



# City of Tacoma

## City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

October 22, 2019

12:00 PM

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### JOINT MEETING WITH THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD

#### Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the joint study session to order at 12:09 p.m.

**Present:** 6 - Beale, Ibsen, Mello, Thoms, Ushka and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 3 - Blocker, Hunter and McCarthy

Public Utility Board Members:

**Present:** 4 - Cooley, Larkin, Patterson, and Watson

**Absent:** 1 - Flint

Deputy Mayor McCarthy arrived at 1:22 p.m.

Mayor Woodards provided opening remarks. Public Utility Board (PUB)  
Chair Larkin introduced the PUB Members.

#### Joint Executive Session - Pending Litigation

**MOTION:** Council Member Ibsen moved to convene to Joint Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending litigation, not to exceed 30 minutes.

**SECONDED BY:** Council Member Mello.

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

**Ayes:** 6 - Beale, Ibsen, Mello, Thoms, Ushka and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 3 - Blocker, Hunter and McCarthy

Public Utility Board Members:

**Ayes:** 4 - Cooley, Larkin, Patterson, and Watson

**Absent:** 1 - Flint

The Council and PUB convened to Joint Executive Session at 12:12 p.m. City Attorney Bill Fosbre; Chief Deputy City Attorneys Chris Bacha and Tom Morrill; and Deputy City Attorney Martha Lantz; City Attorney's Office; and Gail Karish, Best Best & Krieger LLP, were present.

The Joint Executive Session concluded at 12:42 p.m., and the joint study session reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

## Briefing Items

### 1. [19-1139](#) Click! Updates

At approximately 12:45 p.m., Joanne Hovis, President, CTC Technology and Energy, presented the Click! update and analysis, including Click! history and analysis; policy goals; the 2017 to mid-2018 evaluative process; the 2018 request for information and qualifications to test a collaboration model; non-responsive proposals opportunity to revise; actions between August 2018 and the present, noting the stakeholder engagement process, key policy goals, and negotiations; and policy goals incorporated into agreements and exhibits, noting public ownership of assets, equitable access, low-income and affordable access, net neutrality, open access, preserving competition, safeguarding municipal use of services, maintaining financial stability, economical development and educational opportunities, job options for Click! staff, consumer privacy, and Click! goodwill and customer service.

Discussion ensued regarding plans for Click!, responsibility for technical equipment, and the Click! brand.

Deputy Mayor McCarthy arrived here, at 1:22 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding the future of cable television products, use of taxpayer money, the prices and speeds of competitor's products, Click! coverage, customer service goals, job options for Click! staff, and free access to community anchors.

At approximately 1:45 p.m., Jackie Flowers, Director, Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU), presented the Click! surplus, including backbone fiber makeup, network layout, and network ownership and operators.

Mr. Bacha presented the surplus declaration, surplus assets, proposed disposal, excess capacity, the reason for surplus, meaning of surplus, the effect of surplus declaration, operation in transition, and when disposal will occur.

Discussion ensued regarding policy goals and contract terms.

2. [19-1140](#) Cushman and Adams Substations Future Use Study and North 21st Street Tree Updates

At approximately 2:13 p.m., Clark Mather, Government Relations Officer, TPU, introduced Elliot Barnett, Senior Planner, Planning and Development Services, and Terry Coggins, Facilities Manager, TPU. Together, Mr. Barnett and Mr. Coggins presented the Cushman and Adams Substations Future Use Study and North 21st Street tree updates, including the street tree planting plan for North 21st Street, the Cushman/Adams study area, City Council and Board direction, policy framework, the future use study, the team, engagement approach, going from ideas to scenarios, timeline and milestones, and City Council and Board guidance.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding urban tree canopy maintenance past the first three years, understory planting, and alternatives to substations.

3. [19-1141](#) Classification and Compensation Study Update and Review of Draft Compensation Philosophy

At approximately 2:50 p.m., Gary Buchanan, Director, Human Resources, made opening remarks on the class and compensation study, and introduced Kari Louie, Senior Manager, and Jen Peters, Manager, Compensation and Benefits. Together, they presented the background, actions to date, what is happening now, the project timeline, the compensation philosophy review, overview of recommended philosophy, key changes from existing philosophy, and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding history of pay inequity.

4. [19-1142](#) LEAP/SBE Workforce Development and Equity Contracting Recommendations

The joint study session recessed at 3:05 p.m.

The joint study session reconvened at 3:07 p.m.

At approximately 3:07 p.m., Clifford Armstrong, Program Manager, Community and Economic Development, and Steve Victor, Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office, presented equity in contracting, including the agenda, desired outcomes, objectives, recommendations, outreach, code revisions, the advisory committee, and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding how the cumulative annual goals are created,

race- and gender-based programs, using race and gender specific criteria, and public outreach.

## Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

## Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports given.

## Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

5. 19-1143 Weekly Report to the City Council, October 17, 2019

City Attorney Bill Fosbre stated there is one proclamation on tonight's agenda, proclaiming Saturday, October 26, 2019 as Litter Pick Up Day. He further stated there is one expected change to tonight's agenda, a motion to remove Resolution No. 40452 from the agenda.

## Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.



Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor



Doris Sorum, City Clerk