

Tips for Public Speaking at the Planning Commission Hearing on Canyon Springs

When & Where: *Planning Commission Hearing on Proposed Canyon Springs Development
Truckee Town Hall, 10183 Truckee Airport Road
Monday, November 16, 6 PM (primary night for community input)
Tuesday, November 17, 6 PM (any remaining remarks, plus deliberation)*

Speaking Tips

Structuring your remarks

Make your most important point first, and make it clearly. Attention spans wane after about 30 seconds, so be sure that the Planning Commission knows what your main point is within your first three sentences.

After making your primary point, support it with facts. Use the provided fact sheet, or draw from concrete examples within the final EIR or Truckee General Plan to support what you're asserting.

Restate your main point. Begin with your main point, support it with facts, then restate your main point to be sure it has sunk in.

Ask for a show of hands for who agrees with your primary points. This will show the Commission that there is broad agreement with what you're saying.

End with a clear "ask." *I respectfully request that the Planning Commission reject the Final EIR as inadequate, reject the proposed Canyon Springs map, or at a minimum mandate a master plan process to allow community input into this sprawl-inducing development on the far eastern fringes of Truckee.*

Tips for speaking effectively

Remember that the Planning Commission represents us. Appeal to them as fellow citizens and reasonable people to make the right decision.

Speak from the heart, but support it with facts. The Planning Commission needs to understand how much you care about the issues you're raising, but also needs the legal standing to reject the EIR or the proposed map. That's why supporting your remarks with facts is so important.

Plan your remarks in advance, and write them down if it helps. Three minutes allows for ~300 words.

Speak slowly and clearly, to be sure you are understood.

If you're nervous, practice. We can help! We are offering walk-in help with remarks and speaking the day before the Planning Commission meeting:

*Walk-in speaking preparation
Glenshire Clubhouse
Sunday, November 15, 1-5 PM*

