

**RESOLUTION NO. 20220217-033**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to be as inclusive as possible and to ensure all members of the public feel welcome to participate in person or by telephone in City Council meetings; and

**WHEREAS**, the “Procedures for Austin City Council Meetings, Public Hearings, and Appeals” and the instructions for “Public Participation at Council Meetings,” both found on the City’s website, provide for a time period to be set aside for members of the public to address City Council on any topic they wish, and these procedures refer to this as the “general citizen communication” portion of the meeting; and

**WHEREAS** the term “citizen communication” may lead some individuals to believe that only United States citizens or citizens of the City are eligible to participate in this portion of City Council meetings, when in fact all members of the public may participate; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

The City Council finds that the term “public communication” is a more inclusive term to refer to the time period set aside for members of the public to address City Council on any topic they wish.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Council adopts the use of the term “public communication” instead of the term “citizen communication” in its meetings, on its agendas, and in meetings and on agendas of Council Committees and City Boards and Commissions;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

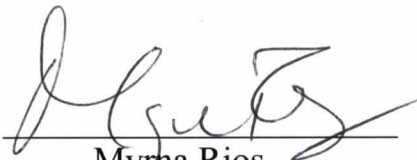
The City Manager shall replace the term “citizen communication” with the term “public communication” in the online “Procedures for Austin City Council Meetings, Public Hearings, and Appeals” and the instructions for “Public Participation at Council Meetings,” in other documents on the City’s website where the City Manager determines the change is needed, and on future City Council agendas;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Clerk shall assist Council Committees and City Boards and Commissions in making any changes necessary to refer to “citizen communication” as “public communication” in their meetings and on their agendas.

**ADOPTED:** February 17, 2022

**ATTEST:**



Myrna Rios  
City Clerk