



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

November 17, 2015

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:06 p.m.

Present: 7 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Mello, Walker, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 2 - Lonergan and Thoms

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

Briefing Items

1. [15-1264](#) Proposed Billboard Regulations

At approximately 12:08 p.m., Brian Boudet, Planning and Development Services (PDS), provided an overview to the proposed amendment to billboard regulations in the City.

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

Mr. Boudet reviewed community goals, the standstill agreement, Community Working Group conclusions and recommendations, Planning Commission conclusions and recommendations, potential alternatives, examples of high priority removals, examples of high-concentration areas, examples of limited bulletin receiving areas, and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout the presentation regarding the Community Working Group, traffic levels, number of signs per Council District, saturation level in District No. 3, restrictions on wall mounted billboards, the staff alternative, adding additional zones for freestanding billboards, total number of billboards in the City, reduction of billboard posts versus billboard faces, impact of policies, allocation for digital billboards, high priority removals, billboard regulations in University Place and Fircrest, and compliance agreements.

2. [15-1266](#) Update on Status of Medical Marijuana Regulations

At approximately 1:27 p.m., Mr. Boudet provided an update on the status of medical marijuana regulations, including recent regulatory history, and changes in state law. Mr. Boudet introduced Molly Harris, PDS. Ms. Harris reviewed state rulemaking, Municipal Code amendments, examples of potential retail marijuana locations, and the tentative schedule.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding “collective gardens” versus “cooperatives”, sensitive use buffers, retail store windows, cities that have banned medical marijuana stores, regulation for hours of operation, new facilities opening, and the licensing process.

Other Items of Interest

Council Member Campbell stated that he will bring forward a Council Consideration Request for funding to work with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department on the Eastside Healthy Food Initiative.

Council Member Lonergan stated that he had recently presented the Association of Washington Cities Transportation Champion award to a former colleague, Jake Fey, State Representative, for his work on the transportation package.

Committee Reports

Deputy Mayor Boe stated that at the last meeting of the Puget Sound Regional Council Transportation Policy Board, a one year extension of funding relative to the Puyallup River Bridge was recommended for approval.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [15-1267](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, November 12, 2015

At approximately 1:59 p.m., T.C. Broadnax, City Manager, stated there are no proclamations, recognitions, or presentations on tonight’s agenda and there are no changes to the agenda.

Executive Session - Potential Litigation

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

SECONDED BY: Council Member Mello.

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

Ayes: 8 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, Mello, Walker, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Thoms

The Council convened to Executive Session at 2:00 p.m. City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli was present.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:30 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk