

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Council Handbook Section II-3

No one shall be denied the right, personally or through counsel, to present grievances or offer suggestions for betterment of municipal affairs at any regular meeting of the Council, nor to speak to the subject of any special meeting. (Section 335, City Charter)

The public is guaranteed the right to provide testimony at any regular or a special meeting on any subject which will be considered by the legislative-body before or during its consideration of the item. In addition the public has the right at every regular meeting to provide testimony on any matter under the legislative body's jurisdiction. (§ 54953.5(a) of the Brown Act)

PUBLIC RIGHTS

Council Handbook Section IV & V

Public Testimony: Public may comment on agenda items before or during any consideration by the legislative body. Time must be set aside for public to comment on any other matters under the body's jurisdiction. (§ 54954.3 of the Brown Act)

Public Records: Materials provided to a majority of a body which are not-exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act must be provided upon request, to members of the public without delay. (§ 54957.5 of the Brown ACT)

PUBLIC DECORUM AND ORDER

Council Handbook Section VI-2

Members of the public attending Council meetings shall observe the selfsame rules of order and decorum applicable to the City Council. Also, any member may arise and address the Council on any business specially concerning him/her, or affecting his/her interests. (Council Handbook Section VIII)

PUBLIC DISSENT AND PROTEST

Council Handbook Section VI-3

Any member of the public shall have the right to express dissent from and/or protest to any action of the council and have the reason entered verbatim in the minutes. And made clear by language, that's the public's constitutional right, (for the matter of record) to state their opposition to any action of the City Council.

PROCEDURES IN ABSENCE OF RULES

Except as modified by the provisions of the Council Handbook the proceedings of the City Council meeting shall be governed by the Robert's Rules of Order, as amended.

CHAIR RULINGS FINAL/UNLESS OVERRULED

Presiding Officer shall decide all questions of interpretations of rules, or points of order and other questions of procedure, requiring rulings. Such a decision or ruling shall be final -- that is, unless overridden or suspended by a majority vote of the Council Members present and voting.