



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Council Chambers
Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/89496171192 Passcode: 896569

April 30, 2024
12:00 PM

JOINT MEETING WITH THE TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the joint study session to order at 12:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 8 - Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Scott, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Ushka

Library Board of Trustees

Present: 4 - Bowman, Cobb, Irish, and Pan Hosley

Absent: 1 - Santiago

Council Member Walker initially participated virtually, and arrived in-person at 12:17 p.m.

Joint City Council / Tacoma Public Library Board Briefing Items

1. [24-0467](#) Tacoma Public Library 2023 Annual Report
[Kate Larsen, Director, Tacoma Public Library]

At approximately 12:04 p.m., Andrea Cobb, Tacoma Public Library (TPL) Board of Trustees President, introduced the TPL Board Trustees. Kate Larson, Director, TPL, presented a brief overview of the TPL 2023 Annual Report; mission; strategic priorities; equity and access, noting collaboration with Tacomaprobono and the City's Office of Equity and Human Rights; learning, creativity, and innovation, noting Tacoma Wayzgoose at Moore Library and coding camp workshops; investment in youth, noting the pathway partnership and summer reading challenge; cultivating and engaging the community, noting Tacoma Reads 2023, the Northwest Room (NWR) and the Tacoma Community Archives Center; grants and awards; 2023 Board of Trustee members; the TPL Foundation; and the new 2024 Board of Trustees members.

Discussion ensued regarding grant funding; Main Library refresh, including

gratitude for community partners; equity access and the Tacoma Needle Exchange; appreciation for collaboration with artists in the community; professional development; gratitude for additional services beyond books, noting the multiple services provided at the TPL; update on Hilltop and Eastside Library Branches; and availability of Naloxone, COVID-19 tests, and N95 masks.

2. [24-0468](#) Tacoma Public Library 2024 Workplan
[Amita Lonial, Deputy Director, Tacoma Public Library]

At approximately 12:35 p.m., Amita Lonial, Deputy Director, TPL, presented the 2024 TPL work plan, including equity and access, noting digital literacy, public technology roadmap, and options; learning creativity and innovation, noting maker labs and workshops, and enhancing program success; investment in youth, noting increased services, the pilot community advisory board for summer reading, and developing NWR curriculum for Tacoma Public School educators; cultivating and engaging community, noting the social worker program and asset mapping curriculum, and improving systems; and completing Main Library construction and modernizing infrastructure.

Discussion ensued regarding video games management; Tacoma Reads 2024; cultivating community and partnerships, including Tacoma Housing Authority, Tacoma Creates, and Community Court; availability of tabletop and role playing games; partnership with workforce development, including youth involvement; spreading services out equitably; advancing goals through continued support; the importance of a thriving TPL; and appreciation for City Council support.

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The joint study session concluded at 1:13 p.m.

The regular study session convened at 1:23 p.m.

City Council Briefing Items

3. [24-0469](#) Urban Design Review Public Hearing Debrief
[Stephen Antupit and Carl Metz, Senior Planners, Planning and Development Services]

At approximately 1:24 p.m., Stephen Antupit and Carl Metz, Senior Planners, Planning and Development Services, together presented a debrief of the Urban Design Project Review (UDPR) public hearing held on April 23, 2024, including a project recap, noting establishment of the Urban Design Board

(UDB); comments received; public comment themes, including land use permit and code design standards; and calendar.

Discussion ensued regarding impacts on the permitting process, noting the housing crisis; UDB meeting schedule; providing flexibility for large affordable housing projects; public transparency; recognition that the UDB has no relationship to the State Environmental Policy Act; and UDB permitting authority.

Other Items of Interest

4. [24-0471](#) Council Action Memorandum - Recognizing Our Community's Global Ties and Affirming Tacoma's Commitment to Standing Together Against Violence and Hate [Mayor Woodards]

Mayor Woodards presented a City Council Action Memorandum for a resolution recognizing our community's global ties and affirming Tacoma's commitment to standing together against violence and hate, and that in recent months there has been an increased demands for a ceasefire in Gaza and a recognition of the conflict between Israel and Palestine. She concluded by stating this resolution will have amendments before coming forward, but would affirm the City Council's commitment to building bridges and support all residents and condemn anti-Arab racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, and all forms of racism, xenophobia, and discrimination, and declare that the City unequivocally condemns all acts of violence and hate targeting people due to their faith, ethnicity, race, or heritage, and stands against all abuses of human rights no matter where they occur.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for leadership and Council Member sponsors.

5. [24-0470](#) Charter Review Timeline Overview [Mayor Woodards]

Mayor Woodards stated the Charter Review Committee will present their final report to the Council at a special meeting on Monday, May 6, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., and briefly went over the timeline, process, and potential schedule. She concluded by stating special meetings may be needed to cover all the recommendations, and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding scheduling, timeline, conflict dates with the proposed fire levy, and the "For" and "Against" Committees.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

6. [24-0472](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, April 25, 2024
[Hyun Kim, Acting City Manager]

Acting City Manager Hyun Kim stated there are three ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming Saturday, May 4, 2024, as International Firefighters' Day; proclaiming April 28-May 4, 2024, as National Small Business Week; and proclaiming May 2024 as Therapeutic Court Month; and one change is expected to tonight's meeting, to consider a substitute Resolution No. 41416.

Executive Session - Pending Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Hines moved to convene to executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending litigation, not to exceed 20 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.

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

Ayes: 8 - Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Scott, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Ushka

The City Council convened to executive session at 2:20 p.m.
City Attorney Chris Bacha was present.

The executive session concluded, and the study session reconvened, at 2:43 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "V. Woodards", written above a horizontal line.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "N. Emery", written above a horizontal line.

Nicole Emery, City Clerk