



# City of Olympia

City Hall  
601 4th Avenue E  
Olympia, WA 98501

Information: 360.753.8447

## Meeting Minutes City Council

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Tuesday, March 4, 2014

5:30 PM

Room 207

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### Special Study Session

#### 1. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 - Mayor Stephen H. Buxbaum, Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Jones, Councilmember Jim Cooper, Councilmember Julie Hankins, Councilmember Steve Langer, Councilmember Jeannine Roe and Councilmember Cheryl Selby

#### 2. BUSINESS ITEM

##### 2.A [14-0179](#) Annual Update and Guidance on Sea Level Rise

Public Works Water Resources Engineer Eric Christensen and Interim Water Resources Director Andy Haub led a presentation and discussion on the potential implications of sea level rise on downtown Olympia. The presentation focused on current downtown flood risks, recent sea rise projections, processes influencing how flooding could occur in the future and near- and long-term response measures. The current risk of flooding during extreme tidal events, as well as the likely exacerbation of the flood dynamic in future years, were both stressed.

City Council supported work efforts completed by staff over the past few years. They discussed the need to maintain the current work effort and prepare to provide more in the future. Potential costs of implementing long-term response measures such as a barrier and pumps were discussed. In the meantime, annual incremental improvements in our knowledge base regarding sea rise and our ability to respond are necessary.

Staff indicated they were working on bringing a similar sea level rise update to the community consistent with public involvement commitments of past years. Staff explained annual updates for both City Council and the community are central to sea level rise work efforts. The PowerPoint presentation shared with Council has been posted on the City webpage.

**The discussion was completed.**

#### 3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

