

Congress of Mayors

The congress should consist of five issues that will ultimately make our platform. These five issues will also make up the five committees. It will also help the delegation's organization by limiting the time in session to meet the five subjects. Instead of creating multiple pieces of traditional legislation, resolutions containing multiple subjects can serve as the legislation debated on the floor. The tentative issues are as follows:

- Transportation/Infrastructure
- Public Safety
- Community/Economic Development
- Municipal Finance
- Municipal Operations/Governance

Committee Process

Each committee will consider one resolution with multiple subjects. The chair will use their judgment to determine how many points can feasibly be discussed in the preset time limit during the session. The Committee will be made up of a chair, resolution author and assigned delegates. The author will present the bill and provoke discussion from the delegates. The chair will manage the meeting and any amendments to the resolution. The delegates, including the chair and author, will vote on passage of the resolution. The committee process should resemble a city council meeting, giving the chair the ability to use discretion when managing the meeting.

The caucus will predetermine the initial committee. Unassigned delegates will be named to committees at registration. During this process, assignments will be made to create a balanced number of delegates in each committee.

Session

Each delegate will have an assigned seat in order to keep organization for the purpose of speaking. Each resolution will have a predetermined time limit to maximize floor discussion. The time limit and structure of discussion will be prescribed in the rules of the Congress. Any delegate desiring to speak on a resolution will be afforded time to do so in accordance with the rules. Floor amendments will be allowed in accordance with the rules. This will allow a delegate to express opinions to the Congress that may have been denied or were not discussed during the committee process. All floor amendments must be germane to the resolution.

Time Limits

Resolution

Total time limit per resolution will be 30 minutes under the following rules. Time limits must be strictly enforced.

Author explanation	2 minutes
Questions and Answers	5 minutes
Amendments	10 minutes
Explanation	1 minute
Questions	2 minutes

Debate

10 minutes

Should there be any remaining time from the amendment process it can be allocated to floor debate.

Voting

All delegates will be afforded one vote per legislative action. Members wishing not to vote may do so. Should there be more than the allotted 101 members present those delegates will vote by yellow, red or green cards counted by the floor leaders and whips and presented to the chair. Paper ballots will be cast and presented to the parliamentarian by the designated leaders.

Delegates

Any mayor or vice mayor of an Oklahoma municipality is eligible to be a delegate, however there will be only one delegate per municipality. Delegates do not have to be a member of the Mayors Council of Oklahoma or a member city of the Oklahoma Municipal League.

Leadership

Speaker — Will serve as the leader of the Congress and present the State of Cities Address and helps manage the entire Congress. After the first resolution others are offered a chance to take the roll of Speaker. (Todd Finley)

Speaker Pro Temp- - Essentially serves as the vice chair of the Congress and assumes the responsibility of managing the entire Congress along with the Speaker. (Jason Nichols)

Floor Leaders - The two floor leaders will equally be responsible for managing half the delegation during session. Floor leaders will assist members with the legislative process and work with the Whips to spur debate and discussion during session.

Whips — The floor Whips will each be assigned an isle to manage. Whips will be responsible for answering question of their assigned members, encouraging discussion and collecting papers ballots if necessary.

Committee Chair - Responsible for presiding over an assigned committee and managing the legislative process including amendments and passage of the final resolution.

Authors - The five authors will be responsible for presenting their resolution to the committee and the Congress during session.

- Municipal Finance
- Transportation/Infrastructure
- Public Safety
- Community/ Economic Development
- Municipal Operations

Process

The Congress was designed to work like the Legislature and utilizes similar functions and positions. This will allow our members to better understand the legislative process and make officials better advocates for municipal issues.