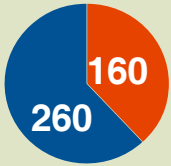


League Civility Survey

In August 2022, the League conducted a Civility Survey, to help us understand and communicate the current environment and related civility strategies and best practices of cities across Iowa. The survey was distributed to all city clerks, administrators and managers, and elected officials for which we had an email on file. We received about 260 responses, from a range of city size and location in Iowa.

Council Civility with Each Other



Of 260 responses, **160** indicated that their city council has agreed upon standards for council member decorum and meeting participation. The information below shows of these, how many had specific standards for civil discourse:

	✓ YES	X NO
IN-PERSON VERBAL COMMUNICATION?	114	12
WRITTEN COMMUNICATION?	77	44
ONLINE?	57	59

97 participants said they believe these Council member standards have helped support civil discourse, while **28** said they did not.

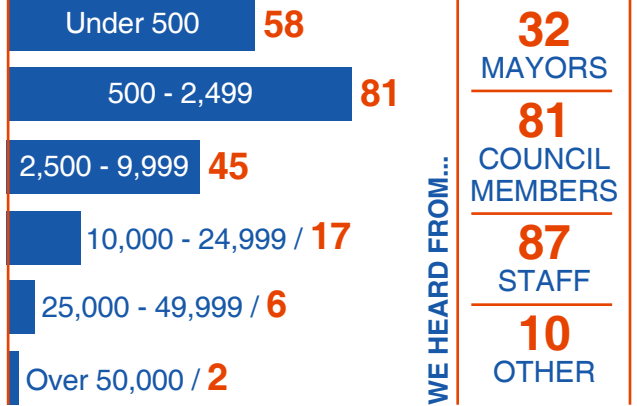
The League asked if the city council had challenges with a lack of civility with each other in various settings:



58 participants said these issues have increased over the last few years, and **26** said they had not.

- ➔ **04** | EVERY MEETING
 - ➔ **12** | MONTHLY
 - ➔ **20** | RARELY
- We asked how often cities have challenges with civil discourse among Council.**
*none said occasionally

POPULATION RANGE / SURVEY PARTICIPANTS



Public Civility

106

117 indicated they did not

Indicated that their city council has published standards for public decorum and participation at meetings.

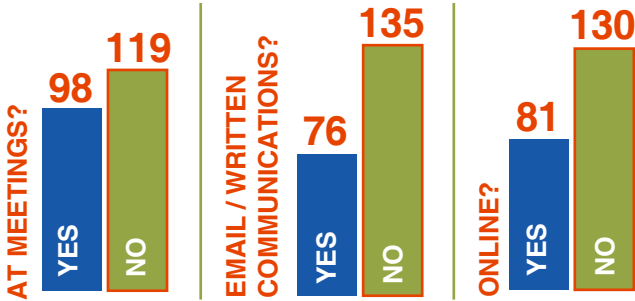
The information below shows of these, how many had specific standards for public decorum:



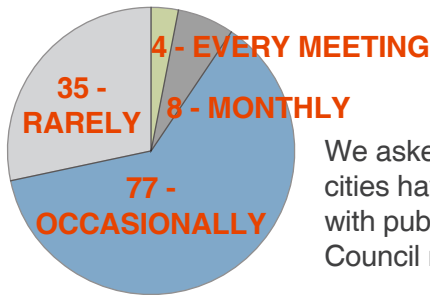
Public Civility

continued

The League asked if the city council had challenges with a lack of civility from the public in various settings:



93 participants said these issues have increased over the last few years, and 31 said they had not.



We asked how often cities have challenges with public discourse at Council meetings.

The League asked if the mayor of council had to have members of the public removed.



Do you believe your published standards for public decorum or meeting participation have helped support civil discourse?



If applicable, how often does Mayor or Council need to interrupt or end public comment due to the public not following time constraints or a lack of civility?

8 - EVERY MEETING | 3 - MONTHLY | 40 - OCCASIONALLY
21 - ONLY DURING CONTENTIOUS TOPICS
126 - RARELY | 11 - NOT APPLICABLE

DO YOU HAVE...

	YES	NO
Time limit established for all public comments during <u>open/citizens forum</u> ?	57	154
Time limit established for all public comments during <u>public hearings</u> ?	31	180
Visual display of materials and presentations during the meeting so all attendees can view?	126	84
Council meetings live streamed?	58	152
Council meeting recordings posted to website or social media channels?	74	135

Meeting Format, Transparency, And Best Practices



184 Council meetings are held in-person



29 Hybrid

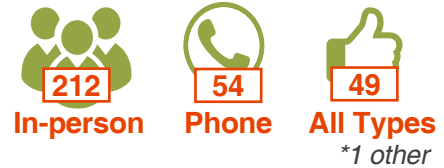
1 - Virtually | 0 - Phone | 3 - Other



60 CITIES Require members of the public to register or sign up to speak, and 155 do not.

The League asked if the Council has a well-defined process and standards for public comments: 164 indicated yes, and 53 indicated no. Of those responding yes, 126 said the process is published or readily available during meetings, and 36 said it was not.

How does the Council allow for different types of public comment during meetings?



When is public comment allowed during your council meetings?

101 Open/citizens forum and public hearings only
8 Public hearings only
71 On all agenda items | 33 Other

What is the time allotted for each member of the public's comments during...

OPEN/CITIZENS FORUM



PUBLIC HEARINGS

