



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

February 04, 2020

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:08 p.m.

Present: 8 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Hunter

Council Member Hunter arrived at 12:24 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. [20-0091](#) Economic Development Strategic Plan

At approximately 12:09 p.m., Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development (CED), introduced Elly Walkowiak, Assistant Director, CED, and presented the Economic Development Strategic Plan, including an overview, context, advancing Tacoma 2025, values and approach, and Community Attributes Inc.'s economic development pyramid. Ms. Walkowiak presented the focus areas and objectives, including business retention, expansion, and recruitment; small businesses and entrepreneurship; workforce development and human capital; neighborhood business district revitalization; Downtown Tacoma; commercial and industrial property activation; business and development climate; and placemaking and City image. She reviewed measures that will be used to benchmark and assess progress.

Council Member Hunter arrived here, at 12:24 p.m.

Ms. Walkowiak concluded by reviewing the implementation of the plan and the unifying message.

Discussion ensued regarding reaching out to Pierce County, targeted sectors, drawing businesses to the City, and national outreach.

Item No. 3 was addressed before Item No. 2.

3. [20-0093](#) Tacoma Soccer Stadium Proposed Letter of Intent

At approximately 12:50 p.m., Steve Victor, Deputy City Attorney, introduced Debbie Terwilleger, Planning Director, Metro Parks Tacoma, and presented the Tacoma soccer stadium proposed letter of intent, including an overview, background, the soccer stadium site plan, a projected timeline, the letter of intent, the scope of the letter of intent, soccer stadium funding plan, public benefits identified in the letter, and economic benefits identified by consultants. Ms. Terwilleger concluded by reviewing the next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding sports equality, ownership of the land and stadium, engaging the school district, the feasibility study, fiscal responsibilities outlined in the letter of intent, private funding versus public funding, funding for other stadiums, and reserve spending.

The study session recessed at 2:19 p.m.

The study session reconvened at 2:22 p.m.

2. [20-0092](#) City Council's Strategic Planning Work Session Preparation

At approximately 2:22 p.m., Tanisha Jumper, Director, Media and Communications Office, presented the Strategic Planning Work Session preparation, including the agenda and topics to be covered.

Discussion ensued regarding Council Members' expectations for the work session and what they would like included.

Other Items of Interest

4. [20-0094](#) Council Consideration Request - Attainable Housing and the Future of Prosperity and Inclusion in Pierce County Forum Sponsorship

Council Member Walker presented a Council Consideration Request for Attainable Housing and the Future of Prosperity and Inclusion in Pierce County Forum Sponsorship for \$1000.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

5. [20-0095](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, January 30, 2020

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated there are no ceremonials and no expected changes on tonight's meeting agenda.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk