Subject:

Vote no on limiting public comments at planning commission meetings

From: Linda Dabrowski

Sent: Monday, July 14, 2025 7:06 PM **To:** Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>

Subject: Vote no on limiting public comments at planning commission meetings

Dear Planning Commission,

I understand from a recent <u>article</u> that the planning commision is considering limitations to public comment during meetings. The rationale cited was that the comprehensive plan has generated a lot of public commentary, an opportunity I and many of my like-minded neighbors have taken advantage of.

The proposal to limit commentary demonstrates a lack of critical thinking on part of the planning commission. Critical thought would look for the root cause - what is the actual problem we need to solve. I would suggest that the comprehensive plan - the document and the process including any part of city government that has been a part of this process - is the problem. Lack of public engagement, lack of clear communication/case for change, moralistic arguments in lieu of facts, conflicts of interest among planning commission members, really the list could go on. The simple fact that I, who have never even heard of the planning commission prior to the comprehensive planning process, has attended meetings both in person and virtually, and taken advantage of the opportunity to speak at a commission meeting, says volumes about maintaining the existing approach for public commentary.

Shutting down or modifying the ability of the public to comment will further undermine whatever shred of credibility the planning commission has with city residents.

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