

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES

(Amended by Kershaw County Council, August 12, 1997)

1. Public Comment:
 - > is an opportunity for members of the public to share information with Council
 - > is not a time for debate with or questions and answers from Council
 - > is a time for Council to receive input
 - > is not a time for Council responseIn short, during Public Comment Council will LISTEN to public comment, but not COMMENT on public comment.
2. Offensive and inappropriate comments will not be tolerated and comments should be limited to statements and rhetorical questions.
3. If a group would like to speak to Council, we request that a spokesperson be selected and that this person indicate the group he/she is representing on the sign-up sheet and in his/her comments.
4. Public comment is a time to discuss issues, not individuals. Other avenues exist for individual personnel complaints.
5. Public comment period is limited to 30 minutes with 5 minutes maximum allowed per individual speaker.

PUBLIC HEARING GUIDELINES

(Adopted by Kershaw County Council, October 9, 2012)

1. Prior to the public hearing persons wishing to speak should sign up to speak.
2. Immediately prior to County Council being called to order, that it be announced that persons wishing to speak should sign up.
3. When the public hearing is opened, that persons be notified as to how many people have signed up and in what order.
4. Persons will speak in the order in which they signed up.
5. Each person can speak a maximum of ten minutes.
6. Comments at public hearings should be germane to the matter subject to the public hearing which should be liberally construed.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS GUIDELINES

(Adopted by Kershaw County Council, February 26, 2013)

1. A "public presentation" as an agenda item is limited to non-governmental organizations that wish to make requests or present information to County Council involving matters which are within the purview or statutory scope of County Council's authority.
2. A public presentation is limited to no more than two per meeting. The maximum time allotted for a public presentation is 15 minutes. No action is taken by County Council as a result of a public presentation.
3. Governmental entities, agencies of Kershaw County, or boards of Kershaw County can likewise present a public presentation as an agenda item. Governmental entities, agencies of Kershaw County, or boards of Kershaw County or entities that have a contractual relationship with Kershaw County can likewise request to be put on the agenda under New Business.
4. A request to be put on the agenda as a public presentation, or new business (if applicable) shall be accompanied by a written request which shall state the nature of the public presentation and the substantive content of the proposed presentation.
5. Individuals or representatives of organizations that wish to express concerns to County Council or to comment as to public matters are more appropriate to present their concerns or comments during the "public comment" section on the Council agenda.

Kershaw County Mission

It is the mission of Kershaw County Council to provide policy leadership, work to ensure adequate resources are available, monitor the consequences of policy decisions and make changes as necessary to ensure goals are being met in order to move the county in the direction of realizing its vision for the future.

Kershaw County Values

In meeting the needs of the citizens of Kershaw County, Council will be guided by the values of honesty, transparency, courageous leadership, civility, respect and understanding issues and concerns through active listening.

Kershaw County Vision

Kershaw County Government seeks to create an environment in which partnerships between the private and public sectors are developed for the purpose of improving the prosperity and quality of life for our citizens. Kershaw County will foster a climate conducive to increased economic development and improvement of the educational, social and cultural opportunities for our citizens. Kershaw County will provide the leadership to ensure citizen participation in the governance of the county as it works to deliver the highest quality of services in the most cost-effective manner.