



MIAMI-DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY

MIAMI-DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX) **CITIZEN COMMENT POLICY**

PURPOSE

It is the policy of the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority to conduct its public meetings in an effective and efficient manner in accord with the provisions of Chapter 286, Florida Statutes. Recognizing that limited time exists to thoroughly review, discuss and vote on action items the Governing Board and its standing committees are required to address, and further recognizing that no statutory right exists for citizens to participate in public meetings, receipt of citizen comment must be handled in a fair and planned method that does not impinge on the business of the Authority. Although the Authority recognizes that direct citizen input can from time to time assist in the Authority's decision making processes, it is essential to the orderly functioning of the MDX Board of Directors that only those persons conducting themselves in a courteous, respectful, and non-disruptive manner shall be granted an opportunity to make public comment at MDX Board meetings. No clapping, applauding, heckling or verbal outbursts in support or opposition to a speaker or speaker's remarks shall be permitted and no signs or placards shall be allowed in the Board room. Nothing in this Policy is intended to supplant the provisions of the MDX Public Involvement Policy and the provisions of this Policy are not intended to apply to Public Hearings.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Each agenda for regular MDX Board meetings shall include an agenda item titled "Public Comment," which agenda item shall be placed on the agenda prior to Board action items.
2. Any individual desiring to make comment at an MDX Board meeting must convey such request to the Board Executive Secretary not later than noon on the Friday before the following Tuesday's regularly scheduled Board meeting. Such request may be made by telephone, in writing or by e-mail and must include the identity of the speaker, the speaker's address, and briefly describe the matter on which the speaker wishes to be heard.
3. The remarks of each individual invited to address the Board are limited to three (3) minutes and one speaker may not cede their time to another in order to extend the three (3) minutes for a single speaker. The aggregate time allotted for Public Comment on any agenda shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. By a vote of at least two thirds of the Members present, the time allotted for an individual's comments or for the aggregate time over all for Public Comment may be extended. The motion to extend.
4. If, in the Chair's sole determination, insufficient time is available to accommodate the volume of requests to make comment at a particular meeting, the Chair may refer the matter to the full Board to consider whether to convene a Public Hearing for the purpose of receiving public comment.

This policy shall be effective on the date on which it is adopted by the Governing Board and at such time this Policy supersedes all prior policies relating to Citizen Comments at MDX Board and Committee meetings.