



# City of Tacoma

## City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 16

January 28, 2014

12:00 PM

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### Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:07 p.m.

**Present:** 7 - Boe, Campbell, Lonergan, Lopez, Thoms, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

**Absent:** 2 - Mello and Walker

Council Members Mello and Walker participated telephonically at 12:39 p.m.

### Briefing Items

1. **14-0063**

Pierce County Community & Technical Colleges Legislative Initiatives

Mayor Strickland announced the first study session topic is the legislative initiatives for Pierce County community and technical colleges. Pam Transue, Tacoma Community College President, stated the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) will be asking for funds to promote student success by improving access and workforce opportunities. She noted the first request is for \$5 million to increase enrollment in high-demand fields, including science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Lonnie Howard, Clover Park Technical College President, stated the second request is for \$4.75 million to deliver on-going performance funding, including the Student Achievement Initiative. Ron Langrell, Bates Technical College President, stated the third request is for \$0.41 million to preserve opportunities for under-represented students, including the MESA Community College Program (MCCP), an academic support program that helps under-represented students pursue STEM degrees.

Michele Johnson, Chancellor of District 11 (Pierce College), stated the next two requests relate to supporting high-quality faculty and staff. Ms. Johnson stated the SBCTC will be requesting \$3.4 million to provide step or increment salary increases to reward and retain faculty who update their knowledge and skills. She then stated there will be an additional request for \$7.4 million to ensure equity in possible salary increases, which would include faculty and staff who are otherwise exempt from state merit system rules.

Denise Yochum, Pierce College Fort Steilacoom President, stated the SBCTC will be requesting \$56.215 million to support capital priorities, including facility improvements to Olympic College. Marty Cavalluzzi, Pierce College Puyallup, stated there will also be a request to support policy priorities by providing critical corrections education, noting Washington State House Bill 1429 advocates the continuation of education programs in prisons. Discussion ensued regarding how education systems impact economic development; how the education funding portion of the tax break package offered to Boeing will affect community and technical colleges in Pierce County, opportunities for collaboration to optimize high outcomes for all students, and STEM and student achievement numbers for Pierce County.

Mayor Strickland announced the Council would take a brief recess, here at 12:35 p.m.

The study session reconvened at 12:39 p.m.

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Woodards moved to suspend the Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma to allow Council Members Mello and Walker to participate telephonically during today's study session.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Boe.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Boe, Campbell, Lonergan, Lopez, Thoms, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

**Absent:** 2 - Mello and Walker

Council Members Mello and Walker participated telephonically here, at 12:39 p.m.

**2. 14-0064**

**Tacoma Link Expansion**

Mayor Strickland announced the next study session topic is the Tacoma Link Expansion. Sue Comis, Sound Transit, provided an overview of route alignments, and reviewed public outreach, including evaluation criteria for comments received, survey questions and responses, public comment themes, stakeholder roundtable feedback, and summary information. Kurtis Kingsolver, Public Works Director, reviewed the environmental review process, including options, alignment analysis, and next steps. He then noted staff is seeking direction from the Council regarding route alignment so they can determine how to proceed with the environmental review process. Discussion ensued regarding funding, whether survey responses from residents

along proposed routes A1 or A2 were separated from other feedback, route alignments, whether traffic issues can be mitigated through operational changes, and route costs. Council Members Campbell and Mello requested staff confirm that a stop can be located at 4th Street and address the hill climb access issue. Mr. Kingsolver stated staff is researching whether specific route alignments will impact Local Improvement District projects.

## **Other Items of Interest**

There were no other items of interest.

## **Agenda Review**

City Manager T.C. Broadnax stated Resolution No. 38830 will be removed at the request of staff, and there will be a revised Exhibit A for Resolution No. 38831 to include the names of individuals recommended for appointment to the Citizen Review Panel.

## **Closed Session - Labor Negotiations**

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Woodards moved to convene to Closed Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a)(b) to discuss labor negotiations, the session not to exceed 20 minutes.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Boe.**

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

**Ayes:** 9 - Boe, Campbell, Lonergan, Lopez, Mello, Thoms, Walker, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

## **Executive Session - Pending and Potential Litigation**

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Woodards moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending and potential litigation, the session not to exceed 15 minutes.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Boe.**

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

**Ayes:** 9 - Boe, Campbell, Lonergan, Lopez, Mello, Thoms, Walker, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Mayor Strickland stated Council would take a five minute break followed by Closed Session.

The Council convened to Closed Session at 1:35 p.m.

The Closed Session was extended for 10 minutes at 1:55 p.m.

The Closed Session was extended for 10 minutes at 2:05 p.m.

The Closed Session was extended for 10 minutes at 2:15 p.m.

The Closed Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:25 p.m.

Mayor Strickland stated Council would take a five minute break followed by Executive Session.

The Council convened to Executive Session at 2:30 p.m. City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli, Chief Deputy City Attorney Bill Fosbre, and Deputy City Attorney Jeff Capell were present.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:45 p.m.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

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Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

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Doris Sorum, City Clerk