



## Legislation Passed June 30, 2020

The Tacoma City Council, at its regular City Council meeting of June 30, 2020, adopted the following resolutions and/or ordinances. The summary of the contents of said resolutions and/or ordinances are shown below. To view the full text of the document, click on the bookmark at the left of the page.

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### **Resolution No. 40619**

A resolution appointing Nikie Walters to the Sustainable Tacoma Commission.  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

### **Resolution No. 40620**

A resolution encouraging the residents of the City of Tacoma to use face coverings or masks when in public spaces.  
[Council Member Ushka]

### **Amended Resolution No. 40621**

A resolution establishing a communications protocol for any death that occurs while an individual is in the custody of Tacoma Police or as the result of the use of deadly force by Tacoma Police.  
[Mayor Woodards]

### **Resolution No. 40622**

A resolution affirming the City Council's dedication and commitment to comprehensive and sustained transformation of all of the institutions, systems, policies, practices, and contracts impacted by systemic racism, with initial priority being given to policing in the City of Tacoma.  
[Mayor Woodards]

### **Ordinance No. 28677**

An ordinance amending Amended Substitute Ordinance No. 28624, relating to Firearms and Ammunition Tax, to change the effective date of the tax from July 1, 2020, to a date to be determined by the City Council in January 2021, and making this ordinance effective on July 1, 2020.  
[Danielle Larson, Tax and License Manager; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]



## RESOLUTION NO. 40619

1 BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS BEALE, HUNTER, McCARTHY,  
2 AND WALKER

3 A RESOLUTION relating to committees, boards, and commissions; appointing an  
4 individual to the Sustainable Tacoma Commission.

5 WHEREAS a vacancy exists on the Sustainable Tacoma Commission, and

6 WHEREAS, at its meeting of February 19, 2020, the Infrastructure, Planning,

7 and Sustainability Committee conducted interviews and recommended Nikie

8 Walters to a short list for future vacancies on the Commission as they occur, and

9 WHEREAS a Commissioner has vacated their position as of June 7, 2020,  
10 which has created a vacancy, and

11 WHEREAS, pursuant to City Charter 2.4 and the Rules, Regulations, and  
12 Procedures of the City Council, Nikie Walters has been nominated to serve on the  
13 Sustainable Tacoma Commission; Now, Therefore,  
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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

That Nikie Walters is hereby confirmed and appointed as a member of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission, to fill an unexpired term to expire April 30, 2022.

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney



## RESOLUTION NO. 40620

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR WOODARDS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS HUNTER,  
2 THOMS, AND USHKA

3 A RESOLUTION encouraging the residents of the City of Tacoma to use face  
4 coverings or masks when in public spaces.

5 WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, the Governor of the state of Washington  
6 issued Proclamation 20-05, declaring a public health state of emergency for all  
7 counties in Washington State due to the novel coronavirus COVID-19, and

8 WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Governor issued Proclamation 20-25  
9 which extended the state of emergency, established the "Stay Home, Stay  
10 Healthy" order, and prohibited all people from leaving their homes except for those  
11 engaged in or obtaining essential services, and  
12

13 WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the City of Tacoma proclaimed a State of  
14 Emergency related to COVID-19, and

15 WHEREAS the Governor subsequently provided a Safe Start four-phase  
16 recovery plan to restart business and modify physical distancing requirements  
17 when disease activity is adequately suppressed and readiness in key areas is  
18 achieved, and  
19

20 WHEREAS, on June 5, 2020, the Secretary of Health approved Pierce  
21 County's application to move to Phase 2 of the state's Safe Start recovery plan,  
22 which allows for modified restrictions on businesses and other areas of public life,  
23  
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WHEREAS, effective June 8, 2020, the Governor required all employees to wear face coverings at work if they are not working alone or cannot maintain physical distance, and

WHEREAS, effective June 26, the Governor will require statewide mandatory face coverings when in a public space, and

WHEREAS there will be specific exemptions for those who may be adversely impacted by wearing a facial covering, and these exemptions include those with certain medical conditions and children under the age of two, who should not wear a face covering, and

WHEREAS children aged two, three, and four are encouraged, but not required, to wear a face covering in public with the assistance and supervision of an adult, and

WHEREAS individuals may remove face coverings under certain circumstances, including while eating or drinking at a restaurant; while communicating with a person who is deaf or hard of hearing; and while outdoors in public areas, provided that a distance of six feet is maintained from people who are not members of their household, and

WHEREAS, in order to protect the health of our residents and our economy, it is vital for our community to commit to acting in ways that avoid risking our hard-fought progress, and even with the relaxed restrictions, it is more important than ever to engage in activities to prevent the spread of disease, such as maintaining physical distance of six feet from others, practicing good hygiene, staying home when sick, and wearing a face covering, and



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WHEREAS cases of COVID-19 in Pierce County are once again on the rise, with an infection rate of 31.5 per 100,000 residents in the last 14 days, as of June 24, 2020, and

WHEREAS, given the widespread community transmission of COVID-19, wearing a face covering over the nose and mouth designed to prevent the spread of respiratory droplets provides an extra layer of protection, especially when one cannot easily keep physical distance from others, and

WHEREAS wearing a face covering protects the health of others in our community, because a significant portion of people who have COVID-19 do not show symptoms and can spread the virus before realizing they are sick, unknowingly endangering the lives of loved ones and essential workers, and

WHEREAS the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department recommend that all people wear face coverings when in public, and

WHEREAS the City of Tacoma received 70,000 masks from our Sister City of Fuzhou, China, and is partnering with local community groups to distribute them to communities within the City in the greatest need through organizations such as shelters for the unhoused, Tacoma Public Schools, community and senior centers, Tacoma community food banks, home healthcare providers, and day care providers, and

WHEREAS public health data shows infection rates disproportionately impact marginalized communities, including American Indian/Alaskan Native,



Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic, and Native Hawaiian or Pacific  
1 Islander communities, and

2 WHEREAS, according to the CDC, long-standing systemic health and  
3 social inequities have put some members of racial and ethnic minority groups at  
4 increased risk of getting COVID-19 or experiencing severe illness, regardless of  
5 age, and  
6

7 WHEREAS, of the 70,000 masks received, 13,800 will specifically be  
8 distributed to underrepresented communities most affected by COVID-19, after  
9 consultation with and in coordination with community organizations representing  
10 and serving these communities, and  
11

12 WHEREAS the City partners with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health  
13 Department to coordinate and amplify public health messages, including messages  
14 around wearing masks and practicing social distancing; Now, Therefore,

15 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA**

16  
17 Section 1. That residents of the City of Tacoma are encouraged to comply  
18 with Governor Inslee's order to wear face coverings or masks when they are in  
19 outdoor or indoor public areas, when they do not meet the exemption criteria,  
20 especially when they cannot maintain a physical distance of six feet from others.

21  
22 Section 2. That the City Council will use its influence and communication  
23 channels to encourage all residents of the City to wear face coverings in public,  
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1 practice good hygiene and sanitation, limit travel, and follow recommendations to  
2 reduce the spread of COVID-19.

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4 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

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6 \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

7 Attest:

8 \_\_\_\_\_  
9 City Clerk

10 Approved as to form:

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12 \_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

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## RESOLUTION NO. 40621

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR WOODARDS, DEPUTY MAYOR BLOCKER, AND  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER HUNTER

3 A RESOLUTION establishing a communications protocol for any death that  
4 occurs while an individual is in the custody of Tacoma Police or as the  
5 result of the use of deadly force by Tacoma Police.

6 WHEREAS high-profile cases in Tacoma and across the nation have  
7 raised questions regarding the impacts of implicit bias and systemic racism in  
8 policing, and lead to calls for increased transparency and communications from  
9 law enforcement agencies and the government bodies that oversee them, and

10 WHEREAS the Equity and Empowerment framework, adopted by the City  
11 Council in 2014, makes equity a consistent guiding principle across the entire  
12 organization and calls out specific goals to guide operational and policy decisions,  
13 including a commitment to equity in policy-making, and

14 WHEREAS a Black resident of Tacoma, Manuel Ellis, died in Tacoma  
15 Police custody during an incident which ensued on March 3, 2020, and

16 WHEREAS the City Manager and Mayor were notified by Tacoma Police by  
17 e-mail on the morning of March 4, 2020, and

18 WHEREAS, under a City policy establishing independent investigations for  
19 deaths in custody, Tacoma Police also communicated that the Pierce County  
20 Sheriff's Department had been asked to handle the investigation of the death, and

21 WHEREAS a media release from the Pierce County Sheriff's Office on  
22 March 4, 2020, provided notice of the death in custody and an account of the  
23 events that took place on March 3, 2020, and  
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1 WHEREAS the Tacoma News Tribune reported on the death in custody on  
2 March 4, 2020 and March 5, 2020, and

3 WHEREAS the Pierce County Sheriff's Office did not provide updates to the  
4 Mayor or City Manager related to the status of the investigation until June 2020;  
5 according to standard procedures for independent investigations, the Tacoma  
6 Police Department did not receive any updates on the substance of the  
7 investigation, and

8 WHEREAS, in a press conference held on June 4, 2020, the Ellis family  
9 noted a lack of communication from public officials regarding the death of Mr. Ellis,  
10 and indicated a belief that attention was drawn to Mr. Ellis's case only after their  
11 work with the Tacoma Action Collective and their individual efforts to raise  
12 awareness; the death of George Floyd; and the rise of demonstration activity  
13 across the nation, as well as in Tacoma, and

14 WHEREAS the City is developing a long-term approach to reforming the  
15 City's criminal justice system and establishing an anti-racist recovery plan, which  
16 will involve the City's Citizen Police Advisory Committee and will incorporate  
17 feedback from Tacoma residents, the Project Peace Executive Board, key  
18 stakeholders, community leaders, those most impacted by systemic racism, and  
19 experts in reform, and

20 WHEREAS, simultaneously, there are interim policy changes and process  
21 improvements which can be implemented immediately to improve transparency  
22 and accountability in our criminal justice system, and  
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1 WHEREAS establishing a process for communications for any death  
2 occurring in police custody or as the result of the use of deadly force by Tacoma  
3 police is one such action, and

4 WHEREAS this communications protocol is intended to be established as  
5 an interim process, subject to review and refinement as the City works through a  
6 formal and comprehensive reform; Now, Therefore,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA

8 Section 1. That the City Council hereby establishes a communication  
9 protocol for any death that occurs while an individual is in the custody of Tacoma  
10 Police or as the result of the use of deadly force by Tacoma Police. This  
11 communications protocol is intended to be established as an interim process,  
12 subject to review and refinement as the City works through a formal and  
13 comprehensive reform process.  
14

15 Section 2. That, following any death occurring in police custody or as the  
16 result of the use of deadly force by Tacoma Police, the City Manager is hereby  
17 directed to take the following actions:  
18

- 19 A. Notify the Mayor and City Council of the death as soon as  
20 practicable;
- 21 B. Provide the Mayor and City Council with an account of events, the  
22 names of involved officers, and the race of the decedent as that  
23 information is made available;
- 24 C. If an independent investigation is required pursuant to state law, the  
25 City Manager will seek confirmation as soon practicable from the  
26 independent investigation team that a family liaison has been  
assigned;
- D. Provide the Mayor with contact information for the deceased  
person's next of kin as soon as possible once the next of kin has  
been notified of the death of their loved one; and



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E. Confirm that any community trauma response team has been advised.

Section 3. That the Mayor shall contact the family of any person who dies in Tacoma police custody within 24 hours of receiving their contact information to express condolences for the family's loss, and further, that these actions shall be a Mayoral responsibility going forward.

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney



## RESOLUTION NO. 40622

1 BY REQUEST OF MAYOR WOODARDS

2 A RESOLUTION affirming the City Council's dedication and commitment to  
3 comprehensive and sustained transformation of all of the institutions,  
4 systems, policies, practices, and contracts impacted by systemic racism,  
with initial priority being given to policing in the City of Tacoma.

5 WHEREAS our nation was founded on systems of racism and slave labor,  
6 beginning in 1619 when the first slaves are known to have been brought to the  
7 British colony of Jamestown, Virginia, and

8 WHEREAS the abolishment of slavery did not end racism nor the  
9 dehumanization and disparate treatment of Black Americans, and instead, new  
10 systems of control and oppression were put in place, institutionalizing racism in  
11 both the nation's systems and our cultural norms, and

12 WHEREAS the United States has engaged in more than 150 years of work  
13 to reform societal structures and restore civil rights and social justice, yet full equity  
14 has not been achieved, and

15 WHEREAS, over the course of modern history, high-profile cases across  
16 the nation and in Tacoma have repeatedly raised questions regarding the impacts  
17 of implicit bias and systemic racism in institutions across all sectors, including  
18 policing, and have led to calls for increased transparency and communications  
19 from police agencies and the government bodies that oversee them and other  
20 public services, and

21 WHEREAS, on February 20, 2007, at the recommendation of the City's  
22 Human Rights Commission and pursuant to Ordinance No. 27589, the City  
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1 Council adopted TMC 1.06.075.B.1, creating and clarifying the role of a Citizen  
2 Review Panel, which is currently known as the Citizen Police Advisory  
3 Committee (“CPAC”), and

4 WHEREAS CPAC is a policy-focused board whose role is to ensure  
5 transparency and accountability in the way that the City of Tacoma Police  
6 Department (“TPD”) operates, and

7 WHEREAS CPAC’s duties and responsibilities include reviewing police  
8 policy at the request of the City Council or City Manager, and providing community  
9 outreach and education through public hearings and committee efforts, and

10 WHEREAS the Equity and Empowerment framework, adopted by the City  
11 Council in 2014, makes equity a consistent guiding principle across the City of  
12 Tacoma and calls out specific goals to guide the City’s operational and policy  
13 decisions, including a commitment to equity in policy making, and

14 WHEREAS, in January 2015, the City established an Office of Equity and  
15 Human Rights, with a mission to achieve equity in City service delivery, decision-  
16 making and community engagement by identifying and eliminating the underlying  
17 drivers within our community that perpetuate racial inequity and provide  
18 opportunity and advancement for all, and

19 WHEREAS, in 2015, Project PEACE was generated in response to  
20 community concerns about nationwide police-related conflicts to build trust,  
21 relationships, and understanding between community members and law  
22 enforcement officers in the Tacoma area, and  
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1 WHEREAS, through the work of Project PEACE, more than 800 community  
2 members, police officers and City staff took part in six community-wide  
3 conversations, resulting in a 2016 report which identified recommendations under  
4 11 categories, and is work which continues today, and

5 WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Mayor Woodards launched the  
6 Compassionate Tacoma initiative, which calls on all leaders, businesses, and  
7 residents to commit to making Tacoma a more welcoming, connected, resilient,  
8 and vibrant community by listening and serving others with love, and

9 WHEREAS City Council Members have publicly expressed their support of  
10 this initiative, and its core values provide a foundation for how the City can engage  
11 in the work of ensuring equity and justice, and

12 WHEREAS, through past engagements such as the work done by Project  
13 PEACE and grassroots violence prevention efforts, community members have  
14 demonstrated their desire and ability to engage with compassion in difficult  
15 conversations in order to gain understanding and effect lasting change that  
16 increases equitable outcomes, and

17 WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the City Manager and the Mayor of  
18 Tacoma, pursuant to Chapter 1.10 of the Tacoma Municipal Code and  
19 Chapter 38.52 of the Revised Code of Washington, proclaimed that an emergency  
20 exists caused by COVID-19 (“Proclamation”) in the City of Tacoma, and confirmed  
21 by the City Council on March 17, 2020, and

22 WHEREAS COVID-19 has shined a light on the deep need for more  
23 equitable systems, as “Long-standing systemic health and social inequities have  
24



put some members of racial and ethnic minority groups at increased risk of getting  
1 COVID-19 or experiencing severe illness, regardless of age;"<sup>1</sup> and

2 WHEREAS worldwide demonstrations on systemic racism and brutality in  
3 policing renewed after the killings of Ahmaud Arbery, an unarmed Black man living  
4 in Glynn County, Georgia, on February 23, 2020; of Breonna Taylor, an unarmed  
5 Black woman living in Louisville, Kentucky on March 13, 2020; and of George  
6 Floyd, an unarmed Black man in living in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on May 25,  
7 2020, and  
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9 WHEREAS Manuel Ellis, a 33-year old Black father, brother and son, died  
10 in Tacoma Police custody on March 3, 2020, and the Tacoma News Tribune  
11 published on June 3rd that the Pierce County medical examiner's report  
12 concluded that Mr. Ellis's death was by homicide and that the cause was from a  
13 lack of oxygen due to physical restraint, and  
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15 WHEREAS increasing community demands for reforms have been seen at  
16 an unprecedented scale, with daily, peaceful demonstrations across the City of up  
17 to 10,000 people calling for equitable justice and other reforms that would ensure  
18 that residents of every race and in every geographic area of the City may have  
19 equal access to those conditions which create a sense of safety, and  
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21 WHEREAS, these losses of life, as well as the countless others lost to the  
22 impacts of systemic racism on public health and safety, are evidence of the limited  
23 impacts made by reform efforts, not only in Tacoma, but across the nation, and  
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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/racial-ethnic-minorities.html>





1 WHEREAS disparities by race continue to be seen across the nation and in  
2 Tacoma in almost every measure of human health and wellbeing, including  
3 perceptions of safety, incarceration and arrest rates, risk of death from homicide,  
4 annual income, net worth, access to education, and key indicators of public health,  
5 such as maternal and infant mortality, heart disease, and diabetes, and

6 WHEREAS we, as a City, mourn every loss of life, and

7 WHEREAS the institutions and systems formed to protect human life,  
8 health, and wellbeing have failed to do so equitably, despite more than 150 years  
9 of work to reform societal structures and restore civil rights and social justice, and  
10

11 WHEREAS the Tacoma Mayor and City Council acknowledged the failure of  
12 reform efforts to result in equitable outcomes at the June 23, 2020, Committee of  
13 the Whole meeting, described the inequitable current state as unacceptable, and  
14 thereby called for a need to transform all of the institutions, systems, policies, and  
15 practices impacted by systemic racism, with initial priority placed on policing in the  
16 City of Tacoma, and  
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18 WHEREAS the City acknowledges that the challenges of dismantling more  
19 than 400 years of systemic racism to ensure measurable improvements in the  
20 equitable health and wellbeing of all members of the community is an adaptive  
21 leadership challenge that will require a radical reimagining of institutions and an  
22 innovative and collaborative response, and  
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24 WHEREAS, at the June 23, 2020, Committee of the Whole meeting, the  
25 Mayor and City Council discussion acknowledged a need for this transformation to  
26 begin with creating a shared community understanding of what it means to feel



safe, and acknowledged that the conditions that create a sense of safety may be  
1 vastly different for various members of our community, and

2 WHEREAS institutions and systems of the United States, including local  
3 governments, have been operating under the influence of racism for centuries, and  
4 we, as the City of Tacoma, should not endeavor to transform our systems without  
5 first listening to the voices of those which have been marginalized, silenced, or  
6 ignored, nor without incorporating the advice of experts in the field of reform and  
7

8 WHEREAS, at the June 23, 2020, Committee of the Whole meeting, the  
9 Mayor and City Council highlighted a need for this work to be community-led,  
10 driven by the best practices of reform as defined by national experts, informed by  
11 the foundational work of CPAC and Project PEACE, and that it should engage  
12 local leaders in this work, including members of the CPAC and Project PEACE  
13 Executive Board, and  
14

15 WHEREAS collective efforts are required for collective change, and to  
16 effectively address the root causes of racial inequity named by the Mayor and City  
17 Council members at the June 23, 2020, Committee of the Whole meeting,  
18 including education, poverty, housing, mental health, economic opportunity and  
19 more, a need was expressed to engage and collaborate with all organizations  
20 across all sectors in the work of transformation, and  
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23 WHEREAS community members serving at all levels in business, faith  
24 organizations, education, environment, public health, utilities, libraries, housing,  
25 social services, government, police services, and more have acknowledged the  
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1 inequities perpetuated by racial injustice and expressed their commitment to  
2 transformative change, and

3 WHEREAS leaders across many of these sectors have specifically  
4 committed to reimagining community safety, looking at innovative ways that safety  
5 could be enhanced, convening conversations on how each agency has a role and  
6 can support behavioral health, establishing social service programs that are both  
7 preventative and serve acute needs, and creating opportunities to rethink safety in  
8 schools, libraries, parks, and other public spaces, and

9 WHEREAS to successfully change systems, we must engage with a deep  
10 understanding of the needs they serve and their policies, practices, contracts, and  
11 administration, and

12 WHEREAS the TPD performs many necessary public safety services within  
13 our community that add to quality of life in Tacoma, and they have had an active  
14 role in community conversations and work related to justice and reform, and

15 WHEREAS effectively transforming our systems of policing will require a  
16 process that engages with personnel at every level of the TPD to assess our  
17 current state, ensures that staffing models provide the ability for officers to both  
18 protect and serve through authentic and community-oriented policing, and looks for  
19 ways that we can innovate and assist police officers on the front line by identifying  
20 alternate models for engaging with emergency calls for service related to societal  
21 issues outside of police officers' core training, such as homelessness and mental  
22 health crises, and  
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WHEREAS transformation cannot be done effectively through policy alone, but also requires hiring, training, and accountability systems that align to ensure just outcomes, and

WHEREAS an unprecedented act of transformation is an adaptive leadership challenge, where learning is required in each stage of defining the problem, seeking a solution, and working to implement the solutions generated,<sup>2</sup> and

WHEREAS this will require all involved to learn, change, and grow throughout the process, and potentially require those involved or impacted to, “give up things they hold dear: daily habits, loyalties, ways of thinking,”<sup>3</sup> and

WHEREAS creating and implementing in an innovative model of collaboration and community engagement that is effective, authentic, and transparent will require substantive resources and time, the scale of which are currently undetermined, and

WHEREAS the City acknowledges that it is undertaking this historic work of sustained and comprehensive transformation concurrently with the unprecedented challenges of COVID-19 on public and economic health, and

WHEREAS, while acknowledging these challenges, at the June 23, 2020, Committee of the Whole meeting, the Mayor and City Council expressed an aspiration to create an effective model of transformation, tailored to the specific needs of the Tacoma community, that could set a standard for the nation, and

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<sup>2</sup> Heifetz, Ronald A. Leadership without Easy Answers, 1994, p. 76.

<sup>3</sup> <https://hbr.org/2002/06/a-survival-guide-for-leaders>



1 WHEREAS state and federal government elected leaders and the agencies  
2 they oversee are responsible for enacting legislation, allocating funding, and  
3 establishing administrative procedures that can have either disparate or anti-racist  
4 impacts, and

5 WHEREAS Washington State and the United States government are  
6 currently taking action on funding, legislation, policies, and legislative procedures  
7 that address justice and accountability in policing, and these actions will certainly  
8 impact residents of the City of Tacoma, and

9 WHEREAS the Mayor and City Council hereby affirm their dedication and  
10 commit to comprehensive and sustained transformation of all of the institutions,  
11 systems, policies, practices, and contracts impacted by systemic racism, with initial  
12 priority being given to policing in the City of Tacoma, and

13 WHEREAS the Mayor and City Council commit to a comprehensive  
14 transformation process that will establish new practices based on community and  
15 expert opinion, as well as past reform efforts, centering the voices of those most  
16 impacted by systemic racism; Now, Therefore,

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19 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:**

20 Section 1. That the City Manager is hereby directed to keep anti-racism as  
21 a top priority in the process of budget development and prioritize anti-racism in the  
22 planning of an economic recovery strategy following COVID-19.

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24 Section 2. That the City Manager is hereby directed to prioritize anti-racism  
25 in the evaluation of new policies and programs, as well as the sustained and  
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comprehensive transformation of existing services, with initial priority being given to policing.

Section 3. That the City Manager is hereby directed to assess the current state of systems in place at the Tacoma Police Department in consultation with police reform experts, and give specific attention to how current policies and existing studies, agency composition, hiring, promotions, staffing levels, training, and accountability systems align to create just outcomes and use this assessment as a foundation for the work of comprehensive transformation.

Section 4. That the City Manager is hereby directed to actively seek and implement interim administrative changes and process improvements that can legally be taken immediately to improve transparency and accountability in policing.

Section 5. That the City Manager is hereby directed to work with the Mayor and City Council to build a legislative platform at the local, state, and



1 federal levels that works to transform institutions impacted by systemic racism  
2 for the greater equity and wellbeing of all residents of Tacoma, Washington  
3 State, and the United States.  
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5 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_  
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7 \_\_\_\_\_  
8 Mayor

9 Attest:  
10 \_\_\_\_\_  
11 City Clerk

12 Approved as to form:  
13 \_\_\_\_\_  
14 City Attorney

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## ORDINANCE NO. 28677

1 BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL MEMBER HUNTER

2 AN ORDINANCE amending Amended Substitute Ordinance No. 28624,  
3 relating to Firearms and Ammunition Tax, to change the effective date  
4 of the tax from July 1, 2020, to a date to-be-determined by City Council  
5 in January 2021, and provide for review by the City Council in January  
6 2021, the requirements for gathering information, conducting  
community and stakeholder outreach, and reports to the City Council,  
and making this ordinance retroactive to July 1, 2020.

7 WHEREAS the City Council passed Amended Substitute Ordinance  
8 No. 28624 on November 12, 2019, and

9 WHEREAS the amended Subtitle 6A of the Municipal Code, relating to Tax  
10 Code, added a new Chapter 6A.120, entitled "Firearms and Ammunition Tax,"  
11 ("Tax") to impose a tax on firearms and ammunition to consist of \$25.00 per  
12 firearm sold at retail, \$0.02 per round of ammunition (.22 caliber or less), and \$0.05  
13 per round of other ammunition sold at retail, and  
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15 WHEREAS the purpose of the Tax is to raise revenue for funding programs  
16 that promote public safety, prevent gun violence, and help offset the impacts and  
17 costs of gun violence in the City, effective July 1, 2020, and

18 WHEREAS the Ordinance also required the City Manager to make  
19 recommendations, by February 8, 2020, on potential partnerships and  
20 programming to reduce youth and young adult gun violence, a gun buyback  
21 program, local, state, and federal legislative priorities, and to conduct a review and  
22 report to the City Council, by May 25, 2020, regarding: (1) revenue generated from  
23 the tax; (2) changes in B & O taxes received from tax within City limits; (3) factual  
24 information on businesses closed after the effective date of the ordinance; (4) a list  
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1 of programs, projects, initiatives, and other efforts funded with the tax revenue;  
2 (5) the number of firearm-involved criminal offenses in the City during the  
3 preceding 12 month period; and (6) multiple actions including review of existing  
4 gun and youth violence reduction groups, convening a workgroup to include  
5 representatives from Tacoma Public Schools (“TPS”), Tacoma based firearms  
6 manufacturers and retailers, community partners, City staff, and members of the  
7 Tacoma Police Department (“TPD”), review of best practices to address gun and  
8 youth violence reduction, and review and presentation of fiscal analysis to include  
9 costs of expending current programs and fiscal impact of any future firearms and  
10 ammunition tax on local gun vendors and manufacturers, and  
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13 WHEREAS, on February 13, 2020, Assistant City Manager Tadd Wille  
14 proposed the following recommendations to the Community, Vitality, and Safety  
15 Committee: (1) potential partnerships and engagement to expand services and  
16 grassroots efforts to improve the social intervention network, engage key subject  
17 matter experts, identify, convene and mobilize the Community Advisory  
18 Committee, and select a fiscal agent to administer funding for grassroots efforts;  
19 (2) programs to reduce youth violence, which would include provider service  
20 delivery efficacy, community skills and spheres of influence, the scope and scale of  
21 issues being addressed, challenging old thinking and norms around this work and  
22 revising approaches to improve outcomes, and develop outcomes aligned with  
23 performance indicators; and (3) not proceeding with a gun buyback program, and  
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1           WHEREAS due to the current State of Emergency related to the COVID-19  
2 pandemic (“Emergency”), staff was unable to convene community workgroups and  
3 gather information that was required to be reported to the City Council by  
4 May 25, 2020, and  
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6           WHEREAS during the Emergency, the City is focusing its resources on its  
7 emergency response, as well as essential City services, and

8           WHEREAS given the uncertainty around the duration of the Emergency, it is  
9 unknown when the community workgroups could be scheduled and convened, and  
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11           WHEREAS changing the City Manager’s report date from May 25, 2020, to  
12 a future date, and moving the implementation date of the Tax to a date to-be-  
13 determined by the Council in January 2021, will allow additional time for review by  
14 the City Council in January 2021 of the requirements for gathering information,  
15 conducting community and stakeholder outreach, and reports to the City Council,  
16 and  
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18           WHEREAS without a retroactivity clause, and in the ordinary course of  
19 legislative process, this Ordinance would not go into effect until July 13, 2021; so  
20 that no new tax is collected based on the original effective date of July 1, 2020, this  
21 ordinance will be retroactively applied to July 1, 2020; Now, Therefore,  
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23           BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TACOMA:

24           Section 1. That the City Council hereby adopts the Recitals of this  
25 Ordinance as its formal legislative findings.  
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Section 2. That Amended Substitute Ordinance No. 28624, relating to “Firearms and Ammunition Tax,” (Tax”) is hereby Amended to change the effective date of the Tax from July 1, 2020, to a date to-be-determined.

Section 3. That a requirement for a report by May 25, 2020, is canceled, and a meeting by the City Council in January of 2021 will allow for review of the requirements of gathering information, conducting community and stakeholder outreach, and reports to City Council.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall have retroactive effect as of July 1, 2020.

Section 5. That the City Clerk, in consultation with the City Attorney, is authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener’s/clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers, and any references thereto.

Passed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney