



Board of County Commissioners Public Comment Sessions

WHAT is a public comment session?

- The Charles County Board of Commissioners (BOCC) are including on their meeting agendas twice monthly for public comments. Commissioners Public Comment Sessions will be held on the first and last session of each month at 5:00 p.m. (time may be subject to change).
- A summary of Public Comments will be provided on the agenda at the next scheduled BOCC Session where the Commissioners will have the opportunity to provide comments.
- The Citizen Response Office (CRO) will document and track the issues discussed during the public comment agenda item and provide the appropriate follow up.
- The Code of Civility (www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/2966/637153248643200000) will be shared at the beginning of each session, and speakers are asked to comply.

WHY are the Commissioners including a public comment session in some of their meetings?

- The BOCC want to provide other opportunities for community members to share their thoughts, ideas and opinions directly with the board.

WHO can participate in the public comment sessions?

- All Charles County community members and stakeholders are welcome to provide public comment.
- To speak during the public comment agenda item, residents must register in advance (see below).
- Participants cannot request a specific speaking position. Speakers are taken in the order they signed up.
- No Speaker can delegate their time to another speaker.

WHEN are the public comment sessions being held?

- The public comment sessions will take place twice each month, on the first and last BOCC session of each month at 5:00 p.m. (time may be subject to change).
- Visit www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/government/calendar for the most up-to-date schedule and agendas.

HOW can I participate in and/or watch a public comment session?

- **Comment In-person:** Sign-up will begin a half hour prior to scheduled public comments on the day of the Public Comment Session at the Charles County Government Building (200 Baltimore Street, La Plata) and will end at the beginning of the agenda item or when slots are filled.
- **Comment Virtually:** Interested speakers can call 240-776-6709 beginning at 8:00 a.m. up to a half hour prior to the scheduled public comments on the day of the public session to register. Once registered, speakers will receive a virtual link to present comments. Speakers must be available when their name is announced.
- **Submit Comments in Writing:** <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/public-comments/commissioners-public-comments>
- **Watch/Listen:** Meetings are aired on Comcast 95, Verizon Fios 10, Roku, or Apple TV streaming devices (Charles County Government), and online at: www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/services/media-services/charles-county-government-television
Residents without internet service or cable access can listen at 301-645-0500.

Individuals with special needs may call the Commissioners' Office at 301-645-0550 or Maryland Relay Service TDD 7-1-1 (1-800-735-2258). Additional concerns may be directed to ElkinsC@CharlesCountyMD.gov or 240-776-6709.

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