

League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County Observer Corps

Name of Agency: TIDEFLATS SUBAREA PLANNING PROCESS

Date: January 11, 2019

Observer Reporting: C Rikerd

Length of Meeting: 4 HOURS

Attending:

Mayor Woodards

Jim Waldo, Connie Miller & Tim Payne (facilitators)

City of Fife: Mayor Roscoe, Councilwoman McClellan

City of Tacoma: Councilman Mello

Pierce County: Executive Dammeier, Councilman Richards

Port of Tacoma: Commissioners Meyer and McCarthy

Puyallup Tribe: Chairman Sterud, Council Member Bryan

Others present (i.e. media, public): Staff members for attendees, Tacoma Weekly reporter

Content (what is being discussed):

Background:

The Council adopted Interim Regulations for the Tideflats Area in November 2017. The interim regulations include temporary use restrictions, modified permit procedures and enhancements to public notice, and limits on development in adjacent slopes and transition areas. These interim regulations are intended to be in place until permanent regulations are adopted as part of the Tideflats Subarea Plan. Per State Law and City Code, interim regulations are required to be reauthorized every six months. As of now, the interim regulations are the Tideflats Plan.

Jan. 11 was a Steering Committee meeting to discuss the Intergovernmental Agreement and associated draft work plan related to the Tideflats Subarea planning process. All five governments with an interest in the Tideflats Plan are represented.

The handouts included a diagram of the plan development process and a 10 page 'Tideflats Subarea Planning Work Plan'. Neither is easily found on the City website and may not be available.

The plan development will be a long term process with multiple pauses for public input. In addition to the Steering Committee, there will be a Staff Leadership Team, Project Management Team, Stakeholder Advisory Group of no more than 20 individuals and Technical Advisors. Consultants will be brought in as needed. Once this Subarea Plan Process or Work Plan is approved by the Steering Committee, Project Development will initiate.

When the final Tideflats Plan is approved by the Steering Committee it will be presented to the Tacoma City Council for approval.

The Steering Committee will be meeting at least quarterly.

Public Meetings of interest to League – i.e., *were there any public meetings announced that you think League members may be interested in attending and/or becoming involved with the issue?*

I'd advise a League to have an Observer attending future announced steering committee meetings. This committee's work will have a large, long-lasting impact on our city and county. The tideflats area includes the for-profit ICE prison and the LNG plant.

Process & Protocol (Observations about participants, conduct, and procedures of the meeting, and appropriate accommodations for disabled in sight hearing and physical):

i.e., did the members appear to have done their "homework"? all were well prepared with pertinent comments

Were members courteous to each other and the public? yes

How does the group respond to your presence? Some curious looks at that big button on my shoulder