

# Procedural By-law Survey

---

## **SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT**

29 December 2020 - 27 January 2021

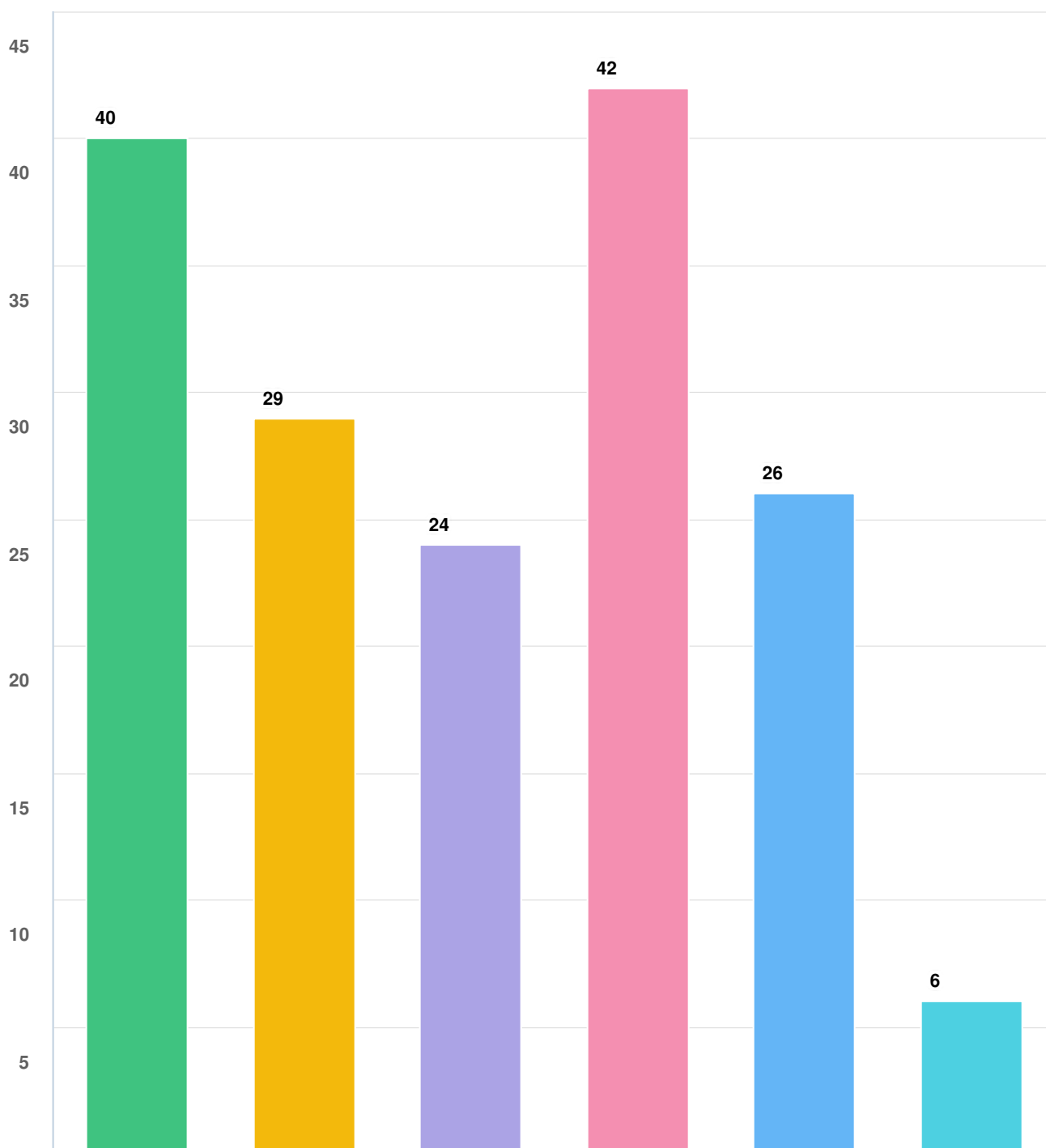
### **PROJECT NAME:**

Procedural By-law Review



# SURVEY QUESTIONS

**Q1** When promoting meetings, what methods are best to provide public notice? (Select all that apply)




**Question options**

- ☒ City Website   ☒ Local newspaper   ☒ Other local media   ☒ Social media   ☒ Secure email distribution list  
☒ Other (please specify)

Optional question (48 response(s), 0 skipped)  
Question type: Checkbox Question

**Q2 | Other than the information provided in subsection C (date, time, location, method of participation, etc.) what other information should be required in providing public notice, if any?**

Anonymous 1/04/2021 12:16 PM	length of time allowed
Anonymous 1/04/2021 12:53 PM	Topics covered
Anonymous 1/04/2021 01:11 PM	Reason for the meeting, not legal requirement, but what the meeting is in response to - why is it something I should be concerned about, what's the impact on people.
Anonymous 1/04/2021 01:31 PM	Critical Documents and Information should be posted for everyone to see and not on day of Meeting.
Anonymous 1/04/2021 02:24 PM	Key topics
Anonymous 1/04/2021 03:07 PM	The notification should identify major elements of public participation that formed part of the process of developing a proposal to alert members of the public with past participation
Anonymous 1/04/2021 04:54 PM	None
Anonymous 1/05/2021 02:17 PM	Purpose and process
Anonymous 1/06/2021 09:31 AM	general overview of the subject matter or proposal.
Anonymous 1/06/2021 05:44 PM	Topic of discussion, opportunities left to participate (ie this is the second out of three meetings for you to discuss x issue)
Anonymous 1/08/2021 09:55 AM	Meeting agenda
Anonymous 1/08/2021 10:08 AM	brief content synopsis
Anonymous 1/08/2021 10:54 AM	If there is a maximum capacity, that might be good to list.

Anonymous 1/08/2021 12:03 PM	nature of participation allowed at a given meeting and time allocation on agenda
Anonymous 1/08/2021 12:39 PM	Why public should be involved and how public have opportunities to change outcome
Anonymous 1/08/2021 05:03 PM	Do you include the focus of the meeting
Anonymous 1/09/2021 11:26 AM	Agenda
Anonymous 1/09/2021 01:33 PM	A clear link to an easily accessible, legible, and downloadable agenda should be provided in all notices of council meetings.
 1/09/2021 05:25 PM	Agenda should be posted in layman's terms.
Anonymous 1/09/2021 06:29 PM	Explanation of what is being proposed or voted on
Anonymous 1/10/2021 04:08 PM	full agenda
Anonymous 1/11/2021 11:24 AM	A briefing note on the topic with links to archived and relevant files on the topic - I.e. past staff reports, by laws. Citizens cannot find background on the city site on their own
Anonymous 1/11/2021 02:09 PM	I have no idea what subsection C is. I reviewed the procedural bylaw and it's quite unclear what this is.
Anonymous 1/11/2021 02:19 PM	Broad agenda (with topics/issues to be discussed) is critical so citizens can decide whether or not they wish to participate. Without that, the meeting notice is like an invite to a movie when you don't know what movie is showing.
Anonymous 1/18/2021 01:48 PM	Any predetermined end time.
Anonymous 1/19/2021 12:13 AM	How to provide comment. Where to watch the meeting via webstream.
Anonymous 1/20/2021 06:40 PM	These meetings seem to have a huge failure rate in the eyes of the community. I suggest a less systemic sexist and racist structured government and policy. Many more Indigenous groups (not band counsel, thats federal interference and illegal) but actually connect with the indigenous communities

and find a way to include other cultural beliefs and practices in the community meeting and decision making process. We might just learn something. You can even invite women and black people, theres an idea. Try something that isnt designed for white men to be the leaders (usually rich white men)

Anonymous

1/21/2021 10:31 AM

A place to look up previously discussed details or background.

Anonymous

1/21/2021 10:47 AM

Brief of content to be covered.

