

YOU CAN PROBABLY LISTEN TO YOUR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS ONLINE -

and I recommend it!

BY MAIA KOBABE



I LIVE IN SANTA ROSA, CA.

OUR CITY COUNCIL MEETS ALMOST EVERY TUESDAY.



Closed sessions of the meetings begin at 12:30, and the open sessions of the meetings begin at 4pm. Depending on the number of agenda items and public comments, the open session

can last four hours or more.

THEY ADD IN SHORT BREAKS



THE MEETING AGENDAS ARE POSTED ONLINE. RESIDENTS CAN SUBMIT COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS FOR BOTH THE OPEN & CLOSED SESSIONS.

Public comments may be submitted via voicemail, email, e-comment, or delivered live via zoom.

Comments are limited to 3 minutes per person, or 2500 characters for written comments.

Anyone can listen to a CITY COUNCIL MEETING!

In Santa Rosa, ours are streamed live on the council website via zoom and with close-captioning on facebook and youtube. They are also televised live on Comcast Channel 28 and AT&T Channel 99. Meetings are rebroadcast on Wednesdays beginning at 6:30 PM, and on Saturdays beginning at 11 AM.

Before 2020, I had only attended one city council meeting in person. Now I am trying to start the habit of listening each week, to get a better sense of what's happening in my city.

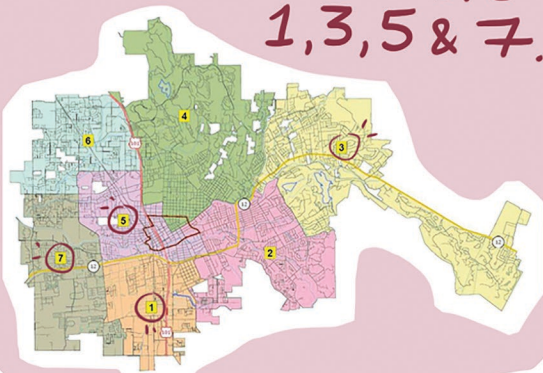


On July 7 I listened to two hours of a meeting focused mainly on addressing the needs of SR's homeless population. On June 30 I listened to three hours of a meeting focused on the police budget.

Both times I was impressed by the numerous detailed public comments.



My city council has 7 members. 4 of these seats are up for re-election in November: **DISTRICTS 1, 3, 5 & 7.**



BEFORE 2020 I COULD ONLY NAME 1 OR 2 OF MY CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS. NOW I AM WORKING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THEM.

@REDGOLDSPARKS