



City of Tacoma

Community Vitality and Safety

Committee Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 823 7010 6303

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/82370106303 Passcode: 614650

April 22, 2021

4:30 PM

Chair Catherine Ushka, Vice Chair Keith Blocker,
Chris Beale, John Hines, Lillian Hunter (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Ushka called the meeting to order at 4:42 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Blocker, Hines and Ushka

Absent: 1 - Beale

All Council Members participated virtually.

Briefing Items

1. [21-0373](#) Strategic Alliance to Strengthen Family Violence Prevention Services Update
[Linda Stewart, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services;
Heather Moss, Director of Human Services, Pierce County]

At approximately 4:43 p.m., Linda Stewart, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS), introduced Heather Moss, Director of Human Services, and Paulina Kura, Special Advisor to the Director of Human Services, Pierce County; and Vicky McLaurin, Community Services Manager, NCS; and provided opening remarks. Ms. Moss presented the strategic alliance to end family violence update, including an introduction to the City of Tacoma and Pierce County partnership and commitment, intended outcomes of the partnership, and steps taken to accomplish goals. Ms. Stewart outlined the data and reports collected to assess efficiency and effective use of limited resources; survey information; recommendations, noting providers and funding agencies; and City of Tacoma domestic violence (DV) services and funding.

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for the collaboration and work accomplished, policies to ensure the work is continued over time, making DV prevention a City Council priority, the name change from DV to family

violence, the importance of focusing on DV, ensuring resources and staffing are adequate for DV work, building digital infrastructure, measuring when DV work is completed, DV rates, receiving an annual update on trends, and funding for DV services.

2. [21-0374](#) Body Worn Camera Update and Future Project Prioritization
[Matt Janzow, Continuous Improvement Analyst, Human Resources; Fred Scruggs, Assistant Chief, and Christopher Travis, Captain, Tacoma Police Department]

At approximately 5:10 p.m., Matt Janzow, Continuous Improvement Analyst, Human Resources, introduced Christopher Travis, Captain, and Fred Scruggs, Assistant Chief, Tacoma Police Department, and presented the body worn camera (BWC) update, including an overview; background; current state of the project; and expansion considerations, noting three potential options. Captain Travis outlined the option to expand BWC to non-patrol commissioned officers, noting benefits, additional support, and costs; the option to expand BWC to dash cameras; and camera footage examples. Mr. Janzow concluded by summarizing the expansion considerations and staff recommendations.

Discussion ensued regarding the expansion options, the current policy related to when the cameras are turned on and off, the benefits of non-patrol commissioned officers having BWC, the assignment of BWC to officers, the impact of BWC on digital records requests, how many dash cameras would be needed, the challenges of taking cameras home and downloading BWC footage, gaps due to the expeditious implementation of the BWC program, timeline and costs of expansion, and lessons learned since the implementation of BWC.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

3. [21-0375](#) May 13, 2021 - Interviews for the Human Services Commission;
Youth Violence Prevention Request for Proposal Update
May 27, 2021 - Update on Community Trauma Response Team; Graffiti Update

Chair Ushka stated the next meeting will be on May 13, 2021, and will include interviews for the Human Services Commission and an update on the youth violence prevention request for proposal; and the May 27, 2021, meeting will include an update on the Community Trauma Response Team. Ms. Stewart stated the update regarding the youth violence prevention request for proposal has been removed from the upcoming agenda.

Other Items of Interest

Chair Ushka expressed interest in discussing community concerns related to the Beacon Activity Center and challenges of the ongoing contract.

Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Luke Byram, speaking on the body worn camera update.
2. Julian Wheeler, speaking on the Pierce County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Catherine Ushka, Chair

Mary Crabtree, City Clerk's Office