



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

July 16, 2019

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:09 p.m.

Present: 7 - Beale, Blocker, Hunter, McCarthy, Mello, Ushka and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 2 - Ibsen and Thoms

Briefing Items

1. [19-0731](#) Beacon Senior Center Update and Stability Site Recommendations

At approximately 12:10 p.m., Linda Stewart, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS), made opening remarks; introduced Vicky McLaurin, Social Wellness Program Manager, Erica Azcueta, Homelessness and Household Stability Program Manager, NCS, and Justin Davis, Division Manager, Public Works; and provided a history of the Beacon Activity Center. Ms. McLaurin and Ms. Azcueta presented on contracted services for seniors, senior services funding, the City's commitment to addressing youth and young adult homelessness, the number and demographics of youth and young adults served at the Beacon Activity Center and youth violence reduction, data related to youth and young adult homelessness, funding for contracted services, and services provided. Ms. Stewart reviewed the Beacon Activity Center feasibility study. Mr. Davis explained the architectural program study, recommendation to utilize the existing footprint more efficiently, preliminary concept, and funding. Ms. Stewart concluded with a review of program design planning; renovation impacts, including relocation during renovation; and City commitment and timeline.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding overnight shelter beds, the youth violence reduction program, funding sources, data sources and details, directing homeless youth to services and referrals, transportation issues, project schedule and impacts during construction, senior services location, relationship with the Tacoma Housing Authority, relationship to the

Stability Site, serving lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer youth, and service improvements.

Ms. Stewart then provided opening remarks regarding the Stability Site Temporary Shelter update and recommendations; introduced Shawn Gustason, Assistant Police Chief, and Chris Travis, Lieutenant, Tacoma Police Department; and recognized various service providers who were in attendance. Ms. Azcueta, Mr. Gustason, and Ms. Stewart presented the update and recommendations, including homelessness point in time count data for 2018 and 2019, primary causes of homelessness, shelter availability, the City's homeless emergency declaration and three-phase plan, contracted services to address homelessness, the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT), HOT results, current program data, demographics, Stability Site calls for police response, Stability Site operations costs, recommendations, impacts, proposed 2020 budget, and concurrent efforts.

Discussion continued regarding contracted services and costs, the proposed budget, program progress and improvements, engaging individuals served at the site, other services provided, at-risk populations and education level, sharing information with other entities, responding to resident concerns, strategies to improve referrals and housing placements, TacomaFIRST 311 calls, enforcement options, safety concerns, and next steps.

Other Items of Interest

2. [19-0750](#) Council Consideration Request - Updates to City Policy on Place Names and Name Changes

Council Member Mello presented a Council Consideration Request to update the City's naming policy.

Discussion ensued regarding next steps for staff to draft a resolution for Council consideration.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [19-0707](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, July 11, 2019

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there are no ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, and an amendment is anticipated to correct Ordinance No. 28597.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk