

7.11. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION. Before convening the regular meeting, the Council shall conduct a televised one-half hour general public comment session during which persons may address the Council on any matter of city concern, except for any matter that is scheduled for either a formal or a courtesy public hearing at that meeting or any future meeting of Council. Anyone wishing to comment on a matter scheduled for a public hearing shall be requested to reserve their comments until the hearing in question.

- (a) Persons wishing to address Council at a general public comment session shall register their intention to do so in person, online or by phone at the City Council central office beginning at 12:00 p.m. on the Friday before the general public comment session. Registration period will end at 4:00 p.m. the day of the general public comment session. Speakers who have not addressed Council at the general public comment session in the previous week shall be given priority in registration on a first come first served basis. Speakers shall be recognized to speak in the order of registration.
- (b) Speakers at a general public comment session shall be limited to a maximum of three minutes unless a shorter time is set by the President in consideration of the number of speakers who have registered for the session. A speaker may not yield his or her time to another speaker unless necessary to accommodate translation or a disability.
- (c) Speakers at a general public comment session shall direct their remarks to Council as a body and not to any individual Council member. Speakers shall be requested by the President to refrain from any profane or obscene speech; threats of violence or economic reprisal against any public official intended to influence the behavior of the official; or speech which impugns any person on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability.