

Council Agenda Item 26-0173R



MEETING DATE: March 9, 2026

SUBJECT/TITLE: City Council Standing Rules

SUBMITTED BY: Councilors Desotelle, Johnson, Forsman and Randorf

RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: N/A

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BACKGROUND: The proposed Standing Rules reflect a comprehensive review and update of the City Council's procedures governing meetings, deliberation, and public participation. Over time, through multiple Council Presidents and City Attorneys, the need for clearer, more consistent, and transparent guidelines has been identified.

These revisions are intended to strengthen equal access to participation, ensure meetings remain safe and orderly, and provide clearer expectations for council members, staff, and the public. The updates clarify public comment procedures, decorum standards, agenda processes, and voting procedures while aligning with the Duluth City Charter and the Minnesota Open Meeting Law.

The goal is to preserve meaningful public participation while maintaining fairness, consistency, and effective conduct of city business. Adoption of these Standing Rules will support transparency, accountability, and public trust in the Council's work.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

OPTIONS: Approve, amend or reject

NECESSARY ACTION: None.

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Standing Rules