CITY OF LONG BEACH

Memorandum

Date: May 1, 2026

From: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager
Monique De La Garza, City Clerk

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Proposed Changes to Meeting Order of Business and Senate Bill 707 Implementation**

On October 21, 2025, the Government Operations & Efficiency Committee (GOE Committee) received and filed a presentation recommending changes to the order of business for City Council meetings, including expanding early public comment, establishing estimated times for high-interest items, adjusting times for public comment, setting earlier start times for City Council meetings, and upholding existing time limits on ceremonials and presentations. The item also recommended that staff conduct additional analysis on proposals to amend the Divide by 9 sponsorship process for items under $5,000, define "urgency" for supplemental agenda items, move supplemental agenda submission to Thursday, schedule stand-alone study sessions for major topics, share a tentative schedule of future agenda items with the public, and expand or pre-record staff reports.

On November 18, 2025, City Council considered the GOE Committee's recommendations and directed the City Manager and City Clerk to report back on all of the Committee's proposed changes to the City Council meeting order of business, along with implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 707. SB 707, which takes effect on July 1, 2026, will require significant updates to how the City conducts open public meetings, including expanded public access and participation options through telephonic and virtual public comment, increased accessibility requirements, and additional procedural and operational changes—many of which may influence policy decisions regarding the GOE Committee's original proposed changes to the order of business. The motion also requested that staff re-circulate the GOE Committee's community survey regarding proposed changes to streamline and encourage more participation in City Council meetings, and present recommendations to the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Disabilities (CACoD) for additional review.

Staff recirculated the community survey in February 2025 and presented to CACoD on April 9, 2026, to receive feedback on the various proposals related to City Council meeting order of business and changes required as part of SB 707 implementation (see Attachment A). This memorandum provides updated community survey response data; input from CACoD; staff's analysis regarding the proposed items in the City Council motion; an overview of SB 707 impacts; and recommendations for implementation.

Community Survey

The GOE Committee presented results of an initial survey drafted by the Chair's office, inviting residents, community-based organizations, and local business owners to share feedback on how to increase participation in Long Beach City Council meetings and make meetings more accessible to the whole community. The Clerk's Office supported the distribution of the initial survey via emails to the Council offices, social media posts, and neighborhood groups. The survey received 74 responses before the Committee meeting in October 2025 (see Attachment B).

Following the City Council motion on November 18, 2025, staff translated the survey into Spanish, Khmer, and Tagalog, and recirculated the survey through a public notice published on February 10, 2026. Those with limited access to a computer or smart phone were invited to visit a public computer lab available at any open Long Beach Public Library location to access the survey. Community members could also complete the survey in person at upcoming City Commission and City Council meetings at City Hall, where printed copies were made available. The City Clerk's Office also distributed the survey to neighborhood groups, and the survey was provided to Council offices to include in their newsletters. The survey closed on March 20, 2026, with 459 responses online and another 38 responses through printed surveys (see Attachment C).

Survey results highlight that many respondents do not regularly engage with City Council meetings, with over half (52.5%) reporting they have not participated in a City Council meeting in the past 12 months. A notable share of respondents also indicated they were not aware of available viewing options, including live streaming and recorded videos. Overall, the survey suggests that low participation in City Council meetings is driven by limited awareness of participation options, scheduling challenges, and the need for clearer and more accessible meeting information. Survey responses indicate that accessibility and transparency improvements could increase participation through more predictable, accessible, and user-friendly ways to follow and participate in Council meetings, particularly through digital and multilingual tools.

It should be noted that while the recirculated survey received nearly 500 responses, the results are not statistically representative of the broader Long Beach community and should not be interpreted as reflecting citywide sentiment. Rather, the survey is intended to provide illustrative feedback and highlight potential concerns, barriers, and ideas from respondents that may help inform policy discussions around proposed changes to the City Council meeting order of business and implementation of SB 707, outlined further below. The results are one of several inputs to consider and are meant to support, not determine, policy or operational decisions.

Analysis of Proposed Changes to Order of Business

The stated intent of the original GOE Committee recommendation was to identify opportunities to both streamline public meetings and expand participation in City Council

meetings. Several of the proposed changes appear to advance these goals simultaneously, while others may create trade-offs between meeting efficiency and opportunities for public engagement. The following analysis evaluates how each proposal may affect different groups of participants and highlights the potential benefits and drawbacks to advance the Council's deliberations. Additional staff recommendations are included in the Staff Recommendations section below.

Expanding Early Public Comment

- The GOE Committee recommended changing to up to 15 speakers during public comment at the start of each meeting to address non-agenda items, allowing speaking time to decrease to 90 seconds if there are more than 10 comments.

Expanding early public comment would give more residents an opportunity to address the Council before the start of the regular agenda, which may be helpful for individuals who cannot stay late for the full meeting. Many community members—particularly parents, shift workers, and individuals relying on public transit—may find it challenging to stay for late comment period. This approach may also reduce the number of commenters who have to wait until late in the evening, potentially improving overall meeting flow and predictability. Reducing speaking time when there are many commenters also allows the Council to manage meeting duration while maintaining opportunities for input.

Shortening public comment to 90 seconds in cases where there are more than 10 speakers, however, means less time overall for non-agenda public comment, and the proposal may favor those with more scheduling flexibility who are able to sign up early for the first round of comment. CACoD members also noted that expanding to 15 speakers at 2 minutes each would maintain the same total time for first public comment.

As detailed further below in the Staff Recommendations section, staff believe that moving all public comment to the beginning of the meeting and setting a clear timeline for agenda and non-agenda items is the best approach to both streamline Council meetings and encourage more participation, especially under SB 707 regulations.

Adding Another Public Comment Period

- During the City Council deliberation, Council requested that staff evaluate the option of adding a mid-meeting round of non-agenda public comment.

Introducing another public comment for non-agenda items in the middle of the meeting could enhance accessibility for residents who are unable to attend the beginning or end of long sessions, because a mid-meeting option provides an additional opportunity to participate. In some instances, this approach may reduce pressure on the current public comment windows, spreading participation more evenly across the meeting and potentially decreasing the number of late-night speakers.

Adding a third comment period, however, would likely lengthen meetings and further

complicate agenda management, especially with the new SB 707 procedural requirements outlined below. A mid-meeting comment window could interrupt the flow of discussion on action items. CACoD members noted that multiple comment windows may also create confusion among residents about when and how best to comment, particularly for those following online or via remote methods. Finally, additional comment periods could increase workload for staff, translators, and IT support—especially given the need to manage remote commenters, facilitate interpretation, and maintain SB 707-compliant access throughout the meeting. For these reasons, staff do not recommend adding a third public comment period.

Establishing Estimated Times for High-Interest Items

- The GOE Committee requested that the Mayor and City Manager assign estimated start times for high-interest agenda items, when applicable. Mayor would retain all authority to adjust times as needed.

The City currently has the option to schedule items as “Time Certain,” establishing a specific time prior to which the item may not be heard. While this practice is used infrequently, it could be applied more consistently should the Mayor and City Council wish to enhance predictability for high-interest items.

Estimated item times can help residents better plan for participation in matters that affect them, reducing the need to wait through unrelated items. Providing time estimates also aligns with the SB 707 emphasis on transparency and access. Retaining the Mayor’s ability to adjust times preserves necessary flexibility.

In instances where other items run long or require reordering, however, posting estimated times could create false expectations for the public and contribute to frustration if items begin significantly later than listed. Assigning and adjusting time estimates can also impose workload on staff and the Mayor during agenda preparation. Moreover, strict adherence to estimated times could disrupt meeting flow by forcing either delays (waiting to reach a posted time) or rushed discussions (to avoid running behind). Staff do not have a recommendation on this proposal and defer to the Chair.

Adjusting Times for Public Comment

- The Committee further recommended amending the Municipal Code to allow Mayor, at their discretion, to set public comment times as follows: 3 minutes for 10 or fewer speakers; 90 seconds for 11-20 speakers; and 60 seconds for more than 20 speakers.

A tiered system offers a transparent framework for adjusting comment times based on the number of speakers. This can improve meeting efficiency when there are high numbers of speakers while still maintaining opportunities for public input from everyone wishing to speak. It also provides the Mayor clearer authority and structure, rather than relying on reductions during meetings.

Shorter time limits, however, may reduce public input on complex policy matters. A rigid system may also diminish the Mayor's flexibility to tailor time limits based on topic complexity or community sensitivity. The survey results and CACoD feedback found that the current practice of shortening individuals speaking time depending on the number of speakers creates frustration and discourages meaningful participation. Staff's recommendations related to public comments are included in the Staff Recommendations section below.

Setting Earlier City Council Start Times

- The recommendation also considered allowing City Council meetings to start at 3:00 p.m. or later to cover low-interest procedural items, while ensuring high-interest items are heard during ideal times for public engagement.

The City already has the authority to vary City Council start times by noticing a Special Meeting. This flexibility is used occasionally—for example, when lengthy Committee or Closed Session discussions require Council meetings to begin later than the typical 5:00 p.m. start. Conversely, when the Council meeting agenda is especially long, staff have coordinated with the Mayor's office to notice an earlier start time. Recent examples include the July 22, 2025, meeting following the summer recess, when the agenda contained numerous procedural items, and the August 5, 2025, meeting when the Mayor and City Manager released the proposed FY25 budget. In both instances, beginning the meeting earlier allowed the Council to move through lower-interest items before addressing topics of greater public significance.

Earlier start times allow the Council to address procedural matters, presentations, and low-interest items before the public is most likely to attend, preserving the evening for public hearings and high-interest topics. This scheduling approach can shorten late-night meetings, improve Council productivity, and decrease staffing impacts, while ensuring public engagement on high-interest items that begin at times when attendance is more likely.

Starting meetings earlier in the afternoon could create barriers for working residents, particularly for those wishing to attend the full meeting or speak on early items. This may also impact the schedules of Councilmembers who have external employment. CACoD commissioner comments reiterated the concern that earlier start times can disproportionately impact working residents who may want to participate in the City Council meeting but cannot attend before 5:00 p.m.

SB 707 requirements for teleconferencing and remote-participation options, however, eases these concerns, because more community members will be able to participate in meetings remotely. As detailed further below, staff recommend moving the regular City Council meeting time to 4:00 p.m., to allow for procedural, ceremonial items, while maintaining the existing flexibility to utilize Special Meetings when needed.

Alternate Locations for Committee and City Council Meetings

- As part of the City Council deliberation on November 18, 2025, Council requested that staff also evaluate providing Committee and City Council meetings in different locations, to encourage additional civic participation.

Staff have coordinated City Council meetings at alternate locations in the past, when appropriate, as offsite meetings can broaden access for communities that may have difficulty traveling to City Hall and create opportunities for more localized engagement on high-interest issues. However, holding meetings outside of City Hall involves significant staffing, logistical, technological, and fiscal impacts. Implementation of SB 707 will further increase the operational complexity of offsite meetings due to expanded virtual participation and accessibility requirements, while simultaneously reducing the need for alternate locations by providing residents with telephonic and online public comment options. As a result, the marginal benefits of holding meetings at alternate locations are diminished, while the operational and cost challenges increase, making routine offsite meetings less practical and generally unnecessary. Staff do not recommend using alternate locations under SB 707, unless necessary.

The City's audiovisual and meeting technology systems are designed for the Council Chamber's fixed infrastructure, which includes integrated audio feeds, cameras, voting systems, livestreaming capabilities, closed-captioning support, and more. The technology required to comply with SB 707's augmented remote-access, captioning, and interpretation requirements will further complicate meetings held at outside sites. Replicating this functionality offsite requires transporting equipment—which can be labor-intensive, costly, and technically risky—or investing in duplicate portable A/V systems. Taking meetings on the road would require more staff to setup and tear down and to ensure that the location has proper network connectivity to meet SB 707 requirements.

Alternate facilities may also have inconsistent capacity, which may affect meeting quality and accessibility. Some locations may not support dependable broadband speeds needed for remote participation under SB 707. Ensuring ADA accessibility, security screening, and sufficient space for staff, Council, and the public also varies by site and may require additional planning or costs.

Upholding Current Time Limits on Ceremonials and Presentations

- The Committee recommended reaffirming and upholding the current Municipal Code, which allows no more than three ceremonials or presentations per meeting, each lasting no longer than five minutes.

Reaffirming the existing limit on ceremonials keeps meetings focused on policy matters and prevents lengthy delays to action items. Limiting ceremonials also helps the Council stay on schedule and maintain fairness for individuals who attend specifically for other agenda items. This approach supports meeting efficiency and helps to reduce late-night

sessions. CACoD commissioners agreed that maintaining current time limits on ceremonial presentations would help ensure that everyone receives equal time, but they also recommended providing clearer expectations and guidance to presenters in advance regarding the process.

On the other hand, strict limits on ceremonials may constrain the Council's ability to recognize important community organizations, events, or achievements. Constituents may perceive shortened or fewer ceremonials as reducing the City's visibility and appreciation for community partners. Additionally, ceremonials often serve important community engagement and relationship-building roles that would be diminished under tighter restrictions. Staff do not recommend changing the current process.

Amend the Divide by 9 Sponsorship Approval Process

- Explore allowing routine community sponsorships under $5,000 to be approved at the staff level, bypassing City Council agenda, while maintaining public transparency of fund transfers through a public posting.

Administrative approval for sponsorships less than $5,000 would reduce the number of items on a given Council agenda, but the benefits of changing this process are minimal and there is no current process to allow staff to approve these budget appropriations without Council direction. Divide by 9 sponsorship items do not currently require additional time during the City Council meeting, since they are placed on the Consent Calendar. Delegating sponsorship approval to staff may raise concerns about reduced budget transparency and oversight, even with required public postings, and goes against the City Charter to appropriate funding through a City Council vote. The current Divide by 9 process is designed to prevent a Council District from violating the Charter or making unauthorized purchases or contractual arrangements. Additionally, while the proposal could minimize Council Office staff time to draft and review the Council letters appropriating the funds, it would not change the Special Events office's administrative responsibilities to deliver funding to the community organizations. Staff do not recommend changing this approval process.

Define "Urgency" for Supplemental Agenda Items

- Request City Attorney to draft a definition of "urgency" that will qualify supplemental agenda items, requiring any accompanying Statement of Urgency to show that the matter needs action before the next regular agenda, that delay would cause harm or a loss, and that the need is so pressing that temporarily limiting the usual opportunity for public and Councilmember engagement is warranted.

Creating a clearer definition of "urgency" could improve consistency and transparency regarding supplemental items. This aligns with Brown Act principles by limiting last-minute items to truly time-sensitive matters and ensuring that supplemental submissions do not reduce opportunities for public review. A stricter urgency standard may also improve staff workload predictability. A narrower definition of urgency could, however, restrict the

Council's flexibility to address emerging issues quickly. Some issues may be important but not meet a strict definition, leading to delayed action. Staff do not have a position on this proposal.

Move Supplemental Agenda Submission to Thursday

- Move the deadline for items to be submitted on supplemental agenda to Thursday.

Technical issues—whether internal or external—can affect agenda preparation and posting. Moving the Supplemental Agenda to Thursday provides additional time for staff to identify and resolve disruptions while still meeting Brown Act posting requirements. It would also give the public more time to review supplemental items before the meeting, improving transparency and public trust.

Furthermore, since the COVID-19 pandemic, both temporary and permanent changes have been made to City Council agenda procedures. While necessary at the time, these changes have introduced potential liabilities related to Brown Act compliance. Moving the Supplemental Agenda to Thursday would help mitigate these risks, improve procedural consistency, and support and maintain public trust.

Several operational considerations support this shift. Under Government Code Section 54953(b), members participating via traditional teleconferencing must post an agenda at all teleconference locations. As more members utilize this option, earlier agenda availability is essential. Time-zone differences can further complicate compliance, as members participating from outside the region may face shortened posting windows. A Thursday release provides sufficient time for required postings and reduces the risk of noncompliance that may occur when agendas are not available until close of business Friday.

The City Clerk's Office is also responsible for reviewing agenda items for potential Levine Act implications. Items submitted late on Friday do not allow adequate time for a thorough review or for coordinating with the City Attorney's Office regarding any concerns. Earlier publication ensures compliance and reduces the likelihood of errors or omissions. For these reasons, staff support this recommendation.

Schedule Stand-Alone Study Sessions for Major Topics

- Schedule dedicated study sessions for complex or high-impact issues, and identify dates well in advance to reserve single-topic meetings for matters that demand comprehensive staff reports and in-depth discussion.

The City has the ability to schedule study sessions. Annually, for example, the City conducts a study session related to the City's fiscal outlook and proposed budget development. This approach allows for more focused, in-depth discussion of complex topics without the time pressure of regular meetings. This can lead to better policy outcomes, improved public understanding, and more thorough staff analysis. Scheduling

these in advance provides predictability to the public, staff, and Council.

Additional study sessions may impact accessibility for residents who are not available earlier in the day, however, and some issues may be complex but not warrant a stand-alone session, making it difficult to determine when one is appropriate. Additionally, City Council can continue to utilize the Council Committee structure for more in-depth presentations and discussions on major topics. CACoD members also mentioned the concern about study sessions earlier in the afternoon decreasing public participation. Maintaining current flexibility seems like the best approach to balance these considerations. Staff recommend maintaining utilizing study sessions as needed, as further explained in the Staff Recommendations section below.

Tentative Public Schedule of Future Agenda Items

- Post a tentative public schedule for future agenda items that is subject to change.

Publishing a tentative schedule could increase transparency and help residents anticipate upcoming issues and mobilize participants in advance, improving the quality of public engagement. However, repeated schedule changes, which happen quite often, could frustrate the public or lead to perceptions of mismanagement. Maintaining an accurate tentative schedule requires ongoing staff effort and may reduce flexibility in agenda development. If items are postponed frequently, the value of the schedule may diminish and create more confusion than clarity. CACoD also stated that tentative scheduling is unrealistic and difficult to implement. Staff do not recommend moving forward with this item.

Pre-Recorded Staff Reports

- Encourage departments to create video briefings or memos posted online before meetings, enabling meetings to skip lengthy presentations and focus directly on question and answer.

Pre-recorded or written staff briefings could potentially shorten Council meetings by reducing presentation time during the items, allowing the meeting to focus on Council questions and public input. These materials also improve public transparency by giving residents access to clearer explanations in advance. But the staffing and technological resources required to accomplish this proposal far exceed the benefits, and staff do not recommend this proposal.

Typically, City Council presentations reflect information already provided through memorandums to the Mayor and City Council and posted publicly on the City Manager's website, or through presentation materials uploaded to OneMeeting in advance of the meeting. Staff aim to upload presentation slide decks on the Supplemental Agenda several days before the meeting to allow adequate time for public review. Requiring additional pre-recorded materials would significantly increase staff workload to prepare and record earlier than current timelines allow. Without translation or captioning, pre-

recorded videos could also create accessibility barriers for non-English speakers; and there is a risk that the public may not review materials in advance, limiting meaningful participation during the meeting. Live presentations remain the most effective format for conveying nuance, responding to public concerns in real time, and ensuring clear communication of complex issues.

Analysis of Senate Bill 707

In addition to the proposed changes to City Council meetings outlined above, Council requested that staff provide more information about how SB 707 will impact public meetings. SB 707, signed into law on October 3, 2025, will have a significant impact on the City's public meeting procedures, technology infrastructure, staffing capacity, and public participation processes—and may also influence City Council's perspective on the order of business. SB 707 makes substantial revisions to the Brown Act with the stated intention of enhancing public access and participation, particularly for members of the public who rely on remote access or whose primary language is not English. Most of the bill's major requirements will take effect on July 1, 2026, and sunset on January 1, 2030.

Key Requirements Affecting the City Council

SB 707 requires that members of the public be provided with real-time, two-way remote access to City Council meetings, either through a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform that supports both video conferencing and a call-in option. If the City chooses to use a two-way audiovisual system, it must enable automatic captioning when the platform offers such a feature. Importantly, members of the public who comment remotely must be given the same speaking time as those who attend in person, and the City must make reasonable efforts to accommodate interpretation needs, including allowing extra time for interpreted remarks or arranging appropriate spaces for interpreters. This requirement only applies to City Council meetings.

The legislation also requires the City Council to adopt, in open session and not on the consent calendar, a policy governing how the City will respond to disruptions in telephone or internet service. Under this policy, if a disruption prevents the public from attending, observing, or commenting in real time, the Council must recess the meeting for at least one hour while staff make good-faith efforts to restore access. The Council may only resume the meeting once service is restored or, after the one-hour recess, upon making explicit findings that continued disruption response efforts were made and that the public interest in proceeding outweighs the interest in ensuring remote public access.

SB 707 also introduces substantial new language access requirements. Beginning in 2026, the City must translate all meeting agendas—although not full agenda packets—into all "applicable languages," defined as languages spoken by at least 20 percent of the population where 20 percent or more speak English less than "very well." For Long Beach, Spanish is the only language that meets this threshold. In addition, the City must create and maintain a dedicated public meetings webpage that explains the meeting process,

public comment procedures, and provides a calendar of upcoming meetings and posted agendas. This webpage must also be translated into all applicable languages and linked prominently from the City's primary homepage. The bill further requires the City to provide a publicly accessible physical location where members of the community may post their own translations of meeting agendas.

SB 707 also imposes broader obligations related to public outreach. The City must make reasonable efforts to encourage participation from residents and groups that do not traditionally engage in public meetings, such as media organizations and civic groups that serve residents from underrepresented and non-English-speaking communities. Many survey respondents also mentioned not participating in City Council meetings because they feel their voices are not heard—the barrier selected most by respondents. Although the bill grants considerable discretion in defining these outreach efforts, they are intended to be meaningful and ongoing, rather than merely procedural.

The legislation also restructures teleconferencing rules for the Council and the City's advisory bodies. For all bodies, the bill requires that the public be able to observe and comment remotely when teleconferencing is used and prohibits the Council from taking action on agenda items if disruptions prevent public observation or participation. As was the case prior to the implementation of SB 707, members participating remotely must disclose whether any adults are present at their remote location and their general relationship to those individuals. For advisory bodies, the bill provides a pathway for "eligible subsidiary bodies" to hold teleconferenced meetings if the Council adopts the required findings and renews them every six months.

Operational and Budgetary Impacts to the City

SB 707 imposes state-mandated requirements and will require both technology resources and additional staffing to implement. Together, these operational and staffing needs are expected to have ongoing budget impacts. Both the City Clerk's Office and the Technology and Innovation Department anticipate the need for additional staff and/or vendor support, which will be further evaluated and incorporated into the Fiscal Year 2027 budget process.

From an operational standpoint, the City will need to expand its meeting technology infrastructure and subscriptions to support two-way public participation. This includes enhancements to audiovisual systems in the Council Chamber and other meeting spaces, increased bandwidth capacity, integrated telephonic and video platforms, and reliable captioning capabilities.

These upgrades will also require dedicated staff support during meetings to monitor connectivity, troubleshoot technical issues, manage livestream operations, and ensure compliance with disruption protocols. Staffing impacts also extend beyond meeting operations. The City Clerk's Office will take on expanded responsibilities, including multilingual agenda preparation in coordination with the Language Access team,

maintenance of translated public meeting materials online, administration of remote public comment and interpretation services, and coordination of increased community outreach. Additionally, requirements such as mandatory meeting recesses during disruptions may create new scheduling and agenda management challenges.

Staff Recommendations

Many of the changes required by SB 707 directly address key barriers to public participation identified in survey responses, particularly scheduling conflicts, location, and accessibility. By requiring telephonic and virtual public comment options, SB 707 expands opportunities for residents to participate in City Council meetings without needing to attend in person, thereby reducing the need for alternate physical meeting locations and making participation more accessible regardless of schedules, transportation challenges, or mobility needs.

SB 707 creates greater flexibility for the City to adjust the order of business and meeting start times to better align with the City Council's direction to both streamline meetings and increase participation. Remote participation options allow residents to engage without needing to travel to City Hall after work hours, providing a strong rationale for earlier meeting start times and a more structured, consistent public comment process that is known ahead of time. Meanwhile, the potential for increased participation under SB 707 regulations reinforces the benefits of starting meetings earlier or leveraging additional study sessions. Based on these considerations, staff recommend moving forward with focused changes to the order of business that leverage SB 707's expanded participation tools to improve efficiency, clarity, and accessibility while maintaining meaningful opportunities for public engagement.

Public Comment

In light of survey responses, CACoD input, and SB 707's requirement to provide equitable treatment for in-person and virtual public commenters, staff recommend establishing a consistent and clearly defined public comment process and timeline. This approach would create more predictable meeting schedules—addressing concerns about changing speaking times and confusion around public comment periods—while also helping to manage overall meeting length and reduce barriers to participation caused by lengthy meetings. The goal is to balance fairness, clarity, and efficiency by providing a structured public comment framework that supports both accessibility and streamlined Council meetings.

Staff recommend replacing the open public comment periods and public comment on each item with a single, fixed public comment period at the beginning of the meeting for both non-agenda items and agenda items. Each member of the public—in person and remote—would have the same amount of time to speak, while capping the total time allotted for public comment: up to one minute for non-agenda items and up to two minutes for items listed on the agenda, with a maximum of three minutes total for each speaker

per meeting. The total public comment period would be capped at a maximum of 90 minutes, giving the Mayor, as Chair of the meeting, flexibility to reduce speaking times equally based on the total number of speakers or to extend the total public comment period if needed.

Earlier Meeting Start Time

Because SB 707 expands flexible participation options through telephonic and online public comment, staff recommend an earlier meeting start time to improve overall meeting efficiency and accessibility. This could be accomplished by moving Regular meetings to an earlier start time and by more regularly utilizing Study Sessions for high-interest items. With remote participation options available, residents would still be able to engage without needing to attend in person after traditional work hours, reducing potential barriers to participation while supporting a more structured and predictable meeting schedule. Staff recommend starting City Council meetings at 4:00 p.m., to allow ceremonial presentations to take place before beginning the public comment period.

Earlier meeting start times may also help reduce fiscal and staffing impacts associated with overtime for support staff required to work beyond normal business hours. While many staff members that participate in City Council meetings are salaried, support staff in the Technology and Innovation Department and Clerk's office have experienced increases in overtime necessary to cover City Council meetings and other Commission meetings that happen after normal work hours. Overtime costs for the Clerk's office, for example, have increased from around $5,500 in 2021 to over $50,000 in 2025. Given the City's current budget landscape and focus on identifying operational efficiencies and cost savings, adjusting meeting start times earlier presents an opportunity to improve participation, streamline meeting operations, and reduce personnel costs associated with supporting City Council meetings, while maintaining compliance with SB 707 and preserving meaningful public engagement.

Move Supplemental Agenda to Thursday

Moving the Supplemental Agenda to Thursday strengthens the City's commitment to transparency by advancing the original intent of providing the public with earlier and more meaningful opportunities to participate in Council decision making. This adjustment reinforces that Supplemental items should be limited to urgent matters requiring clear justification and provides the community and internal staff with more review time than the current three-day window typically associated with supplemental postings.

State law requires the City to publish regular meeting agendas 72 hours ahead of the meeting. Moving the supplemental agenda to Thursday, instead of Friday, would require an ordinance change to the Municipal Code and an updated City Council letter review and upload timeline. In this scenario, items received by Clerk after Thursday at noon would be pushed to the next regular agenda.

Proposed City Council Action

Staff plan to bring an item to City Council on May 12th, requesting direction on the specific Municipal Code and order of business changes proposed above. City Council direction to memorialize the changes above is described as follows:

- Recommendation to request the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance amending the Municipal Code to:
    - Amend the regular City Council meeting start time to 4:00 p.m.
    - Establish a single public comment period at the beginning of City Council meetings, following the call to order, roll call, pledge of allegiance, and ceremonials and presentations.
        - Limit to a maximum of three minutes total per speaker, per meeting: up to one minute for non-agenda items, and up to two minutes for agenda items.
        - Close speaker sign-ups at the start of the public comment period.
        - Speakers would need to specify which items they wish to speak on when they sign up for public comment, and the Clerk would time speakers separately for non-agenda (up to one minute) and agenda items (up to two minutes), for a maximum of three minutes total.
        - Cap the total public comment period at 90 minutes.
        - Reiterate the option to submit written comments in lieu of in-person or remote participation.
        - Clearly define and standardize timing, sign-up procedures, and participation rules for both in-person and remote speakers, to ensure consistent and equitable access.
        - Allow the Mayor, as presiding officer, limited discretion to extend time limits or reopen public comment in exceptional circumstances.
    - Move the supplemental agenda publication to Thursday.

Next Steps

To meet SB 707's July 1, 2026, deadline, staff will continue assessing the City's current technology systems and meeting procedures, developing the required disruption policy, identifying applicable languages for translation, designing the multilingual public meetings webpage, and evaluating staffing and resource needs. Staff will return to the City Council with an implementation plan, including policy recommendations, fiscal impacts, and requests for additional resources as needed.

If you have any questions, please contact Tyler Bonanno-Curley, Deputy City Manager, at tyler.curley@longbeach.gov, or Monique De La Garza, City Clerk, at

Monique.DeLaGarza@longbeach.gov or (562) 570-6101.

ATTACHMENTS: A – PRESENTATION TO CACOD ON APRIL 9, 2026
B – PRESENTATION TO GOE COMMITTEE ON OCTOBER 21, 2025
C – SUMMARIZED SURVEY RESULTS

CC: DAWN MCINTOSH, CITY ATTORNEY
DOUGLAS P. HAUBERT, CITY PROSECUTOR
LAURA L. DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
APRIL WALKER, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
TERESA CHANDLER, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
MEREDITH REYNOLDS, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
GRACE YOON, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
TYLER BONANNO-CURLEY, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
KEVIN LEE, CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
MONIQUE DE LA GARZA, CITY CLERK (REF# 25-56954)
DEPARTMENT HEADS

Attachment A

GOE Committee Recommendations and SB 707

Citizens' Advisory Commission on Disabilities

April 9, 2026

CITY OF LONG BEACH



Background

Government Operations & Efficiency Committee – October 21, 2025

- Meeting on October 21, 2025 – Proposed changes to order of business for City Council meetings

City Council Action – November 18, 2025

- Requested a report back on proposed changes to the order of business
- Implementation of Senate Bill 707
- Recirculate community survey
- Receive input from CACoD

Survey Input

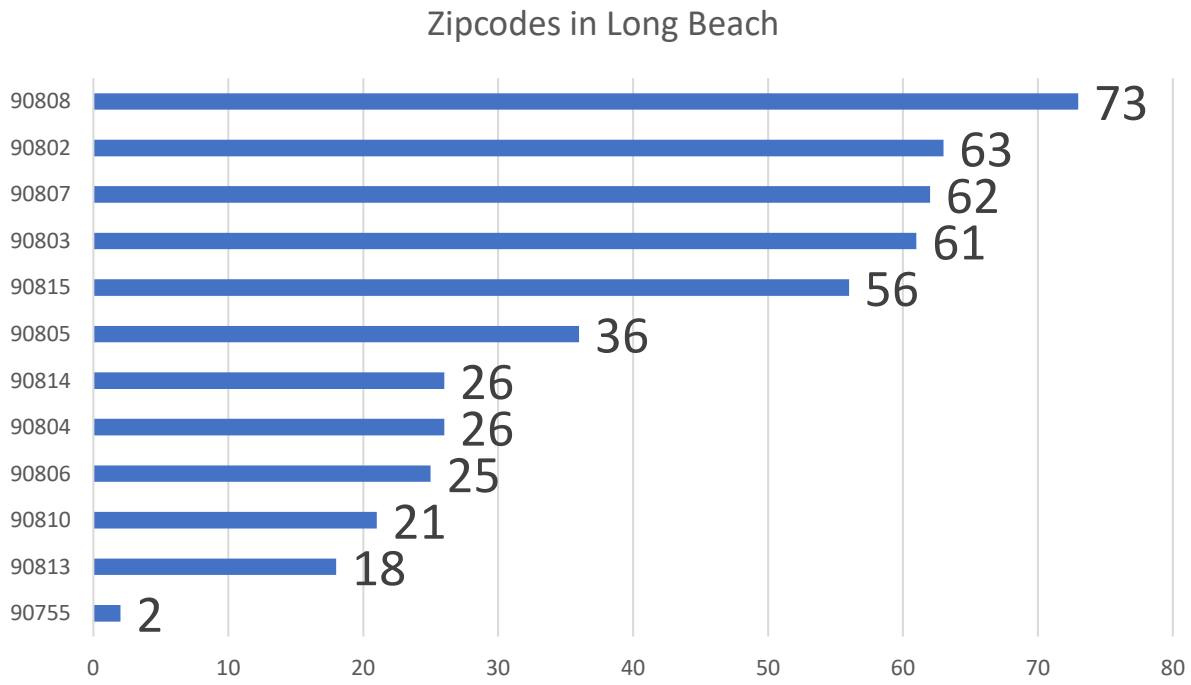
Committee Survey

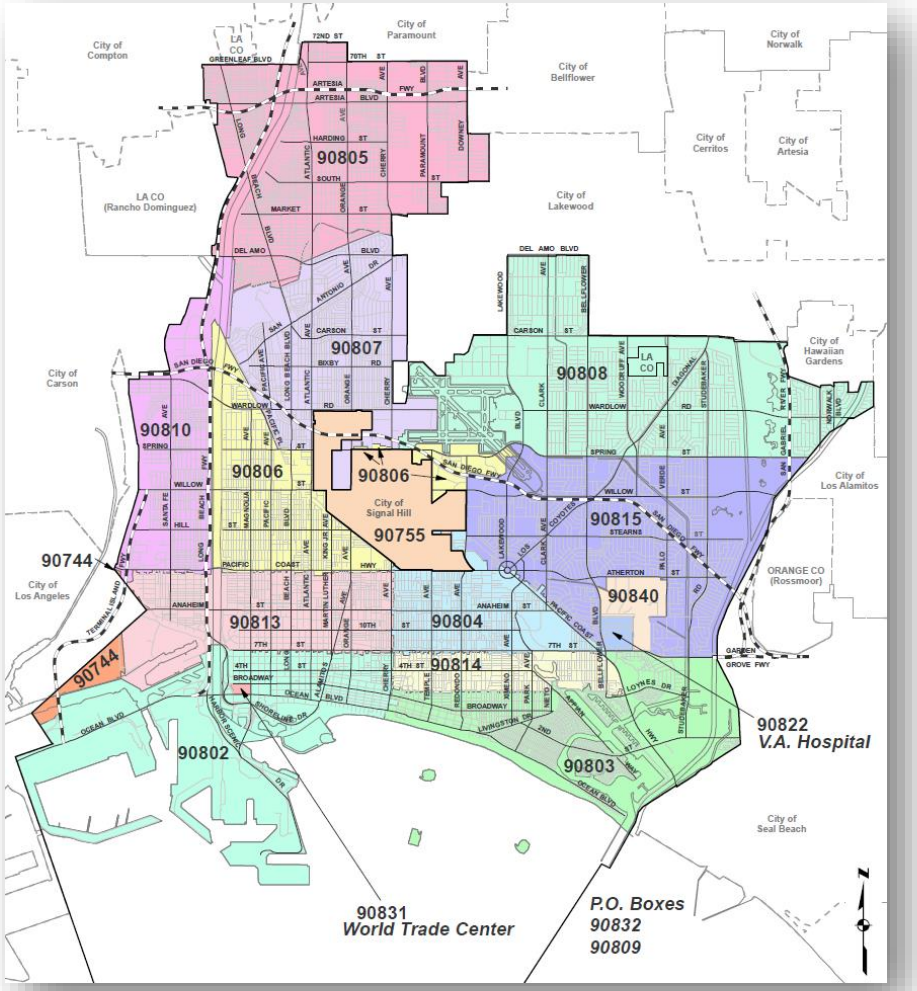
- The Government Operations and Efficiency Committee conducted a survey to gather feedback on how to increase participation in City Council meetings and presented the results at the October 2025 Committee meeting.
- The survey received **74** responses.

Recirculated Survey

- Following City Council direction in November 2025 to recirculate the survey, staff translated the survey into Spanish, Khmer, and Tagalog.
- The City published a public notice on February 10, 2026, and provided printed copies at local libraries and in person at City Hall.
- The survey was provided to Council offices to include in their newsletters, and the Clerk distributed to neighborhood groups.
- The recirculated survey received 459 responses online and 38 responses through printed surveys, totaling **497**.

Survey Input

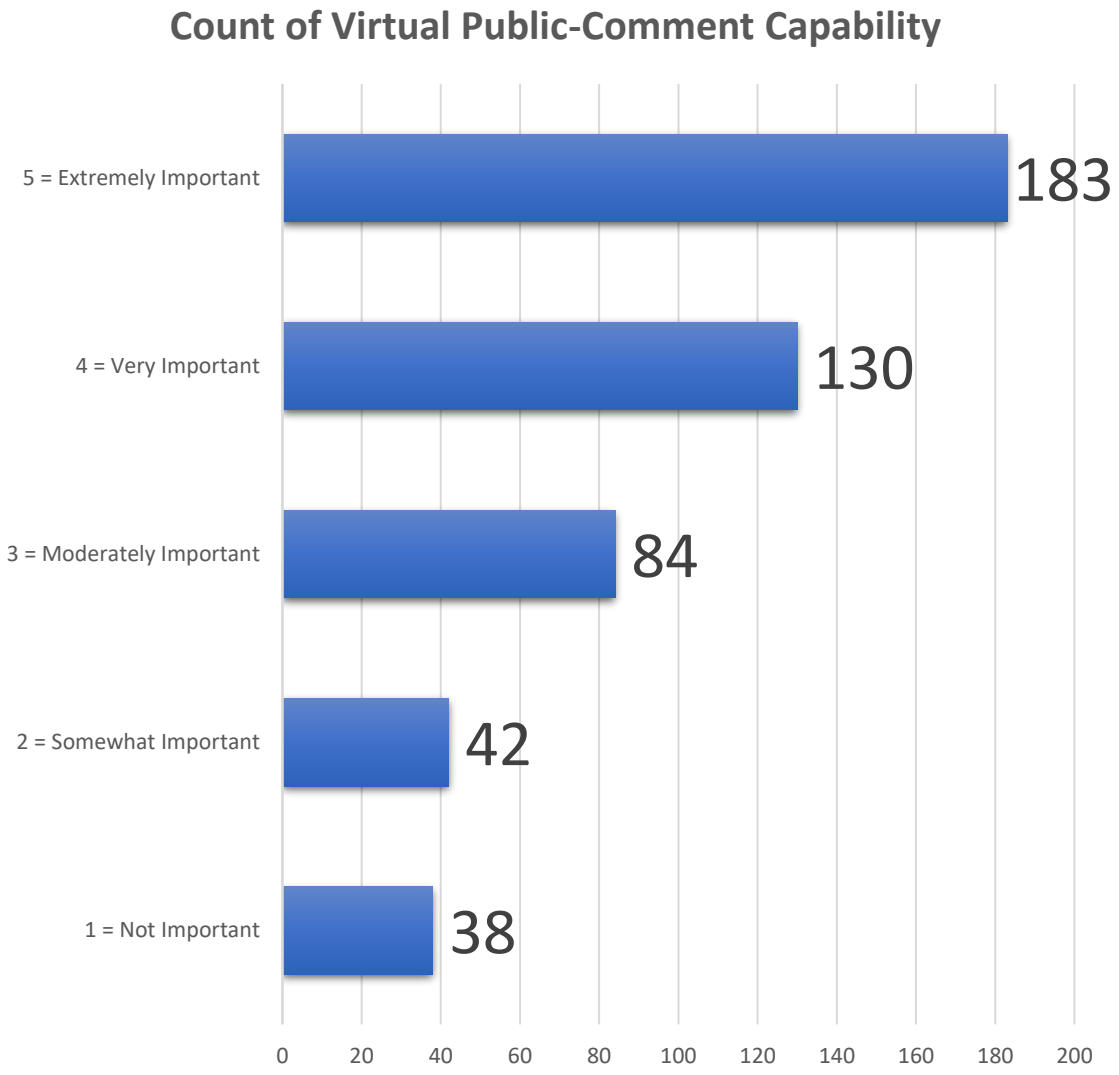




Other Zip Codes Mentioned

- 90731, 90812, 90720, 90266, 90041, 90897, 90017, 90916, 90896, 90255, 90011

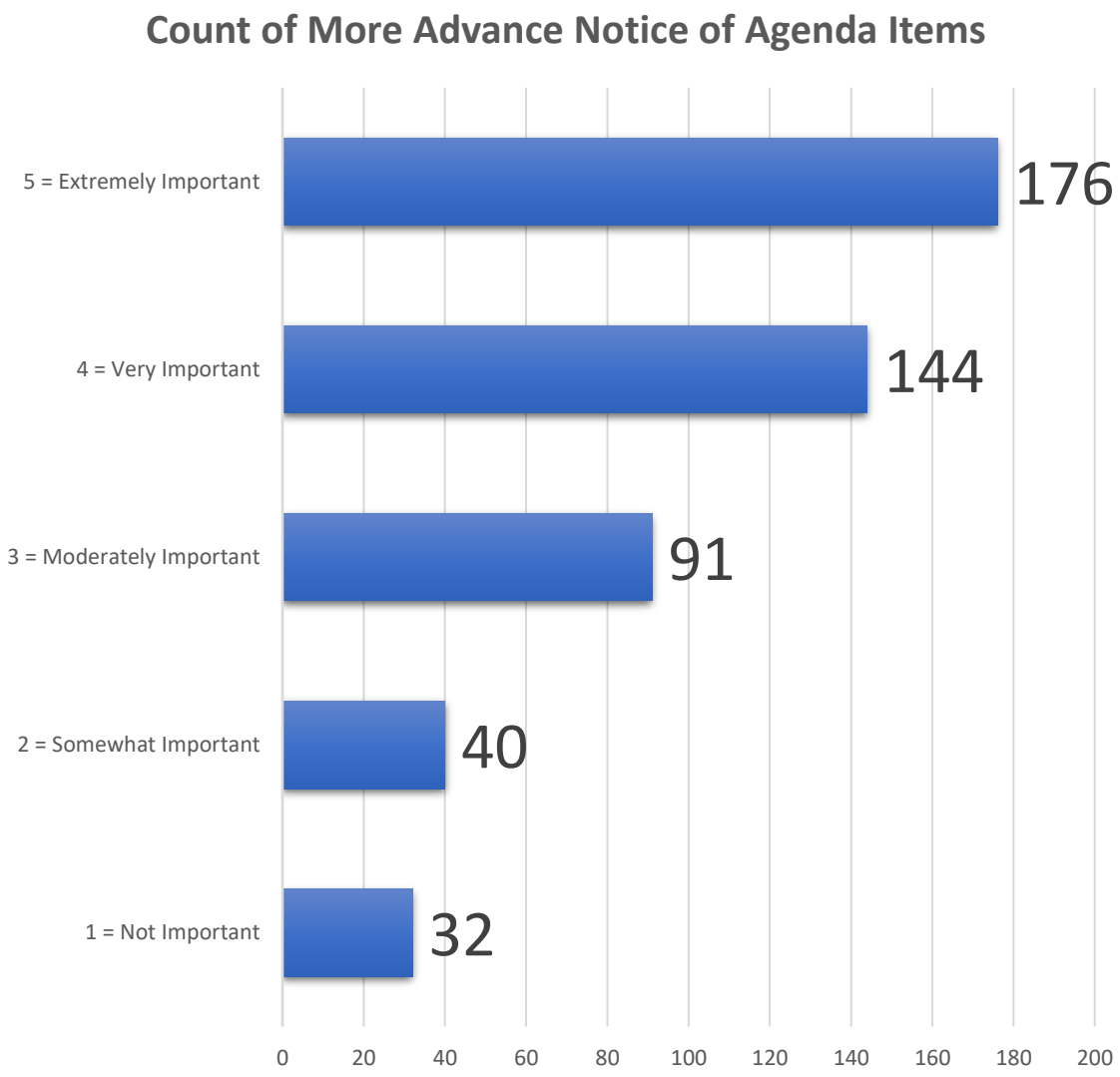
Survey Input



This shows strong support for virtual public comment at city council meetings. Many respondents rated it as extremely or very important, with fewer participants indicating moderate to low importance.

Survey Input

This shows that a clear majority of respondents consider more advance notice of agenda items to be extremely important, with the largest share selecting the highest level of importance



Proposed Changes to Order of Business

Expanding Early Public Comment

- The Committee recommended allowing up to 15 speakers during public comment at the start of each meeting to address non-agenda items, allowing speaking time to decrease to 90 seconds if there are more than 10 comments.

Adding Another Public Comment Period

- City Council recommended evaluating the option of adding a mid-meeting round of public comment.

Establishing Estimated Times for High-Interest Items

- The Committee requested that the Mayor and City Manager assign estimated start times for high-interest agenda items, when applicable. Mayor would retain all authority to adjust times as needed.
    - *Note: This can be difficult logistically to set realistic expectations of timelines.*

Proposed Changes to Order of Business

Adjusting Times for Public Comment

- The Committee further recommended amending the Municipal Code to allow Mayor, at their discretion, to set public comment times as follows: 3 minutes for 10 or fewer speakers; 90 seconds for 11-20 speakers; and 60 seconds for more than 20 speakers.

Setting Earlier City Council Start Times

- The recommendation also considered allowing City Council meetings to start at 3:00 p.m. or later to cover low-interest procedural items, while ensuring high-interest items are heard during ideal times for public engagement.

Alternate Locations for Committee and City Council Meetings

- As part of the City Council deliberation on November 18, 2025, Council requested that staff also evaluate providing Committee and City Council meetings in different locations, to encourage additional civic participation.
    - *Note: This would have significant staffing and budget impacts on the City.*

Proposed Changes to Order of Business

Upholding Current Time Limits on Ceremonials and Presentations

- The Committee recommended reaffirming and upholding the current Municipal Code, which allows no more than three ceremonials or presentations per meeting, each lasting no longer than five minutes.

Amend the Divide by 9 Sponsorship Approval Process

- Explore allowing routine community sponsorships under $5,000 to be approved at the staff level, bypassing City Council agenda, while maintaining public transparency of fund transfers through a public posting.
    - *Note: This would significantly change the process for sponsorships. Staff are not currently able to approve contributions beyond confirmation of available budget.*

Proposed Changes to Order of Business

Define “Urgency” for Supplemental Agenda Items

- Request City Attorney to draft a definition of “urgency” that will qualify supplemental agenda items, requiring any accompanying Statement of Urgency to show that the matter needs action before the next regular agenda, that delay would cause harm or a loss, and that the need is so pressing that temporarily limiting the usual opportunity for public and Councilmember engagement is warranted.

Move Supplemental Agenda Submission to Thursday

- Move the deadline for items to be submitted on supplemental agenda to Thursday.

Schedule Stand-Alone Study Sessions for Major Topics

- Schedule dedicated study sessions for complex or high-impact issues, and identify dates well in advance to reserve single-topic meetings for matters that demand comprehensive staff reports and in-depth discussion.

Proposed Changes to Order of Business

Tentative Public Schedule of Future Agenda Items

- Post a tentative public schedule for future agenda items that is subject to change.
    - *Note: Items frequently change, and this could set an unrealistic expectation.*

Expanded and/or Pre-Recorded Staff Reports

- Encourage departments to create video briefings or memos posted online before meetings, enabling meetings to skip lengthy presentations and focus directly on question and answer.
    - *Note: This would have significant staffing and budget impacts on the City.*

Senate Bill 707

CITY OF LONG BEACH

Background

- SB 707 was signed into law on October 3, 2025, and will impact the City's public meeting procedures, technology infrastructure, staffing capacity, and public participation process.
- SB 707 makes important changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act governing public meeting laws, with the stated intent to enhance public access and participation in public meetings.
- Many of the proposed changes will take effect on July 1, 2026, and sunset on January 1, 2030.

Senate Bill 707

CITY OF LONG BEACH

Key Requirements – Remote Access

- Requires real-time, two-way remote access to City Council meetings, either through telephonic service or an audiovisual platform that supports both video conferencing and a call-in option.
- Two-way audiovisual system must enable automatic captioning.
- Members of the public who comment remotely must be given the same speaking time as those in person.
- City must make reasonable efforts to accommodate interpretation needs.

Senate Bill 707

Key Requirements – Policy

- Council must adopt in an open session a policy governing how the City will respond to disruptions in telephonic or internet service.
- If a disruption prevents the public from attending, observing or commenting in real time, the Council must recess the meeting for at least one hour while staff make good-faith efforts to restore access.
- Council may only resume the meeting once service is restored or after the one-hour recess.

Key Requirements – Translation

- City must translate all meeting agendas into applicable language, defined as languages spoken by at least 20 percent of the population (Spanish in Long Beach).

Senate Bill 707

CITY OF LONG BEACH

Operational Impacts and Considerations

- Expanded City technology infrastructure to accommodate two-way communication for Council meetings.
- Additional staff resources to monitor connectivity and troubleshoot disruptions.
- Staffing impacts for multilingual agenda preparation and ongoing maintenance of translated public meetings webpage.
- Staffing impacts to provide remote public comment and interpretation support.

Thank You!

GOE committee

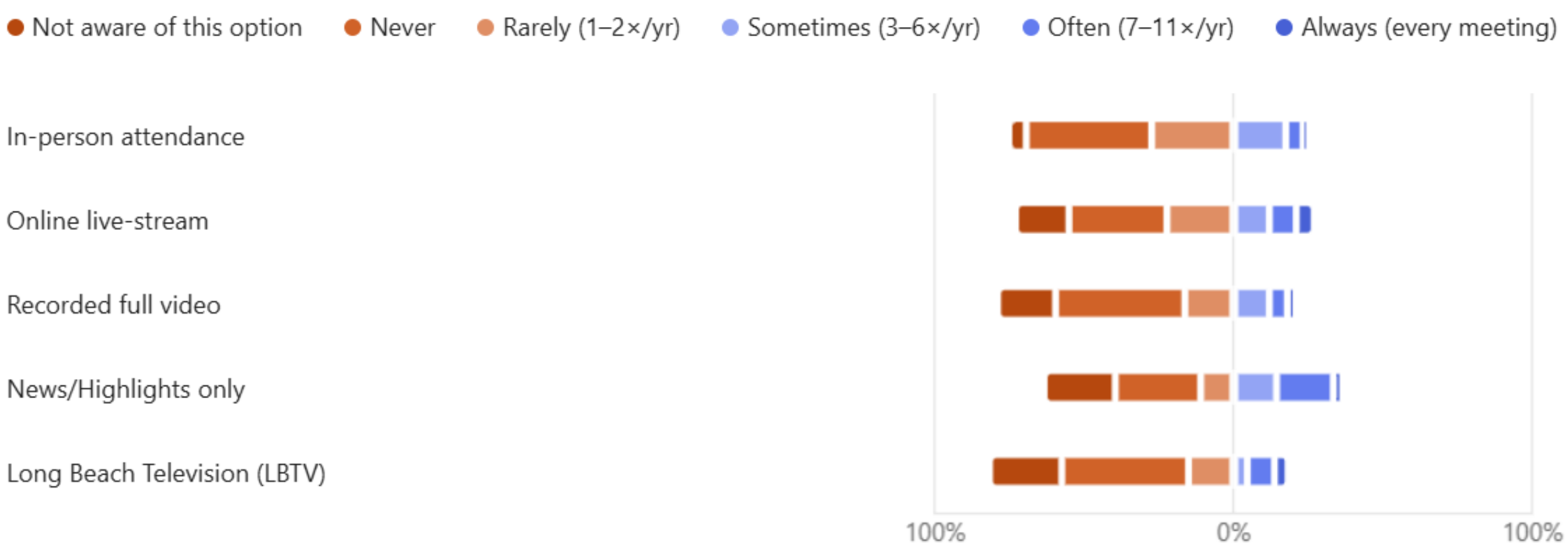
Making Our Council Meetings More Welcoming and Accessible

GOE

committee

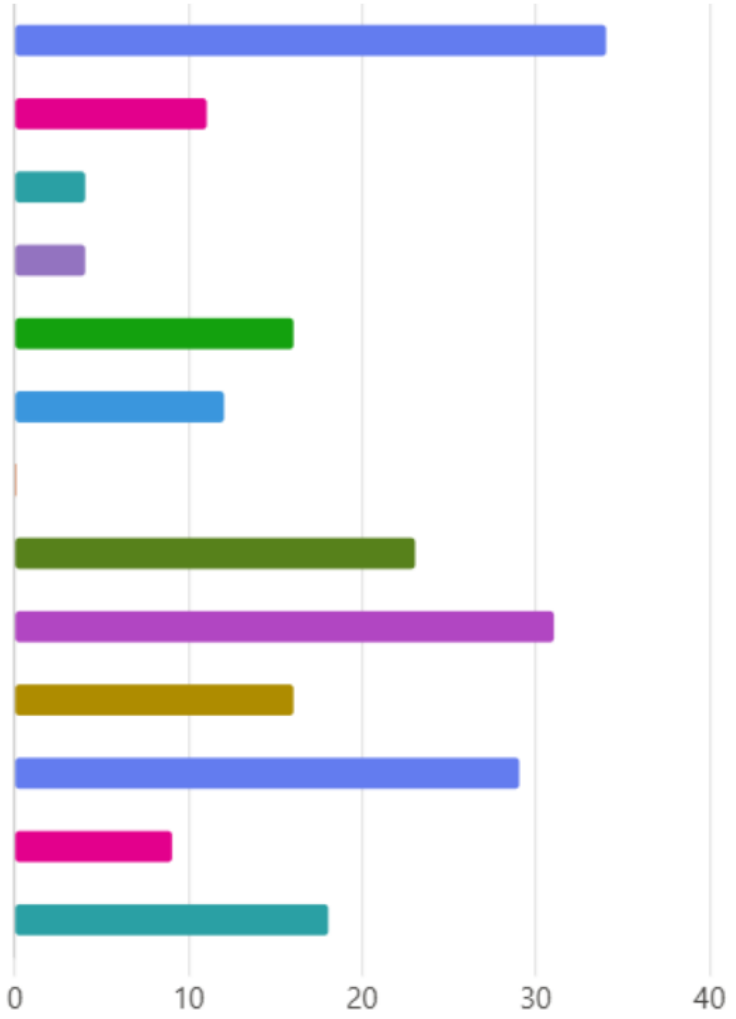
City Clerk Survey Results

1. How have you participated in City Council meetings in the past 12 months, and how often?



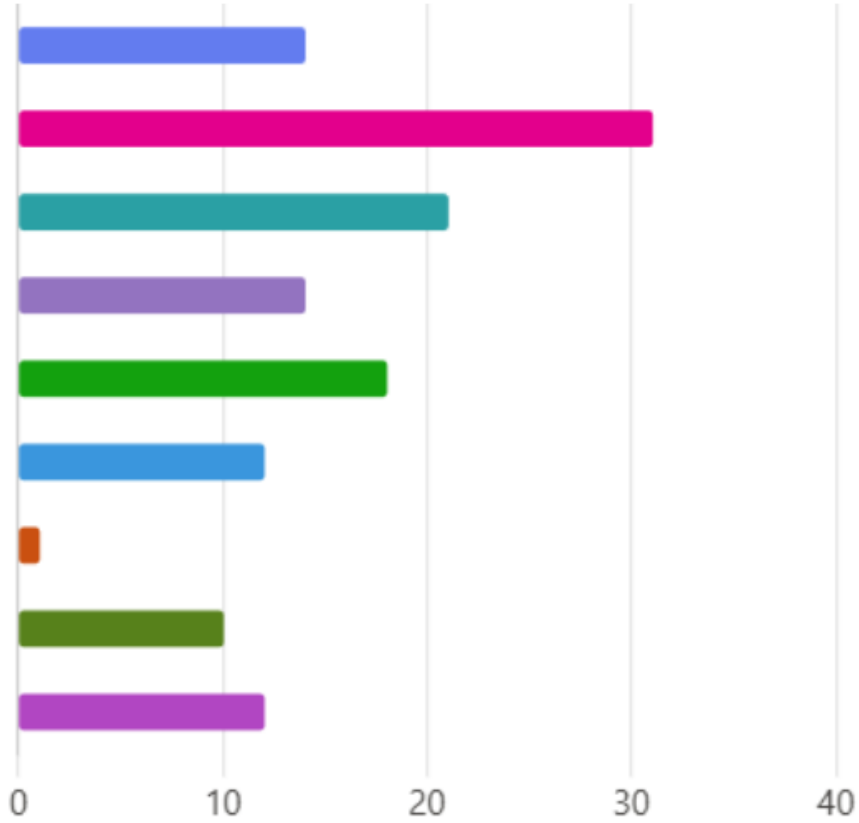
2. Which of these barriers keep you from attending in person? (If so please, select all that apply)

Scheduling conflicts (work, school, family)	34
Transportation challenges	11
Child-care responsibilities	4
Physical accessibility concerns	4
Prefer to watch online	16
Lack of interest in agenda topics	12
Language or interpretation needs	0
Lack of information about agenda topics	23
Feel voice isn't heard anyway	31
Location of the meeting	16
Length of the meeting	29
Safety Concern / Retaliation	9
Other	18



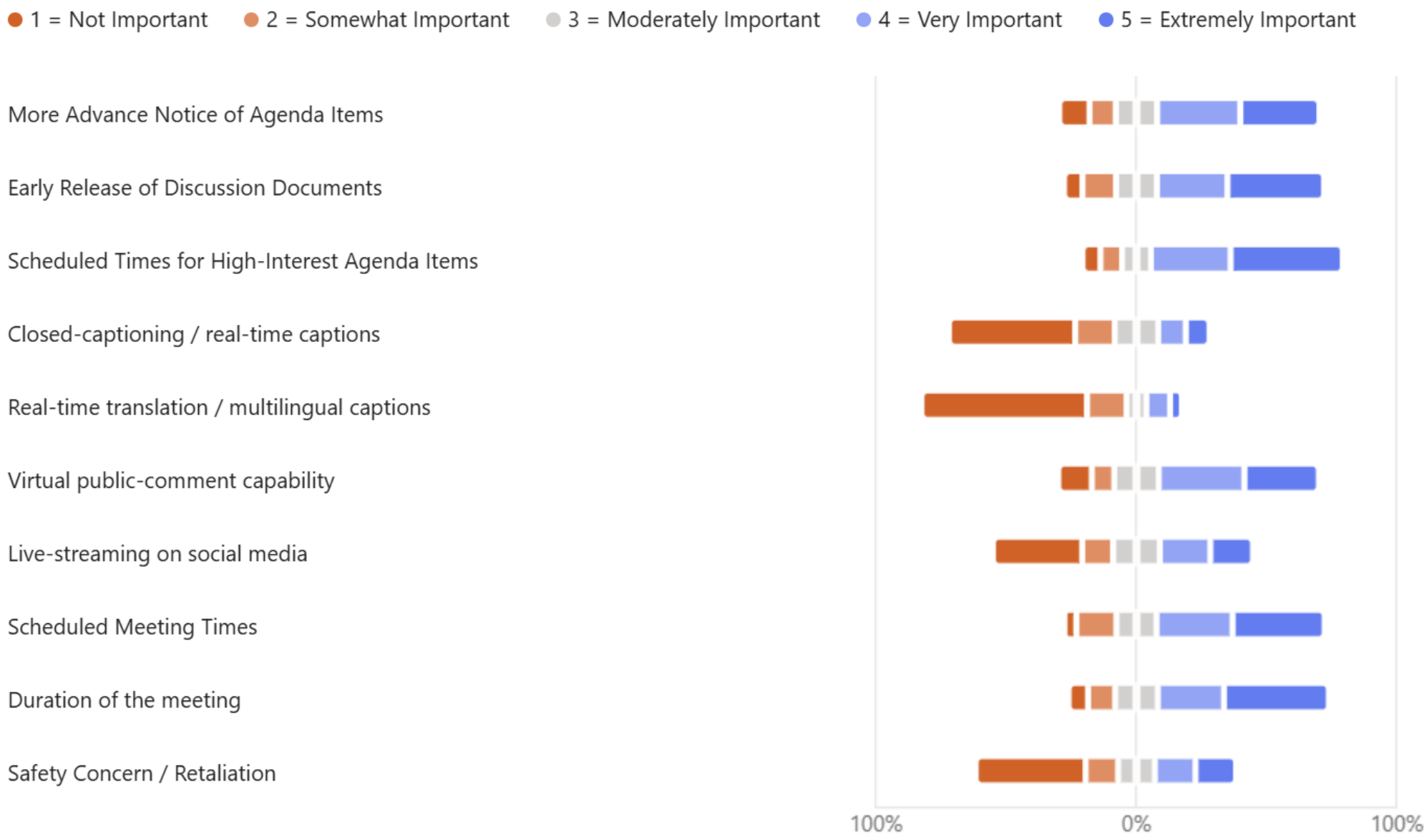
3. How do you usually learn about upcoming City Council meetings? (Select all that apply)

City website	14
Mayor and City Council newsletter	31
City newsletter	21
Social media (Facebook, Nextdoor, Twitter/X, Instagram)	14
Community organizations or neighborhood groups	18
Local news outlets	12
Physical signage (posted notices, posted agendas or flyers)	1
Word of mouth	10
Other	12



4. How important are the following features in encouraging your participation? *(1 = Not important ... 5 = Extremely important)*

More details



5. What changes would most increase your likelihood of attending a City Council meeting?

- **Notifications & Transparency:** Advance notice of topics, clearer agendas, reminders via text/social media, earlier access to documents.
- **Accessibility:** Virtual participation (Zoom, livestream), transportation, safer/easier parking, child care, varied times and locations across districts.
- **Efficiency:** Shorter meetings, start on time, place key items earlier on agenda, reduce delays and repetitive commentary.
- **Engagement & Trust:** Councilmembers actively listening, valuing input, allowing more meaningful public comment, casual community conversations.
- **Other Suggestions:** Food options, social media engagement, rotate sites, create more welcoming environment.

