



# City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

1660 L Street Northwest, Suite 501

Washington D.C. 20036

**March 09, 2020**

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## SPECIAL MEETING

The City Council conducted a special meeting beginning at 2:00 p.m., Monday, March 9, 2020, at various locations in and around Simon and Company, Incorporated, Intergovernmental Relations and Federal Affairs, 1660 L Street Northwest, Suite 501, Washington, D.C. 20036. This meeting recessed from time to time based on revisions to the itinerary.

**Present:** 5 - Beale, Hines, Thoms, Ushka and Walker

**Absent:** 4 - Blocker, Hunter, McCarthy and Mayor Woodards

## REGULAR AGENDA

Meeting with various federal legislators or their staff to discuss the City of Tacoma's Federal Legislative Priorities as adopted by Resolution No. 40506, and other matters pertaining to the City of Tacoma.

### Monday, March 9, 2020

2:00 p.m.

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel

The meeting scheduled with the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness was cancelled.

5:00 p.m.

Senator Maria Cantwell

511 Hart Senate Office Building

Present: Beale, Hines, Thoms, Ushka, and Walker

The City Council discussed the City's 2020 Federal Agenda, concerns, and current events, including COVID-19, immigration, housing and homelessness, and transportation and infrastructure.

Discussion ensued regarding regular briefings on COVID-19, necessary reimbursement funds to cover costs of school responses to COVID-19, the Public Charge rule discouraging immigrant communities from seeking healthcare, COVID-19 testing, private prisons being an unacceptable means for detention, using Byrne Jag grants to reimburse expenses incurred by Tacoma Police in responding to incidents at the Northwest ICE Processing Center, a letter of support from the Senator for application and/or for a request in the appropriations process, expanding the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit formula and amplifying the variety of qualifying uses to increase housing, the challenge of attracting developers to Pierce County, fewer partners in Pierce County to work with, if Click! could be used as an asset to attract developers, the cost of bridge repair and maintenance in Tacoma, the limitations on grant opportunities and the required match being out of the City's capacity, and Vision Zero.

5:30 p.m.

Association of Washington Cities Briefing and Reception  
Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel

The City Council did not attend this event.

6:00 p.m.

Federal Briefing Dinner  
Lebanese Taverna  
2641 Connecticut Avenue Northwest

Present: Beale, Hines, Thoms, Ushka, and Walker

The City Council attended the Federal Briefing Dinner.

## **Tuesday, March 10, 2020**

10:00 a.m.

U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
810 7th Street Northwest

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, meeting did not have a quorum of the City Council.

11:15 a.m.

Representative Derek Kilmer  
1410 Longworth House Office Building

The meeting with Representative Derek Kilmer did not have a quorum of the City Council.

1:00 p.m.

Representative Adam Smith  
2264 Rayburn House Office Building

Present: Beale, Hines, Thoms, Ushka, and Walker

The City Council discussed the City's 2020 Federal Agenda, concerns, and current events, including transportation and infrastructure, environment, COVID-19, immigration, gun violence and opioids, and affordable housing and homelessness.

Discussion ensued regarding the cost of bridge repair and maintenance in Tacoma, the limitations on grant opportunities and the required match being out of the City's capacity, Vision Zero, the advancement of the Bus Rapid Transit, Tacoma's greenhouse gas emissions and the necessity of transit, the House passage of the PUGET SOS Act, the Point Defiance stormwater facility, regular briefings on COVID-19, necessary reimbursement funds to cover costs of school responses to COVID-19, the Public Charge rule discouraging immigrant communities from seeking healthcare, COVID-19 testing, private prisons being an unacceptable means for detention, the POD Act, gun violence and opioids being priority concerns of the City, the City pursuing its Affordable Housing Action Strategy to build and maintain 10,500 units in the City, and addressing the needs of the unhoused.

1:50 p.m.

Representative Denny Heck  
2452 Rayburn House Office Building

Present: Beale, Hines, Thoms, Ushka, and Walker

The City Council discussed the City's 2020 Federal Agenda, concerns, and current events, including COVID-19, immigration, affordable housing and homelessness, environment, transportation and infrastructure, and gun violence and opioids.

Discussion ensued regarding regular briefings on COVID-19, necessary reimbursement funds to cover costs of school responses to COVID-19, the Public Charge rule discouraging immigrant communities from seeking healthcare, private prisons being an unacceptable means for detention, the State Legislature likely passing legislation declaring private prisons as not being an essential public facility, the POD Act, the City pursuing its Affordable Housing Action Strategy to build and maintain 10,500 units in the City, the House passing the YIMBY Act, H.R. 5599 Fulfilling the Promise of the Housing Trust Fund Act, the House passage of PUGET SOS Act, Tacoma's

climate emergency resolution and upholding the goals of the Paris Accord, the cost of bridge repair and maintenance in Tacoma, the limitations on grant opportunities, the Bus Rapid Transit project, a letter of support from Representative Heck, gun violence and opioids being priority concerns of the City, and the Ammunition and Firearms Tax.

2:30 p.m.

Senator Patty Murray and Senator Maria Cantwell  
430 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Senators Murray and Cantwell conducted a questions and answers discussion with all officials from Washington State who were in attendance at the National League of Cities Conference. The Association of Washington Cities arranged and facilitated the meeting.

3:30 p.m.

Senator Patty Murray  
154 Russell Senate Office Building

Present: Beale, Hines, Thoms, Ushka, and Walker

The City Council discussed the City's 2020 Federal Agenda, concerns, and current events, including COVID-19, immigration, transportation and infrastructure, environment, affordable housing and homelessness, and gun violence and opioids.

Discussion ensued regarding regular briefings on COVID-19, necessary reimbursement funds to cover costs of school responses to COVID-19, the Public Charge rule discouraging immigrant communities from seeking healthcare, private prisons being an unacceptable means for detention, the State Legislature likely passing legislation declaring private prisons as not being an essential public facility, the POD Act, the cost of bridge repair and maintenance in Tacoma, the limitations on grant opportunities, Vision Zero, the Bus Rapid Transit project, federal funding, the passage of I-976, Tacoma's greenhouse gas emissions, Tacoma's climate emergency resolution and upholding the goals of the Paris Accord, the House passage of the PUGET SOS Act, authorization language in an appropriations bill, the City pursuing its Affordable Housing Action Strategy to build and maintain 10,500 units in the City, the City's local housing trust fund, an effective operating fund, H.R. 5599 Fulfilling the Promise of the Housing Trust Fund Act, gun violence and opioids being priority concerns of the City, and the Ammunition and Firearms Tax.

There being no further business, the special meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.



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Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor



Doris Sorum, City Clerk