



# City of Tacoma Community Vitality and Safety Committee Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 859 6160 4917

Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/85961604917](https://www.zoom.us/j/85961604917) Passcode: 614650

**January 13, 2022**

**4:30 PM**

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Chair Catherine Ushka, Vice Chair Keith Blocker, Kiara Daniels,  
Sarah Rumbaugh, John Hines (alternate)

## Call To Order

Chair Ushka called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

## Roll Call

**Present:** 3 - Blocker, Daniels and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Rumbaugh

All Council Members participated virtually.

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Council Member Rumbaugh arrived here, at 4:34 p.m.

## Approval of Minutes

1. [22-0039](#) Minutes for the meeting of August 12, 2021
2. [22-0040](#) Minutes for the meeting of August 26, 2021
3. [22-0041](#) Minutes for the meeting of September 23, 2021

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Blocker moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, and 26, 2021; and September 23, 2021, meetings.

**SECONDED BY:** Council Member Daniels.

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Blocker, Daniels, Rumbaugh and Ushka

## Briefing Items

4. [22-0042](#) Election of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair

**MOTION: Vice Chair Blocker moved to re-elect Council Member Ushka as Chair of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee for the year 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Daniels.**

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Blocker, Daniels, Rumbaugh and Ushka

**MOTION: Council Member Rumbaugh moved to re-elect Council Member Blocker as Vice Chair of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee for the year 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Daniels.**

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Blocker, Daniels, Rumbaugh and Ushka

5. [22-0043](#) Camping Ordinance Update  
[Linda Stewart, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services]

At approximately 4:38 p.m., Linda Stewart, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services, presented an update on consideration of a proposed camping ban ordinance, including an overview of presentations at prior Community Vitality and Safety (CVS) Committee meetings; a timeline for updates based on Chair Ushka's December 14, 2021, letter to the full City Council, noting how other jurisdictions are handling this issue, implementing the divertible calls program, reliability of existing real-time shelter data, tracking of individuals who repeatedly refuse shelter, community volunteer options, meetings with stakeholders, public input, the draft Geographic Information Systems (GIS) map of schools, parks, and authorized camping areas related to a potential geography-based camping ban, and geography-based camping bans in other jurisdictions; and an explanation of the draft GIS map, including the map legend.

Discussion ensued regarding the purpose and complexity of the draft GIS map, appreciation for the work of City staff, whether to continue down the path of a geography-based camping ban, the levels of service available at each shelter site, shelter capacity at locations in each district, and unsanctioned camps.

6. [22-0044](#)

Committees, Boards, and Commissions of CVS

[Ted Richardson, Senior Management Fellow, City Manager's Office]

At approximately 5:00 p.m., Ted Richardson, Senior Management Fellow, City Manager's Office, presented on the committees, boards, and commissions (CBCs) that CVS oversees, including an overview of a CBC discussion held at the September 23, 2021, CVS Committee meeting; and the purpose of each CBC, noting the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, the Community's Police Advisory Committee, the Human Rights Commission, the Human Services Commission, the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities, and the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority.

Discussion ensued regarding communication with the CBCs, whether Council Members are interested in attending CBC meetings, the frequency of Council Member attendance at CBC meetings, how assignments would be made, and the format of CBC reports appearing at CVS Committee meetings.

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

7. [22-0045](#)

January 27, 2022 - Comfort Inn

February 10, 2022 - To Be Determined

February 24, 2022 - Interviews for the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority

Mr. Richardson stated the next meeting will be on January 27, 2022, and will include a discussion on the Comfort Inn shelter; and that topics for the February 10, 2022, meeting have yet to be determined. Mr. Richardson concluded by stating the February 24, 2022, meeting will include interviews for the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority.

Chair Ushka stated further presentations related to the proposed camping ordinance will be heard at upcoming meetings as needed.

## Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

## Public Comment

8. [22-0065](#) Public Comment

The City Clerk's Office received one written comment for this meeting.

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Cathy Pick, speaking on the proposed camping ordinance.
2. Virginia Vasher, speaking on the proposed camping ordinance.
3. Oneida Arnold, speaking on the proposed camping ordinance.

Discussion ensued regarding City funding of shelter sites in the City, capacity of shelter sites, increased staffing, diversifying shelter inventory options, and how Council Members can support staff on this topic.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.



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Catherine Ushka, Chair



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Jered Lobban, City Clerk's Office