



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 Passcode: 896569

January 10, 2023

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:07 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Blocker, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 2 - Bushnell and Diaz

Briefing Items

1. [23-0026](#) Joint Municipal Action Committee Briefing and Updates

At approximately 12:08 p.m., Council Member Walker provided opening remarks about the Joint Municipal Action Committee (JMAC), noting her role as Vice Chair; introduced Elizabeth Bonbright, Chair, JMAC; and stated that Council Member Daniels also serves on the Committee. Bonbright presented a briefing and updates on JMAC, including 2022 membership, noting the participating agencies of Tacoma Public Schools, the City, Pierce County, Port of Tacoma, Puyallup Tribe of Indians, Pierce Transit, Metro Parks Tacoma, and the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department; and the commitment to re-emphasize action in their work. She continued by reviewing JMAC's strategic themes, including justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, noting a focus on childcare and expanded learning opportunities, the equity action collaborative, anti-racism policy, and the Pierce County Equity Index; public health and safety, noting ending homelessness and enhancing public safety; and community wealth building, noting quick payments to vendors, supporting local and disadvantaged businesses, and building a pipeline to the future of work. She concluded by outlining next steps; and expressing appreciation for JMAC members, support staff, and the City for hosting the JMAC website.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for JMAC agencies and members; impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, noting virtual meetings and participation; the importance of collaboration and coordination, noting overlap between

agency services and customers, finding efficiencies, and making the most of limited resources; addressing homelessness; recognizing that residents may not understand what JMAC is, or which agency they should contact; equity; the role of Tacoma Public Schools, noting whole child services, homeless students, transit services, and the Graduate Tacoma program; a request for additional reports and updates; and JMAC's history, expansion, and successes.

2. [23-0027](#) Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee's South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District Recommendations

At approximately 12:51 p.m., Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services (PDS), provided opening remarks and introduced Stephen Atkinson, Principal Planner, PDS. Atkinson presented the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability (IPS) Committee's recommendations on the proposed moratorium for the South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District (STGPD), including an overview and purpose; background, noting the 2022 annual amendment to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code; the Groundwater Protection District overlay zone and history; coordinating agencies and subject matter experts, noting roles and responsibilities; and the proposed STGPD zoning overlay, noting prohibited uses and other standards for storage, stormwater infiltration, spill prevention, and inspections. He continued by reviewing the Planning Commission's (PC) recommendations for a one-year moratorium which would be incorporated into the STGPD code amendments for 2023; and the IPS Committee's review process and recommendations, noting modifications to the PC proposal related to use categories and expansion of existing uses. Atkinson concluded by summarizing the moratorium proposal that staff prepared for the public hearing; and next steps, noting setting a public hearing at tonight's City Council meeting, holding a community meeting and public hearing, and City Council consideration of the moratorium ordinance.

Discussion ensued regarding the IPS Committee process and proposed modifications; the complex and technical issues considered; appreciation for staff and members of the PC and IPS Committee; feedback from residents and the business community; the current focus on a possible moratorium, and not the STGPD overlay district itself; existing uses and improving outcomes; size limitations; allowing for investments that could improve groundwater quality; effects of air quality and runoff; and next steps.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [23-0028](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, January 5, 2023

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there are four ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming support for the Washington Future Fund; proclaiming Monday, January 16, 2023, as Martin Luther King Jr. Day; a Compassionate Tacoma recognition for America's Credit Union, Harborstone Credit Union, TAPCO Credit Union, and Sound Credit Union for their contributions on International Credit Union Day; and a presentation on systems transformation. She concluded by stating that a change is expected to tonight's agenda to amend Resolution No. 41120, to insert Council Member Hines' name to serve on the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center Executive Board; that tonight's moment of silence will be in honor of Maureen Howard and Dan Voelpel; and that tonight's meeting includes Community Forum.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk