

Tips for Meeting with Candidates

1. Make an appointment. It's a good idea for at least two people to go.
2. Prepare for the meeting. Expect to be nervous.
3. Go with a specific purpose.
4. Cover only a few topics (3 key ones).
5. Have relevant facts and figures ready.
6. Provide examples of local impact.
7. Tell the candidate about how a local policy change had a negative impact on your community.
8. Don't try to start an argument!
9. Expect questions. Don't expect candidates to know a lot about the issues that you are addressing.
10. Offer assistance or more information.
11. Leave a fact sheet or brief.
12. Thank the person for his/her attention.
13. Follow up with a thank you letter reinforcing key messages and providing promised information.
(Adapted from the CPHA 2000 / 2003 Election Primer)