



# Agenda

## Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

Date: October 29, 2019

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Location: Room 248, Tacoma Municipal Building (747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402)

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**I. Call Meeting to Order – Chair Mok**

**II. Statement of Purpose – Chair Mok**

We convene this meeting to advance the City of Tacoma’s mission to “reducing barriers to access and participation in Tacoma’s economic, cultural, and civic life for immigrants and refugees.” This Commission aspires to help “make the City more vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming for all.”

**III. Land Acknowledgment – Chair Mok**

*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.*

**IV. Record of Attendance and Excusal of Absences – Chair Mok**

___ Jefferson Mok (Chair)	___ Perla Gamboa (Vice-Chair)
___ Jason Gamboa	___ Hieu Nguyen
___ Diana Parra	___ Saiyare Refaei
___ Alma Vargas	___ Clara Zamalloa

**V. Consent on Agendas – Vice-Chair Gamboa**

- a. Approval of Meeting Agenda (Yay/Nay Votes)
- b. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Yay/Nay Votes)

**VI. Commission Affairs – Chair & Vice Chair**

- a. Council Members Keith Blocker and Catherine Ushka (Tentative)
- b. Committee Updates: Activities, Proposals, and Objectives
  - Community Engagement
  - Community Safety
  - Language Access
  - Northwest Detention Center
  - Governance

**VII. Community Affairs – Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Chairs**

- a. Community Engagement Opportunities
  - Census Employment Opportunities
  - Día de los Muertos – Nov. 2
- b. Commissioners’ Community Updates and Announcements
- c. Upcoming CIRA Events – Discussion about next month’s agenda
  - December Meeting Date
  - Topics? Potential Guests?
  - Coffee with the Mayor – 9 a.m., November 9 (Not public)
  - Next Community Vitality and Safety meetings – 4:30 p.m., Nov. 14 & 28, 2019
  - Full City Calendar here: <https://cityoftacoma.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

**VIII. City Staff Updates**

- a. Meeting Nov 14 - 11am: Data dive with community partners on foreign-born population
- b. Meeting TBD: Staff “Lunch and Learn” about accessing the city wide language access services
- c. City 3rd Quarter Workforce Diversity Report
- d. Protocol for Culturally Responsive Organizations Landscape Assessment

**IX. Public Comment**

**X. Items for Next Meeting**

**XI. Adjourn**

**Commissioners**

Jefferson Mok (Chair)  
Jason Gamboa  
Diana Parra  
Alma Vargas

Perla Gamboa (Vice Chair)  
Hieu Nguyen  
Saiyare Refaei  
Clara Zamalloa

## Meeting Notes and Reminders

- Regular Meetings Frequency: **Fourth** Monday of every month at 5:30 pm

### 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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## NOTES

### Commissioners

Jefferson Mok (Chair)  
Jason Gamboa  
Diana Parra  
Alma Vargas

Perla Gamboa (Vice Chair)  
Hieu Nguyen  
Saiyare Refaei  
Clara Zamalloa