



City of Tacoma

Human Services Commission

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Virtual and In-Person Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chair Naomi Wilson, Vice Chair Marvin Cooks, Secretary Andee Walton, Commissioner Kristi Coyne Commissioner Kimberly Ellefson, and Commissioner Carlos Lugo

Members Absent: Commissioner Laura Badeaux, Commissioner Noemi Cagatin-Porter, Commissioner Connie Ladenburg, and Commissioner Nikki Singh

Staff Present: Vicky McLaurin, Interim Assistant Director (NCS)

1. Call to Order/Opening Remarks at 6:19

- Meeting chaired by Chair Wilson.
- Roll call.

2. Approval of the November agenda at 6:20

- Amend order of agenda items 5 and 6.
- Motioned by Commissioner Coyne to approve, seconded by Secretary Walton. Approved unanimously.

3. Review/Approval of October minutes at 6:22

- Motioned by Commissioner Coyne to approve minutes and Commissioner Ellefson seconded. Approved unanimously.

4. Public Comment at 6:23

- No written public comments received.

5. Inclement Weather Update at 6:24

- Presented by Caleb Carbone, Homeless Strategy, Systems and Services Manager.
- Introduction to City's response to inclement weather (not comprehensive).
 - i. City works with stakeholders, such as people with lived experience, and community resources.
 - ii. City is using investment dollars to increase shelter capacity (at least 170 additional beds this year!)
 - iii. Cold weather = 35 degrees, with wind, rain, or colder.
- Chair Wilson asks about storage capacity and for funding review to include consideration of additional environmental factors to be considered as inclement weather.
- Commissioner Ellefson asks about outreach practices to make citizens aware of shelter availability.

6. Youth and Young Adult Violence Reduction/Youth Development at 6:42

- Presented by Erin Watlington, Community Resource Analyst Senior.
- Overview of where the City sees the program going into 2024.
 - i. Comprehensive gang model renamed to destigmatize affected youth.
 - ii. Target population: youth and young adults 12-30 years old that are at high risk for crime and human trafficking, and Tacoma residents.



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- iii. Emphasis on youth in Hilltop, East Tacoma, and west of the Tacoma Mall.
- iv. Funding history and where funding has been going since 2022.

- Vicky McLaurin clarifies that the portion of grant money allotted is \$179,000.
- Chair Wilson asks about outreach to organizations to encourage them to apply for funding; asks for outcomes are desired from funding youth and young adult violence-reduction services; asks for feedback for HSC members as reviewers of these applications; asks for limitations of outreach within population.
- Secretary Walton asks about integrative efforts with the Criminal Justice system to reduce youth and young adult violence.

7. Review and Excuse Absences at 7:20

- Commissioner Ladenburg and Commissioner Badeaux.
- Commissioners Coyne motions to excuse both. Secretary Walton seconds. All in favor.

8. Good of the Order at 7:21

- Chair Wilson requests informal poll to assure quorum for December meeting.
- Vicky McLaurin to meet with Chair Wilson to discuss Commissioners with more than three unexcused absences.

9. Closing Comments at 7:28

- HSC Youth seat to be appointed rather than interviewed. More information to follow.
- Chair Wilson adjourns the meeting at 7:28