



Report Number: EC2026-0306

Meeting: Executive Committee

Meeting Date: 2026 May 05

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: Fair Timing and Randomization for Question Period - Amendment to Procedure Bylaw 42M2025

Sponsoring Member(s) of Council: Landon Johnston

WHEREAS only three questions are permitted during Question Period at Council meetings under sections 61 and 66 of Bylaw 42M2025;

AND WHEREAS Members currently submit a “Request to Speak – QP” electronically to join the queue;

AND WHEREAS the queue currently activates only when the Chair strikes the gavel, often after the publicly posted start time;

AND WHEREAS this gives the Chair an unfair advantage because only the Chair knows the exact gavel moment;

AND WHEREAS the electronic system already records precise timestamps on synchronized computers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee forward this Notice of Motion to the 2026 May 21st Regular Meeting of Council for consideration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council direct Administration to bring forward amendments to Procedure Bylaw # 42M2025, to insert the following new subsections immediately after section 61(2),

(3) All Members shall compete equally for the three (3) available question period slots.

(4) Members may submit a request to speak at any time starting at the posted scheduled start time of the Council meeting as shown on the Agenda and Council Calendar and continuing until the Chair calls question period.

(5) The validity of each request to speak on question period shall be determined solely by the electronic system’s timestamp. Any submission made before the posted Council meeting start time shall be deemed invalid. The time at which the Chair strikes the gavel or calls the meeting to order has no bearing on when the request to speak for question period window opens.

(6) The exact request to speak timing within the window does not determine priority.

If more than three Members submit requests to speak within this window, the three slots shall be assigned by a transparent random draw conducted by the City Clerk. After the random draw, the Chair shall announce the result and determine the order in which the three questions are asked.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council direct Administration to bring forward the necessary amending bylaw directly to the earliest practicable meeting of Council. No later than the end of Q2, 2026.

ISC: UNRESTRICTED

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of Motion Checklist