

Esther Handy

Date: December 4, 2021

Version: 1

Amendment 12

to

RES 32029 – General Rules and Procedures

Sponsor: CM Strauss

Topics for Public Comment

Beginning on p. 37 of Attachment 1 to Resolution 32029, make the following changes:

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS

A. Public Sessions – Open to Public; Location.

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C. Public Comment at City Council Meetings and Committee Meetings.

Public comment periods are opportunities for members of the public to comment on items on the meeting'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 Rule XI.B Public Hearings.)

1. The Council shall not accept public comment at special City Council meetings.
2. The Council shall accept public comment at regular City Council meetings.
 - a. Public comment at City Council meetings shall be limited to matters on the Introduction and Referral Calendar, and Committee Reports on that day's regular City Council meeting agenda, ~~and other matters directly related to the City Council Work Program~~; and
 - b. The President shall ensure that all public comment is in accordance with Rule XI.C.2.a.
3. Council committees shall accept public comment at standing and select committee meetings.
 - a. Public comment at a committee meeting shall be limited to matters within the purview of the specific committee or an item listed on that day's agenda.

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b. The presiding officer at a committee meeting shall ensure that all public comment is in accordance with Rule XI.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 shall be provided up to two minutes total speaking time. Individuals who wish to speak shall sign up for public comment on registers, when provided by Legislative Department staff.

(See Rule XI.J Inclusive Access and Participation – Requests for Reasonable Accommodation.)

6. When recognized by the presiding officer, the individual shall address the members in the form prescribed, state the individual's name for the record, and identify the item to which the individual shall speak. At the presiding officer's discretion, this Rule may be waived in the interest of personal safety of the person speaking.

Effect: This amendment would limit the topics for public comment at Council meetings to matters on the Introduction and Referral Calendar and Committee Reports on that day's regular City Council meeting agenda (eliminating public comment at Council meetings regarding other items that may be included in the Council's adopted annual Work Program). This amendment makes no changes to the topics for public comment at Committee meetings.