Public Delegation Options

February 2023

City

Kelowna



Background

- Council interest in options to hear from the public and organizations
- Staff conduct public engagement on projects, plans and programs
- Related initiatives:
 - Lobbyist registry and associated policies
 - Options for public notice



Guiding Principles

- Support good governance, informed decisions, focus on Council priorities
- Guiding principles:
 - Deal with matters within City's jurisdiction
 - Council receives the same information at the same time
 - Staff provide professional recommendations
 - Transparency, accessibility, accountability



Current Options

- Contact Council individually or through Mayor & Council correspondence
- Submit correspondence or participate in Tuesday meeting (development applications)
- e-Subscribe updates
- Attend public input meetings on specific topics
- Council direction to place delegation on agenda



Current Options

General matters

Encouraged to use Mayor & Council correspondence

Committee of the Whole meeting

Council resolution

► Hear from delegations and the public on particular matters

Written request to City Clerk

Operational requests referred to City staff

Encouraged to contact Council directly

Referred to committee or advisory body

Granted and scheduled to next available agenda



Other Options

Expand opportunities for delegations at regular Council meetings

- Establish criteria to direct staff
- Examples: local organization, mandate linked to City business, existing relationship with the City

 General opportunity for public to address Council at regular Council meetings ("open mic")

Establish criteria for what may be raised

Examples: time limit for each speaker, time limit for portion of meeting, speak to agenda items only, speak to items within City's jurisdiction



Other Options

- "Open mic" option does not meet guiding principles
 - No review of content to determine if it meets criteria
 - Shift focus and resources away from Council's priorities
 - Limited information and no recommendation from staff
 - Topics Council cannot receive input on (e.g., rezoning after public hearing, personal information)
 - Limited to those who can and are comfortable presenting to Council



Summary

Option	General Description	Recommended
Council correspondence	Receive and respond to correspondence from the public	Yes – continue
Committee of the Whole meetings	Hear from public and delegations on specific matters	Yes – possible under current bylaw
Public delegations at regular Council meetings	Hear from delegations who request to present to Council and meet criteria	Yes – with criteria
General opportunity to address Council at regular Council meetings	Hear from the public on any agenda item or other matter	Not recommended



Recommendations

Mayor & Council correspondence

- Continue current practice
- Committee of the Whole meetings for particular matters
 - Council can do this under current Council Procedure Bylaw
- Expand criteria for delegations
 - Bylaw and policy amendments to implement



Questions?

For more information, visit kelowna.ca.