

Public Hearing Participation Guidelines

Public hearings are an opportunity to provide input to the Council about a specific item, action, or project going in front of the Council for approval.

- ✓ For public hearings about various development projects, the applicant (and/or applicant's representative) may present for a total of 10 minutes prior to the start of the public hearing and may provide a rebuttal of up to 5 minutes after the public hearing has closed.
- ✓ The applicant may also answer informational questions from the Council until a motion has been made, after which all external comments end.
- ✓ All public hearing speakers will be limited to 5 minutes each.
- ✓ Public hearing speakers may only speak once during a given public hearing.
- ✓ The public hearing speaker shall provide their name.
- ✓ Groups who have a similar view on the subject matter of the hearing are encouraged to designate a spokesperson. This spokesperson does not receive extra time.
- ✓ A public hearing speaker may yield their remaining time to another. A public hearing speaker who yields their time may not speak again once the allotted 5 minutes are spent.
- ✓ When appropriate, priority will be given to those public hearing speakers who may be immediately impacted by the Council's decision, e.g. neighborhood residents.
- ✓ A timer will be used to manage public hearing speaker times.
- ✓ Currently no virtual participation option is available. If you are unable to attend in-person to provide public comment, or you would prefer to submit your comments through a different medium, the following contact methods are also available:
 - Email the City by Noon on the day of the meeting at the email address publiccomment@rochestermn.gov and your comment will be distributed to the City Council prior to the meeting that day.
 - Fill out a written open comment form in-person at the Council Meeting and give it to the Clerk.
 - Send an open comment in the mail to:

City of Rochester - City Clerk
201 4th St SE, Ste 135
Rochester, MN 55904

- Send an email to your individual Councilmember – find their email addresses on the City's website under [City Council – Council Members](#).
- Send an email to the full Council at citycouncil@rochestermn.gov.

Questions? Contact the City Clerk's Office: 507-328-2900 or cityclerk@rochestermn.gov