

POLICY TITLE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS — ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

POLICY STATEMENT:

In accordance with the Brown Act, every agenda for the 2nd and 4th Tuesday regular meetings of the Council will provide the public an opportunity to address the Council on matters not on the agenda but within the City Council's subject matter jurisdiction. This period will be known as Oral Communications and will be governed as follows:

1. Oral communications will be held at the beginning of the evening session, which will occur on or about 7:00 p.m.
2. If Oral Communications concludes earlier than 7:30 p.m. Council shall recess and reconvene at 7:30 p.m. to begin the business portion of the meeting.
3. Thirty (30) minutes* will be allocated for oral communications.
4. No individual will be allowed to speak for more than three minutes*.
5. No individual may speak more than once during the oral communication period.
6. Individuals who did not speak at the previous Council meeting's oral communications will be given first preference to speak.
7. All speakers must address the entire Council and will not be permitted to engage in dialogue.
8. In the interest of civil discourse, the same rules specified in the Council Rules of Procedure (Decorum) and principles for Rules of Debate shall apply for this section as well, and are hereby incorporated by reference. It shall be the responsibility of the presiding officer to ensure that Oral Communications are conducted in such a manner that avoids disruptive activity, promotes mutual respect, keeps comments focused on issues, and avoids personal attack.

* Time limits may be increased or decreased at the Mayor's discretion.

AUTHORIZATION: Council Policy Manual Update of November 17, 1998
Revised by Resolution No. NS-29,246 on May 23, 2017
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