Anonymous

1/25/2021 07:44 AM

Agenda items that would have public delegations; deadline to register as delegate

**Optional question** (30 response(s), 18 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q3 | Do you have any recommendations to improve Section 4.1 Public Notice of Meetings? (please provide details below)**

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:53 PM

Develop machine learning tools to correlate topics and delegates from past meetings and use this as a guide for providing targeted notices to members of the community (including organizations) that are most likely to be interested in the topics appearing on a given meeting agenda. This could be developed in collaboration with the University of Guelph computer science department and the Community-Engaged Scholarship Institute.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:31 PM

Making sure the public knows, means repeating over and over again at all hours so a majority of citizens see or hear about it. One tweet is never enough.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 02:24 PM

N/A

Anonymous

1/04/2021 03:07 PM

If a proposal forms part of the implementation of a specific policy area of the City this general policy area should be mentioned in the public notice



1/04/2021 04:22 PM

have the information available a week in advance... 72 hours is not enough time

Anonymous

1/04/2021 04:54 PM

No

Anonymous

Links to guidance to prepare delegate responses.

1/04/2021 05:41 PM

Anonymous

1/04/2021 07:31 PM

Buy advertising in independent media like Guelph Back-grounder and Guelph Politico.

Anonymous

1/06/2021 09:31 AM

I realize some notices may be statutory, however, using plain language would be helpful

Anonymous

1/08/2021 10:08 AM

Add some indication of what topics will be on the agenda.

Anonymous

1/08/2021 12:03 PM

Longer advance notice for meetings that allow delegations and more accessible information about the process for obtaining space on a meeting agenda

Anonymous

1/08/2021 12:39 PM

Should be a priority to involve and connect with residents

Anonymous

1/08/2021 05:03 PM

72hrs is too short a time. There should be three notices, the last one being the 72hr one.

Anonymous

1/11/2021 11:24 AM

Extend 72 hours notice by another 24 hours

Anonymous

1/11/2021 02:19 PM

for meaningful consultation with the public, far more notice than 72 hours is needed. The longer the prep materials take to read, the more notice should be given.

Anonymous

1/20/2021 06:40 PM

Hold it in a space that everyone who needs to be there can be there. Round table or in a field, seriously. Anything other than a panel of white men above everyone else.

Anonymous

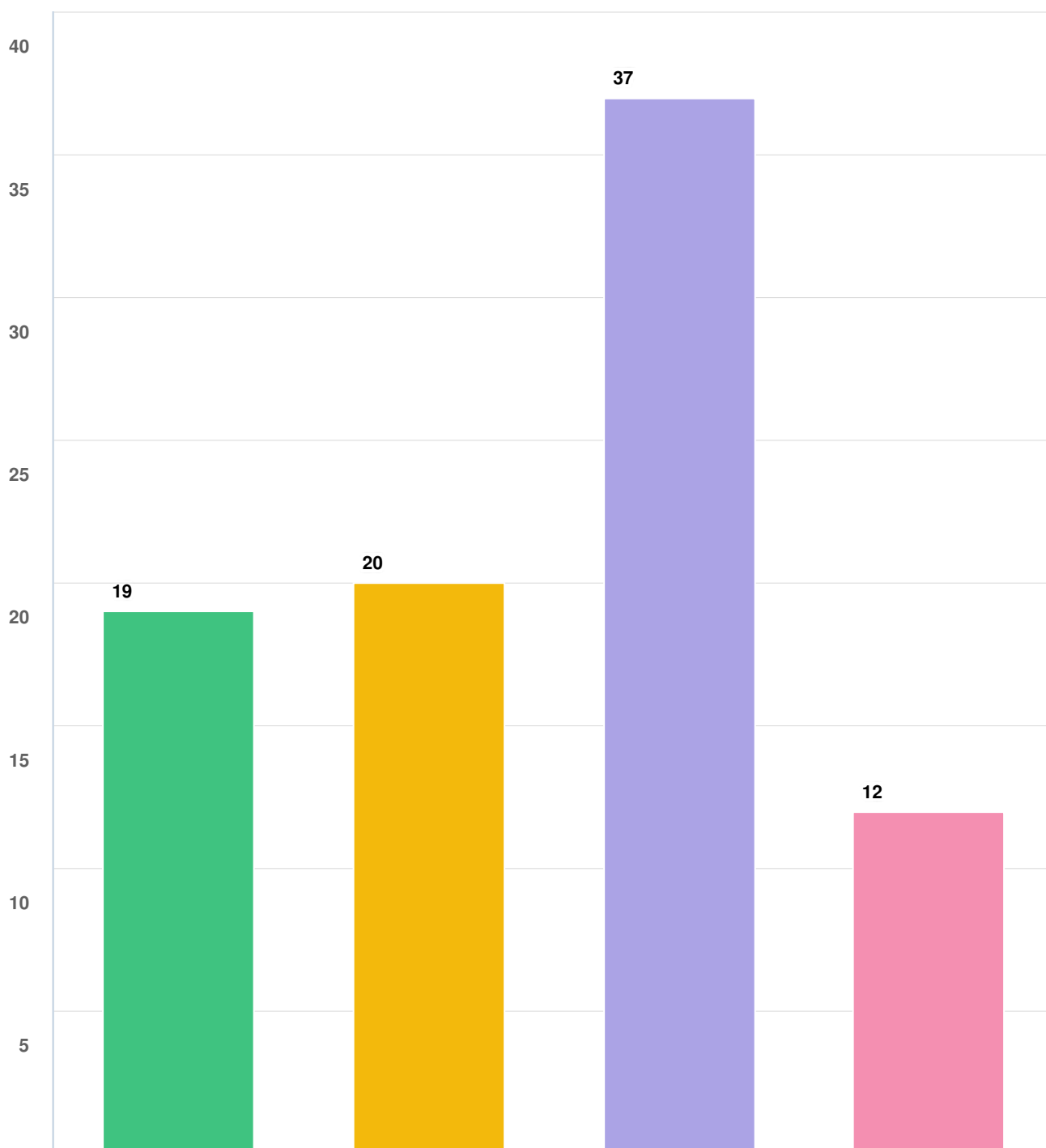
1/25/2021 07:44 AM

I don't think an e-mail list would provide a good return on investment. Post emergency meetings on FB and Mayor's twitter account.

**Optional question** (17 response(s), 31 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q4** What types of public presentations by outside organizations or individuals are most appropriate to present at Council or committee? (Select all that apply)



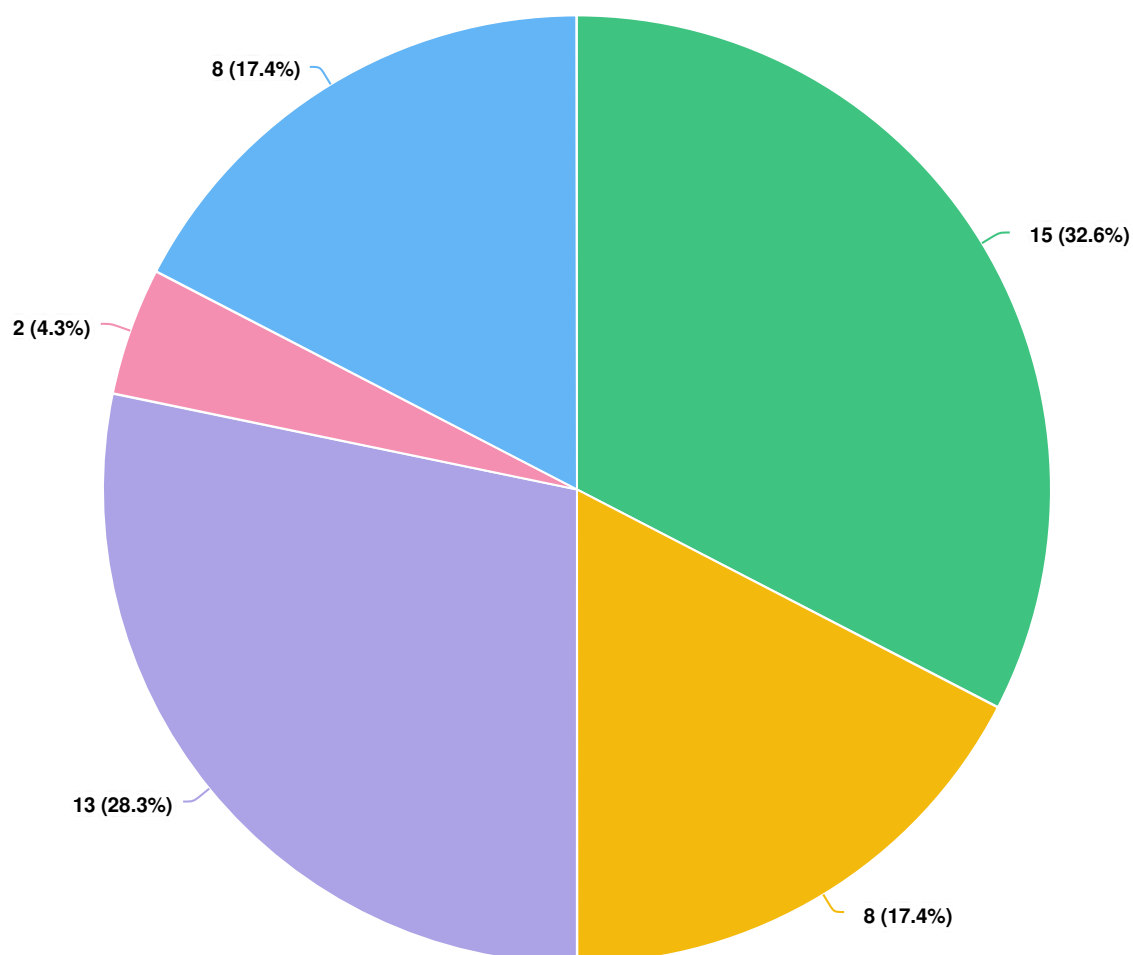
**Question options**

- Celebration of a milestone
- Dates/months of significance (e.g.: Breast cancer awareness month)
- Not-for-profit community support or initiative profile
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (43 response(s), 5 skipped)  
Question type: Checkbox Question



**Q5** What is an appropriate time limit for public presentations?



**Question options**

5 minutes 8 minutes 10 minutes 12 minutes 15 minutes

*Optional question (46 response(s), 2 skipped)*

*Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q6 | Do you have any recommendations to improve Section 4.7.1 Public Presentations?**  
**(please provide details below)**

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:16 PM

we were allowed only 5 mins due to number of presentations

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:31 PM

Depending on the topic, there should be flexible times so a max of 15 minutes.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 02:24 PM

N/A

Anonymous

1/04/2021 03:07 PM

The justification for a five minute limit of presentations at COW and regular Council meetings was that all items coming to Council had included ample opportunity for presentation of opinions and information by the public during the development phase of a proposal. There have been recent items coming to COW and Council with little or no public participation during proposal development. There should be flexibility in granting extra time (10 minutes) when a topic has not been previously open for discussion by the public.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 04:54 PM

No

Anonymous

1/04/2021 05:41 PM

Tight scheduling is much appreciated, speaking as a previous delegate. This enables one to be actively engaged at the requisite time.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 07:31 PM

Provide opportunities for community members to "caucus" ahead of time and pool their time with the most articulate people talking on an issue. If a lot of people want to speak, divide an allotted amount of time between the total number of delegates---but let people give their time to people that they trust to speak for them. This way the council will know how long their meetings will be, the most articulate people who know the most and represent more than just themselves will have do most of the speaking, and, the 'flakes' will still be able to speak---but only for a short time, and the clerk won't be who is limiting the person's time.

Anonymous

1/05/2021 02:17 PM

Have the ability to respond to comments from the councilors ( possibly once the councilors have all finished speaking and before the mayor wraps things up). 5 minutes to present and 3 minutes to respond to councils comments.

Anonymous

1/06/2021 09:31 AM

establish an open forum for citizens to appear before council or committee

Anonymous

1/08/2021 12:03 PM

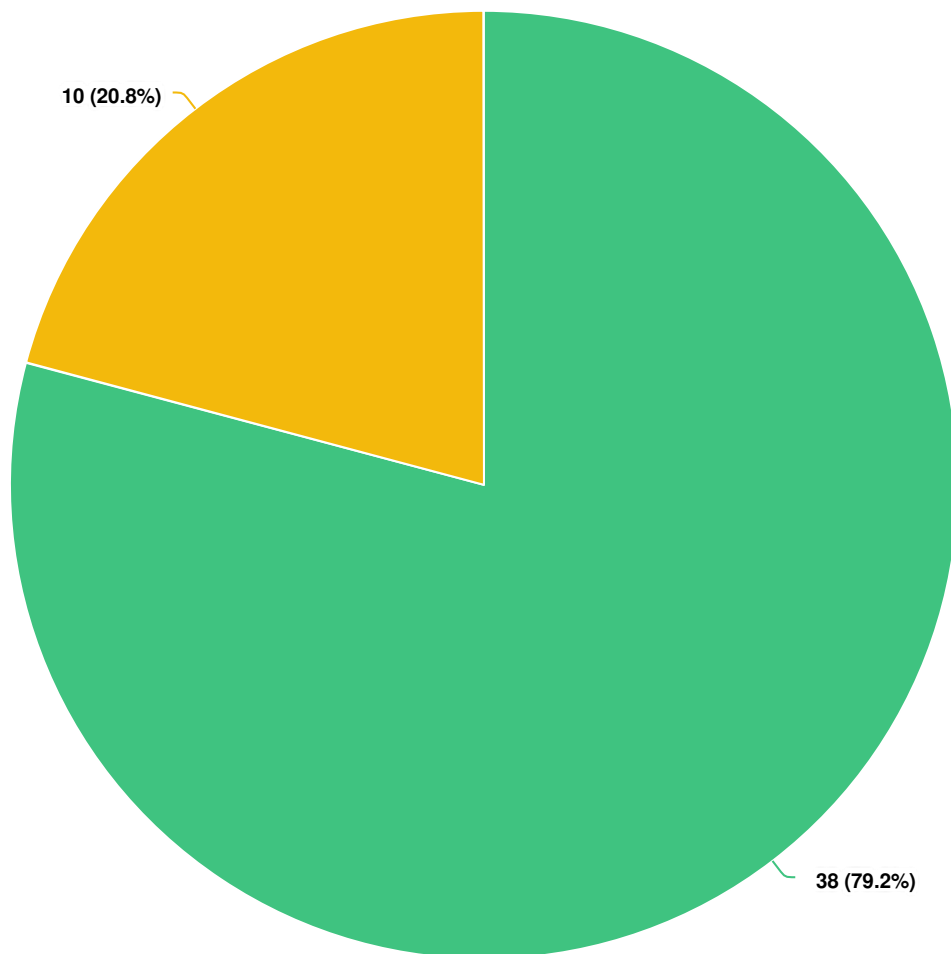
Make information about the process for getting on the agenda with a public presentation more readily available. Make the guidelines for approval of such a presentation clear and apply them consistently.

Anonymous 1/08/2021 05:03 PM	It should be clear that whatever organization presents, that the organization is inclusive. An example of where one is not inclusive is Hope House. It is tied to Lakeside Church who would allow no temporary signage on the walls for the UGDSB Equity conference. An organization such as Hope House does a lot of good but they are committed to mission work and the word of Jesus which, by definition, is NOT inclusive.
Anonymous 1/09/2021 11:26 AM	I don't think Council meetings are an appropriate space for public presentations unless the purpose of the presentation is to encourage or request specific actions by Council.
Anonymous 1/09/2021 04:41 PM	Land acknowledgement and direct notification, and invitation Local Indigenous and Black Organizations how are leaders in our community
Anonymous 1/09/2021 06:29 PM	Keep to a minimum; takes up too much time at the present
Anonymous 1/10/2021 04:08 PM	Limit the number of times/meetings one group/one person can delegate at in a calendar year.
Anonymous 1/19/2021 12:13 AM	Ability to show media - PowerPoint, video, etc.
Anonymous 1/20/2021 06:40 PM	Depends on the topic and who is talking how much time someone gets
Anonymous 1/21/2021 10:47 AM	All formats should be permitted for presentation purposes, thus no limitations with language barriers or financial constraints. These choices should be listed clearly on the page.

