

City of Seattle Office of Hearing Examiner
2022 Hearing Examiner Rules of Practice and Procedure Amendments
Public Hearing Schedule to Receive Oral Comments

Pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code §3.02.030,¹ the Seattle Hearing Examiner proposes amendments to the *Hearing Examiner Rules of Practice and Procedure* (HERs). The amendments are sweeping in scope, and if adopted will result in changes throughout the Hearing Examiner Rules. The amendments include but are not limited to rules for remote hearings, rules for mediation, updating filing and exhibit requirements, and re-formatting the entire document.

The Office will be conducting a multi-step public engagement process to invite comments. Elements of this process include early distribution of draft HERs to all listserv users, and posting on our website in February 2022. In addition, open public hearings, some with various user group emphasis, are scheduled according to the schedule listed below. Following a review period, the draft HERs will be re-drafted based on comments received during initial public hearings and the initial comment period, with a final comment period and public meeting to be held later in 2022 prior to adoption of the amendments.

Most initial public hearings will have a focus on specific hearing participant groups, e.g. appellants, applicants and/or City Departments. All public hearings are open to the public – anyone is welcome to attend the meetings (by Zoom and/or in-person attendance), comments from hearing attendees not related to the focus of the meeting may be accepted by the Hearing Examiner if time permits. Written comments on the proposed amendments may be submitted no later than June 30, 2022 by e-mail to hearing.examiner@seattle.gov or by mail to Office of Hearing Examiner, PO Box 94729, Seattle, WA 98124. A copy of the proposed amendments may be accessed at www.seattle.gov/examiner or by calling 206-684-0521.

I. Focused Initial Public Hearings

- A. City of Seattle Law Department – Thursday April 21, 2022 2:00 PM.
- B. City of Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections – Monday April 10:30 AM.
- C. Appellants – Tuesday April 26, 2022 5:00 PM.
- D. City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods – Monday May 2, 2022 9:30 AM.
- E. Applicants – Tuesday May 17, 2022 9:00 AM.

¹ Seattle Municipal Code §3.02.030 requires: Within the time specified by the ordinance authorizing such action, or if no time is specified, at least fourteen (14) days prior to the proposed action and at least ten (10) days prior to a public hearing, if any, give notice thereof by: (1) publication in a newspaper in accordance with the City Charter and, where appropriate, in such trade, industry, or professional publication, as the agency may select; and (2) by mailing or delivery to the address specified by any person who has made written request therefor, which shall be filed with the agency and renewed annually. Such notice shall include: (a) a reference to the authority under which such rule is proposed; (b) an accurate description of the substance of the proposed rule or of the subjects and issues involved; and (c) a statement of the time and place of any public hearing, and manner in which interested persons may present data, views or argument thereon to the agency

II. General Initial Public Hearing – Thursday June 2, 2022 1 PM.

III. Review Period – June 30, 2022 – August 30, 2022 (draft Rules will be reviewed and re-drafted based on comments received during initial public hearing and comment period).

IV. Final SMC 3.02.030 General Public Meeting – September 7, 2022 1 PM.