



Agenda

Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

Date: January 27, 2020

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

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

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 – Vice Chair Gamboa

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)
____ Jason Gamboa
____ Diana Parra
____ Alma Vargas

____ Perla Gamboa (Vice-Chair)
____ Hieu Nguyen
____ Saiyare Refaei
____ 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. Open Introductions (30 min) – CIRA, guests, and community members
- b. Elections and Census Outreach Update (20 min) – Julie Anderson, Pierce County Auditor
- c. CIRA Annual Report – due to CVS Committee on February 27, 2020
 - i. **ACTION:** Input of key highlights requested from each committee.

d. Committee Updates: Activities, Proposals, and Objectives

- Community Engagement
- Community Safety
- Language Access
- Northwest Detention Center
- Governance

Community Affairs – Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Chairs

e. Community Engagement Opportunities

- 2nd Coffee with the Mayor – With focus on immigrant and refugee communities
- Welcoming Week 2020 – Subcommittee
- Planning for new CIRA members – reception in May

f. Commissioners' Community News and Announcements

g. Upcoming CIRA Events – Discussion about next month's agenda and activities

- Topics? Potential Guests?
- Census Task Force – TBD
- Next Community Vitality and Safety meetings – 4:30p.m. 2/13 and 2/27
- Full City Calendar here: <https://cityoftacoma.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

VII. City Staff Updates

- a. Follow-up updates of items recently voted upon by CIRA
- b. Update on CIRA recruitment outreach and application process
- c. Meeting TBD: Staff "Lunch and Learn" about accessing the city wide language access services
- d. City Workforce Diversity Report 3rd Quarter & Discussion about Paid Internships
- e. Protocol for Culturally Responsive Organizations Landscape Assessment of Practices

VIII. Public Comment

IX. Items for Next Meeting

X. 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 p.m.

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

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