



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

September 30, 2014

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:08 p.m.

Present: 9 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, Mello, Thoms, Walker, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Briefing Items

- 1. 14-0918** International Economic Development
Mayor Strickland announced the first study session topic is international economic development and discussed the City's approach to economic development. Assistant Community and Economic Development (CED) Director Martha Anderson reviewed major areas of international focus in the City, and partnerships. Debbie Bingham, CED, provided an overview of the Sister Cities Program, including major activities in the past 18 months and on-going activities. Louise Tieman, World Trade Center (WTC), reviewed the WTC Tacoma, including accomplishments and strategic initiatives. Michael Fowler, WTC, provided an overview of the China Program, including background information, key accomplishments, and opportunities.

Ms. Anderson concluded by summarizing the City's international focus, including fostering collaborations and partnerships, marketing Tacoma for development, and focusing on foreign direct investment. Discussion ensued regarding the City's focus on international projects, and opportunities. Mayor Strickland requested staff determine whether the City should pursue other cities for the Sister Cities Program. Council Member Boe stated it would be nice to have a presentation describing Tacoma that can be narrated in other languages for communicating with international cities.
- 2. 14-0919** Marijuana Interim Land Use Regulations
Mayor Strickland announced the next study session topic is the marijuana interim land use regulations. Brian Boudet, Planning and Development Services, provided background information. Elizabeth Pauli, City Attorney, reviewed the definition of production, processing, and possession of

marijuana; the definition and regulations of marijuana facilities; State and Federal law considerations; the City's enforcement strategy since 2012; vesting rights for marijuana facilities; and the status of marijuana taxes. Mr. Boudet concluded by reviewing maps of existing medical and recreational marijuana facilities in Tacoma, current interim zoning, and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding collective gardens and recreational marijuana facilities, including State regulations, taxes, vesting, zoning requirements, the criteria for using affirmative defense, the impact on business districts and mixed-use centers, the State notification process, the number of facilities allowed in the City, business hours, limiting dispersion, and enforcement strategies. Council Member Boe requested additional information regarding whether recreational marijuana facilities are vested if they have already received a building permit. Council Member Mello requested the Planning and Development Services Department and the Planning Commission review production facilities and dispersion requirements. Council Member Campbell requested information regarding the number of jobs provided by medicinal and recreational marijuana facilities in the City.

City Manager T.C. Broadnax requested Council provide direction regarding marijuana enforcement related to legal and code issues. Discussion continued regarding medicinal marijuana regulations, encouraging the State to clarify regulations, the appeal process, and the impacts of closing medical marijuana facilities. Council Member Mello requested staff create a proposed plan that incrementally aligns medicinal and recreational marijuana facilities to support tax-paying businesses.

3. 14-0920 Budget Timeline Walkthrough

Deputy Mayor Woodards announced the next study session topic is a walkthrough of the budget timeline. Tadd Wille, Budget Officer, reviewed the 2015-2016 budget calendar, including budget development highlights, Council budget workshops, community meetings, and public hearings and ordinances.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

Mr. Broadnax stated there will be two proclamations tonight proclaiming October 2014 as Tacoma Arts Month and as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Council Member Lonergan stated there will be a substitute introduced at tonight's meeting for Ordinance No. 28251 related to for-hire transportation regulations.

4. 14-0921 Weekly Report to the City Council, September 25, 2014

Closed Session - Labor Negotiations

MOTION: Council Member Campbell moved to convene to Closed Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a)(b) to discuss labor negotiations, the session not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Lonergan.

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

Ayes: 8 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, Mello, Thoms, Walker and Woodards

Absent: 1 - Mayor Strickland

Deputy Mayor Woodards stated Council would take a three minute break followed by Closed Session.

The Council convened to Closed Session at 2:10 p.m.

The Closed Session was extended for 10 minutes at 2:25 p.m.

The Closed Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:35 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk