



## LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Monday, August 10, 2020

City of Lakewood

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoflakewoodwa>

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### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 6 – Mayor Don Anderson; Deputy Mayor Jason Whalen; Councilmembers Mary Moss, John Simpson, Mike Brandstetter and Linda Farmer.

Councilmembers Excused: 1 – Councilmember Bocchi.

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

#### **Economic Development Update.**

Economic Development Manager Newton highlighted current policies and incentives in place that advance business development and job creation in the City.

She reported that due to COVID-19 permitting activity slowed by 20% in March and April although as of May, 2020 is consistent with previous years. She shared that there are approximately 4300 businesses doing business in Lakewood, of which 2400 are located in the City and 750 are home based. She shared that the city has increased their job base by 11% over the last five years and has conducted over 80 Business Expansion and Retention (BRE) visits in 2020.

She then highlighted projects in the Downtown District that have been completed and those in permitting or construction phases and the Lakewood Station District and Lakewood Landing projects. She then shared that the City has over 700 acres in Industrial Lands and highlighted redevelopment projects in the Woodbrook Business Park and Starlight Distribution Center.

City Manager Caulfield commented on the BUILD-UP Act, a federal program which will set aside transportation dollars for medium size cities.

Ms. Newton then spoke about the Western State Hospital Economic Impact Analysis, housing development, hotel occupancy rates, retail and restaurant opportunities. She shared that key components and future priorities include

implementation of PALS permitting system, increased collaboration in the area of recruitment specific to workforce and education as well as continued BRE through outreach and surveys. Discussion ensued.

### **Lakewood Station District Subarea Plan Update.**

Planning Manager Speir highlighted the Lakewood Station District Subarea boundaries and population demographics in the area of housing, education and employment. She then shared results from public engagement outreach that was gathered throughout 2020 through online surveys, mailings and in person meetings. She then highlighted outstanding issues specific to identifying and addressing affordable housing, changes in density and transportation impacts.

She shared that a preliminary review of the draft plan and planned action is expected in September, 2020 followed by Planning Commission review in October, 2020 and final action by the City Council in early, 2021. Discussion ensued.

### **Review of Fee Assessment for Public Safety Calls for Service.**

City Attorney Wachter reported that in order for the City to charge a fee for service there must be statutory authority, for example, a fee associated with DUI cost recovery or a false alarm program, which distinguishes the cost of response from the general protection of the public. She shared that the City of Tacoma uses a program called Lift Assist to reduce the number of requests from licensed care facilities for lift assistance with patients. She then shared that the City does not have any evidence to assess fees to private businesses for calls for service as this time.

### **ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE AUGUST 17, 2020 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:**

1. Business Showcase.
2. Port of Tacoma Strategic Plan Update. – *Mr. John McCarthy, Commission President*
3. Authorizing the execution of an interlocal agreement with the Town of Steilacoom for the provision of Municipal Court, Prosecution, Public Defender and related services. – (Motion – Consent Agenda)
4. Authorizing the execution of an agreement with Saybr Contractors, Inc., in the amount of \$101,846, for the Fort Steilacoom Park Pavilion improvement project. – (Motion – Consent Agenda)
5. Authorizing the execution of an agreement with Bruce Dees and Associates, in the amount of \$137,001, for the Springbrook Park and Clover Creek improvement project. – (Motion – Consent Agenda)

6. Authorizing the execution of an amendment to the agreement with Parametrix, Inc., for the JBLM North Access improvement project.  
– (Motion – Consent Agenda)

## REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Caulfield shared that the City is expecting feedback this week regarding the Defense Communities Infrastructure Program (DCIP) grant application for the JBLM North Access Improvement Project.

He shared that the City has been in communication with Lakewood Access Support Alliance (LASA) who has an interest in expanding operations into the property located across the street from their current location and Habitat for Humanity is interested in constructing four duplexes and one single family home in the Tillicum neighborhood.

He then shared that the City continues to work with the Nisqually Tribe to support and pursue funding for I-5 transportation improvements in the Mounts Road corridor through Exit 99 in the Nisqually Delta area and the Port of Tacoma Commission President McCarthy will provide an update on the Port's Strategic Plan process during the City Council meeting of August 17<sup>th</sup>.

He shared that the Hearings Examiner will begin holding virtual hearings on September 14<sup>th</sup> starting with the conditional use change for the Dr. Claudia Thomas Middle School and the Pierce College Master Facility Plan, followed by a shoreline permit request hearing the following week.

He then reported that the Lakewood African American Advisory Committee has reformed and a joint meeting with the City Council will be scheduled in September.

He then shared that 51% of Woodbrook Neighborhood compared to 28% in 2010 and 42% of the Springbrook Neighborhood compared to 34% in 2010 have completed the 2020 Census, the Census will conclude in September.

He shared that the financial audit has been completed and the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) have both been posted online.

He reported that the City will be creating videos to highlight legislative initiatives and funding requests and three businesses applied for the temporary outdoor seating permits.

He then reported that Camp Murray annexation discussions continue although there doesn't appear to be a way to get to a cost neutral analysis, there may be partnership options for annexation or lease assumption of the boat launch for better access to American Lake.

He then reported that Pierce County is collaborating with representatives of Tacoma, Puyallup, University Place and Lakewood on a joint grant application to access \$4.7 Million in funding for emergency shelter beds, the application deadline is Wednesday. Discussion ensued related to homeless response in Pierce County and funding distributions from centralized agencies.

### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**


Councilmember Farmer commented on police reform, racial injustice and equity issues and questioned whether a task force will be convened to discuss these issues.

Deputy Mayor Whalen shared that last week he attended an American Legion meeting on Anderson Island.

Mayor Anderson led the City Council in singing Happy Birthday to Councilmember Brandstetter.

### **ADJOURNMENT**


There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.



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DON ANDERSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



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BRIANA SCHUMACHER  
CITY CLERK