**Minutes**

**Joint Municipal Action Committee**

Friday, June 10, 2022

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Remote meeting via Zoom

**CALL TO ORDER**

JMAC Chair Elizabeth Bonbright called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

**ROLL CALL - JMAC COMMITTEE**

Elizabeth Bonbright, Chair, Tacoma Public Schools  
Kristina Walker, Vice-Chair, City of Tacoma + Pierce Transit

Rosie Ayala, Metro Parks Tacoma

Andrea Smith, Metro Parks Tacoma

Marty Campbell, Pierce County + Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

Deanna Keller, Port of Tacoma

Korey Strozier, Tacoma Public Schools

Ryan Mello, Pierce County

**JMAC CHIEF EXECUTIVES**

Joshua Garcia, Tacoma Public Schools

Mike Griffus, Pierce Transit

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE**

Kristin Ang, Port of Tacoma

Cindan Gizzi, Tacoma Pierce County Health Department

Matthew Mauer, Port of Tacoma

Alicia Lawver, Tacoma Public Schools

William Bridges, Pierce County

Hunter George, Metro Parks Tacoma

Norinda Yancey, Metro Parks Tacoma

Tim Reid, Metro Parks Tacoma

Antonio McLemore, Metro Parks Tacoma

Evan Smith, Tacoma Pierce County Health Department

Renée Meschi, Tacoma Pierce County Health Department

Jeff Robinson, City of Tacoma

Chrisy Vindivich, City of Tacoma

Rebecca Japhet, Pierce Transit

Katie Condit, Workforce Central

Krystle Amundson, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

Deborah Trevorrow, City of Tacoma

Evan Koepfler, Pierce County

Jessie Baines, HULK Construction

Kristin Ang, Port of Tacoma

Leslie Barstow, Port of Tacoma

Mary Tuttle, Metro Parks Tacoma

Tim Herron, Degrees of Change

Adam Kulaas, Tacoma Public Schools

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**INTRODUCTION**

**Chair Bonbright** welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the Policy Focus Area Presentations be shifted up on the Agenda to follow Approval of Minutes. Amended agenda passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of May 13, 2022 be approved as-is; passed unanimously.

**Chair Bonbright** thanked Pierce Transit for providing detailed meeting minutes for the May meeting.

**Policy Focus Area Presentations: *Community Wealth Building***

*Youth Employment Pipelines and Apprenticeship Programs – A panel discussion about internships, career and technical education programs, and innovative ideas in the works to create career pathways for young people.*

Chair Bonbright introduced the conversation around Youth Employment Pipelines and infrastructure needs before the panel discussion began. She then introduced the panelists:

* Adam Kulaas, Director of Innovative Learning and CTE, Tacoma Public Schools
* Katie Condit, CEO, Workforce Central
* Tim Herron, CEO, Degrees of Change
* Leslie Barstow, Community Relations Manager, Port of Tacoma
* Moderator: Hunter George, Metro Parks Tacoma

**Panel Presentation:**

**Hunter George,** **Metro Parks Tacoma** advised draft plan in process and collaborating for continued Youth Employment Pipeline planning. The current political will is strong and looking forward to these new partnership discussions.

**Katie Condit, Workforce Central** identified gaps in coordination of Youth Employment Pipelines in Pierce County. In this specific area, our community is “resource rich, but systems poor”. There are needs for alignment and increased access points to reduce fatigue. Some new goals are to increase partnerships and build a Community of Practice for Youth Employment Pipelines in alignment with Workforce Development goals. Seeking to build upon the good work happening and increase investments in Youth Employment Pipeline strategies.

**Leslie Barstow, Port of Tacoma** completed new Strategic Plan and completed survey of business needs and existing programs. Identified gaps and needs for improved coordination of existing programs. Cross-collaborative coordination will eliminate duplication and increase leveraging of existing resources. Seeking to increase communications to audiences and increase program participation. Currently developing 5-year goals and drafting proposed investment budget for implementation in 2023. Working on proposed aligned cross-sector Communications Planning to achieve goals.

**Tim Herron, Degrees of Change** identified equity gaps across racial lines. Working on building Community of Practice to increase college completion. Building strategies for increasing college enrollment. Seeking to meet gaps in career development and economic mobility for first-generation college graduates. Alignment in process with Tacoma Public Schools. Fine-tuning post-secondary education strategies for diverse fields of work including skilled trades and college preparation. Identified opportunities for employers to align workforce & employment strategies and reduce barriers to Youth Employment. Planning program alignments with Dr. Garcia to improve coordination of Youth Employment Pipelines across Pierce County. Visioning for a One-Stop Hub where stakeholders can engage for Workforce Development including Students, Young Adults, School District and Employers. For example, MultiCare participated in the SEED program and Summer Jobs program and Unpaid Next Move program. MultiCare learned the value of the programs and has decided to allocate budget investments in 30 positions that will be sourced from each program for a total of 90 positions that will be sourced through these 3 aligned programs.

**Adam Kulaas, Tacoma Public Schools** advised Tacoma’s community has high energy around this work and is an industry leader in this innovative work. We have an opportunity to partner and lead innovation nationally. Our Community Engagement, Political Will and Innovative Assets are at the precipice of unprecedented high performance and cohesion for student growth and development. We are at an exciting intersection of cross-roads where CTE can develop systems and pathways for college and increase quality pathways to trades. Creating these pathways will meet community needs and demands. Looking into increasing investments in the Maritime Skills Center. This Community of Practice is helping Tacoma Public Schools and Maritime Skills Center to achieve long-term goals and evolve innovative strategies for continued growth and development.

*Call to Action:* How can we get our kids to own their opportunities for possibilities and achievement.

**Post Panel Discussion:**

**Josh Garcia, Superintendent Tacoma Public Schools** advised every kid at Tacoma Public Schoolswill receive the education and equipment they need for career development in college and the trades. Existing systems can meet needs and looking forward to coordinating and aligning resources to innovate and meet all students’ needs.

**Commissioner Keller, Port of Tacoma** thanked Leslie and Workforce Committee for leadership and teamwork on these initiatives. Thank you to Leslie and Workforce Committee for Community Engagement and relationship-building. Continuing focus on alignment of existing work in Pierce County for maximum leveraging of resources and accurate needs assessments.

**Commissioner Ayala, Metro Parks Tacoma** identified JMAC needs to discuss increasing student retention with a focus on equity. Working with first generation professionals and we have opportunities to improve career development in this area, and to prevent first generation professional youth from being harmed by our systems and agreed-upon definitions of professionalism.

**Councilmember Walker, City of Tacoma** is invested fully and asked what does our group need.

**Josh Garcia, Superintendent Tacoma Public Schools** advised we need every organization in JMAC to commit to this work. This work supports career development, economic development, safety, JEDI and multiple other agreed-upon initiatives.

**Tim Herron, Degrees of Change** agreed and advised we have the current momentum and can continue to build upon successful employment breakthroughs witnessed in the labor sector.

**Antonio McLemore, Metro Parks Tacoma** identified gaps in stewardship of relationships and organizational culture between workforce development and employers. Reminder that Black and Brown students are often underserved students and employers have opportunities to improve culture and mentorship relationships with youth workforce, particularly BIPOC workforce.

**Josh Garcia, Superintendent Tacoma Public Schools** advised it is imperative that we own our role in Anti-racism and creating safe employment spaces for BIPOC students.

**Tim Herron, Degrees of Change** agrees we need to improve internship experiences for BIPOC students.

**Commissioner Keller, Port of Tacoma** agrees we can improve employment experiences with BIPOC students and youth.

**Jeff Robinson, City of Tacoma** suggested that we pull together the public sector and NGOs working on this issue to the same table to align and leverage our efforts.

**Jessie Baines, HULK Construction** advised finding ways to partner with existing employment programs/businesses in the community, which will benefit for the youth and the governmental entities. No need to reinvent the wheel, programs exist currently…how do we fully fund and beef existing programs up to bring in more young people to participate?

**Adam Kulaas, Tacoma Public Schools** advised we have an opportunity to introduce CTE at an earlier age for increased workforce development. Health Careers Academy, Teach 253 Program, Summer Programming/Jobs 253 are programs we can continue to invest in and promote for increased workforce development. Working with Safe Streets on partnerships to achieve goals. Call to Action: Continue to Increase Partnerships and build relationship with each other.

**Hunter George, Metro Parks Tacoma** Thanked the Panel and challenged us to continue this crucial work.

**Chair Bonbright** Thanked JMAC and celebrated this productive discussion and partnership building. Looking forward to continuing to coordinate and align programs for Youth Employment Pipeline and workforce development.

**STAFF WORKGROUP UPDATES -- Hunter George, Metro Parks Tacoma**

* *Tacoma Anchor Network* – Tacoma Anchor Network’s workshop in April focused on several topics, including a workgroup dedicated to supporting Minority and Women-owned Businesses (MWBE). The workshop inspired the group to continue to meet. They are developing a problem statement, building relationships, and conducting comparative analysis. They eventually hope to agree on key performance indicators. This work addresses JMAC’s goal of aligning MWBE services.
* *Equity Action Collaborative* – The collaborative is drafting Policy Templates for consideration, including a pay differential for bilingual staff, and compensating members of the public who participate in our engagement activities.
* *JMAC’s equity peers, the equity officers and champions within our organizations, are scheduling their first meeting****.***
* *Other workgroup items* –Government Affairs Workgroup helped focus the youth pipeline panel discussion.
* *Communications* – Planning to share a draft Communications Plan in July 2022. Hunter shared the JMAC planning calendar updates.

**Chair Bonbright** advised that a communications update for the public about JMAC’s work since the Summit of 60 last October is in process and slated to be released in July.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Chair Bonbright** called for public comment. No comments were provided.

**GENERAL COMMENTS BY JMAC**

**Chair Bonbright** called for general comments by JMAC members. Chair Bonbright stated that given the current local, state, and national uptick in lawless behavior and violence (especially gun violence), next month JMAC will focus on a Security & Safety Dialogue.

**Andrea Smith, Metro Parks Tacoma** Thanked people for spreading the word about Wright Park’s W.W. Seymour Botanical Conservatory re-opening. The event was a great success. FYI Swan Creek and Owen Beach parks have been re-opened!

**Councilmember Mello, Pierce County Council** shared that young people could access a summer pass for $36.00. Looking to implement a Free Youth Fare asap. Working on proposals for Low-Income bus fares. Reminder Tacoma PRIDE starts soon! You can visit [www.TacomaPride.com](http://www.tacomapride.com/) for more information! FYSA Pierce County Birth to 25 Advisory Group hosting work session event July 11, 9-2:00 p.m. at the Environmental Services Building at Chambers Bay Park. This group will create workplans for Birth to 25 investment and policy strategies and is planning to identify priority areas for PSTAA investment and policy over 2022. We have an opportunity to build relationship now. Register at [piercecountywa.gov/B25Providers](https://www.cognitoforms.com/PierceCounty2/B25ProviderStakeholderMeeting)

**Mike Griffus, CEO Pierce Transit** advised new Free Youth Fare for Transportation resources is in process and will be available very soon.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Regular meeting is Friday, July 8, 2022, 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Bonbright** adjourned the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

\**Minutes taken by Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department*