6. Any additional suggestions for making City Council meetings more accessible and engaging?

- **Survey Feedback: Improving City Council Meetings**
- **Accessibility:** Livestream with comments, better virtual options, child care, transportation, improved scheduling/location.
- **Engagement:** Listen actively, allow rebuttals, show genuine interest, offer informal meet-and-greets, accept anonymous input.
- **Efficiency:** Shorter meetings, limit repetitive comments, prioritize key items, split long agendas over multiple nights.
- **Accountability:** Improve councilmember attendance, reduce distractions, ensure full participation.
- **Community Priorities:** Focus on safety, infrastructure, and resident concerns over less critical activities.

7. What is your ZIP code?

90803	29	42.0%
90802	12	17.4%
90814	7	10.1%
90804	6	8.7%
90815	5	7.2%
90807	3	4.3%
90805	2	2.9%
90813	2	2.9%
90806	1	1.4%
90808	1	1.4%
90810	1	1.4%

8. Please select your age group

Under 18	0
18–24	2
25–34	6
35–44	8
45–54	10
55–64	18
65–74	14
75+	13

What is the primary language spoken in your home?

English	66
Spanish	1
Khmer	0
Tagalog	0
Other	2

GOE

committee

Order of Business
Proposed Changes

1. Expand Early Public Comment

- **Topic:** Only 10 non-agenda speakers are heard before regular business taking 30 minutes at the start of the meeting while the remaining speakers frequently wait until past 9:00pm.
- **Proposal**
  - Allow up to 15 speakers at the start of each meeting to address non-agenda items. This approach enables more residents to share their concerns without waiting until the late evening and fosters broader participation by providing more equitable access to public comment.
  - The Council could also adopt amendments mirroring public comment for agenda items, which allows for the comment time to drop from 3 minutes to 90 seconds if more than 10 commenters.

1. Expand Early Public Comment

- **Benefits**
  - Enables more residents to share concerns without waiting until late evening.
  - Increases overall participation.
  - Saves minimum of 7.5 minutes at the beginning of the meeting.
- **Potential Tradeoffs**
  - Residents could potentially have less time to provide their comments

2. Establish Estimated Times for High Interest Agenda Items

- **Topic**: Residents are often given 4-hour windows to speak for 90 seconds to 3 minutes on high-interest items.
- **Proposal**
  - Request the Mayor and City Manager to assign estimated start times for high-interest agenda items when applicable.
  - Council offices could submit requests for these designations, which would be labeled on the supplemental agenda. The Mayor would retain all abilities to adjust times as needed, preserving procedural integrity while allowing for flexibility.

2. Establish Estimated Times for High Interest Agenda Items

- **Benefits**
  - Reduces public and staff wait time.
  - Provides predictability for high-interest items.
- **Potential Trade Offs**
  - Create “clunky” meeting procedures
  - Creating expectations for the public in a changing meeting environment

3. Times for Public Comment

- **Topic:** High-interest items often draw large numbers of speakers, which is a positive sign of civic engagement but also pushes meetings late into the evening reducing engagement.
- **Proposal**
  - Amend the Municipal Code to allow the Mayor, at their discretion, to set public comment times as follows:
    - **3 minutes** if 10 or fewer speakers sign up *(currently in effect)*
    - **90 seconds** if 11–20 speakers sign up *(currently in effect)*
    - **60 seconds** if more than 20 speakers sign up

3. Adjusting Times for Public Comment

- **Benefits**
  - Balances meaningful public participation with efficient meeting management.
  - Ensures all voices are heard while keeping meetings on schedule.
  - Reduces late-night sessions, improving accessibility for residents, staff, and Council.
- **Potential Tradeoffs**
  - Potentially reduces time individual residents can speak on items

4. Set City Council start times to 3:00 pm or later

- **Topic:** Late-night Council discussions are no more inclusive than late-afternoon discussions on items of low interest. Prolonged meetings can reduce public participation and place additional strain on the Public, Council, and Staff.
- **Proposal**
  - Allow City Council meetings to start at 3:00 pm or later to cover low-interest procedural items while ensuring high-interest items are heard during ideal times for public engagement.

4. Set City Council start times to 3:00 pm or later

- **Benefits**
  - Prevents late-night deliberations – A 3:00 pm start is more accessible than discussions that extend past 11:00 pm.
  - Prioritizes public engagement – Procedural items are handled earlier so high-interest issues are heard during prime hours.
  - Supports better decision-making – Key votes take place at reasonable times, not in the middle of the night.
- **Potential Trade Offs**
  - Could potentially have item of high interest unknowingly discussed during normal work offices.

5. Uphold 5-Minute Limit on Ceremonials and Presentations

- **Topic:** Ceremonial segments frequently stretch to 30–45 minutes, pushing policy discussions later in the evening or to be held at unpredictable times.
- **Proposal**
  - Reaffirm and uphold Municipal Code 2.03.040(A)(6), which limits City Council meetings to no more than three ceremonials or presentations per meeting, each lasting no more than five minutes. The City Clerk should display a timer and announce elapsed time to help manage time effectively, while the Mayor retains the authority to extend presentation times. Ceremonial items needing longer than 5-minutes can be submitted as a “Receive and file” item.

5. Uphold 5-Minute Limit on Ceremonials and Presentations

- **Benefits**
  - Keeps ceremonial items concise and focused.
  - Allows for legislative discussions to be heard at predictable times
  - Supports compliance with existing Municipal Code
- **Potential Trade Offs**
  - Ceremonials and Presentations can feel rushed
  - Uncomfortable cutting off certain ceremonials and presentations



Changes That Need Department Research

1. Amend “Divide by 9” Sponsorship Approval Process

- **Topic:** Routine, small-dollar community sponsorships add extra administrative work and crowd the council agenda with additional items.
- **Proposal**
  - Explore allowing routine community sponsorships under $5,000 to be approved at the staff level, bypassing individual City Council agenda items, while still maintaining public transparency of fund transfers through a public posting. This change would speed delivery of small-dollar fund transfers, shorten agendas, and reduce Clerk processing time so meetings can focus on higher-priority policy matters.

1. Amend “Divide by 9” Sponsorship Approval Process

- **Benefits**
  - Quicker community impact
  - Less daunting agendas for easier review
  - Efficiency with transparency
- **Potential Trade Off**
  - Removing ability for Council and public to preemptively challenge small dollar fund transfers publicly.

2. Define “Urgency” for Supplemental Agenda Items

- **Topic:** Using the supplemental agenda for non-urgent items gives residents less than 72 hours to prepare and make arrangements like securing childcare before the Council discussions.

- **Proposal**
  - Request the City Attorney to draft a definition of “urgency” that will qualify supplemental agenda items. The definition should require any accompanying Statement of Urgency to show that the matter needs action before the next regular agenda, that delay would cause harm or a loss, and that the need is so pressing that temporarily limiting the usual opportunity for public and Councilmember engagement is warranted.

2. Define “Urgency” for Supplemental Agenda Items

- **Benefits**
  - Improves decision-making and transparency
  - Keeps regular meetings efficient
  - Enhances preparation and engagement
- **Potential Trade Offs**
  - Reduced flexibility for Staff and Council
  - Administrative burden of consistency review

3. Move Supplemental Agenda Submission Deadline to Thursday

- **Topic:** Departments and Offices are have to wait to see if supplemental items are submitted, and certain items require comprehensive Staff research starting Friday afternoon. During furloughs previously, the deadline for supplemental submissions was Thursday, which gave Friday to prepare.
- **Proposal**
  - Move the deadline for items to be submitted on the supplemental agenda to Thursday, allowing for internal review before items are posted publicly.

3. Move Supplemental Submission Deadline to Thursday

- **Benefits**
  - Improves the Quality and Accuracy of Item Discussions
  - Allows for Staff scheduling flexibility
- **Potential Trade Offs**
  - Reduces Agility on Truly Urgent Issues

4. Schedule Stand-Alone Study Sessions for Major Topics

- **Topic:** Complex topics needing thorough discussion push the rest of the agenda into hurried late-night slots.

- **Proposal**
  - Schedule dedicated study sessions for complex or high-impact issues instead of squeezing them into crowded agendas. Identify dates well in advance and reserve single-topic meetings for matters that demand comprehensive staff reports and in-depth discussion.

4. Schedule Stand-Alone Study Sessions for Major Topics

- **Benefits**
  - Enables deeper Council deliberation and community input on major policy questions.
  - Keeps regular Tuesday meetings on schedule by lifting lengthy briefings off the main agenda.
- **Potential Trade Offs**
  - Additional time dedications for a part time Council
  - Increase in staff workload

5. Tentative Public Schedule of Future Agenda Items

- **Topic:** The public are notified of a council discussion at most 8 days in advance, whereas the City may know the item is coming weeks before.
- **Proposal**
  - Post a tentative public schedule for future agenda items that is subject to change.

5. Tentative Public Schedule of Future Agenda Items

- **Benefits**
  - Provides the public more time to make accommodations to participant in upcoming Council meetings
  - Allows for time Council offices to engage constituency before discussion
- **Potential Trade Offs**
  - Scheduling changes can create conflict
  - Administrative burden

6. Expanded and/or Pre-Recorded Staff Reports

- **Topic:** Council and the public often hear complex staff reports only minutes before key decisions, limiting opportunities for thoughtful questions and public engagement.
- **Proposal**
  - Encourage departments to create video briefings or To/From/For style staffing briefings posted online before meetings. These in-depth briefings can be viewed in advance by Councilmembers and the public, enabling meetings to skip lengthy presentations and focus directly on Q&A. This can be piloted with a few departments before broader adoption.

6. Expanded and/or Pre-Recorded Staff Reports

- **Benefits**
  - Improves transparency and supports public engagement through better meeting preparation
  - Skip lengthy presentations and focus directly on Q&A
- **Potential Trade Offs**
  - Could be burdensome on Staff resources

Recommendations:

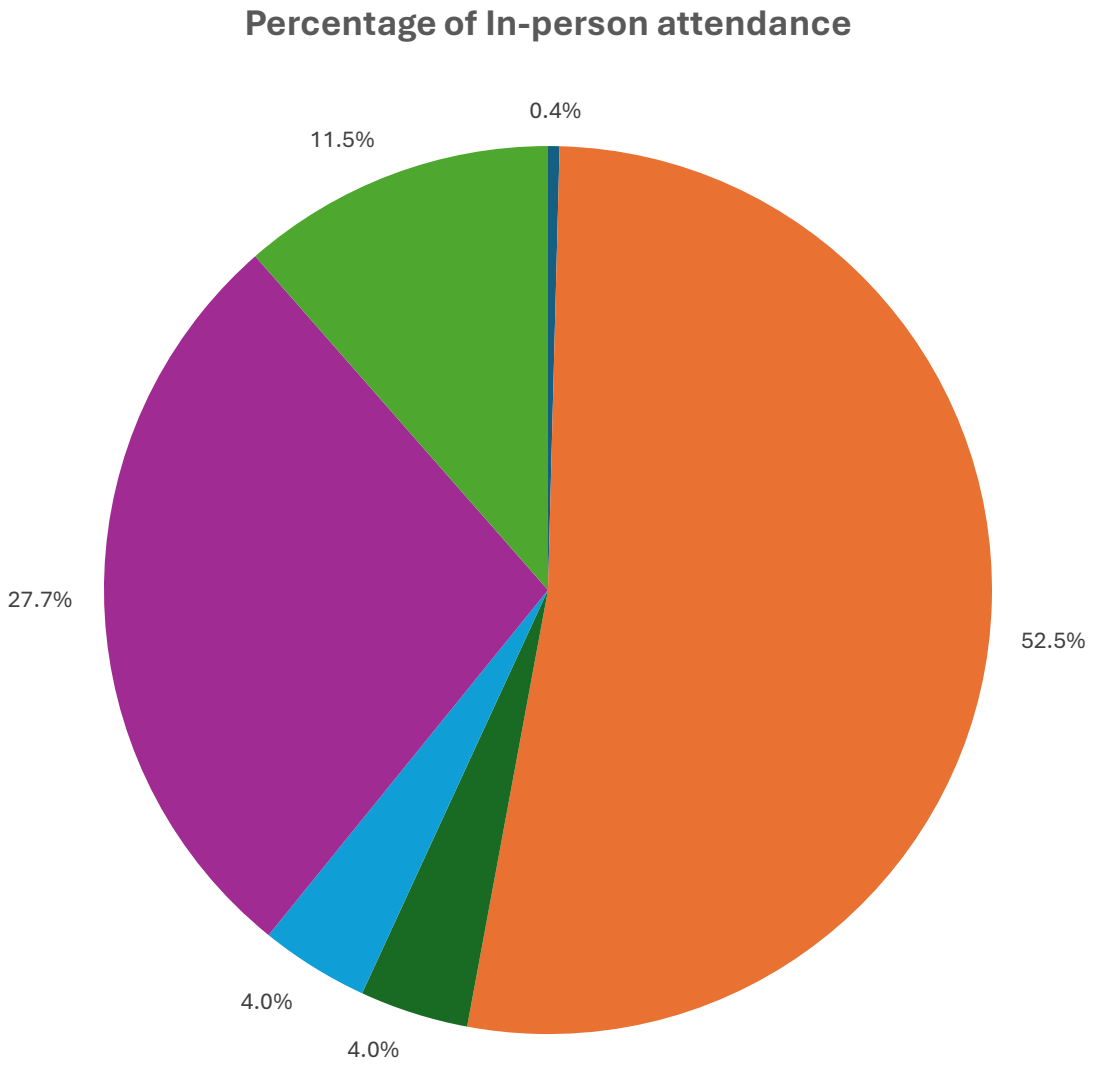
- Move to approve the proposed changes to the *Order of Business* and refer Recommendations 1–5 to City Council for approval.

- Move to recommend that City Council direct the City Manager and City Clerk to return through a T/F/F with comments and analysis on implementation of the recommendations listed under the *Changes That Need Department Research* section.

1. Have you participated in City Council Meetings in the past 12 months, and how often?

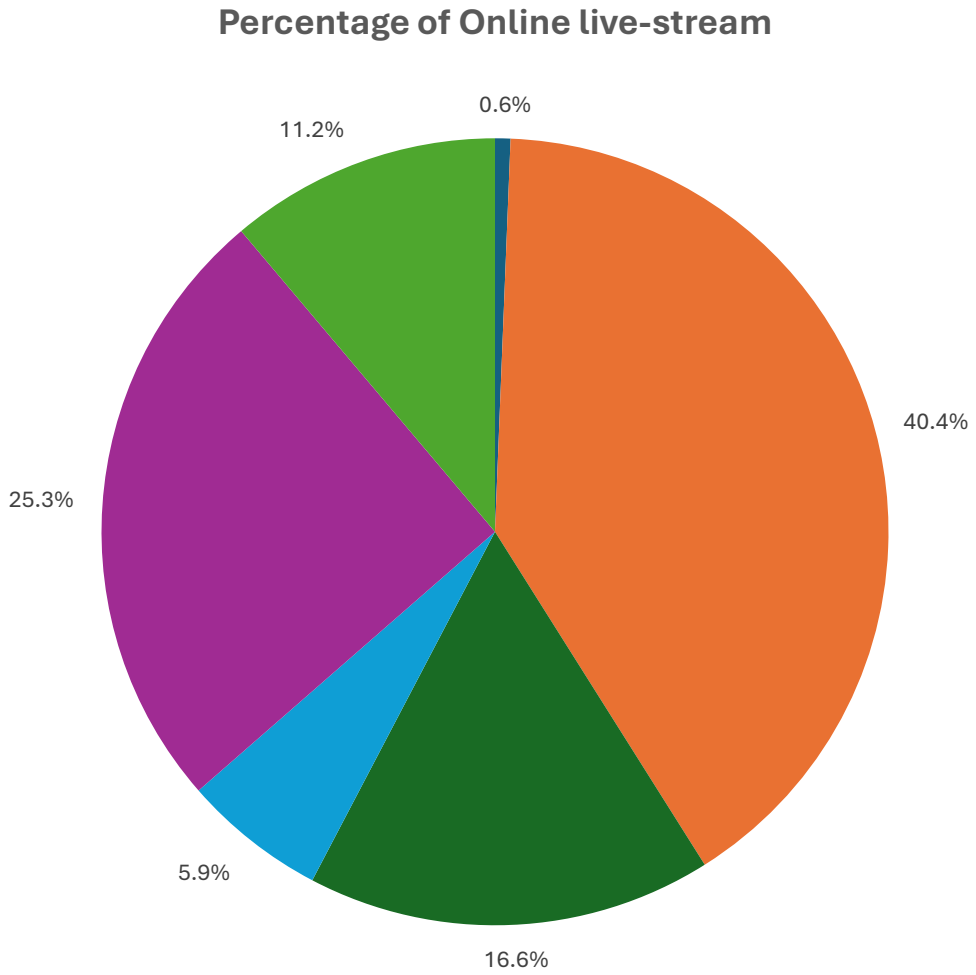
In-Person Attendance

- 52.5% - Never
- 27.7% - Rarely (1-2x/yr)
- 11.5% - Sometimes (3-6x/yr)
- 4.0% - Often (7-11x/yr)
- 4.0% - Not aware of this option
- 0.4% - Always (every meeting)



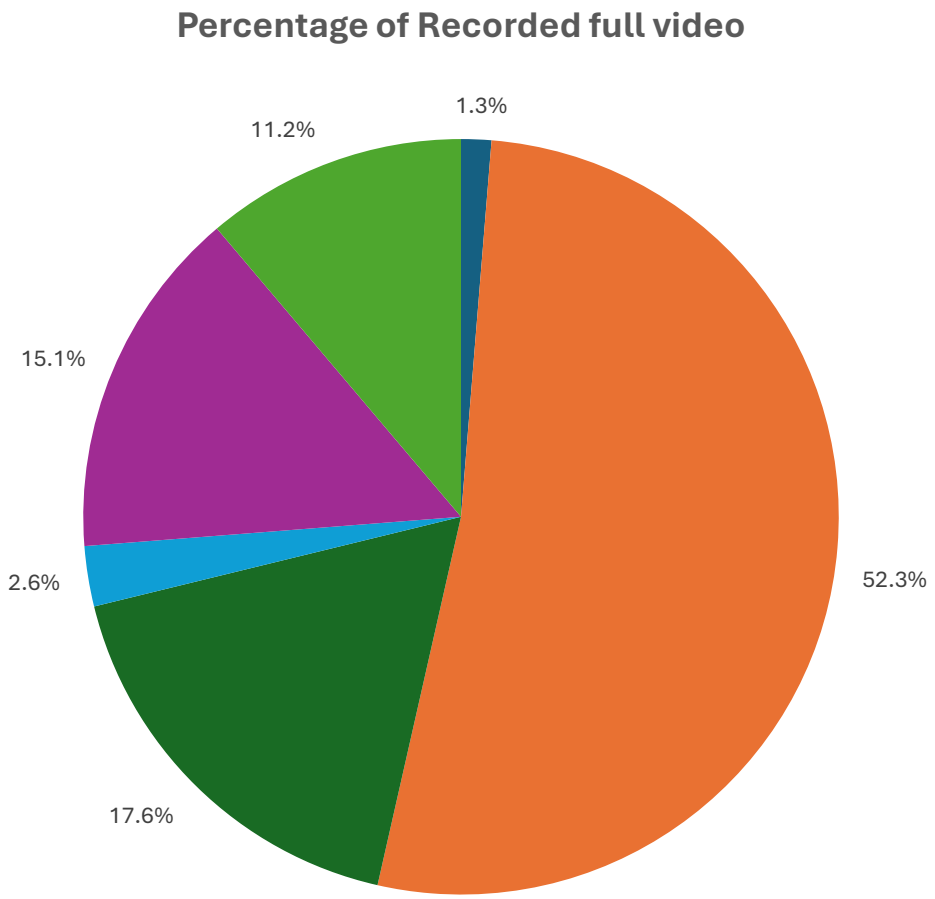
Online Live-Stream

- 40.4% - Never
- 25.3% - Rarely (1-2x/yr)
- 16.6% - Not aware of this option
- 11.2% - Sometimes (3-6x/yr)
- 5.9% - Often (7-11x/yr)
- 0.6% - Always (every meeting)



