



ADDING AN ITEM ON THE AGENDA

PURPOSE

To establish a clear, effective, and easily understood process for members of the City Council and the public to have items, within the jurisdiction of the City Council, placed on the City Council agenda for consideration.

POLICY

Members of the City Council:

The Mayor or any individual Councilmember may submit a written request by using the Council Item Request Form to the City Manager's Office for inclusion of an item on a City Council agenda, provided the request is received two (2) days prior to the public release of the agenda packet. At the meeting where the request is heard, discussion should be limited to whether the item should be added to an agenda and a date, not the merit of the item.

Referral from a Council Committee:

Council Committees may submit a written request to the City Manager's Office for inclusion of an item on a City Council agenda, provided the request is received two (2) days prior to the public release of the agenda packet.

Council Committees may bring forward a recommendation to the full City Council by way of the Committee minutes, which are typically prepared within three weeks following the Committee meeting.

Items Referred During a Council Meeting:

By Council action, an item may be referred to the City Manager for inclusion on a City Council agenda. If the request requires further study of the item from staff, a full analysis shall be prepared at the direction of the City Manager with at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the meeting, unless otherwise directed by the City Council. If the request requires more than thirty (30) calendar days to prepare, status updates will be provided to the City Council every sixty (60) days as an informational memo.



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Written Petitions and Public Presentations:

Any member of the public may submit a written request raising any issue or item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council to be heard under the **“Written Petition”** section of the City Council’s regular agenda within two (2) Council meetings after received. After the initial Written Petition is placed on the agenda, a majority vote of the City Council may add the item to a future Council meeting for action. Any member of the public may address the City Council under the **“Public Presentations”** section of the agenda. If the presentation includes a request of the Council, a majority vote of the City Council may refer the item to the City Manager to be properly added to a future meeting, in compliance with the Brown Act.

PROCEDURE FOR WRITTEN PETITIONS

1. All requests to address the City Council shall be submitted in writing. Written Petition forms are available for the petitioner’s convenience on the City’s website and in the City Manager’s Office, City Clerk’s Office, and the Mayor and Council Offices. Alternatively, an email may be submitted to clerk@santaclaraca.gov.
2. Once the Written Petition is received by the City Clerk’s Office, it should immediately be forwarded to the City Manager for placement on an agenda within two (2) Council meetings after receipt of the original request from the City Clerk’s Office. All written material (request and any support material) will be submitted on the agenda in the form substantially provided by the requester without any staff analysis, including fiscal review, legal review and policy review, until the City Council has had the opportunity to provide direction to the City Manager.
3. At the meeting where the item is first considered, if a majority of the City Council supports further study of the item, then a full staff analysis shall be prepared within thirty (30) days, unless otherwise directed by the City Council. Discussion should be limited to whether an item should be added to an agenda and a date, not the merit of the item.



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PROCEDURE FOR WRITTEN REQUESTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

1. Members of the City Council shall use the Council Item Request Form to submit a written request for inclusion of an item on a future City Council agenda.
2. Once the Council Item Request Form is received by the City Clerk's Office, it should immediately be forwarded to the City Manager for placement on an agenda within two (2) Council meetings after receipt of the original request from the City Clerk's Office. All written material (Council Item Request Form and any support material) will be submitted on the agenda in the form substantially provided by the requester without any staff analysis, including fiscal review, legal review and policy review, until the City Council has had the opportunity to provide direction to the City Manager.
3. At the meeting where the item is first considered, if a majority of the City Council supports further study of the item, then a full staff analysis shall be prepared within thirty (30) days, unless otherwise directed by the City Council. Discussion should be limited to whether an item should be added to an agenda and a date, not the merit of the item.

Attachments: Council Item Request Form