



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

April 17, 2018

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:11 p.m.

Present: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Camarata, Hunter, Ibsen, McCarthy, Mello, Ushka and Mayor Woodards

Briefing Items

1. [18-0387](#) Pierce Transit Bus Rapid Transit Project

At approximately 12:11 p.m., Ryan Wheaton, Executive Director, Pierce Transit, provided an update on the Pierce Transit Bus Rapid Transit project, including different modes on the corridor, noting Route 1 is the longest and most used route; the number of people and jobs within every ½ mile of stops; timeline; a list of transit options, including Enhanced Bus, Bus Rapid Transit, Streetcar, and Light Rail, noting typical stop spacing, average cost per mile, and travel time benefits; and reviewed examples of street treatments, including transit lanes and cross sections.

Ms. Alexandra Mather, Government and Community Relations Officer, Pierce Transit, further reviewed the corridor treatments, partnerships with stakeholders, and outreach.

Discussion ensued regarding the location of the northern tip turnaround on the corridor, collaboration with the City on design and planning, how to prevent cars from clogging the transit lanes, stop locations, partnerships, differences of bus lanes to regular transit lanes, impact on neighborhoods, current stage of the alternatives analysis for right-of-ways and stop locations, land use overlay, project cost and funding, and outreach. Discussion continued on the change of Route 1 and how to accommodate riders; expertise and staff capacity for proper planning of the project; anticipated potential development with Pierce Transit, and opportunity zones.

2. [18-0388](#) Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program

At approximately 12:42 p.m., Kurtis Kingsolver, Director, Public Works (PW), made opening remarks and introduced Sue O'Neill, Assistant Division Manager, PW, and Jennifer Kammerzell, Senior Engineer, PW. Ms. O'Neill presented the overview of the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ms. Kammerzell provided background information and reviewed issues. Ms. O'Neill stated three handouts were provided for reference, including the 2018 amended 2019-2024 TIP list of projects; a list of new, completed, and removed projects; and draft funding detail for 26 new projects. She reviewed the new projects to be added, noting scope and funding of four projects, including pedestrian accessibility improvements; North 21st Street: Proctor Street to Pearl Street; South 19th Street: Cedar Street to Bates Technical College; and South Yakima Avenue Bridge. Ms. O'Neill further reviewed 2017 grants awarded for nine projects and a map with the locations of the projects. Ms. Kammerzell presented the health, equity, and sustainability analysis; outreach; next steps; and recommendations.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the pedestrian accessibility improvements. Discussion continued on the project near 38th Street and McKinley Avenue and challenges with the intersection for pedestrians; timeframe of the Yakima Bridge replacement; Phase 3 of the Pipeline Trail; the policy regarding project eligibility to be on the TIP list; Safe Routes to School project, noting projects in District No. 5, budget, funding, priority list, and process; investments; the two bridge replacement projects with the cost of 150 million, and the Foss Waterway Esplanade new and removed projects. Discussion concluded on funding assistance with the bridge projects that are related to Port activities, equitable distribution of resources across the community, and labor hours to complete the projects.

3. [18-0389](#) Local Employment & Apprenticeship Program (LEAP) Proposed Changes

At approximately 1:26 p.m., Clifford Armstrong, Contract and Program Auditor, Community and Economic Development, made opening remarks and provided a brief overview of what LEAP is, how it works, and provided a packet of Appendixes for reference. He presented the proposed changes to LEAP, noting issues, revisions, and solutions. The five issues he provided were privileges and immunities; adjustments and referenced Appendix F: LEAP Success Count; apprenticeship and referenced Appendix E: Performance Outcome; code deficiencies for Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) and referenced Appendix A: TPU Service Area, B: Economically Distressed Zip Codes, C: Economically Distressed Zip Codes Map, and G: Current Code; and outdated community empowerment zones.

Mr. Armstrong concluded on outreach, outreach opposition, timeline, and recommendations.

Discussion ensued regarding the idea of a pilot program versus an immediate permanent code change; the disparity study, noting impacts; how to help contractors reach their goals and if there are penalties if the goal is not reached; incentive and penalty structures; and the apprenticeship goal and programs.

Other Items of Interest

4. [18-0406](#) Tacoma Public Utilities Executive Recruitment Process

City Manager Pauli stated there is an arrangement for a Stability Site visit for Connie Ladenburg at her request and for some Pierce County staff, and there has been Council Member interest in visiting or revisiting the site. She informed if Council Members are interested in visiting the site to let her know so she can arrange it.

Mayor Woodards stated a copy is provided of the proposed City Council process on the Tacoma Public Utilities Executive Recruitment schedule. She wanted to make sure everyone was able to take a look at it and proceeded to review the schedule.

Discussion ensued regarding who leads the joint City Council and Public Utility Board study session, the predetermined questions and when the candidates will receive the questions, and clarity of the process.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

5. [18-0374](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, April 12, 2018

City Manager Pauli stated there are two proclamations, proclaiming Sunday, April 22, 2018 as Earth Day, and Saturday, May 5, 2018 as Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Americans, and there are no expected changes to tonight's agenda.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk