



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

April 26, 2016

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:05 p.m.

Present: 7 - Blocker, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, McCarthy, Mello and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 2 - Thoms and Woodards

Council Member Woodards arrived at 12:53 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. [16-0339](#) Tacoma Smelter Plume Project Update

At approximately 12:05 p.m., Ian Munce, Planning and Development Services (PDS), provided opening remarks on the Tacoma Smelter Plume Project and introduced Amy Hargrove, Washington State Department of Ecology (WSDOE). Ms. Hargrove provided background information on the Tacoma Smelter, and provided an update on the project, including Yard Sampling and Cleanup Program, soil sampling in Tacoma, soil sampling progress and results, program progress evaluation, areas in which more data is required, the updated service area and its soil sampling results, arsenic sampling results, outreach for high arsenic levels, soil replacement, the cleanup sequence, examples of soil removal and replacement in 2015, a database used to track arsenic in soil, the Soil Safety Program, and multi-family properties.

Jill Reitz, WSDOE, provided information on the Technical Assistance Program, phase 2, real estate transactions, local planning offices, and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding residents declining soil replacement, inclusion of new service area, outreach, resources for residents with soil arsenic levels below the current action level, disclosure to home buyers, technical assistance and steps residents can take to mitigate risks.

2. [16-0340](#) Marijuana Code Amendments

At approximately 12:41 p.m., Brian Boudet, PDS, provided an overview of proposed zoning code amendments relative to marijuana stores and cooperatives, including recent Washington State regulatory history, the Cannabis Patient Protection Act, and recent local regulatory history.

Council Member Woodards arrived here, at 12:53 p.m.

Mr. Boudet continued the presentation by discussing the current status, key zoning issues, nuisance code amendments, recommendations, and next steps. Chris Beale, Planning Commission Chair, provided information relative to the Planning Commission's dispersion and medical cooperative recommendations.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding licensing requirements, access to medical marijuana, data relative to cooperatives, signage for licensed stores, dispersion of stores, and the location and densification of production and processing facilities.

Council Member Campbell requested data relative to Tacoma Police Department calls for service at the current store locations.

Discussion continued regarding the appearance of store windows, a potential merit-based licensing system, rules for dispersion of liquor stores and bars, cap on stores, recommended buffers, medical cooperatives, next steps and enforcement schedule.

Other Items of Interest

[16-0370](#) Lead in Water System

At approximately 1:40 p.m., Bill Gaines, Tacoma Public Utilities Director, provided opening remarks and introduced Chris McMeen and Linda McCrea, Tacoma Water. Mr. McMeen provided information relative to lead levels found in an estimated 1,700 Tacoma homes that may contain lead gooseneck pipes and concluded by discussing outreach and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding locations affected, the notification process, transparency, confusion regarding lead levels, lead gooseneck pipes at Tacoma Public Schools, replacement of pipes, steps to take when lead is found in water, concentration of lead goosenecks found in low-income areas, areas targeted for removal, next steps, prioritization, outreach to residents living in rental properties, and communication with Tacoma Water.

At approximately 2:10 p.m., Dan Voepel, Stephen Story and Stephen Murakami, Tacoma Public Schools, provided information relative to lead levels found in several Tacoma elementary schools. Mr. Voepel discussed steps the district has taken after finding elevated lead levels in water samples, and concluded by discussing next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the testing process, testing costs, fixtures where elevated levels were found, access to bottled water, changes to the nutrition services program, and the water testing program.

Committee Reports

Mayor Strickland stated that starting in 2016, the Sound Transit Tacoma Link light rail was scheduled to have fares enacted and that she would be proposing that free service be provided until the line is fully extended .

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [16-0356](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, April 21, 2016

T.C. Broadnax, City Manager stated there are two proclamations on tonight's agenda, proclaiming April 26, 2016 as Domestic Violence Awareness Day, and May 2016 as Puget Sound Starts Here Month. He stated there are no changes to tonight's agenda.

Executive Session - Potential Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Mello 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 Woodards.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, McCarthy, Mello, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Thoms

The Council convened to Executive Session at 2:35 p.m. City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli was present.

The Executive Session was extended by 10 minutes at 3:05 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 3:15 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk