



Lacey City Council Worksession Approved Minutes

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Council Present

Deputy Mayor Malcolm Miller
Councilmember Michael Steadman (remote)
Councilmember Carolyn Cox
Councilmember Robin Vazquez
Councilmember Nicolas Dunning

Council Excused

Mayor Andy Ryder
Councilmember Lenny Greenstein

Staff Present

Rick Walk, City Manager
Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager
Dave Schneider, City Attorney
Jennifer Burbidge, Parks, Culture, and Recreation Director
Ty Keltner, Communications Manager
Paul J. White, Deputy City Clerk

3. Land Acknowledgement

Deputy Mayor Miller presented the abbreviated Land Acknowledgement.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Councilmember Dunning moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Vazquez seconded. The motion carried.

5. Public Comment

One (1) person signed up to speak at the meeting.

Cortni Holthaus, Tumwater resident, commented on endurance, litigation, and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

No one registered to speak remotely, and there were no written public comments.

6. Agenda Items

A. Lacey Parks, Culture & Recreation Fundraising Plan

Jen Burbidge, Lacey Parks, Culture & Recreation Director

Jennie Foglia Jones, Lacey Community Foundation

Burbidge provided an overview of the City's Parks, Culture, and Recreation programs, services, and capital needs, and emphasized the importance of diversifying and increasing revenue streams and funding options. Funding strategy elements were summarized and the community's capacity for fundraising efforts was discussed. Foglia-Jones outlined fundraising projections, contribution levels, activities, and key performance indicators. A communications plan for fundraising and next steps was outlined.

B. Community Survey Results

Ty Keltner, Communications Manager

Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager

Keltner presented outcomes of the 2025 Community Survey, administered by mail in multiple languages by consultant Polco. Survey methodology, benchmarking, and categories of information collected were summarized. Key takeaways were noted, including community strengths and areas identified for improvement. Demographic data was analyzed in relation to the City's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Strategic Plan. Discussion on the survey's statistical validity and application ensued. The next community survey is planned for 2027.

C. Community and Cultural Event Grant

Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager

Kelley-Fong presented proposals for a Community and Cultural Event Grant program and policy. The program's alignment with the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Strategic Plan was outlined. An initial allocation of \$25,000 is proposed for 2026 to promote community celebrations, with lodging tax funding discussed as a potential resource. Similar established grant programs include the neighborhood matching and human services grant programs. Kelley-Fong presented example programs and described the proposed review, approval, and reporting process. Eligibility and acceptable fund uses were summarized.

D. Metropolitan Park District Debrief

Jen Burbidge - Parks, Culture & Recreation Director

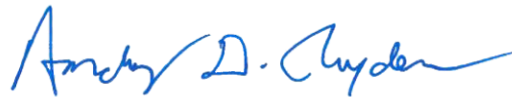
Burbidge summarized the metropolitan park district ballot measure, which failed to pass the August 5, 2025 election. Burbidge reminded Council that a dedicated and sustainable funding source is needed to maintain facilities and programs.

Burbidge asked Councilmembers to share their opinion on the position of Parks, Culture, and Recreation funding in the City's priorities, whether to pursue a public funding option for parks, and how to meet the community's needs with an aging park system. Discussion ensued.

7. Adjourn

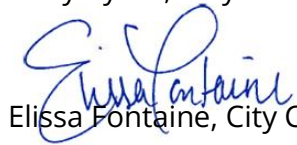
Deputy Mayor Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

MAYOR:



Andy Ryder, Mayor

ATTEST:



Elissa Fontaine, City Clerk

APPROVED: October 21, 2025