

RESOLUTION R-03-11

A resolution adopting a policy for public comment during Citilink Board meetings

PREAMBLE

The Fort Wayne Public Transportation Corporation ("Citilink") has a long-standing policy of allowing public comments at the meetings of its Board of Directors (the "Board"). Though it is not required by law to maintain this public comment opportunity, Citilink would prefer to continue its policy. However, the Board is concerned that the efficiency of Board meetings may be compromised by public comments which are overly lengthy, irrelevant to the Board's agenda, or repetitive in nature.

Citilink believes that the "Public Comment" sections of its Board meetings are "limited public fora" within the definition set out by the United States Supreme Court. As such, Citilink may impose restrictions on the time, place and manner of speech during "Public Comment," and may also limit the public's comments to subject matter that is on the Board's agenda.

Citilink may also postpone the hearing of employment-related matters from a current or former employee when that individual has not properly reviewed the matter with Citilink management or while that individual has an employment-related complaint currently pending or threatened against Citilink, as a complaint to a supervisor, a grievance, administrative or legal proceeding is a more appropriate forum to hear the current or former employee's concerns.

This Policy has a two-fold purpose:

1. Ensure that the public's opportunity to express ideas, comments, and concerns to the Citilink Board is maintained; and
2. Maximize the efficiency of Board meetings by imposing reasonable restrictions on verbal comments made by members of the public during the meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of Fort Wayne Public Transportation Corporation adopts the following policy.

Section One: Public Comments at Citilink Board Meetings

Effective 5-17-, 2011, the Fort Wayne Public Transportation Corporation shall continue to allow individuals to address its Board of Directors during the "Public Comment" section of Board meetings. Any such comments, however, will be subject to the following regulations:

- (a) **Time limit.** Comments will be limited to five (5) minutes per person, per Board meeting.

- (b) **Preregistration.** An individual present at a Citilink Board meeting and wishing to speak during the "Public Comment" section must first submit an index card with the individual's name and the subject matter of intended comments. Index cards will be made available during each Board meeting.
- (c) **"Public Comment" Procedure.** During the "Public Comment" section of the Board meeting, the Chairperson of the Board (the "Chair") will recognize each individual who has submitted an index card, in accordance with subsection (b), at that meeting. However, it is within the Chair's discretion to deny or further limit the opportunity to speak to an individual on any of the following grounds:
- (1) the subject matter of the individual's proposed comments, as provided on the submitted index card, is outside the scope of the Board's agenda;
 - (2) the individual has previously spoken about the proposed subject matter during a previous Board meeting; or
 - (3) the individual is a current or former employee of Citilink who wishes to address a matter related to his or her employment with Citilink, and the individual has not taken all appropriate steps with Citilink management to resolve the matter or has an employment-related claim against Citilink currently pending or threatened.
- (d) **Enforcement of Policy.** If an individual's comments exceed five (5) minutes in length, or if the individual strays from the subject matter indicated on the submitted index card, the Chair may require the individual to stop speaking. If the individual does not comply with the Chair's directions, the individual may be removed from the Board meeting.

Section Two: Written Comments to the Citilink Board

Any individual wishing to bring any matter to the attention of the Citilink Board is encouraged to submit written comments at any time. Such comments may be submitted in either of the following ways:

- (a) Hand-delivery to the Board Chair at the close of any Citilink Board meeting;
or
- (b) Sending mail to the following address:

Citilink Board of Directors
Attn: Board President / Chairperson
801 Leesburg Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46808-2529

Upon receiving any such written comments, the Board President shall distribute the comments to the members of the Board.

This resolution ~~adopted~~/rejected 5/17/11, 2011 by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Sheresa Portruede

Frederick N. Tanshan

R.L. m

Alphonse Comy

Marvin Gottlieb