

VISITORS TO CONCORD TOWN MEETING

Resident Non-Voter Visitors. Concord residents who are not eligible to vote, including new residents and students in our schools, will be admitted to the hall after they sign a visitor check-in sheet recording their name and address. Parents bringing a younger child to Town Meeting must sign in for the child. Adults are encouraged to register their children in the childcare center in Room 121, located outside of the performance gym.

Non-Resident Visitors. Persons who are not Concord residents, but who have a special interest in a warrant article, may be admitted after (1) receiving permission from the Moderator, and (2) signing the check-in sheet indicating their name and address, and, if relevant to their presence, their business affiliation. Permission is normally granted to non-resident individuals sponsored by a registered voter of the Town. Non-resident Town employees supporting Town boards or committees are not required to sign in.

Visitor Badges and Seating. Visitors must wear the VISITOR badge issued to them upon sign-in, so long as they remain in the Town Meeting venue. All persons admitted as visitors, with the exception non-resident Town employees supporting Town boards or committees, must sit in the designated VISITOR section at the rear of the Gymnasium unless specifically granted permission by the Moderator to sit elsewhere.

Visitor Speaking. A visitor may speak on a Warrant article only after receiving advance approval from the Moderator as representing, in the Moderator's view, an interest or perspective not otherwise represented by Concord voters. Non-resident Town employees wishing to speak must state their employment position when rising to speak.

No Visitor Voting. Persons admitted as visitors are not allowed to participate in voting in any manner, including in voice votes or standing votes. When votes are taken, the Moderator and the tellers will recognize as voters only those persons validly displaying a voting slip.

Visitors Must Respect Closed Doors. When a standing vote begins, the doors to the meeting venue are closed, and no one is permitted to enter or leave until the results are declared, including visitors.

Voters Have Priority if Attendance Exceeds Seating Capacity . Fire regulations require that everyone in the meeting venue have a seat. In the unusual and unlikely event that the hall cannot accommodate both visitors who have been admitted and all registered voters desiring to be admitted, the Moderator may ask visitors to leave the Gymnasium and go to the cafeteria. This also applies to resident children who are not registered voters. If the meeting venue cannot provide seating for all voters who wish to participate, the Moderator will arrange for an overflow facility, consistent with the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 10.

Carmin Reiss, Town Moderator
2020 Town Meeting