



CITY OF TACOMA

SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION

VIRTUAL MEETING

DRAFT AGENDA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020
5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

To comply with Governor Jay Inslee's [Proclamation 20-28.11](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will not be conducted in-person. The meeting can be attended remotely using the following information:

Meeting phone line: (253) 215-8782

Meeting hyperlink: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83614016802?pwd=NEp2NVVNV0dzRlFSM3RjTmxudEZydz09>

Meeting ID: 836-1401-6802

Meeting password: 253253

Microphones will be muted and cameras turned off for all participants during the meeting, except for the Commissioners and staff presenters. Public comments on discussion items will NOT be accepted at the meeting. The Commission encourages community members to submit comments in writing prior to the meeting by 4:00 p.m., on October 15th. Please e-mail your comments to PBabbitt@cityoftacoma.org, put in the subject line "STC Meeting 10/15/20", and clearly indicate which agenda item(s), if any, you are addressing.

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVE SEPTEMBER 17 MINUTES AND OCTOBER 15 AGENDA
- III. STAFF UPDATES
- IV. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES
- V. TIDEFLATS SUBAREA PLANNING, REGULATIONS, AND FOSSIL FUELS INVENTORY – STAFF PRESENTATION
- VI. BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION DRAFT RESOLUTION – LETTER OF SUPPORT
- VII. CLIMATE JUSTICE PLANNING UPDATE – STAFF PRESENTATION
- VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS (WRITTEN COMMENTS ONLY)
- IX. OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT MEETING
- X. ADJOURNMENT

Sustainable Tacoma Commission

10/15/2020 Virtual Public Meeting

Welcome

Commissioners

Members of the public

Presenters and staff support:

Patrick Babbitt, Kristin Lynett, James Parvey

City of Tacoma, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability

LaTasha Wortham

Tacoma Public Utilities, Public Affairs

Steven Atkinson

City of Tacoma, Planning & Development Services



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Agenda

- I. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
- II. **APPROVE SEPTEMBER 17 MINUTES AND OCTOBER 15 AGENDA**
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- IX. **OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT MEETING**
- X. **ADJOURNMENT**



Call to Order

- Land acknowledgment



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Staff Updates

Recognize New Vice-Chair: Grace Hope

Vice-Chair Responsibilities

- Agenda input
- Meeting facilitation
- Subcommittee support
- Commissioner support and accountability
- Commission performance tracking and review
- Annual Commission report to Council



Office of
Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Staff Updates

Tacoma's Tree Coupon Program Is Live!

- www.cityoftacoma.org/treecoupon

Reminder: Share Your Pronouns

- Hyperlink in follow-up email!



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and Sustainability

Staff Updates

STC Annual Priorities Meetings Update:

- Meeting: Tadd Wille, Deputy City Manager
 - Friday, October 2
 - Briefed on building electrification draft resolution
 - Shared budget update timeline
 - Expressed support for climate planning work
- Quarterly meetings with CM Beale and Walker
 - Next: Thursday, November 12
 - Structure: ½ hour virtual meeting to engage
 - Staff and two Commissioners (rotating)



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Staff Updates

Around the City:

- Tacoma Arts Month: <http://www.tacomaartsmoonth.com/>
- Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group recruitment (due 10/16): <https://forms.gle/XnEABsMwyF5M6acJ6>
- Puget Sound Regional Council's VISION 2050 supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS): <https://www.psrc.org/our-work/regional-planning/vision-2050/environmental-review>
- Metro Parks Tacoma's 2021-2022 Biennial Budget Development survey (due 10/31): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MPT2021-22Budget>



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Staff Updates

Commission Subcommittees: Thank You!

- Equity Norms & Operationalizing Them
- Climate Action Plans Review
- Building Electrification



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Subcommittee Updates

- Equity Norms & Operationalizing Them
- Climate Action Plans Review
- Building Electrification
- Other?



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Other Business Items

1. Tidelands Subarea Planning, Regulations, and Fossil Fuels Inventory – staff presentation
2. Building Electrification – letter of support
3. Climate Justice Planning update – staff presentation



Building Electrification – Letter of Support

- https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JZTZpLHIXheUAKcZDyRwSXgjOZdL-cANz0hDr_Y80yk/edit



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Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Climate Planning Update: Status

Timeline

- Started: September 2020
- Approximately a year-long process: three phases

Two-track update process

- Community engagement
- Technical plan development

Current activities

- Contractor and consultant work beginning
- Training and engagement – Plan Ambassadors
- Orientation – EJ Leaders Work Group



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Climate Planning Update: STC Role

Technical input for plan (7 sectors)

- Buildings and energy
- Mobility and land use
- Consumption and material management
- Natural systems and local food
- Climate adaptation/resilience
- Green economy
- Municipal operations: carbon neutrality strategy

Guidance and support for community engagement

- Recruitment
- Engagement activities and practices
- Fostering participation



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Climate Planning Update: STC Action

Serve on Subcommittees to review Climate Action Plans

- Review and make recommendations for CAPS to staff
 - Can be done outside Subcommittee participation!

Communicate Individual, Household, Community Needs

- Sustainable City Story – participate today!
- Public survey for Phase I coming soon
 - Share and participate

Give Technical Input In Meetings & Offline

- Business-as-Usual model available ~December 2020
- Opportunities starting early 2021



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Climate Planning Update: STC Action

Sustainable City Story

- Go to www.Menti.com
- Enter code:



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Public Comments



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Objectives for Next Meeting (11/19)

- Staff updates
- Subcommittee updates
 - Equity Norms & Operationalizing Them
 - Climate Action Plans Review
 - Building Electrification
- Climate Justice Planning update (regular)
- Home in Tacoma (possible)
- Transportation Master Plan, Vision Zero (possible)
- Pierce County-City of Tacoma Solid Waste Management Plan 2020 update (draft) - proposed actions (possible)



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Environmental Policy
and Sustainability

Adjournment



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Environmental Policy
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TACOMA | TIDEFLATS
SUBAREA PLAN

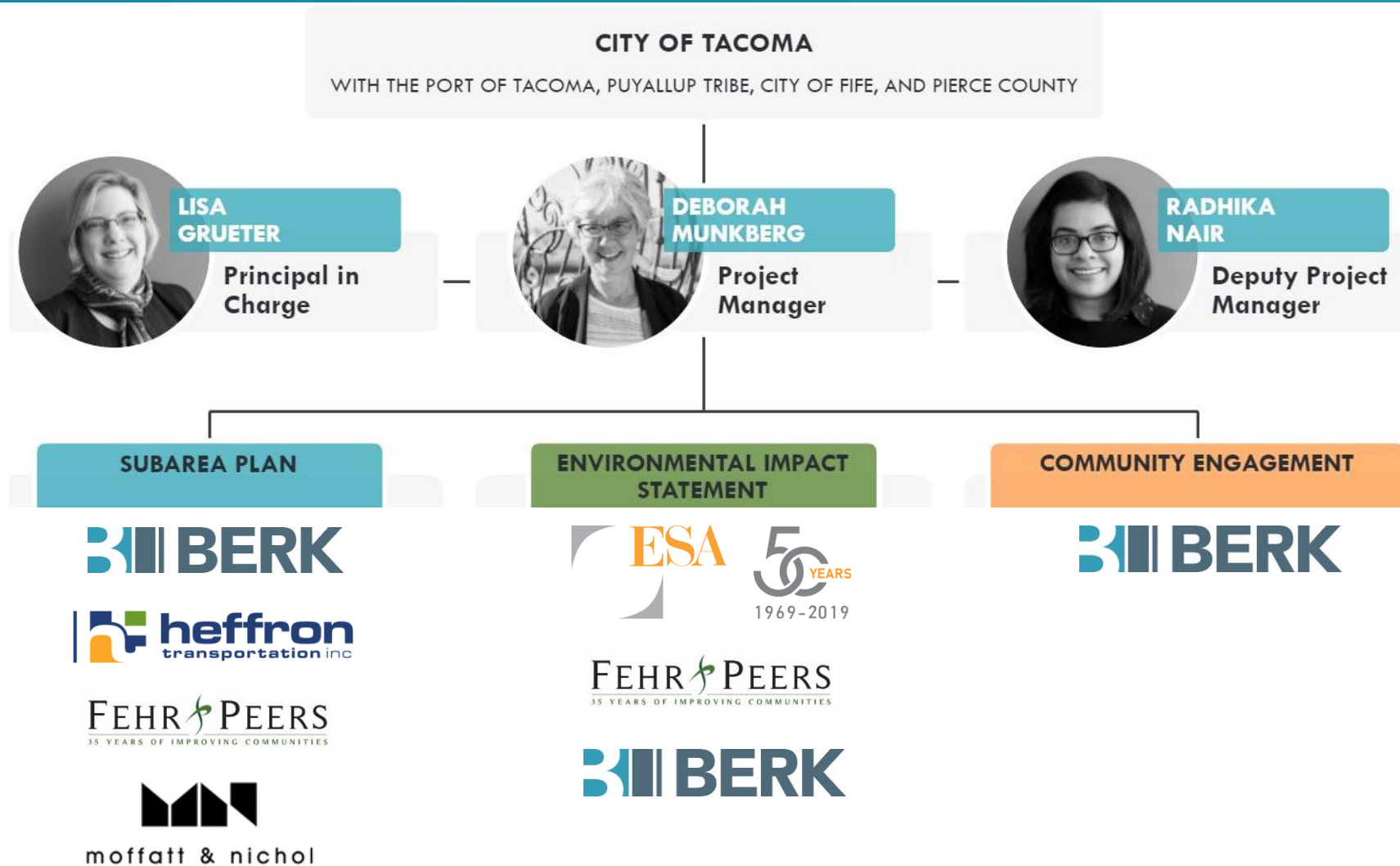
Sustainable Tacoma
Commission

10.15.2020

Tideflats Presentation Overview

- Tideflats Subarea Plan Status and Next Steps
- Interim Regulations
- Fossil Fuel Study

Subarea Plan and EIS Consultant Team



Work Plan Refresher

- **Tideflats Steering Committee**

- Elected representatives from City of Fife, City of Tacoma, Puyallup Tribe of Indians, Port of Tacoma, and Pierce County

- **Tideflats Advisory Group**

- Composed of broad, diverse stakeholder representation

- **Staff Leadership Team**

- Composed of project staff and executives

- **Project Management Team**

- Lead project staff from each government

What is the Public Engagement Plan (PEP)?

- **Road map** for effective community engagement
- **Toolbox** of inclusive engagement methods
- **Flexible** and **adaptive**—modified over time in consultation with Steering Committee



PEP Table of Contents

1. Introduction
 2. Planning Framework
 3. Tideflats Subarea Plan
 4. Community Engagement Toolbox & **Adapting for Covid**
 5. Decision Making Process
 6. Accountability & Evaluation
- Appendices



Subarea Plan Next Steps

- **Milestone Completed:** Steering Committee approved the Public Engagement Plan on July 9, 2020
- **Initiating:**
 - Environmental Baseline Analysis
 - Climate and Sea Level Vulnerability and Resilience
 - Economic Baseline and Forecasting
 - Visioning Process

EIS Baseline Studies

- Earth/Contamination and Remediation
- Floodplains
- Air Quality
- Stormwater and Water Quality
- Plants and Animals
- Cultural Resources
- Transportation
- Land Use, Housing, Population, Employment
- Public Services and Utilities

Upcoming Meetings

- October 28: Tideflats Advisory Group
- November 12: Steering Committee



**Tideflats
Interim
Regulations**

Tideflats Interim Regulations

- **Purpose:**

- Maintain baseline environmental conditions
- Protect integrity of the Subarea Planning process

- **Four primary elements:**


- Permit notification for heavy industrial uses
- Incompatible non-industrial uses in the Tideflats
- Residential encroachment in NE Tacoma
- Siting of potentially high risk/high impact industrial uses

Tideflats Interim Regulations

- **Ordinance expires on December 2, 2020**
- **Tentative Schedule for Extension:**
 - September 29 – Public Hearing
 - October 13 – First Reading of Ordinance
 - October 20 – Final Reading of Ordinance

Interim Regulations Reporting

- **Available online at cityoftacoma.org/tideflatsinterim**
 - Permit Activity
 - Fossil Fuel Data and Trends



Fossil Fuel Baseline Study

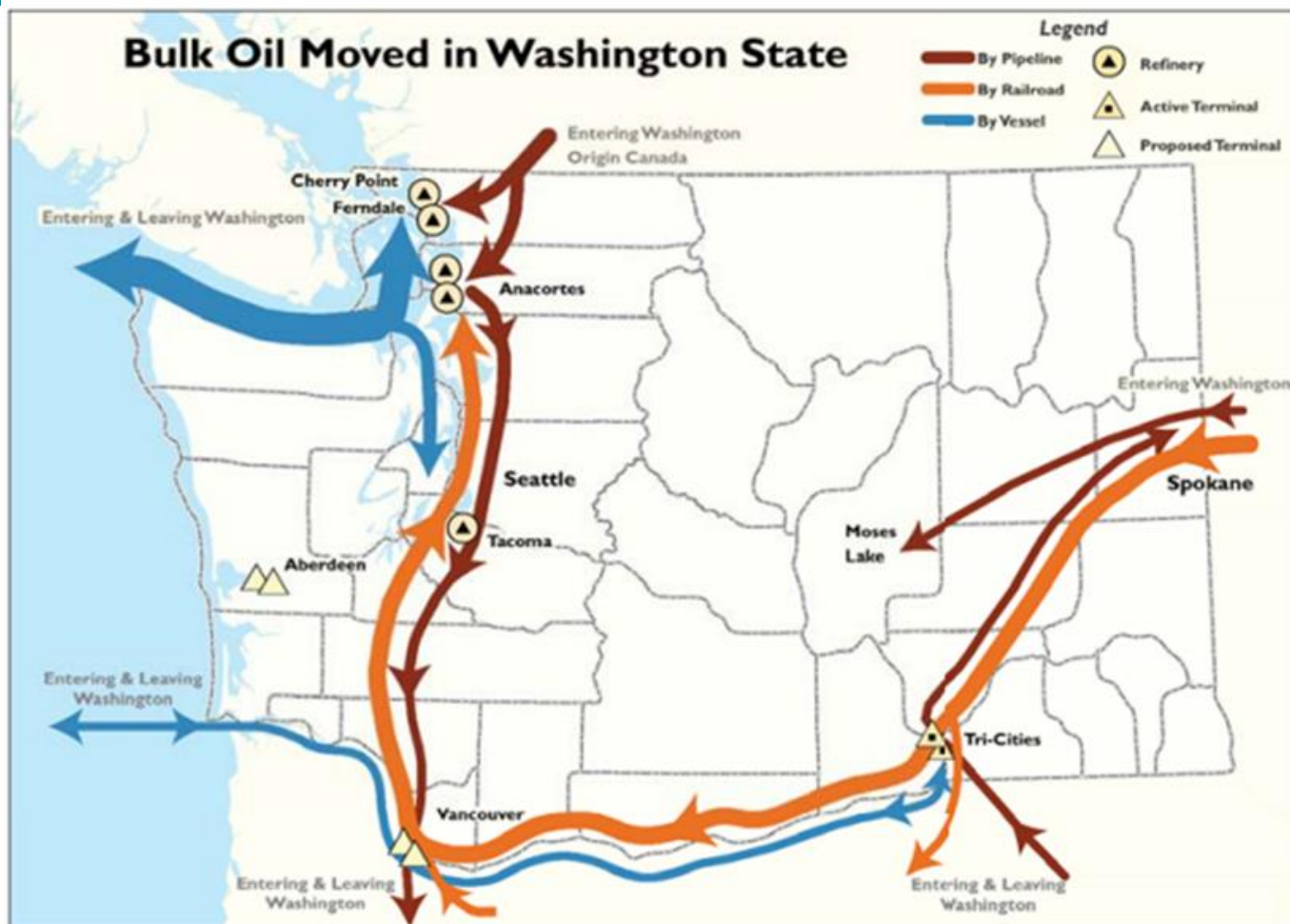
CLIMATE EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

