



# City of Tacoma Community Vitality and Safety Committee Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 859 6160 4917

Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/85961604917](http://www.zoom.us/j/85961604917) Passcode: 614650

February 10, 2022

4:30 PM

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Chair Catherine Ushka, Vice Chair Keith Blocker, Kiara Daniels,  
Sarah Rumbaugh, John Hines (alternate)

## Call To Order

Chair Ushka called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

## Roll Call

**Present:** 4 - Blocker, Daniels, Rumbaugh and Ushka

All Council Members participated virtually.

## Approval of Minutes

1. [22-0184](#) Minutes for the meeting of November 4, 2021

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Blocker moved to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2021, meeting.

**SECONDED BY:** Council Member Rumbaugh.

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Blocker, Daniels, Rumbaugh and Ushka

## Briefing Items

Item No. 3 was addressed before Item No. 2.

3. [22-0187](#) Alternative Response and Divertible Calls Update  
[Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager]

At approximately 4:35 p.m., Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager, presented an update on alternative response and divertible calls, including background information; intent; the three categories for alternative response, including mental health, homelessness, and non-emergency calls to a civilian response; public feedback, noting increasing the outreach capacity of Neighborhood and Community Services' Homeless Outreach Teams; mental health crisis response diversion and non-emergency call diversion; the focus on 21st Century Policing (21CP) recommendations; work done by the City's 21CP Consultant; the City's difficulty in filling designated mental health provider positions; other options for implementing recommendations; potentially creating a multi-disciplinary advisory committee; discovering new resources via a request for proposal (RFP); and work completed and still required for creating new positions.

Discussion ensued regarding the timeline for implementation, appreciation for staff's work, that a final report from the 21CP consultant will be presented when its finalized, the RFP outreach timeline, whether the new positions would be contract positions or City employee positions, how working with mental health providers will be handled, whether the lack of mental health professionals is a nationwide issue or a regional one, and a regional versus City of Tacoma response team model.

2. [22-0186](#) Camping Ordinance Schedule and Outreach  
[Catherine Ushka, Chair, Community Vitality and Safety Committee;  
Lynda Foster, Council Assistant, City Manager's Office]

At approximately 5:07 p.m., Chair Ushka presented the Community Vitality and Safety (CVS) Committee's camping ordinance discussion schedule and outreach plan, including an overview; background; proposed schedule; a stakeholder engagement plan, noting the purpose, structure and format, and suggested prompt questions; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding, getting input from stakeholders with lived experience; the suggested prompt questions for the stakeholder engagement; whether a potential discussion for alternatives to a camping ban should be scheduled; regulating the act of camping versus a camping ban, noting legality, enforcement, regulation, and budgeting; having a place for those who refuse services; asking service providers for their input; community expectations; and the impacts of clearing the I-705 encampment.

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. [22-0185](#) February 24, 2022 - Interviews for the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority; CVS Camping Ban Letter Response: Community Volunteer Options  
March 10, 2022 - Stakeholder Conversation and Discussion  
March 24, 2022 - 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development; Determine Recommendation to Full Council on Camping Ban

Ted Richardson, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on February 24, 2022, and will include interviews for the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority Board, a camping ban letter response, and community volunteer options; the March 10, 2022, meeting will include a stakeholder conversation and discussion on the camping ban; and that the March 24, 2022, meeting will include a presentation on the 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan for housing and community development, and developing final recommendations on the camping ban.

## Other Items of Interest

A request was made for a reoccurring Committees, Boards, and Commissions Reports section to be added to future CVS Committee agendas.

## Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from,

1. Janeen Provazek, speaking on the alternative response and divertible calls update.
2. Sally Perkins, speaking on the alternative response and divertible calls update, and the camping ban.
3. Callista Brown, speaking on the alternative response and divertible calls update.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.



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Catherine Ushka, Chair



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Jered Lobban, City Clerk's Office