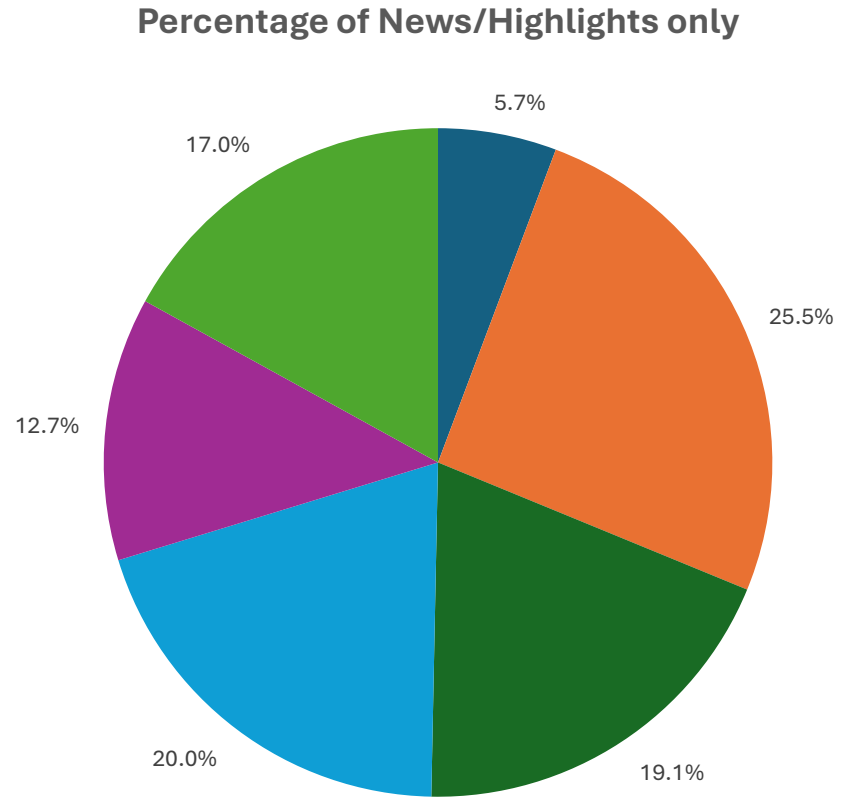
Recorded Full Video

- 52.3% - Never
- 17.6% - Not aware of this option
- 15.1% - Rarely (1-2x/yr)
- 11.2% - Sometimes (3-6x/yr)
- 2.6% - Often (7-11x/yr)
- 1.3% - Always (every meeting)



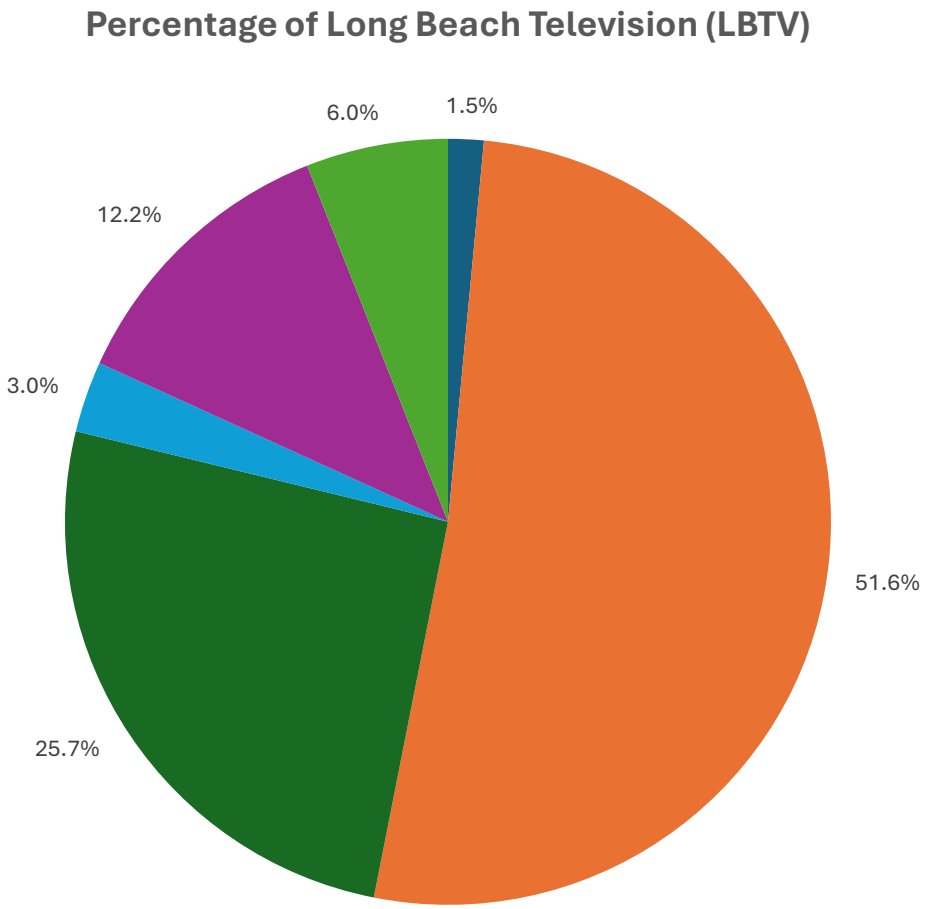
News/Highlights

- 25.5% - Never
- 20.0% - Often (7-11x/yr)
- 19.1% - Not aware of this option
- 17.0% - Sometimes (3-6x/yr)
- 12.7% - Rarely (1-2x/yr)
- 5.7% - Always (every meeting)



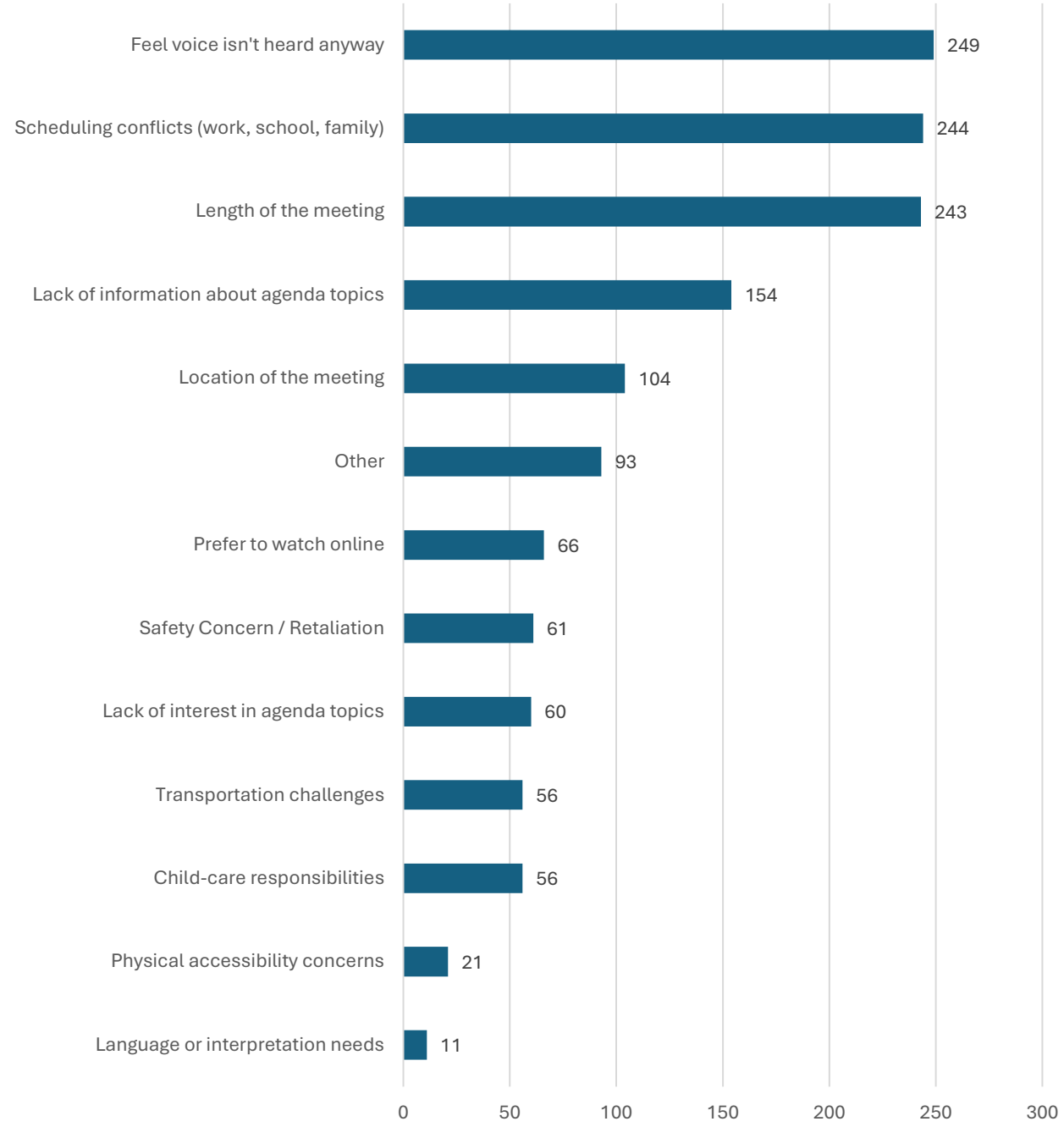
Long Beach Television (LBTV)

- 51.6% - Never
- 25.7% - Not aware of this option
- 12.2% - Rarely (1-2x/yr)
- 6.0% - Sometimes (3-6x/yr)
- 3.0% - Often (7-11x/yr)
- 1.5% - Always (every meeting)

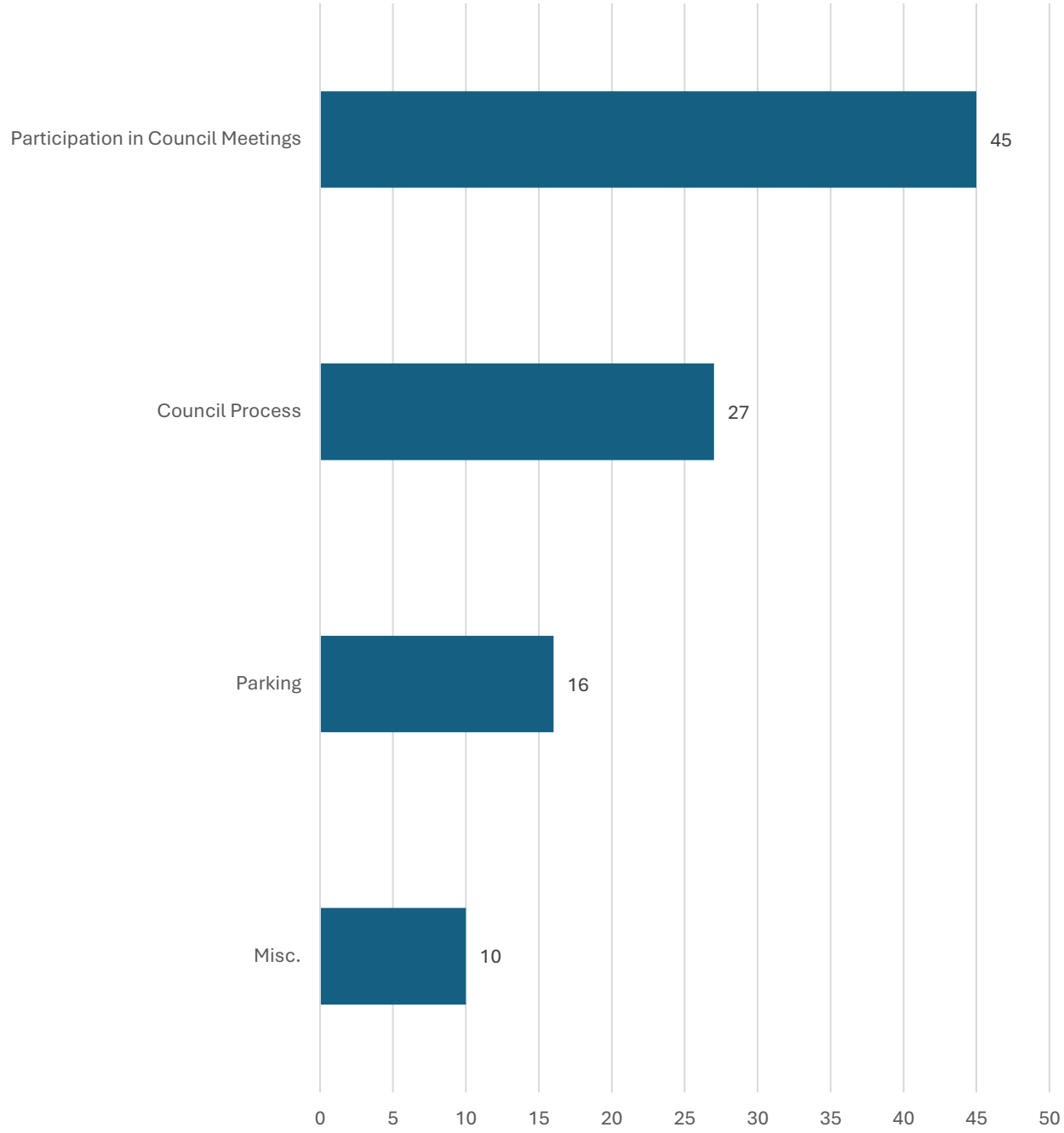


2. Which of these barriers keep you from attending in person? (If so please, select all that apply)

Which barriers keep you from attending in person?

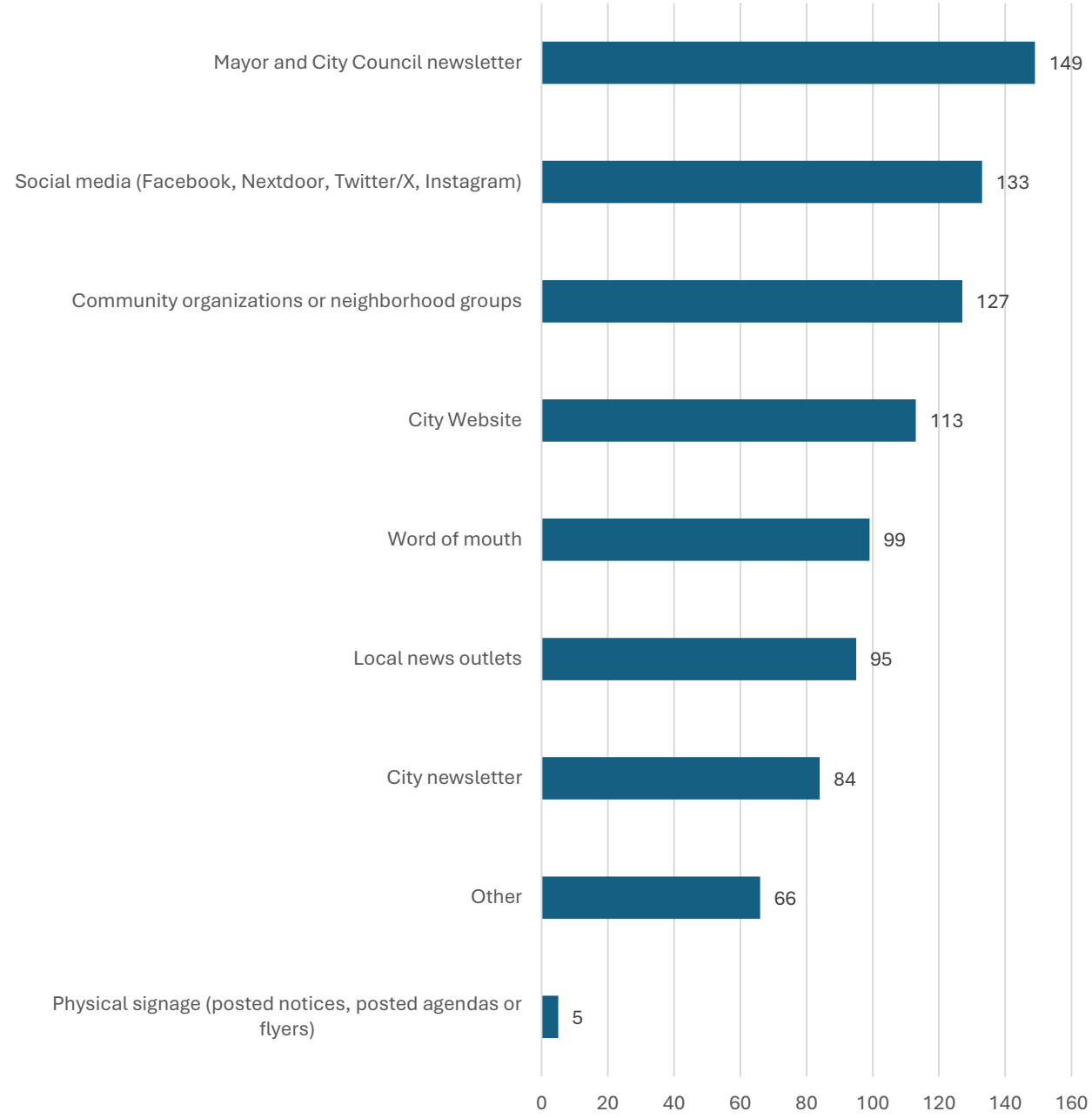


Other Categories

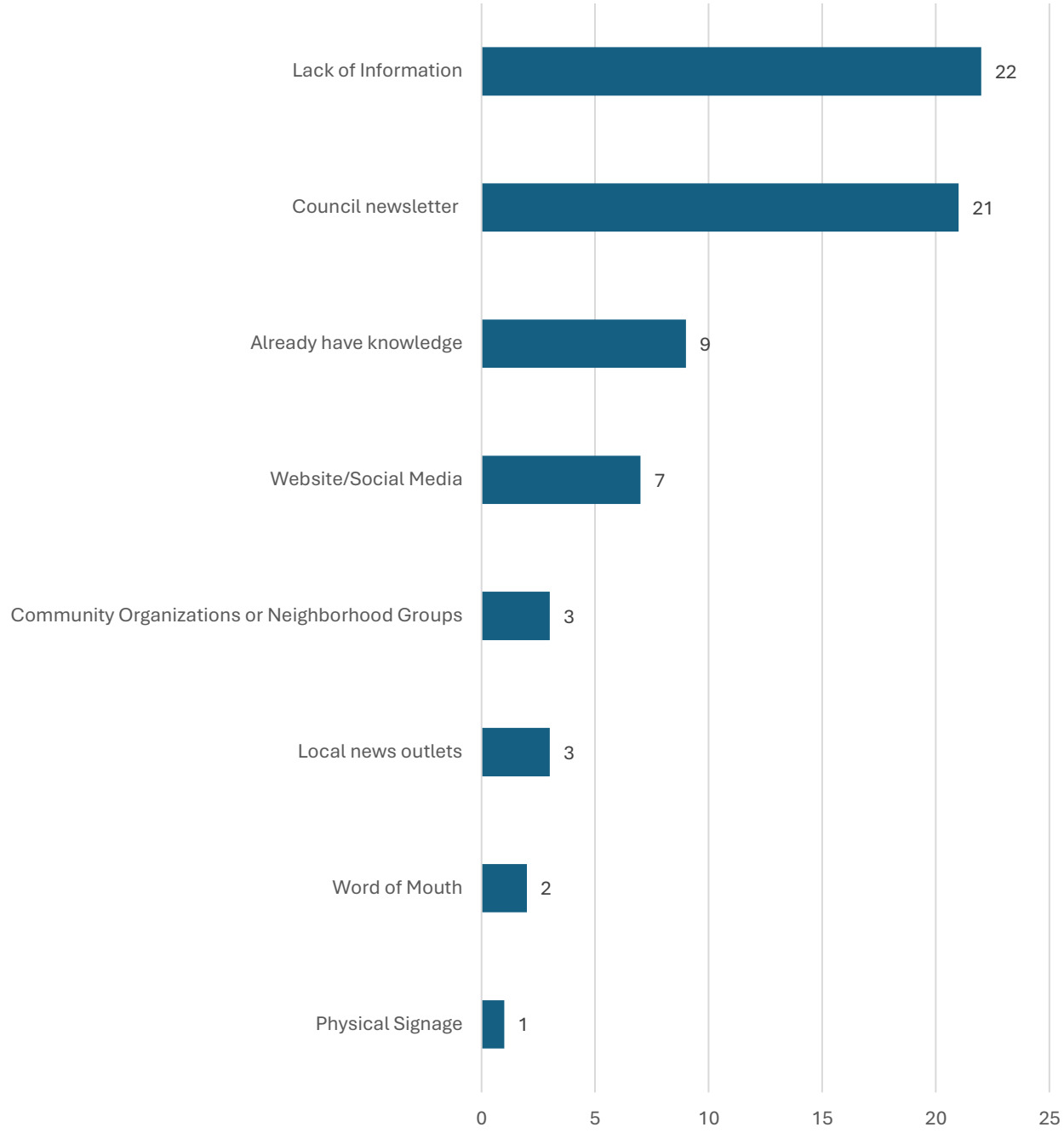


3. How do you usually learn about upcoming City Council meetings? (Select all that apply)

How do you usually learn about upcoming City Council meetings?

