



City of Tacoma

Community's Police Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 8, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

6:00 p.m.

The CPAC is comprised of Chair Allen McKenzie, Vice-Chair Louis Cooper, and Committee Members Angela Mealing, Ralette Churchill, Esther Evans, Shepherd Southworth, Adrienne Jones, John Bordon, and Tracy Jones

Members Present: Allen McKenzie, Adrienne Jones, Angela Mealing, Ralette Churchill, Louis Cooper, Tracy Jones, Shepherd Southworth, John Bordon, Esther Evans

Members Absent: N/A

Staff Present: Council Liaison Mayor Victoria Woodards, Staff Liaison Ted Richardson, Staff Liaison Chelsea Talbert, Executive Liaison Jacques Colon, Lieutenant Jeffrey Katz, Bucoda Warren

Staff Absent: N/A

Called to order at 6:04 PM

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the agenda for the CPAC meeting held on April 8, 2024

Passed at 6:05

Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the March 11, 2024 CPAC meeting.

Motion passed at 6:06

Briefing Items

City Reports

City Manager's Office

- 6:07 – Nothing to report

Tacoma Police Department

- 6:07 – Lt. Katz shared that TPD is looking to hire more police officers and reopened the community service officer position which they are also actively recruiting for as well.
- TPD is participating in the 30 by 30 goal to employ 30% women on the force by 2030.

Presentations and Discussions

Community Safety Action Strategy (CSAS)

- 6:11 – Chelsea began presentation, Gabe introduced herself. Then launched into PPT, which will be included alongside the meeting minutes.
- 6:28 – PPT ended, Allen asked how it will generate change. Gabe responded beyond new policies being added over time, it sets a strategic vision for safety that has never been agreed upon before. Jacques added that allows for better coordination between departments and programs, reflects community voice and holds City accountable/"fidelity" to the community voice.
- Ralette asked what we already know about the community's feedback on community safety. Mentioned Neighborhood Council SNAPs and 21CP Report. Mayor responded that CSAS builds on 21CP report and what a recommendation from that report.
- 6:37 – Louis asked if Oversight will be included. Jacques responded that accountability and oversight will be included to a degree, but no specific model or anything at that detail will be included. Allen suggested Oversight question be included in CSAS outreach effort.
- 6:41 – Allen asked how CPAC can be involved, Chelsea provided some answer for ongoing outreach, but also that it's somewhat how CPAC chooses or wants to be involved.
- 6:43 – Gabe responded to Ralette's previous question about what the community is already saying: traffic and street safety, response time, sense of belonging.
- 6:45 – Gabe posed several discussion questions.
 - What do you see as being most important to prioritize in this strategy?
 - John asked how response times based on crime and how the public learns this information.
 - Adrienne expressed that Investing in People is the most important, Tracy seconded this.
 - What groups or organizations can you help connect with?
 - Safe Streets, Esther is connected
 - Neighborhood Councils
 - TPD
 - Is this moving in the right direction?

Discussion on role of the Mayor as CPAC liaison

- 6:51 – The Chair opened the floor for discussion on Mayor Woodards’s role as council liaison. The Chair walked through the drafted document. CPAC discussed communications expectations including public comments, email, and meetings. Mayor stated that everything CPAC wants from her, is what she seeks from CPAC. CPAC members and Mayor Woodards also discussed how to best navigate working with the media. CPAC discussed creating a policy around public statements and media relations. CPAC and Mayor Woodards also discussed other supports including role of the new staff position.
- 7:18 – Mayor shared an update the new staff position and work with NACOLE is paused until there is more clarity with Charter Review and what may end up on the ballot. There will be more info in June about what will move forward to the November ballot.
- 7:22 – The discussion focused on CPAC subcommittee recommendations for the council liaison role continued. Mayor wants to manage expectations around funding support as there is an ARPA-cliff. CPAC Outreach Subcommittee is hoping to get some signage or materials to share. Staff liaisons requested to kept in the loop on communications.
- 7:37 – CPAC members and Mayor discussed how this is a memorandum of understanding and a living, breathing, document.

Public Comment

- 7:39 – The Chair opened the floor for public comment.
- 7:39 – Tre shared they are a running start student from NE Tacoma and are glad to be here. They shared that they have thought a lot about safety and wonder about statistics versus what the media portrays.
- 7:43 - Shayna Raphael expressed her disappointment with the City’s decision related to oversight and feeling deceived related to the transitioning from an advisory committee to an oversight committee. Shayna shared that community members are being pushed out from being involved in the process and involved in meaningful change.
- 7:46 - Sally Perkins said amen to everything that Shayna said and expressed feeling uneasy about the Community Safety Action Strategy. Sally highlighted several recommendations from the 21 CP recommendations and encouraged looking at the implementation of policy and if it is meeting its intended goal after it has passed. Sally recommended an audit from 21 CP policing on the progress since the report.

Police Reports Review

- 7:48 – The Chair encouraged CPAC to schedule a special meeting to review complaints. Allen shared gratitude to Stephen for everything.
- 7:54 – CPAC voted in the affirmative to carry this discussion over to the next meeting.

Duties prescribes by Bylaws - Member Report Backs

Oversight Subcommittee

- In lieu of report backs, subcommittees shared their feedback during the conversation with Mayor Woodards related to what the subcommittees would like to see from the council liaison

Subcommittee Membership:

- Oversight Subcommittee: Ralette Churchwell, Allen McKenzie, Louis Cooper

- Outreach Subcommittee: Esther Evans, Adrienne Jones, Angela Mealing, Tracy Jones
- Policy Subcommittee: John Borden, Ralette Churchwell, Adrienne Jones

Upcoming Important Dates

- April 9, Study Session noon – Tacoma Municipal Therapeutic Courts; August 2024 Special Election Ballot Item for Tacoma Fire Department
- April 16, Study Session noon – Problem Oriented Place Based Policing Update; Crime Plan Update; Investigations Update

Upcoming Council presentations and recordings of past presentations can be viewed here: [City of Tacoma - Calendar \(legistar.com\)](#) Live Study Session and Council meeting can also be viewed on TV Tacoma: [TV Tacoma - City of Tacoma](#)

Adjournment

Motion passed 7:59 PM

Allen McKenzie

Allen McKenzie, Chair

Chelsea Talbert

Chelsea Talbert, Staff Liaison