**Minutes**

**Joint Municipal Action Committee**

Friday, June 9, 2023

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting: in-person option (Tacoma Municipal Building, Conf. Rm. 248) and

virtual attendance option via Zoom

**CALL TO ORDER**

JMAC Chair Kristina Walker called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

**ROLL CALL – JMAC COMMITTEE**

Andrea Smith, Board Chairperson, Metro Parks Tacoma

Deanna Keller, Port Commission President, Port of Tacoma

Elizabeth Bonbright, President, Tacoma Public Schools

Kiara Daniels, Councilmember, City of Tacoma

Kristina Walker, JMAC Chair, City of Tacoma + Pierce Transit

Korey Strozier, Board member, Tacoma Public Schools

Marty Campbell, Councilmember, Pierce County

Rosie Ayala, Parks Commissioner, Metro Parks Tacoma

Ryan Mello, Pierce County Council, Vice-Chair JMAC

**JMAC CHIEF EXECUTIVES**

Josh Garcia, Superintendent, Tacoma Public Schools

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE**

Adam Kulaas, Tacoma Public Schools

Alicia Lawver, Tacoma Public Schools

Amy Cruver, Pierce County

Anita Gallagher, Consultant

Carol Wolfe, City of Tacoma

Chelsea Talbert, City of Tacoma

Christina Caan, City of Tacoma

Chrisy Vindivich, City of Tacoma

Cindan Gizzi, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

Colleen Meiners, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

Connie Behe, Pierce County Library System

Evan Koepfler, Pierce County Council

Gretchen Caserotti, Pierce County Library

Hunter George, Metro Parks Tacoma

Jacques Colon, City of Tacoma

Kristin Lynett, City of Tacoma

Krystle Amundson, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

Matthew Mauer, Port of Tacoma

Melissa Littleton, State of Washington

Melanie Harding, City of Tacoma

Nathan Crain, City of Tacoma

Nichole Weber

Rosa McLeod, City of Tacoma

Ryan Wheaton, Pierce Transit

Sally Perkins, Practical Solutions

Sonja Hallum, City of Tacoma

Tim Reid, Metro Parks Tacoma

William Bridges, Pierce County

**INTRODUCTION**

Chair Walker welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Chair Walker read the City of Tacoma’s tribal land acknowledgment.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented; passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of May 12, 2023, be approved as presented; passed unanimously.

**PREVIOUS MEETING RECAP / DIRECTION**

* Equity Index: JMAC members shared examples of how they are using either the City or County Equity Index to influence transit planning, consider policies and ordinances, make funding decisions, engage in historic preservation, determine priority areas for facility improvements, and expand program offerings. Contact Chelsea Talbert for more information.
* Language Access Plans: With 15.3% of Pierce County residents speaking a language other than English at home, Renée Meschi of TPCHD showed how the Equity Action Collaborative is assisting local governments in evaluating language access and developing plans to improve it. Strategies include multilingual outreach, establishing cultural ambassadors, and compensating bilingual employees, among other strategies. Contact Renée Meschi for more information.

**Public Health and Safety: Youth Violence Prevention**

* JMAC members quickly leaned in to support the development of Whole Child Safe Zones. We will hear an update on this important work to give teens safe and welcoming places to be this summer.
* Dr. Garcia shared Summer Teen Late Nights for middle and high school students June 26-Sept. 1, Monday-Friday from 5-10:00 p.m. Multiple partners engaged including Metro Parks Tacoma, Boys & Girls Clubs and YMCA. Soft Launch this week and working on pushing out communications and community engagement.
* 164 students enrolled in the program to date.
* Dashboard demographics show the majority of students joining are first-year middle schoolers.
* Whole Child Safe Zones ready for implementation and partners hosting zones called Gig Spots too for further reach and engagement with youth.
* Working on outreach through social media, one to one outreach and word of mouth. Everyone can share out and needs to share out to maximize communications and community engagement. Working with APCC and the Tacoma Ministerial Alliance and other partners for messaging and sharing out these new events.
* Dr. Garcia advised partners to reach out and he will make connections and coordinate opportunities.
* Metro Parks has taken lead on developing all flyers and materials for communications.
* Board President Bonbright, Tacoma Public Schools, recommended posting flyers on buses and working with Pierce Transit for marketing campaign. Suggested adding bus routes to the flyers for students to find transportation.
* Ryan Wheaton and Dr. Garcia are working together on bus route information for students and families.
* REMINDER: kids ride free on transit in Washington State.
* Board President Bonbright advised that **Tacoma School Board passed Resolution 2124** and encouraged all partners to pass similar resolutions for unification and collective impact of gun violence prevention.

**Justice, Equity Diversity & Inclusion:** [**Tacoma’s Decarbonization Plan**](https://www.cityoftacoma.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_6/File/cms/Sustainability/Climate%20Action%20Planning/CAP%20Progress%20Reports/CAP_Progress_Report_2023_FINAL.pdf)

* The Tacoma City Council passed a Resolution in 2021 that set action steps to reduce the City’s municipal carbon footprint with regard to its fleet and facilities, and it encouraged other local governments to do the same. The City’s Sustainability Officer will provide an overview of this work and engage in discussion on how JMAC members can implement similar policies and actions.
* Chair Walker introduced Kristin Lynett, Sustainability Officer City of Tacoma.
* Kristin Lynett said that City Council and Mayor Woodards committed to climate emergency declaration in 2019 and anti-racist resolution in 2020.
* New Tideflats Electric Fire Station #5 and Police/Fleet Warehouse natural gas to heat pump retrofit. Looking into converting 9 additional facilities. Planning for EV charging installs at all City Facilities for both public and fleet charging. Prioritizing zero emission fleet vehicle purchases. Developing Impact Assessments of requiring non-fossil fuel sourced heating, lighting, and power in new & retrofit commercial and residential development in the City. November 2023 Construction will require sustainable heat pump energy sources. Encouraging all local jurisdictions and governments to transition to heat pump energy sources now and moving forward. At the federal level, they made a $369 billion investment in a green and just economy through 2029. 2022-2023 local investments include $45.3 million in funding, but we need to increase 10x to meet our goals. Planning emergency response for incidents like the recent king tides flooding in January 2023 and other recent severe weather and coastal flooding events.
* JMAC Chair Walker said that the City of Tacoma is implementing their Climate Action Plan, and JMAC is the appropriate meeting for collaboration and this climate change work.
* Vice Chair Mello, Pierce County, reinforced the anti-racist commitments and declarations in this work and asked about implementation plans for the Climate Plan and bending the trend down for greenhouse gas pollution. How do we implement the plan and lead by example?
* Kristin Lynett said that the State of Washington has opportunities to adopt code that will impact construction and retrofits for electric heating and water heating and other climate change reduction opportunities and amendments.
* Commissioner Ayala, Metro Parks Tacoma, lives in South Tacoma and advised the carbon risks are intersectional with place and environmental justice and looking for opportunities for alignment.
* Kristin Lynett said that the City of Tacoma is hiring a Green Economy Specialist within the Community & Economic Development department and will make connections around green economy and economic development work with large stakeholder groups, organizations, and business partners. The Green Economy Specialist position should be hired by August 2023, and it is the first in the country.
* City of Tacoma, Metro Parks and Port of Tacoma have jointly applied for grants for coastal resilience and sea level planning.
* Vice Chair Mello advised that representatives from 12 cities and towns and the Puyallup Tribe met in Puyallup this morning to talk about ways to collaborate to address climate change. We must work on aligning climate change and greenhouse gas reduction efforts and seek resources from the Inflation Reduction Act and Investment & Jobs Act.

**Community Wealth Building: Youth Employment Pipeline:** *(presentation attached)*

* In summer 2022, JMAC hosted a panel discussion on ways to expand the employment pipeline for area youth. A year later, Adam Kulaas returns to share success stories as the Jobs 253 program grows and evolves, and to share how JMAC can help youth identify and connect with their budding interests.
* Adam Kulaas, Director of Innovative Learning and Career and Technical Education, Tacoma Public Schools, said employment and workforce development opportunities for students are growing and there are many opportunities through technical, community, trade, and university colleges.
* Co-hosted TPS/Korsmo Construction hiring and try-a-trades fair with T-Town City Services Expo. Over 1400 high school studentsattended on the first day – no cost and free lunch provided. Over 20 TPS Student Program demo groups attended representing student programming from middle through high school. Over 100 vendors and community-based organizations were at the event.
* Building Healthcare Careers Academy – serving Mt. Tahoma and Stadium High School students.
* Offering Apprenticeship and Pre-Apprenticeship entry opportunities with skilled labor unions across the region.
* Building an enhanced Jobs 253 Experience with updated resume, pre-experience onboarding, course credit attainment, stipend, EverFi Financial Literacy Credential and new Student Experience Reflection.
* Offering access to paid work experiences and financial literacy.
* Jobs 253 programs lead to credentials and access to multiple jobs and career building.
* One recent student completed the apprenticeship in Marine Merchants in 5 months.
* During the first ten years of the program about 1,000 students came through. With the new model, in 2022-2023 alone there are 1,212 students engaged in a paid work experience.
* Adam Kulaas shared Professional Pipeline infographic for Jobs 253.
* Program will personalize and tailor experience for businesses/organizations 1:1.
  + Commissioner Keller, Port of Tacoma expressed appreciation for its partnership with the Tacoma School District and said the Port is looking to increase apprenticeships with students.
  + Deputy Director Cindan Gizzi, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, said they are working on resuming Volunteer/Intern program, and they hired new program coordinator Misty Douglas. Engaging with interns at college levels at UWT, TCC, PLU, UPS and others and looking into partnership with high school student apprenticeships. TPCHD will complete a classification review soon and review bachelor’s and master’s degree requirements to reduce barriers to employment and increase racial equity & justice.
  + Commissioner Ayala, Metro Parks, advised working on providing experiences for students so they can learn what kinds of work they enjoy and what kinds of work they will self-select out of and the more experiences the better for shaping careers and generational wealth for the next generation.

**Chair Walker advised Home in Tacoma plan in process at City of Tacoma.**

* Looking to integrate with State plan and finalize in 2024.

**Commissioner Ayala advised Co-create to Recreate in process at Metro Parks Tacoma.**

* Stay tuned for more information.

**STAFF WORKGROUP UPDATE**

**Hunter George, Metro Parks** – no update to share at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**GENERAL COMMENTS**

School Board President Elizabeth Bonbright, Tacoma Public Schools, advised that Superintendent Josh Garcia testified in Washington, D.C. on June 8th to U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions and Youth Mental Health on the topics discussed today. Thank you and great job representing Tacoma, Superintendent Garcia. He is the first and only School Superintendent in the Country on the Panel of 5 people and was expert at Q&A.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting is Friday, July 14, 2023, 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Walker adjourned the meeting at 9:30 am.

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