



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager

DATE OF MEETING: February 2, 2026

ITEM TITLE: Video Recording and Broadcasting of City Council Work Sessions

DISCUSSION:

We have received a request from a Council member to evaluate our current practice for work sessions. Currently, while our regular City Council meetings are recorded and broadcast for public viewing, our work sessions are not. This discussion is intended to help the Council explore how best to provide public access while maintaining the functional purpose of these meetings.

As we consider this item, we want to ensure the community has a front-row seat to the hard work and collaboration that go into municipal governance. However, our department heads have noted that the value of a work session often lies in the opportunity for raw, candid, and exploratory conversations. There is concern that broadcasting these early-stage discussions could lead to public confusion, in which preliminary ideas are mistaken for final, settled policy.

The goal of this conversation is to determine how we can provide the transparency the public deserves without stifling the creative and adaptive problem-solving that our staff provides during these study sessions.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends discussion of this topic. No action is needed at this meeting, as any decision items needed would be brought forward to a City Council meeting for approval.