



City of Tacoma

Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 878 2905 6704 Passcode: 614650

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/87829056704

September 09, 2020

4:30 PM

Chair Conor McCarthy, Vice Chair Chris Beale, Lillian Hunter,
Kristina Walker, Catherine Ushka (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair McCarthy called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Beale, Hunter, McCarthy and Walker

All Council Members participated virtually.

Approval of Minutes

1. [20-0577](#) Approval of the minutes of the July 22, 2020 special meeting

MOTION: Council Member Beale moved to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2020, special meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.

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

Ayes: 4 - Beale, Hunter, McCarthy and Walker

Briefing Items

2. [20-0569](#) Urban Food Security through Trees and Urban Agriculture on Public Lands
[Jim Parvey, Division Manager; Mike Carey, Urban Forester, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability]

At approximately 4:33 p.m., Jim Parvey, Division Manager, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability (OEPS), introduced Pat Babbitt, Project Specialist, and Ryan Hebert, Management Analyst I, OEPS. Together,

they presented an update on urban food security through trees and urban agriculture on public lands, including an overview; policy review; issues; potential opportunities; learning from other municipalities, noting Seattle, Washington and Culver City, California; using public lands to grow food; food producing trees; the Tacoma Urban Farm pilot; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding barriers to urban agriculture, the Food is Free movement, personal gardens in the right-of-way (ROW), possible issues or barriers to gardening in the ROW, what is allowed to be planted in the ROW, providing fruit trees to homeowners, care and maintenance of the ROW, partnering with Tacoma Public Schools to create school programming, connecting food grown with those in need, the Gleaning Program, food donated this year, simplifying the permitting process, and next steps.

3. [20-0570](#) Safe Routes to School Action Plan Update
[Carrie Wilhelme, Safe Routes to School Coordinator, Public Works]

At approximately 5:28 p.m., Carrie Wilhelme, Safe Routes to School Coordinator, Public Works, presented the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Action Plan update, including purpose; background; engineering, noting accomplishments, both underway and completed, and other projects that support SRTS; education, noting accomplishments and University of Washington Tacoma walk audits; encouragement and enforcement accomplishments; funding; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding sending reminders to families on walking to schools, funding public safety programs, funding sources for the school guard crossing program and how other school districts fund similar programs, and changing behavior around speeding using mechanisms such as speeding cameras.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. [20-0571](#) September 23, 2020 - Environmental Action Plan Progress Report; Building/Development Code and Community Engagement Enhancement

Lynda Foster, Committee Liaison, stated that the September 23, 2020, meeting will include an Environmental Action Plan progress report and an update on the Building and Development Code and community engagement enhancement.

Discussion ensued regarding future topics and topics put on hold.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.



Conor McCarthy, Chair



Katie Foster, City Clerk's Office