



# City of Tacoma Community Vitality and Safety Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

September 13, 2018

4:30 PM

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Chair Keith Blocker, Vice Chair Catherine Ushka,  
Chris Beale, Justin Camarata, Lillian Hunter (alternate)

## Call To Order

Chair Blocker called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

**Present:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Camarata and Ushka

## Approval of Minutes

1. [18-1021](#) Approval of the minutes of the August 9, 2018 meeting
2. [18-1023](#) Approval of the minutes of the August 23, 2018 meeting

**MOTION:** Council Member Beale moved to approve the minutes of the August 9, and August 23, 2018 meetings.

**SECONDED BY:** Council Member Camarata.

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Camarata and Ushka

## Briefing Items

3. [18-1024](#) Update to Minimum Building and Structures Code Regarding Receivership  
[Keith Williams, Code Inspector Supervisor, Neighborhood and Community Services;  
Debra Casparian, Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office]

At approximately 4:32 p.m., Keith Williams, Code Inspector Supervisor, Neighborhood and Community Services, introduced Debra Casparian, Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office; made opening remarks; and

provided an update on Chapter 2.01 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Minimum Building and Structures Code, to explore the use of receivership, including a background, history, and purpose of the code amendments. Ms. Casparian provided information on benefits of the proposed amendments; the process, noting another jurisdiction's similar process; building violations; a comparison between the City and another jurisdiction; explained the proposed amendments; the benefits of adding receivership language to the code; and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the process and benefits, the receivership criteria, the state law, long-term sustainability, a public receiver option, and potential issues and fiscal impact.

4. [18-1025](#) Washington State Department of Correction's Earned Release Date Housing Voucher Program  
[Keith Williams, Code Inspector Supervisor, Neighborhood and Community Services]

At approximately 4:47 p.m., Mr. Williams introduced Sean Raybell, Regional Housing Specialist, Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC); made opening remarks; and provided background information on the DOC's Release Date Housing Voucher Program, which offers three-month voucher assistance for private housing to incarcerated individuals who are unable to secure approved housing prior to their release. He then reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), including the purpose; benefits of the partnership, noting interior inspections and sharing of information; the City's responsibilities; requirements for both entities; and the intent to review and make any needed modifications annually.

Discussion ensued regarding fair share of released individuals, how they will be divvied up, what the alternatives would be if the MOU was not approved and what would happen to the released individuals then, potential issues, geographic dispersion and concentration, and clarification on the outreach process.

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

5. [18-1026](#) September 27, 2018 - Neighborhood Council Program, Tenants Rights, and Relocation Assistance  
October 11, 2018 - Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Update

William Suarez, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on September 27, 2018, in Conference Room 16 at the Tacoma Municipal Building North and will include the Neighborhood Council Program and Rental Housing Code. He further stated the meeting on October 11, 2018,

will include a presentation on the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

### **Other Items of Interest**

Chair Blocker stated a new behavioral health hospital will be built on the Allenmore Hospital Campus and requested staff to provide information on the plan for individuals that get discharged from the hospital.

Council Member Ushka requested to meet with staff to discuss further regarding the released individuals in Tacoma.

### **Public Comment**

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Monica Klavano, 10214 Lakeview Avenue Southwest #47, Lakewood, speaking on Washington State Department of Correction's Earned Released Date Housing Voucher Program.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

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Keith Blocker, Chair

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Sola Wingenbach, City Clerk's Office