

City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



Agenda Item Number: R101-14

Department Source: Law

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: May 19, 2014

Re: Revising the Procedures and Guidelines for Scheduled Public Comment at City Council Meetings

Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo; Resolution

Supporting documentation includes: None

Executive Summary

The proposed revision to the established procedures and guidelines for scheduled public comment is being sponsored by Council member Hoppe.

Discussion

Under the current guidelines, scheduled public comment at the beginning of the Council meeting is prohibited if it relates to **any** item on the agenda. Council member Hoppe has proposed a modification to the established procedures and guidelines for scheduled public comment that would only prohibit scheduled public comments when the topic is related to an agenda item under Public Hearing, Old Business, Consent Agenda or New Business. The change would allow scheduled public comment on agenda items listed under Introduction and First Reading and Reports.

The guidelines for open public comment at the end of the meeting agenda will not be affected by the proposed amendment.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Not applicable.

Long-Term Impact: Not applicable.

Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Not Applicable

Strategic Plan Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impact: Not Applicable

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Suggested Council Action

None.

Legislative History

Resolution No. 70-10A adopted on April 5, 2010.

Resolution No. 64-96 adopted on May 6, 1996.

Resolution No. 188-81 adopted on April 20, 1981.

Resolution No. 179-77 adopted on May 2, 1977.



Department Approved

City Manager Approved

A RESOLUTION

repealing Resolution No. 70-10A that established procedures and guidelines for scheduled public comment at City Council meetings and adopting a new resolution on the same subject.

WHEREAS, the City Council previously established procedures and guidelines for scheduled public comment by adopting Resolution No. 70-10A on April 5, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to modify the policy set forth in Resolution No. 70-10A by not allowing scheduled public comments when the topic is related to an agenda item under public hearing, old business, consent agenda or new business.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Resolution No. 70-10A is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. The City Council establishes the following procedures and guidelines for scheduled public comment at City Council meetings:

1. All requests for scheduled public comment must be submitted in writing to the City Manager's Office, City Hall Building, 701 East Broadway, (P.O. Box 6015), Columbia, MO 65205-6015.
2. Written requests must be received in the City Manager's Office by noon on the Wednesday preceding the City Council meeting. Requests must contain the speaker's name, telephone number and the topic of the scheduled comment.
3. Faxed requests are acceptable. The fax number for the City Manager's Office is (573) 442-8828.
4. Approximately thirty minutes will be designated for the Scheduled Public Comment section of the Council agenda. Topics for public comment will be scheduled on a first come first served basis. Speakers will have three to five minutes to address the City Council as determined by the Mayor.
5. Scheduled public comments shall not be allowed on any topic related to an agenda item under public hearing, old business, consent agenda or new business.

6. No person will be permitted to make scheduled public comment more often than every other month.
7. No single topic shall have more than two speakers.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor