

**Minutes  
Joint Municipal Action Committee Meeting  
Quarterly Meeting  
August 17, 2012**

**PRESENT:** Lauren Walker, Chair (Tacoma City Council)  
Rick Talbert, Vice-Chair (Pierce County Council)  
Aaron Pointer (Metropolitan Park Board)  
Tim Reid (Metropolitan Park Board)  
Carla Santorno (Tacoma School District)  
T.C. Broadnax (City of Tacoma)  
Debbie Winskill (Tacoma School Board)  
Anders Ibsen (Tacoma City Council)  
Don Meyer (Port of Tacoma)  
Scott Heinze (Tacoma School Board)  
Nancy Davis (Metropolitan Park District)  
Evette Mason (Port of Tacoma)  
Minutes taken by Metro Parks Tacoma

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Lauren Walker called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

The attendees introduced themselves. Also in attendance were Pat McCarthy, Pierce County Executive; Andrea Smith, Metro Parks Tacoma; John Wolfe, Port of Tacoma; Kell McAboy, Port of Tacoma; Wayne Williams, Metro Parks Tacoma; Linda Villegas-Bremer, Human Rights; Roslyn McDama, Tacoma Public Schools; and John Larson, Tacoma Weekly.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Motion was moved by Vice-Chair Rick Talbert and seconded by Anders Ibsen for approval of the agenda. The chair declared the motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was moved by Vice-Chair Rick Talbert and seconded by Aaron Pointer for approval of the minutes of July 13, 2012. The chair declared the motion passed.

**PORT OF TACOMA STRATEGIC PLAN**

Don Meyer showed the Port of Tacoma's brochure outlining their Strategic Plan for 2012-2022. Their goals include enhancing the Port's competitive position. This is a very different competitive situation than they have had in the past, and they want to make sure their equipment is good, and the waterway deep enough for the new larger ships.

John Wolfe stated that they are excited to have this “road map” for their strategic plan. We are the third largest gateway for cargo. Competition is huge, and Canada is one of our competitive ports. If they take business from us, it will take away jobs from our area. The ripple effect will impact trucking jobs, and will also impact tax revenue which provides for community services.

The number one priority is to support cargo by widening the waterway, putting larger cranes in the terminals for larger vessels, and improving roads that lead to the Port terminals.

The Port recently took on 25 percent more business, which initially was overwhelming. Connection to SR 167 would ease traffic on I-5, and needs to be a priority, but they do not have money to fund the road project. They do not have state money to tap into, but the east coast does, which could take the port business and jobs from this area.

Pat McCarthy stated that this is a priority project to the state. Mr. Wolfe stated that the problem is that we do not have the state funds to match the federal money. We need to pass the transportation package at the state level so we do not fall behind. For the short term, he has worked with the City of Tacoma to sync traffic lights for faster traffic flow.

Mr. Reid stated that this is an ongoing issue, and he would like to have reports on progress.

## **PORT OF TACOMA PUBLIC ACCESS MAP**

Kell McAboy stated that the Port worked with the City of Tacoma in updating the city’s master program. The Port will provide public access state wide, and shoreline permits. They had a Port Commissioner meeting to review the plan.

Evette Mason handed out the Tacoma Waterfront map for public access and stated that it was a collaborative effort with Nancy Johnson, Metro Parks Tacoma; and Steve Atkinson, City of Tacoma. This two sided map will go to print on Monday, and will be distributed to public areas. It is also on Metro Parks Tacoma’s website.

This idea was driven by Clare Petrich.

## **DRAFT RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT**

Scott Heinze presented the Tacoma Resolution No. 1916 for kids in our community to help stop dropouts. He sent it to the committee via email prior to the meeting.

The purpose of the resolution is to change how we talk about kids and families, and schools and community. We need to think of ways to leverage resources to prepare kids for college and to change social justice issues. The purpose of the resolution is to keep kids in school so that they graduate, and build kids’ resiliency. He does not have a list of things to do to accomplish this, but wants to start with the conversation and give us a platform on how to view kids, school, and the city. Currently there is a negative perception of kids in Tacoma. We need to work to change this message.

Mr. Heinze would like the committee to pass the resolution in their governing bodies, and get it out to the community. Chair Walker will put it forward to the city council.

The motion to approve Resolution No. 1916 was moved by Anders Ibsen and seconded by Vice-Chair Rick Talbert. The chair declared the motion passed.

## **CEO PRESENTATIONS ON BUDGETS**

T.C. Broadnax from the City of Tacoma reported that they have gone “Back to Basics” in their budget for 2013-2014 Biennium. Their three “Cs” are: Core Service, Continuous Improvement, and Credibility. He presented their adopted budget, stating that a large percent of their money is spent on public safety. Services have been cut, but they would like to get them back. They want to hear back from the community about the budget, and have questionnaires online.

Pat McCarthy reported on the Pierce County budget. In 2009 they were facing a budget deficit. They had two supplemental budget reductions, reducing their staff from 3,500 to 3,000 through attrition and layoffs. They also had furloughs, and zero COLA for one year. They only have revenue from sales tax and property tax. Vice-Chair Talbert stated that times are lean. They have gone back to the basics, but have had to get rid of programs people rely on and need.

Carla Santorno, Tacoma School District, stated that they need more students. They are down 4,000 since 2001. They do have a large kindergarten group this year. The McCleary decision finalized, requiring the state to fully fund basic education. This means that there will be no cuts to basic education. Roslyn McDama stated that the hole in the budget will be patched using one time funds.

Wayne Williams, Metro Parks Tacoma, stated that their general fund is largely comprised of property and sale tax revenue. The long term forecast for lost revenue is significant. Currently, moving from the 2011-12 to 2013 there is a drop of approximately 7-8% in property revenue and 10% cut in budget. They received a Levy Lid Lift in 2010 and at this point are back at a pre-levy level. In 2012 several new 2005 capital bond assets will come on line, and a full year of maintenance and operation expenses will begin. Property taxes will eventually increase in the future but revenue losses will not be recaptured. They also have revenue from the City of Tacoma Inter-local agreement. There is also Enterprise revenue which is influenced by trends such as with golfing (Meadow Park Golf Course) and boating (Point Defiance Boathouse). They will need to make reductions or modifications in services to meet their biennial budget. The 2005 Bond improvements are targeted to be finished in 2013-14. They will focus on how to maintain levels of service to the community, build partnerships and sustain current operating levels. Approximately three percent for sales tax has been forecasted but they remain conservative.

## **SETTING NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

- Legislature
- Port of Tacoma: Actions to help as a Committee

### Future Agenda Items

Point Defiance Pagoda Update (Metro Parks Tacoma) (September)

Pool Gap Analysis (Metro Parks Tacoma) (September)

Innovation in Schools (October)

Innovative, Groundbreaking Items (October)  
Legislative Priorities – McCleary Decision (October)  
Capital Projects (October)  
Affordable Housing Policies (Anders Ibsen)  
Six Year Transportation Program (Anders Ibsen, COT) (September)  
Potential Collaboration on TV Broadcast Access  
Brainstorm Future JMAC Meeting Topics  
Use of City Facilities for School Board Meetings  
Shoreline Management Plan Update (Brynn Brady)

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Friday, September 14, 2012, at 8:00 a.m. in Conference Room 248.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

Note: Minutes for September to be taken by Tacoma School District.