



Agenda

Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

Date: October 24th, 2022

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Location: Hybrid Tacoma Municipal Building
747 Market Street
Conference Room #243 and #220-A (Interpretation Room)
Tacoma, WA 98402

Zoom (Click the following link to join the meeting):

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91791840410?pwd=d3lyYW44Tm8wT1NrNIU4ekRsWERNQT09>

Meeting ID: 967 9184 0410

Passcode: 264285

Real-time Spanish translation will be available during the meeting.

I. Call Meeting to Order – Chair Emani Donaldson

II. Statement of Purpose – Vice Alma Villegas

We convene this meeting to advance the City of Tacoma’s mission to “reducing barriers to access and participation in Tacoma’s economic, cultural, and civic life for immigrants and refugees.” This Commission aspires to help “make the City more vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming for all.”

III. Land Acknowledgment – Lydia Zepeda

The Commission acknowledges that the meeting is being conducted on Indigenous lands of the Puyallup People, who cared for their ancestral lands before the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854 removed native peoples to clear way for colonial settlement. It is important to this Commission as settlers here, aspiring to care for immigrants and refugees in this place and to call it home, that we acknowledge and send gratitude to the Puyallup Tribe of Indians who continue to be leaders for justice in our community today.

IV. Consent Agenda – Chair Donaldson

- a. Approval of October 2022 Meeting Agenda (Aye/Nay Votes)
- b. Approval of September 2022 Meeting Minutes (Aye/Nay Votes)

V. Record of Attendance and Excusal of Absences – Chair Donaldson

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emani Donaldson (Vice-Chair) | <input type="checkbox"/> Thierry Ruboneka |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natalie Ghayoumi | <input type="checkbox"/> Maricres Valdez Castro |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stacy Kowalski | <input type="checkbox"/> Alma Villegas |

Commissioners

Emani Donaldson
Natalie Ghayoumi
Stacy Kowalski
Samatha Le
Maurice Lekea
Hieu Nguyen

Hugo Nicolas
Thierry Ruboneka
Maricres Valdez-Castro
Alma Villegas
Leena Vo
Lydia Zepeda

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Samantha Le | <input type="checkbox"/> Leena Vo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maurice Lekea | <input type="checkbox"/> Lydia Zepeda |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hieu Nguyen | <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate (Vacant) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hugo Nicolas Absent | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Position (Vacant) |

VI. Commission Affairs

- a. Proposed meeting change
- b. Committee Updates and Overview of work. Please include the next meeting date and time.
 - Community Safety Committee
 - Governance (of CIRA) Committee
 - Language Justice Committee

VII. City Staff Updates – Liaison Raeshawna

- a. Returning to Hybrid Commission Meetings
- b. Annual Report to the Community Safety and Vitality Committee due
- c. [Welcoming Interactive](#)

VIII. Group Get-To-Know-You Activity – Vice Chair Alma Villegas

- a. Meet and Greet Question - Share one person from your family who inspires you and why?

IX. Public Comment

X. Items to Consider for Next Meeting:

XI. Adjourn

Why do we recognize the land?

To recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory you reside on, and a way of honoring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial. It is important to understand the long-standing history that has brought you to reside on the land, and to seek to understand your place within that history. Land acknowledgements do not exist in a past tense, or historical context: colonialism is a current ongoing process, and we need to build our mindfulness of our present participation. It is also worth noting that acknowledging the land is Indigenous protocol.

–<http://www.lspirg.org/knowtheland>



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NOTES

Commissioners

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 Natalie Ghayoumi
 Stacy Kowalski
 Samatha Le
 Maurice Lekea
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