



## City of Tacoma Sustainable Tacoma Commission Meeting Minutes

**Date:** September 21st, 2023

**Commission Members Present:** Matthew Benedict, Lexi Brewer (in-person), Evlondo Cooper (Co-Chair), Sheena Hewett, Tony Ivey, Casey Twiggs, Adam Reichenberger, Laura Svancarek (in-person), Lowell Wyse (in-person)

**Commission Members Excused:** Mike Chang, John Doherty, Margaret Schwertner (Co-Chair)

### **Others Present:**

City of Tacoma Commission Support Staff: LaKecia Farmer (in-person), Jim Parvey (online), Kristin Lynett (in-person) Carson Brock (in-person) – all from Office of Environmental Policy & Sustainability

Latasha Wortham (in-person), Lis Saunders (in-person), and Christy Hansen (in-person) from Tacoma Public Utilities.

Daniel Corum, Lewis Griffith, Preston Peck, and Phet Sinthavong from Environmental Services.

### **Call to Order & Roll Call**

This meeting was called to order by Commission Co-Chairperson Evlondo Cooper at 5pm, 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, where Commissioners acknowledged their attendance.

### **Unanimous Approval of September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 Meeting Agenda**

### **Unanimous Approval of August 17<sup>th</sup> 2023 Meeting Minutes**

### **Public Comment**

No public comments were delivered verbally during this agenda item.

### **Staff Updates**

OEPS Staff gave updates on:

- Discussed new position posting for OEPS Director for next Tuesday and aim to fill the position sometime in November
- City budget request on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> with the City Manager
- IPS scheduled to talk about the Tree ordinance
- Updated on status Sustainability Small Grants funding and application openings, TBD when applications will be open again
- Tacoma Tree Foundation has request over 300 trees for McKinley neighborhood
- Urban Forestry Green Tacoma Day October 14<sup>th</sup>

- New OEPS member Carson Brock (AmeriCorps Sustainability Specialist)

### **Climate Action Plan Update: Solid Waste – Presentation**

Lewis Griffith from ES Solid Waste Management Division gave a presentation on the update of their progress on the CAP in terms of Solid Waste. Lewis discussed commercial and residential self-haul waste increased since 2020 and residential curbside stayed relatively the same. Solid Waste reported on not met targets from 2022 CAP (reported 5.4 pounds/capita of waste generation for 2022 and 4 pounds/capita for 2030). Lewis spoke of other targets that were not met in 2022- metrics tons of Green House Gases diverted materials from Recycling and Recovery Center which was decrease by 60% since 2019 baseline. Lewis highlighted waste measurement doesn't consider waste being dropped off outside of city boundaries. Lewis spoke of action steps, different types of grants for education and outreach, HB 1799 organics collections starting in 2024, and the NW Product Stewardship Council. Final topic discussed conducting a Waste Characterization partnered with Cascadia Consulting.

### **Solar at Tacoma Power- Presentation**

Tacoma Power discussed Solar programs and breakdown, had an overview of net metering, and WSU and RESIP programs. Over the year, Tacoma Power has had over 700 insulations for solar. Tacoma Power highlighted one of their biggest solar challenges: door-to-door solar sales. Tacoma Power stated they do not partner with any solar installers. They explained many door-to-door sales tell homeowners incorrect information about what their bill will look like to help get contract. Evergreen options is a voluntary additional cost that helps non-profits and other businesses install renewable energy. Final selection for this year's grant will be finalized soon.

### **Public Comment**

No further public comments were delivered verbally during this agenda item.

### **Commission Updates**

#### **Tentative Objectives for the Next Meeting (October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023)**

Tribal Coordination

Grants Update

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Commission unanimous approved an adjourned at 6:45pm.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be held hybrid on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5:00pm, on zoom and at Tacoma Municipal Building, room 248.

*Evlondo Cooper III*

*Margaret Schwertner*

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Evlondo Cooper and Margaret Schwertner, Co-Chairs

LaKecia Farmer *Carson Brock*

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LaKecia Farmer and Carson Brock, Staff / Note Takers