

**COUNCIL RULE EIGHTEEN. Public Comments.**

- A. At the regular and special sessions of the County Council, public comments shall be allowed. Each petitioner wanting to speak during the public comments period may fill out one (1) (and only one (1)) citizen speaker card on the day of the meeting and submit the card directly to County Council Staff while in Council Chambers no later than the start of the regular or special meeting (7:00 P.M. for regular meetings). Citizen speaker cards will not be accepted on days other than Council Meeting days and will not be accepted outside of Council Chambers. Once the meeting is called to order, no petitioner shall be permitted to comment without having turned in a citizen speaker card. Prior to the start of the meeting, an informational announcement stating the foregoing shall be shown, via overhead projector, in the County Council chambers.
- B. The citizen speaker cards shall be arranged, by topic, in a first come, first serve manner. Each speaker having duly presented a timely speaker card shall be allowed three (3) minutes to speak. A total of six (6) speakers shall be allowed. No petitioner shall speak more than one time, nor speak on more than one topic, unless directed to do so at the pleasure of the Council. Petitioners shall present in an alternating three (3) 'pro,' three (3) 'con' pattern, depending on the number of citizen speaker cards received by County Council Staff before commencement of the meeting. No topic shall exceed eighteen (18) minutes. Speakers shall address only topics that are included on that meeting's agenda. If a speaker's comments do not address or cease to address an agenda topic, any Council Member may raise a point of order to the Council Chair. If such point of order is well-taken, the balance of the speaker's time shall be forfeited.
- C. The Chair shall be responsible for enforcing the time limits and the public speaking rules (located on back of the citizen speaker cards).
- D. At any time during the meeting, the Chair, or the Chair's designee at the meeting, has the exclusive right to recognize any person to speak before the County Council.