

# Forum to Improve Governance Process - Appendix

This document was prepared by Dawn Walker (@dcwalk) of [Hypha Coop](#).

The following document is an appendix to the Governance Process Improvements proposal and includes details on the following:

[Cosmos forum fitting in governance processes](#)

[Proposed change to forum](#)

[Governance stages](#)

[Forum conventions and templates](#)

[Examples of governance forums from other projects](#)

## Cosmos forum fitting in governance processes

**Current Governance Stages and Places** (more details in [State of Cosmos Hub Governance report](#))

Stage 1: Your Idea -- Developer Discord, VIP Telegram, Private convos (optional to post on the forum)

Stage 2: Your Draft Proposal -- Github + Forum, GWG Telegram, socialize on Twitter

Stage 3: Your On-Chain Proposal -- the Cosmos Hub/Gaia (chain), discussion on vote position on forum, blog posts, twitter

Described in-depth here:

[https://hub.cosmos.network/main/governance/best\\_practices.html](https://hub.cosmos.network/main/governance/best_practices.html)

**Forum proposal posts examples:**

[\[Proposal #56\] !\[\]\(3342c215b2a8b663596a81468d5dc314\_img.jpg\) Add IBC Router to Hub !\[\]\(5e22d44aef1f9548ca8274cbfb388e9d\_img.jpg\) Discussion](#)

[\[Proposal\] Increase Max Validator Set Size to 150](#)

[\[Governance\] Lowering Pool Creation Fee](#)

[Governance proposal #52 \[ATOM handshake Osmosis: Allocate Community Pool to ATOM Liquidity Incentives\]](#)

[\[Proposal\]\[Draft\]: Splitting of Rewards from Voting Power](#)

**Notes:**

- No consistent proposal template exists, but actually many follow very similar pattern, issue to standardize here: <https://github.com/cosmos/gaia/issues/1039>
- Love the floating square brackets! But also guidance on titling would maybe make things a little easier to understand. Probably don't need the work "Governance" is in that category
- Not always clear what a proposal is, what state it is in, etc!
- For drafting proposal json, what ways can we help proposers within existing platforms: could a json validator be provided with the existing parameter docs on the [hub.cosmos.network](#) site? Can we generate a json validation schema from the existing [Swagger docs](#)?

# Proposed change to forum

## Governance stages

“Make revisions to your draft proposal after each stage of engagement.”

Stage 1: Your Idea -- Discourse Forum, Semi-/private spaces: Developer Discord, VIP Telegram, Private convos

A conservative approach is to have some confidence that you roughly have initial support from a majority of the voting power before proceeding to drafting your proposal

- Limit/redirect places to socialize

Stage 2: Your Draft Proposal

A majority of the voting community should probably be aware of the proposal and have considered it before the proposal goes live on-chain.

- Refine existing checklist to move to next stage

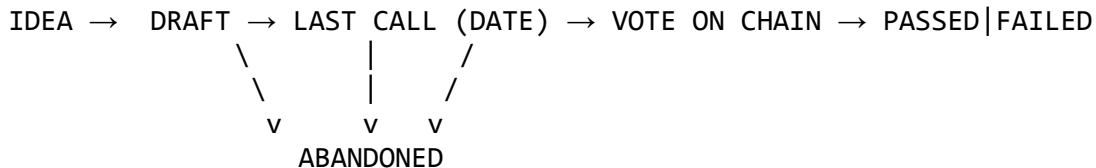
Stage 2a: Last Call on Proposal

Clear notification that a rough consensus has been reached and we still want to give it a limited amount of time to let the community continue to react or analyze (i.e., 2 weeks) and after that period that proposal is close to being put to on-chain vote.

- NEW stage taken from ADR model

Stage 3: Put Your Proposal to a Vote on chain

- Review to make clear that testnet is not used/extremely experimental for gov processes



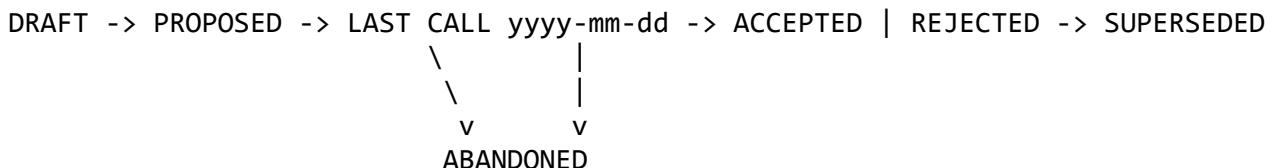
IDEA = Ideation, not ready for public review.

DRAFT = Shared copy posted in the forum, a period to engage in discussion and respond to feedback and review from core stakeholders.

LAST CALL = Clear notification and period that proposal is close to being put to on-chain vote. Changing a status to LAST CALL means that social consensus has been reached and we still want to give it a limited amount of time to let the community continue to react or analyze (i.e., 2 weeks).

=> **Align to ADR stages**

<https://docs.cosmos.network/master/architecture/PROCESS.html>



## Forum conventions and templates

We suggest developing conventions and templates for using the forum:

1. Use a specific **format for forum titles** (e.g. [Proposal ##][STAGE] {Title of proposal})
2. Have **one post** that is updated with revisions, as a post moves through the process
3. Have a **“status” section at the top of forum posts** where a moderator adds important metadata (e.g., link to blockviewer if submitted on chain, link to IPFS of stored proposal)
4. Add a **“Last Call” Stage (described above)** after a draft has been shared on the forum and edits made in order to make it easier to know when a proposal is ready to move to the chain
5. Have someone officially take on the **role of moderating the governance proposal section** of the forum

### Proposed forum titles

Posters will be encouraged to use these or will be added to the top of the

```
[Proposal ##][STAGE] {Title of proposal}
```

```
[Proposal 56][VOTING] 🌀 Add IBC Router to Hub 🌀 Discussion
```

```
[Proposal XX][PASSED] Increase Max Validator Set Size to 150
```

```
[Proposal][DRAFT]: Splitting of Rewards from Voting Power
```

```
Lowering Pool Creation Fee (maybe forum thread from newcomer at early stages of forming an idea, not sure about being a proposal)
```

### Proposal status box

This will be added to the top of the a forum post (most likely by a moderator) once it becomes a ~draft~, as a blockquote it will appear a little inset with a different colour background (default is grey I believe)

```
---
```

```
> ##### Proposal Status
```

```
> Status: [IDEA|DRAFT|LAST CALL|VOTING|PASSED|FAILED]
```

```
> Block Explorer: {https://www.mintscan.io/cosmos/proposals/##}
```

```
> IPFS version: {https://ipfs.io/ipfs/Qm...}
```

```
---
```

### Pinned governance topic

This will be a pinned topic for in the Governance category on the forum

```
---
```

This post provides a high-level overview of the Governance process for the Cosmos Hub. A more detailed version, with examples, templates and better practices is located with the hub docs:

<https://hub.cosmos.network/main/governance/>

### Governance Proposal Process

Stage 1: Your Idea

A conservative approach is to have some confidence that you roughly have initial support from a majority of the voting power before proceeding to drafting your proposal

Stage 2: Your Draft Proposal

A majority of the voting community should probably be aware of the proposal and have considered it before the proposal goes live on-chain.

#### Stage 2a: Last Call on Proposal

Clear notification that a rough consensus has been reached and we still want to give it a limited amount of time to let the community continue to react or analyze (i.e., 2 weeks) and after that period that proposal is close to being put to on-chain vote.

#### Stage 3: Put Your Proposal to a Vote on chain

After Last Call closes, put your vote on the chain!

### Meta-governance

The forum is also a great place to discuss new ideas and strategies for governance, including ways to improve or update the process outlined above. Many of these processes do not require a formal on-chain proposal.

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### Notes and FAQ

- Can people revise their proposal forum post or do they create new ones?
  - Revise! Inline in the same forum post please
- Who decides when the proposal is ready to go from draft -> last call?
  - Maybe: anyone can “call the question” (propose that we move into that), but people can reasonably object)
- Is there a time lock or an approval step?
  - Pre-chain we think using the “last call” mechanism after there is rough consensus is sufficient

## Examples of governance forums from other projects

### Yearn - Discourse and Snapshot -> “YIP-61: Governance 2.0”

Uses discourse forum and polls for initial check-in, proposals are templated within discourse and there is a YIP (Improvement Proposal) format. After **at least** 3 days of discussion they go to vote. Proposals auto-close after 7 days of no discussion. Feels like an aggressively moderated and clean space to focus on proposals discussion.

There were **8** forum proposal topics in the last 3 months, with **0?** making it to a snapshot vote.

**Representative proposal:** <https://gov.yearn.finance/t/yip-61-governance-2-0/10460> and vote:

<https://snapshot.org/#/ybaby.eth/proposal/QmSMYeKrRpnA7Xn56o2NtbCUzxmhzCupL7LxMA1reXxq4>

**Forum:** <https://gov.yearn.finance/>

**Snapshot:** <https://snapshot.org/#/ybaby.eth> and <https://snapshot.org/#/yearn> (archived)

**Docs:** <https://yearnfinance.notion.site/>

**YIP on Governance:** <https://yips.yearn.finance/YIPS/yip-55>

**Thing that is cool:** an extremely tight how-to for proposal drafting

# Proposal How-To

Proposals



banteg

10 Jul '20

Submit your ideas here for improving Yearn in any way. Whether it's a new vault, updating fee structures, or tinkering with governance, all proposals are welcomed here.

When creating new post make sure you

0. Stick to the auto-generated template.
1. Write concise title with **no number**. The number will be added by mods once on-chain voting starts.
2. Add understandable aka non-tech aka eli-5 summary.
3. Add an abstract: what **will** be done if the YIP is implemented (keep it below 200 words).
4. Write a longer motivation with links and references if necessary.
5. Add specifications if necessary.
6. Formulate clear **for** and **against** positions.
7. Include a poll to measure sentiment (public, results on vote).
8. Don't rush with putting a proposal on chain, keep discussion going for at least 3 days.

Remember the order:

```
propose > discuss > codify > vote > conclude > execute
```

## SushiSwap - tfars iuyt balitd, iykyk

Discussed the thing that is cool above is apparently [common](#), it is no longer cool.

Uses discourse forum for initial discussions, the forum is lively but a little messy (not sure what are proposals that have been voted on, old ones remain open, etc...). Uses a defined **SUSHIPOWAH** with [conversion rate](#) for governance voting (tho this has [a couple different posted rates](#)).

Have the comment "At this time, only proposals posted to the Snapshot voting system by the CORE can be considered binding if passed with a quorum" There were **35** forum proposal topics in the last 3 months, with **4** making it to a snapshot vote.

### Representative proposal:

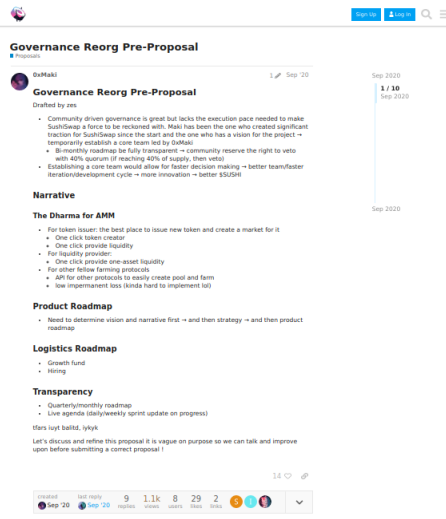
<https://snapshot.org/#/sushigov.eth/proposal/QmYJ5FYtJDncEhdB2W7zh26GHGWsWVrwkvVXXjoH6VNk69> (not totally clear where the forum discussion is!)

**Forum:** <https://forum.sushi.com/>

**Snapshot:** <https://snapshot.page/#/sushi> and <https://snapshot.page/#/sushipowah> (archived)

**Governance desc:** <https://docs.sushi.com/governance/current-governance-model>

**Thing that is cool:** governance seems very emergent and reflects current needs. Pretty lean proposals can pass, interesting if velocity and flexibility are the important metrics, e.g: Governance mandate from a [223 word proposal](#) that I can't find a vote for. Look how short that is!



## Synthetic - “DECENTRALIZED PERPETUAL FUTURES”

Uses discord (there is discourse forum but unused) for initial discussions, as well as SIPs (Improvement Proposals) with [review by a council](#) for governance decisions. They actively promote three places to review/vote on proposals: Snapshot (<https://gov.synthetix.io/#/>), Boardroom (<https://app.boardroom.info/snxgov.eth/proposals>), and their staking platform (<https://staking.synthetix.io/gov>). Seems like most of the active discussion happens **in their discord**.

There were **0** forum proposal topics in the last 3 months, and **23?** on-chain votes, tho things are really messy on Snapshot and Boardroom views with duplication.

**Representative proposal:** <https://sips.synthetix.io/sips/sip-190/> and on Snapshot <https://gov.synthetix.io/#/proposal/QmRrsog6ND5gopQft2R5PmjnP92USZiSymuSMfVZW4GUM9>










**Forum:** <https://research.synthetix.io/t/please-read-before-posting/7> (this is not used)

**Governance desc:**

<https://medium.com/@akng105/a-guide-to-synthetix-voting-for-new-community-members-fa57d929b2ce>

**Thing that is cool:** very active and careful movement through stages, currently 4 active proposals for voting

PROPOSALS Filter by Status: All

- 
**SIP-190: Add LUSD/sUSD Wrappr to L1** active  
 [SIP-190](https://sips.synthetix.io/sips/sip-190/) proposes to add an LUSD/sUSD wrappr to L1. Are yo
- 
**SIP-190: Add LUSD/sUSD Wrappr to L1** active  
 [SIP-190](https://sips.synthetix.io/sips/sip-190/) proposes to add an LUSD/sUSD wrappr to L1. Are yo
- 
**SCCP-148: Increase Cap on LUSD Wrappr to 30 million sUSD** active  
 [SCCP-148](https://sips.synthetix.io/sccp/sccp-148/) proposes to increase the cap on the LUSD wrappr
- 
**SCCP-148: Increase Cap on LUSD Wrappr to 30 million sUSD** active  
 [SCCP-148](https://sips.synthetix.io/sccp/sccp-148/) proposes to increase the cap on the LUSD wrappr
- 
**SIP-161: Core Contributor Committee** active  
 [SIP-161](https://sips.synthetix.io/sips/sip-161/) introduces the Core Contributor Committee (CCC) t
- 
**SIP-161: Core Contributor Committee** active  
 [SIP-161](https://sips.synthetix.io/sips/sip-161/) introduces the Core Contributor Committee (CCC) t
- 
**SIP-189: Add LUSD/sUSD Wrappr** active  
 [SIP-189](https://sips.synthetix.io/sips/sip-189/) introduces the LUSD wrappr on optimism. Are you i
- 
**SIP-189: Add LUSD/sUSD Wrappr** active  
 [SIP-189](https://sips.synthetix.io/sips/sip-189/) introduces the LUSD wrappr on optimism. Are you i
- 
**ABOBA** closed  
 TO MAKE ABOBA PRESIDENT OF THE US

## MakerDao - Automating, Governance, Risk

Uses discourse forum for a few “tiers”: signalling, declaring intent, and MIPs of governance. All could go to a vote and can make use of [discourse forum polling](#). A vibrant and extremely active space, the forum is also very structured with many sub-categories (Governance and Risk Meetings, Signal Requests, Signal Archive, Proposal Ideas, Delegates)

There were **an uncountably high # (96? ballpark)** forum proposal topics in the last 3 months, and **78** on-chain votes, votes are scheduled to go live on Mondays with multiple open at once.

### Representative proposal:

<https://forum.makerdao.com/t/signal-request-increasing-the-surplus-buffer-2021-11/11448> (and previous buffer vote: <https://vote.makerdao.com/polling/QmXcVy9R?network=mainnet#poll-detail>)

**Forum:** <https://forum.makerdao.com/>

**Voter Portal:** <https://vote.makerdao.com/polling?network=mainnet> (custom)

**Governance desc:** <https://makerdao.com/en/governance/> and <https://forum.makerdao.com/t/makerdao-standard-governance-processes/4298> and <https://mips.makerdao.com/mips/details/MIP1>

**Thing that is cool:** Clear sense of “[participation tools](#)” for participation in governance which are a bricolage of off-the-shelf and tailored services and how they augment a forum-based process

**MCD Voting Tracker**  
Last refresh: 2021-11-19 17:00:09 UTC

Powered by **Token Flow**

Staked MKR: **176,179.92** MKR  
Active voters: 337 (with stake > 0)  
Last vote: 2021-11-18 13:48:37 UTC

**Executive votes (248)**

Spell	Since	Description	Approval (MKR)	Voters (%)
802	2021-11-12	Parameter Changes, Return Snu...	28,375.74	6
803	2021-11-05	Parameter Changes, Core Unit...	96,754.62	15
804	2021-10-28	Announce Boarding and Core...	37,987.95	18
805	2021-10-22	Parameter Changes, WSTETH A. B...	2,196.84	12
806	2021-10-08	Offboarding Vault, MKR Vest...	382.09	15
807	2021-10-02	Offboarding WDF Collateral...	4,765.84	11
808	2021-09-24	Adjusting Auction Parameters...	4,721.00	11
809	2021-09-18	Collateral onboarding and Off...	0.00	19
810	2021-09-03	Parameter Changes, September...	0.00	16

**Governance polls (673)**

Poll	Since	Description	Winning option
680	2021-11-17	Community GreenL...	Abstain
681	2021-11-17	Community GreenL...	Abstain
682	2021-11-15	Local Liquidation...	Yes
683	2021-11-18	Offboard the BAL...	Yes
684	2021-11-15	Offboard the AMPL...	Yes
685	2021-11-19	Offboard the COMP...	Yes
686	2021-11-17	Change of Govern...	Yes
687	2021-11-15	Rates Proposal...	Yes
688	2021-11-09	Ratification P&L...	Yes

**Voters (2452)**

Address	Stake (MKR)	Current votes	Since	Last voting
0x18a68465309330a3f3c46b737363768330	32,868.61	Parameter_Changes_Return_Used_Budg...	2021-08-18	2021-11-15 22:08:14
0x1a1e1317a49d4e592031aacfa689a17464126	29,283.62	Parameter_Changes_Core_Unit_Budg...	2021-07-20	2021-11-17 18:18:43
0x5e733c0e82733a139f6545c23462804931	29,000.00	MKR_Proposal_Adjust_Core_Unit_Budg...	2021-11-08	2021-10-30 00:11:22
0x3044904612a662c46b7248921103048434	17,400.00	Parameter_Changes_and_Scale_Budg...	2020-03-24	2021-09-23 13:40:18
0x40430963639c39c506916641a95069942	10,526.72	Parameter_Changes_Core_Unit_Budg...	2020-12-09	2021-11-08 13:17:13
0x45363e1e4142a1647110d8a6a290f191505	10,162.26	Parameter_Changes_Core_Unit_Budg...	2021-08-02	2021-11-17 23:38:15
0x42f6afcc39563ce888f4a79136a26e7781	8,596.43	Parameter_Changes_Return_Used_Budg...	2021-08-02	2021-11-13 11:48:13
0x773c42818a46318e78f7261510413620d	7,119.00	MKR_Proposal_Adjust_Core_Unit_Budg...	2021-11-14	2021-09-22 18:43:59
0x4c2881728426848f3c273aa080127af0b	5,976.20	Parameter_Changes_Core_Unit_Budg...	2021-08-26	2021-11-18 13:33:25
0x25294e2642924611495080a36184003b	5,071.15	Parameter_Changes_Return_Used_Budg...	2021-08-13	2021-11-18 12:16:57
0x1322c0363a08091305f0d8c1609a20d	5,026.34	Announce Boarding and Core Unit...	2021-08-09	2021-11-18 10:48:37
0x1322c0363a08091305f0d8c1609a20d	5,000.00	Collateral onboarding, ETH, B, G, L...	2020-09-14	2021-07-16 17:12:26
0x8b28e4c06a7080a0808ff72a6c3c5c4a5	4,721.00	Parameter_Changes_WSTETH_A_Subord...	2021-08-20	2021-10-26 05:12:23
0x03250f1050470e03a71c09773b2229e7a	4,580.76	Parameter_Changes_Core_Unit_Budg...	2021-09-23	2021-11-08 11:17:13
0x0a30d6e0eef1500633333c8a1c1c6e091d6	3,000.00	Parameter_Changes_Return_Used_Budg...	2021-11-17	2021-11-17 00:24:11
0x110830681f685223a52a5711a08b74628a	2,900.14	Parameter_Changes_Core_Unit_Budg...	2021-05-12	2021-11-08 11:17:13
0x4723f35ee08a526709641514898a062b7	2,600.00	0x47f0b4807ad523886472083305589652ad	2020-02-21	2020-02-21 21:04:54
0x2139511c0ea51503145c0e4b37c86228624cd	2,000.00	Parameter_Changes_WSTETH_A_Subord...	2021-08-02	2021-10-24 16:14:19
0x7688893388a06274980b75c49c7798fac176	1,751.19	Parameter_Changes_Core_Unit_Budg...	2020-01-02	2021-11-13 13:38:36
0x1515f1fa388871a83d68095a3927a2672c	1,500.00	Parameter_Changes_Return_Used_Budg...	2021-12-18	2021-12-18 18:08:48

Showing 1 to 20 of 2,452 entries

**Cattip**

Overview

Spells (changelog)

