



# City of Tacoma

## Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

August 21, 2019

4:30 PM

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Chair Ryan Mello, Vice Chair Chris Beale, Anders Ibsen,  
Conor McCarthy, Lillian Hunter (alternate)

### Call To Order

Chair Mello called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

**Present:** 4 - Beale, Ibsen, McCarthy and Mello

### Briefing Items

1. [19-0893](#) Board of Building Appeals Interviews  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

At approximately 4:36 p.m., Doris Sorum, City Clerk, stated the Committee will be interviewing one applicant who was not available for the Board of Building Appeals interviews at the August 7, 2019 meeting, and that he would be participating telephonically. She informed the Committee there was one position open on the Board for the General Contractor position, to serve a five-year term.

The Committee interviewed Shane Beck telephonically.

**MOTION:** Council Member Beale moved to recommend the appointment of Shane Beck to the Board of Building Appeals to "Position 2-General Contractor" to serve a five-year term to expire August 31, 2024.

**SECONDED BY:** Council Member Ibsen.

**ACTION:** Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Ibsen, McCarthy and Mello

2. [19-0892](#) Planning Commission Interviews  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

At approximately 4:43 p.m., Ms. Sorum informed the Committee they will be interviewing two applicants for the Planning Commission to fill one position. She informed the Committee there is one unexpired term available for the Public Transportation position to expire June 30, 2020 with a possible extension to serve a three-year term to expire June 30, 2023.

The Committee interviewed Whitney Cox and Chris Karnes.

Discussion ensued regarding the candidates' qualifications and the needs of the Commission.

**MOTION: Council Member Ibsen moved to recommend the appointment of Chris Karnes to the "Public Transportation" position on the Planning Commission to fill an unexpired term to expire June 30, 2020, followed by a three-year term to expire June 30, 2023.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Beale.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Ibsen, McCarthy and Mello

3. [19-0894](#) Urban Forestry Management Plan  
[Mike Carey, Urban Forest Program Manager, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability]

At approximately 5:22 p.m., Mike Carey, Urban Forest Program Manager, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability, introduced Chris Peiffer, Director of Urban Forestry Consulting Services, PlanIt Geo, and John Bornsworth, Environmental Planner, Peninsula Environmental Group, and made opening remarks. Mr. Carey presented the urban forest management plan and code update, including an agenda, overview, background, and identified issues, noting environmental justice. Together, Mr. Peiffer and Mr. Bornsworth presented the purpose of the urban forest management plan; phase I, noting benchmarking research, tree regulation research, and Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) recommended changes, noting One Tacoma alignment, consolidating urban forestry title topics, landmark trees, right-of-way tree protection, and renovation; and phase 2, noting strategies, engagement, and final plan; and opportunities for review.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding building tree canopy in urban areas, criteria for tree protection, responsibility for right-of-way trees, current tree canopy cover, and future goals.

## Public Comment

This item was addressed before Topics for Upcoming Meetings and Other Items of Interest.

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Sarah Low, Tacoma Tree Foundation, speaking on urban forestry.
2. Nancy Purdue, resident, speaking on the link between trees and mental health.

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4.     [19-0895](#)     September 4, 2019- Planning Commission Annual Report and Work Program

Rebecca Boydston, Committee Liaison, stated the September 4, 2019, meeting will have the Planning Commission Annual Report and Work Program and an update on the bike and scooter share program.

## Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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Ryan Mello, Chair

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Katie Foster, City Clerk's Office