



## City of Tacoma

# Community's Police Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 9, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

6:00 p.m.

**The CPAC is comprised of Chair Allen McKenzie, Vice-Chair Louis Cooper, and Committee Members Angela Mealing, Ralette Churchill, Esther Evans, Adrienne Jones, John Borden, and Tracy Jones**

**Members Present:** Angela Mealing, Louis Cooper, Allen McKenzie, John Borden, Tracy Jones, Esther Evans

**Members Absent:** Adrienne Jones, Ralette Churchwell

**Staff and Liaisons Present:** Executive Liaison Sonja Hallum, Lieutenant Jeffrey Katz, CPAC Staff Liaison Ted Richardson, Carrie Wilhelme with Public Works

**Staff Absent:** TPD Assistant Chief C. Karl, Council Liaison Mayor Victoria Woodards

### Call to Order

Called to order by Chair Allen McKenzie at 6:06pm

### Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the agenda for the CPAC meeting held on December 9, 2024

Passed at 6:07pm

### Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the November 6, 2024 CPAC meeting.

Motion passed at 6:08pm

## City Reports

### **City Manager's Office**

- 6:08pm – Ted gave an update on recruitment, more information can be found at [www.cityoftacoma.org/cbc](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/cbc)

### **Tacoma Police Department**

- 6:08pm –
  - 25 police officer vacancies, actively hiring, [www.reflectandprotect.org](http://www.reflectandprotect.org)
  - Ride-a-long, talk to lieutenant Katz, [jkatz@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:jkatz@cityoftacoma.org)
  - Toy and coat drive event: The Tacoma Police Department is partnering with organizations to provide toys and coats to children at the Community Annual Holiday Giveaway. The events are happening simultaneously on December 21 at The Peoples Community Center, located at 1602 Martin Luther King Jr Way and First Creek Middle School, located at 1801 E 56th St from 12noon to 3pm. The toys and coats are being given away on a RSVP basis, through local Pierce County Schools and local community organizations. Contact Bervin Smith at 253 290-9238 or [BSmith7@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:BSmith7@cityoftacoma.org).

## Presentations and Discussions

### **Automated Enforcement Task Force Recruitment**

- 6:15pm – Carrie Wilhelme, Long Range Transportation Planner, from Public Works gave a presentation on Tacoma Automated Enforcement program (traffic cameras).
  - Request is that one CPAC member serve on a limited-duration AE Task Force.
  - Carrie provided an overview of current AE practice, engrossed house bill ESHB 2384 that expanded where AE can be used.
  - Task Force meetings will be 1-1.5 hours each, will begin in February, held over lunch hour, 5-6 total meetings.

### **Complaint Review**

- 6:30pm – 7:30pm
- 23COM-0144: Officer improperly impounded complainant's vehicle. Allen noted that multiple complaints similar to this have come up, but most were Unsustained as car was properly tagged. This time the vehicle was not properly tagged, hence the Sustained finding. Officer thought they had followed the correct procedure.
  - It would be nice to know for CPAC and for complainant what happened to the officer following the Sustained finding. John suggested that if a clause in the complaint specific to what happened to that officer wasn't possible, perhaps a generalized clause in regards to the possible disciplinary / counseling outcomes would suffice as a second option to include in the memo back to the complainant. Katz stated that he needs to revisit the discipline disclosure policy.
  - Esther noted her appreciation of the use of the BWC during a phone call. It makes it much clearer and easier to investigate. She did wonder if an officer who'd chosen to

turn on his BWC (doing so to record a phone call is discretionary per TPD policy) was found to be in violation of policy might later be less likely to turn on the BWC in a future situation. Esther suggested that all investigative phone calls should be recorded.

- 23COM-0145: Complainant was upset that officers searched his backpack after he was arrested when he'd requested that it be given to his mom. Lt. Katz explained the search the backpack incident to arrest was supported by current caselaw and not a violation of TPD policy. .
- 23COM-0011: The complainant's 14-year-old daughter ran away from her in a shelter to return home to grandmother, complainant called police to get her back but was using narcotics. Officer called supervisor and agreed daughter was best left with the grandmother until custody could be decided by a court.
- 23COM-0034: Louis recused himself from the review of this case. Much of complaint is directed at Pierce County Medical Examiner so outside of TPD's purview. Mother of homicide victim was upset with how she was treated by TPD detective at the crime scene, including allegedly being thrown against a fence. Situation was horrific. CPAC members chose not to discuss it in much detail.
- 23COM-0039: Complainant alleges he was improperly placed into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Violent Offender / Threat to Law Enforcement File. Conversation followed about what would get someone onto the list and the process someone would have to go through to remove themselves from the list.

#### **Public Comment**

- 7:30pm – Nancy: what if someone makes a complaint but TPD Internal Affairs never feels like filing it. Is there an “unsustained” before its even heard.

7:35 – Technical blip, TMB 220A, Ted's laptop, and Lt. Katz got booted from the meeting, were both successful logging back on. Recording stopped at this point because Ted's computer was all booted from the meeting. Committee members waited for staff to return before resuming discussion.

#### **Subcommittee Reports**

##### **Policy Subcommittee**

- 7:39pm – currently reviewing lactation breaks policy.

##### **Outreach Subcommittee**

- 7:40pm – Met with Sonja in November to set goals and will work on those for December meeting to be successful in 2025.

##### **Oversight Subcommittee**

- None at this time

##### **Upcoming Important Dates**

- December 10, 5pm City Council – 2025-26 Biennial Budget Final Reading
- December 17, noon Study Session – Alternative Response (Fire, Police, NCS)
- December 21, 12-3pm – TPD gift drive and coat drive at People's Community Center and First Creek Middle School

**Other Items of Interest**

**Adjournment**

Motion passed at 7:44 pm

*Allen McKenzie*

Allen McKenzie, Chair

*Ted Richardson*

Ted Richardson, Staff Liaison