That the City Manager shall establish a method by which the quantity and type of fossil and bio-fuels produced, refined, stored in, and distributed through the City of Tacoma can be determined, and periodically reported. The City Manager should further establish a method to gather information on specific fossil fuel facilities in the City of Tacoma, including changes of ownership, mergers and acquisitions, investor presentations and reports, or any other public information that may indicate a facility's interest or intent to expand in the future, taking into account broader market trends in oil and gas refining and export in the Pacific Northwest.

STUDY STATUS

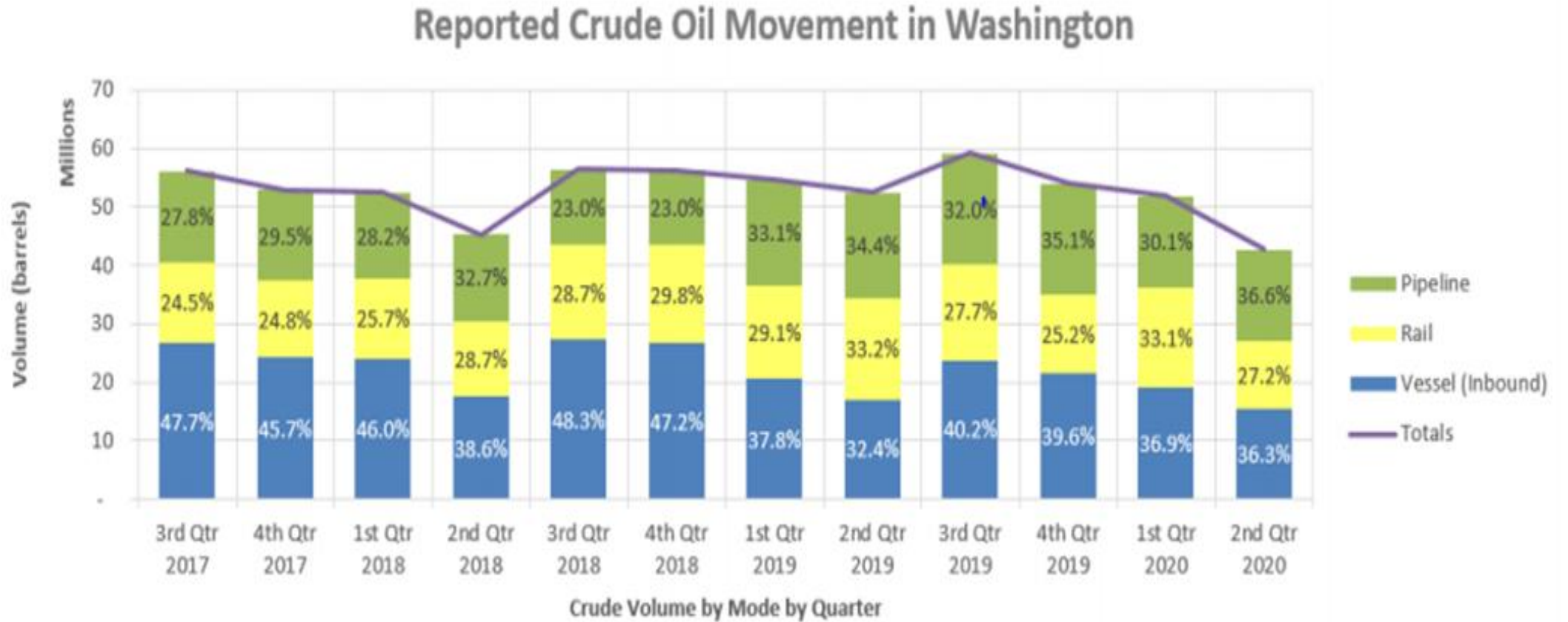
- Delayed as a result of COVID-19 budgetary impacts;
- Funded by Council Resolution on October 6, 2020;
- Moving forward with contracting;
- Intent is to coordinate fossil fuel baseline work with Subarea Plan EIS

STATEWIDE FOSSIL FUEL MOVEMENT



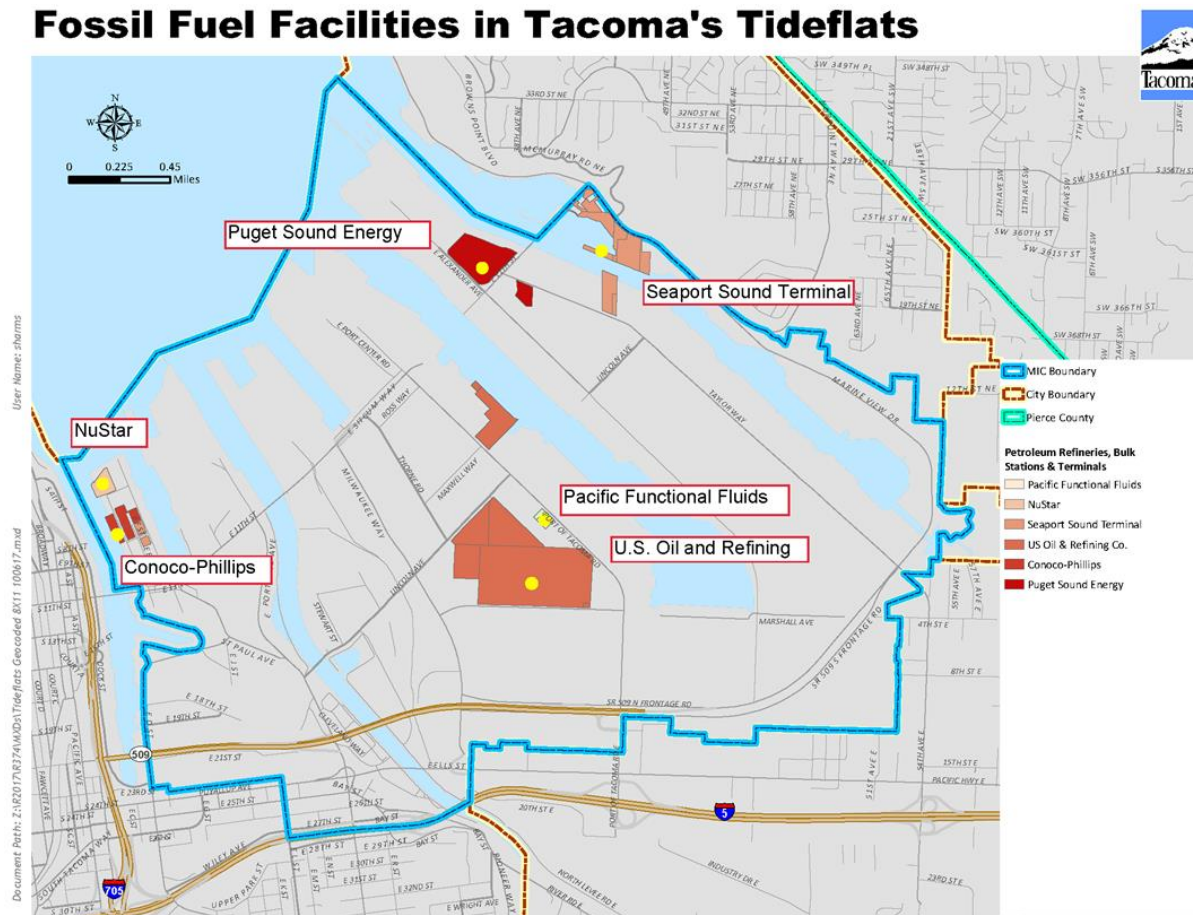
- WA has five crude oil refineries and one biorefinery
- 21,000 miles of natural gas and hazardous materials pipelines
- 5,000 vessels transit waters annually
- 3100 miles of railroad tracks that could potentially transport oil

STATE TRENDS

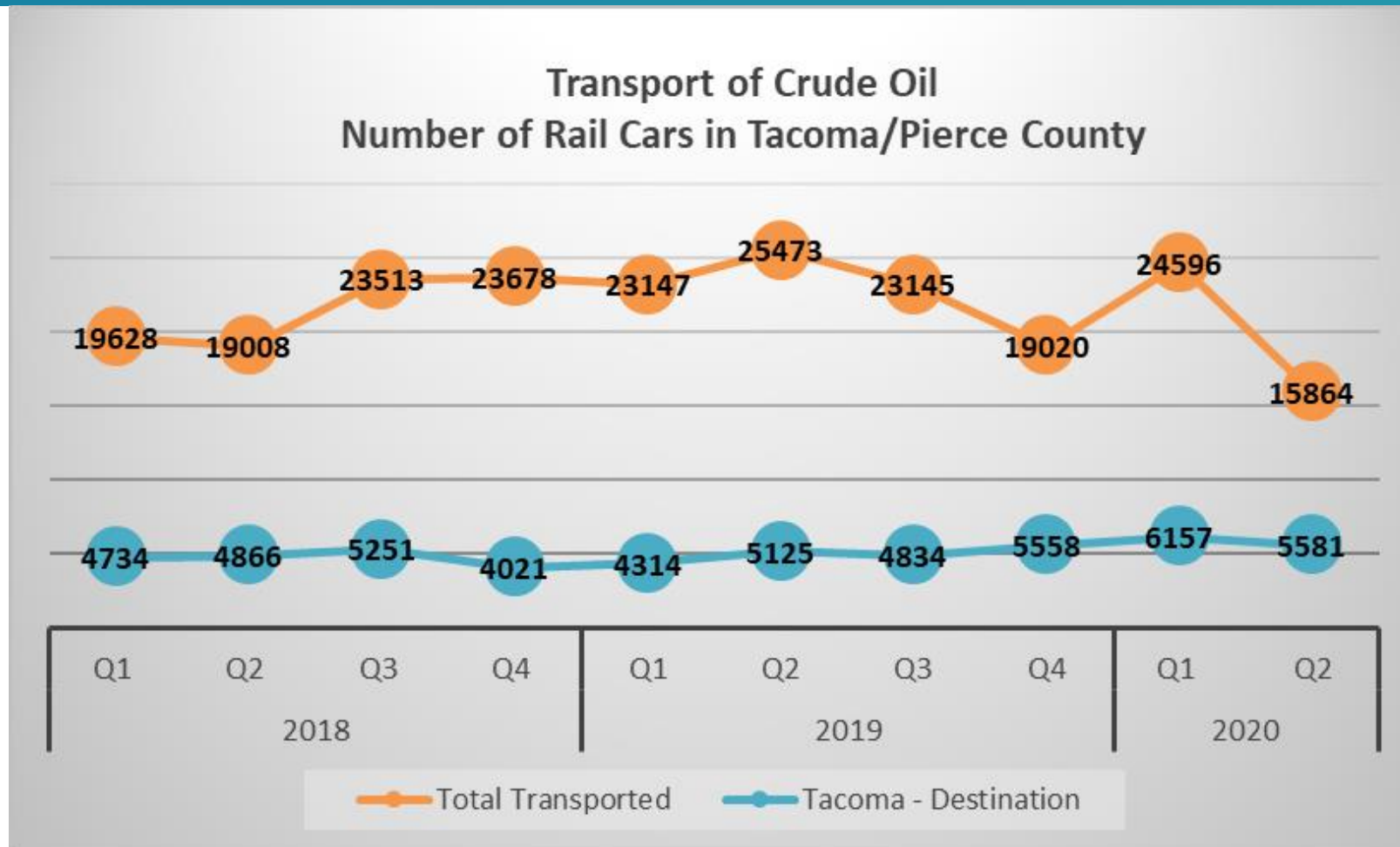


TIDEFLATS FOSSIL FUEL FACILITIES

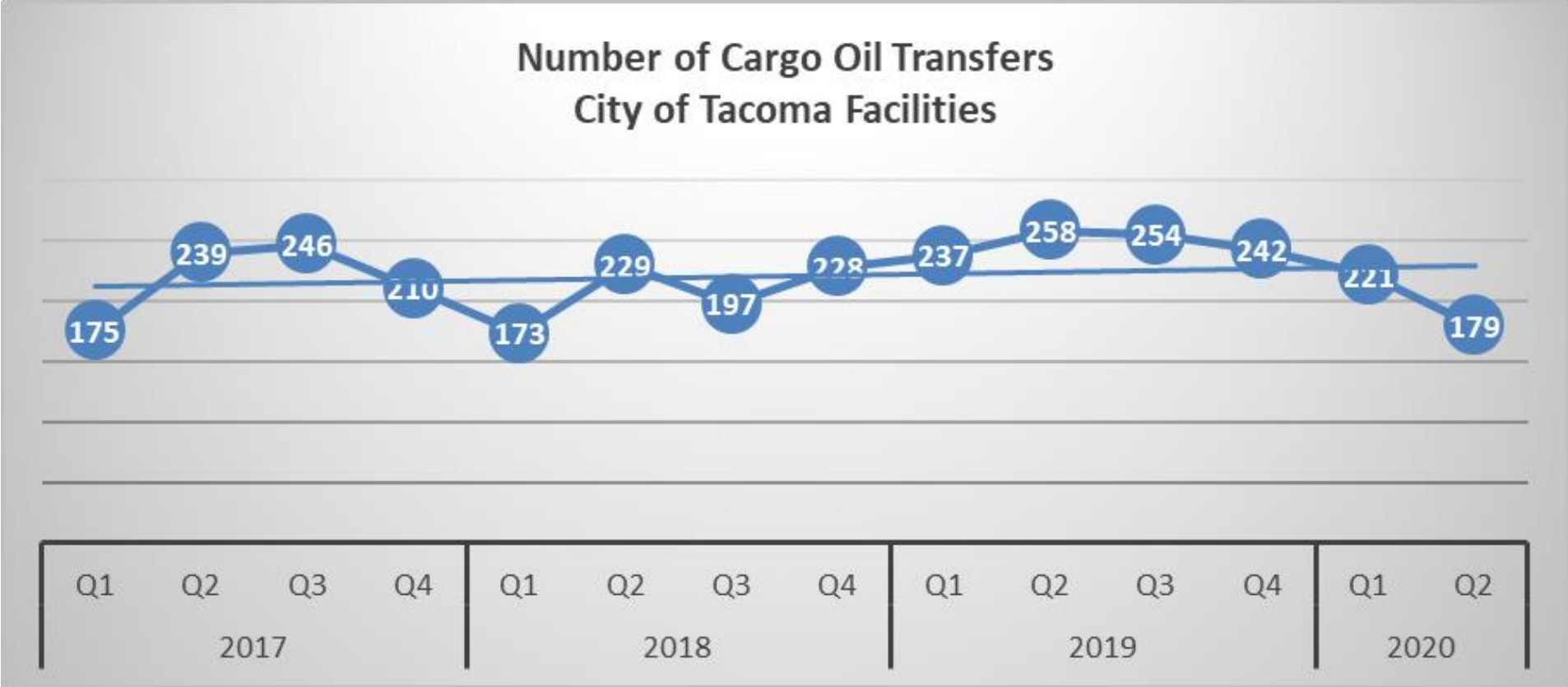
1. Seaport Sound Terminal (TARGA)
2. U.S. Oil
3. Conoco-Phillips
4. NuStar
5. Puget Sound Energy
6. Pacific Functional Fluids



TACOMA TRENDS – RAIL



TACOMA TRENDS - VESSEL TRANSFERS





City of Tacoma
Sustainable Tacoma Commission

October 26th, 2020

TO: Members of the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee

RE: Strengthening the City's commitment to decarbonization

Dear Members of the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee,

As part of our regular meetings and Environmental Action Plan (EAP) update process, the Sustainable Tacoma Commission has been reviewing our progress to date on our environmental and climate goals, and comparable plans in other jurisdictions. While we have made notable progress on some components of the plan including increasing energy efficiency in our buildings, it is clear that much stronger action is needed to meaningfully move our carbon emissions goals forward, as acknowledged by the Tacoma City Council in the December 2019 Climate Emergency Resolution (Res. 40509). While the City is working on the update to the EAP, we believe that Council has an opportunity to take a step in the interim to strengthen our commitment to our carbon reduction goals, while setting a positive example for our community members and local businesses.

We believe that a strong action for the City to lead by example in this way would be to take up a resolution to formalize the City's investments in clean-energy in new City-owned assets, specifically, investing in electric infrastructure in new buildings and an electric and efficient city fleet. We believe that this resolution, at this time, is a necessary first step for the following reasons:

- The 11th UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report from October 2018 states that we have only until 2030 to limit devastating global warming and avoid a climate catastrophe. Globally and locally, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities and low-income communities are most vulnerable to the financial and human health stresses or shocks resulting from climate damage, and are disproportionately impacted. The climate crisis poses an imminent, existential threat to all life on Earth that demands timely action at the scale and speed necessary to mitigate harm to all people, including the residents of the City of Tacoma,
- In December 2019, the City declared a Climate Emergency through Resolution 40509, which articulates the aspirational goal of “seeking a path to making City operations carbon neutral by 2050,” and permits the City Manager to identify and propose sustainable funding mechanisms for actions described in the EAP, including building electrification.

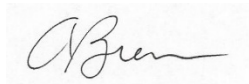
- The combined emissions from the City’s municipal buildings and fleet contribute approximately 68% of our overall municipal emissions, and we know that we cannot meet our municipal and community carbon reduction goals without tackling clean transportation and clean buildings as we move forward.
- In Washington State, homes and buildings are the single fastest growing source of carbon pollution, up 50% since 1990, and now account for 27% of Washington’s carbon emissions.
- Tacoma Public Utilities provides customers in Tacoma plentiful clean and comparatively affordable electricity for powering our municipal operations, maintenance, and growth, along with all of our community-wide energy needs
- The City of Tacoma has the opportunity to lead by example to make decisive, transformative, and sustainable changes in our municipal energy consumption, and can significantly lower the City’s greenhouse gas emissions and overall carbon impact
- Planning for clean energy in City assets represents a sound investment of the City’s resources into long-term infrastructure that is in line with our carbon reduction goals and is less costly and less risky than attempting to convert existing infrastructure in the future.
- Vulnerable, underrepresented, and historically oppressed communities in the City of Tacoma including, low-income, and those with pre-existing medical conditions, along with Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities are disproportionately harmed by indoor pollution (including from gas stoves) and outdoor air pollution, and have less access to healthcare and resources to mitigate this impact.

We envision this action containing the following elements, which we think will be an opportunity for the City of Tacoma to lead by example, prepare for the future, and safeguard the health of its employees and community at large:

1. Require that all new City-owned buildings and major renovations of existing buildings exclude natural gas and other fossil fuel energy sources, and include all-electric sources, except where exemptions are necessary. When fossil fuel infrastructure in existing buildings nears end of useful life, it should also be replaced with electric sources unless it is infeasible to do so. Both should be effective Jan 1, 2022.
2. Prioritize zero-emission vehicles, equipment, and fuels in all new purchasing wherever: (a) Suitable equipment exists for the duty, (b) Life Cycle Cost Analysis shows the premium at less than 10%, and (c) Suitable EV-charging infrastructure to recharge equipment is in place, or anticipated to be, preferably at the equipment’s assigned stationary location. The City already follows state law RCW 43.16.648 and Chapter 194-29 WAC that requires clean vehicles and fuels and describes “practicable use of electricity and biofuels to fuel local government vehicles, vessels, and construction equipment.”
3. The City shall encourage other local entities such as the County, school districts, and major institutions to join us in this step to invest in clean energy assets by adopting similar policies.

4. The City will direct an impact assessment on requiring all-electric heating and fuel sources in new development in the City, and will report back to the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee by May 1, 2021 with findings, including stakeholder involvement, that will look at potential opportunities and challenges on:
 - Public health and safety
 - Economics
 - Labor and workforce
 - Operations
 - Housing affordability
 - Equity
5. The Council should support a legislative agenda that improves the City's ability to advance decarbonization through increased electrification of energy use.

Sincerely,



Alexandria Brewer
Chair, Sustainable Tacoma Commission

CC: City of Tacoma Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability
Mike Slevin, Environmental Services Department Director
Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager



City of Tacoma Sustainable Tacoma Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: October 15, 2020

Commission Members Present:

Lexi Brewer, Nikie Walters, Matthew Benedict, Grace Hope, Phil Coughlan, Elly Claus-McGahan, Katin Kendrena, Ashley Sloan, David Thompson, Emily Pinckney, Tony Ivey

Commission Members Excused:

Evlondo Cooper, Gabe Moaalii

Commission Members Absent:

N/A

Others Present:

Commission Support Staff: Patrick Babbitt, Kristin Lynett, Jim Parvey, LaTasha Wortham, Steve Atkinson
Public: Deepa Sivarajan, Kat, Charles Neuman, Barbara Church, Kierra, Steve Nicholas

Call to Order

This meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Lexi Brewer at 5:00 p.m., including an acknowledgement of the occupied indigenous lands this Commission conducts its business on.

Approval of September 17, 2020, Meeting Minutes

Motion: To adopt meeting minutes as written. Motion made by Matthew Benedict.

Seconded by: Grace Hope

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion we declared adopted.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Evlondo Cooper, Gabe Moaalii

Approval of September 17, 2020, Meeting Agenda

Motion: To adopt meeting agenda as written. Motion made by Grace Hope.

Seconded by: Nikie Walters

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion we declared adopted.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Evlondo Cooper, Gabe Moaalii

Staff Updates

Staff acknowledged the Commission's new Vice-Chair, Grace Hope, and revisited a Vice-Chair's responsibilities, which include but are not limited to:

- Agenda input
- Meeting facilitation
- Subcommittee support
- Commissioner support and accountability
- Commission performance tracking and review
- Annual Commission report to Council

Staff provided a brief update to the Commission, based on their September Commission meeting activities related to Urban Forestry, that Tacoma's Tree Coupon program providing tree purchase discounts at participating nurseries is now active from October 1, 2020, through March 2021. This information can be found at: www.cityoftacoma.org/treecoupon.

Staff additionally updated the Commission about an October 2nd meeting with Deputy City Manager Wille that Commission Chair Brewer led. The Chair discussed the five priorities for 2020 that the Commission developed. The results of that meeting include:

- Chair brief Deputy City Manager on the building electrification draft resolution
- Deputy City Manager shared budget update timeline
- Deputy City Manager expressed support for climate planning work

As a result of the Commission's engagement with City Council about the Commission's 2020 priorities, two Councilmembers have invited the Commission to meet quarterly with them to discuss priorities on an ongoing basis. Councilmembers Beale and Walker will meet with Commissioners first on November 12th. Staff will coordinate Commission participation and preparation.

Sub-Committee Updates

Commission sub-committees revisited a working list of draft equity norms and processes to guide the Commission. This work on equity norms and processes will continue for an undetermined amount of time. Staff also supported Commissioners to learn about other cities' climate action plans as part of a learning process in which Commissioners will also oversee and make recommendations about Tacoma's climate planning process. Finally, staff supported Commissioners to draft a letter of recommendation regarding building electrification, to be brought forward and edited further this meeting.

Commission Business Items

Building Electrification Letter of Support

Brought forward by a Commission subcommittee, the Commission reviewed, edited, and adopted a letter of support for electrifying City buildings, including new constructions and significant renovations, the City fleet, and City equipment. It also recommends encouraging other local public agencies to move to clean energy assets, and supporting a legislative agenda in line with the City's vision to decarbonize its operations through increased electrification. Finally, it recommends that the City direct an impact assessment on requiring all-electric heating

and fuel sources in new development in Tacoma to be completed by May 1, 2021. This letter was re-framed from building electrification to general “decarbonization”.

Tacoma Tidelands: Subarea Planning, Interim Regulations, and Fossil Fuel Study – Steve Atkinson, Planning and Development Services (PDS), City of Tacoma

Steve gave a wide-ranging update to the Commission regarding multiple Tidelands-focused projects and processes. He explained the work plan and Public Engagement Plan for the subarea planning process, including upcoming meetings for the Tidelands Advisory Group (10/28) and Steering Committee (11/12). He also provided an overview of the purpose and main elements of the interim regulations, including the schedule for potentially updating the ordinance which otherwise expires on June 2, 2021. Finally, he provided an update on the status of the Fossil Fuel Study, which was delayed due to COVID-19 budgetary impacts. The study, for which funding was authorized on October 6, 2020, will continue in the near-term and be coordinated with subarea planning.

Climate Justice Planning Update – Kristin Lynett and Patrick Babbitt, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability (OEPS), City of Tacoma

There be no time for additional Commission activities, this business item was moved to the upcoming November 19, 2020, Commission meeting.

Public Comment

No written public comments were delivered. Written comments were required in line with Governor’s Inslee’s 20-28.11 proclamation requiring virtual public meetings while the COVID-19 pandemic remains a public health threat.

Objectives for or before the Next Meeting

- Subcommittee updates
- Home in Tacoma initiative update (possible)
- Transportation Master Plan and Vision Zero updates (possible)
- Pierce County-City of Tacoma Solid Waste Management Plan 2020 update (possible)
- Update from Environmental Policy and Sustainability Office staff about Climate Justice Planning

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. with a motion made by Tony Ivey and seconded by Grace Hope. The motion carried unanimously by present Commissioners. Evlondo Cooper and Gabe Moaalii were absent for this vote.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Thursday, November 19, 2020, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., at Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, Room 248.

Lexi Brewer, Chair

Patrick Babbitt, Staff / Note Taker