



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

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

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

January 25, 2022

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Ushka called the study session to order at 12:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 6 - Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 3 - Blocker, McCarthy and Mayor Woodards

Council Member McCarthy arrived at 12:03 p.m.

Mayor Woodards arrived at 12:45 p.m.

All Council Members participated virtually.

Briefing Item

1. [22-0091](#) Port of Tacoma Initiatives and Programs Update

At approximately 12:02 p.m., Deanna Keller, Commissioner, Port of Tacoma, made opening remarks regarding the Port of Tacoma's initiatives and programs update.

Council Member McCarthy arrived here, at 12:03 p.m.

Ms. Keller continued by reviewing the Port's 2021-2026 Strategic Plan and introducing Jason Jordan, Environmental Programs Director, Port of Tacoma. Mr. Jordan further presented updates from the Port, including the environmental and planning team; environmental leadership, noting activities and programs; improving air quality, noting the Northwest Ports Clean Air Strategy, shore power, and clean trucks; improving water quality, noting stormwater pollution, treatment systems, and waterways; improving the land, noting improvement efforts, habitat sites such as the Lower Wapato Creek site, and remediation; innovative approaches, noting mitigation banking; and ways to connect with the Port. Ms. Keller concluded by expressing appreciation for Port of Tacoma staff, thanking the City for their coordination on grants, the Port's work to exceed regulatory standards

and to quickly meet environmental goals, and efforts to find new funding opportunities.

Discussion ensued regarding the Lower Wapato Creek project; the status of the Hylebos Waterway, noting ongoing work, and the Environmental Protection Agency conditions and delisting process; how the Port enforces environmental requirements in their leases; sharing information with the community on the Port's projects and progress; who owns land in the Tacoma Tideflats area, noting regulations, accountability, acquisition, and local control; and the South Tacoma Manufacturing/Industrial Center.

Mayor Woodards arrived here, at 12:45 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding wetland mitigation, public access to Port properties, and habitat protection.

Other Items of Interest

2. [22-0092](#) Manuel Ellis Investigation Update

Fred Scruggs, Assistant Chief, Tacoma Police Department (TPD), presented an update on the Manuel Ellis investigation, including that the investigations are in the sufficiency stage; how the process works; and the decision to pause weekly updates until the new TPD Chief, Avery Moore, has been fully updated on the TPD process, policies, and these specific investigations.

Discussion ensued regarding the estimated timeline to restart updates to the City Council.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [22-0093](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, January 20, 2022

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there are three ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming January 2022 as Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month; recognizing Mike Ake, Interim Chief, TPD; and recognizing Tadd Wille, Deputy City Manager, City Manager's Office. She concluded by stating that no changes are expected to tonight's agenda, and reminding everyone that Virtual Forum will be held after the meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding information provided in the Weekly Report about Phase 2 of the Home in Tacoma Project, and appreciation for Interim Chief Ake and Mr. Wille.

Executive Session - Pending Litigation

MOTION: Council Member Daniels moved to convene to an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending and potential litigation, not to exceed 45 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hines.

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

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

Absent: 1 - Blocker

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 12:54 p.m. Bill Fosbre, City Attorney, and Chris Bacha, Chief Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office, were present.

The Executive Session was extended by 15 minutes at 1:40 p.m., and by 8 minutes at 1:55 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded, and the study session reconvened, at 2:06 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk