



**City of Tacoma
Sustainable Tacoma Commission
Meeting Minutes**

Date: January 19, 2023

Commission Members Present:

Evlondo Cooper, Kendra Stauffer, Lexi Brewer (Co-Chair), Tony Ivey, Matthew Benedict, Laura Svancarek, Casey McManus

Commission Members Excused:

Margaret Schwertner
Adam Reichenberger

Commission Members Absent:

Nikie Walters

Others Present:

City of Tacoma Commission Support Staff: Kristi Lynett (Commission staff liaison), Lucy Klug (Sustainability Americorps), Latasha Wortham (Commission staff liaison),

Other Presenters:

Preston Peck, Phet Sinthavong, (Solid Waste Mgmt)

Members of the Public: present

Call to Order & Roll Call

This meeting was called to order by Commission Co-Chairperson Evlondo Cooper at 5:04pm, including an acknowledgement of the traditional indigenous lands this Commission conducts its business on. The Chair welcomed Commissioners, staff, and members of the public. Then, Evlondo administered a roll call discussion, where Commissioners acknowledged their attendance.

Unanimous Approval of January 19, 2023 Meeting Agenda

Unanimous Approval of December 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Public Comment

No public comments were delivered verbally during this agenda item or in writing prior to the meeting.

Staff Updates – Kristi Lynett, Office of Environmental Policy & Sustainability (OEPS), City of Tacoma
Commission staff liaison Kristi Lynett gave updates on:

- The super King high tide on December 27th with localized minor flooding around the Center for Urban Waters.
- She will be conducting final interviews for the Senior Sustainability Analyst position in the coming week.
- Urban Forestry staff will be presenting to Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee on right-of-way tree code update questions.
- Starting in mid-February, we will be conducting outreach for STC applications from the community. We'll need your help getting the word out and encouraging friends, colleagues, and neighbors. New members will be on board in May.
- Sustainability Small Grants – Due to internal challenges with contracting and payment, we have postponed another round of small grants until the spring. We intend to conduct two rounds in 2023, and hope to have the process streamlined by then. Unfortunately, we don't anticipate grants being open until April.

Latasha Wortham, TPU, shared that she has been working with the City of Lakewood and they are impressed and learning from Tacoma's work.

Commission and Subcommittee Updates and Announcements

No updates provided

Commission Business Items

Co-Chair Nominations– Casey nominated Tony, but he declined due to work load and capacity. Matthew nominated Evlondo and Margaret. Tony nominated Matthew.

STC Rules of Procedure Review – Kristi led a review of the current Rules of Procedures. No updates were suggested.

Solid Waste Management Update Presentation – Preston Peck kicked off the presentation with an overview of where the City's recycling currently goes (to the best of our knowledge), and shared challenges in pricing, demand, and tracking. He then reviewed recent and proposed WA state Extended Producer Responsibility legislation. Phet Sinthavong then followed up with an overview of the planned Tacoma Recovery and Transfer Center and closed landfill Master Plan goals and process.

Commission follow up and questions included: follow up information on the WRAP legislation, follow up conversation on a possible joint pact for better recycling from all the jurisdictions sending their materials to JMK, possible STC ad hoc committee later this year to be more involved in the Site Master Plan, possible future presentation on Tacoma's plans for implementation of the WA 2021 Organics Law, and interest in learning more about interagency coordination and support (i.e. Metro Parks facilities)

Public Comment

No additional public comment was delivered during this agenda item.

Objectives for or before the Next Meeting

- Extended Roll-Call
- Co-Chair Election
- Solar legislation and programming update– Tacoma Power

- Low Income Rental Energy Program – Tacoma Power

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Commission unanimous approved an adjourned at 6:58pm.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be held hybrid on Thursday, February 16 2023, at 5:00pm, on zoom and at Tacoma Municipal Building, room 248

Lexi Brewer and Evlondo Cooper, Co-Chairs

Kristin Lynett, Staff / Note Taker

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