

# **City of Corpus Christi**

## **Public Comment FAQ for City Council Meetings**

### **What is public comment?**

Public comment is an opportunity for individuals to directly speak to the Mayor and City Council about issues that are important to them and their community.

### **Where can I find information about public comment?**

Information is available at the City's website: <https://www.corpuschristitx.gov/department-directory/city-secretary/public-comment-procedures/>.

### **Who can I call if I have more questions about public comment?**

Please contact the City Secretary's Office during normal business hours at 361-826-3105 or [citysecretary@cctexas.com](mailto:citysecretary@cctexas.com).

### **What are the key changes to public comment?**

On June 10, 2025, City Council passed a motion moving the general public comment session from noon to 5:30 p.m. Due to this change, the agenda order of business was revised. After opening the meeting, the first order of business is board or committee appointments (if any), followed by the consent agenda. This means that the City Council begins voting on items at the beginning of the meeting.

On July 15, 2025, City Council approved additional changes, which are summarized below.

1. Speakers may comment on any agenda item or city-related topic at the 5:30 p.m. General Public Comment Session.
2. Registration to speak is only required for the 5:30 p.m. General Public Comment Session. Speakers will sign up at <https://www.corpuschristitx.gov/signin> or in person at the kiosk located in City Hall. Registration is not required to speak on a specific agenda item at the time it is being considered.
3. Speakers may ask questions during their time with the understanding that the Mayor, Council Members, and staff shall not answer any questions during the public comment period.
4. Registration will begin on Mondays at 8:00 a.m. and end on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. when there is a City Council meeting.

### **How do I sign up for public comment?**

- To speak at the 5:30 p.m. General Public Comment Session, register online at [www.corpuschristitx.gov/signin](https://www.corpuschristitx.gov/signin) or in-person at the kiosk located in City Hall.
- Registration will begin on Mondays at 8:00 a.m. and end on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. when there is a City Council meeting.
- Registration is not required to speak on a specific agenda item when it is being considered.

### **What kinds of items on the agenda will the mayor invite public input on?**

- Public comment is taken on agenda action items – business items which City Council may vote on.

- Public hearings are commonly held on zoning, annexation, and street closure items.
- Agenda action items are listed under the following agenda sections: consent agenda, individual consideration, public hearings, executive sessions (if action is taken after the executive session), and council requested items.

### **Where can I find the agenda?**

- City Council meeting agendas are posted [online](https://www.corpuschristitx.gov/our-government/mayor-and-council/agendas-and-minutes/) (<https://www.corpuschristitx.gov/our-government/mayor-and-council/agendas-and-minutes/>) before meetings according to deadlines established by the Texas Open Meetings Act.
- Currently, agendas are posted on the Friday before the meeting. Starting September 1, 2025, the deadline will change, and the agenda will be posted by the end of the day on the Wednesday before the meeting.

### **Where and at what time should I show up at Council Chambers to speak?**

- Council meetings are held at the Mayor Betty Turner Council Chambers located inside City Hall, 1201 Leopard Street. Enter City Hall through the main entrance facing Lipan Street. Once you enter the building, go through the security checkpoint, then turn right at the rotunda. Security guards can also direct you to Chambers. You must be present when your name is called to speak.
- For the 5:30 p.m. general public comment session, you are advised to arrive before 5:30 p.m.
- When speaking on a specific agenda action item, you are encouraged to arrive at the start of the council meeting at 11:30 a.m. It is not possible to know the time the item will be discussed.

### **How much time do I have to speak?**

- Speaking time remains the same at up to 3 minutes for Corpus Christi residents and up to 1 minute for non-residents.
- Time limitations may be restricted further by the Mayor at any meeting as allowed.

### **Can I distribute handouts to the council?**

- Yes, please bring at least 9 but preferably 12 copies of any handouts. There are 9 council members plus 3 charter officers (City Manager, City Secretary, and City Attorney).
- When you arrive at Chambers, you can bring the copies to the City Secretary's staff for distribution.

### **Can I submit a presentation, video, or other similar graphics to show during my time?**

- Any electronic media that a speaker would like to show during their speaking time may only be utilized IF sent to and approved by the City's IT department at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.
- Please contact the Communications Department at (361) 826-3211 to coordinate.

### **If a meeting ends before 5:30 p.m., will General Public Comment still start at that time?**

Yes, the council meeting will recess until 5:30 p.m.

### **If a meeting ends before 5:30 p.m., will Council Members still be there?**

Per the June 10, 2025, motion approved by the City Council, if a quorum is lost, the public comment session will continue.

### **Why am I being required to provide a phone number or email address?**

- City staff or the City Council may want to follow up with a speaker about their public comment. This may be to help resolve a problem, answer a question, open a discussion, provide additional information, or make a connection.
- Requiring this information will enable city staff or Council Members to contact speakers.

### **Is virtual public comment an option?**

- Virtual public comment, by Webex Video or Phone, is available for the 5:30 p.m. General Public Comment session.
- A valid email address must be provided within the form to receive Webex instructions for video or phone conferencing. To participate, users must log in between 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Participants MUST have a functional Internet connection, microphone, and speakers.
- If using video, users MUST maintain decent attire and a decent environment while participating on the call. Webex administrators reserve the right to cancel calls with persons who do not respect decorum.
- Speaking time limits are the same: up to 3 minutes for Corpus Christi residents and up to 1 minute for non-residents.

### **Can I make my comments in Spanish?**

- Yes. When you sign up, please check the box yes when it asks if you need translation services. The city will provide a Spanish to English translator.
- Your total allotted speaking time will double to allow time for your comments to be translated.

### **How do I speak on a zoning or annexation case?**

- Zoning and annexation items are discussed for the first time during the Public Hearing section of the agenda.
- Please check the agenda posted on the City's Electronic Bulletin Board to ensure the case will be heard. The second and final reading of zoning and annexation cases are listed under the Consent Agenda section at the next council meeting.

### **Can I still submit my comments in writing?**

Yes, go to [Public Comment Procedures](#) and click the *In Writing* box for instructions.

### **What are the Rules of Decorum?**

The rules of decorum are part of [Council Policies](#). To conduct the business of the City, and to properly discharge its duty, the City Council must hear in many instances a variety of differing viewpoints. To obtain all relevant information from differing viewpoints, rules of decorum are necessary. Thus, the City Council adopts the rules to assist in the orderly deliberation of matters affecting the City and its citizens.

## Public Comment Snapshot

### In-Person

- For 5:30 session: Sign-up online or at kiosk by Tuesday at 4:00 p.m.
- Arrive to Council Chambers
- Wait to be called
- State your name & city
- State your comment following the Rules of Decorum

### WebEx Video or Call-In

- Sign-up online or at kiosk by 4:00 p.m.
- Check email for instructions
- Login or call-in following email instructions
- Wait to be called
- State your name & city
- State your comment following the Rules of Decorum

### Written

- Submit comment form online following the Rules of Decorum
- OR
- Email staff or council members directly following the Rules of Decorum