# The Salt Lake City Council Welcomes Your Comments



Welcome to the City Council meeting. Public comment is your chance to share thoughts, concerns, and feedback directly with the Council on agenda items or other City issues. We value your input and appreciate your role in shaping our community's future.



## **Public Meeting Rules**

Council meetings are a space where everyone should feel safe and comfortable to share their views. Please avoid disruptions, threats, or unprotected speech. These actions or comments may result in removal from the meeting. Also, the Council does not find comments with intimidating or discriminatory language persuasive, and they do not help create a safe environment.

To keep meetings respectful and efficiently running, please follow these guidelines:

- 1. **Language:** Avoid profanity, threats, personal attacks, or discriminatory language.
- 2. **Disruptions:** Avoid cheering, clapping, yelling, waving signs, or approaching the Council without being asked by the Chair.
- 3. **Signs and Props:** Signs are allowed if they don't block others' views or disrupt the meeting. To help avoid this, please follow these guidelines:
  - a. Keep signs small enough to hold in your lap or at your feet.
  - b. Sticks or poles are not allowed for safety reasons.
  - c. You can place your sign on the floor near the podium during your turn to speak.
  - d. Please coordinate with staff before the meeting if you have presentation materials that need to be copied or distributed to Council Members. Please do not approach the dais.
- 4. **Furniture:** Please do not put your feet on furniture, touch the artwork and other decor, or bring food or drinks into the meeting room.
- 5. **Bags:** Staff or security may need to inspect large bags, purses, or backpacks for safety.
- 6. **Recording:** If you're recording the meeting, please work with staff or security to find a suitable place to set up that won't cause a disruption.

The Council respects constitutional rights to free speech. It recognizes that some comments may be legally permissible under the U.S. and Utah Constitutions or other federal and state laws. However, the Council reserves the right to address behavior that creates disruption or safety risk or constitutes unprotected speech (such as true threats). In such cases, **staff or security may intervene**, **including potentially removing individuals to ensure meeting order and public safety.** 



# **Opportunities to Address the Council**

The Council agenda has two sections for the public to make comments:

- **Public Hearings:** Comments on specific agenda topic(s) listed on the agenda. Registration is open until the hearing closes.
- **General Comments:** Comments on any topic not scheduled for a public hearing. Registration closes at 7:30 p.m.

The Council allows two minutes for each public comment to allow time for multiple speakers. Speakers cannot transfer their time to another person. All comments are recorded and publicly accessible.

Note: The Council typically doesn't respond during public comment so that each speaker can share their thoughts without interruption or intimidation.

### **How to Share Your Public Comment**

### In Person

- Fill out a comment card if you would like to speak. To submit written comments, check the "do not want to speak" box and write your comments on the back of the card.
- Use a separate card for each public hearing item or the general comment section. The general comment section is limited to two minutes per person during the meeting.
- When finished, give your card to a staff member and wait for your turn to speak. Speakers will be called in the order that people signed up.
- When called, go to the podium, state your name, and share your comment. It is also helpful, though optional, to provide the area of the city where you live.

### On Zoom

- Register to speak at SLCCouncil.com.
- You'll receive an email with a link to join the meeting up to 30 minutes before it starts. You will be added to the speakers' queue upon joining the meeting. Please note your microphone will be muted, and your video will be off (video sharing is disabled).
- When it's your turn to speak, staff will give you the ability to unmute your line so you can share your comments.
- Staff will mute you after your time is up, and we'll move to the next speaker.

If you run out of time, please email your additional comments to <a href="mailto:Council.Comments@slc.gov">Council.Comments@slc.gov</a> or call 801-535-7654 to leave a recorded message.



# **Other Ways to Provide Comment to the City Council**

To provide comment to the Council or your Council Member, find contact information, or sign up for e-mail updates, scan the QR code or visit **tinyurl.com/SLCCouncilContact**.

