

**From:** Michelle Mood <moodm@kenyon.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 7, 2023 12:56 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Re: Why is the Planning Commission Being Ignored?

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p.s. These comments are for the 'Public Comments' portion of the 8/8/2023 City Council meeting  
Dr. Michelle S. Mood (she, her, hers)  
(c) 740-233-6333

*A boomer, not a zoomer.*

On Sun, Aug 6, 2023 at 11:09 AM Michelle Mood <[moodm@kenyon.edu](mailto:moodm@kenyon.edu)> wrote:

The News Tribune quoted Shirly Schultz, Lead Planner, PDS, as saying that they hear more from business than residents, and that's why the decisions get made the way they do, and she encouraged residents to get more involved. She especially said to get involved with the Planning Commission (see full quote below). Well, residents have been involved with the Mor Furniture zoning change request, and even the Planning Commission agrees with residents -- the zoning of the property Mor Furniture bought should stay as it was when they bought it -- residential, not commercial. I stand with the Planning Commission and members of City Council in opposing this reckless move by unelected PDS officials. Reject this:

Therefore, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TACOMA:

Section 1. That the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan is hereby amended to change the Future Land Use Map for the Mor Furniture site, located at 1824 South 49th Street, from a Low-Scale Residential land use designation to a General Commercial land use designation, and further amending the Parks and Recreation Facilities Map to remove the subject site.

Thank you!

-Michelle

**SOURCE:**

*A reader who left a voicemail with The News Tribune over the weekend said, "This warehouse project has got to stop. This can't happen. This needs to be a park." He recommended Hawks Prairie as a more suitable location.*

*"I heard a lot of that too," Schultz told The News Tribune.*

*In response, she said, "Are you voting for the bond measure for the parks district to be able to buy property? Those are the kinds of things that I think people need to keep in mind when they get that postcard for long-range planning." Schultz had tips for those seeking further change, starting with engaging in the long-range planning process. Upcoming meetings of note include a Home in Tacoma City Council study session in May. The city's comprehensive plan for 2024 also is coming up for review.*

*"Stay involved in that South Tacoma subarea plan, stay involved with the Planning Commission and know what they're up to and know what the City Council's making decisions on," Schultz said.*

*Decisions affecting projects, she added, "those are made when the zoning is created, they're made when the comprehensive plan is designed. They're made at that time. And we often hear a lot from business owners and industry, etc.*

*"We don't always hear from neighbors and members of the public."*

*(quote from April 24, 2023, <https://www.aol.com/news/tacoma-mega-warehouse-won-approval-204907383.html>)*

Dr. Michelle S. Mood (she, her, hers)  
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*A boomer, not a zoomer.*

**From:** Cathie Raine <cjrRD@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 7, 2023 11:37 AM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** August 8th, 2023 City Council meeting

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(These comments are for the 'Public Comments' portion of the 8/8/2023 City Council meeting)

Dear City Council Members,

I have serious concerns with the proposed ordinance (# 28901) being brought forward today by the Planning and Development Services staff. This ordinance would be "amending the future Land Use Map for the Mor Furniture site located at 1824 South 49th Street to change from a 'Low-scale residential to a 'General Commercial land use designation, and amending the 'Parks and Recreation Facilities' map to remove the subject site, as part of the 2023 Annual Amendment to the 'Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code'.

The Planning Commission had voted AGAINST this type of change as part of the Future Land Use Map. This change, that proposes the addition of Commercial activity to this neighborhood and school area, would adversely change the quality of life for the families and students that live and learn there. Additionally, the Planning Commission based their decision on the feedback from the Community to allow their neighborhood remain a quieter area of Tacoma. Unfortunately, the Planning and Development Services Planner and Director are simply viewing this land use change as a business transaction concern. This, once again, is a situation of the Planning and Development Services favoring a business' development plans (convenience) over the health and quality of life concerns of residents in this neighborhood. The Planning Commission members have thoroughly evaluated the future use of this land area and recommended leaving this property in its current state.

Please consider the whole picture with this neighborhood situation, the impacts of adding a/multiple businesses to this community.

This proposed ordinance should not be viewed as a "simple, convenient land use change". The long-term consequences of this project need to be considered to be fair to the residents of this area of Tacoma.

Please REJECT this ordinance for the 'Planning and Development Sevices' proposed land use change...and honor the wishes of the residents in this situation.

Thank you,  
Respectfully submitted,  
Cathie (Raine) Urwin  
(Phone #: (253) 431-6689)

**From:** Esther Day <Dayesther214@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 7, 2023 9:46 AM  
**To:** Rutledge, Monica  
**Cc:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Councilmember Salaries

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
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August 7, 2023

Attn: Citizen Commission on Elected Salaries

Right now you are considering making the workload for our City Council to become full time. The key points mentioned below are very good reasons. But here is something else. We need to be able to get better candidates and not allow them to struggle and become patsies of special interests or worse. This JOB – as a Councilmember is NOT FOR SALE TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER. We need to make sure that does not happen – they were elected to SERVE US – THE PEOPLE – not special interests. Think about this as you deliberate their salaries.

We need:

**Workload:** A full-time city council salary will allow council members to dedicate their full attention and efforts to serving the community. This will result in more effective governance, better decisions, and increased responsiveness to residents' needs.

**Equity:** Offering a full-time salary ensures that individuals from diverse backgrounds can afford to serve on the city council. It promotes equal representation and allows those with different economic circumstances to participate, fostering a more inclusive and equitable local government.

**Commitment:** Serving on the city council requires significant time and effort beyond just attending meetings. A full-time salary recognizes and values the dedication and hard work put in by council members, encouraging higher engagement and better service to the community.

**Attracting talent:** By offering a competitive salary, the city can attract skilled professionals and community leaders to run for council positions. This will lead to a more diverse and capable group of individuals with a broader range of expertise contributing to decision-making.

**Reduced financial burden:** A full-time salary can help alleviate the financial strain council members may face due to reduced working hours or leaving their jobs to serve the community. This ensures that they can focus on their responsibilities without personal financial worries.

**Accountability:** A full-time salary can reinforce transparency and accountability, as council members are compensated for their efforts in a more formal and recognized manner.

**Better governance outcomes:** With more time to focus on city issues, council members can conduct thorough research, engage with constituents, and collaborate effectively, leading to more thoughtful and well-informed policy decisions.

**Setting a standard:** Providing a full-time salary sets a precedent for valuing public service at the local level. It acknowledges the importance of council members' role in shaping the

community's future and ensures their work is adequately compensated.

Enhancing representation: By offering a full-time salary, the city can attract a more diverse pool of candidates who may have previously been unable to serve due to financial constraints. This enhances the representation of various perspectives and experiences within the council.

Community impact: A fully committed council can lead to more comprehensive and timely initiatives to address community needs and challenges, ultimately creating a positive impact on residents' lives.

It is important for each of you to remember this: Walk in the Shoes of the work you/we expect of our elected officials. Can you live on the current salary and work many hours and still have to work elsewhere because after taxes, you don't take much home to support current prices in housing, food, fuel, bills and normal costs of living.

I can tell you this: Having served as a Planning Commissioner for many years and holding a regular job. I read so much material it wasn't funny. To do a good job, I read every line and went out to sites to inspect visually the areas being discussed so that I could make a determination based on facts not suppositions to ensure that our community was not going to be environmentally impacted OR anything else – always thinking about the good of the people I represented. THAT is what we want and expect from our council. Let's give them a livable wage to do a better job for us.

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WALK IN THEIR SHOES BEFORE YOU DECIDE AND I KNOW YOU WILL AGREE – WE NEED CHANGE FOR THE GOOD OF THE PEOPLE AND OUR . COUNCILMEMBERS TOO.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther Day

**From:** Megan Pratt <mpratt1130@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 7:56 AM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Public Notice

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
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Good morning,

My name is Megan Pratt, I live at 3711 McKinley Ave in Tacoma and I wanted to submit my public comment for the public land use notice, Application #LU21-0156. If they have no proposal to add additional parking, then I oppose this project. Before I moved in three years ago, I was never informed of what was happening to the lot next door to me and they built a three story apartment building with zero consideration for parking and it has been frustrating to say the least. There is an ideal around the Puget Sound area Government that folks are going to use public transportation for everything and that is just nonsense. Yes, a lot of folks commute using public transportation for work into King County because they pay better, but no, they are not going to give up their cars. The nearest grocery store in the McKinley Hill neighborhood is 3 miles away, you can't realistically take public transit or folks being able to afford grocery deliveries. This neighborhood has a limited amount of space and the parking situation is getting a lot worse because of the apartment buildings going up. And what happens is that they will park in the public alley, blocking it so folks aren't able to go around or garbage can't be picked up or emergency services can't get through. The streets can only allow so many folks to be able to park there, and people are getting lazier. They aren't willing to park a block or more down the street. Thank you for your time in this matter.

-Megan Pratt

AUG 6, 2023

TO: MAYOR WOODARDS, CITY MANAGER PAULI, CITY ATTORNEY FOSBRE, AND ALL MEMBERS OF TACOMA'S CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: A CITY OF TACOMA BAN ON CAT DE-CLAWING

F.Y.I., THIS IS AN INFORMATIONAL LETTER TO INFORM THE CITY COUNCIL ON THE ISSUE OF "CAT DE-CLAWING" SO THAT THE CITY IS AWARE OF THIS IN-HUMANE PRACTICE.

PEOPLE DE-CLAW THEIR CATS FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, MYSELF INCLUDED. YES, I WAS GUILTY OF THIS PRACTICE - HAVING DE-CLAWED FIVE CATS! I DE-CLAWED MY LAST CAT EIGHT YEARS AGO AFTER LEARNING ABOUT THE PHYSICAL PAIN AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HARM IT DOES TO THE CAT, <sup>I STOPPED.</sup> IN ALL OF MY CAT DE-CLAWING - THE VET NEVER PRESCRIBED POST-DE-CLAWING PAIN MEDS! DE-CLAWING RENDERS A CAT DEFENSELESS, THE CAT CAN'T CLIMB OR JUMP WITHOUT LOSING TRACTION, THE CAT HAS PERMANENT PSYCHOLOGICAL HARM AS THE CAT HAS AN "INNATE DESIRE" TO CLAW AND HAS TO RESORT TO "PHANTOM GLAWING" FOR THE REST OF ITS LIFE.

THIS PRACTICE IS NOW BEING BANNED IN CITY AFTER CITY AROUND THE NATION. SOME OF THESE CITIES INCLUDE: NEW YORK CITY, LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN DIEGO AND OTHERS, I WANT THE CITY OF TACOMA TO BE INCLUDED ON THIS LIST AND I WILL WORK WITH THIS CITY COUNCIL TO FASHION AN ORDINANCE BANNING CAT DE-CLAWING!

SINCERELY,

Michele Reich

MICHELE REICH

1205 EARNEST S. BRAZILL<sup>ST</sup>, #18

TACOMA, WA. 98405

I'm an  
advocate



[WWW.ALLEYCAT.ORG](http://WWW.ALLEYCAT.ORG)

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