



Modernizing City Council

Councilmember Chris Herndon

Problem

- **Predictability**
 - Public has little idea of when a hearing may start – problematic for childcare, requesting time away from work, etc.
- **Staff Resources**
 - Administration staff must spend time outside their normal work hours to attend Council
- **Efficiency**
 - Council meetings running in to late hours of the night may not receive sharpest debate
- **Accessibility**
 - 5:30 Start time creates inequitable access to Council for those who do not have traditional 9 to 5 jobs
- **Workload**
 - There has been a significant increase in bills / contracts coming to Council

Meeting format stagnant for > 50 years

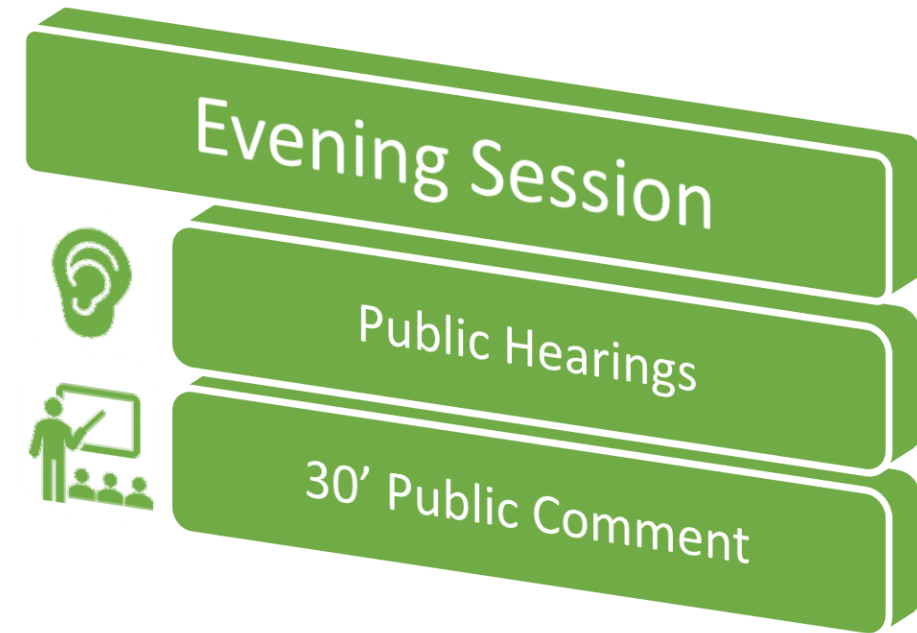


Changes in Denver

- Population has increased by over 200k (estimate)¹
- Workforce – more two-income households²
- Advent of Additional Viewing Options – Denver8 and Streaming
- Accessibility – Zoom, email, virtual town halls, etc.

Split-meeting Proposal

- **Routine City Business meeting (1:00 PM)**
 - Allows city staff and subject-matter experts to perform duties within the normal work week
 - Allows for additional time for Proclamations
- **Required and Courtesy Public Hearings (4/5/6:00 PM)**
 - Provides the public with a predictable start time
- **30' General Public Comment (Prior to or Upon Adjournment)**
 - Allows president to extend comment without interfering in city business
 - Allows for comment on any pending item



Council Discussion

- Is 1PM start time sufficient?
- When should Public hearings start? 4/5/6?
- Should 30' Public Comment be before or after the required and courtesy hearings?