



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

August 20, 2024

12:00 PM

REVISED - JOINT MEETING WITH THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Present: 8 - Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Sadalge, Scott, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Diaz

Public Utility Board Members:

Present: 4 - Bridges, Claus-McGahan, Gallagher, and O'Loughlin

Absent: 1 - Watson

Council Member Diaz arrived at 12:01 p.m.

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Council Member Diaz arrived here, at 12:01 p.m.

Joint City Council / Tacoma Public Utility Board Briefing Items

1. [24-0912](#) Tacoma Public Utilities Long Range Financial Plan
[Michelle Brown, Financial Planning Manager, Tacoma Power;
Lyna Vo, Principal Data Analyst, Tacoma Water]

At approximately 12:02 p.m., Michelle Brown, Financial Planning Manager, Tacoma Power, provided a brief overview of Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU), long range financial plan (LRFP), and introduced Lyna Vo, Principal Data Analyst, Tacoma Water. Brown presented an overview and background; importance of a LRFP; guiding principles and policies; average rates, noting how they are determined; foundational elements of Tacoma Power's financial forecasts, including revenue and expense assumptions; wholesale revenues; purchases and personnel, noting they make up 50 percent of current expenses; impact of capital and infrastructure expenses on increasing costs; peer utilities rate increases; average monthly residential bill; and pressures and

opportunities. Vo concluded with Tacoma Water's foundational financial elements, rate increases, wholesale revenue, debt management, challenges and risks, average monthly water bill, and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding increased cost of benefits, Handy Whitman Index, and Integrated Resource Plan progress.

2. [24-0913](#) Tacoma 2030 Climate Action Plan and 2023 Progress Report
[Kristin Lynett, Sustainability Manager, Environmental Services;
Rochelle Gandour-Rood, Education Outreach Manager, Tacoma Public Utilities]

At approximately 12:30 p.m., Kristi Lynett, Sustainability Manager, Environmental Services (ES), presented the Tacoma 2023 Climate Action Plan (CAP) and progress report, including an agenda; background; and 2030 climate milestones. She continued with an overview of the CAP actions and progress, including to increase community-led climate equity projects and programs; increase number of preserved housing units; reduce fossil fuels from buildings; increase number of new affordable units; increase bicycle infrastructure, noting eliminating fatalities and series injuries from collisions; increase tree planting; protect open space; add public electric vehicle charging locations; decrease per-capita waste and increase number of Envirostar businesses; and increase number of green jobs and natural heat island intervention projects. She concluded with City examples of reduced greenhouse gas emissions from municipal fleets, municipal buildings, and infrastructure; federal and state leadership; funding leverages; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for the TPU and ES collaboration and the Sustainable Tacoma Commission; switching to heat pumps, noting TPU incentives; electric vehicles transition, including City fleet operations and management; and safety, noting collision data and progress.

2a. [24-0934](#) Water Regulations Update
[Kim DeFolo, Interim Planning and Engineering Manager, Tacoma Water]

At approximately 12:58 p.m., Kim DeFolo, Interim Planning and Engineering Manager, Tacoma Water, presented an update on water regulations, including updates related to drinking water; per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS); final Environmental Protection Agency PFAS rule; Tacoma Water PFAS 2023 sampling; next steps; and the Lead and Copper Rule, noting service line inventory, inspections, and communications.

Discussion ensued regarding inspection locations; PFAS testing, including testing of wells, additional locations, and frequency; appreciation for being proactive in PFAS testing and removal of the lead goosenecks; levels of contamination; copper inspection needs; notification of levels to residents;

at-home treatments for PFAS mitigation; and water quality for residents.

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The joint study session concluded at 1:23 p.m.

The regular study session convened at 1:33 p.m.

City Council Briefing Items

3. [24-0916](#) South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District Moratorium Extension
Public Hearing Debrief
[Adam Nolan, Senior Planner; Brian Boudet, Planning Division Manager,
Planning and Development Services]

At approximately 1:33 p.m., Adam Nolan, Senior Planner, Planning and Development Services, presented a debrief on the South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District (STGPD) moratorium extension public hearing held on August 13, 2024, including STGPD creation, moratorium actions, public hearing notifications, public comments, work plan, tentative schedule, and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for staff and public comments; current code additions; modifications, including jeopardizing current work plan; and impact and process of adding impervious services.

Other Items of Interest

4. [24-0917](#) Council Action Memorandum - 2024 Council Committee Appointments
[Mayor Woodards]

Mayor Woodards presented a Council Action Memorandum for a resolution updating the 2024 appointments of Council Members to various committees, boards, and commissions following the appointment of Sandesh Sadalge to the Council District No. 4 position. She concluded by stating the final resolution will be on the agenda at tonight's meeting.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

5. **24-0918** Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, August 15, 2024
[Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager]

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there are three ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming Thursday, August 22, 2024, as The Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County Day; a Compassionate Tacoma recognition for Bruce Kendall; and a presentation on City Council Jobs 253. She concluded by stating one change is expected to tonight's agenda, a motion to amend on the appointment resolution by removing Council Member Bushnell from the Community Council Liaison and adding Council Member Sadalge.

Executive Session - Review the Qualifications of a Public Employee

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Hines moved to convene to executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)(i) and (ii) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to discuss potential litigation and to review the performance of a public employee, not to exceed 60 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.

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

Ayes: 9 - Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Sadalge, Scott, Walker and Mayor Woodards

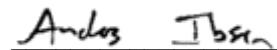
The City Council convened to executive session at 2:00 p.m. City Attorney Chris Bacha was present.

The executive session was extended by 30 minutes at 2:58 p.m., and 10 minutes at 3:31 p.m.

The executive session concluded, and the study session reconvened, at 3:43 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.



for Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor



Nicole Emery, City Clerk