



Providing Testimony at a Public Hearing

There are several opportunities to be involved in the city's planning process. Providing comment, either in writing or as public testimony at a hearing, is one of the best ways to share support or perceived challenges with a proposed project.

It is important to note that anyone who provides written or public testimony is considered a "Party of Record." This qualifies them to appeal any decision or condition for a project to the higher review board.





PROVIDING TESTIMONY AT A PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING PROCEDURES

- The applicant has 10 minutes for their presentation. A designated neighborhood association* has an equal amount of time as the applicant to testify, if requested.
- The general public has 3 minutes, or approximately 500 written words, to testify.
- The applicant is allowed up to 5 minutes for rebuttal following public testimony.
- Written testimony and other documents:
 - Must be submitted to the assigned city planner by 5 p.m. on the Thursday preceding the public hearing in order to be included in the printed record presented to the review body. After this deadline, only oral testimony at the scheduled public hearing is allowed.
 - May be accepted at the public hearing only if it is a copy of the oral testimony.
- There is a 10-day appeal period following the decision made at the public hearing. Anyone who spoke at the hearing or submitted testimony, also known as a “Party of Record,” can appeal the decision. No new information can be submitted after an appeal is filed.

* A Neighborhood Association is a voluntary group of community members who have officially organized to share ideas and cooperate to improve their neighborhood. It is not an Homeowners Association.

PROVIDING EFFECTIVE TESTIMONY

- To provide written or electronic public comments, feel free to contact city planning at zoninginfo@cityofboise.org or 208-608-7100. Planning staff are also available to answer questions you may have about the project prior to a hearing.
- Focus comments on facts and specific project details.
- If testifying as a neighborhood association, coordinate the presentation so that each person speaks to a specific section.
- Please note that public testimony is time reserved for individuals to share their support or concerns about a project, not to ask the review board questions.