



# City of Tacoma

## Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Conference Room 248

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 878 2905 6704

Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/87829056704](http://www.zoom.us/j/87829056704) Passcode: 614650

**February 22, 2023**

**4:30 PM**

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Chair Kristina Walker, Vice Chair Olgy Diaz, John Hines,  
Catherine Ushka, Joe Bushnell (alternate)

### Call To Order

Chair Walker called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

### Roll Call

**Present:** 4 - Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, and Walker

**Absent:** 1 - Ushka

### Public Comment

[23-0195](#)

Written Comment

The Committee received one written comment regarding trees in the right-of-way code update.

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Tom Giske, speaking on the trees in the right-of-way code update.
2. Esther Day, speaking on the trees in the right-of-way code update.
3. Georgette Reuter, speaking on the trees in the right-of-way code update.

### Briefing Items

1.

[23-0174](#)

Trees in the Right-of-Way Code Update Policy Discussion  
[Michael Carey, Principal Natural Resources Analyst, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability]

At approximately 4:42 p.m., Mike Carey, Principal Natural Resources Analyst, Environmental Services, presented on the trees in the right-of-way (ROW) code update, including an overview; the current Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) structure, noting chapters 9.18 through 9.20 regarding trimming

and removal, planting, and view blockage resulting from trees and shrubs; the proposed TMC structure, noting the consolidation of chapters 9.18 through 9.20; a recap of the discussion from the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability (IPS) Committee meeting on February 25, 2023; the policy directive, noting the recommendation regarding requests for view enhancement; and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding managing trees on public property for view enhancement, public versus private property, community outreach and education around trees, heritage trees, property disputes around trees, ROW trees near multi-family properties, and next steps.

2. [23-0175](#)

McKinley Hill Neighborhood Plan

[Lauren Hoogkamer, Principal Planner; Aneka Olson, Senior Planner, Planning and Development Services]

At approximately 5:17 p.m., Lauren Hoogkamer, Principal Planner, and Aneka Olson, Senior Planner, Planning and Development Services (PDS), presented the McKinley Hill Neighborhood Plan, including an agenda; Plan contents; a recap, noting recommendations and community engagement; policy alignment; Tacoma 2025 and the Comprehensive Plan; a recap of quick wins, noting projects coming to McKinley Hill; partnerships, noting the implementation of project committees; coordination with external partners, noting the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, Metro Parks Tacoma, and Pierce Transit; and capacity building. Olson continued by presenting grocery analysis, noting recommendations; the implementation strategy, noting phasing, interrelated actions and timing, and project tracking, community stewardship, and maintenance; the actions table; financing the implementation strategy; the IPS Committee recommendation; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding community engagement; other neighborhood plans in Tacoma; and developing and showing success in short-, mid-range, and long-term goals.

**MOTION: Vice Chair Diaz moved to forward the McKinley Hill Neighborhood Plan to the full City Council for consideration.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Bushnell.**

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, and Walker

**Absent:** 1 - Ushka

3. [23-0176](#) Urban Design Review Program  
[Stephen Antupit, Senior Planner; Carl Metz, Senior Planner, Planning and Development Services]

At approximately 5:40 p.m., Stephen Antupit, Senior Planner, and Carl Metz, Senior Planner, PDS, presented the Urban Design Review Program, including an agenda; the project scope; a recap of guiding principles for the program, noting improved design outcomes, community responsiveness, and efficiency; framing urban design principles; and community and stakeholder engagement. Metz continued by presenting the urban design review processes, noting required urban design review and departure design review; review tracts based on development size and type; and next steps

Discussion ensued regarding height restrictions, neighborhood involvement, the urban design principles and their effect on projects, timeline for projects, creating a design review board and who should be on it, community engagement and transparency with the public, an upcoming Washington State Legislature meeting regarding design review, consideration of having the Planning Commission or another group to handle the review process, and next steps.

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. [23-0177](#) March 8, 2023 - Tacoma Recycles Right: Multi-Family Engagement Study  
March 22, 2023 - Co-location Policy for Mixed-Use Buildings; 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update; Home in Tacoma Phase 2 - Preliminary Zoning and Standards Concepts  
April 12, 2023- Tree Code Policy Update

Cathy Sims, Committee Liaison, stated that the next meeting will be on March 8, 2023, and will include an update on the 2024 Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code; that the March 22, 2023, meeting will include updates on the co-location policy for mixed-use buildings and the Home in Tacoma Project Phase 2; and that the April 12, 2023, meeting will include an update on the tree code.

## Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.



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Kristina Walker, Chair



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Katie Foster, City Clerk's Office