

PUBLIC HEARINGS

COUNTY OF VERMILION RIVER PLANNING & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

<https://www.vermilion-river.com/departments/community-services/development-permits>

What is a Public Hearing?

- Formal hearings that must follow rules set out by Provincial and Local Legislation
- Often required for passing of statutory plans and bylaws
- Provides opportunities for members of the public to speak to Council on presented projects and proposals
- Required to be advertised for 2 consecutive weeks, 5 days before the start of the Public Hearing, so that the public is informed

When Does a Public Hearing Take Place?

- During a Regular or Special Council Meeting
- Public Hearings are conducted at a predetermined time
- Public Hearings are held prior to giving 2nd Reading to a proposed bylaw or bylaw amendment

Council's Role

- Listen to the concerns of attending public
- Council will not debate the issue or challenge any comments during the Public Hearing, but may ask clarification questions

How Can I Participate in a Public Hearing?

- Submit concerns in writing by a predetermined date to the County office
 - Concerns will be read aloud by Administration during the Council Meeting
- You may exercise your right to attend and speak at any Public Hearing
 - Time is typically limited to 5 or 10 minutes

What Happens After the Public Hearing?

- Council will take all comments received, both written and verbal, under consideration before making a decision to pass a bylaw or not. Council may:
 - Pass a bylaw or resolution
 - Make an amendment to the bylaw or resolution and pass it without further advertisement
 - Defeat the bylaw or resolution

QUICK FACTS:

- If a Councilor is absent during some or all of the Public Hearing, they cannot vote on the bylaw
- All sign-in sheets and minutes of the Public Hearing are considered part of the minutes of that Council meeting
- If you wish to provide your input to the proposal but are unable to attend the Public Hearing, you may submit written submissions to planning@county24.com to be read aloud, or you may send someone on your behalf to the hearing



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