



# City of Tacoma Community Vitality and Safety Committee Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 823 7010 6303

Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/82370106303](http://www.zoom.us/j/82370106303) Passcode: 614650

**June 24, 2021**

**4:30 PM**

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Chair Catherine Ushka, Vice Chair Keith Blocker,  
Chris Beale, John Hines, Lillian Hunter (alternate)

## Call To Order

Chair Ushka called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

## Roll Call

**Present:** 3 - Beale, Blocker and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Hines

Council Member Hines arrived at 4:34 p.m.

All Council Members participated virtually.

## Briefing Items

### 1. [21-0632](#)

Eviction Moratorium

[ChiQuata Elder, Lead Program Development Specialist, Office of Equity and Human Rights; Jacques Colon, 2025 Strategic Manager, Media and Communications Office; Steven Sawada, Senior Continuous Improvement Analyst, Human Resources]

At approximately 4:31 p.m., Chair Ushka gave an introduction on the eviction moratorium and introduced ChiQuata Elder, Lead Program Development Specialist, Office of Equity and Human Rights; Jacques Colon, 2025 Strategic Manager, Media and Communications Office; and Steven Sawada, Senior Continuous Improvement Analyst, Human Resources, who gave a presentation on the eviction moratorium, including an introduction, moratorium protections under Governor Jay Inslee's Bridge Proclamation, and the current state-wide eviction moratorium.

Council Member Hines arrived here, at 4:34 p.m.

Mr. Colon continued the presentation, including percentages of renters and homeowners behind on rent or mortgage; racial inequities; other local

jurisdictions extending protections; State Bill 5160 and House Bill 1236; current eviction requirements and protections; updates needed to the City's Rental Housing Code; results from the lack of regulation for shared housing; aligning the City Code with State law; potential recommendations, noting increasing renter knowledge, strengthening the Municipal Code, enacting a local memorandum, and using risk data to inform the other recommendations; and City Council guidance and timeline.

Discussion ensued regarding the four potential recommendations, timeline, an informational social media campaign, formation of a stakeholders group, options for broader outreach, whether staff are recommending an extended moratorium, request for a pros and cons list for extending the moratorium, the contract with the Tenants Union, outreach methods currently being utilized, funding for outreach, shared housing, updating the Code before the current moratorium ends, unintended consequences of extending the moratorium, having a uniform message, tenant protections, the Landlord Mitigation Fund, a request for more information on homeowner assistance needs, a request for more information on a University of Washington study, what is being done to assist Black renter needs specifically, staff evaluation of whether Pierce County is handling the situation in a way that encourages citizens to apply, the application portal, list of rental licenses, ways to contact rental owners and renters, the rental assistance coordinator position, the Center for Strong Families, potential draft code review, and a request for further explanation of the moratorium extension.

2. [21-0626](#) Draft House Bill 1590 Outreach Plan for Strategic Spending Plan Development [Felicia Medlen, Housing Division Manager, Community and Economic Development]

At approximately 5:21 p.m., Felicia Medlen, Housing Division Manager, Community and Economic Development, gave a presentation on the Draft House Bill 1590 Outreach Plan for Strategic Spending Plan Development, including background information, issues, outreach, next steps, and recommendations.

Discussion ensued regarding periodic spending review timelines; equity of the review board; community feedback on spending allocation; costs of goods and services; urgency for bonds; funds raised from the Mental Health Sales Tax; priority populations; City versus County average monthly incomes; targeting Black, Indigenous, and people of color for funding; projects for using bonds; having visible results; and using data from the Down Payment Assistance Program.

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to recommend the Draft House Bill 1590 Outreach Plan for Strategic Spending Plan Development to the full City Council.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Hines.**

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Hines and Ushka

3. [21-0627](#) American Rescue Plan Act Funding for Tacoma Police Department Priority Project - Body Worn Cameras and Dash Cameras  
[Matthew Janzow, Continuous Improvement Analyst, Human Resources; Reid Bennion, Lead Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget]

At approximately 6:04 p.m., Matthew Janzow, Continuous Improvement Analyst, Human Resources; and Reid Bennion, Lead Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget, presented an update on Tacoma Police Department (TPD) dash cams and body cams, including Tacoma's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding spending objectives, 2021 ARPA proposed distributions, body and dash camera expansion, general timeline, and a community safety summary.

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. [21-0628](#) July 8, 2021 - Nothing Currently Scheduled  
July 22, 2021 - Code Compliance Update

Ted Richardson, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on July 8, 2021, and currently does not have any scheduled topics. He concluded by stating the July 22, 2021, meeting will include an update on code compliance and potentially another presentation from budget.

## Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

## Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Kathy Lawhon, speaking on funding of the TPD.
2. Steven Lardiet, speaking on the eviction moratorium.
3. Brandon Wilbur, speaking on the eviction moratorium.

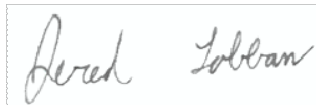
## Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



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Catherine Ushka, Chair



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Jered Lobban, City Clerk's Office