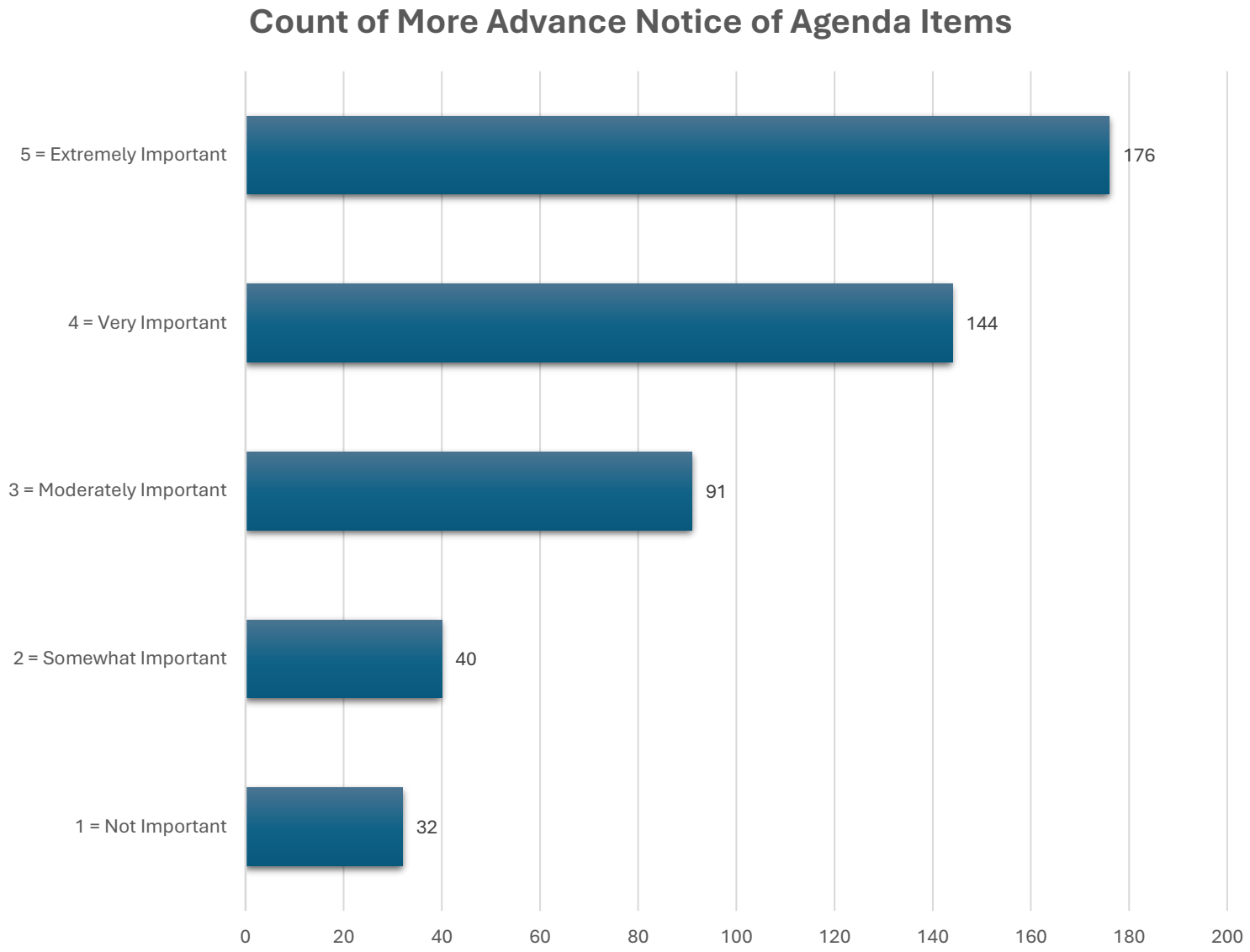


Other Category

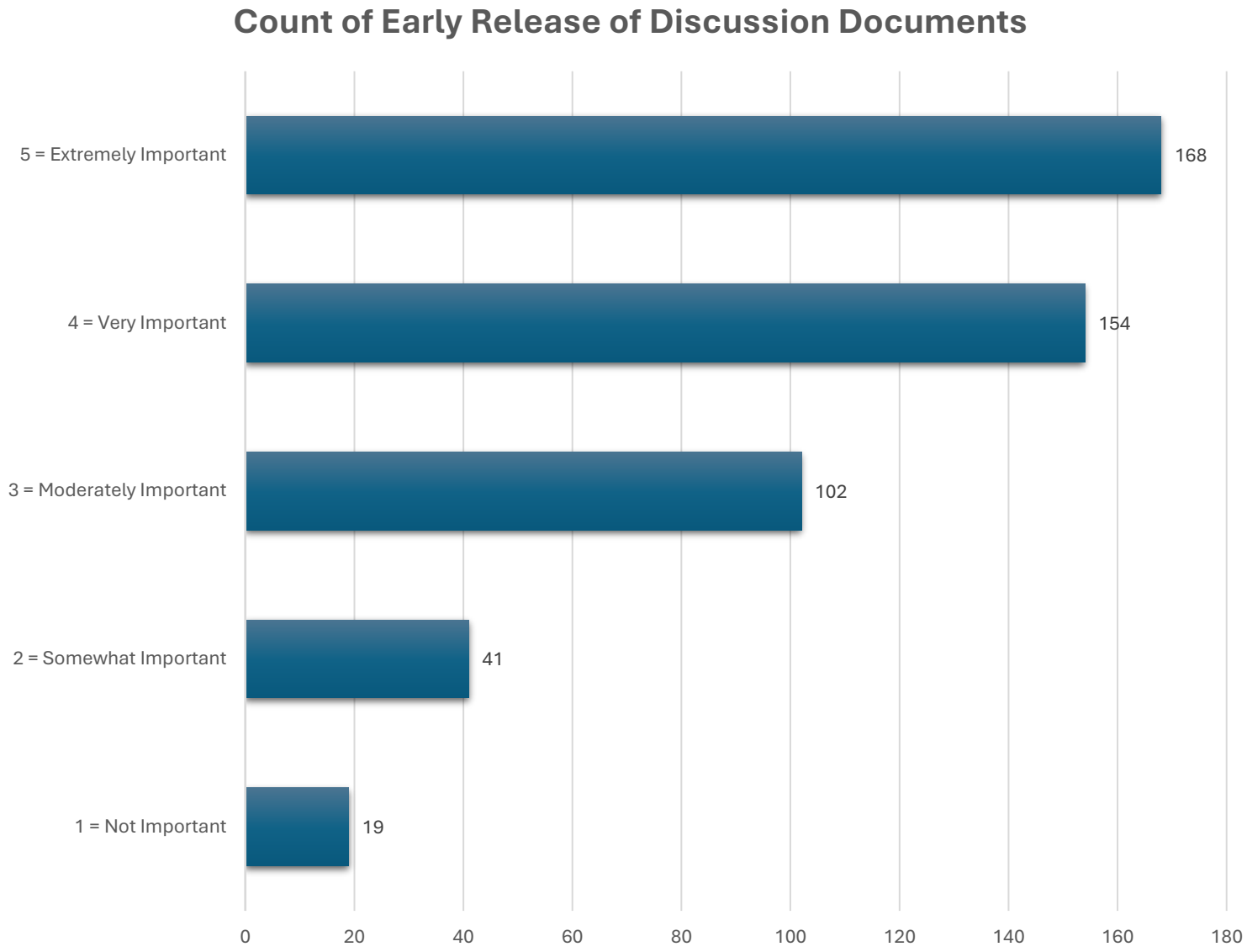


4. How important are the following features in encouraging your participation?

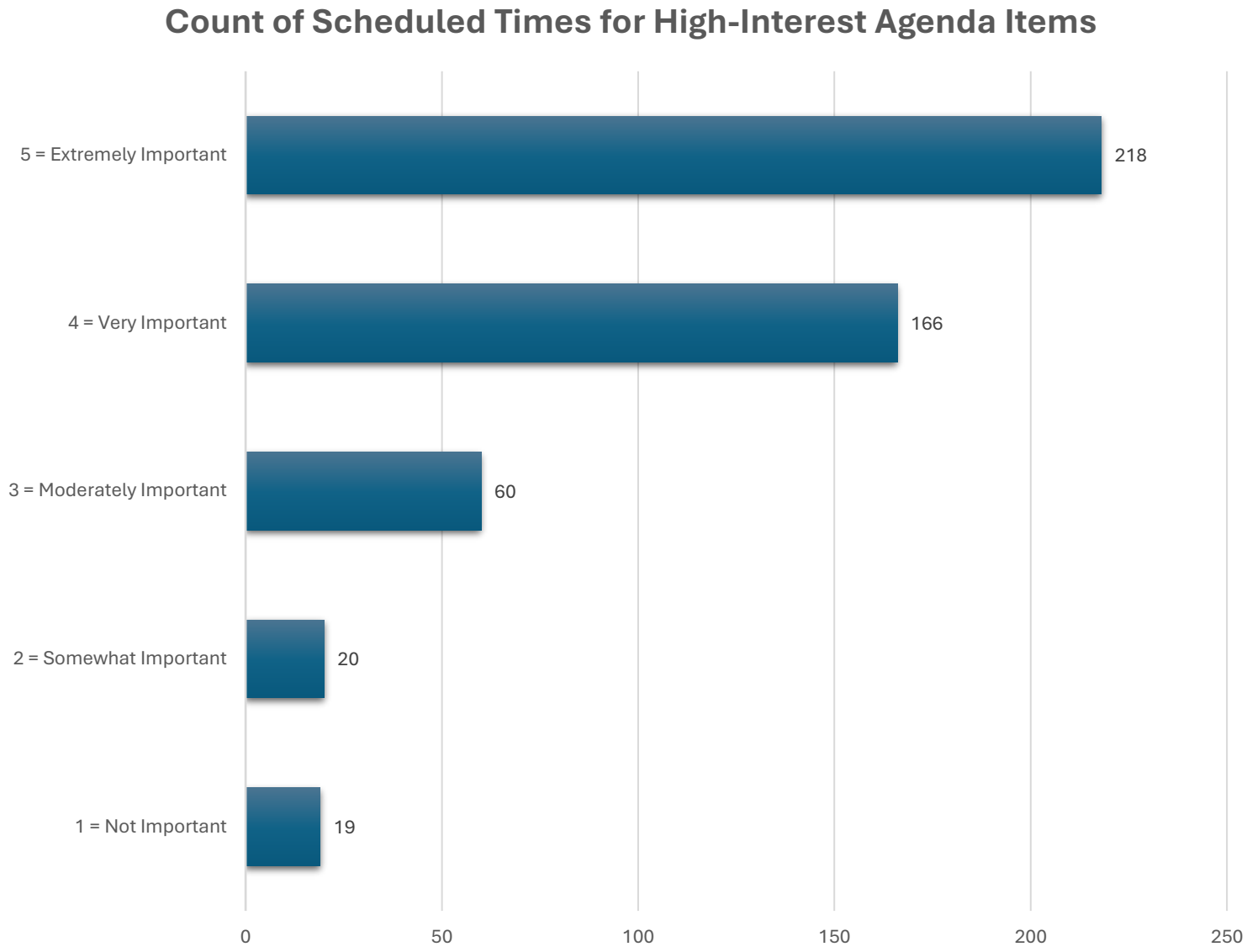
More Advance Notice of Agenda Items



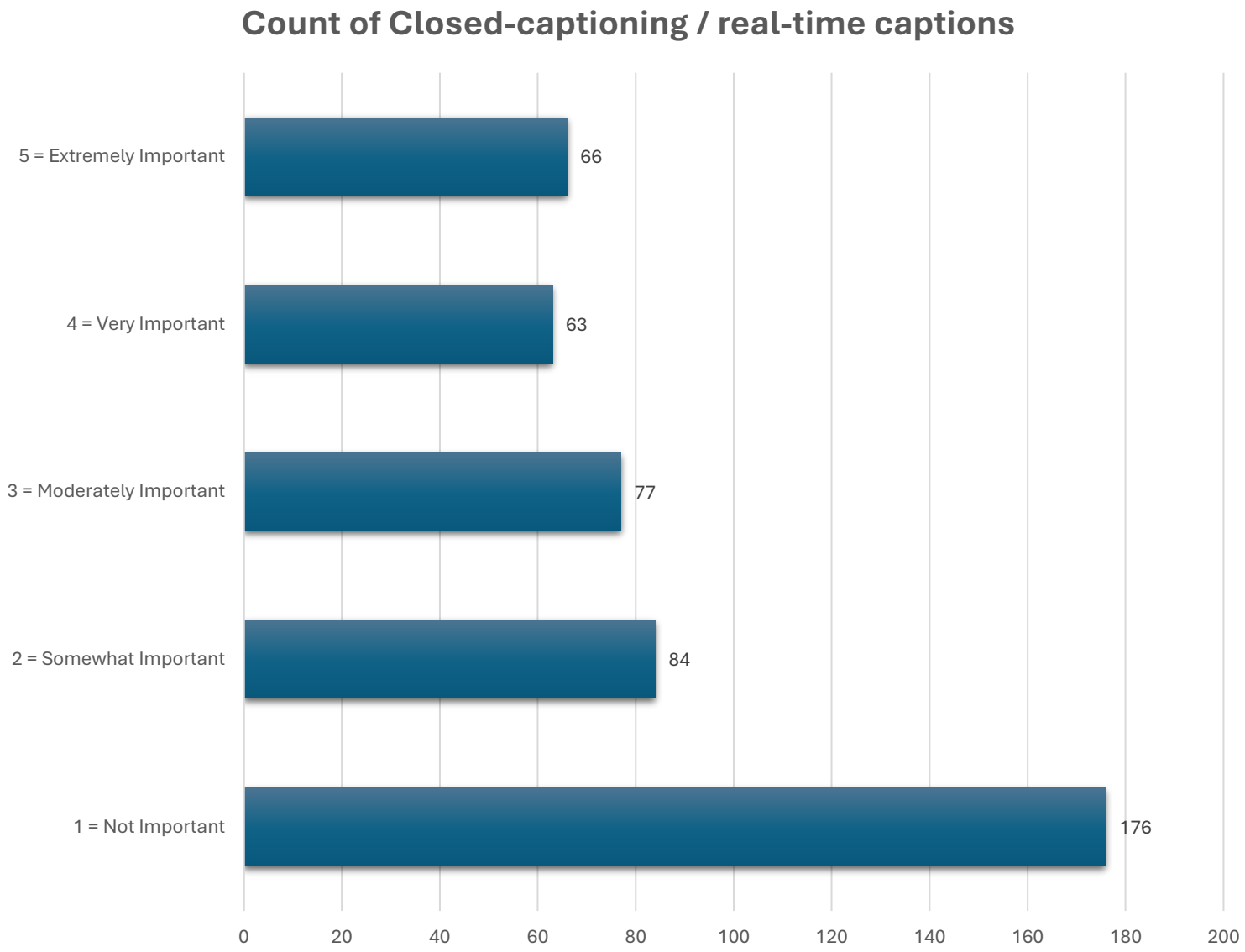
Early Release of Discussion Documents



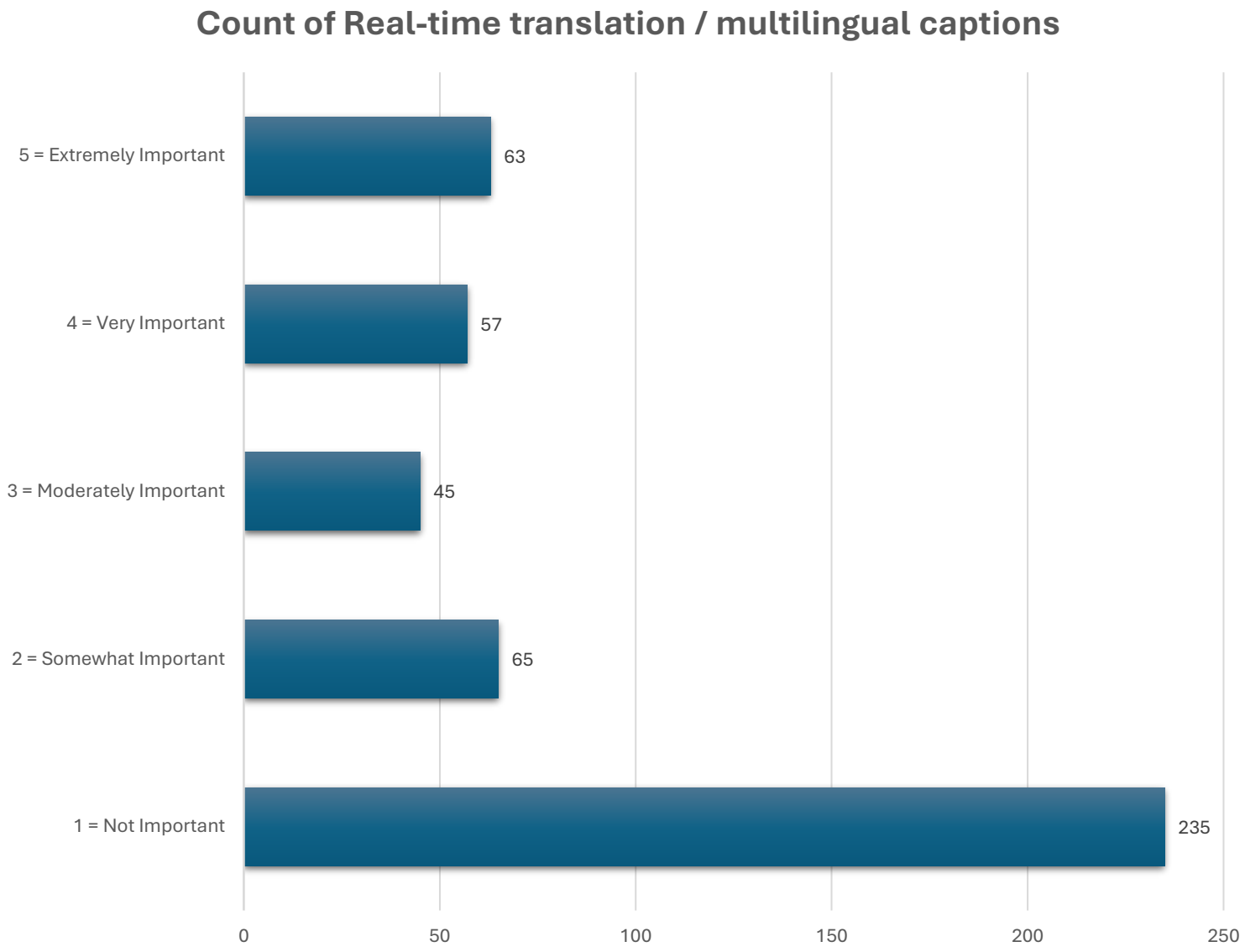
Scheduled Times for High-Interest Agenda Items



