	City Council Study Session PWCD SFA February 22, 2021 - 5:30 PM Virtual MINUTES 📺 Watch the meeting LIVE! 📺 Watch the meeting video Meeting videos are not available until 72 hours after the meeting has concluded.
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I. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor DaCorsi called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION LINK

A. Virtual Participation Link

The City Council Meeting was held virtually.

B. Roll Call

Councilmembers virtually present: Deputy Mayor Claude DaCorsi, Bob Baggett, Larry Brown, James Jeyaraj, Robyn Mulenga, Chris Stearns, and Yolanda Trout-Manuel.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Innovation and Technical Support Specialist Danika Olson, Director of Innovation and Technology David Travis, Police Chief Dan O'Neil and City Clerk Shawn Campbell were in Chambers.

The following department directors and staff members attended the meeting virtually: City Attorney Kendra Comeau, Senior City Staff Attorney Harry Boesche, Director of Administration Dana Hinman, Director of Community Development Jeff Tate, Director of Public Works Ingrid Gaub, Director of Finance Jamie Thomas, Assistant Finance Director Kevin Fuhrer, Planning Services Manager Jeff Dixon, Capital and Construction Engineering Manager Ryan Vondrak, Senior Transportation Planner Cecile Malik, Project Engineer Jeffrey Bender, Community Services Manager Joy Scott, Human Services Program Coordinator Kyla Wright, Detective Charlene Hoch and Assistant Director of Innovation and Technology Ashley Riggs.

III. AGENDA ITEMS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

A. Pierce Transit Updates (Gaub)(10 Minutes)

Planner Malik introduced Alexandra Mather and Lindsey Sehmel from Pierce Transit. They provided Council with updates for Pierce Transit including the 2021 Financial Update, the Bus Rapid Transit System

Update, the Bus Stop Balancing Project, the 2019-2020 ridership activity for the City of Auburn and service changes starting in March 2021.

Council discussed the number of stops being removed from the City, if those stops will be reinstated at a later date, if the rapid stop system will include the Lakeland route and the progress for electric busses.

B. Housing Action Plan (HAP) - Existing Conditions Report (Tate)(30 Minutes)

Introductory briefing by the City Consultant, EcoNorthwest, on an early phase of the project, consisting of the draft Auburn Existing Conditions Memo, as part of the continued work on the preparation of a Housing Action Plan (HAP) document under a Washington State Department of Commerce grant

Manager Dixon provided Council with a brief history on the City's development of a Housing Action Plan and the Department of Commerce Grant. He introduced Tyler Bump from EcoNorthwest. Mr. Bump provided Council with an update on the Housing Action Plan including the Draft Existing Conditions memo, the public engagement plan, findings from the existing conditions reports, the South King County Sub-Regional Housing Action Plan, the market rate rents in Auburn, housing affordability trends, displacement vulnerability in Auburn, future housing needs and the 2040 forecast housing need.

Council discussed homeownership rates by race and ethnicity, the average cost of rent in Auburn and the percentage of households in Auburn that are cost burdened.

C. Police Advisory Committee Update (O'Neil)(15 Minutes)

Chief O'Neil provided Council with an update on the Police Advisory Committee, including Committee Positions, Goals of the Committee, the meetings agendas and the next steps for the Committee.

Council discussed the main concerns from the community, the makeup of the leadership of the Committee and how the agenda is set.

D. Domestic Violence Presentation (O'Neil/Comeau)(30 Minutes)

Detective Hoch and Senior Attorney Boesche provided Council with a Domestic Violence Status report for the City of Auburn. They reviewed what domestic violence is defined as, challenges with trials and cases during the COVID pandemic, King County's policy regarding declining felonies, firearms used in domestic violence cases and removing a firearm for safekeeping.

Council discussed the number of domestic violence cases, domestic violence advocates, the challenges of prosecuting the felonies in a Municipal Court and funding for domestic violence advocates that are not City employees.

- E. Ordinance No. 6814 (Thomas)(60 Minutes)
Draft B&O Tax Code

Deputy Mayor DaCorsi called for a 5-minute recess at 7:30. The meeting reconvened at 7:38 p.m.

Director Thomas presented Council with the proposed B&O Tax Ordinance. She reviewed the Auburn City Code, the proposed rates, the proposed square footage tax, tax credits, a sample B&O tax calculation. She also reviewed the public comments and concerns gathered in the City's public outreach, exemptions and deductions.

Council discussed the B&O Tax, uniformed rates, tax breaks, square footage of warehouses, the accountability of the stores to maintain the number of employees for a tax credit, the businesses that the exemptions would apply to.

IV. PUBLIC WORKS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Capital Projects Status Report and Feature Project (Gaub)(20 Minutes)
Councilmember Stearns presided over this section of the meeting.

Manager Vondrak and Engineer Bender provided Council the Capital Project Status Report and the Feature Project. They also reviewed the active projects, the capital projects for the last 4 years and the project for the Academy Pump Station Replacement.

- B. Update of Bridges Annexation (Tate)(10 Minutes)

City of Auburn staff to provide an overview and status update detailing the discussions with the City of Kent about the potential annexation of the Bridges community

Director Tate provided Council with an update on the Bridges Annexation. He explained why proposed annexation is not moving forward at this time.

Council discussed the concerns from the residents within the Bridges community.

V. OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no other discussion items.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor DaCorsi brought forward for discussion the treatment of farmers and laborers in India.

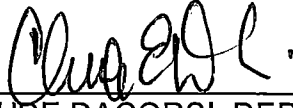
Council discussed getting involved in international issues and a majority of the Council expressed support to bring a resolution forward to a Council meeting for discussion.

Deputy Mayor DaCorsi brought forward a residents concern to create a new revenue source to build additional sidewalks.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

APPROVED this 15th day of March, 2021.



CLAUDE DACORSI, DEPUTY MAYOR Shawn Campbell, City Clerk

Agendas and minutes are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office, on the City website (<http://www.auburnwa.gov>), and via e-mail. Complete agenda packets are available for review at the City Clerk's Office.