



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

December 13, 2016

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Mello called the study session to order at 12:10 p.m.

Present: 6 - Blocker, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, Mello and Woodards

Absent: 3 - McCarthy, Thoms and Mayor Strickland

Council Member McCarthy arrived at 12:14 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. [16-1221](#) 2017 Legislative Agendas and Federal Lobbyist Len Simon

At approximately 12:11 p.m., Randall Lewis, Government Relations Officer, provided an overview of the accomplishments of the 2016 State legislative agenda.

Council Member McCarthy arrived here, at 12:14 p.m.

Mr. Lewis discussed the 2017 State legislative agenda priorities, including support for local control of taxes; increasing funding for a continuum of services to assist homeless youth, adults, and families; seeking assistance for replacement of heavily used aging bridges, support for street utility authority and ongoing funding for stormwater obligations; the State meeting its obligations to fully fund education with new revenue; the restoration of state funding for local public health districts; adoption of statewide regulations concerning human trafficking; the ability to recover the costs of public record requests; exemption of leasehold excise taxes for Tacoma Dome events; increased mortgage holder requirements to reduce blight in neighborhoods from abandoned homes; capital budget appropriations related to Arlington Drive crisis residential center, Eastside Community Center, Foss Waterway Park, and the Pantages Theater.

Discussion ensued regarding the revitalization of the Downtown area, capital budget appropriations, priority projects, and human trafficking.

Alisa O'Hanlon, Government Relations Analyst, provided an overview of accomplishments of the 2016 Federal legislative agenda, and discussed 2017 Federal legislative agenda priorities, including the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Act, minimum wage, paid leave, business innovators, homelessness, Project PEACE youth outreach, the Eastside Community Center, mental health, the opioid epidemic, and federal use of private prisons.

Len Simon, Federal Lobbyist, Simon and Company, provided brief opening remarks, a recap of funds and opportunities received under the Obama administration, expected policy changes under President Elect Trump's administration, and information relative to nominated Cabinet members of the incoming administration. Mr. Simon then provided information related to the President's budget stating a short-term continuing resolution was put into place through April 2017.

Discussion ensued regarding sanctuary cities and police enforcement.

Other Items of Interest

[16-1250](#) Council Consideration Request - Implementation of an Anchor Institutions Initiative

Council Member Ibsen presented a Council Consideration Request relative to formalizing an anchor institutions strategy in alignment with Tacoma 2025 community priorities.

Discussion ensued regarding cost.

[16-1251](#) Resolution No 39622

Council Member Campbell discussed an additional item that may be added to tonight's meeting, Resolution No. 39622, directing the City Manager to prepare a Request for Qualifications to solicit a national firm to assist the City Council in the development of a recruitment plan for the selection of a successor City Manager, including cost estimates for each phase of the process.

Committee Reports

Deputy Mayor Mello stated the Pierce Transit Board has approved the route analysis redesign, and that customers would be seeing more direct routes to destinations, and a higher frequency of buses in the next few months.

Discussion ensued regarding infrastructure near 48th Avenue East and McKinley Avenue.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

2. [16-1222](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, December 8, 2016

Elizabeth Pauli, City Attorney, stated there are no proclamations, recognitions, or announcements on tonight's agenda, and that the December 20 and 27, 2016 City Council study sessions and business meetings have been cancelled. She stated that a motion to suspend the rules would be made at tonight's meeting to allow for the addition of Resolution No. 39622.

Executive Session - Real Estate Negotiations

There was no Executive Session held.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk