

## Tacoma City Council Study Session

Date: 3/9/2021

Observer: Ann Williams

### Meeting Called to Order: 12:05pm

**Present:** Woodard, Walker, Hunter, Hines, Beale, Thoms, Blocker, Ushka, McCarthy (late)

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** E. Pauli (city manager) Alex Mather (Pierce Transit), Mike Griffus (Pierce Transit CEO)  
Anita Gallagher (assistance city manager)

1. **Pierce Transit Bus Stop Balancing Program** presented by Mike Griffus and Alex Mather
  - Periodically transit systems need to re-configure bus stops to enhance efficiency.
  - System-wide 417 bus stops (20% of total) are being considered for removal as they represent only 7% of boardings. Two hundred twelve of these are in Tacoma.
  - Too many stops slow travel time. Long travel time is the single biggest reason people give for not using public transit.
  - Current standard is one stop every 1/8 mile in dense areas and every ¼ mile in other areas.
  - Stops are evaluated on safety, accessibility, transfer points, equity and amenities in place.
  - The initial steps included the above evaluation, and constant internal communication and gathering of input from bus operators. This is about complete.
  - The current phase, starting now, involves informing and getting input from the public.
  - The comment period is 3/9-4/11/2021. Go to <https://www.piercetransit.org/busstops/> for an informative video and additional links to an interactive map and feedback options.
  - Anticipated removal is in September 2021.
  
2. **Advocacy Letter-Federal Government Request**, presented by Anita Gallagher
  - The Council has been on record deploring the use of for-profit detention centers for the management of immigrants. It applauds President Biden's recent directive to phase out the use of for-profit federal prisons. A letter has been drafted addressed to Secretary Mayorkas, US Department of Homeland Security, asking that immigration detention centers be included in this phase-out.
  - The letter can be read here.  
(<https://cityoftacoma.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9222092&GUID=828B6DA7-6126-4253-A66D-174C3D6E5246>)
  - Council unanimously approved the letter.
  
3. **Appeal to Local Improvement District 8663**, Postponed as petitioners were scheduled for 1:30PM. I will not comment further on this item.
  
4. **Systems Transformation**, presented by Elizabeth Pauli, a weekly report
  - Systems Transformation is the city's anti-racism initiative.

- The Workforce Equity Study will be presented to the Leadership Review Group on 3/15/2021
- The Divertible Calls Study will be presented at the end of this month.
- Human Resources is working on increasing the diversity of the Deadly Force Review Board.
- A 4-hour Procedural Justice Training for all police personnel will start soon.

**Meeting Break: 12:52-1:25 pm**

**Meeting Adjourned: 3:23pm** after the LID petition decision