

How to make public comment at a SLO City meeting (it will be fun, we promise)!

Why

Community engagement is crucial in the decision-making process of any proposal presented to the city, especially large-scale developments that have to do with hundreds of new homes. If you live in San Luis Obispo and care about the future of housing, then showing up and having your unique voice heard by the people empowered to make critical decisions can make a real, and lasting, difference in the community – and you don't have to be an 'expert' to do so.

How

Authenticity is the name of the game. Your comments do not have to delve into specific policy or land use documents; you don't need a PhD in city planning or be a toastmaster to have an impact. All you have to do is share why you care and what decision you hope they make.

Step by Step Instructions

1. First, check out [our YouTube video](#) - this is easier than you might think!
2. To see the meeting agenda, [click here](#), it will give you an idea of when the housing topic will come up.
3. Meetings are held at City Hall ([990 Palm St.](#)), corner of Palm and Osos streets. When you walk in the front door and just before entering the council chamber, you will see speaker cards on the left side of the wall. Fill one out and give it to the city clerk or staff person seated in front of the dais. Then have a seat and wait patiently.
4. Speakers will be queued up by the mayor or commission chair, when your name is called, line up.
5. You will typically have up to three minutes to speak. Be concise, respectful and share what's important to you. Be sure to start by telling them your name and place of residence/work so they know why this issue affects you.
6. The lights on the podium will tell you how much time you have left. Thank them for listening.
7. And then, you're done - it's that easy - and remember, you have friends in the audience supporting you.

Congratulations! You joined the conversation and helped our elected officials have more information so that they could make an important decision!

You have now successfully participated in shaping the place we love and have chosen to build our lives and businesses.