



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

July 09, 2019

12:00 PM

Joint Meeting with the Metropolitan Parks Board of Commissioners

Call to Order

Deputy Mayor McCarthy called the joint study session to order at 12:11 p.m.

Present: 8 - Beale, Blocker, Hunter, Ibsen, McCarthy, Mello, Thoms and Ushka

Absent: 1 - Mayor Woodards

Metropolitan Parks Tacoma Board Members:

Present: 3 - Pointer, Reid, and Smith

Absent: 2 - Baines and Hanberg

Mayor Woodards arrived at 12:13 p.m.

Joint City Council/Metropolitan Parks Board of Commissioners Briefing Items

1. [19-0703](#) Metro Parks and City of Tacoma Study on Possible Partnerships for Projects

At approximately 12:12 p.m., Deputy Mayor McCarthy introduced the Metropolitan Parks Tacoma (MPT) Board Members and made opening remarks regarding the study on possible partnerships for projects, including the Heidelberg Sports Village feasibility study.

Mayor Woodards arrived here, at 12:13 p.m.

Steve Victor, Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office, outlined the feasibility study, including background, components of the study, partnerships, and funding; and introduced Kevin Fast, Senior Principal and Senior Architect, Populous, and Shon Sylvia, Executive Director, MPT.

Mr. Fast described the goals of the study; the consulting firms involved and the areas they focused on; the development of the three project workstreams,

including workstream one: soccer stadium, noting the assessment, stadium design, budget, financial pro-forma, funding, and schedule; workstream two: mixed-use development, noting the process, initial assessments, the recommended development plan, vision and program, and schedule; and workstream three: recreational sports field complex, noting the assessment, site planning, budget, and schedule; and concluded with a review of the public benefits of the Heidelberg Sports Village.

Discussion ensued regarding the operating cost, sources of funding, public/private development, environmental review processes, the opportunities the stadium would bring, timelines for the project, the projects in relation to affordable housing, how project costs were calculated, and which entities would operate which facilities.

Representatives of the Soccer Club of Tacoma, Aaron Artman, President, Tacoma Rainiers, and Maya Mendoza-Exstrom, General Counsel, Seattle Sounders FC, provided remarks on the history of Cheney Stadium, the Seattle Sounders, and the Tacoma Rainiers; and registration with organized soccer teams in the City, as well as Metro Parks areas dedicated to free play and ways to support citizens who wish to play but cannot afford to pay registration fees. Brad Cheney, President, Ben B. Cheney Foundation; Mikal Thomsen, Chairman and CEO, Tacoma Rainiers; and Adrian Hanauer, Owner, Seattle Sounders FC, all provided supporting remarks in favor of the project. Mr. Sylvia provided closing remarks and next steps for the project.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the community-building involved in having professional sports teams in the City, affordable entertainment options for families, and making investments in the City.

The joint study session adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

The regular study session convened after a brief recess, at 2:00 p.m.

City Council Briefing Items

Other Items of Interest

2. [19-0704](#) National Transportation Safety Board Train Safety Recommendations

Mayor Woodards stated there would be a resolution for consideration at the next City Council meeting expressing support for the implementation of safety recommendations approved by the National Transportation Safety Board on May 21, 2019, as a result of the investigation of the Amtrak

passenger train 501 derailment near DuPont; and encouraging the resumption of service and use of the new Amtrak Cascades Station in Tacoma's Freighthouse Square as soon as enactment of safety recommendations allows.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [19-0705](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, July 3, 2019

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there is one proclamation on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming July 2019 as LGBTQ and Pride Month, and there is one expected change to tonight's agenda to include a substitute Ordinance for Ordinance No. 28595, to include the Board of Director's names.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk