



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 894 9617 1192

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/89496171192 Passcode: 896569

March 8, 2022

12:00 PM

747 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402, Council Chambers
JOINT MEETING WITH THE TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Ushka called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, McCarthy, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 1 - Mayor Woodards

Library Board of Trustees:

Present: 2 - Cobb, Irish

Absent: 3 - Colón, Craig, La France

Mayor Woodards arrived at 12:26 p.m.

Library Board Trustee Cobb and President Irish attended virtually.

Joint City Council / Library Board Briefing Item

1. [22-0291](#) Director and Library Board Updates

At approximately 12:06 p.m., Kate Larsen, Director, Tacoma Public Library (TPL), presented updates from TPL and the Library Board of Trustees, including the 2022 Board of Trustees; mission; equity and access efforts, noting internal reforms and hiring practices; learning, creativity, and innovation efforts, noting the Northwest Room's new Community Archives Center, and fundraising for the Digital Media Lab; investment in youth, noting the Summer Reading Challenge program; cultivating and engaging the community, noting the partnership with the Puyallup Language Program for yard signs, and Tacoma Reads 2021; being responsible and resilient, noting COVID-19 test distribution and vaccine clinics, and technology and infrastructure upgrades; the ongoing feasibility study for restoration of library services to the Eastside and Hilltop neighborhoods; TPL's new equity

data dashboard; the 2021 TPL Foundation group; the 2021 Library Board of Trustees; updates and coming challenges, noting the temporary closure of the Mottet branch, and issues other cities have faced related to their collections on race and LGBTQ+ topics.

Discussion ensued regarding a request for additional funding to cover the costs of additional security at library buildings.

Mayor Woodards arrived here, at 12:26 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding Tacoma Reads, the TPL Foundation Board, services provided to those who live outside the City limits, costs for off-duty officer coverage at library branches, appreciation for TPL staff and volunteers, appreciation for efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, the feasibility study, ways to support the Mottet Library, collaboration with the Pierce County Auditor to support voting access and outreach, and the value of library services.

Other Items of Interest

- 2. [22-0292](#) Council Consideration Request - Tacoma Reads 2022

Mayor Woodards introduced a Council Consideration Request to allocate \$10,000 from the Council Contingency Fund to support the 2022 Tacoma Reads Together events, including this year’s themes of hope, resilience, and community; the plan to unveil this year’s books during the Mayor's State of the City address on Thursday, March 10, 2022; and the proposal for a resolution to be on the March 22, 2022, meeting agenda.

Discussion ensued regarding support for the Tacoma Reads program.

* * * * *

Deputy Mayor Ushka stated she plans to bring forward a Council Consideration Request to allocate \$25,000 of City Council Contingency Funds to support the Tacoma Refugee Choir, for the March 22, 2022, meeting agenda.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [22-0298](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, March 3, 2022

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated that there are three ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming Tuesday, March 8, 2022, as International Women's Day and March 2022 as Women's History Month; a Compassionate Tacoma recognition of donors to the City's Rental Assistance Fund at the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation; and a presentation on systems transformation, including highlights from the Human Resources Department's racial equity action plan. She concluded by reminding everyone that Community Forum will be held during tonight's meeting.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk