



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 Passcode: 896569

July 12, 2022

12:00 PM

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Present: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Briefing Item

1. [22-0775](#) Tacoma Police Department Crime Reduction Plan

At approximately 12:01 p.m., Avery Moore, Chief, Tacoma Police Department (TPD), provided opening remarks regarding the Tacoma violent crime reduction plan and project, and introduced Dr. Mike Smith, Professor, Dr. Rob Tillyer, Professor, and Dr. Brandon Tregle, Assistant Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA); and Paul Junger, Deputy Chief, Crystal Young-Haskins, Assistant Chief, and Curtis Hairston, Chief of Staff, TPD. Dr. Smith presented Tacoma's violent crime reduction project, including further introducing the UTSA Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice team; background, noting that violent crime has doubled over the past 12 months; crime concentration, noting geographic locations and offenders; evidence-based solutions; components of the crime reduction plan; goals and objectives; and keys to success. Dr. Tillyer reviewed the near-term strategy of hot spots policing, including evaluation and reporting by UTSA; the mid-term strategy, noting problem-oriented, place-based policing (POPBP); the theoretical foundation and elements of crime; the proposed POPBP process; and POPBP evaluation by UTSA. Dr. Tregle reviewed the long-term strategy for focused deterrence, including the mechanisms; service provisions; evaluation by UTSA, noting key indicators; and a timeline. Dr. Smith outlined equity and fairness related to the project. Chief Moore concluded by expressing appreciation for UTSA and TPD staff.

Discussion ensued regarding timelines, resources, scalability of the plan, the City's past practices and strategies that caused harm, dealing with

hot spots beyond the short-term, high visibility of officers, arresting offenders, coordinating with community organizations, outreach and engagement, the focus on victims, increased violent crime, relationship to previous studies and proposals, response times, support from other City departments, understanding what the community needs to feel safe, funding, diversion and programs for youth, environmental factors and root causes of crime, community involvement, equitable measures and results, how the plan will be reviewed and updated, the role of the Community’s Police Advisory Committee, coordination with other law enforcement agencies, de-escalation techniques, clear communication about what officers are doing, implementing different phases, and the importance of reporting crimes.

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The study session recessed at 1:46 p.m.

The study session reconvened at 1:58 p.m.

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Other Items of Interest

- 2. [22-0776](#) Council Consideration Request - Korean Association of Tacoma Building Renovation

Mayor Woodards presented a Council Consideration Request to allocate \$10,000 of Council Contingency Funds to support the Korean American Association of Tacoma (KAA) building renovation, including background of the KAA, services, the purpose and total cost of the renovations, and other fundraising efforts.

Discussion ensued regarding support of the KAA and the funding request.

- 2a. [22-0795](#) Council Appointment Process

Mayor Woodards presented a proposed alternative process for filling the City Council At-Large Position 7 vacancy, including review of the current Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma (Council Rules); information on the applicant pool, noting that 43 applications were received; the suggestion for an additional interview stage to allow Council Members to select up to eight applicants to provide presentations to the City Council, after which finalists will be selected and interviewed; and next steps for a motion at tonight’s meeting to suspend the Council Rules.

Discussion ensued regarding applicants who are selected by more than one

Council Member, that the initial selections will not determine the finalists, proposed improvements to the appointment process, being inclusive and hearing from as many applicants as possible, the process for Council Members to submit their selections to the City Clerk’s Office, time frames for the interviews and appointment, allowing additional time for finalist interviews, the timeline, concerns with previous appointment processes, and the request that Council Members provide their selections to the City Clerk’s Office by 4:00 p.m. today.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

- 3. [22-0777](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, July 7, 2022

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there are two ceremonials on tonight’s meeting agenda, a Compassionate Tacoma recognition for Mattice Hoyt, and a presentation on systems transformation, including highlights from the Neighborhood and Community Services Department’s racial equity action plan. She further stated that changes are expected to tonight’s meeting agenda, including a proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 28807, regarding a street vacation; and Council Member selections for the At-Large Position 7 vacancy, noting that a motion may be considered to revise the vacancy appointment process. She concluded by reminding everyone that tonight’s meeting includes Community Forum, and that a Committee of the Whole special meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m.

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The study session recessed at 2:15 p.m.

The study session reconvened at 2:19 p.m.

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Executive Session - Potential Litigation and Review the Qualifications of a Public Employee

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Ushka moved to convene to an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(h) to discuss potential and pending litigation and to review the qualifications of a public employee, not to exceed 45 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 2:19 p.m. City Attorney Bill Fosbre was present.

The Executive Session concluded, and the study session reconvened, at 3:07 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk