

Moscow Adores Sergei Sobyenin — At Least That's What City Hall Says

October 19, 2017



Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyenin / Moskva News Agency

Not every Moscow resident gets to experience a personal meet-and-greet with the city's Mayor Sergei Sobyenin.

Luckily, City Hall [publishes](#) transcripts of Sobyenin's conversations while out and about. During official visits to construction sites, park openings and Moscow neighborhoods this year, Sobyenin was given a more than warm welcome, according to the portal.

In fact, residents appear to heap North Korea-like adulation on him.

Here are some of the eyebrow-raising exchanges picked up by Russian [media](#):

— **Sobyenin attends the opening of a park on Oct. 11**

Sobyenin: Hello. How are you?

Residents: We're great, with a park like this.

Residents: It's amazing. Unrecognizable.

Residents: And we're in good spirits.

Residents: We've lived here for many years, it's great.

Residents: We would like to express our gratitude to you. A stunning park. It has lighting. It is suitable for children.

Sobyanin: What is your name?

Residents: My name is Lena.

Sobyanin: Thank you.

Residents: Thank you very much.

Sobyanin: Are there any remarks?

Residents: It is remarkable.

— Sobyanin visits a Moscow amusement park in construction on July 26

Sobyanin: Do you see what they're doing?

Residents: Yes, digging.

Sobyanin: Yes. They're building and digging here, are they in your way?

Residents: No, quite the opposite.

— Sobyanin visits an oil refinery treatment facility on Oct. 9

Sobyanin: Has it improved?

Residents: Yes, much better. Thank you very much. Truly big progress over 52 years. Thank you.

— Sobyanin on a tour of Moscow neighborhoods on June 30

Sobyanin: Congratulations. Tomorrow marks five years since you've become Muscovites. Do you feel like Muscovites?

Residents: Yes-yes, thank you very much. Thank you for visiting, we weren't even expecting.

We thought you'd be afraid of this [rain] cloud.

Sobyanin: Settlements of this kind weren't in very good condition.

Residents: Yes, but now everything's been done well.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2017/10/19/moscow-mayor-sobyanin-wins-autocrat-adulation-in-bi-zarre-transcripts-a59313>