



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
June 14, 2022
12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 8 - Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, McCarthy, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards
Absent: 1 - Blocker

Briefing Items

1. [22-0675](#) Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code Proposed Amendments
Public Hearing Debrief

At approximately 12:02 p.m., Stephen Atkinson, Principal Planner, Planning and Development Services (PDS), presented a debrief of the June 7, 2022, public hearing regarding the 2022 Annual Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code, including an agenda; public notifications; and the 2022 Annual Amendment docket, noting which applications amend the Comprehensive Plan or Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC). He further reviewed the Planning Commission's recommendations and themes of public comments for each application, including the NewCold land use designation change, the South Sound Christian Schools land use designation changes, the work plan for the South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District code amendments, and minor Comprehensive Plan and TMC amendments; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding critical area protection and mitigation, public notices provided to other municipalities and residents outside City limits, the Hearing Examiner's role and processes, noise related to industrial uses, the option to enact a moratorium, noise standards, options for a TMC amendment rather than a land use designation change to address the NewCold application, and confirming the proposal to postpone first reading of the related resolution and ordinances from tonight's meeting agenda to June 21, 2022.

2. [22-0676](#) Tideflats Subarea Plan and Environmental Impact Statement Update

At approximately 12:34 p.m., Atkinson presented updates on the Tideflats Subarea Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including an agenda; introduction and background; the area being studied; the manufacturing and industrial center designation; the subarea plan concept, benefits, and policy framework; the shared planning effort between the City of Tacoma, Puyallup Tribe of Indians, Port of Tacoma, Pierce County, and City of Fife; and milestones completed to date. He further reviewed the next phase to finalize the EIS scope and alternatives, including the purpose; scoping; timelines and next steps; types of comments for the preliminary alternatives document and scope of environmental review; how to provide comments, noting an upcoming public scoping meeting on July 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., via Zoom, the online comment form at cityoftacoma.org/tideflatsplan, and an option to send written comments; and the planning process and timeline. He concluded by reviewing the Tideflats Steering Committee recommendation, including alternatives; categories of guiding principles; character areas; alternatives, noting elements and ranges; and scoping timelines and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for Council Members, staff, and those at other agencies who have participated on the Tideflats Steering Committee; the process and progress to date; the role of the Planning Commission and Tideflats Advisory Group; public outreach and comments on the alternatives; consistency between the Tideflats Subarea Plan and the Container Port Element of the Comprehensive Plan; the Port of Tacoma's role and authority; impacts of restricting the types and amounts of fuels in the Port; how jobs and other economic impacts are factored into the EIS; and next steps.

3. [22-0677](#) Long Range Forecast Follow-Up

At approximately 1:14 p.m., Katie Johnston, Budget Officer, Office of Management and Budget, presented an update on the City's revenue approaches and options as a follow-up to the long-range forecast presented at the June 7, 2022, study session, including an agenda; issues impacting the City's financial sustainability, noting other approaches to address these issues; use of new revenues for investments in new services or infrastructure; timing considerations, noting collective impacts of tax increases, voter fatigue, and coordination and partnership opportunities with other agencies; revenue options, noting those that require voter or Councilmanic approval, and how much revenue each could generate; guiding principles for a revenue strategy; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding community surveys, elections, and initiatives.

Other Items of Interest

4. [22-0681](#) Council Member Vacancy Appointment Process

Mayor Woodards stated that Council Member McCarthy has announced his resignation effective June 22, 2022, and reviewed the Council Member vacancy appointment process, including notice requirements, the maximum number of applicants considered, interviews, deliberation, voting, and the option to suspend the Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma to revise the process. She further reviewed the draft appointment timeline, including the term expiring December 31, 2023; a proposal to discuss the process at a future study session; and proposed dates for applications, interviews, and the appointment of a new Council Member.

Discussion ensued regarding the draft appointment timeline and next steps.

Committee Reports

Council Member Walker reported that she attended the Joint Municipal Action Committee meeting on Friday, June 10, 2022, which included a discussion of youth employment pipelines and apprenticeship programs with Tacoma Public Schools, WorkForce Central, Degrees of Change, and the Port of Tacoma.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

5. [22-0678](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, June 9, 2022

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated that there are three ceremonials on tonight's meeting agenda, proclaiming Sunday, June 19, 2022, as Juneteenth Day; a Compassionate Tacoma recognition for Dr. Charles Weatherby; and a presentation on systems transformation, including highlights from the Tacoma Police Department's racial equity action plan. She further stated that several changes are expected to tonight's agenda, including a proposed Substitute Ordinance No. 28751, regarding a street vacation; and that motions may be considered to continue Resolution No. 40985 and Ordinance Nos. 28819, 28820, and 28821, regarding the 2022 Annual Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code, to the June 21, 2022, meeting agenda. 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 1:42 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk