

## Discussion Guide for Meeting 9

### 1. Review of draft report outline.

#### a. Comments? Questions? Suggestions?

As it stands, here's what seem to be the key points for the **Executive Summary**:

1. *There is a serious structural gap between revenues and expenditures that threatens the fiscal sustainability of the City.*
2. *Closing the structural budget gap will not be easy, but it must be a priority for the City's leaders.*
3. *Responses to the structural gap must be carefully considered—it is important to keep Tacoma an attractive community for both businesses and residents.*
4. *Most of the TF recommendations are around efficiencies. But most of these efficiencies cannot be implemented in the short term.*
5. *Must consider both revenues and efficiencies/expenditure cuts. New revenues are needed but alone cannot solve the problem.*
6. *Efficiencies:*
  - a. *Must address City employee salaries and benefits in order to close fiscal gap. Task Force has a number of suggestions in these areas.*
  - b. *Given the size of police and fire departments, the search for efficiencies in these operations should be a priority.*
  - c. *All departments should search for possible efficiencies on an ongoing basis.*
7. *Revenues:*
  - a. *New revenues are needed but alone cannot solve the problem. TF is not endorsing any new taxing sources.*
  - b. *Explore and close tax loopholes; ensure strong compliance with existing tax codes.*
  - c. *Sell unused/surplus/non-essential assets and apply proceeds to one-time purposes.*
  - d. *Encourage City to pursue opportunities for cost recovery from other agencies, third parties, and ensure payment of existing taxes.*

### 2. Task Force Recommendations: Review, Edit. Priorities? Going through each of the 4 parts in turn...

- a. Does this accurately and effectively consolidate and present the **consensus** and *additional recommendations*?
- b. Should more things be consolidated? Or separated out? Re-ordered?
- c. Should we identify additional or different priorities? If so, what?
- d. Wording improvements?
- e. Is any member(s) so opposed to an idea that you feel a strong need to have a minority opinion expressed in the report? (On what issue, and what concern do you think should be noted?)

### 3. Request to Reconvene? Timing?

Note: May need to revisit Prop. 1 depending on election results.