

Community, Vitality, and Safety Committee 2017 Year-End Report



Community, Vitality, and Safety Committee

2017

During 2017, the Community, Vitality, and Safety Committee discussed and made recommendations on a number of policy matters to enhance living standards and the safety of Tacoma residents. The Community, Vitality, and Safety Committee's work summary for the year 2017 is outlined below under the committee's suggested areas of responsibility in the Council Standing Committee Process Manual.

2017 YEAR-END REPORT

ISSUE AREAS	INFORMATIONAL BRIEFINGS	REQUESTS FOR ACTION	TOTAL ITEMS
Police Services	2	4	6
Fire Services	1	0	1
Affordable Housing	4	2	6
Human Services	0	1	1
Civil and Human Rights Compliance	0	4	4
Community Services	0	1	1
Neighborhood Councils	2	0	2
Citizen Committees, Boards, and Commissions	0	11	11
Other	2	0	2
Total	11	23	34
Percentage of Total Briefings	32%	68%	100%

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Police Services

2016 Citizen Police Advisory Committee Annual Report- March 9, 2017 (informational brief)

On March 9, the Chair of the Committee, Ryan Webster, provided an overview of the 2016 CPAC Annual Report, including duties of the Committee, subcommittees, 2016 accomplishments, and the 2017 work plan.

South Tacoma Community Policing Plan- April 13, 2017 (informational brief)

On April 13, the Tacoma Police Department and Neighborhood and Community Services provided an overview of the South Tacoma Community Policing Plan. Council Member Campbell asked for a comparison of reported crimes and calls for service with the other business districts and how to make this District feel safer. Chief Gustason stated that he would share the result of that comparison between the Districts at the South Tacoma Business District meeting. Council Member Lonergan suggested having monthly crime statistics to show the South Tacoma Business District members and neighbors and asked about managing expectations after the youth shelter opens.

Regulation of electroshock devices (TASERS) - June 8, 2017 (request for action)

On June 8, the City Attorney's Office requested that the City Council pass an ordinance to remove the prohibition of electroshock devices from Chapter 8.66 of the Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC). Staff recommended to the committee that the City of Tacoma should no longer regulate these devices to the extent that is currently done. The committee recommended that this item move forward to the full City Council for further action.

Amendment to Human Habitation of Vehicles - June 22, 2017 (request for action)

On June 22, the City Attorney's Office proposed amendments to Tacoma Municipal Code 11.05.231 which prohibits vehicle habitation in the city, noting it was established in 2009, was amended in 2016, and is proposed for amendment again due to some enforcement challenges. The proposed amendment was to change the law from a focus on the person to a focus on the use of the vehicle, adds a presumption that the registered owner is responsible for the improper use of the vehicle, reduces the penalty from \$250 to \$50 to further the City's equity objectives and be more aligned with parking violations, reduces the time permitted for use at any one location from 7 days to 72 hours, and requires a vehicle move from the spot of violation to a location no less than one-half of a mile at the conclusion of the 72 hours. The committee recommended that this item move forward to the full City Council for further action.

Camping in the City Proposal - June 22, 2017 (request for action)

On June 22, the City Attorney's Office presented proposed amendments relating to camping. The proposal was to prohibit camping on private property at all times unless there is consent of a property owner or agent and to the extent that camping complies with current laws, such as the chronic nuisance code or adjacent property code. The proposal for public property would regulate camping at all times within the city limits, except to the extent that camping would be permitted in areas that are specifically identified by the City as authorized for this use, such as the transitional and stabilization sites. Staff then presented three alternate versions of Code amendments if the full staff proposal was not forwarded. The committee decided to forward Alternate version 1 to the full

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City Council, which was to enact the staff proposal for the duration of the declared emergency and would then sunset.

Prohibiting sitting/lying on sidewalks Proposal - June 22, 2017 (request for action)

On June 22, the City Attorney's Office presented recommendation to amend Tacoma Municipal Code 8.12A.020. Staff stated that the presented ordinance would regulate how sidewalks are used by individuals to engage in certain conduct, such as sitting or lying, at specific hours, 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., throughout the city. The committee decided not to recommend that the ordinance move forward.

Issue Area	Informational Briefings	Requests for Action
Police Services	2	4

Fire Services

TFD Mid-Year Review and Aid Vehicle Implementation - August 10, 2017 (informational brief)

On August 10, the Tacoma Fire Department presented incident data for fire and emergency medical services, stating the number of fires is approximately where it was in previous years and the emergency medical services (EMS) calls continue to rise, which is a trend across the nation due to increase in population, increase in aging populations, and an increase in the number of individuals without primary insurance or care.

Issue Area	Informational Briefings	Requests for Action
Fire Services	1	0

Affordable Housing

Affordable Housing Update - January 12, 2017 (informational brief)

On January 12, Community and Economic Development provided an update on affordable housing activities, including the purpose and background of the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority, 2012 to 2016 achievements, and programs including the down payment assistance, single family rehabilitation, single family development, multifamily development, and redevelopment.

Proposed Affordable Housing Strategies – September 28, 2017 (informational brief)

On September 28, Community and Economic Development presented an overview of the

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proposed affordable housing strategies including present strategies, three short and long-term strategies, and to create a platform to address affordable housing issues. Discussion ensued throughout regarding how and who would pay impact fees and property tax for the local housing trust fund. Discussion ensued regarding the affordable housing strategies, including continuing work on the program such as cost, promotions and acceptance of the programs within, city funding, resolutions coming forward in the future, an Accessory Dwelling Units fund, and review of the short and long-term recommendation lists. The committee requested that staff from Community and Economic Development return with more information.

Proposed Affordable Housing Strategies (Follow-up Discussion from 9/28/17) – October 26, 2017 (informational brief)

On October 26, Community and Economic Development continued the conversation around affordable housing strategies. Staff from Community and Economic Development and from Development and Planning Services stated the vision for the affordable housing policy and provided information on the implementation of the Affordable Housing Policy Advisory Group planning work program. The next steps suggested were to create a citywide internal work group to coordinate and collaborate with all involved parties to better plan the strategies, engage consultants to develop an action strategy, bring the Hilltop study to the City Council study session, and then report back to CVS in six months.

Two-Year Funding Priorities for HUD Funds – November 9, 2017 (informational brief)

On November 9, the committee decided not to discuss this item during the meeting and instead move it forward to study session.

Council Consideration Request - Affordable Housing – November 9, 2017 (request for action)

On November 9, Council Member Walker Lee presented a Council Consideration Request to set aside \$50,000 from the Council Contingency Fund for the creation of a pilot project providing incentives to landlords to include Section 8 renters, creating a fund to assist tenants, and have the Human Rights Commission consider source of income as a protected class. The committee recommended forwarding the Council Consideration Request to the full City Council for consideration.

Residential Infill Pilot Program – November 9, 2017 (request for action)

On November 9, Planning and Development Services presented the Residential Infill Pilot Program, including multi-family and cottage housing units, the reason for the program, what it creates, phases, and dispersion. Staff provided potential changes, including increasing the number of detached accessory dwelling units (DADU), modifying standards for small lot development with cottage housing, two phases including proof of concept and approval of proof of concept, and flexibility on requirements in the code. The committee recommended forwarding the Residential Infill Pilot Program to the full City Council for consideration.

Issue Area	Informational Briefings	Requests for Action
Affordable Housing	4	2

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Human Services

Encampment Removal Policy - June 22, 2017 (request for action)

On June 22, staff from the City Attorney's Office presented a draft policy on the enforcement and removal of unauthorized encampments on City property. The committee discussed the process for collecting personal items that have been seized, how the City will distinguish personal items from trash in encampments, the 60 days allowed for collection of personal items and how flexible that will be based on how often the collection site is staffed, and encampments on private property or the public right-of-way and how that is different.

Issue Area	Informational Briefings	Requests for Action
Human Services	0	1

Civil and Human Rights Compliance

Proposed Human Rights Commission Code Amendments - February 9, 2017 (request for action)

On February 9, the Office of Equity and Human Rights (OEHR) discussed proposed amendments to Chapter 1.29 of the Municipal Code, and to the administrative rules governing the Human Rights Commission, stating that the amendments would update code language to make clear that OEHR provides staffing support for human rights complaints filed with the Human Rights Commission, and would allow the City Attorney's Office more flexibility in commencing civil action where a respondent in a fair housing complaint elects for civil action in lieu of an adjudication by the Hearing Examiner. The committee moved to recommend the proposed amendments to the full City Council with any changes deemed appropriate based on conversations with external partners.

Proposed Code Amendments - Human Rights Commission – May 25, 2017 (request for action)

On May 25, the Office of Equity and Human Rights (OEHR) reviewed the recommend changes to Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) Chapter 1.29, stating changes include formalizing OEHR having responsibility for staffing and supporting the Commission, amending TMC 1.29.160 to grant the City Attorney's Office more flexibility in commencing civil action in fair housing complaints and make language more in alignment with RCW 49.60.340, and amending the administrative rules governing the Commission to remove the notarization requirement for fair housing and employment complaints and more closely align the process to state and federal partners. The committee moved to recommend the proposed amendments to the full City Council.

Closed Captioning Initiative- Action Item – May 25, 2017 (request for action)

On May 25, the Office of Equity and Human Rights (OEHR) requested a resolution regarding the display of closed captions on all televisions in public spaces in Tacoma. The requested resolution would require all screens in publicly accessible areas to have closed captions permanently enabled, or an alternative was to require all screens to enable closed captions upon request, would require an education and outreach campaign by the Commission and partners, and would continue

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to use TMC 1.29.060 to manage discrimination complaints. The committee recommended further research and outreach before moving this item to the full City Council.

Immigrant Defense Fund - Action Item – August 10, 2017 (request for action)

On August 10, the Council Member Blocker discussed an Immigrant Defense Fund and highlighted three large policy questions: who would be qualified to access dollars from such a fund, how will the fund be administered, and what is the source of the funding.

Issue Area	Informational Briefings	Requests for Action
Civil and Human Rights Compliance	0	4

Community Services

CDBG Funding Recommendations for Annual Action Plan and new CDBG, HOME and ESG sub-recipient agreements between the City, TCRA, Lakewood and individual contractors - March 9, 2017 (request for action)

On March 9, the Community and Economic Development Department provided an overview of 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan. The committee forwarded the Annual Action Plan to the full City Council for consideration.

Issue Area	Informational Briefings	Requests for Action
Community Services	0	1

Neighborhood Councils

Neighborhood Council Program Review- August 24, 2017 (informational brief)

On August 24, the Community and Economic Development Department shared the five-year annual review of the Neighborhood Council Program. Discussion ensued regarding the meaning of some of the language, enforcement and Neighborhood Council boundaries, and the effectiveness of outreach to Neighborhood Councils.

2017 Innovative Grant Projects Summary – April 27, 2017 (informational brief)

On April 27, the Community and Economic Development Department provided a brief history of the Innovative Grant Program and the types of allowable projects, and then presented information on the funding and distribution of \$320,000 available for 2017-2018.

Issue Area	Informational Briefings	Requests for Action
Neighborhood Councils	2	0

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Citizen Committees, Boards, and Commissions

Citizen Police Advisory Committee Interviews- January 26, 2017 (request for action)

On January 26, the committee interviewed applicants for the Citizen Police Advisory Committee. Recommendations to the full council were made for one reappointment to the Council District 1 position, and one appointment to the At-Large No 4 position.

Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Interviews – February 23, 2017 (request for action)

On February 23, the committee interviewed applicants for the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities. Recommendations to the full City Council were made for one reappointment and four appointments.

