



# City Council Strategic Plan Workshop Minutes

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University of Washington-Tacoma, Garretson, Woodruff, Pratt Building, Room 320,  
1900 Commerce Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402

March 20, 2004

Mayor Baarsma called the Strategic Plan Workshop to order at 8:34 a.m.

Council Members Present: 8 ~ Anderson, Evans, Ladenburg, Lonergan, Phelps, Stenger, Talbert, and Mayor Baarsma.

Council Members Absent: 1 ~ Manthou.

City Manager Jim Walton reviewed the Council's progress to date and stated that Council would be refining the initiatives, outcomes and measures for the strategic priorities that they had identified in earlier workshops.

Ms. Nancy Tam Davis, the Manager of Organizations Development and Training for Pierce County and facilitator for the workshop, asked Council Members to provide their vision of the role of the City Council with respect to giving direction to staff and reviewed the conclusions formed at the last workshop.

Ms. Davis then asked Council for feedback on the issues and opportunities created by staff for the strategic priority of a Balanced, Vibrant Economy.

Discussion followed on the opportunity to create a learning environment, the definition of a self-reliant regional economy, and marketing the assets of the City to encourage more people to choose Tacoma as a place to live.

Ms. Davis then asked Council for opinions on the issues and opportunities created by staff for the strategic priority of a Safe, Healthy, Livable Community.

Discussion ensued regarding adding an environmental issues statement.

The next strategic priority discussed was a Results-Oriented Government.

Discussion followed regarding the relationships between the issue and the opportunity statements, the impact of changes in federal funding on services currently being provided, and workforce issues.

Council took a brief recess at 9:55 a.m.

When the Workshop reconvened, Ms. Davis asked Ms. Diane Supler, Manager of the Office of Management, Budget and Analysis, to present the initiatives and outcomes generated by staff for the years 2005-2006.

81

Ms. Supler reviewed the initiatives, outcomes and measures developed for the Balanced, Vibrant Economy priority.

Discussion followed regarding taxes and assessed valuation, retaining businesses, and measuring the growth of retail businesses outside of the Tacoma Mall or downtown.

Following a short break, Ms. Supler and Ms. Sherri Crawford, Assistant Director of the Office of Management, Budget and Analysis, presented the eight initiatives and related outcomes and measures developed for the Safe, Healthy, Livable Community priority.

General discussion followed regarding reducing traffic accident rates, the benefits of reducing the chronic street population, establishing a sobering center, moving the funding for services issue to the government performance area, increasing the number of affordable housing units, seeking alternative and additional funding sources for infrastructure needs, reducing response times for fire and emergency medical services calls, federal funding for homeland security, and the City of Tacoma practicing good environmental policies.

After a lunch break, Mayor Baarsma reconvened the Workshop at 12:40 p.m.

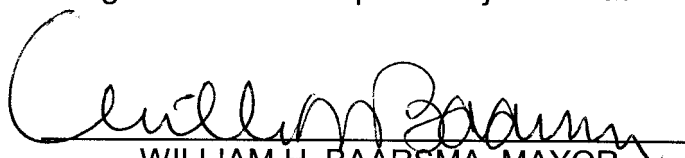
Ms. Davis reviewed the initiatives, outcomes and measures developed for the Results-Oriented Government priority.

The presentation was followed by general discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of expanding utility service areas, funding levels for programs identified in the Strategic Plan, enhancing diversity in City employment, exploring non-tax funding sources, promoting more citizen participation in all areas of City government, and utilizing technology to facilitate access to municipal processes.

Following general agreement from the Council regarding the information presented to date, Ms. Davis stated that the next step would be to prepare a draft Strategic Plan.

City Manager Jim Walton stated that the first draft of the Strategic Plan would be presented at the April 6, 2004, meeting of the Committee of the Whole and that each department would begin working on a business plan to achieve the desired outcomes.

There being no further business, the Strategic Plan Workshop was adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

  
WILLIAM H. BAARSMA, MAYOR

ATTEST:   
DORIS SORUM, CITY CLERK

82