



## Neighborhood Council Program Review

City of Tacoma | CED

Community Vitality and Safety Committee  
September 27, 2018

ITEM #1



## OVERVIEW



- Neighborhood Council Program Review
- TMC 1.45 Requires a 5 Year Review of Program
- Request Feedback on Recommendations

## BACKGROUND



TMC 1.45 States "The Neighborhood Council Program shall be reviewed and revised if necessary by the City Council at least every five years, with a corresponding presentation to the City Council by Neighborhood Council Program Coordinator or other staff regarding the Program overall."

- Previous program review conducted in 2013.

3

## BACKGROUND



- Tacoma 2025 and Office of Equity and Human Rights established since the first review recommended program changes in 2013
- Livable Cities Year included two projects related to Civic Engagement and the Neighborhood Council Program in 2018.
- Staff conducted a program review beginning in August 2017 and concludes with tonight's feedback.

4

## ISSUES



- City staff, liaisons and community members had concerns regarding consistency among the eight Neighborhood Councils that impact program effectiveness in overall civic engagement

5

## ISSUES



- Additional concerns include:
  - Representation of existing neighborhoods within Neighborhood Council Boundaries
  - Neighborhood Council Boards not reflecting the communities they are formed to serve
  - Lack of transparency and communication related to priorities, meeting process, decision making and opportunities to participate as a board member or elected officer

6

## ISSUES



- Additional concerns include:
  - Unrealistic expectations of volunteer board members without adequate support from City
  - Concerns with Neighborhood Council boundary configurations
  - Lack of transition within Board Officer roles
  - Membership attendance
  - Lack of leadership development and succession planning

7

## PROPOSED REVISIONS



- **City Code Chapter 1.45**
  - Amends Article 1.45.010 Purpose
    - See Table
    - Aligns with City Council Goals; 2018 Citizen Survey; Equity & Empowerment Framework; Livable Cities Year Projects

8

## PROPOSED REVISIONS



- **City Code Chapter 1.45**
- Amends Article 1.45.020 Intent
  - See Table
  - Aligns with City Council Goals; Equity & Empowerment Framework; Livable Cities Year Projects; Neighborhood Council Feedback

9

## PROPOSED REVISIONS



- **City Code Chapter 1.45**
- Amends Article 1.45.050 Neighborhood Council function & responsibilities
  - See Table
  - Aligns with City Council Goals; Equity & Empowerment Framework; Livable Cities Year Projects; Department Feedback

10

## PROPOSED REVISIONS



- **City Code Chapter 1.45**
  - Amends Article 1.45.060 Community Council of Tacoma functions & responsibilities
    - Remove number of required CCOT representatives from 3 to 1
  - Aligns with request by Community Council of Tacoma Executive Board

11

## PROPOSED REVISIONS



- **City Code Chapter 1.45**
  - Amends Article 1.45.070 City Responsibilities
    - See Table
    - Aligns with City Council Goals; Equity & Empowerment Framework; General Survey, Neighborhood Group or Resident; Department Feedback; Outside Agency Liaisons

12

## PROPOSED REVISIONS



- **City Code Chapter 1.45**

- Amends Standards and Guidelines Document per TMC

1.45.030

- See Table
    - Staff will review recommendations with Community Council and Neighborhood Councils not less than 60 days prior to review with City Council for adoption by Resolution

13

## OUTREACH



- Updates provided to the Community Council of Tacoma (CCOT) on 8/24/2017, 10/16/ 2017, 1/24/2018 and 8/23/18.
- Neighborhood Councils and the CCOT provided suggestions with their Annual Reports at end of 2017.
- Online survey Feb-March 2018
- Solicited feedback from individual neighborhood groups
- 2018 Livable Cities Year projects.

14

## OUTREACH



- Interviews with key departments – Public Works, Neighborhood and Community Services, Planning and Development Services, Office of Equity and Human Rights, Media and Community Relations Office, City Manager's Office and program Liaisons from Tacoma Public Utilities, Port of Tacoma, Pierce County Health Department and Metro Parks.

15

## NEXT STEPS



- CVS Council Committee Feedback – September 2018
- City Council Consideration – Study Session & Business Meeting TBD
- Ordination Effective Date – January 1, 2019
- Standards and Guidelines Resolution – Q1 2019
- Boundary Review – 2019
- Boundary Revisions Resolution January 1, 2020

16



## RECOMMENDATIONS



- Staff recommends the Community Vitality and Safety Committee forward the following to City Council for consideration and approval
- Amendment of TMC 1.45
- Review of Neighborhood Council Boundaries in 2019 for adoption by Resolution in 2020
- Review of Standards and Guidelines Document for adoption by Resolution in Q1 2019

17



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