



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

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

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

May 18, 2021

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Blocker called the study session to order at 12:03 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, Thoms, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 2 - McCarthy and Mayor Woodards

Council Member McCarthy arrived at 12:12 p.m.

Mayor Woodards arrived at 12:19 p.m.

All Council Members participated virtually.

Briefing Items

1. [21-0486](#) 21st Century Policing Solutions Recommendations for the Tacoma Police Department

At approximately 12:03 p.m., Kathleen O'Toole, Partner, 21st Century Policing Solutions (21CP), provided opening remarks and introduced Charles Ramsey, Partner, Brian Maxey, Senior Advisor, and Ganesha Martin, Associate Consultant, 21CP. Mr. Maxey presented 21CP's recommendations for the Tacoma Police Department (TPD), including a summary of the report, noting the methodology related to paper, performance, and people; and the six distinct areas of evaluation and related recommendations, noting addressing community needs, critical operations, organization and command structure, officer support, officer wellness, officer supervision, accountability systems, and technology and data systems.

Discussion ensued regarding policy, labor, and administrative decisions and the processes to make changes.

Council Member McCarthy arrived here, at 12:12 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding ongoing discussions with the Community's Police Advisory Committee (CPAC), and de-escalation techniques.

Mayor Woodards arrived here, at 12:19 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding best practices; gathering quality data; changes to training, policies, tools, and culture; community engagement, communication, and transparency; examples from other municipalities; defining terms and visions; service, staffing, and resource allocation; the 2020 TPD staffing study; types of work and staffing strategies; the Heal the Heart of Tacoma initiative; the community safety plan; the study related to alternative response or divertible calls for service; community liaison responsibilities for all TPD officers; officer health, wellness, and support; recommendations related to specific issues; resources needed to increase analysis, training, and accountability; addressing real-time engagement and issues; opportunities to change policy and address disparities; the process to implement recommendations; and next steps for staff, CPAC, and the City Council.

2. [21-0487](#) American Rescue Plan Act Update

At approximately 1:47 p.m., Reid Bennion, Lead Budget Analyst, Finance, provided opening remarks and introduced Jeff Upton, Management and Budget Analyst, Finance. Mr. Bennion presented the 2019-2020 Biennium-End Financial Report, including a summary; 2019-2020 General Fund obligations recommended to be appropriated into the 2021-2022 budget; considerations, noting obligations, returning services, lost revenues, and risks; updates to the City's reserve policy; reappropriations to other funds; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding staff funding reappropriations and a request for additional details.

Mr. Bennion further presented the 2021-2022 first quarter financial report. Mr. Upton reviewed the new interactive monthly financial dashboard tool and report formats. Mr. Bennion concluded with the 2021 General Fund update; sales tax variability and monitoring, noting positive trends; and the status of other funds.

Discussion ensued regarding the new dashboard and data available, conservative budgeting, and positive revenue estimates.

Mr. Bennion further presented an update on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), including the structure to divide funding for 2021 through 2024 by

year and priority area, noting the goal to restore services, including fire engine services; feedback and methodology to identify needs, determine costs and feasibility, and proposing distributions; proposed distributions for 2021 ARPA funds by priority area; considerations for future funding; the participatory budgeting process; City Council feedback; and proposed next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding projects included in reappropriation or ARPA funding, the City Council's role and decisions, designating use of the funds set aside for major projects in 2023-2024, specific funding requests, funding resources for affordable housing and homelessness, targeted funding and impacts, follow-up items, and next steps.

3. [21-0488](#) Re-appropriations Update

This item was presented with Item No. 2.

4. [21-0489](#) Systems Transformation

At approximately 2:41 p.m., City Manager Elizabeth Pauli presented an update on systems transformation, including new items, noting development of the anti-racist strategic plan, body worn camera expansion and dash camera funding considerations, upcoming release of the preliminary alternative response study, and TPD current state analysis recommendations; the need for volunteers on the Community Trauma Response Team; the systems transformation update table; and transformation timelines.

Other Items of Interest

5. [21-0491](#) Council Consideration Request - Illegal Use of Fireworks

Council Members Hunter and Beale presented a Council Consideration Request for an ordinance to reclassify the illegal use of fireworks from a Class 2 civil infraction to a Class 1 civil infraction, noting a proposed pilot project for zero fireworks at Alling Park by an area Safe Streets group, existing policies and enforcement, outreach, and next steps.

6. [21-0492](#) Motion for City Council Consideration - Limiting Fossil Fuel, Chemical, and Mining Uses

Council Member Hunter reviewed Ordinance No. 28759, which is on tonight's meeting agenda for final reading to extend the Tideflats Interim Regulations, noting previous City Council discussion and first reading of the

ordinance at the May 11, 2021, meeting; and impacts of amendments and separate review processes underway. She presented three proposed motions to amend the ordinance:

1. To add exemptions for renewable fuels; projects to improve safety and security, or that support proper facility maintenance; and existing facilities already underway, in review, or completed review process.
2. To exempt activities related to the Department of Defense.
3. To extend the Interim Regulations for a period not to exceed six months, for the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability (IPS) Committee to recommend potential amendments to the full City Council.

Council Member Beale presented a motion to amend Ordinance No. 28759, related to the Tidelands Interim Regulations, to prohibit the expansion of, and any ancillary site/facility modifications, to any existing fossil fuel, chemical, and mining and quarrying uses in the Tacoma Tidelands; noted the goal to preserve the Committee review and Subarea Plan process, and to address concerns about expansion of existing facilities.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed amendments, possible revisions to the motions prior to tonight's meeting, clarifying the purpose and impacts of the proposed amendments, how renewable energy is defined, permits, potential code revisions, the proposed Committee review process, and the importance of consistency.

7. [21-0493](#) City of Tacoma Branding Refresh

This item was not addressed.

Committee Reports

Council Member Thoms stated that the Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness is working with the City on public camping issues, and he plans to propose a motion to continue Ordinance No. 28756, related to use of public property and public camping, to the June 15, 2021, meeting.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

8. [21-0498](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, May 13, 2021

City Manager Pauli stated that there are two ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming May 2021 as Bike Month, and proclaiming May 2021 as Building Safety Month; a motion is expected to continue Ordinance No. 28756 to the June 15, 2021, meeting; and motions are

expected to amend Ordinance No. 28759, related to the Tideflats Interim Regulations.

Executive Session - Potential Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to convene to an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss potential litigation, not to exceed 30 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Beale

Closed Session - Labor Strategy

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to convene to a Closed Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a and b) to discuss labor negotiations, not to exceed 60 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Beale

Discussion ensued regarding staff availability and timing for the Executive Session and Closed Session. Mayor Woodards stated that the City Council would convene to Closed Session first, followed by an Executive Session, and reduce the time for both sessions.

MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to amend the duration of the Executive Session to 20 minutes, and to amend the duration of the Closed Session to 30 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hines.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Beale

The Closed Session was held prior to the Executive Session.

The City Council convened to Closed Session at 3:42 p.m.

The Closed Session concluded at 4:30 p.m.

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 4:30 p.m.
City Attorney Bill Fosbre was present.

The Executive Session concluded, and the study session reconvened, at 4:51 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk