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Council Meeting: 05/12/2026

Agenda Item No: 10.B & 10.C

From: [William Ha](#)
To: [WebMail - CCD](#)
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Regarding aligning the municipal elections - I believe ultimately doing so is better for civic engagement, and will better reflect the will of the people. This past April was the first Whittier City election I participated in, and though my impression is that the engagement level was high, relatively speaking, the city can better capture the will of the people consistently if more of the residents simply vote. I hope future candidates can use this year's elections as a blueprint to keep engagement up, such that regardless of the amount of the names on the ballot, they are able to think at a local level.

Regarding public comment - I noticed last session's video was uploaded to YouTube - this was a good decision. YouTube generates captions for accessibility, and these videos are easy to find. I would like to see the city join in with many other municipalities, streaming the entire meeting live on YouTube. This is good for discoverability overall as it comes recommended on a person's YouTube feed.

Please let the principle of transparency and engagement be the guide here. Last city council's decision to close off public comment is like a struggling entrepreneur turning away paying customers because they don't wish to be hassled. Public comment is important and necessary for civic engagement. I hope the council turns this up, and keeps this up.

William Ha
District 4

CC: CM; DCMs; CA; Council; Original to CC; Public Binder; Department