Voters

COMPUND

LINKS

PROPOSALS

GITHUB

Created on February 28, 2021, 4:09 AM, casted on February 28, 2021, 4:09 AM

ETHA Ceiling (Vot[ETHA\_Line]) 1,345,160,962 DAI → 1,318,831,314 DAI

BATA Ceiling (Vot[BATA\_Line]) 2,967,039,974 DAI → 2,965,190,460 DAI

WBTCA Ceiling (Vot[WBTCA\_Line]) 2,864,670 DAI → 2,843,942 DAI

WBTCA Ceiling (Vot[WBTCA\_Line]) 2,965,190,460 DAI → 2,962,039,311 DAI

WBTCA Ceiling (Vot[WBTCA\_Line]) 2,648,918,821 DAI → 2,629,093,311 DAI

WBTCA Ceiling (Vot[WBTCA\_Line]) 2,965,169,753 DAI → 2,962,439,242 DAI

WBTCA Ceiling (Vot[WBTCA\_Line]) 1,056,679 DAI → 1,056,682 DAI

MANA Ceiling (Vot[MANA\_Line]) 1,496,659 DAI → 1,498,793 DAI

MANA Ceiling (Vot[MANA\_Line]) 2,962,439,246 DAI → 2,962,439,379 DAI

COMP A Ceiling (Vot[COMP\_A\_Line]) 8,069,084 DAI → 8,069,577 DAI

COMP A Ceiling (Vot[COMP\_A\_Line]) 2,962,439,379 DAI → 2,962,439,872 DAI

LPC Ceiling (Vot[LPC\_Line]) 3,485,686 DAI → 3,482,167 DAI

LPC Ceiling (Vot[LPC\_Line]) 2,962,439,872 DAI → 2,962,436,353 DAI

LINK-A Ceiling (Vot[LINK-A\_Line]) 39,491,388 DAI → 39,009,903 DAI

LINK-A Ceiling (Vot[LINK-A\_Line]) 2,962,436,353 DAI → 2,962,854,869 DAI

BAL-A Ceiling (Vot[BAL-A\_Line]) 1,046,155 DAI → 1,059,564 DAI

BAL-A Ceiling (Vot[BAL-A\_Line]) 2,962,854,869 DAI → 2,962,868,278 DAI

YFA-A Ceiling (Vot[YFA-A\_Line]) 33,622,314 DAI → 33,266,690 DAI

YFA-A Ceiling (Vot[YFA-A\_Line]) 2,962,868,278 DAI → 2,962,512,654 DAI

UNIA Ceiling (Vot[UNIA\_Line]) 10,310,648 DAI → 10,247,876 DAI

Created on February 27, 2021, 4:03 AM, casted on February 27, 2021, 4:03 AM

LINK-A Ceiling (Vot[LINK-A\_Line]) 39,409,505 DAI → 39,491,388 DAI

Compound - “Until the decentralization process is complete, COMP will not be available to the public”

Uses discourse forum for initial discussion and then goes to vote. Documentation of the current process is spare (actually not sure where an authoritative account of governance lives, the [medium post](#) that is below provides an early account but the governance has moved on. Proposals on-chain link to discourse forums discussions. Interesting reflection on governance:

<https://www.comp.xyz/t/compound-governance-is-disorganized/2135/3>

There were **19** forum proposal topics in the last 3 months, and **15** on-chain votes.

**Representative proposal:** <https://www.comp.xyz/t/dynamic-risk-parameters/2223>

**Forum:** <https://www.comp.xyz/> and <https://www.comp.xyz/c/proposals/6>

**[Voting]:** <https://app.compound.finance/#vote> and <https://compound.finance/governance/proposals>

**Governance desc:** <https://medium.com/compound-finance/compound-governance-5531f524cf68>

**Thing that is cool:** Their governance dashboard shows post-vote implementation (think this is only reporting things from chain, but imagine blending governance metadata with chain queries!)

VIEW ALL

**Proposal History**

- Created**  
 November 9th, 2021 - 4:09pm
- Active**  
 November 12th, 2021 - 12:29am
- Succeeded**  
 November 15th, 2021 - 12:29am
- Queued**  
 November 14th, 2021 - 10:09pm
- Executed**  
 November 17th, 2021 - 3:36pm



## Uniswap - a cohesive flow that will assist with the transmission

Uses discourse forum for initial discussion, proposals are then snapshotted for a consensus check with a quorum, after that the proposal is escalated to an on-chain vote. The discourse has lots of helper pinned posts that clearly describe the process. There are many governance proposals to view and vote on on-chain proposals in addition to the main “[Governance Portal](#)”

**Representative proposal:** <https://gov.uniswap.org/t/proposal-add-1-basis-point-fee-tier/14745> has a meta area on forum posts that have past with an update on status

**Forum:** <https://gov.uniswap.org/>

**Snapshot:** <https://snapshot.org/#/uniswap>

**Governance desc:** appears to be solely in the discourse:  
<https://gov.uniswap.org/t/community-governance-process/7732>

**Thing that is cool:** Great one-pager overview of governance we should model in thinking about docs:  
<https://gov.uniswap.org/t/community-governance-process/7732>



Sign Up Log In



### Community Governance Process

• Governance-Meta



ashleigh

Oct '20

Oct 2020

This document is a suggested process for developing and advancing Uniswap Governance Proposals. It is a living document intended to be owned, modified and enforced by the Uniswap community.

Note: Autonomous proposals are a recent addition to Governance, not yet considered in this document. A process and policy around this proposal type should be created and implemented by the community.

Process:

Several governance venues available to Uniswap governance are mentioned, each serving its own particular purpose.

1 / 21  
Oct 2020