

Proposed Amendments To Council Rules

RULE 7 - Addressing Council During Meetings

Public Commentary

During the time designated as *Public Commentary*, those wishing to address Council will be recognized by the Chair to speak for up to three minutes. Prior to 5:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting, all speakers must sign up with City Clerk either in person or by telephone using the process described below.

Public Commentary shall be limited to an overall time limit of 45 minutes, and speakers who have signed up to speak but are unable to address the Council during *Public Commentary* due to the overall time limit shall be allowed to address the Council during *Public Commentary – Continued*.

Speaking times are not transferable, and speakers may not use *Public Commentary* time to address Council on an agenda item for which a public hearing is scheduled for the same meeting. Also, speakers who are not present or available when recognized by the Chair shall lose the opportunity to speak.

On the day of a regular meeting of the City Council, the City Clerk shall sign up persons interested in speaking during the time designated as *Public Commentary* as follows:

- a. Between 8 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. the clerk shall accept requests to sign up for *Public Commentary*. Prior to the meeting, the City Clerk will create an ordered list of speakers by priority group. All speakers within each priority group will be placed in random order by the City Clerk (using a randomization tool). Priority groups shall be as follows, in order:
 - Persons wishing to address Council on agenda items who have not spoken at the previous two meetings.
 - Other persons wishing to address Council on agenda items.
 - Persons wishing to address Council on items not on the agenda who have not spoken at the previous two meetings.
 - Persons wishing to address Council on any other matter.
- b. Between 1-4 p.m. and 5 p.m. on the day of a meeting, the City Clerk shall accept any additional requests to sign up for *Public Commentary* and shall place ~~these~~ each of these speakers at the end of the ~~entire~~ applicable priority group list in the order received.

There shall be no overall time limit of 45 minutes for *Public Commentary* during Special Sessions of the Council.