



MOUNTLAKE TERRACE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES

December 11, 2025
7:00 p.m.

Mountlake Terrace City Hall and
via Telephone and Teleconference

Councilmembers Present

Mayor Matsumoto Wright
Councilmember Murray (via Teleconference)
Councilmember Paige
Councilmember Ryan
Councilmember Sonmore
Councilmember Woodard
Mayor Pro Tem Wahl

Councilmembers Absent

None.

Guests

Senator Jesse Salomon

Staff Members Present

City Clerk Jennifer Joki
City Manager Jeff Niten
Community and Economic Development Director Christy Osborn
Deputy City Manager Carolyn Hope
Economic Development Manager Ryan Doss
Events Coordinator Andrew Appelwick
Recreation and Parks Director Jeff Betz
Senior Planner Sara Pizzo

Traffic Engineer John Marek

1. Call to Order

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

2. Attendance Roll Call

City Clerk Jennifer Joki called roll.

3. General Public Comment

No one signed up to provide public comment, either online or in person. All public comments submitted in writing have been provided to Council.

4. Legislative Session Discussion with Senator Jesse Salomon

Salomon presented on public defense contracts, paralegals, costs, childcare centers, affordable housing.



Salmon heard and responded to questions and comments from council regarding requests for proposals and negotiating contracts, lack of supply of public defenders driving up costs, childcare issues, capital asks for the library, and bipartisan activity in the new legislative session.

5. Review Ordinance Adopting Critical Areas Update (Ch. 16.15)
Senior Planner Sara Pizzo

Pizzo presented on this item to include the purpose, council goal, subject summary, five critical areas required to update, critical area map, update process, general provision updates, staff recommendations, and next steps.

Pizzo heard and responded to questions and comments regarding state mandates, possible changes, minimum state standards, setbacks, deterrents, and appreciation for the work put into this, wetland buffer widths, and staff recommendations.

6. Review Ordinance Adopting Floodplain Management Update (Ch. 16.18)
Senior Planner Sara Pizzo

Pizzo presented on this item to include the purpose, council goal, subject summary, National Flood Insurance Program, flood insurance rate maps, administration, construction provision changes, agency and public comment, recommendations, and next steps.

Pizzo heard and responded to questions and comments regarding base flood elevation.

The Mayor called for a 5-minute recess.

7. Review Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Funding Recommendations
Events Coordinator Andrew Appelwick

Appelwick presented on this item to include committee members, purpose, 2026 allocations, total allocation amount, and request of council.

Appelwick heard and responded to questions and comments from council regarding committee members, explanation of amounts awarded, reminding amount used for World Cup visitors, lodging taxes, conflicts of interest, and non-city led events.

8. Review Professional Services Agreement for City Prosecutor
City Manager Jeff Niten

Niten presented on this item to include the background and history, advertising, costs, provision for further extensions.

Niten heard and responded to questions and comments regarding notice period for getting out of the contract.



9. Review Professional Services Agreement for City Public Defender
City Manager Jeff Niten

Niten presented on this item to include the background and history, supreme court order, significant cost increases, no provision for additional extension, includes notice period for getting out of the contract, and costs.

Niten heard and responded to questions and comments regarding projected number of cases, using paralegals, robust screening criteria for applicants to program, court costs, reoffenders, and light rail contributing to crime.

10. City Manager's Report
City Manager Jeff Niten

Niten's report included:

- Tree Lighting was a success with estimated 400 people in attendance.
- Terrace Talk last night and discussed the Fiscal Sustainability Taskforce, community engagement, budget development, and Community Academy.

Niten heard and responded to questions and comments from Council regarding Terrace Talk attendees and community engagement for the Fiscal Sustainability Taskforce.

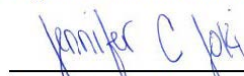
11. Review December 18 Meeting Agenda
The agenda was reviewed by council and approved.

12. Council Comments

- Councilmember Woodard thanked council for thoughtful work on the City Manager review process.

13. Adjournment
Mayor Matsumoto Wright adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.


Kyoko Matsumoto Wright, Mayor


Jennifer Joki, City Clerk