

# What to Expect When Speaking at Charlottesville's City Council

First of all, thank you! **Your voice matters!** Your involvement at City Council meetings shapes our community and contributes to the efforts of addressing climate change in a just way. City Council meetings bring together community members from all walks of life, that are united by the common goal of creating **positive change**. Your unique viewpoint adds depth to the conversation.

Scan to pre-register!



<https://tinyurl.com/cvilleadvocacy>

## A Step by Step Guide

### Step Up and Speak Out:

- Mark your calendars for the 1st and 3rd Mondays – City Council days!  
(Save these upcoming meeting dates: **Aug/21, Sep/5, Sep/18, Oct/2**)
- In the "Community Matters" session, the City Council offers 8 pre-reserved and 8 first-come spots for community speakers. Seize your chance to shine and **secure your spot by pre-registering** beginning Wednesday prior to the meeting until 9 a.m. on the meeting day.

### Craft Your Impactful Message:

- "3 minutes of fame": Public comments are **up to 3 minutes long**.
- Go ahead, read it out: Reading from written notes is A-OK.
- Blend our talking points (below) with a **personal twist** – make it memorable and informative!

### Time to Shine, Flexibility Included:

- Meetings start at 4:00 PM but **public comments take place from 6:30 to 8:00 PM**.
- Council is all about options: Join the meeting in person or dazzle us remotely – you choose!

### The Ripple Effect – Keep It Going:

- Keep the convo going: Drop an email to councilors (we've got you covered with a template!).
- Beyond the mic: Send your comment as a **Letter to the Editor** at a local newspaper.



## Remember, You're a Changemaker:

- Stuck? We've got your back. **Reach out to our team** any time you need a hand in the process!
- Keep up the fantastic work, and let's make some positive waves in our community!
- City Council link: [www.charlottesville.gov/764/Speak-at-a-City-Council-Meeting](http://www.charlottesville.gov/764/Speak-at-a-City-Council-Meeting)

Connect with us to share your ideas!



[theclimatecollaborative.org](http://theclimatecollaborative.org)



[policy@theclimatecollaborative.org](mailto:policy@theclimatecollaborative.org)



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