



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

Center for Urban Waters, 326 East D Street, Tacoma WA

Commencement Bay Conference Room

February 20, 2016

8:30 AM

Special Meeting - Strategic Planning Work Session

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Strickland called the work session to order at 8:52 a.m.

Present: 6 - Blocker, Ibsen, Lonergan, McCarthy, Mello and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 3 - Campbell, Thoms and Woodards

Council Member Woodards arrived at 8:56 a.m., and

Council Member Campbell arrived at 9:11 a.m.

OPENING COMMENTS

Mayor Strickland stated the purpose of today's session is to discuss plans for 2016 and set the tone and direction of priorities for the 2017-2018 budget.

Council Member Woodards arrived here, at 8:56 a.m.

Council Members participated in an ice breaker activity lead by Ms. Andreta Armstrong.

Council Member Campbell arrived here, at 9:11 a.m.

BRIEFING ITEMS

1. [16-0156](#) Council Year in Review

Council Members identified one thing that went well, one thing that didn't go well, a missed opportunity and lessons learned in 2015.

Things that went well:

- Passed the transportation package
- Reached a unanimous decision to take a look at Click! and it's future
- Project engagement in the Peace initiative
- Land management of Blueberry Park School

- Passage and community excitement of Tacoma 2025
- Progress of Point Ruston and South Tacoma Way
- Foreclosure rates going down
- Positive national attention and appearing on top ten lists
- A Police Department that is happy to collaborate with citizens
- President of China visit to Tacoma
- Passing of Welcoming Cities initiative

Things that didn't go well:

- Lack of civility in some of our public discourse
- Failing of the ballot measure of the general services building
- High number of homicides
- Low voter turnout
- Polarizing issues that drew negativity, i.e., minimum wage, Click!
- Homelessness
- Loss of community leaders

Missed opportunities and lessons learned:

- Be the bigger person and maintain your composure
- Learned what a midsize City can do to address income inequality
- Learned in reference to the passing of the transportation package that the community will invest in themselves.
- The loudest voices don't necessarily represent the community as a whole.
- Importance of leading the way to have the citizen's voices heard
- Missed opportunity during minimum wage discussion to talk about job creation and income growth.
- Moving beyond treating symptoms and moving to the root cause

Council Members were asked to list their top three priorities for 2016, 2017, and 2018.

- Growing and attracting more living wage jobs
- Passage of Sound Transit 3
- Equity and Empowerment with City hiring and contracting
- Making other entities within the City accountable
- Lincoln project completion
- Meaningfully fund and implement the Environmental Action Plan
- Leveraging the Transportation Plan dollars
- Making the permitting process and the Municipal Code more user friendly
- Bringing in more employers/business to Tacoma
- Greater supply of affordable housing
- Making Tacoma a restorative justice site
- Grow and leverage local wealth
- Offering technical assistance for entrepreneurs
- Continue Pacific Avenue corridor development
- Restoration of public safety resources and asking the right questions
- Radio System 911 leadership role

- Reduce crime rates
- Economic development for South 34th to 48th Streets
- Implement Project PEACE recommendations
- Focus on human services
- Continue to revitalize Hilltop businesses
- Continue working to decrease homelessness

Mayor Strickland recessed the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

Mayor Strickland reconvened the meeting at 10:59 a.m.

2. [16-0162](#) 2015 Accomplishments and 2016 Operational Priorities

At approximately 11:00 a.m., T.C. Broadnax, City Manager, presented the 2015 accomplishments and the following strategic policy priorities; health and safety, human and social needs, economic vibrancy and employment, education and learning, arts and cultural vitality, natural and built environment, and government performance. He then reviewed the 2016 operational priorities and the 2017-2018 preliminary General Fund forecast.

Mayor Strickland recessed the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

Mayor Strickland reconvened the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

3. [16-0163](#) Tacoma 2025 Goals and Alignment

At approximately 12:20 p.m., Tanisha Jumper, City Manager's Office, provided an overview of the Tacoma 2025 goals including livability, economy and workforce, education, civic engagement, and equity and accessibility.

The Council reviewed the scoring for the Tacoma 2025 goals.

The scoring results are as follows:

Livability:

- Improve access and proximity by residents of diverse income levels and race/ethnicity to community facilities, services, infrastructure and employment.

Lead = 2 Support = 1 Regional issue = 1

- Increase the number of Complete Compact Communities/20 Minute Neighborhoods throughout the City.

Lead = 4

- Improve health outcomes and reduce disparities, in alignment with the community health needs assessment and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), for all Tacoma Residents.

Support = 3 Regional issue = 1

- Decrease the percentage of individuals who are spending more than 45 percent of income on housing and transportation costs.

Regional issue = 4

Education:

- Increase the availability and accessibility of early childhood education programs.

Support = 4

- All students will graduate from high school and be prepared to enter the workforce or pursue post-secondary education.

Support = 4

- Increase the number of quality out of school time learning opportunities distributed equitably across the City.

Support = 4

- Demonstrate community support for education by increasing support for school levies and bonds; volunteering and mentoring youth.

Support = 4

- Increase the number of college students that find employment and remain in Tacoma after post-secondary completion.

Lead = 1 Support = 3

- Increase digital access and equity across the City.

Lead = 4

- Increase the number of adults with post-secondary degrees or certifications.

Regional issue = 4

- Increase school choice options.

Support = 2 Regional issue = 1

Economy/Workforce:

- Increase the number of diverse livable wage jobs.

Lead = 4

- Increase the number of Tacoma households that have a livable wage job within proximity to the City.

Lead = 3 Support = 1

- Increase the number of infrastructure projects and improvements that support existing and new business developments.

Lead = 3 Support = 1

- Increase the availability of industry specific education programs to support identified growth sectors.

Support = 4

- Increase the percent of people relocating to the City and affordability of housing compared to neighboring jurisdictions.

Lead = 1 Support = 2 Regional issue = 1

- Decrease the number of vacant properties downtown and in the neighborhood business districts.

Lead = 2 Support = 2

- Increase positive public perception related to the Tacoma economy.

Lead = 4

Civic Engagement:

- Increase the number of residents who participate civically through volunteering and voting.

Support = 4

- Elected officials, boards, commissions, and volunteer leadership will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma community.

Lead = 4

- Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

Lead = 2 Support = 2

- Representation at public meetings will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma Community.

Lead = 1 Support = 3

Mayor Strickland recessed the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

Mayor Strickland reconvened the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

At approximately 12:43 p.m., the Council discussed placing priorities for 2016, 2017-2018, and 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the work session was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk