



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 894 9617 1192

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/89496171192 Passcode: 896569

February 08, 2022

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, McCarthy, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

All Council Members participated virtually.

Briefing Items

1. [22-0178](#) Funding Proposal for Emergent Needs

At approximately 12:03 p.m., Mayor Woodards provided opening remarks regarding the funding proposal for emergent needs, including the previous discussion at the February 1, 2022, study session; the proposed initiatives related to private security, window repair, and support for businesses that require the COVID-19 vaccination; impacts of COVID-19 and vandalism; and support from the business community. She further outlined the proposal to reallocate American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to support a Tacoma Housing Authority (THA) project, which was brought forward by Council Member Daniels last week.

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli shared information on financial needs related to the City's homelessness strategy, staff work to determine how much ARPA funding is available, and funding for emergent needs.

Katie Johnston, Budget Officer, Office of Management and Budget, presented the proposed approach to funding emergent needs, including the remaining \$3.44 million of ARPA reserve funding; the emergent requests, noting the estimated amounts needed for business district safety proposals and additional emergency sheltering; and the proposal to repurpose ARPA funds to support the THA mixed-use project, noting the previous funding toward affordable housing infrastructure and the determination that the THA project is more urgent. She concluded by stating that staff are meeting

individually with Council Members on the 2023-2024 biennial budget process, including ARPA allocations and distributions.

Discussion ensued regarding updated ARPA allocations by City Council priority area; how initial ARPA funds were distributed; items that were previously funded; impacts of shifting funding from affordable housing infrastructure to the THA project; urgency of the issue; whether additional funding can be provided for public safety; and the idea to create a fund to support multiple affordable housing projects.

Council Member Rumbaugh stated she would recuse herself from discussions related to THA funding, due to the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Discussion continued regarding the need for further review by the Economic Development Committee to establish criteria and identify a partner to administer the window replacement program, contact information for the program, and next steps.

Other Items of Interest

Council Member Walker introduced Stefans Lusic, student, Pacific Lutheran University, who is participating in a job shadow program. Mr. Lusic provided an introduction, background on what he has learned, and expressed appreciation for the opportunity.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

2. [22-0179](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, February 3, 2022

City Manager Pauli stated that there are two ceremonies on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming February 2022 as Black History Month, and a Compassionate Tacoma recognition for Nadeem Shariff; and a systems transformation update with a focus on the Information Technology Department. She concluded by stating that no changes are expected to the agenda, and reminding everyone that Community Forum will be held during tonight's meeting.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk