



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 848 0943 8889

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/84809438889

August 11, 2020

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:06 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

All Council Members participated virtually.

Briefing Items

1. [20-0495](#) Department of Ecology General Permit Process Update

At approximately 12:08 p.m., Anita Gallagher, Assistant to the City Manager, made opening remarks and introduced Vince McGowan, Water Quality Program Manager, and Denise Clifford, Director of Governmental Relations, Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE). Mr. McGowan presented the Puget Sound Nutrients General Permit process update, including the agenda, nutrient imbalance impacts on Puget Sound, visible indicators, the Salish Sea Model, human nitrogen sources, the Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Project, an approach to marine point sources, benefits of a general permit, how the general permit would work, accommodating regional growth, first permit term, future permit goals, purpose of the advisory committee, general permit schedule, individual National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, Tacoma's individual permits, and costs and financial assistance.

Discussion ensued regarding how other businesses and industries might be affected by the permit process, housing affordability and environmental equity issues, urban sprawl, how other cities address wastewater issues, data collection, how the model is used, engaging with other scientists in the community, third-party testing of the model, litigation, water treatment facilities in the Puget Sound that treat for nutrients, wastewater treatment versus stormwater treatment to subdue nutrients, outreach, and next steps.

The study session recessed at 1:44 p.m.

The study session reconvened at 1:51 p.m.

2. [20-0496](#) Pierce Transit Bus Rapid Transit Update

At approximately 1:51 p.m., Alexandra Mather, Government and Community Relations Officer, Pierce Transit (PT), introduced Tina Lee, Community Development Manager, and Sean Robertson, Senior Construction Project Manager, PT. Ms. Lee presented the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) update, including proposed BRT improvements, a median queue jumps overview, a median queue jump at 56th Street and at 72nd Street, pedestrian safety and intersection changes, station design, BRT branding, the conceptual construction phasing plan, COVID-19 impacts, property owner coordination, community outreach, and an update on public outreach.

Discussion ensued regarding preserving public parking, impacts on local businesses, design timeline, COVID-19 impacts, station design, pedestrian access, community outreach efforts, funding for the project, PT agreements with other agencies, roundabout studies, traffic offset onto side streets, and weather protection at the stations.

3. [20-0497](#) Systems Transformation

At approximately 2:40 p.m., City Manager Elizabeth Pauli gave an update on systems transformation, including the transformation webpage; community outreach regarding body worn cameras; new items, noting anti-racist budget development, transforming existing programs, current state of the Tacoma Police Department (TPD) systems, administrative changes in the TPD, and the legislative agenda; the systems transformation update; next steps timeline; and draft transformation timeline.

Discussion ensued regarding the latest Community Police Advisory Committee meeting.

Other Items of Interest

Mayor Woodards reminded the Council Members to keep their cameras on during meetings to maintain a visual quorum.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

4. [20-0499](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, August 6, 2020

City Manager Pauli stated there are no ceremonials on tonight's agenda and no expected changes.

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MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending litigation, not to exceed 20 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 2:53 p.m.
City Attorney Bill Fosbre and Deputy City Attorneys Jean Homan and Michelle Yotter were present.

The Executive Session concluded, and the study session reconvened at 3:13 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk