

# COMMENTING AT A TOWN HALL SCRIPT

**Town hall meetings** provide elected leaders an opportunity to engage with constituents on upcoming legislation. These meetings offer a productive way to raise awareness of your concerns with elected officials and community members.

Below are tips to help you prepare to present your concerns, along with a sample script using reframed messaging.

## Tips for Discussing an Age-Inclusivity Issue at a town hall meeting:

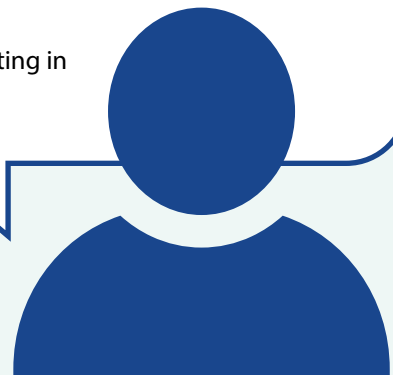
1. Research local aging groups or speak to your local senior center to understand the position they are taking on the issue being discussed at the town hall meeting.
2. Prepare clear and concise talking points. Use tools from the National Center to Reframe Aging such as the [Quick Start Guide to Reframe Aging Advocacy](#), to frame your message in a way that motivates action.
3. Follow up two weeks after the town hall with the elected official or their office to see if they have heard of any other groups working on the same issue or if there are any active proposals being considered. Also ask what actions, if any, they have taken to work on this issue since the meeting.

## Sample Script of How to Discuss Age-Inclusive Issues with Reframed Messaging:

Advocate: My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am a constituent living in \_\_\_\_\_. I am here today to comment on the allocation of new community funds to increase bus stops in our community. We are all aging! Let's work to ensure all community members have access to transportation to get to the places they want to go. Mobility is a freedom we all value.

I support our local senior center, [insert name], in their request for funds to improve accessibility to essential resources. Currently, our neighborhood only has five local bus stops—at the hospital, healthcare clinic, school, and grocery store. Adding stops near community centers would create opportunities for people of all ages to stay active and engaged. Community centers foster intergenerational connections, which is beneficial to us all.

We all have a stake in ensuring this is an age-inclusive community. Investing in transportation will strengthen our infrastructure for all of us as we age.



©National Center to Reframe Aging, 2024. Original research conducted by FrameWorks Institute. Distributed for educational purposes by the National Center to Reframe Aging.

The National Center to Reframe Aging is dedicated to ending ageism by advancing an equitable and complete story about aging in America. The center is the trusted source for proven communication strategies and tools to effectively frame aging issues. It is the nation's leading organization cultivating an active community of individuals and organizations to spread awareness of implicit bias toward older people and influence policies and programs that benefit all of us as we age. Led by The Gerontological Society of America (GSA), the National Center acts on behalf of and amplifies efforts of the ten Leaders of Aging Organizations.