# KEEP IT CIVIL!

#### KEY STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS IN PUBLIC MEETINGS

### **Listen Attentively**

Listen and seek to understand someone else's point of view.

### Stay focused on the issues at hand

Avoid personalizing issues or using personal attacks when you disagree.

### Assume positive intent Assume others have an interest in the greater good.

### **Be courteous**

Treat everyone respectfully, even those you disagree with

## Make room for respectful disagreements

Foster respectful disagreements. Dissent is a democratic right.

### Consider how your behavior seems to others

Being passionate is a good thing. Intimidation, threats, insults, shouting, or using offensive language erode civility in public meetings.

### Share your perspectives thoughtfully

Respect the time allotted to all members of the public and to meeting leaders.



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