

CITY OF OMAHA CITY COUNCIL

Omaha/Douglas Civic Center 1819 Farnam Street - Suite LC-1 Omaha, NE 68183 Phone (402) 444-5520 www.cityofomaha.org Chris Jerram
President
Vinny Palermo
Vice President
Pete Festersen
Ben Gray
Rich Pahls
Brinker Harding
Aimee Melton

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

April 17, 2020

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS RESUME APRIL 21, 2020

The Omaha City Council will resume its regular meeting schedule on Tuesday, April 21st at 2:00 p.m. This meeting and the April 28th meeting will be moved to the Farnam South Conference Room in the Omaha/Douglas Civic Center. The Legislative Chamber is not available those days because of ongoing repairs to its AV system.

The City Council will modify some procedures because of the alternate meeting location and to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread. The modified procedures include the following:

- Public participation will be available through a Zoom meeting. Members of the public that choose to participate via Zoom must follow the attached procedures, also available on the City Clerk's web page at www.cityofomaha.org.
- Meeting video will be available on YouTube's Omaha City Council Meetings channel and on Cox Communications cable channels 22 and 1022. The normal signal to Cox channel 18 may not be available because of construction in the Legislative Chamber.
- As an alternative to attending the meeting in person, Councilmembers encourage the
 public to submit testimony by letter or email to the City Clerk. It will be part of the official
 meeting record.
- Seating will observe the Douglas County Health Department's recommendations of adequate physical separation. As a result, the meeting room's capacity is limited to approximately 30 seats. Additional seating and a TV monitor will be available in an adjacent room for overflow.
- Media should plan to pool resources to place just one camera in the meeting room.
- The Council encourages all that attend to follow the Douglas County Health Department's recommendation to wear masks in public places.
- The Council is waiving its rule requiring liquor license applicants to appear for the hearing on their applications until further notice.
- The Pre-Council staff meetings held at 10:30 a.m. on Council meeting days are canceled until further notice.

For additional information, please contact Councilmembers at: Chris Jerram, President (402) 444-5525 Vinny Palermo, Vice President (402) 444-5522 Pete Festersen, (402) 444-5527 Ben Gray (402) 444-5524 Rich Pahls (402) 444-5528 Brinker Harding (402) 444-5523 Aimee Melton (402) 444-5526

Attachment

Omaha City Council meetings will have a video conference component via Zoom for public participation as authorized by Executive Order No. 20-03 issued by Governor Ricketts (link)

YOU MUST REGISTER WITH THE CITY CLERK TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING VIRTUALLY!

City Council agendas are published on the City's website the Thursday prior to the Tuesday meeting. If you would like to speak on any item through Zoom Meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at cityclerk@cityofomaha.org or 402-444-5557. THE CITY CLERK MUST BE NOTIFIED BY NOON THE DAY OF THE MEETING. Please provide your name, address and item(s) you wish to speak on.

Other than applicant(s), preference for speakers will be given to those who are participating virtually. Anyone attending the meeting in person will have a chance to speak after everyone has spoken via phone and video conference.

As always, if you are not able to attend the meeting, you can email testimony to the City Clerk at cityclerk@cityofomaha.org. Your comments will be sent to all Council Members and made part of the record.

If you would like to watch the meeting, but not speak on an item, we ask that you stream the meeting online at YouTube's Omaha City Council Meetings channel.