

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING A POLICY RELATED TO
A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD REQUIRED AT MEETINGS OF THE
SPORTS AUTHORITY BY THE TENNESSEE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.**

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2023, Governor Bill Lee signed Public Chapter No. 300 into law that amended Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 44, Part 1, also known as the “Tennessee Open Meetings Act” (the “Act”), to require governing bodies to reserve a public comment period allowing individuals the opportunity to comment on matters that are germane to the items on the agenda for the meeting; and

WHEREAS, this new law takes effect on July 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Act permits the governing body to place reasonable restrictions on the period for public comment, including but not limited to, the length of the period, the number of speakers, and the length of time for each speaker to provide comment; and

WHEREAS, the Sports Authority of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County (the “Authority”) is a “governing body” as defined by T.C.A. § 8-44-102(b)(1); and

WHEREAS, the Authority intends to include such a time period for public comment on the agendas for all regular and specially called meetings beginning July 1, 2023; and

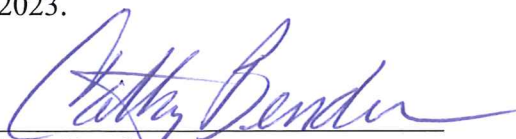
WHEREAS, the Authority desires to adopt a policy which places permitted reasonable restrictions on the period for public comment that have been recommended by Metro Legal (attached as Exhibit A); and

WHEREAS, the Authority desires the public comment period policy, and related reasonable restrictions to take effect as of July 1, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Authority hereby approves and adopts the policy recommended which places reasonable restrictions on the period for public comment, as provided for in T.C.A. Title 8, Chapter 44, Part 1, as detailed in Exhibit A, to be effective beginning with regular and specially-called meetings occurring after July 1, 2023.

Adopted and approved this 15th day of June, 2023.



Chair Cathy Bender

ATTEST:



Secretary/Treasurer Emmett Wynn

EXHIBIT A

The Sports Authority of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

Public Comment Policy

Pursuant to the Tennessee Open Meetings Act, Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-44-101, *et seq.*, members of the public will be permitted to make public comments at any meeting at which there are actionable items on the agenda consistent with this policy.

At least forty-eight (48) hours prior to a scheduled meeting of the Authority, a person desiring to speak during the public comment period for such meeting shall submit a request in writing to the Authority at SPORTS.AUTHORITY@NASHVILLE.GOV identifying the reason for the request, the agenda topic(s) they intend to speak on, and whether they are “for” or “against” the agenda item. At the meeting, the Authority will provide a dedicated sign-in sheet on which those who have given prior notice may sign in with their names to indicate their presence at the meeting and to confirm their desire to provide public comments to the Authority. Such speakers must have signed in at least five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the meeting.

The public comment period shall be the first item on the agenda and shall only be required to be held at such meetings in which there are actionable items on the respective agenda. A maximum of ten (10) people will be permitted to speak at each meeting, as determined by the order of the names listed on the sign-in sheet; provided, that, the Authority will endeavor to have opposing viewpoints on a similar issue represented during each public comment period.

The Authority will provide each person a maximum of two (2) minutes to speak. A speaker will only be permitted to speak about items on the agenda for that particular meeting. A speaker must refrain from making any personal or derogatory comments. If a speaker is off topic or engages in disruptive or inappropriate behavior, the Chair has the right to immediately terminate such speaker’s time.

On each public notice for the Authority’s meetings, there shall be notice of how an individual may inform the Authority of their desire to give public comment in compliance with the requirements of this policy.