and b) to discuss labor strategy, not to exceed 60 minutes.

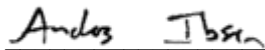
SECONDED BY: Council Member Hines.

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

Ayes: 9 - Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Sadalge, Scott, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.



for Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor



Nicole Emery, City Clerk