



City of Tacoma

Community Vitality and Safety

Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

October 24, 2019

4:30 PM

Chair Keith Blocker, Vice Chair Catherine Ushka,
Chris Beale, Robert Thoms, Lillian Hunter (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Blocker called the meeting to order at 4:41 p.m.

Present: 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

Council Member Thoms participated telephonically.

Approval of Minutes

1. [19-1168](#) Approval of the minutes of the September 26, 2019 meeting
2. [19-1165](#) Approval of the minutes of the October 10, 2019 meeting

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2019 and October 10, 2019 meetings.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Beale.

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

Ayes: 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

Briefing Items

3. [19-1166](#) Review of Policies Establishing Shelters for Homeless Individuals
[Erica Azcueta, Program Manager, and Allyson Griffith, Program Manager, Neighborhood & Community Services]

At approximately 4:42 p.m., Erica Azcueta, Program Manager, Neighborhood & Community Services (NCS), made opening remarks and

presented background on the Municipal Code regarding shelters for homeless individuals, staff efforts and engagement since Ordinance No. 28498 was passed, and non-profit and faith-based concerns regarding required square footage for sheltering sites. Allyson Griffith, Program Manager, NCS, outlined each proposed change, including addressing the sector limitation and square footage threshold. Steve Victor, Deputy City Attorney, concluded by reviewing next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding clarification of the proposal, the square footage threshold, and the sector limitation; concerns of sector limitations; temporary and emergency shelter criteria; inclement weather capacity; amenities that the City can help with; language of the temporary shelter ordinance; and the maximum number of shelters permitted within the City.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. [19-1167](#) November 14, 2019 - Citizen Police Advisory Committee Interviews, Chronic Nuisance Code Implementation, and Code Compliance Pilot Update

Bucoda Warren, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on November 14, 2019, and will include interviews for the Citizen Police Advisory Committee and updates on the Chronic Nuisance Code implementation, and the Code Compliance Pilot.

Other Items of Interest

Council Member Beale requested an update on the Tenant Rights Code.

Discussion ensued regarding bringing the update to the Committee.

Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Maureen Howard, 3320 South 8th Street, speaking on temporary shelters.
2. Megan Capes, Tacoma Democratic Socialists of America, speaking on temporary shelters.
3. Carl Anderson, Tacoma Tenants Organizing Committee, speaking on temporary shelters.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Keith Blocker, Chair

Mary Crabtree, City Clerk's Office