

City Council Participation Tips for Coronado

ABOUT THE MEETING

Coronado Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 4th at 4:00pm
City Hall Council Chamber
(the Council Chamber is at the south end of City Hall)
1825 Strand Way
[AGENDA](#)
[DRAFT ORDINANCE](#)

SPEAK IN PERSON

Up for discussion:

Coronado's draft ordinance includes the following: a citywide ban on polystyrene foam and single-use plastic foodware, foodware accessories, carryout bags, helium balloons, and even bottled beverages at city facilities and events. It also requires businesses to accept clean reusable cups for beverages.

Know the facts:

[Link to fact sheets and information about plastic pollution](#)

Prepare your comments: Choose your focus and write what you plan to say in advance. Be professional and positive in tone.

Practice speaking: Each speaker usually has 3 minutes, but it is advisable to keep comments shorter. Practice with a timer to ensure your timing is right and you stay at or under 3 minutes. Have a 2-minute version ready in case the time allotted to each speaker is reduced, which does happen occasionally.

When addressing the council:

- Briefly introduce yourself and/or the group you are representing
- State the action you want the council to take.
 - Good evening, Honorable Council Members and Mayor_____. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you this evening.
 - My name is _____.
 - *(If you are a resident of the city in which you are speaking, mention where you live, and if you are a student, include your school and grade level or year.)*
 - I am here to express my support for_____.

Be sure to:

- Speak from the heart. If possible, include a personal experience. *(For example, if you participate in neighborhood or beach cleanups, talk about what you have seen in the community, on the roadways, or along the coastline.)*
- Focus on your unique perspective. *(For example, if you are passionate about climate change, share how plastics contribute to climate change; if you are concerned about marine mammals, mention how they are affected; if you are concerned about public health, share the impacts to humans, etc.)*

- Share related facts.
- Restate the action you want the council to take.
- Conclude by thanking the mayor and the council members for their time and consideration.

OTHER THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

Be on time and be prepared.

Follow the procedures for requesting to speak; complete a speaker slip when you arrive and give it to the city clerk.

When it's your turn, approach the podium; speak clearly, and at an appropriate pace.

If needed, adjust your comments to stay within the allotted time. If you go over, the microphone will be cut off and you won't be allowed to finish.

Be calm, respectful, and polite.

AFTER THE MEETING

You may wish to send a follow-up email to thank the council members for their support (or to request their support if it wasn't expressed) and/or to restate the action you want the council to take along with any additional relevant materials.