QUICK GUIDE

Speak up at City Hall

Policing, schools, safety, budgets — most local decisions are made in public meetings you can watch and speak at.

Who decides

- **City council** — budget, by-laws, police budget. **Committees** debate first: usually where you speak.
- **Regional council** (Peel, York, Durham, Halton, Waterloo, Niagara) — regional police budget, water, social services.
- **Police board** — police priorities, policies, budget, the chief.
- **School board** — trustees set policies and budget for your schools.

Four ways to be heard

1. **Speak at a meeting** — register with the clerk; about 5 minutes; in person or often online.
2. **Send a letter** — email the clerk by the deadline; it goes to every member.
3. **Contact your representative** — a short email or call before the vote.
4. **Petitions & consultations** — sign, share, and answer budget and planning consultations.

Before every meeting

- Agendas are often posted only about a week before — you can usually register earlier.
- Deadlines: noon the day before (city) to 5+ business days (police, school boards).
- Meetings are streamed live and recorded — watch one first.
- Your name and comments usually become public.

Find your city

- Next meetings for your council, police board and school board: **oneglobalvoice.org/civiccity**

More details, samples and your city

Scan the code or visit:
oneglobalvoice.org/civic.php