



CITY COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Commission

DATE: January 29, 2026

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action regarding the Bifurcation of Public Speaking, providing for public speakers on specific agenda items to be heard at the beginning of the meeting and general public comment to be heard at the conclusion of the meeting - **Commissioner Mallozzi**

To improve meeting efficiency and enhance public participation, Commissioner Mallozzi has requested a discussion regarding restructuring the public speaking portions of the agenda.

BACKGROUND OF ITEM:

The public comment section of Commission meetings allows residents and interested parties to speak to the Commission about issues affecting the municipality. Typically, public comment is taken at one or more times during the meeting, such as before discussing agenda items or at the end of the meeting.

As meetings grow longer and agendas become more complicated, members of the public who wish to speak on a specific agenda item may have to wait until that item is reached, which can happen late in the meeting. Conversely, general public comments made earlier in the meeting might extend the meeting duration before the agenda items are addressed.

ANALYSIS:

The proposed approach would bifurcate public comment into two distinct sections:

1. **Agenda Item Public Comment (Early in the Meeting):**
Members of the public wishing to speak on a specific agenda item may do so at the beginning of the meeting, prior to Commission discussion and action on that item.
2. **General Public Comment (End of the Meeting):**
Members of the public wishing to address the Commission on matters not listed on the agenda would be heard at the conclusion of the meeting.