



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Council Chambers

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 894 9617 1192

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/89496171192 Passcode: 896569

January 31, 2023

12:00 PM

JOINT MEETING WITH THE TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the joint study session to order at 12:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker
and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Diaz

Tacoma Public Library Board of Trustees:

Present: 4 - Cobb, Hosley, LaFrance, and Santiago

Absent: 1 - Irish

Council Member Diaz arrived at 12:16 p.m.

Council Member Diaz and Tacoma Public Library (TPL) Board
Vice President Cobb and Trustee LaFrance participated virtually.

Joint City Council / Tacoma Public Library Briefing Item

1. [23-0094](#) Tacoma Public Library 2022 Annual Report

At approximately 12:01 p.m., Kate Larsen, Director, TPL, presented the TPL 2022 annual report, including their mission. She continued by outlining TPL's strategic priorities and related efforts, including equity and access; learning, creativity, and innovation; investment in youth; and cultivating and engaging the community.

Council Member Diaz arrived here, at 12:16 p.m.

Larsen concluded by outlining the strategic priorities and related efforts related to being responsible and resilient; and expressed appreciation for the TPL Foundation Board of Directors and the TPL Board of Trustees.

Discussion ensued regarding programs and resources, noting Tacoma Reads, archiving local stories, and continuing education; appreciation for staff and the TPL Board; goals; grant funding; options to expand library hours of operation; partnerships; equity; and the importance of library branches to the community.

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The joint study session concluded at 12:39 p.m.

The regular study session convened at 12:39 p.m.

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City Council Briefing Items

There were no briefing items.

Other Items of Interest

2. [23-0102](#) State v. Blake Presentation Follow-up Discussion

Mayor Woodards made opening remarks regarding the Washington State Supreme Court's State v. Blake decision, noting past City Council discussion at the January 24, 2023, study session, and options to arrange for future discussions as needed; and that she has met with Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney Mary Robnett on this topic. Sonja Hallum, Chief Government Relations Officer, City Manager's Office, provided responses to questions from last week's discussion of the State v. Blake decision, including available treatment programs and processes, funding resources for indigent services, City funding levels, possible impacts of the proposed legislation, and confirmation that the American Civil Liberties Union is not in support of any of the proposed legislation.

Discussion ensued regarding treatment programs, funding resources, diversion decisions, how the City and Pierce County courts handle different charges, system capacity, and options to coordinate with Pierce County.

Hallum presented an overview of Resolution No. 41134, related to amending the City's 2023 State Legislative Agenda, which is on tonight's meeting agenda, noting that it includes the City Council's position on controlled substance laws, including misdemeanor charges, removing charges from the record, and treatment facilities; immigration-related bills; and support for the Pierce County Council's legislative agenda items related to funding requests for permanent supportive housing and the Pierce County Ferry.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.


Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [23-0095](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, January 26, 2023

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated that there are no ceremonials and one change expected on tonight's meeting agenda, including that a motion may be made to continue Resolution No. 41130, relating to the sale of Tacoma Rail Mountain Division right-of-way and operations situated outside of the City limits, to a date to be determined.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.



Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor



for
Doris Sorum, City Clerk