



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

February 10, 2015

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:07 p.m.

Present: 7 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, Mello, Thoms and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 2 - Walker and Woodards

Council Member Walker arrived at 12:11 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. [15-0134](#) Recommendations for Recreational Marijuana Regulations

Mayor Strickland provided background information regarding today's presentation and noted first reading of Ordinance No. 28281 related to establishing permanent land use regulations concerning the production, processing, and retail sale of recreational marijuana will be on tonight's Council agenda. Brian Boudet, Planning and Development Services (PDS), stated staff is requesting direction to either adopt the Planning Commission's recommendations as stated in Ordinance No. 28281, modify the recommendations, or leave the interim code in place for now.

Council Member Walker arrived here, at 12:11 p.m.

Elliott Barnett, PDS, reviewed the Planning Commission's recommendations, including retain interim code provisions, clarify applicability, expand areas for production and processing, improve the City's review process for marijuana businesses, and advocate for state action. He then provided information regarding the City's review process and proposed enhancements, issues raised at the public hearing, and reviewed a map and issues with retail distribution. Discussion ensued regarding liquor store requirements, whether there were increased code complaints or crime in areas with retail operations, parking for retail operations, whether there has been an increase in driving under the influence violations, zoning and buffer requirements, and the impact of the proposed regulations on medical marijuana operations.

Mr. Barnett then provided a map and reviewed buffers for churches, and light industrial zones. Discussion ensued regarding industrial uses and expansion, zoning impacts on available space, and the impact of retail operations on existing businesses in light industrial zones. Council Member Walker requested information regarding existing non-marijuana businesses in light industrial zones near the Nalley Valley. Mr. Barnett concluded by reviewing current location restrictions related to zoning, buffers, available property, and lending limitations; and next steps. Council Member Thoms stated he will be introducing an amendment to Ordinance No. 28281 at tonight's Council meeting related to potential migration of medical marijuana operations. Discussion ensued regarding migration of medical marijuana operations and how the state process for licensing recreational marijuana facilities impacts the City.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

2. [15-0135](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, February 5, 2015

City Manager T.C. Broadnax stated at tonight's Council meeting there will be a proclamation proclaiming 2015 as the Year of the Bike in the City of Tacoma, and the Tacoma Wheelmen's Bicycle Club will present the City with the 2014 Paths to Mount Tacoma award. He then stated there may be a motion to amend Resolution No. 39113 relating to the Theater District, and there will be Citizens' Forum tonight. Mr. Broadnax noted citizens may address animal retail or puppy mills, and ad or circular plastic bags from The News Tribune.

Council Member Campbell stated there will be a community conversation this Saturday at 10:00 a.m., at a location still to be determined, to discuss how to address hate crimes in the community and prevent them in the future.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk