



# City of Tacoma

## City Council Study Session 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](http://www.zoom.us/j/89496171192) Passcode: 896569

**July 26, 2022**

**12:00 PM**

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### Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Ushka called the study session to order at 12:00 p.m.

### Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

**Absent:** 1 - Mayor Woodards

Mayor Woodards arrived at 1:31 p.m.

Mayor Woodards participated virtually.

### Briefing Items

1. [22-0826](#) Roadway Renaming Policy

At approximately 12:01 p.m., Josh Diekmann, Interim Director, Public Works (PW), provided opening remarks on the roadway naming policy. Claire Goodwin, City Council Assistant, City Manager's Office, presented the proposed updates to the roadway naming policy, including an overview, background, examples of roadway naming signs, outreach, a summary of the proposed changes, the application materials, special consideration for the Puyallup Tribe of Indians (Puyallup Tribe), and the naming request review process. Diekmann concluded by reviewing the City's partnership with the Puyallup Tribe, and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for staff and the Puyallup Tribe; areas in Northeast Tacoma; the proposal for honorary signs in the Lushootseed language, noting possible locations, process, and funding; the power of place names; opportunities for education and outreach; the difference between honorary versus official roadway renaming; the role of the Landmarks Preservation Commission; historic markers and other decorative signs; temporary versus permanent renaming; honorary place names; and whether multiple languages can be represented on signs.

2. [22-0827](#) Vision Zero Action Plan

At approximately 12:30 p.m., Deputy Mayor Ushka provided opening remarks regarding traffic collisions, injuries, and deaths in Tacoma, and the Vision Zero goals. Jeffrey Jenkins, Assistant Director, PW, further outlined the City's Vision Zero goal and staff plan, including high risk areas, the equity analysis, and engaging vulnerable and marginalized communities; and expressed appreciation for staff for their engagement efforts. Carrie Wilhelme, Senior Transportation Planner, PW, introduced Michael Hintze, Director of Planning, Toole Design Group, and presented the Vision Zero action plan, including an overview, the global Vision Zero concept, a comparison of the traditional approaches versus the Vision Zero approach, and the City's commitment to have zero traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2035. Hintze reviewed the results of the data analysis and key findings, including how crashes occur, noting overall crash victims, and victims of fatal and severe injuries; and locations, noting that 75 percent of areas with higher crash risk are identified by the City's Equity Index as having low or very low access to opportunity. Wilhelme outlined the public engagement effort, noting the Vision Zero Task Force, survey, interviews, and events; the action plan process; transformative and supportive efforts; and how actions are identified in the plan. Hintze presented the individual elements of the draft action plan. Wilhelme concluded by reviewing Vision Zero benefits and the City's next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for staff, the importance of building trust in the community, coordination with Pierce Transit on the Bus Rapid Transit project, separated bike lanes, additional data about high-risk areas and equity, the right-of-way design manual, appreciation for the dashboard and metrics, options to transition the Vision Zero Task Force into an advisory group, strategies to lower speeds on arterial streets, balancing transportation with safety, reckless driving, communicating with the public, how automated traffic camera locations will be selected, accommodating different modes of transportation, the Transportation Master Plan, partnerships with other agencies, equity related to traffic enforcement fines, the proposed Ordinance No. 28825 on tonight's agenda to reduce speed limits, and health equity related to pedestrian access.

### Other Items of Interest

- 3. [22-0832](#) Council Consideration Request - Peace Bus “ Every Kid Eats” Summer Program

Deputy Mayor Ushka presented a Council Consideration Request to allocate \$2,500 of Council Contingency Funds to support The Peace Bus and the “Every Kid Eats” summer program, including the goals to address food insecurity, and information available online at thepeacebus.org. Council Member Daniels stated the funds will help broaden the impact of the grassroots effort, and will contribute to peace and morale in the community.

Discussion ensued regarding support for the request.

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Deputy Mayor Ushka reminded Council Members to provide their top four finalist nominations for the Council Member vacancy to the City Clerk’s Office, and to send their suggestion for a finalist interview question to Mayor Woodards by 4:00 p.m. today.

Council Member Rumbaugh stated that cooling centers have been opened due to the high heat weather event, including the Lighthouse Activity Center.

### Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

### Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

- 4. [22-0830](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, July 21, 2022

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there is one ceremonial on tonight’s meeting agenda, recognizing youth and young adults experiencing homelessness; that no changes are expected to tonight’s agenda; and that Virtual Forum will be held at 6:00 p.m. or after completion of the meeting agenda. She concluded by stating that a motion is expected on tonight’s agenda regarding nomination of finalists for the City Council At-Large Position 7 vacancy, and that the interviews will be held on Monday, August 1, 2022.

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Council Member Walker stated that today is the annual Dining Out For Life event in Tacoma and the South Puget Sound area, and that all funds raised provide help and hope to people living with or impacted by HIV and AIDS.

City Manager Pauli stated that the R.I.S.E. Center, located at South 23rd Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, is also open as a cooling center.

**Executive Session - Review the Qualifications of a Public Employee**

**MOTION: Council Member Blocker moved to convene to an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(h) to review the qualifications of a public employee, not to exceed 30 minutes.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

**Absent:** 1 - Mayor Woodards

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 1:30 p.m.

Mayor Woodards arrived here, at 1:31 p.m.

The Executive Session was extended by 30 minutes at 2:02 p.m., by 15 minutes at 2:30 p.m., and by 10 minutes at 2:45 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded, and the study session reconvened, at 2:57 p.m.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

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Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

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Doris Sorum, City Clerk