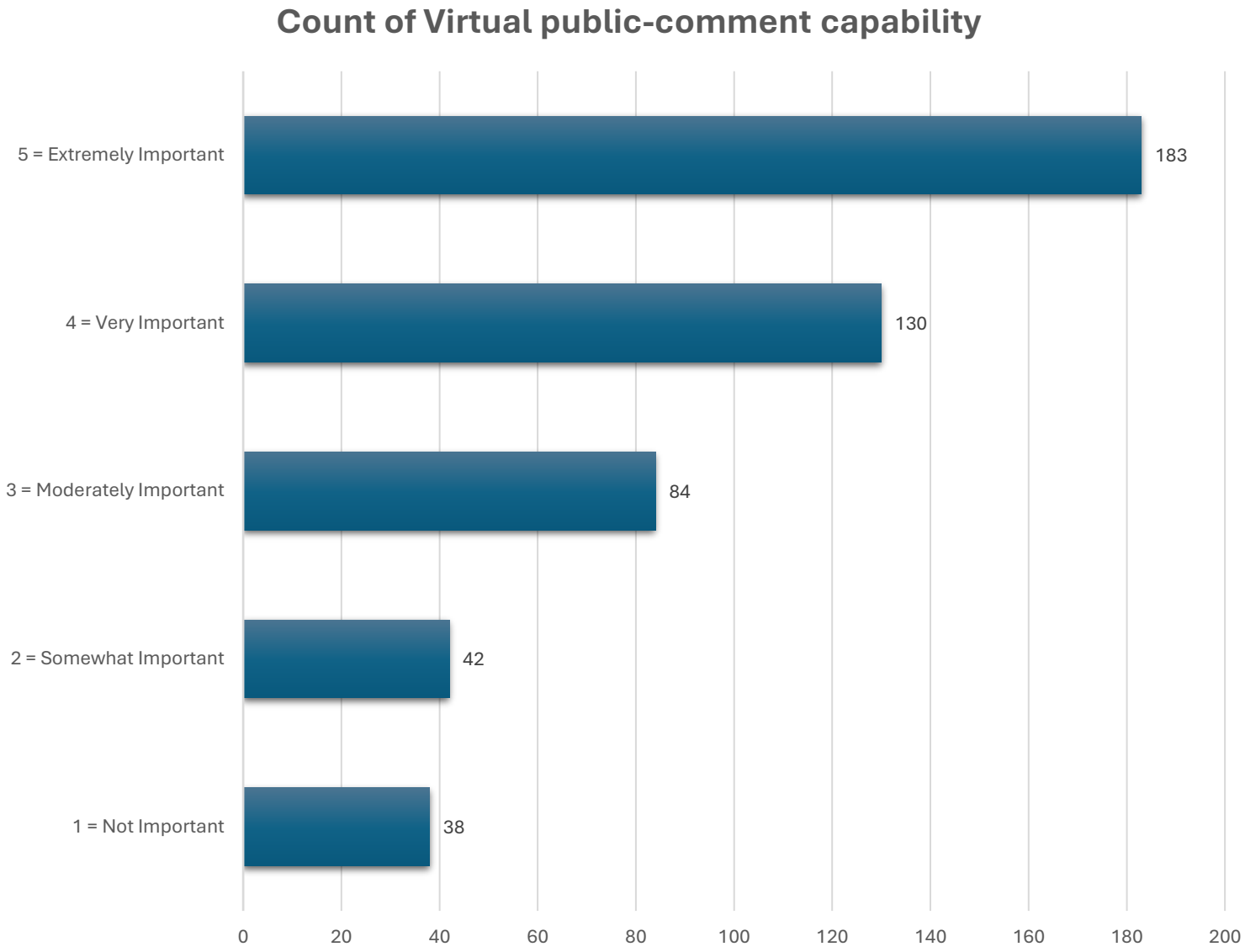
Closed-Captioning / Real-Time Captions



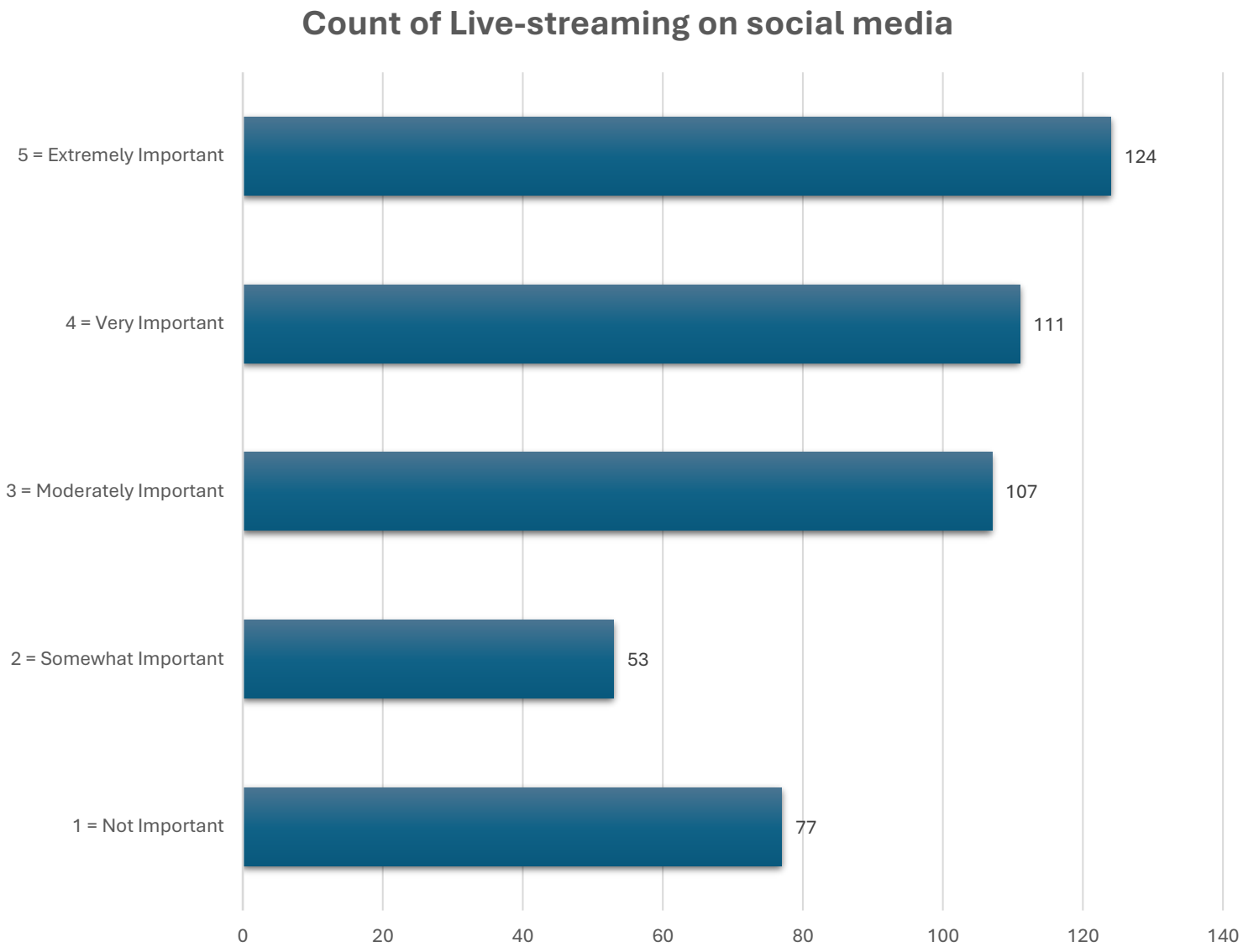
Real-Time Translation / Multilingual Captions



