



# CITY OF ANACORTES

Laurie Gere, Mayor  
904 6<sup>th</sup> Street Anacortes, WA 98221  
[www.anacorteswa.gov](http://www.anacorteswa.gov)

---

## PRESS RELEASE

### **New Online Public Comment Options for Anacortes City Council Meetings**

**April 1, 2020**

The City of Anacortes values community input and public involvement in City Council meetings. Due to the COVID-19 public health crisis, Governor Inslee has issued a proclamation, which prohibits in-person attendance of public meetings<sup>1</sup>. The City's primary goals are to protect employee safety and public health, while ensuring critical City services continue. In response to these unprecedented times, the City has taken additional steps to ensure that the public can both view and submit comments for consideration at public meetings.

We encourage citizens to stay involved by watching City Council meetings and using this new feature. It is the duty of the City to take responsibility for the wellbeing of our community members. The Mayor and the City Council are following the guidelines set by Skagit County Public Health, the Governor and the CDC to protect the most vulnerable in our community.

If you would like to watch a City Council meeting, they may be viewed live or viewed after the fact on the [City of Anacortes website \(https://www.anacorteswa.gov/700/Watch-Meetings\)](https://www.anacorteswa.gov/700/Watch-Meetings) or on [Channel 10](#). If you would like to comment on an agenda items or on general topic you must do so by 5:00 p.m. Monday night prior to each 6:00 p.m. meeting. These comments will be published for consideration during the meeting and will become part of the record for that meeting, just as if presented in person.

There are three ways to comment:

- Email [cityclerk@cityofanacortes.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityofanacortes.org).
- Mail written comments to: City Clerk, P.O. Box 547, Anacortes, WA 98221.
- Submit comments online using the eComment link on the City website.

You will find the eComment option the same place you would go to watch a City Council meeting (<https://www.anacorteswa.gov/700/Watch-Meetings>). The column to the right of the agendas is where the new eComment option is. You can eComment as soon as the meeting agenda is published at 3:00 p.m. on the Wednesday before each City Council meeting. Commenters will need to create a login to the City of Anacortes website to submit comments, which may be typed or uploaded. You do not need an account to view comments already submitted.

For assistance, contact the City Clerk at 360-299-1960 or [cityclerk@cityofanacortes.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityofanacortes.org).

---

<sup>1</sup> Per Governor's emergency [Proclamation 20-28](#), agencies are required to meet completely remotely without providing for a physical location. Agencies are prohibited from taking "action," as defined in RCW 42.30.020, unless those matters are necessary and routine matters or are matters necessary to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak and the current public health emergency, until such time as regular public participation under the Open Public Meetings Act is possible.