

RESOLUTION 2025-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF AMELIA WALK COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLIC'S OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD; DESIGNATING PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS; DESIGNATING A PROCEDURE TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS SEEKING TO BE HEARD; ADDRESSING PUBLIC DECORUM; ADDRESSING EXCEPTIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Amelia Walk Community Development District (the "District") is a local unit of special-purpose government created and existing pursuant to Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, being situated entirely within Nassau County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, authorizes the District to adopt resolutions as may be necessary for the conduct of District business; and

WHEREAS, Section 286.0114, *Florida Statutes*, requires that members of the public be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a board or commission; and

WHEREAS, Section 286.0114, *Florida Statutes*, sets forth guidelines for rules and policies that govern the public's opportunity to be heard at a public meeting; and

WHEREAS, the District's Board of Supervisors (the "Board") previously adopted Resolution 2013-07, which among other things, established a policy regarding the public's opportunity to be heard at public meetings; and

WHEREAS, in light of recent developments in the law, the Board finds that it is in the best interests of the District to adopt by resolution an amended and restated policy regulating the provision of public comments during meetings of the Board (the "Public Comment Policy") for immediate use and application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF AMELIA WALK COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:

SECTION 1. DESIGNATING PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS. The purpose of public comment periods is to allow the public the opportunity to be heard on propositions before the Board. The District's Chairperson, his or her designee, or such other person conducting a District meeting (the "Presiding Officer"), shall ensure that there is at least one (1) period of time (the "Public Comment Period") in the District's meeting agenda whereby the public has an opportunity to be heard on propositions before the Board, as follows:

- A.** An initial Public Comment Period shall be provided at the start of each Board meeting before consideration of any propositions by the Board. In the event there are material propositions that come before the Board that are not listed on the agenda, the Presiding Officer shall announce a Public Comment Period on such proposition prior to the Board voting on the matter.
- B.** Speakers shall be permitted to address any agenda item during the initial Public Comment Period. In the Presiding Officer's discretion, speakers shall be permitted to address any non-agenda matters of personal or general concern regarding the District either during the initial Public Comment Period or during a separate Public Comment Period provided after the conclusion of the District's business items.

- C. Individuals wishing to make a public comment are limited to three (3) minutes per person. Potential speakers may not assign his/her three (3) minutes to extend another speaker's time.
- D. The Presiding Officer may extend or reduce the time periods set forth herein in order to facilitate orderly and efficient District business, provided however that a reasonable opportunity for public comment shall be provided consistent with the requirements of Section 286.0114, *Florida Statutes*. The Presiding Officer may also elect to set and announce additional Public Comment Periods if he or she deems it appropriate.

SECTION 2. DESIGNATING A PROCEDURE TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS SEEKING TO BE HEARD. Unless otherwise directed and declared by the Presiding Officer, individuals seeking to be heard on propositions before the Board shall identify themselves by a show of hands at the beginning of each Public Comment Period, as announced by the Presiding Officer. Alternatively, in the event that public attendance is high, and/or if otherwise in the best interests of the District in order to facilitate efficient and orderly District business, the Presiding Officer may require individuals to complete speaker cards that include the individual's name, address, the proposition on which they wish to be heard, the individual's position on the proposition (i.e., "for," "against," or "undecided"), and if appropriate, to indicate the designation of a representative to speak for the individual or the individual's group. In the event large groups of individuals desire to speak, the Presiding Officer may require each group to designate a representative to speak on behalf of such group. Any attorney hired to represent an individual or company's interests before the Board shall notify the Board of such representation prior to proving any public comment.

Sections 1 and 2 herein shall be deemed to apply only to District Board meetings, but the Presiding Officer of a District workshop in his or her discretion may elect to apply such Sections to District workshops.

SECTION 3. PUBLIC DECORUM. The following policies govern public decorum at public meetings and workshops:

- A. Each person addressing the Board shall proceed to the place assigned for speaking and should state his or her name and address in an audible tone of voice for the public record.
- B. No person other than a Board Supervisor or District staff member shall be permitted to enter into any discussion with an individual speaker while he or she has the floor, without the permission of the Presiding Officer.
- C. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the Presiding Officer from maintaining orderly conduct and proper decorum in a public meeting. Speakers shall refrain from interrupting other speakers with words or noises, speaking out of turn, speaking during another person's allotted time for public comments, exceeding the time limit for public comments, approaching Board members in a threatening manner, and making obscene or threatening remarks. "Obscene" shall mean remarks, images, or gestures which (1) appeal to the prurient interest, (2) portray offensive sexual conduct, and (3) lack serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value. "Threatening" shall mean remarks or behaviors which convey a serious intent to harm someone.
- D. The Presiding Officer shall have the discretion to remove any speaker who disregards these policies from the meeting or end their public comment privileges for the remainder of the meeting. In the case that any person is declared out of order by the Presiding Officer and ordered expelled, and does not immediately leave the meeting facilities, the following steps may be taken:

- i. The Presiding Officer may declare a recess;
- ii. The Presiding Officer may contact the local law enforcement authority; or
- iii. In case the person does not remove himself or herself from the meeting, the Presiding Officer may request that he or she be placed under arrest by local law enforcement authorities for violation of Section 871.01, *Florida Statutes*, or other applicable law.

SECTION 4. EXCEPTIONS. The Board recognizes and may apply all applicable exceptions to Section 286.0114, *Florida Statutes*, including those set forth in Section 286.0114(3), *Florida Statutes*, and other applicable law. Additionally, the Presiding Officer may alter the procedures set forth in this Public Comment Policy for public hearings and other special proceedings that may require a different procedure under Florida law.

SECTION 5. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this Resolution is held to be illegal or invalid, the other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and shall remain in effect unless rescinded or repealed.


PASSED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of September 2025.

ATTEST:

Signed by:

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Secretary / Assistant Secretary

**AMELIA WALK COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

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Chairperson / Vice Chairperson,
Board of Supervisors