



# City of Tacoma Human Rights Commission

December 9, 2024

5:30 pm

In Person and Virtual Meeting

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## **In Person Instructions for Public**

747 Market Street  
Conference Room #138  
Tacoma, WA 98402

## **Virtual Meeting Instruction for the Public**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81908915518>

Meeting ID: 819 0891 5518

**Members:** Chair Verda Washington, First Vice Chair Mona Baghdadi, Second Vice Scott Schubert, C. Ivan Johnson, Lily Nop, Lisa Hamlin, Lohitvenkatesh Oswal, Mary Ann Lara

## **Study Session**

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| I. Tacoma Psychedelic Society<br>5:30 pm – 5:45 pm | Lukas Barfield |
| II. Workers Bill of Rights<br>5:45 pm – 6:00 pm    | Michael Whalen |

## **Business Meeting**

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| I. Call to Order/Roll Call<br>6:00 pm – 6:33 pm | Chair Washington |
| II. Statement of Purpose<br>6:33 pm – 6:36 pm   |                  |

We convene this meeting to study and investigate problems of prejudice, bigotry, and discrimination and to encourage and coordinate the implementation of programs consistent with the needs and rights of all residents of the City of Tacoma.

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| III. Land Acknowledgment<br>6:36 pm – 6:39 pm |  |
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*The Commission acknowledges that the meeting is being conducted on Indigenous lands of the Puyallup People, who cared for their ancestral lands before the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854 removed native peoples to clear way for colonial settlement. It is important to this Commission as settlers here, aspiring to care for immigrants and refugees in this place and to call it home, that we acknowledge and send gratitude to the Puyallup Tribe of Indians who continue to be leaders for justice in our community today.*

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| IV. Consent Agenda<br>6:39 pm – 6:45 pm          | Chair Washington |
| a. Approval of December 9, 2024, Agenda          |                  |
| b. Approval of November 4, 2024, Meeting Minutes |                  |

**V. Public Comment**

6:45 pm – 6:50 pm

*All written public comment must be submitted in writing at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.*

**VI. Finalize 2025 Work Plan/Update Vision Statement/Update Mission Statement**

City Staff

**6:50 pm – 7:10 pm**

**HRC Vision Statement: consensus that statement needs revision**

“The City of Tacoma will be recognized as a bias free city, known for its appreciation and respect for its diverse population and free of prejudice, bigotry, and discrimination.”

**HRC Mission Statement: consensus that statement needs revision**

“In association with other organizations and individuals, we will provide leadership and support in eliminating discrimination and prejudice through enforcement of anti-discrimination laws and education programs.”

**VII. Commission Affairs**

7:10 pm – 7:20 pm

.Committee Updates

Updates from Committee Chairs

- Policy, Advocacy and Accountability Committee
  - Follow up - Housing Equity Research Packet
- Racial Equity and Justice Committee
- Education and Outreach Committee
  - Community Forums – 2025

**VIII. City Staff Updates**

7:20 pm – 7:25 pm

City Staff

**IX. Items to Consider for Next Meeting & Announcements**

Chair Washington

7:25 pm – 7:30 pm

**X. Adjourn**

7:30 pm

**Next In Person and Virtual Meeting – January 13, 2025**

**Why do we recognize the land?**

To recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory you reside on, and a way of honoring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial. It is important to understand the long-standing history that has brought you to reside on the land, and to seek to understand your place within that history. Land acknowledgements do not exist in a past tense, or historical context: colonialism is a current ongoing process, and we need to build our mindfulness of our present participation. It is also worth noting that acknowledging the land is Indigenous protocol.

–<http://www.lspirg.org/knowtheland>

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