



## Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma 2024-2025

City Council Meeting  
June 17, 2024

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## 2024-2025 Leadership Team

**Chair**  
Rowen Higley

**Vice Chair**  
Joseph Muller

### COMMITTEES

#### Education, Arts, and Culture

**Chair**  
Begina Kisebo

**Vice Chair**  
Jayce Hartman

#### Environmental Health

**Chair**  
Hayden Kempf-Leskajän

**Vice Chair**  
Clyde Angelo Manda

#### Justice and Safety

**Chair**  
Norah Gawryczik

**Vice Chair**  
Deron Carston

#### Social Health

**Chair**  
Caleb Rotchstein

**Vice Chair**  
Aeris Clark



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# Speakers

	Organization	Topic
Mayor Victoria Woodards	Tacoma City Council	Youth Engagement
Hyun Kim and Sophia Keskey	City of Tacoma	2025-2026 City Budget
Amita Lonial and Maria Shackles	Tacoma Public Library	TPL Services and Neighborhood Engagement
Cindy Haverkamp	Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department	Climate and Health
Logan Cornwell	UW-Tacoma Action Mapping Project	UW-Tacoma Action Mapping Project
Kwabe Amoah-Forsen	Peace Bus	Peace Bus and Youth Advocacy
Chief Patti Jackson	Tacoma Police Department	Policing in Tacoma
Councilmember Sarah Rumbaugh	Tacoma City Council	Youth CBC Eligibility Criteria
Hannah Snyder	Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department	Youth Health Promotion and Vaping Prevention



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# Outreach

**MAYOR'S YOUTH COMMISSION OF TACOMA**

The Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma is an award-winning, youth-led, project-based advocacy group and advisory body to the Tacoma City Council.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS DECIDE** what projects they'll lead and how they will engage with local government.

Four Commission Committees key priority areas affecting youth:

- 1 Social Health
- 2 Environmental Health
- 3 Education, Arts, and Culture
- 4 Justice and Safety

**Meeting Schedule**

All meetings begin at 10:00am

2024  
October 12  
November 16  
December 14

2025  
January 11  
February 8  
March 15  
May 17  
June 7

**Children are not our future...**

They are present right now. Youth must engage with the decisions being made because they have to live with the consequences of today's decisions. - Mayor Victoria Woodards

**MORE INFORMATION**

Registration required to attend. Just show up!

City of Tacoma: @MYCTacoma  
City of Tacoma Youth: @MYCTacomaYouth  
MYCTacoma: MYCTacoma

919 South 9th Street 98403

- School Announcements
- Class Visits
- Peer-to-Peer Contact
- Student Government Day
- Social Media



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# Advocacy

- Streets Initiative II Policy Statement
- Flavored Nicotine Ban Testimony and Lobbying

*"We, the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma, ask you to support Resolution 41588, placing Streets Initiative II on the April 22, 2025, Special Election ballot for consideration by the voters."*



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## Trip to State Capitol



- Introduction to Legislative Process
- Meeting and Lobbying Legislators
  - Senator T'Wina Nobles
  - Representative Mari Leavitt
  - Representative Kristine Reeves
- Capitol Tour



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## Children's and Young Adult Book Drive



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## 2025-2026 Leadership Team

**Chair**  
Begina Kisembo

**Vice Chair**  
Norah Gawryczik

### COMMITTEES

#### Education, Arts, and Culture

**Chair**  
Safeera Shah

**Vice Chair**

#### Environmental Health

**Chair**  
Hayden Kempf-Leskajän

**Vice Chair**  
Claire Ji

#### Justice and Safety

**Chair**  
Joyce Zhang

**Vice Chair**  
Deron Carston

#### Social Health

**Chair**  
Eisha Ahmad

**Vice Chair**  
Jacqueline Nguyen

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# Impact

- Why we participate and want others to get involved
- Difference participation has had on us
- What we've learned and how we've benefitted
- Looking forward

