



# City of Tacoma

## City Council Study Session Minutes

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

Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/89496171192](https://www.zoom.us/j/89496171192) Passcode: 896569

**October 20, 2020**

**12:00 PM**

---

### Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:03 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. [20-0725](#) Affordable Housing and Health

At approximately 12:06 p.m., Katie Johnston, Budget Officer, Finance, provided opening remarks and presented the 2021-2022 proposed budget, including the proposed budget development process, car tab revenues, community engagement approach, and the budget calendar.

Jacques Colon, Tacoma 2025 Strategic Manager, Media and Communications Office, reviewed the priority area overview and the Affordable Housing Action Strategy.

Reid Bennion, Lead Budget Analyst, Finance, reviewed the outreach summary.

Ms. Johnston reviewed the 2021-2022 financial summary, including the City's role in affordable housing; affordable housing program expenses and funding for 2021-2022; Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act funding; and 2021-2022 budget adjustments for affordable housing.

Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development, outlined the City's role and 2021-2022 actions related to affordable housing, including housing development support, housing rehabilitation, and homeownership support.

Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services, reviewed neighborhood planning and long range planning, and permit services.

Linda Stewart, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services, presented on helping people and reducing barriers relating to homelessness and housing stability.

Diane Powers, Director, Office of Equity and Human Rights, reviewed tenant services and fair housing.

Francine Artis, Assistant Manager, Customer Services, presented on helping households with housing crises through utility assistance.

Discussion ensued regarding the budget timeline, efficiencies and continuous improvement, tenant-based outreach, the Homeless Outreach Team, funding sources for the Housing Trust Fund, providing health and sanitation for homeless populations, new construction versus rehabilitation, the cost of administering assistance programs, demographics of those receiving assistance, rental market and prices versus the housing market, barriers to purchasing fallow homes for rehabilitation, the Rental Assistance Program funds versus the Housing Trust Fund, disparity studies, and increasing Black homeownership in the City.

Mr. Colon outlined the City Council health priority area overview.

Mr. Bennion reviewed the outreach summary.

Ms. Johnston reviewed the 2021-2022 financial summary, including the City's role in health outcomes; health program expenses and funding for 2021-2022; the mental health and substance use disorder sales tax; and 2021-2022 budget reductions, mitigations, and enhancements.

Mike Slevin, Director, Environmental Services, presented on basic human health and sanitation needs, and environmental and community health.

Ms. Stewart outlined community health programs, and community violence prevention and reduction.

Tory Green, Chief, Tacoma Fire Department, presented on community health and emergency health response.

Discussion continued regarding food security, communication between food programs, food programs at farmer's markets, health and sanitation, sanitation programs for homeless individuals, the Green Building Specialist position, youth and adult violence prevention programs and fund allocation, mental

health program funding, the Homeless Outreach Team and homeless encampments, the Opioid Response Program, and gang violence and gun violence in the City.

2. [20-0726](#) Systems Transformation

At approximately 3:09 p.m., City Manager Elizabeth Pauli presented the systems transformation update, including new items, community feedback to 21CP Solutions, the systems transformation update table, next steps timeline, and the draft transformation timeline.

## Other Items of Interest

Council Member Thoms stated that he drafted two potential amendments regarding the Residential Infill Pilot Program to address community concerns.

Discussion ensued regarding the purpose of the amendments.

Mayor Woodards stated she will be bringing forward a motion to send the Tideflats Interim Regulations back to the Planning Commission to create recommendations for adopting permanent regulations.

## Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given.

## Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [20-0727](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, October 15, 2020

City Manager Pauli stated there are two ceremonials on tonight's agenda, proclaiming October 2020 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month, and proclaiming October 2020 as Safe Infant Sleep Awareness Month. She further stated there are no expected changes to the agenda.

## Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

A handwritten signature in grey ink, reading "V. Woodards", written over a horizontal line.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Doris Sorum", written over a horizontal line.

Doris Sorum, City Clerk