



# City of Tacoma

## Community Vitality and Safety

### Committee Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Conference Room 248  
Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 859 6160 4917  
Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/85961604917](http://www.zoom.us/j/85961604917) Passcode: 614650

**April 25, 2024**

**4:30 PM**

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Chair Catherine Ushka, Vice Chair Sarah Rumbaugh, Jamika Scott,  
Kristina Walker, John Hines (alternate)

#### Call To Order

Vice Chair Rumbaugh called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

#### Roll Call

**Present:** 3 - Rumbaugh, Walker and Hines

**Absent:** 2 - Ushka and Scott

All Council Members participated virtually.

#### Public Comment

There was no public comment.

#### Briefing Items

1. [24-0447](#) Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Funding Assessment and High-Level Qualitative Finding  
[Vicky McLaurin, Systems and Strategy Division Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services; Dawn Couch, Senior Project Manager, BERK Consulting]

At approximately at 4:34 p.m., Vicky McLaurin, Systems and Strategy Division Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services, and Dawn Couch, Senior Project Manager, BERK Consulting, together presented on the Tacoma Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder (MHSUD) funding assessment, including an introduction and overview, mental health and chemical dependency sales tax, Tacoma's MHSUD funding timeline, and the funding assessment purpose and components. They then reviewed the quantitative assessment findings, including a high-level overview, MHSUD funding levels remained stable while the number of agencies funded increased, funding prioritized homeless and housing stability, staff positions supported by the funding. They further outlined the qualitative assessment, including the purpose, provider questions, and direct beneficiary questions, gaps in Tacoma's system of MHSUD

services, system challenges facing MHSUD providers and those in need of MHSUD services, Tacoma’s MHSUD funding priorities and process, and what’s next.

Discussion ensued regarding funding; barriers, noting undocumented individuals, and youth; tracking; provider requirements; and grant writing.

- 2. [24-0448](#) Neighborhood and Community Systems and Strategy Division Issue Statement [Caleb Carbone, Homelessness Strategy, Systems, and Service Manager; Erin Watlington and Hayley Saucedo, Senior Community Resources Analysts, Neighborhood and Community Services]

**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to forward the Neighborhood and Community Systems and Strategy Division Issue Statement, to the meeting on May 9, 2024.**

**SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Hines.**

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

**Ayes:** 3 - Rumbaugh, Walker and Hines

**Absent:** 2 - Ushka and Scott

### Topics for Upcoming Meetings

- 3. [24-0449](#)
  - May 9, 2024 - Human Services Commission Interviews;  
Tacoma Municipal Code 8.30 - Code Compliance Review
  - May 23, 2024 - Anti-Displacement Strategy Update
  - June 13, 2024 - Neighborhood Council Standards, Guidelines, and Tacoma Municipal Code 1.45 - Community Feedback Review; Youth and Young Adult Violence Reduction Update; Opioid Settlement Update

D’Angelo Baker, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting on May 9, 2024, will include Human Services Commission interviews and Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 8.30 code compliance review; the May 23, 2024, meeting will include an update on the anti-displacement strategy; and the June 13, 2024, meeting will include presentations on Neighborhood Council standards, guidelines and Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 1.45 community feedback, youth and young adult violence reduction, and the opioid settlement.

### Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

