



# City of Tacoma

## Committee of the Whole Minutes

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

Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/89496171192](http://www.zoom.us/j/89496171192) Passcode: 896569

**September 21, 2021**

**3:00 PM**

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### SPECIAL MEETING

#### Call To Order

Mayor Woodards called the special meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

#### Roll Call

**Present:** 6 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, McCarthy, Walker and Woodards

**Absent:** 3 - Hunter, Thoms and Ushka

Council Members Hunter and Thoms arrived at 3:07 p.m.

Council Member Ushka arrived at 3:33 p.m.

All Council Members participated virtually.

#### Briefing Items

1. [21-0905](#) American Rescue Plan Act Funding Update

At approximately 3:04 p.m., Katie Johnston, Budget Officer, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), provided opening remarks on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding update and introduced Reid Bennion, Lead Budget Analyst, OMB. Mr. Bennion presented the ARPA update and items for discussion, including the timeline; 2021 ARPA distributions by priority area bucket, noting targeted percentages and amounts, approved projects, and which City Council committee reviewed each project; and approved proposals by priority area.

Council Members Hunter and Thoms arrived here, at 3:07 p.m.

Mr. Bennion continued with review of approved proposals. Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development, reviewed funding for community-based partnerships and non-profit stabilization, including the

priority area for livable wage, the criteria to determine which organizations will receive funding, and maximum grant amounts. Mr. Bennion concluded with a review of proposals that remain unfunded, noting priority areas and status; funding options discussed at Committees; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding staff's request for direction on unfunded proposals, a proposal from the Tacoma Youth Marine Foundation, the proposal from Silver Financial Counseling Services for seniors, prioritizing projects to receive funding if additional funds become available, setting procedures for how additional funds are distributed, and distribution of funds to community-based partnerships and non-profits.

Council Member Ushka arrived here, at 3:33 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding funding distribution strategies, noting criteria, the \$50,000 maximum award level, timelines, and whether funding should be allocated equally or on a case-by-case basis; organizations that did not apply or were not aware they could apply for funding; revising which projects are on the approved and unfunded lists; setting aside funds for future years and larger projects; preparing for 2022 ARPA distributions; the process that Standing Committees and the full City Council have used so far; support for funding the remaining programs; perceptions about the allocation process; and next steps, including staff recommendations and discussion at the next study session.

## **Adjournment**

On proper motion, the special meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

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Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

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Doris Sorum, City Clerk