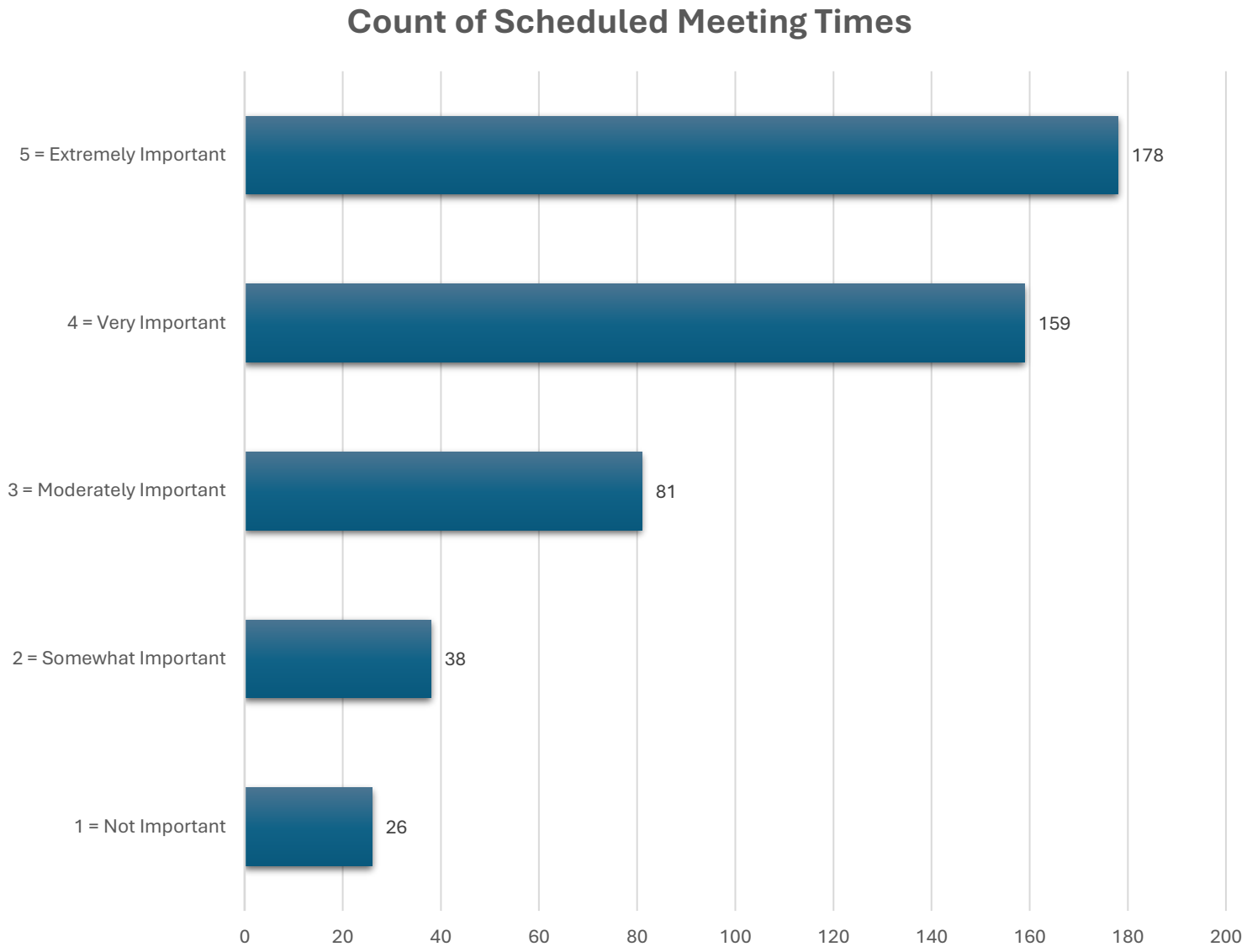
Virtual Public-Comment Capability



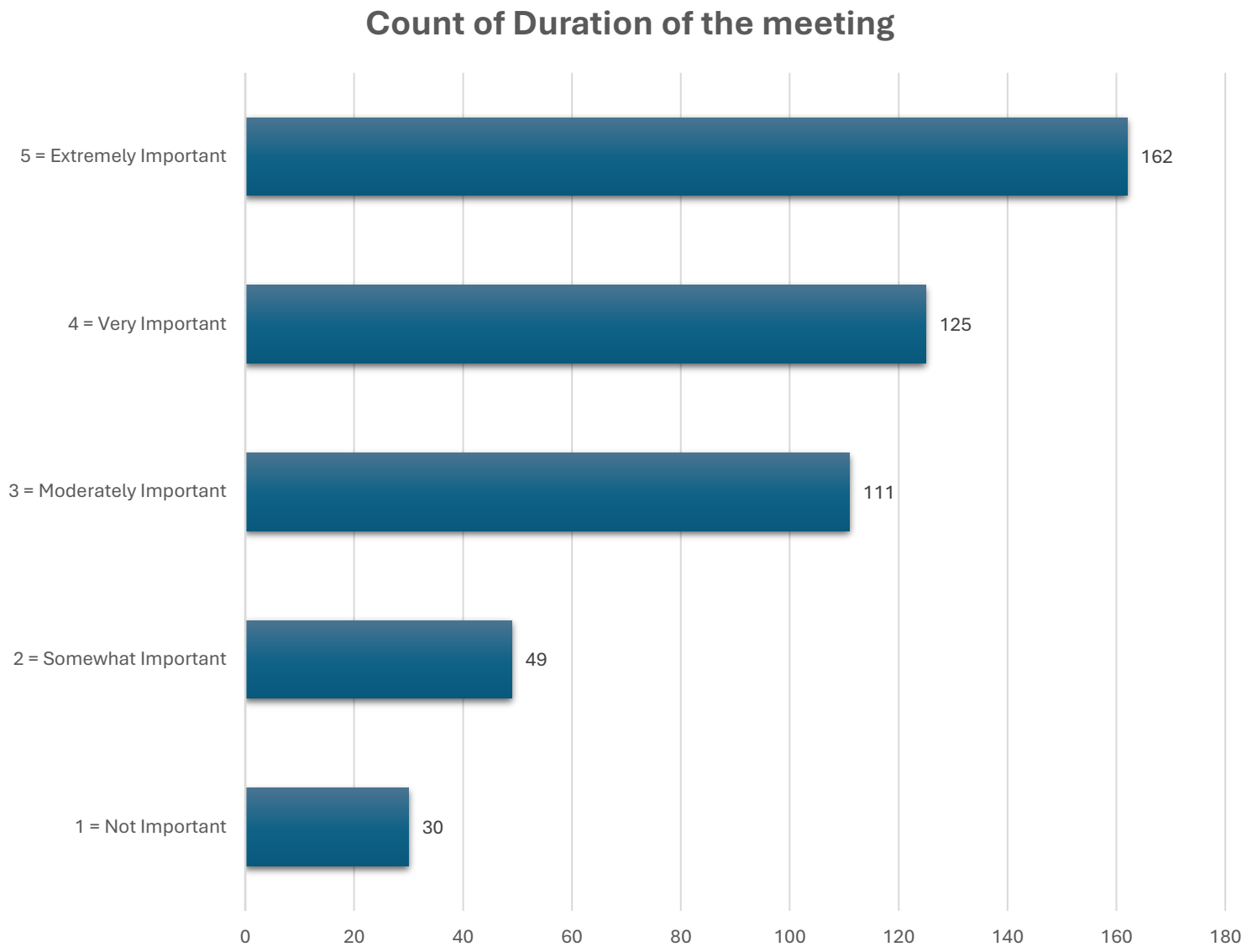
Live-Streaming on Social Media



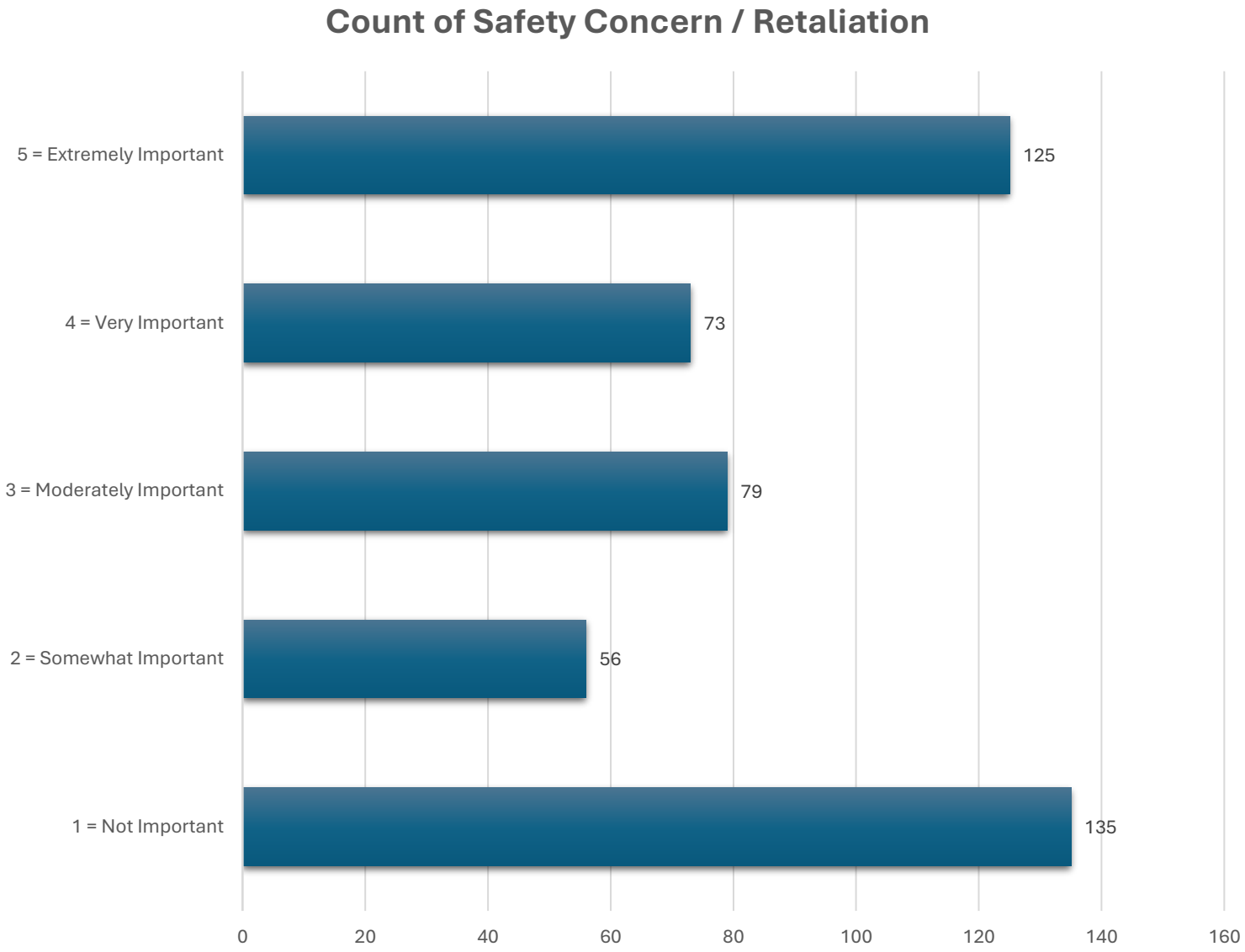
Scheduled Meeting Times



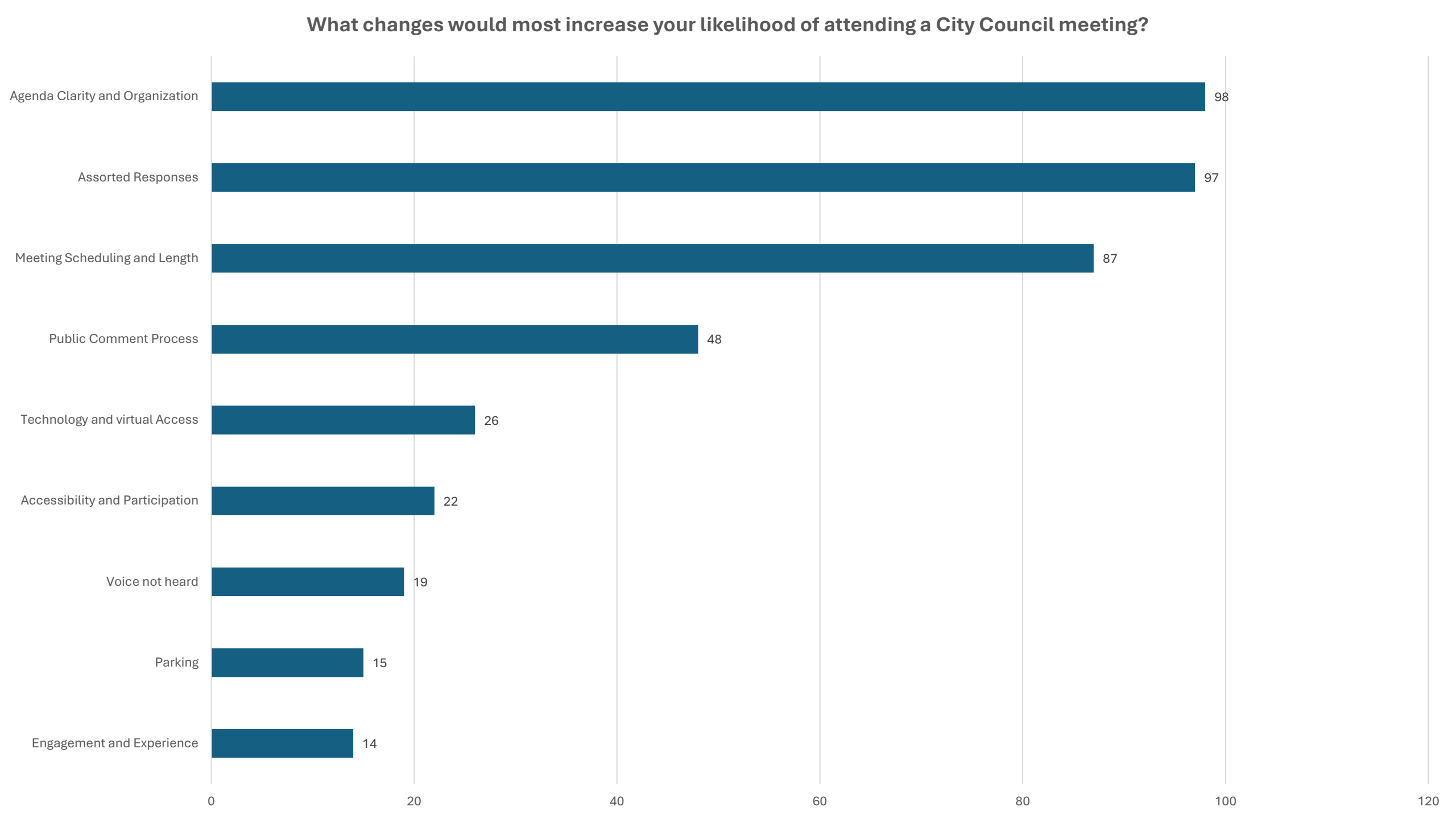
Duration of the Meeting



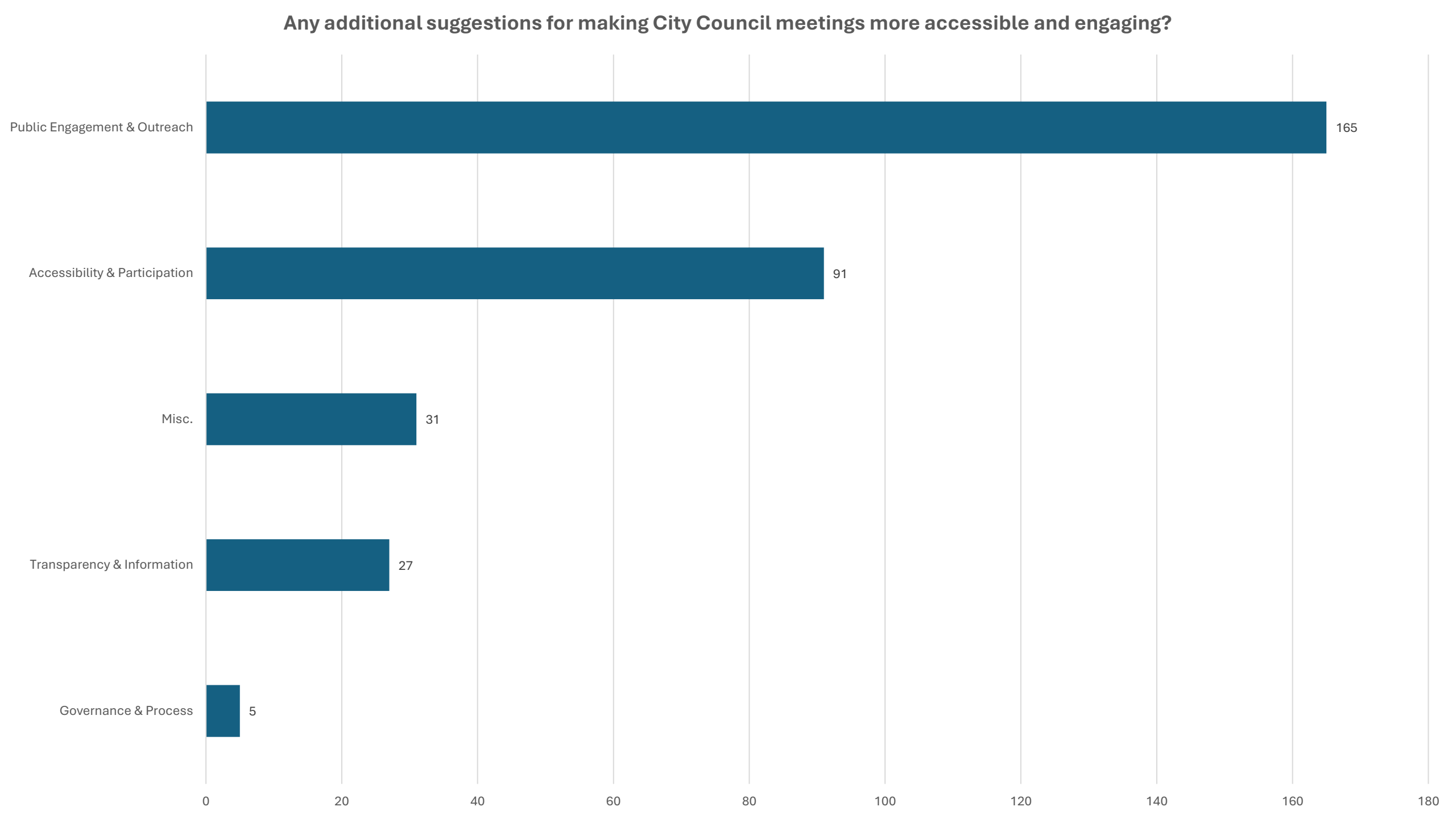
Safety Concern / Retaliation



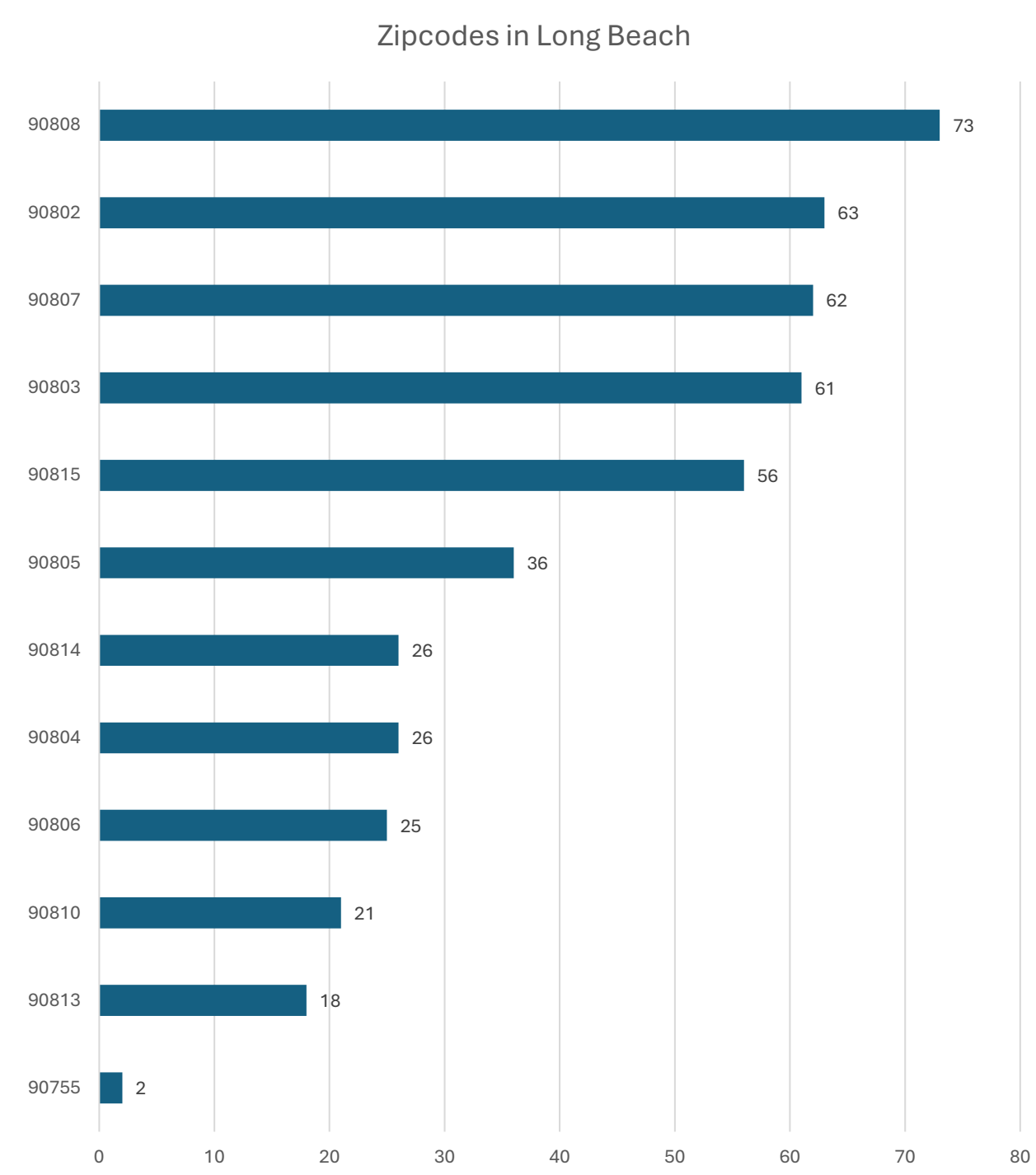
5. What changes would most increase your likelihood of attending a City Council meeting?

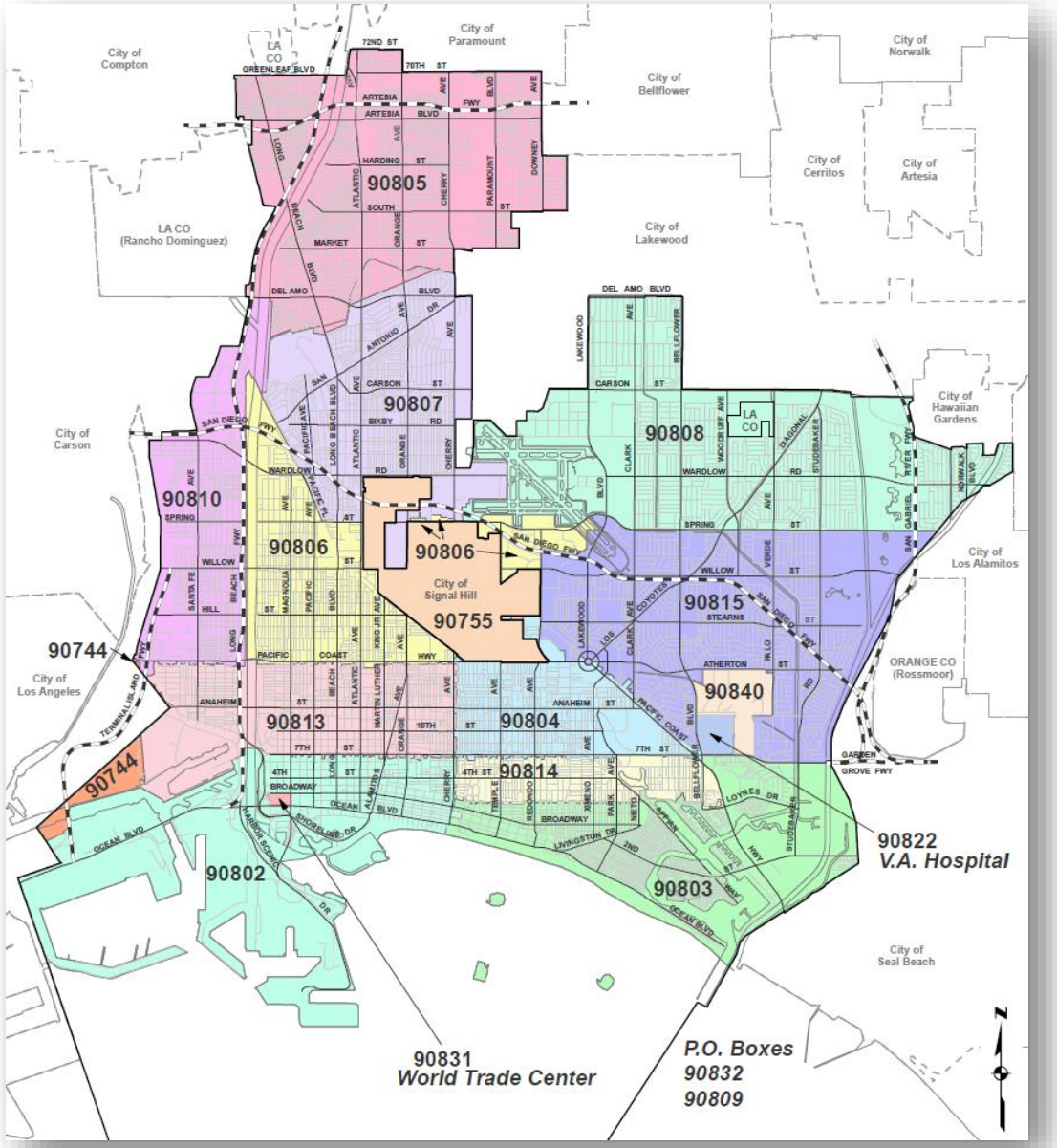

What changes would most increase your likelihood of attending a City Council meeting?
Agenda Clarity and Organization
98
Assorted Responses
97
Meeting Scheduling and Length
87
Public Comment Process
48
Technology and virtual Access
26
Accessibility and Participation
22
Voice not heard
19
Parking
15
Engagement and Experience
14
0
20
40
60
80
100
120

6. Any additional suggestions for making City Council meetings more accessible and engaging?


Any additional suggestions for making City Council meetings more accessible and engaging?
Public Engagement & Outreach
165
Accessibility & Participation
91
Misc.
31
Transparency & Information
27
Governance & Process
5
0
20
40
60
80
100
120
140
160
180

7. What is your Zip Code?

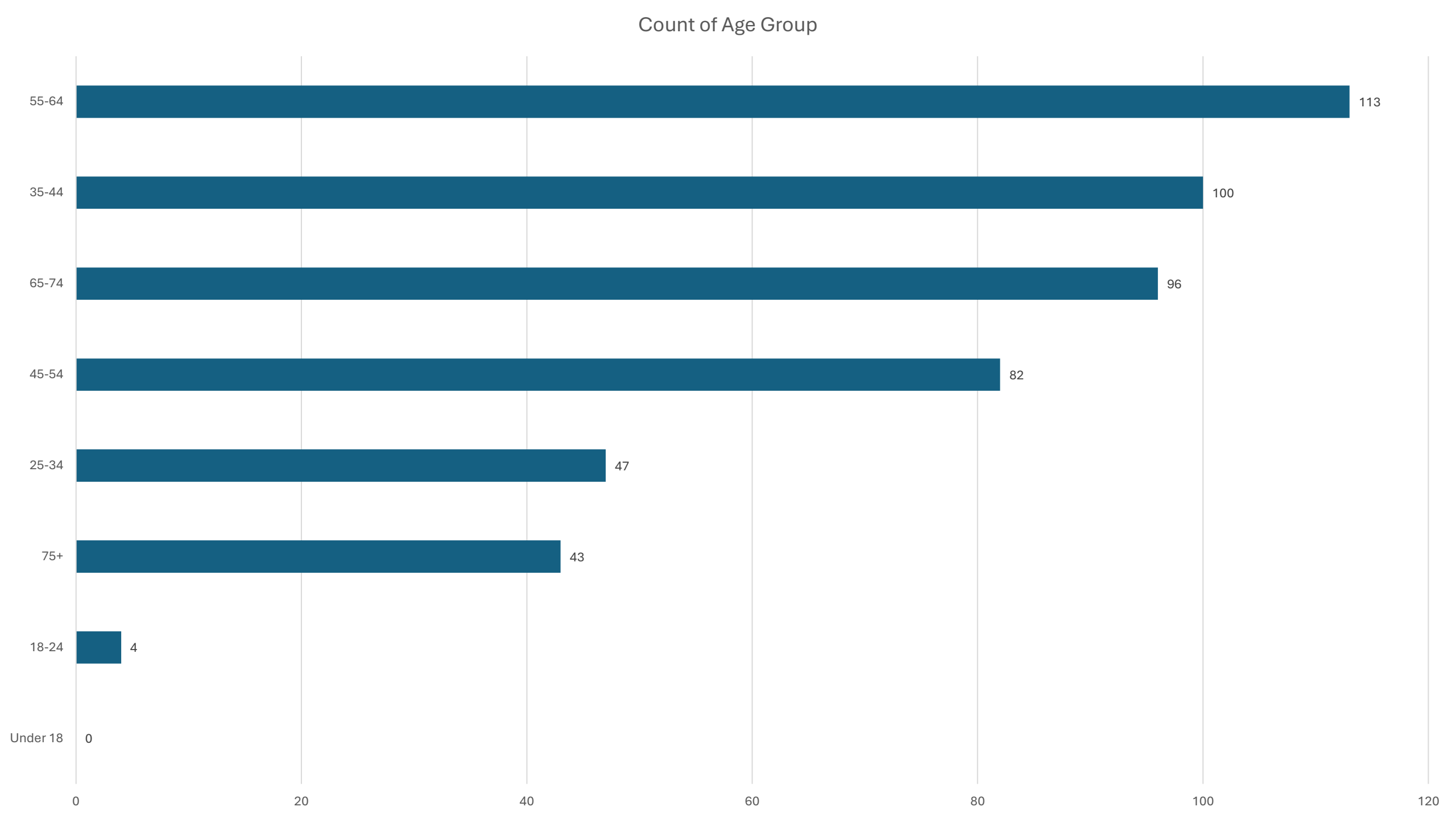




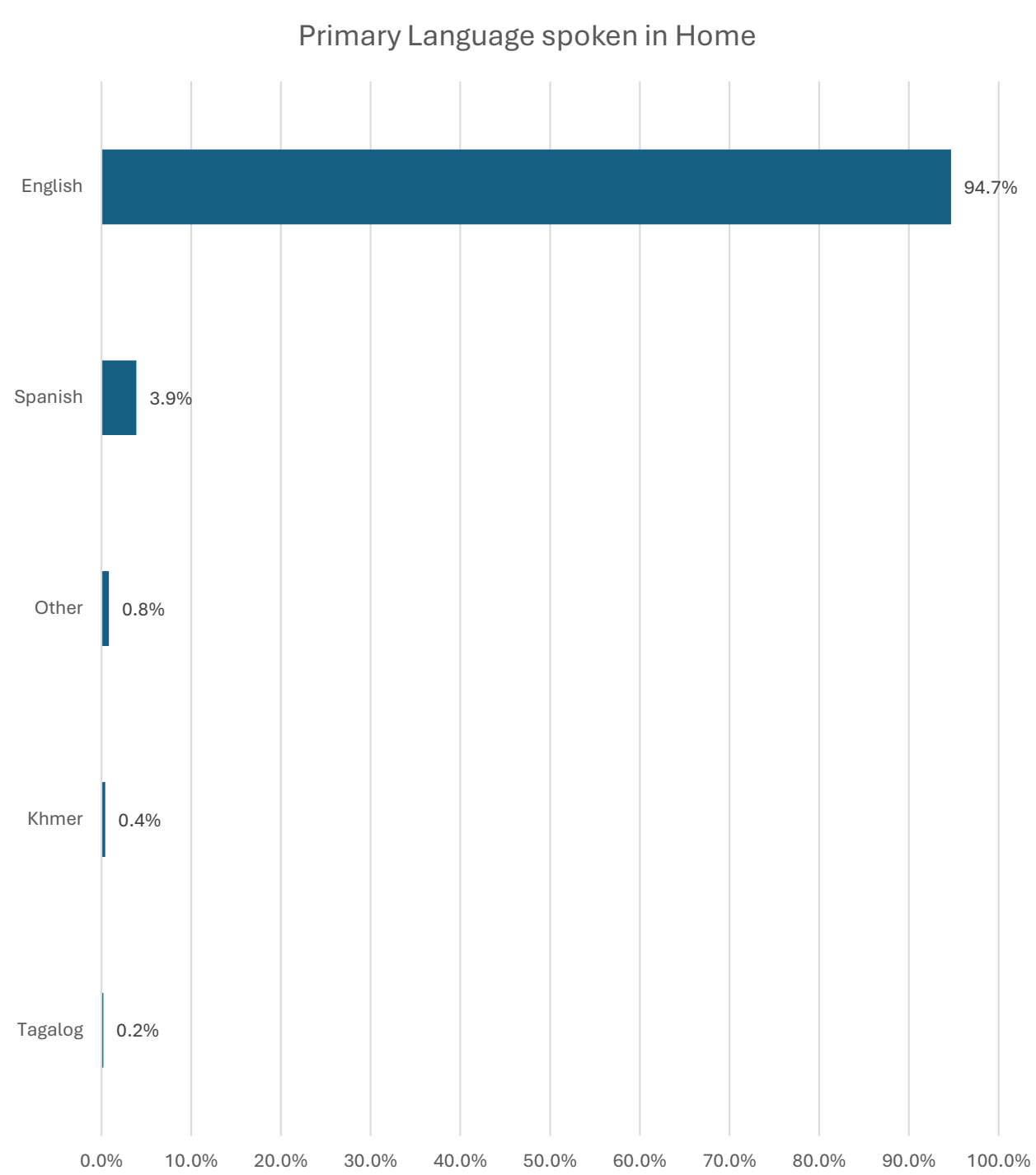
Other Zip Codes Mentioned

- 90731, 90812, 90720, 90266, 90041, 90897, 90017, 90916, 90896, 90255, 90011

8. Please select your age group


Count of Age Group
55-64
113
35-44
100
65-74
96
45-54
82
25-34
47
75+
43
18-24
4
Under 18
0
0
20
40
60
80
100
120

9. What is the primary language spoken in your home?



Other Languages Spoken

- Punjabi
- Italian/English
- English/Spanish