

City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402 Conference Room 16 December 02, 2014 12:00 PM

Call to Order

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

Present: 9 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, Mello, Thoms, Walker, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Briefing Items

1. 14-1216 Budget Work Session - Wrap-Up Discussion

City Manager T.C. Broadnax gave an overview of the 2015-2016 proposed Biennial Budget, including the General Fund. He then reviewed proposed budget amendments to General Fund expenditures, the Performing Arts Fund, revenues, REET funding, and the Council Contingency Fund. Mr. Broadnax then reviewed next steps, including first reading of six budget ordinances on December 2, 2014; and second reading of said ordinances, and two budget resolutions on December 9, 2014. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed budget, including whether First Night should be given an additional \$5,000 over the biennium from the Council Contingency Fund, whether additional funding from the Council Contingency Fund should be considered prior to hearing the presentation for Human Services funding, and potential revenues and budget impacts from Initiative 502. Mayor Strickland requested additional information regarding First Night's budget. Council Member Thoms requested additional information regarding the amount of revenues the City has received from Initiative 502.

2. 14-1217 2015 State Legislative and Federal Policy Agendas

Randy Lewis, Government Relations Officer, stated revenues from Initiative 502 have been collected by Washington State; however they have not been appropriated or spent in their biennial budget. Council Member Thoms requested staff keep track of the money spent dealing with the impacts of Initiative 502; noting the City is spending money from a law enforcement and public safety perspective, but not receiving any revenues from the State.

Mr. Lewis reviewed the draft 2015 legislative agenda, including City support related to a transportation funding package that completes State Route 167, authority to operate the Bay Street camera, local control of taxes, and efforts to reduce public safety and environmental concerns from increased rail shipment of crude oil and coal. Council Member Boe requested staff change the wording in the summary agenda to increase public safety and reduce environmental concerns related to rail shipments of crude oil and coal.

Mr. Lewis continued to review the draft agenda, including City support related to water quality improvement at Wapato Lake, state obligations to fully fund K-12 education with new revenue, and working to fix the incompatibilities of the medical and recreational marijuana laws while providing tax revenue for those cities where stores are located. He then reviewed draft bills for introduction to the House and Senate related to speed camera authorization, vehicle license fees, amendments to local revitalization financing, the fiscal home rule, and Wapato Lake stormwater filtration.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the draft agenda, including the financial impacts of the McCleary decision and Initiative 1351, and whether the fiscal home rule should be removed and discussed further. Mayor Strickland requested staff schedule a discussion of the fiscal home rule at the Government Performance and Finance Committee, and that staff make language related to support of Sound Transit projects more visible. Council Member Campbell requested staff add language to the legislative agenda related to support for funding of the Eastside Community Center.

Alisa O'Hanlon, Government Relations, reviewed the draft Federal agenda, including City support for new Federal investment in infrastructure, Gang Reduction Project funding, adoption of the Innovative Stormwater Solutions Act, opposition of significant force reduction at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, My Brother's Keeper and establishment of Promise Zones, continuation of the EB5 Immigrant Investor program, and funding for locally administered housing solutions. Discussion ensued throughout regarding gang reduction efforts, and incorporating innovative stormwater solutions into the mainstream market.

Mayor Strickland requested staff add language to the draft agenda stating the City supports the Small Business Administration and other agencies to help support veteran entrepreneurship in the City. She then requested staff add language regarding the City's support for President Obama's executive order for immigration reform, and encourage Congress to follow-through with the order. Mayor Strickland then requested staff highlight the need for flexibility as it relates to locally administered housing solutions. Council Member Campbell requested staff add language to the Federal agenda related to support for funding of the Eastside Community Center. Council Member Walker

requested staff add language to the draft agenda regarding Community Development Block Grants.

Mr. Lewis concluded by reviewing next steps, including Council consideration of the State and Federal agendas on December 9, 2014, and continued briefing of Council on policy issues. He then noted the changes requested today will be added to the draft agendas prior to the Council meeting on December 9, 2014. Mr. Lewis stated the new congress will convene on January 3, 2015, and the new legislative session will begin on January 12, 2015. He concluded by noting staff will provide further updates at upcoming study sessions.

3. 14-1173 Human Services Funding Recommendations

Pam Duncan, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS), reviewed the Human Services Strategic Plan and funding policies. She then reviewed the funding process, including applicant and volunteer support, community service rating criteria, and the amount of funds requested and available for community services and mental health substance use disorder services.

Ms. Duncan reviewed the 2015-2016 proposed community services competitive funding, and provided an overview of investment comparisons from 2011-2012, 2013-2014, and 2015-2016. She then discussed community services funding recommendations for funding priorities related to meeting the basic needs of Tacoma residents; preparing children and youth for success, and helping adults with employability, self-determination, and empowerment. She then provided an analysis of the recommendations, including analysis of gaps and the response to those gaps.

Ms. Duncan next reviewed the 2015-2016 mental health and substance use disorder services funding recommendations for funding priorities related to jail and hospital diversion, programs targeted to help youth, community-based care, and reducing chronic homelessness. She then reviewed funding targets, the amount of proposed 2015-2016 competitive funding, and rating criteria. She then provided an analysis of the recommendations, including analysis of gaps and the response to those gaps.

Discussion ensued regarding the funding recommendations, including the differences in the applications and process between the two funding sources, the definition of system impact as it relates to community service rating criteria, the competitive process, organizations that did not get funding, the amount of funding requests received versus the amount of funding available, the role of volunteers in the process, and lessons learned from the new process. Deputy Mayor Woodards stated the Public Safety, Human Services, and Education Committee did not recommend forwarding the proposed funding recommendations to the full Council because they felt there was a gap in

providing chronic homelessness services; however the issue has been addressed in the recommendations presented today.

Carol Wolfe, NCS, reviewed 2015-2016 community mobilization funding policies related to aligning the competitive funding process within NCS, limiting City support to 50 percent of the program budget, two-year agency operating requirements, two-year contracting cycles with an annual review, allocating funding to programs based on their application score, and continuing alignment improvements into 2017-2018. She then reviewed community mobilization objectives, timeline, the selection process, and recommended funding. Mayor Strickland requested information regarding the proportion of the Safe Streets program budget the City has funded in the last five years. Discussion ensued regarding where Impact Capital will be based and the neighborhood in which they will be working, whether services provided by Impact Capital and Safe Streets will overlap, and the State Farm grant.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

4. 14-1214 Weekly Report to the City Council, November 26, 2014

City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli stated at tonight's Council meeting there may be a motion to amend Resolution No. 39066, related to human services funding recommendations, to correct references to exhibits.

Mayor Strickland stated there will be a Committee of the Whole meeting today at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room 16 of the Tacoma Municipal Building North, noting topics include medical marijuana regulations and enforcement, and a discussion related to 2015 cancelled Council meetings.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:11 p.m.
Marilyn Strickland, Mayor
Doris Sorum, City Clerk