



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

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

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

May 07, 2024

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Scott and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 2 - Ushka and Walker

Briefing Items

2. [24-0486](#)

Six-Year Comprehensive Transportation Improvement Program Update
[Jennifer Kammerzell and Darius Thompson, Assistant Division Managers;
Ramiro Chavez, Director, Public Works]

At approximately 12:01 p.m., Ramiro Chavez, Director, Public Works (PW), provided a brief overview of the Six-Year Comprehensive Transportation Improvement Program and introduced Jennifer Kammerzell and Darius Thompson, Assistant Division Managers, PW. Kammerzell presented background, noting the relationship between the Comprehensive Plan, Transportation Master Plan, and subarea and neighborhood plans; major changes, noting project removals and additions; and issues, including grant opportunities and City grant match funding. Thompson continued with the South Yakima Avenue signal and safety improvements, revitalizing Tacoma brewery district Phase 1, mobility and safety improvements at South 56th Street and Pacific Avenue, multilingual street name signs, and the capital projects website application. Kammerzell concluded with next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding how often amendments are required; funding and grants, including Safe Routes to Schools; mapping tool overlaying with the City's Equity Index; Northeast Tacoma, noting Transportation Master Plan; and mobility and safety, noting South 56th Street and Pacific Avenue, Bus Rapid Transit, and Americans with Disabilities Act temporary improvements.

1. [24-0484](#) Charter Review Committee Final Recommendations Report Review
[Mayor Woodards]

At approximately 12:28 p.m., Mayor Woodards provided opening remarks on the Charter Review Committee final recommendations report, noting a full day retreat will be scheduled instead of multiple weekday meetings. Chris Bacha, City Attorney, continued with the difference between changes done to the Charter versus done by ordinance, noting any Charter changes need to be passed by a vote of the people. Mayor Woodards concluded with timeline process, structure, and complexity.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding support for the one-day retreat; outdated language; adding language in the Charter to allow Council the authority to correct grammar and punctuation; commissions in the Charter, including reserving authority to be descriptive on the makeup and purpose; concept and core purpose of the Charter; proposed Council amendments to the Charter at a general election; provisions within the Charter that conflict with state laws; Council recommendations that do not need further review; recommendations that need further review and discussions, noting a panel discussion and context from staff and experts; the plan to hold a joint Public Utility Board study session to discuss Tacoma Public Utilities related recommendations; length of discussion per recommendation; referendum process in coordination with ordinance enactment; recommendations that can be passed by ordinance; Council proposed amendments; recommendations the Council is not interested in putting on the ballot, noting the amount of recommendations put on the ballot; and low complexity Charter review recommendations, including Humane Society, eligibility for employment, and employment anti-discrimination language.

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. [24-0487](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, May 2, 2024
[Melanie Harding, Assistant to the City Manager, City Manager's Office]

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there are four ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming May 6-10, 2024, as Affordable Housing Week; proclaiming May 2024 as Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month;

proclaiming May 2024 as Historic Preservation Month; and proclaiming May 2024 as Hunger Awareness Month. She concluded by stating there is one modification to tonight's agenda, to remove Ordinance No. 28964.

Executive Session - Pending Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Hines moved to convene to executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending litigation, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Daniels

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

Ayes: 7 - Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Scott and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 2 - Ushka and Walker

The City Council convened to executive session at 1:43 p.m.
City Attorney Chris Bacha was present.

The executive session concluded, and the study session reconvened, at 1:59 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.


Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor


Nicole Emery, City Clerk