



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

August 23, 2016

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:11 p.m.

Present: 6 - Blocker, Ibsen, Lonergan, McCarthy, Thoms and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 3 - Campbell, Mello and Woodards

Council Member Woodards arrived at 12:13 p.m., and
Council Member Campbell arrived at 12:22 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. [16-0814](#) Equity and Empowerment Policy Update

At approximately 12:12 p.m., Diane Powers, Director, Office of Equity and Human Rights (OEHR), introduced Mary Morrison, Jerry Lee, and Andreta Armstrong, OEHR.

Council Member Woodards arrived here, at 12:13 p.m.

Ms. Powers provided an overview of the OEHR, including Tacoma's commitment to equity, City Council leadership, equality versus equity, vision and mission, goals, and an OEHR organizational chart.

Council Member Campbell arrived here, at 12:22 p.m.

Ms. Morrison, Mr. Lee and Ms. Powers discussed 2015-2016 accomplishments, and presented a short video relative to the Project PEACE program. Ms. Powers concluded by discussing 2016-2018 plans.

Discussion ensued regarding the difference between equity and empowerment, Tacoma Police Department's Citizens' Academy, outreach, 2015 workforce, hiring handbook, accountability, timeline, and community demographics.

2. [16-0815](#) Equity and Empowerment Biennial Budget Planning

At approximately 1:03 p.m. Julie Nelson, Director, Government Alliance on Race and Equity, discussed advancing racial equity relative to the budget process, including background information for the Government Alliance on Race and Equity, values and realities, history of government and race, current context of race, national best practice, equity versus equality, racial inequity in the United States, defining racial equity, explicit versus implicit bias, goals, equity in municipal budgeting, budget equity and empowerment, and considerations for the City Council.

Discussion ensued regarding challenges, inequities, timelines and statistics relative to bias.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Committee Reports

Council Member Ibsen reported that at the last Joint Municipal Action Committee meeting a presentation was given by Dr. Ali Modarres from the University of Washington Tacoma, relative to regional growth in the South Sound area.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [16-0816](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, August 18, 2016

T.C. Broadnax, City Manager, stated there are no proclamations, recognitions, changes or announcements on tonight's agenda.

Executive Session - Potential Litigation

MOTION: Council Member Woodards moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss potential litigation, not to exceed 30 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ibsen.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, McCarthy, Thoms, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Mello

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 1:40 p.m. City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli was present.

The Executive Session was extended by 10 minutes at 2:10 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:20 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk