

C. Public Comment at Full Council and Committee Meetings.

Public Comment Periods are brief opportunities for members of the public to comment on items on that day's agenda, or in the case of a committee meeting, on matters within the purview of the committee. The agenda for a particular Council meeting may specify the total time allotted for the public comment period and for time limits for individual comments. (See also Rule III.B. Public Hearings)

1. The Council does not accept public comment at special meetings of the Full Council.
2. The Council accepts public comment at regular Full Council meetings:
 - a) Public comment at Full Council meetings is limited to matters on the Introduction and Referral Calendar and Committee Reports on that day's regular Full Council meeting agenda; and
 - b) The Council President shall ensure that all public comment is in accordance with Rule III.C.2.a.
3. Council Committees accept public comment at regular and special Committee meetings.
 - a) Public comment at a Committee meeting is limited to matters within the purview of the specific Committee or an item listed on that day's agenda.
 - b) The presiding officer at a Committee meeting shall ensure that all public comment is in accordance with Rule III.C.3.a.
4. Total public comment periods shall not exceed 20 minutes unless extended at the discretion of the presiding officer.
5. Individual speakers will be provided up to two minutes total speaking time. Individuals who wish to speak shall sign up for public comment on sign-in sheets provided by Legislative Department staff.
6. When an individual is recognized by the presiding officer, the individual shall approach the podium, state his or her name for the record, and identify the item to which he or she will speak. At the presiding officer's discretion, this Rule may be waived in the interest of personal safety of the person speaking.
7. Council and committee proceedings are electronically recorded; therefore, speakers wishing to address the Council or committee during the established public comment period shall speak only from the microphones provided for public speakers.

8. If no speakers sign up to address the Council or the Committee, or if the public comments conclude before the 20 minute time period has elapsed, the comment period will be closed, and the Council or committee shall resume its business, with no further opportunity for public comment at that meeting.
9. The Council is not required to allow public comment at Council Briefings.
10. No public comments addressing the merits of a quasi-judicial action are permitted at any Council meeting.

D. Disruptions to Council Meetings and Committee Meetings.

1. Disruptions of Full Council and Committee meetings are prohibited. Disruptions include but are not limited to the following:
 - a) Failure of a speaker to comply with the allotted time established for the individual speaker's public comment;
 - b) Outbursts from members of the public who have not been recognized by the presiding officer for public comment;
 - c) Comments that are not in compliance with III.C.2.a or III.C.3.a;
 - d) Standing in the center aisle or front row of the audience unless participating in public comment, awaiting an opportunity for participation in the public comment period, or gathering meeting materials distributed by Legislative Department staff; or
 - e) Holding or placement of a banner or sign in the Council Chamber in a way that endangers others and obstructs the free flow of pedestrians or the view of others attending a Council meeting.
2. The presiding officer shall preserve the order and decorum of a Council or Committee meeting at all times. If an individual fails to comply with III.D.1 of these Rules, the presiding officer shall issue an oral warning to the individual that his or her behavior is out of order. If the individual continues to engage in activity that violates III.D.1, the presiding officer may take the following actions:
 - a) Issue an oral warning to the individual that his or her behavior is out of order;
 - ba) Terminate the individual's comment period and proceed to the next speaker, if any;
 - eb) Direct security staff to assist an individual to his or her seat; or

- dc) Direct security staff to remove the individual from the Council Chamber or other location at which the meeting is being held.
3. Any individual ordered to be removed from a meeting pursuant to III.C.2.d shall be excluded from returning to that same meeting from which the individual was removed, unless the decision of the presiding officer is overruled by a majority vote of those Councilmembers in attendance.
 4. If an individual fails to comply with the requirements of III.D.1 over the course of ~~multiple~~two or more Council or Committee meetings occurring within a 15 day time period, or over the course of two or more consecutive meetings of the same Committee, the presiding officer may exclude the individual from participation in future public comment periods before the Council or Committee meetings, or exclude the individual from attendance at future Council or Committee meetings, unless the decision of the presiding officer is overruled by a majority vote of the Councilmembers in attendance.
 - a) The presiding officer shall inform the individual of the specific reason for his or her exclusion, and the specific terms of the exclusion.
 - b) Exclusions from future participation in public comment periods or future attendance at Council or Committee meetings may be issued for up to ~~14~~28 calendar days.
 - c) The length of the period of the exclusion may depend upon the seriousness of the disruption, the number of disruptions, and the individual's prior record with conduct at Council or Committee meetings.
 - d) When issuing an exclusion from future public comment periods, or from future attendance at Council or Committee meetings, the presiding officer shall include specific notification that the individual may submit written comments to the City Clerk for distribution to the Council at future public comment periods.
 5. Any individual excluded from participation in future public comment periods or from attendance at future Council or Committee meetings for a period of more than two calendar days may appeal his or her exclusion by submitting a written appeal to the Full Council within five business days after receiving notice of the exclusion. The Full Council shall consider the appeal at an open public meeting.
 6. The enforcement provisions of these rules are in addition to the authority of the Fleets and Facilities Department to enforce Rules of Conduct in City Hall pursuant to Rule 05-02, and Rules regarding City Buildings and Premises pursuant to Rule 06-03.