

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Relative Information: All Board meetings, except executive sessions, are open to the public. Although State Law only requires the Board to permit public participation during Public Hearings, it is the practice of the Board to accept comments from the public on agenda topics or other related concerns.

Near the beginning of the meeting the Board President or presiding officer will ask if anyone in the audience wishes to comment on any agenda items or would like to address the Board on a different topic. Individuals wishing to speak are given the opportunity to introduce themselves and state the agenda item or topic they wish to address. The presiding officer will then determine when and if the concern will be addressed. Any particular topic may be postponed to a later meeting to allow time to gather necessary information and/or to ensure adequate public notice of the topic.

The presiding officer has inherent authority to keep order and to impose any reasonable restrictions necessary for the efficient and orderly conduct of a meeting. The presiding officer may regulate the order and length of appearances and limit appearances to presentations of relevant points. Any person who fails to comply with reasonable rules of conduct or who causes a disturbance may be asked or required to leave.

Policy Statement: It is the policy of the Board of Directors to accept public comment on issues of concern in accordance with the rules of parliamentary procedures and the guidelines established by the Board and the presiding officer of the meeting.