

CITY OF TACOMA COMMITTEES . BOARDS . COMMISSIONS

Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Committee Minutes

Hybrid Meeting, hosted virtually via Zoom and in person at Tacoma Municipal Building Thursday January 9, 2025

Call to Order	Vice Chair Edick called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM. Land Acknowledgement read out loud by Lucas Smiraldo
Commissioners Present	Officers: Vice Chair Edick Commissioners: Barfield, McRae, Skinner, Martin, Caldwell, Coleman
Commissioners Absent	Hester, (excused). Periman (excused) Sidhu (excused)
City Staff Present	Lucas Smiraldo and Gail Himes
Guests Present – Community	Ivan Tudela (Pierce County Human Services) and Julian Wheeler
Ice Breaker	" In 2024, who made your day?"
Adoption of Agenda	Caldwell moves to adopt, Edick seconds. Passed unanimously.
Acceptance of Minutes	Caldwell moved to accept, Martin seconds. Passed unanimously.
Public Comment	No public comment
Open Commission	Smiraldo:
Dialogue	 Who would you like to hear from internally and externally in 2025? What other topics are important to you this year? Commissioners would like to hear from new sidewalk manager in 2025
	Commissioners would like to hear from shelter providers

COD Members:, Chair; Amin Tony Hester, Vice Chair: Hayley Edick, Anthony Caldwell,

Lukas Barfield, Cheri D. Coleman, Aimee Sidhu, Wanda McRae, Billie Periman, Shatone Martin and Carletta Skinner

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	 Commissioners would like to hear from HR at DSHA around job postings and drivers license requirements Barfield: Tacoma for All Helped pass Housing for All initiative. Would like to hear from them particularly around renters rights. Caldwell: Person struck and killed on 72nd Street while trying to cross street and catch the bus. Happened Dec. 20th. Would like to visit speed mitigation strategies on these busy arterials. Skinner: Daily murders in unincorporated Pierce County where Skinner lives including at NE 18th near where Skinner lives. Need support to interrupt this ongoing threat. Her church did a prayer walk. Seniors don't go out after dark, and driving is dangerous due to speeding and reckless drivers. Edick Body found near a high school near her north end home. Takes her son to bus stop and waits because afraid her child is at risk waiting alone. Caldwell: Give kids a whistle, bell, alert item to draw attention. Coleman Consider chip sensor either in child's pocket or on child's body. Barfield Unsafe at many crosswalks. Need speed bumps to close folks down. During budget cuts, need to put pressure on leaders to keep ADA issues prominent. Get people out of street and into housing. Gail Himes—City upgrades street and ramps annually. 400-600 ramps each year. The Streets Initiative will focus more broadly
Chair Banarta	Vice Chair Edick
Chair Reports	
	Would like Transit center information so that people know where they need to stop. Ken Grimes from Pierce Transit can offer presentation on future of public transportation. Include this in our requests for presentations.
	Caldwell: Want to talk to Carrie Wilhelme about status of Vision Zero.

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Liaison Report – Office of Equity & Human Rights – Lucas Smiraldo	 Feasibility Study Update – Budget deliberations have delayed any follow up on the Accessible Taxi Study and Lucas is hoping the discussion will resume once final budget decisions are made for 2025, most likely by March.
	 Changes in Meeting 2025—This meeting on Thursday will be the regular meeting time moving forward in TMB 243.
	 Report from the New Integrated Office The new office is now known as The Center for Strategic Priorities and houses The Office of Equity and Human Rights, Office of Environmental Policy, and Sustainability (OEPS), and Government Relations. The join offices are preparing the roll out of plans and services in the next two months.
	4. Discussion on Network and Resources Lucas shared content of his discussion with Commissioner Coleman about the need for more than supplying community with lists and contact information. Change requires organizational capacity for case management, follow up and help
	Coleman —Looking for how information gets shared, and folks are helped through the system. Need for training professionals how to navigate information and assist people through it. Himes -Connect to 211?
	Coleman -DSHS does not help people on how to find and access information. Need to develop a system on where to go and how to monitor.
	Caldwell -Need to determine how to distribute resources and how to implement them. Should include lists, phone numbers and what they provide.
Action Items	 Schedule a subcommittee meeting of Resource Platform to develop a work plan which could include creating another subcommittee serving the objectives of this committee.

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Emergency Management—	Holloway—Tragic happenings in southern California. In these disasters disabled people suffer the most so we need to raise our voices. Need to learn from Maui and Southern California including building an organized evacuation plan. Am sending a Access and Functional Needs flyer about free two-day summit on inclusive disaster preparedness scheduled for May. Commissioners may download or will also be forwarded by email.
Ivan Tudela– Pierce County Human Services	Human Services is sponsoring point in time training and count and commissioners are encouraged to participate and spread the word.
Report from PCAC	No report
Committee Reports	See above
Individual Commissioner Reports	Edick: Companies are seeking to make websites more accessible but not delivering. Commissioners should review and offer those sources input. Tacoma School District websites are one recent example. They are not coded right. Barfield: Several Councilmembers including Bushnell, Scott, Diaz and Mayor Woodard are co-sponsoring legislation that will decriminalize several psychedelic medications.
Invitation for Community Input	
New Business or Good of the Order	None
Adjournment	Moved by Caldwell. Seconded. Passed. 6:06 PM

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