**Optional question** (18 response(s), 30 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q7** | **Section 4.8.b) For the purpose of Council and committee meeting agendas, delegates have until 10:00 a.m. on the Friday of the week prior to the meeting to notify the Clerk that they wish to delegate or to submit written submissions on items on the ...**



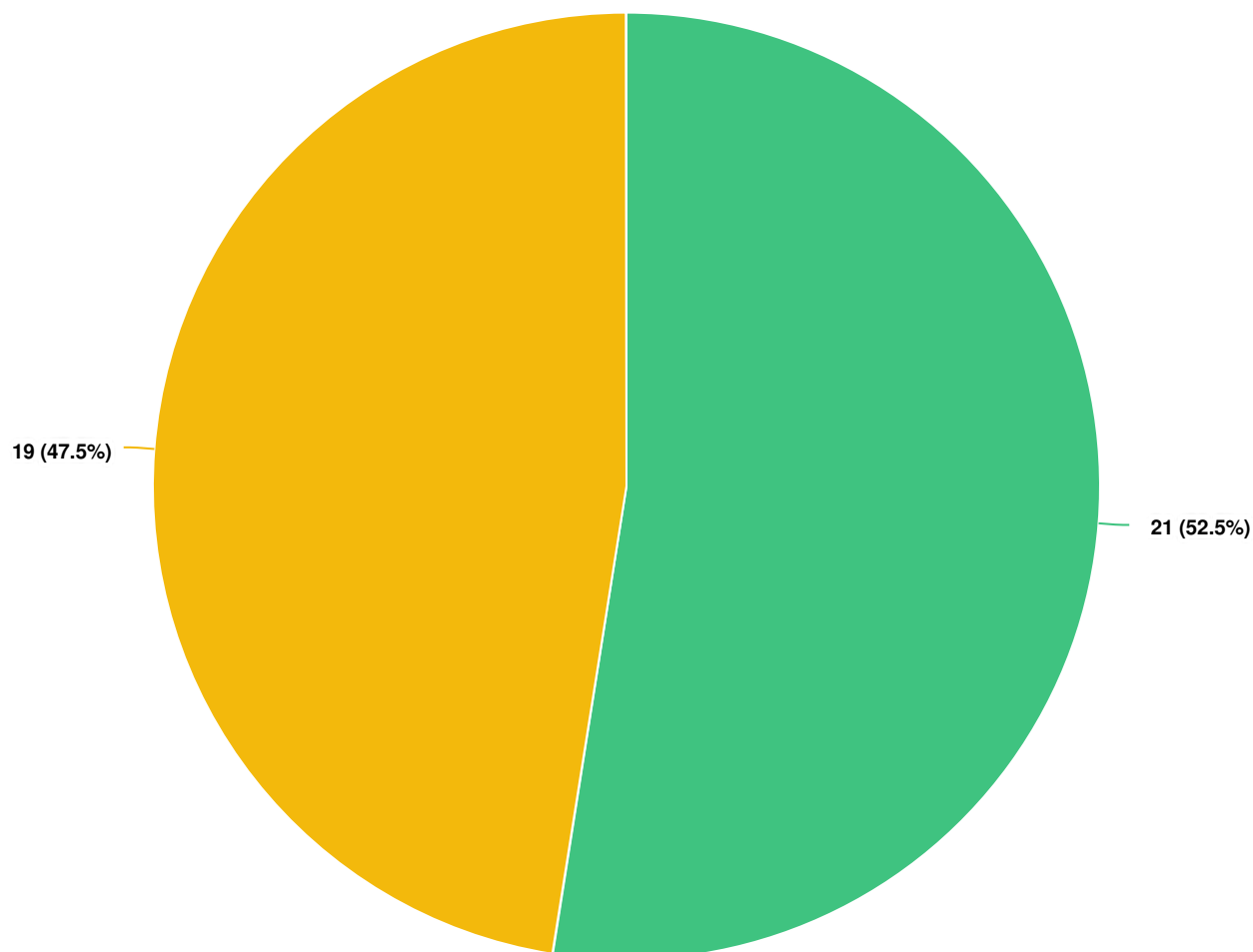
**Question options**

☒ Yes ☐ No (Please explain why)

*Optional question (48 response(s), 0 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*



**Q8** | Section 4.8.j) No delegations shall be made at workshops. Are there times when it may be necessary or appropriate to delegate at a workshop?



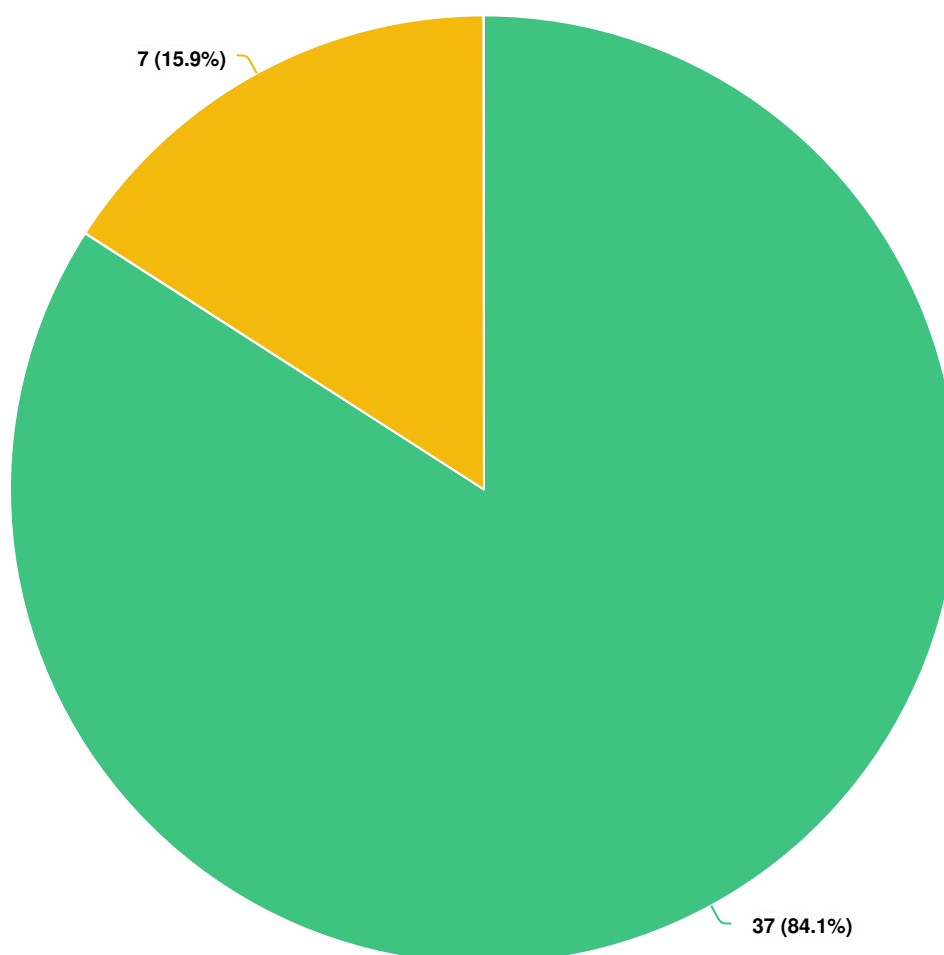
**Question options**

☐ No ☐ Yes (please provide context)

*Optional question (40 response(s), 8 skipped)*

*Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q9** | Is the process for delegations clear and easy to navigate?



**Question options**

- ☒ Yes ☐ No (Please provide details and suggestions for improvement)

*Optional question (44 response(s), 4 skipped)*

*Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q10 | Do you have any recommendations to improve Section 4.8 Delegations? (please provide details below)**

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:28 PM

Boards or Committees appointed by Council should not be held to the same time limits for delegations as regular citizens. These bodies are working on issues for Council and through Council and should be recognized as having status as such.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:53 PM

No. Keep up the excellent work!

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:11 PM

Answer to 9 is yes, but I should note that most people don't know it and it is therefore confusing.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:31 PM

Make cut off 12:00 p.m. for all correspondence and signing up to delegate.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 02:24 PM

N/A

Anonymous

1/04/2021 03:07 PM

See earlier comment on extending time for delegations on topics that are presented to Council without previously being open for public comment.

Anonymous

1/05/2021 12:32 PM

Only one time be allowed to delegate to a matter. Not twice.

Anonymous

1/08/2021 12:03 PM

It's not clear how a presentation and a delegation differ. Is the process the same for both?

Anonymous

1/08/2021 12:39 PM

Delegations are not well supported nor encouraged by the City. Seems the delegates time is not recognized as important. Delegates can wait for hours and until midnight to present, and I have. Many of the audience who came to support delegates, leave as they have waited too long and have to work the next day. It seems delegates have very little influence in the City's decision and that is sad as Council is there to represent the citizens of Guelph.

Anonymous

1/09/2021 06:29 PM

I believe the chair of the meeting (mayor) should refrain from pontificating after asking questions of delegates. Question asked, answered, move on. The person with the mute button should not continue to debate after the question has been answered whether or not he agrees with the answer.

Anonymous

1/10/2021 04:08 PM

See previous section. Limiting the number of times a particular group or person can delegate would be helpful.

Anonymous

Allow voicemail delegation requests received by 10:00 am on the relevant



1/18/2021 01:48 PM

Friday to be accepted. The Clerk's phone line is often engaged Friday mornings.

Anonymous

Not at this time

1/20/2021 06:40 PM

Anonymous

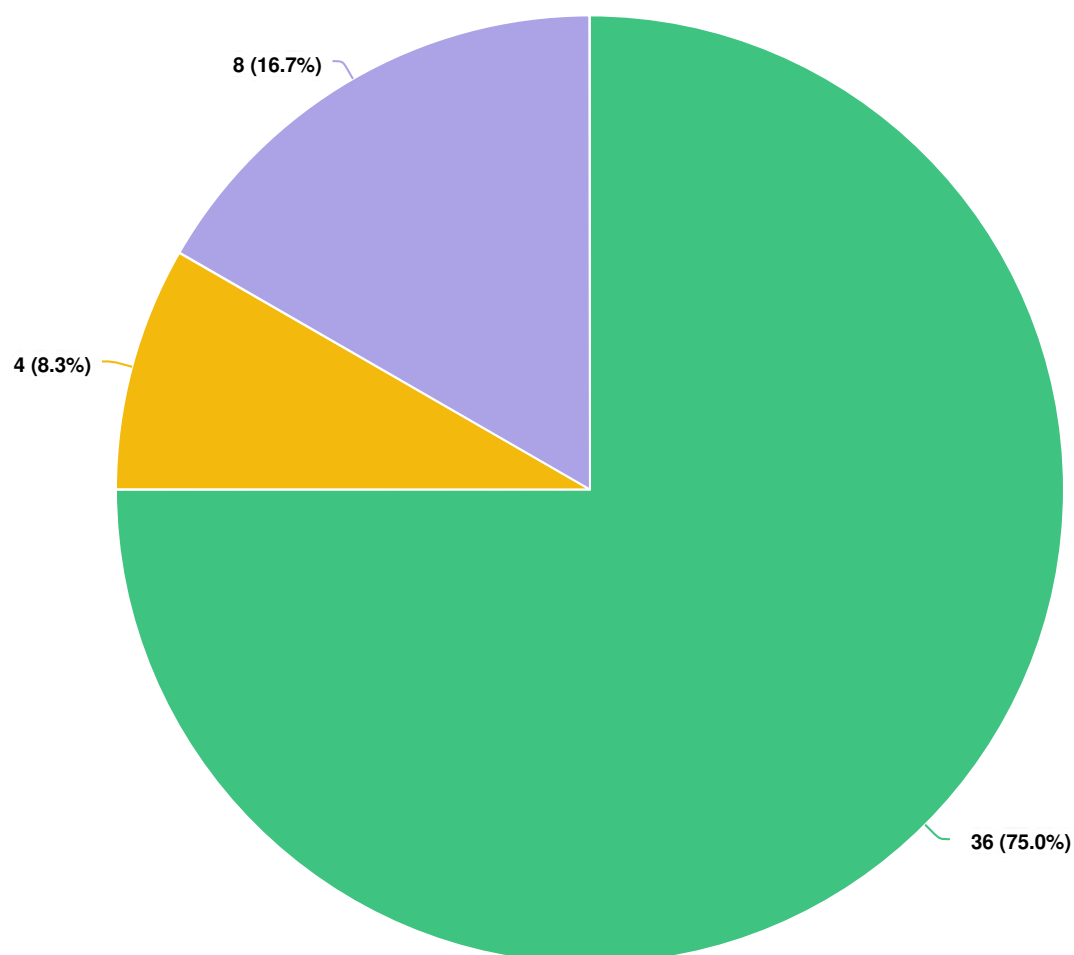
Clearly state all formats which can be used for delegation, including a video example of a successful delegation, for those of us who can not read, or do not speak/read english.

1/21/2021 10:47 AM

**Optional question** (14 response(s), 34 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q11** Should electronic petitions be accepted?



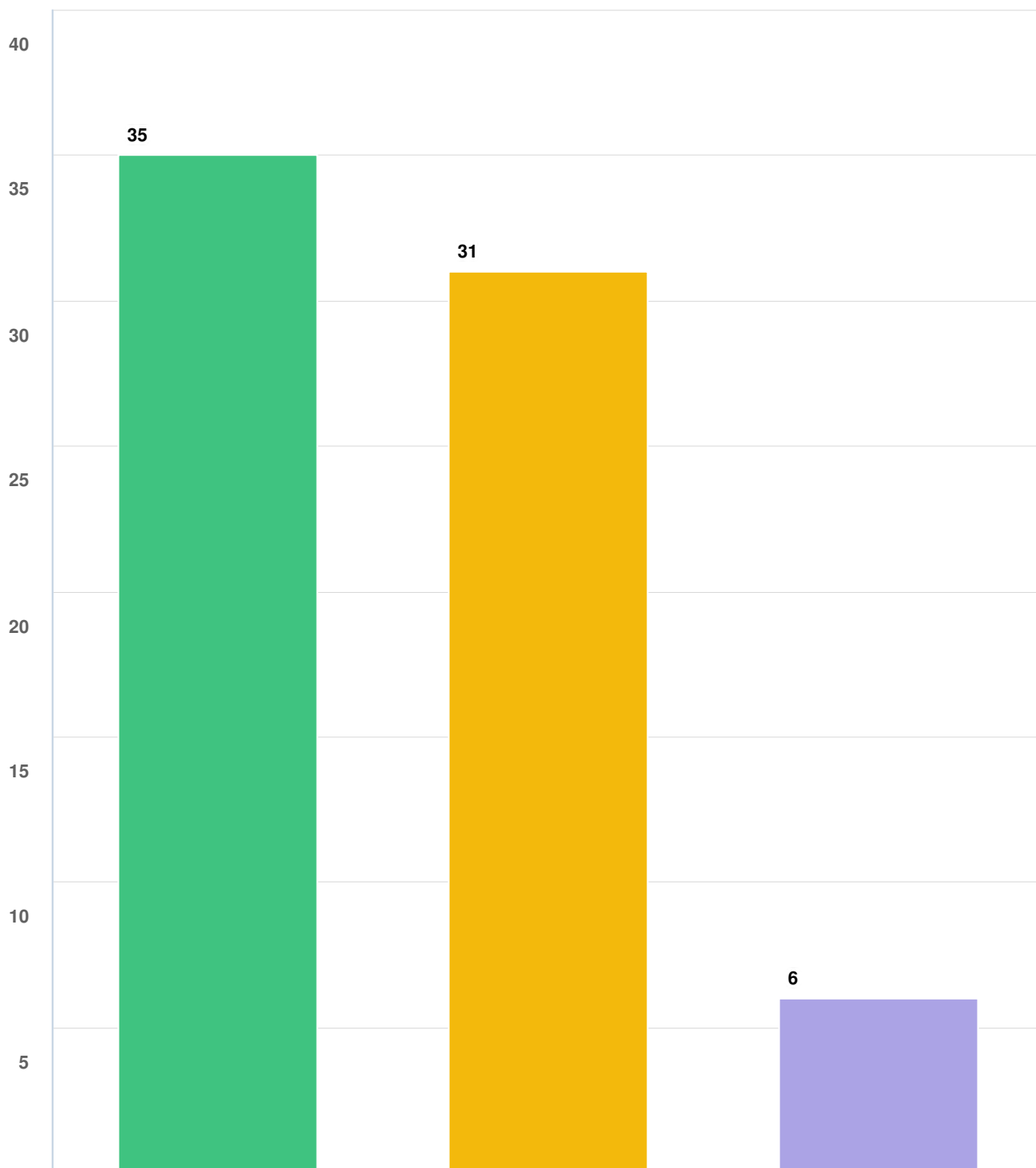
**Question options**

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Under some circumstances (please explain)

*Optional question (48 response(s), 0 skipped)*

*Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q12** If electronic petitions are permitted, what methods should be acceptable?



**Question options**

☒ Scanned PDF of written information    ☒ External electronic petition websites (e.g. change.org)    ☐ Other (please specify)

*Optional question (45 response(s), 3 skipped)*

*Question type: Checkbox Question*

**Q13 | If electronic petitions are permitted, what rules or criteria should be established to govern the process?**

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:31 PM

Only those signed by citizens of Guelph exclusively. Not public at random

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:53 PM

Provide email address as a means to avoid duplicate submissions (including process to verify that the email address is legitimate and belongs to the appropriate person).

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:11 PM

The creator must make significant effort to verify local participation.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:31 PM

I recommend that the City look at how Sudbury does theirs.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 02:24 PM

Minimum threshold of signatures

Anonymous

1/04/2021 03:07 PM

See above comments. Petitions should be limited to actions within the scope of City Council and must be specific and concise in the description of what actions are requested.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 05:41 PM

Simple format that enables broad sharing possibilities, like (universal) .pdf formats. There should be a file size limit and a required "executive summary", especially for files of extreme size.

Anonymous

1/05/2021 12:32 PM

Must have verified Guelph residents and must have way of assuring no more than one signature per person.

Anonymous

1/05/2021 08:03 PM

criteria to meet deadlines for inclusion on agenda are maintained. tally of those submitted and evidence that individuals are aware that petition would be submitted to council.

Anonymous

1/06/2021 09:31 AM

name address signature, purpose of the petition should be clear, accurate and phrased appropriately

Anonymous

1/08/2021 10:37 AM

local people only

Anonymous

1/08/2021 12:03 PM

There should be some built method for ensuring that individuals can't sign multiple times (i.e. clear identification of individuals is required).

Anonymous

1/08/2021 05:03 PM

It is important to allow for multiple petitions from one household. This allows for differences in the household to be expressed

Anonymous


1/09/2021 10:29 AM

Various info, names, phone number, ways to verify validity

Anonymous

1/09/2021 11:26 AM

You could write a thesis paper on this topic...but a suggestion: - no petition can call on the council to take actions that are beyond it's legal authority - a petition should require at least two sponsors (who are residents of Guelph) and a sponsoring councillor OR a minimum of 1% of the city population with no sponsoring councillor (a petition to start a petition...I know) to become an official, publicly available petition on the city website - once official, the petition must stay live for some minimum period of time (TBD) and must be widely publicized to encourage participation - if the petition does not get some minimum number of signatories (1% of city pop?) then it is disregarded - if the petition does not garner majority support council has no obligation to do anything but members are of course free to comment as they see fit - if the petition does garner majority support then council can choose to either: a) implement the specific call to action of the petition OR b) hold a minimum of one special meeting of council (open to the public of course) to discuss the petition and how to proceed

  
1/09/2021 05:25 PM

Only members of the Guelph community would be considered in the petition.

Anonymous

1/09/2021 06:29 PM

Only in the case where council meetings are not in person

Anonymous

1/10/2021 04:08 PM

Need to make sure they are validated somehow

Anonymous

1/11/2021 06:51 AM

People signing petition must provide all personal information (name, address, phone, email).

Anonymous

1/11/2021 11:24 AM

Transparency - must not be anonymous

Anonymous

1/11/2021 02:09 PM

Each person on the petition should be independently verified.

Anonymous

1/11/2021 02:19 PM

transparency on methods, results

Anonymous

1/18/2021 01:48 PM

<https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Home/AboutContent?guide=PIElectronicGuide>

Anonymous

1/19/2021 12:13 AM

Same rules as written and if signatures are electronic they must be from a trusted source e.g. DocuSign

Anonymous

1/21/2021 10:31 AM

Should agree on some reputable online petition sites as secure.

Anonymous

1/21/2021 10:47 AM

Same as written

**Optional question** (26 response(s), 22 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q14 | Other than names and signatures, should other information be required by signatories on a petition? Please describe below.**

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:16 PM

addresses so location to a disputed zoning area may be taken into account

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:28 PM

Addresses. Council should see input from Guelphites first; they should be able to filter local and external opinions on an issue

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:53 PM

The personal information in item #13 should only be used for validation purposes and not be made public.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:11 PM

No

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:31 PM

I would suggest the City look at how Sudbury accepts theirs.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 02:04 PM

Contact number.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 02:24 PM

Postal code

Anonymous

1/04/2021 03:07 PM

Location of residence or business

Anonymous

1/04/2021 05:41 PM

Identification of group, organization, or entity being represented by the signatory, where appropriate. This would enable distinction between civilian representation and corporate or lobby-centred representation.

Anonymous

1/05/2021 11:32 AM

Petition sponsor should provide proof all signatories are guelph residents

Anonymous

Phone or email or postal code

1/05/2021 12:32 PM

Anonymous

Guelph resident.

1/05/2021 08:03 PM

Anonymous

consent to publish personal information

1/06/2021 09:31 AM

Anonymous

Postal code for verification

1/06/2021 05:44 PM

Anonymous

email address for electronic petitions

1/08/2021 10:08 AM

Anonymous

address (could be just postal code) or some other means to ensure that they are local

1/08/2021 10:37 AM

Anonymous

email address/social media account

1/08/2021 10:54 AM

Anonymous

Place of residence to ensure participation is local

1/08/2021 12:03 PM

Anonymous

Address can be important

1/08/2021 12:39 PM

Anonymous

Address

1/08/2021 05:03 PM

Anonymous

Address

1/08/2021 06:10 PM

Anonymous

Name, phone numbers, signature

1/09/2021 10:29 AM

Anonymous

postal code of residence

1/09/2021 11:26 AM



Potentially an address or point of contact to establish communication and if the person lives within Guelph.

1/09/2021 05:25 PM

Anonymous

Address

1/09/2021 06:29 PM

Anonymous

Tax roll number, cell phone, address

1/10/2021 04:08 PM

Anonymous

See above.

1/11/2021 06:51 AM

Anonymous

Capacity to confirm residency

1/11/2021 11:24 AM

Anonymous

Address, Ward, City

1/11/2021 02:09 PM

Anonymous

postal code

1/11/2021 02:19 PM

Anonymous

proof of Guelph residency

1/14/2021 07:34 AM

Anonymous

full name; city; country; province or territory, and postal code (if currently residing in Canada); and telephone number; and/or valid email address.

1/18/2021 01:48 PM

Anonymous

Residence, # years resided in Guelph

1/19/2021 12:13 AM

Anonymous

no

1/21/2021 10:31 AM

Anonymous

e-mail address – so that there is some way to verify that the signatory is a real person. At the same time, I don't sign petitions because I don't WANT to give out my e-mail address. In that case, I think one should be able to send an e-mail to the city clerk to indicate one's support for a petition.

1/25/2021 07:44 AM

**Optional question** (35 response(s), 13 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question



**Q15 | Do you have any recommendations to improve Section 4.9 Written Submissions and Petitions? (please provide details below)**

Anonymous 1/04/2021 01:31 PM	I would highly suggest the City look at how other Cities manage this type of petition. I would recommend the Sudbury model <a href="https://www.greatersudbury.ca/city-hall/mayor-and-council/civic-petitions/">https://www.greatersudbury.ca/city-hall/mayor-and-council/civic-petitions/</a>
Anonymous 1/04/2021 02:24 PM	N/A
Anonymous 1/04/2021 07:31 PM	No
Anonymous 1/05/2021 08:03 PM	Should provide information as to whether petition was commenced by a interest group or association.
Anonymous 1/08/2021 10:54 AM	Officially ban all submissions and petitions from designated hate groups, or those groups being targets for the list of hate groups.
Anonymous 1/08/2021 05:03 PM	No
Anonymous 1/18/2021 01:48 PM	No.
Anonymous 1/21/2021 10:47 AM	I can not find anything on the city site about submitting petitions
Anonymous 1/25/2021 07:44 AM	See above re e-mailing the city clerk in lieu of signing a petition.

**Optional question** (9 response(s), 39 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q16 | Section 8.3. e) Delegations may participate in an electronic meeting via telephone, videoconferencing software and/or other technology methods deemed appropriate by the City Clerk's Office, and in accordance with the rules set out in Section 4.8. Currently, all delegations are heard via telephone for electronic Council and committee meetings. Do you have any recommendations to improve this process?**

Anonymous	Let people join via video. It replicates the in person meetings better. All
-----------	---

1/04/2021 12:28 PM

controls are in place for that to happen without being "zoom bombed" so to speak.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:53 PM

No. It has been very easy to use and well administered for the meetings in which I have participated.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:11 PM

Allow the public to make presentations, share their screen.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:31 PM

There is a broadcast delay for some, so there should be a heads up about that to delegates. There should be a video version available for presentations. There should also be an easier way to call in that doesn't require non local numbers.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 02:24 PM

Allow videoconferencing



1/04/2021 04:22 PM

delegations should be allowed to participate via videoconferencing software (zoom, webex)

Anonymous

1/04/2021 04:54 PM

No

Anonymous

1/04/2021 05:41 PM

I found that the approach(es) used were reasonably successful. It would be beneficial to have some sort of indicator of progress relative to the timetable or agenda, again so that one can delegate at the appropriate time.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 07:31 PM

No

Anonymous

1/05/2021 12:32 PM

If material is sent from a presenter ahead of time, clerk can move through the presentation slides as presenter speaks.

Anonymous

1/05/2021 08:03 PM

delegates should have option if either telephone or video. Delegate Presentation materials should be displayed during meeting so as to provide context to delegation.

Anonymous

1/06/2021 09:31 AM

A more personal approach is necessary, reading faces and body language is important .....a voice over the telephone is not adequate moving forward.

Anonymous

1/08/2021 10:08 AM

video with delegate 's video turned off

Anonymous

1/08/2021 10:37 AM

Zoom, MS Teams or other similar tools

Anonymous

1/08/2021 12:03 PM

allowing Zoom or similar technology would be helpful, especially now when in person delegations are problematic. It can put people at a disadvantage

	when they can't see who they are talking to (or be seen).
Anonymous 1/08/2021 12:39 PM	Be better for the participants to be visible in a confidential format, similar to a Zoom meeting
Anonymous 1/08/2021 05:03 PM	To use a program such as Zoom.
Anonymous 1/08/2021 06:10 PM	Via videoconferencing software
Anonymous 1/09/2021 01:33 PM	If there were a way of simply inviting delegates into the council's "Zoom room" during the meeting in order to speak, that may be easier to conduct. Additionally, delegates should be sent the order of delegates in order to have some understanding of when, during the meeting, they will be able to speak. This is of particular importance when there are many delegations in one meeting.
Anonymous 1/09/2021 06:29 PM	The system works okay but council votes should be registered by speaking, not hands as it is too difficult to follow.
Anonymous 1/10/2021 04:08 PM	Use video, the technology exists
Anonymous 1/11/2021 11:24 AM	Expand the technology to include an app like Zoom
Anonymous 1/11/2021 02:09 PM	I think that the city needs to improve the management of the online electronic meetings. It would be ideal if the software that was used had better features or enabled the features that the current system has. For example, the timing for delegations should not be managed by the mayor's cellphone timer, but rather something built into the system so that he is not interrupting delegates when they are speaking. It would be good to see a tally of votes on the screen when something has been voted on. I think that if they were a little better managed they'd be easier to follow along at home and that in the future, more people would want to review.
Anonymous 1/11/2021 02:19 PM	delegates should have option to be called immediately before it's their turn to speak. Videoconference would be great instead of just phone.
Anonymous 1/18/2021 01:48 PM	No.
Anonymous 1/19/2021 12:13 AM	Use Zoom Webinar like many other cities.
Anonymous	Video might be easier for some people as some need to see faces for

1/21/2021 10:31 AM

context. It should be up to the delegate if they prefer just voice over video.

Anonymous

1/21/2021 10:47 AM

Youtube, Power Point, Pages, Facetime, Zoom, Skype, any other visual formats for those who can not read or understand language.

Anonymous

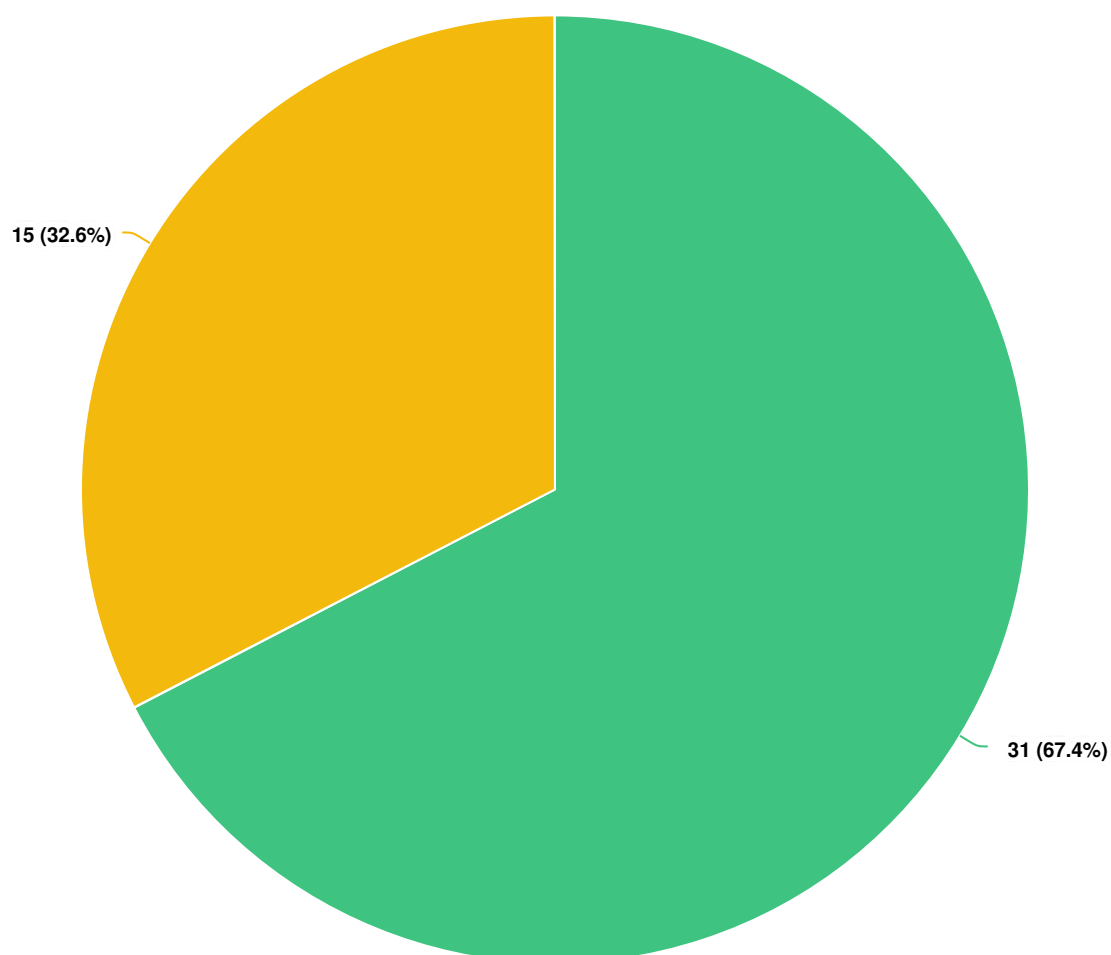
1/25/2021 07:44 AM

Is it possible for delegations to include a power-point presentation? That might help the delegate to get the point across.

**Optional question** (29 response(s), 19 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q17** Should the City of Guelph allow proxy voting as outlined by the Ministry?



**Question options**

☒ Yes ☐ No

*Optional question (46 response(s), 2 skipped)*  
*Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q18 | Do you have any comments or feedback about proxy voting that can help to develop our strategy moving forward?**

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:28 PM

On assumes that you have meetings so Council can hear from one another and from Staff, Boards and Committees, and citizens. Voting in the absence of listening to those who may hold a different viewpoint is not healthy for our local democracy. No matter how close the proxy holder's views may align with the absent Councilor.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:31 PM

Follow the recommendations as outlined by the Ministry. Educate the Public on this!!!

Anonymous

1/04/2021 02:04 PM

If you are a Councillor, you should be present. Period.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 02:24 PM

N/A

Anonymous

1/04/2021 03:07 PM

Proxy voting if allowed is in direct contradiction with the principle that members of council make their decisions after taking account of all the information and opinions expressed by other council members and the public. Allowing a proxy vote from a council member not present at the meeting who has not taken into account all the information and opinion expressed diminishes public trust in the decisions of Council. I am strongly opposed to proxy voting at City Council meetings.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 05:41 PM

Where in-person representation is preferred, we should enable something as reasonable as this. However, as these are matters of public record, the proxy request should be accompanied by documentation that describes why the originator is not able to be present.

Anonymous

1/05/2021 12:32 PM

It will not allow the public voice to be considered at a meeting when a vote is to be taken as the proxy vote is like a council member has already made up their mind.

Anonymous

1/05/2021 08:03 PM

votes by proxy should be shown in recorded vote counts. Council should be aware at the beginning of meeting as to whether absent members have provided proxy votes for agenda items.

Anonymous

1/08/2021 10:37 AM

with online tools now available unless the member is totally incapacitated they should be able to attend

Anonymous

1/08/2021 12:03 PM

In the current electronic world, meetings can be attended from anywhere. If proxy voting is allowed, it should be in defined emergency situations only.

Anonymous

1/08/2021 12:39 PM

Back up to voting in person in case of illness, pandemic or other serious situation where vote can not be taken in person. Not routine

Anonymous

1/08/2021 05:03 PM

I get concerned with proxy voting as it can be a method to tip the scales

Anonymous

1/09/2021 11:26 AM

Should only be allowed if the member is unable to communicate their vote directly to the City Clerk...which should nearly always be possible either by telecommunications or by "advance voting" prior to the live vote.

Anonymous

1/09/2021 06:29 PM

I think it's important to appear in person at council; proxies might lead to more absenteeism

Anonymous

1/10/2021 04:08 PM

limit the number of proxy votes one member of council can represent, i.e. Gordon & Gibson are both away, they cant both make Caron their proxy...

Anonymous

1/11/2021 02:09 PM

I think that it should be mandatory for the absent councillor to watch the council meeting and ensure that they are well-briefed to ensure that they are considering all delegations and information.

Anonymous

1/11/2021 02:19 PM

Two points: 1) It's 2021 and councillors currently join meetings from home. When covid is over, we should allow councillors to continue calling in from anywhere. 2) Proxy votes should not be allowed as they could disincentivize councillors from attending meetings. They also focus on the vote, whereas there should be more focus on the dialogue, which should actually result in changed opinions (and therefore votes). Proxy voting would nullify meaning and impact of citizen delegates or discussion at meetings.

Anonymous

1/18/2021 01:48 PM

No.

Anonymous

1/21/2021 10:47 AM

There should be a thorough study done before a proxy is chosen on behalf of someone, to ensure no conflict of interest, and an explanation provided to support the proxy viability, to take the place effectively of the person who is absent

Anonymous

1/25/2021 07:44 AM

Limit proxy voting to instances when councillors know that they will not be able to attend a meeting electronically. For example, if they are going to attend a wedding or their child's piano recital or what have you.

**Optional question** (20 response(s), 28 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q19** | The questions in this survey have focused on specific sections and subsections of the By-law, however the entire By-law is up for review and is open for your feedback. Do you have any other feedback or comments for revisions to the Procedure By-law?

Anonymous

1/04/2021 12:28 PM

One of the most frustrating things for delegates is to present and answer questions without being able to answer further questions or clarify positions

once they have moved away from the podium. This is especially true of Boards and Committees appointed by Council. Often we are in the audience and asked to nod because we aren't allowed to simply say "yes" or "no" or quickly clarify some point that may be raised long after we've sat down. Again, the status of Council appointed Boards and Committees as delegates should be examined in light of the work they do on Council's behalf.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 01:31 PM

No restrictions on delegating twice a month - CoW and Council Meetings. Remove the 'new information' line - sometimes there is/isn't but the point must/can be made. Additional speaking time at Budget for delegations (10 minutes) since now less meetings and a lot more information combined. For those who did not sign up and want to speak, similar to the Planning Meetings, the Chair should allow them if there is time and/or if available slots.

Anonymous

1/04/2021 02:24 PM

N/A

Anonymous

1/04/2021 04:54 PM

It just shouldnt be so intimidating to delegate at council meetings.

Anonymous

1/05/2021 12:32 PM

Limit questions or times of councillors speaking.

Anonymous

1/05/2021 08:03 PM

Earlier start times for meeting with 10 to 12 or more registered delegates on an item. or moved item to a special meeting date. Delegates should be aware with a visual as to time remaining for their delegation when they are presenting. Verbal notification or chime is not working well. For consistency All delegations should be 6 min in length.

Anonymous

1/08/2021 05:03 PM

Sometimes the notices and wordings ate so dry the is little to motivate engaging. Is there a way to headline the meetings in a more interesting manner.

Anonymous

1/09/2021 01:33 PM

Thanks for all the work you folks do!

Anonymous

1/09/2021 06:29 PM

I haven't read the entire bylaw but feel it important to clarify the role of the chair. How much commentary is the chair allowed?

Anonymous

1/11/2021 11:24 AM

Despite many ways that community members can be involved in local government, many are reluctant to participate due to the formalities. So... break with tradition and allow for a quarterly (?) session of City Council that has no agenda except to actively listen to community delegations on issues the public want to bring to the attention of the city. Time limit 3 minutes. Questions of clarity only. Vetted for respectful discourse. Maximum # per session.

Anonymous

1/18/2021 01:48 PM

No.



Anonymous

1/21/2021 10:31 AM

The meetings are very long currently and should be broken into multiple day legs of one and a half hours maximum. It is not productive or accessible to people who cannot sit for those lengths of time. Often meetings are scheduled during dinner time which is difficult for participants with kids.

Anonymous

1/21/2021 10:47 AM

I'd like to see more cultural and socio-economical considerations taken into account when our city by-laws are revised. Many Guelph residents can not read or speak english, and are not highly educated. This does not mean they shouldn't have a voice. Please consult your cultural demographic, and your marginalized groups to get good feedback on how to improve!

Anonymous

1/25/2021 07:44 AM

Please make agendas such that meetings don't go beyond 10:30 pm.

**Optional question** (14 response(s), 34 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question