

City of Corpus Christi

Public Comment FAQ

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 you and your 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@corpuschristitx.com with additional questions.

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. To implement this change and meet the standards of the Texas Open Meetings Act, the following processes are being changed:

1. The agenda order of business After opening the meeting, the first order of business will be board or committee appointments (if any), followed by the consent agenda. This means that City Council will begin addressing action items much earlier in the meeting.
2. There are now two sign-up forms available at <https://www.corpuschristitx.gov/signin>, which will open the day before the meeting (Mondays) at 8:00 a.m. and close on the day of the meeting (Tuesdays) at 10:30 a.m. (previously 11:30 a.m.). Council meetings will immediately start discussing agenda action items and individuals will now sign up in advance to speak on those items. This change will allow staff adequate time to sort, organize, and distribute the public comment sign-up lists before discussion of agenda action items begins.
3. Individuals are required to sign up in advance to speak on *specific agenda action items*, when previously this was not required. To sign up for a specific action item, click the first option at <https://www.corpuschristitx.gov/signin>, *Agenda Action Item Public Comment*, enter your information and select the agenda action item(s) you wish to speak on. Scroll to the bottom of the page to complete and submit your registration. The list of available action items to speak on is broken into the sections found on the agenda and items will be updated for each council meeting. Public comment on agenda action items will be called for when the item is heard by City Council.
4. The 5:30 p.m. general public comment session is dedicated to city-related matters that are not agenda action items. It will operate similarly to the previous Noon public comment session: persons will sign up using the *General Public Comment* form, complete their information, and state their topic(s). They will be called up to speak in the order in which they registered.

Do I have to sign up to speak at public comment? If so, how do I sign up for public comment?

Yes, anyone wishing to give public comment on a specific agenda action item or at the general public comment session must sign-up at <https://www.corpuschristitx.gov/signin>. This link address has not changed.

Sign-up forms open at 8:00 a.m. on Mondays before the Council meeting and ends at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays during weeks when there is a council meeting.

There are now two sign-up forms at the link.

1. *Agenda Action Item Public Comment*: Sign up to speak on a specific agenda action item. This is new. You will use this option to speak when a specific agenda action item is discussed by council. Only action items are eligible for public comment.
2. *General Public Comment*: Sign up to speak at the general public comment session at 5:30 p.m. This is slightly revised from the previous public comment sign-up form. Use this form if you wish to speak on a city-related topic that is not an agenda action item.

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

Council meetings are held at the Mayor Betty Turner Council Chambers located at 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 take the right at the rotunda. Security guards can also direct you to Chambers.

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 an item will be discussed. You must be present when your name is called to speak.

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.

Can I distribute handouts to council?

Yes, please bring at least 9 but preferably 12 copies of any handouts. There are 9 members on council, 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 only available for the 5:30 p.m. general public comment period. 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 at 5:00 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. Sign-up to speak on these cases following the same steps as any other agenda action item.

Can I still submit my comments in writing?

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

Public Comments In Brief

In-Person

- Sign-up online or at kiosk by Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.
- Arrive to chambers
- Wait to be called
- State your name & city
- State your comment following the Rules of Decorum

WebEx Video or Phone

- Sign-up online or at kiosk by at 10:30 a.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