

CLARIFICATION MEMO TO PUBLIC COMMENT



For City Council Meetings held on February 4, 2026

1. At the February 4, 2026, City Council meeting, a citizen made a comment during Visitor Comment that the City was being fined related to public records litigation. At the time the citizen made that statement, the City was not being fined related to records litigation. At that time, the Plaintiff in the records litigation *requested* that fines be imposed. A hearing on the issue was held on February 17, 2026. The judge heard arguments about why the Plaintiff believed that fines should be imposed against the City. The judge is reviewing the request and has not made a decision.
2. **Clearing the Confusion.** City Council added this agenda topic, Clearing the Confusion, at the beginning of each Council Meeting, to help the public receive information on topics that have caused confusion or which inaccurate statements have been made at Council Meetings during Visitor Comment.

Here is how Clearing the Confusion works:

- After a City Council meeting, any City Councilor or staff can submit a request to the City Administrator to review a statement made at Visitor Comment or Public Comment that they believe to be confusing or factually incorrect or a recurring statement or question they have heard from community members about City business that is confusion or incorrect.
- The City Administrator will then ask staff to research the statement and propose a more clear statement or a factual correction. Legal review is requested when needed.
- If the City Administrator determines that a correction or supplemental statement will be a benefit to the City, the City Administrator will place the correction or clarification on a future Council Agenda under "Clearing the Confusion."
- The City Administrator may also ask staff to meet with the citizen to provide information to help address the citizen's concerns.
- If a person makes a public comment requesting records, the person will be asked by City staff to submit a records request in writing to the City Recorder's Office.