



**TO:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**FROM:** T.C. Broadnax, City Manager, City Manager's Office  
**COPY:** City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Amending the *Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma* – May 12, 2015  
**DATE:** May 5, 2015

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**SUMMARY:**

A Resolution amending the *Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma*: Rule 1-Meetings, Section B, to change the time for Study Sessions to 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday of each week (effective June 2, 2015); Rule 8-Miscellaneous, Section D-Public Requests for Proclamations, removing language in item 3 related to consulting with the Committee of the Whole, and Section E-Public Requests for presentations, removing language in item 3 related to consulting with the Committee of the Whole.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

These proposed amendments to the *Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma* best aligns with the following City Council Policy Priority: *Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.*

**BACKGROUND:**

At the May 5, 2015 Study Session, the City Council discussed some proposed amendments to the *Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma*. Rule 1-Meetings, Section B, there was a recommendation to move the Noon Study Session to 10:00 a.m., to allow more time for the Council to meet with staff and constituents and to attend functions in the community that often fall on Tuesdays.

Rule 14-Committee of the Whole, there was also a recommendation to discontinue Committee of the Whole meetings; however, the consensus was to cancel the regularly scheduled meetings indefinitely and then if a meeting is requested/needed, a Special meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be noticed. Items that would normally be scheduled for Committee of the Whole, such as committee reports and Council consideration requests, would then be discussed at the Study Session which allows for more transparency and is a more efficient use of Council's time spent in the office on Tuesdays.

Regarding Rule 8-Miscellaneous, Section D-Public Requests for Proclamations and Section E-Public Requests for Presentations, recommendation to remove language in item 3 in both of these sections for consulting with the City Council at the Committee of the Whole since the regularly scheduled meetings of the Committee of the Whole meetings will no longer occur, with the exception of Special meetings.

**ISSUE:** In order to provide more efficient meetings for the City Council and staff, who prepare and attend the meetings, these recommendations were discussed and the consensus of the City Council was to move these amendments forward for Council consideration and to discuss additional proposed revisions at a future Government Performance and Finance Committee.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The City Council could chose to adopt the amendments to the Rules of Procedure, to adopt some of the proposed amendments; or to reject the amendments.



**RECOMMENDATION:**

The City Manager and staff recommend that the City Council adopt the amendments to the Rules of Procedure for transparency and efficiency.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact; however, having more efficient meetings will be a better use of City resources and staff time.