



# City of Tacoma

## City Council Study Session Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Council Chambers

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

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

September 17, 2024

12:00 PM

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### Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:00 p.m.

### Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Bushnell, Hines, Rumbaugh, Sadalge, Scott, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

Council Member Diaz arrived at 12:10 p.m.

### Briefing Items

1. [24-0988](#)

2024 Economic Disparity Study Preliminary Results

[Kacee Woods, Equity in Contracting and Workforce Programs Manager, Community and Economic Development; Dave Keen, Principal; Janine Kyritsis, Chief Listing Officer; Manuel Perez, Consultant; Blanca Monter, Senior Consultant, Keen Independent Research]

At approximately 12:01 p.m., Kacee Woods, Equity in Contracting and Workforce Programs Manager, Community and Economic Development, provided opening remarks on the 2024 Economic Disparity Study; and introduced Dave Keen, Principal; Janine Kyritsis, Chief Listing Officer; Manuel Perez, Consultant; and Blanca Monter, Senior Consultant, Keen Independent Research. Together, Keen, Kyritsis, Perez, and Monter presented the study team, including the subconsultant team; and study methodology, noting key study elements, contract data, and geographic area for availability survey.

Council Member Diaz arrived here, at 12:10 p.m.

Together, they continued with marketplace, availability, utilization, and disparity analysis; disparity results by program application; qualitative information; and recommendations.

Discussion ensued regarding final study results, noting they will be posted

online after the meetings; Small Business Enterprise Program and Equity in Contracting Program; appreciation for staff and Keen Independent Research; next steps, process, and implementation; budget and resources; expectations of growth; disparity results, noting impact from the COVID-19 pandemic; workshops and access; outreach and contract close-out surveys; cadence of disparity study; and the procurement process, including communications regarding bids.

2. [24-0989](#) Alternative Response Quarterly Update  
[Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager]

At approximately 12:53 p.m., Interim Deputy City Manager Melanie Harding provided an introduction on the alternative response quarterly update, including background, focus areas, expanded response methods, and response spectrum. Allyson Griffith, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS), introduced Javon Carlisle, Homeless Engagement and Alternatives Liaisons (HEAL) Project Lead, and Kevin Ruby, Senior Community Resources Analyst, NCS; and provided a project overview; third quarter updates; HEAL at work; and the soft launch of the HEAL Dashboard.

Siona Stallings-Alailima, Interim Chief, Tacoma Fire Department (TFD), provided opening remarks on the Holistic Outreach Promoting Engagement (HOPE) Team and introduced Aleesia Morales and Cassie Hallston, Program Managers, TFD. Together, Morales and Hallston presented an overview on the HOPE team project, noting establishment of the Team; staffing updates; what and how HOPE helps the community; community collaboration and data collection; dispatched calls data from the third quarter; and from the one-year anniversary of HOPE.

Paul Junger, Deputy Chief, Tacoma Police Department (TPD), provided an update on the Community Service Officers (CSO), noting project overview and implementation; CSO Team structure and role; and hiring and training milestones. Corey Darlington, Captain, TPD, introduced the CSO Team. Dustin Myhre, Lieutenant, TPD, presented the CSO dashboard. Carlton Chambers, CSO, TPD presented an average day for a CSO, and TPD's commitment.

Amita Lonial, Deputy Director, Tacoma Public Library, provided a brief update on the Library's patron crisis and de-escalation team, noting a project overview. Harding concluded with timelines for third and fourth quarter of 2024.

Discussion ensued regarding camping bans in other jurisdictions; connecting community members with detox locations and other services; grants; number of CSO calls, noting capacity; non-profit resources and coordination;

appreciation for staff; HOPE Team calls, noting the variations of crisis; HEAL Dashboard; data from HOPE Team in regards to unhoused community members in shelters; funding for additional staff on the HOPE Team; closure of Pierce County crisis stabilization facilities; mental health funding; CSO chain of command and collaboration with HEAL or HOPE Teams; potential trends on decreased Tacoma FIRST 311 calls; class and compensation changes for HOPE Team; demographic data; collaboration with Pierce County schools; calls for service and response times; access to resources, noting agency relationships; and reflection.

## Other Items of Interest

3. [24-0990](#) Council Consideration Request - Resolution Opposing Initiative 2117  
[Council Member Walker]

Council Member Walker presented a Council Consideration Request for a resolution expressing opposition to Initiative 2117, which will appear on the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot in Washington and proposes a prohibition on State agencies for imposing any type of carbon tax credit trading, including “cap and trade” or “cap and tax” programs, and proposed a repeal of sections of the 2021 Climate Commitment Act (CCA) as amended. She concluded that in 2023 the first CCA auction enables the State Legislature to appropriate \$2.1 billion for climate projects in 2023-2025 biennium budget, including support for a variety of programs in the City.

## Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

## Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

4. [24-0991](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, September 12, 2024  
[Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager]

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there are no ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, and no changes are expected to tonight's agenda.

## Executive Session - Pending Litigation

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Hines moved to convene to executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and (ii) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending and potential litigation, not to exceed 15 minutes.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.**

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

**Ayes:** 8 - Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Sadalge, Scott, Walker and Mayor Woodards

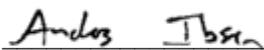
**Absent:** 1 - Daniels

The City Council convened to executive session at 2:44 p.m.  
City Attorney Chris Bacha was present.

The executive session concluded, and the study session reconvened, at 2:59 p.m.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

  
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for Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

  
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Nicole Emery, City Clerk