Human Rights Commission Interviews - March 23, 2017 (request for action)

On March 23, the committee interviewed applicants for the Human Rights Commission. Recommendations were made for two reappointments and five appointments. The committee also extended the term of Thomas Hudson to end December 31, 2019.

Human Services Commission Interviews- April 27, 2017 (request for action)

On April 27, the committee interviewed applicants and reviewed written responses for the Human Services Commission. Recommendations to the full City Council were made for two reappointments and four appointments.

Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Interviews – August 24, 2017 (request for action)

On August 24, the committee interviewed applicants and reviewed written responses for the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities. Recommendations to the full City Council were made for one reappointment and two appointments.

Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority Board Interviews – August 24, 2017 (request for action)

On August 24, the committee interviewed applicants and reviewed written responses for the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority Board. Recommendations to the full City Council were made for two appointments.

Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority Board Interviews – October 26, 2017 (request for action)

On October 26, the committee interviewed applicants and reviewed written responses for the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority Board. Recommendations to the full City Council were made for six reappointments.

Human Rights Commission Interviews – November 9, 2017 (request for action)

On November 9, the committee interviewed applicants and reviewed written responses for the Human Rights Commission. Recommendations to the full City Council were made for one reappointment and eight appointments.

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Proposed Creation of a Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs – November 9, 2017 (request for action)

On November 9, the Office of Equity and Human Rights provided information on two alternatives, the first one being placing a Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs under the Human Rights Commission and the second alternative being keeping the Immigrant and Refugee Task Force without creating a new commission. The committee recommended an ordinance proposing the creation of a Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs come before the City Council study session and then the City Council.

Creation of a Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (Follow-up Discussion from 11/9/17) – November 29, 2017 (request for action)

On November 29, the committee discussed a draft resolution for the creation of a Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs including language, consulting and meeting with other Committees, Boards, and Commissions (CBCs) staff support, not duplicating work that other CBCs are working on, the City of Seattle ordinance, the meaning of the annual workplan, the need for consistency of language when compared to other CBC resolutions, the City Charter and Immigrant and Refugee Task Force resolution, diversity, composition, term limit, age, residency requirement, and public meetings. The committee moved to revise the draft resolution to include the changes discussed at this meeting and present a new draft resolution at the study session of December 5, 2017 for further discussion, to then be presented at the December 12, 2017 City Council meeting.

Citizen Police Advisory Committee Interviews- December 14, 2017 (request for action)

On December 14, the committee interview applicants for the Citizen Police Advisory Committee. Recommendations to the full City Council were made for four appointments and one reassignment from the At-Large No. 3 position to the Council District No. 4 position.

Issue Area	Informational Briefings	Requests for Action
Citizen Committees, Boards, and Commissions	0	11

Other

Planning Work Program and Community Engagement Plan - January 12, 2017 (informational brief)

On January 12, the Planning and Development Services provided an overview of the 2017-2018 Work Program, including the continuation of the Tacoma Mall Subarea Plan, Residential Infill Pilot Program, Historic Demolition Review, Hilltop Links to Opportunity, and Unified Development Code, future land use and rezones, commercial zoning and development standards, open space and steep slope standards, institutional campus zoning review, and the Joint Base Lewis McChord – Accident Potential Zone. The Long-Range Planning Public Engagement Plan was also discussed.

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Community, Vitality, and Safety 2016 Year End Report – January 26, 2017 (informational brief)

Committee liaison India Adams presented the Community, Vitality, and Safety 2016 Year End Report, including key accomplishments, informational briefings, and requests for action.

Issue Area	Informational Briefings	Requests for Action
Other	2	0

Potential Topics for 2018

Other potential topics that were identified for discussion in 2018 include, but are not limited to:

- Gang reduction

Topics which fall under the review of the committee, but were not reviewed in detail by the committee in 2017 include:

- Education programs, services and initiatives
- Municipal Court
- Domestic violence
- South Sound 911
- Community health services and initiatives
- Mental Health Services and Delivery Systems

Signatures

Councilmember Blocker, Chair

Councilmember Beale

Councilmember Thoms

Councilmember Ushka