



City of Tacoma

Committee of the Whole Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Council Chambers

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

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

August 16, 2022

3:00 PM

SPECIAL MEETING

Call To Order

Mayor Woodards called the special meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 6 - Bushnell, Diaz, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Woodards

Absent: 3 - Blocker, Daniels and Hines

Council Members Blocker, Daniels, and Hines arrived at 3:05 p.m.

Executive Session - Pending Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Ushka moved to convene to an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending litigation, not to exceed 15 minutes.

Council Members Blocker, Daniels, and Hines arrived here, at 3:05 p.m.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.

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

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

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 3:08 p.m. City Attorney Bill Fosbre; and Barret Schulze, Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office were present.

The Executive Session concluded, and the study session reconvened, at 3:23 p.m.

Briefing Item

1. [22-0908](#) Council Priority Strategy Workshop Part 2: Belief and Trust

At approximately 3:23 p.m., Mayor Woodards made opening remarks, welcomed Council Member Diaz to her first meeting, and introduced Tanisha Jumper, Director, Media and Communications Office (MCO). Jumper presented the workshop key objectives, noting today's focus on belief and trust; reviewed the development process for the City Council priority areas; and stated that discussion of the key objective related to committee, board, and commission membership reflecting the community will not be part of today's discussion, due to time constraints. Jacques Colon, Tacoma 2025 Strategic Manager, MCO, further reviewed the City Council priority area of belief and trust, including how each of the other priority areas significantly contribute to police and trust, noting safety, housing and homelessness, livable wage jobs, access to facilities and services, and health. He concluded by reviewing the key objectives and measures, and examples of supporting tactics for the City Council priority area of belief and trust, noting building trust between the police and the community, increasing non-police presence in the community, increasing engagement with the community, communicating more clearly and more often, and having committee, board, and commission membership that reflects the community.

Discussion ensued regarding measurements for building trust between the police and community, including improving community survey responses, noting a focus on the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) community; increasing department transparency through tours and ride-alongs; reducing violent crimes to pre-COVID-19 pandemic rates; reducing complaints against the Tacoma Police Department (TPD); creating an alternative calls for service response program; increasing transparent and accessible data; having a workforce that reflects the community; ensuring that TPD responds to all calls; increasing transparency related to hiring and recruitment; completing the National Network for Safe Communities (NNSC) police reconciliation project; improving transparency regarding policy and administration; reducing use of force incidents; and increasing the number of non-homicide cases that are solved in partnership with the community.

Together, Jumper and Colon summarized the top measures, including improving community survey responses, reducing complaints against the TPD, and reducing use of force incidents.

Discussion continued regarding the measures related to building trust between the police and community, including a suggestion to combine several of the measures; and complaint data, noting disaggregation, validity, quality, and ensuring members of the community feel safe and are comfortable making complaints.

Discussion continued regarding measurements for increasing non-police presence in the community, including establishing a new Community Safety Office and an alternative calls for service response, restarting Council Member community chats, increasing the number of community-building organizers, improving signage and awareness about work City staff are doing in the community, building out the community-focused elements of the TPD violent crime reduction project, hosting City Council meetings in locations around the City, and increasing staff presence and communication at community meetings.

Together, Jumper and Colon summarized the top measures, including establishing the Community Safety Office and an alternative calls for service response, building out the violent crime reduction plan, and hosting City Council meetings in locations around the City.

Discussion continued regarding measurements for increasing engagement with the community, including completing the participatory budgeting process in every Council District; continuing neighborhood planning efforts across the City; increasing Council Members' social media presence; improving engagement for NNSC work, noting Project PEACE; increasing departmental engagement; improving language access capacity; and establishing a dashboard to track initiatives.

Together, Jumper and Colon summarized the top measures, including completing the participatory budgeting process in every Council District, continuing the neighborhood planning process efforts across the City, increasing Council Members' social media presence, and improving engagement for NNSC work.

Discussion continued regarding measurements for communicating more clearly and more often, including increasing storytelling and positive messages, improving language justice, establishing an initiative dashboard, completing and implementing recommendations, increasing City-created multimedia, improving education on City processes and initiatives, ensuring complaints about City services or processes are resolved, and ensuring all constituent emails receive a coordinated response within 30 days.

Together, Jumper and Colon summarized the top measures, including increasing storytelling and positive images, and ensuring all constituent emails receive a coordinated response within 30 days.

Colon concluded by presenting next steps, including staff work to develop and implement programs, policies, and practices; and using the Council Members' key objectives and measures during the 2023-2024 Biennial Operating Budget process.

Discussion continued regarding how the City Council priorities are used, timeframes to restart discussions and provide updates, topics for future City Council workshops, the ongoing priority development process, and appreciation for staff.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk