



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

September 25, 2018

12:00 PM

Call to Order

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

Present: 7 - Blocker, Camarata, Hunter, Ibsen, Mello, Ushka and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 2 - Beale and McCarthy

Deputy Mayor Ibsen participated telephonically.

Council Member McCarthy arrived at 12:17 p.m. Council Member Beale arrived at 12:25 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. [18-1121](#) Tacoma Maritime Air Emissions Progress Briefing

At approximately 12:09 p.m., Jason Jordon, Director of Environmental Programs, Port of Tacoma, provided opening remarks and introduced Graham VanderSchelden, Environmental Project Manager, Northwest Seaport Alliance. Mr. VanderSchelden presented an overview of Northwest Ports Clean Air Strategy (NWPCAS) reports; emissions inventory methods and application; source categories; geographical extent of the inventory; pollutants inventoried; progress toward NWPCAS goals; maritime regional emissions; and changes in Tacoma's port-related emissions. He noted that cargo traffic increased significantly over the inventory time period, which impacted the total emissions. He continued with a comparison of emission distributions by source category.

Council Member McCarthy arrived here, at 12:17 p.m.

Mr. VanderSchelden concluded with the report's conclusions and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee's previous review of the topic; progress made to date; and public perceptions.

Council Member Beale arrived here, at 12:25 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding technologies and strategies to electrify transportation systems, existing air monitoring methods, sources used for data modelling, and the role of the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.

2. [18-1122](#) Disparity Study

At approximately 12:33 p.m., Daniel Murillo, Housing Division Manager, Community and Economic Development (CED), provided opening remarks on the 2018 Disparity Causation Analysis and introduced Michele Clark Jenkins, Senior Director, and Sterling Johnson, Deputy Project Manager, of Griffin & Strong, P. C.

Ms. Clark Jenkins explained the purpose and history of disparity studies generally; the objectives of Tacoma's disparity study; the technical approach; and an overview of their legal findings. Mr. Johnson reviewed the study's policy findings related to the Tacoma Small Business Enterprise (SBE) program and minority and women-owned business (M/WBE); tools to encourage participation; good faith efforts requirements; staffing and resource shortages; program effectiveness; lack of a separate Disadvantaged Benefits Enterprise (DBE) program; and impact of support services.

Ms. Clark Jenkins provided statistical findings related to the geographic relevant market; availability of minority and non-minority female owned businesses; and utilization of M/WBE in each work category, including construction, architecture and engineering, services, and goods. She stated that City and subcontractor spending demonstrates significant underutilization of most M/WBE groups. Mr. Johnson explained findings related to the private sector, and concluded with anecdotal findings of the study related to informal business networks; need for outreach; small business assistance; and latent discrimination. Ms. Clark Jenkins compared this analysis with other markets.

Ms. Clark Jenkins reviewed conclusions about the effectiveness of the City's program in promoting equity in public contracting; opportunities to operate existing programs more effectively; and support for race and gender conscious preference programs, if Washington State Initiative 200 (I-200) were abolished. She concluded the presentation with staffing recommendations; forecasting and tracking options; supportive services; aspirational goals and potential projects; and policy suggestions.

Discussion ensued regarding vendor availability calculations; impacts of the

City's existing SBE certification requirements and Local Employment and Apprenticeship Program (LEAP); policies to investigate discrimination; government's role in economic development; impacts of local hiring on work force diversity and unemployment; training; examples from and comparisons to similar cities; and overall risks and opportunities in moving toward greater equity. Discussion continued regarding strategies and policy changes; improving access and opportunities for small businesses; increasing outreach; activities that can be implemented immediately without Council action; and the importance of developing sustainable policies and oversight structures.

Ms. Clark Jenkins and Mr. Murillo reviewed the current status of I-200 and Washington State Attorney General opinions and their influence on the firm's recommendations. Mr. Murillo provided concluding remarks and future steps for an internal stakeholder group; a contract for statewide data related to M/WBE; and operationalizing these recommendations. Discussion ensued regarding community outreach on recommendations and future steps toward implementation.

Mayor Woodards recessed the study session at 2:04 p.m. The study session reconvened at 2:15 p.m.

3. [18-1123](#) Tideflats Interim Regulations

At approximately 2:16 p.m., Brian Boudet, Planning Division Manager, Planning and Development Services (PDS), gave opening remarks and introduced Steve Atkinson, Associate Planner, PDS, and Steve Victor, Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office. Mr. Boudet stated that staff plan to bring a resolution before the Council on October 9, 2018, to set a public hearing on proposed Tideflats Interim Regulations on October 23, 2018.

Mr. Atkinson reviewed the history that led to adoption of the Tideflats Interim Regulations in November 2017; elements of the regulations related to notifications, non-industrial and heavy industrial uses, and residential development on the slopes above Marine View Drive; outreach and permit activity over the past year; and ongoing work on the subarea plan update.

Mr. Victor stated that a proposed Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City, Port of Tacoma, and Puyallup Tribe is set to come before the Council at tonight's meeting. He further explained proposed establishment of a steering committee and timeline to make recommendations, and noted the current subarea plan is set to expire on December 2, 2018. Mr. Atkinson concluded with recommendations, next steps, and limitations to extend interim regulations in six-month increments

moving forward. He outlined proposed next steps to set and hold a public hearing on October 23, 2018; extend the interim regulations by six months; and taking action before the current interim regulations expire on December 2, 2018.

Discussion ensued regarding time frames for the work plan; requirements for future extensions of the Interim Regulations; impact of Interim Regulations on the Port of Tacoma, local businesses, and the community; previous Planning Commission (PC) recommendations; stakeholder group makeup; need for input from businesses and the public; existing and allowed uses; and the goal to maintain the 'status quo' with the Interim Regulations. Discussion continued regarding the findings of fact supporting renewal of Interim Regulations; change in Council representation since Interim Regulations were adopted; existing policy positions; impacts on existing businesses; seeking input from the PC; and whether to include shoreline status in permitting considerations. Mr. Victor stated his recommendation that Council not modify the Interim Regulations and extend them at this time, as staff are undergoing a thorough review as part of the proposed subarea planning process. Discussion concluded with a review of future meeting dates and timelines.

Other Items of Interest

4. [18-1146](#) Council Consideration Request - Building Relationship with Puyallup Tribe

Mayor Woodards introduced a request to declare the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day, to post the Puyallup Nation Flag in the Council Chambers, and to initiate a process for naming the bridge from Puyallup Avenue to Fife to recognize the Puyallup Tribe's current and historical presence. She stated she has also met with members of the Italian American community. Discussion ensued regarding public outreach and endorsements.

Council Member Beale stated he attended the "Walk Bike Places" conference last week in New Orleans, Louisiana. He described resources from the conference and the concept of 'Phase 3' bikes, which include electric-assist bicycles that travel 20-28 miles per hour.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

5. [18-1124](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, September 20, 2018

Kurtis Kingsolver, Acting City Manager and Director, Public Works, stated that tonight's agenda includes three proclamations, proclaiming September 15, 2018 through October 15, 2018 as Hispanic Heritage Month, October 2018 as Walk and Roll to School Month, and September 25, 2018 as National Voter Registration Day, and that there are no agenda changes expected.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.



Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor



Doris Sorum, City Clerk