

"The stakes . . . are too high for government to be a spectator sport."

~ Congresswoman Barbara Jordan

What is the Eugene City Council and when does it meet?

The City Council is the legislative branch of Eugene's government. It passes laws, sets community goals, adopts policies, and decides what services will be provided.

Eugene is divided into eight wards, with each ward represented by a city councilor.

City Council meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month at Harris Hall. They are preceded by a work session at 5:30 p.m. Public hearings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the third Monday of each month. Work sessions are also held each Wednesday at noon, except for the first Wednesday of the month.

Most City Council meetings are broadcast live on Metro TV, cable channel 21, and are replayed periodically during the week. Webcasts of current and past city council meetings are available for viewing at www.eugene-or.gov/ccwebcast.

Additional questions?

For more information about Eugene's city government, please call the City Manager's Office at 541-682-5010.

City Manager's Office
City of Eugene
125 East 8th Avenue, 2nd floor
Eugene, Oregon 97401-2793



Your Opinion Counts

A guide to
participating in
local government



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

~ Margaret Mead

How do I volunteer for a City board, commission or committee?

Serving on a board, commission, or committee is an excellent way to participate in local government and make a personal contribution to the community.

There are five distinct types of committees that act as advisory bodies to the council or staff. These are:

- Standing committees
- Ad hoc committees
- Intergovernmental committees
- Department advisory committees
- Committees created by the City Charter

In general, recruitment for committee members begins in January of each year. The deadline for applications is a pre-determined date in mid-March. Applicants complete an online application and supplemental questionnaire; the council reviews applications and conducts interviews prior to appointment. Appointments are made in June, with terms beginning on July 1.

For more information on City boards, commissions, and committees, visit www.eugene-or.gov/bcc or call 541-682-5010.

There are risks and costs to a program of action. But they are far less than the long-range risks and costs of comfortable inaction.
- John F. Kennedy

*"Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much."
~ Helen Keller*

Public Forums and Public Hearings

There are two ways to address the Mayor and City Council in person:

Public forums are held during regular City Council meetings, which occur at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The public forum gives citizens an opportunity to raise or offer testimony on any issue, providing that issue is not scheduled for a public hearing at the same meeting.

Public hearings are usually held at 7:30 p.m. on the third Monday of each month. A public hearing is an opportunity for citizens to comment on a specific issue that is on the City Council agenda for that meeting. During a public hearing, only comments on the specific agenda topic may be offered.

How do I sign up to speak during a public forum or public hearing?

To address the council during a public forum or public hearing, you must fill out a "Request to Speak" form. This form is used to announce the order of speakers and to correctly enter your name into the public record. City staff may also use the form to contact you with follow-up information.

Forms are located and submitted at the information table in the back of Harris Hall.

How do I find out what is on a City Council agenda?

A tentative working agenda listing the items on upcoming City Council agendas is updated each week at <http://www.eugene-or.gov/1972/Public-Meetings-Calendar> (click on link at bottom of page).

A list of public meetings is also published each weekday in the Civic Calendar section of the *Register-Guard*.

For information about a specific item, please call the City Manager's Office at 541-682-5010.

Are there other ways to communicate with the mayor and council?

You can contact your City Councilor or the Mayor by telephone, mail or email. To find out who your councilor is and to obtain his or her address, phone number, and/or email address, call 541-682-5010 or visit www.eugene-or.gov/citycouncil.

If you are unable to attend a council meeting or are uncomfortable speaking in public, you may submit written testimony to the City Manager's Office via email, U.S. mail, or in person.

Email the City Council at:
mayorcouncilandcitymanager@eugene-or.gov

*Democracy is the government
of the people, by the people,
for the people."*
- Abraham Lincoln