



MEETING DATE: April 8, 2024
PRESENTED BY: Anna Carrillo, City Secretary
AGENDA ITEM: Discussion of amended rules for Citizens Participation - Carrillo

NATURE OF REQUEST:

After researching the rules for citizen participation in various cities, it becomes evident that there is a need for amended rules to address several concerns and to enhance the effectiveness of citizen engagement. Recommendations have been discussed with the City Manager and are as follows:

1. Public comments regarding an item that is the subject of a public hearing will be heard when the public hearing is held.
2. Speakers must sign up prior to the scheduled meeting and will have one opportunity to speak
3. Speakers must adhere to the time limits (3 minutes) and stay on topic.
4. The Mayor or Presiding Officer, at his or her discretion, may reduce the time as deemed necessary to ensure meeting efficiency.
5. Speaker will follow rules of proper decorum which prohibits any direct or indirect personal attacks towards any member of the council or any city staff the comments made should pertain to city business and should not be threatening in nature.
6. Behavior that fails to yield the floor when the speaker's time is concluded; is not relevant to the agenda item or city business; repeatedly interrupts a Council Member; disturbs the order of the meeting; involves loud, threatening, hostile, abusive, vulgar, or obscene language; or disrupts the Council meeting is prohibited.
7. Any speaker or audience member that violates these rules of conduct or engages in disruptive behavior may be subject to removal from the meeting.
8. The Mayor or Presiding Officer will enforce these rules, and a person's failure or refusal to comply with an explicit request or order of the Mayor or Presiding Officer may violate the Texas Penal Code, Section 38.13(a)
9. If rules are violated, the microphone will be turned off and the live feed will be stopped.

If council agrees with the above-mentioned changes an Ordinance will be submitted for approval at the April 22 City Council meeting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Seeking Council Direction

Departmental Approval: N/A

Advisory Board Recommendation: N/A

City Manager's Recommendation: Seeking Council Direction *MP*

RECORD OF VOTE:	APPROVED:	_____
	DISAPPROVED:	_____
	TABLED:	_____

_____ AYES

_____ NAYS

_____ DISSENTING _____