

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE CITY COUNCIL

On March 19, 2020, the Fairbanks City Council met in a Special Meeting and approved Emergency Ordinance No. 6126 in response to the COVID-19 outbreak in the State of Alaska. The ordinance temporarily allows telephonic participation of Councilmembers at Council meetings and allows the Mayor to temporarily modify provisions of the Fairbanks General Code regarding public meetings and participation in order to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

HOW TO LISTEN TO CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

All Regular and Special City Council meetings and Council Finance Committee meetings are streamed live through the City website: <https://www.fairbanksalaska.us/citycouncil/page/listen-live>. Regular City Council meetings will be broadcast on KFBX AM 970 live at 6:30 p.m. unless that option becomes unavailable. Special meetings are not broadcast on the radio.

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Written Testimony

Written testimony is encouraged during the COVID-19 outbreak. Citizens wishing to submit written testimony may do so by emailing the City Clerk at dsnider@fairbanks.us. Please indicate in the email subject line which agenda item(s) you are providing written testimony for (e.g., ordinance or resolution number, agenda item number, or description of subject). If the subject of your comments does not pertain to any agenda item, please indicate in the email subject line that the comments are “general citizens’ comments”. Finally, please specify if you do not wish for your comments to be read into the record at the City Council meeting.

Note: Written testimony to be read into the record is subject to the three-minute time limit, and the Clerk will include the name of the citizen who submitted the written testimony at the time the testimony is read into the record.

In-Person Testimony During Regular or Special Council Meetings

Individuals subject to quarantine due to recent travel under Governor Dunleavy’s Health Mandate 10.1 may not attend City public meetings in person.

Any individual exhibiting symptoms of the COVID-19 virus, who has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus, or who has had a known exposure to a person who has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus may not attend a City public meeting in person.

In-person testimony during regular and special Council meetings will be taken in the usual manner; social distancing measures will be in place. We strongly encourage citizens to submit written testimony to the Clerk in advance of the meeting and to stay home and listen to the meeting via internet or radio.

To ensure compliance with Mandate 16 by Governor Dunleavy, the seating in Council Chambers has been arranged to accomplish social distancing. **No more than 30 people will be allowed in City Council Chambers at the same time.** Capacity is based on ensuring all attendees can maintain social distancing within the limited space. Citizens arriving after the maximum number has been reached will be directed to wait in another area until it is their turn to speak to the Council. Those who are asked to wait in another area will be able to listen to the Council Meeting in progress and are asked to practice social distancing.

What to Expect When Testifying

The Clerk or other City staff, prior to the start of the meeting, may collect the names and addresses of those physically present who wish to speak. Public testimony will be heard first from citizens who are physically present, then written comments will be read into the record by the Clerk. To help avoid the spread of germs, speakers will be asked to wipe down the microphone and table surface following their testimony. Sanitizing wipes will be provided. Only one person will be called up to testify at a time.

General Guidance for Individuals Attending a City Public Meeting During COVID-19

- A minimum of six-foot distancing must be maintained between non-household members.
- Face coverings must be worn, whenever possible.
- Frequent handwashing is encouraged; restrooms with handwashing supplies are available.
- No food or drink is allowed in City Hall meeting rooms.
- Those who provide testimony to the City Council will be asked to wipe down the microphone and table surface following their testimony. Sanitizing wipes will be provided.