

## **The Washington Metrorail Safety Commission**

### **Public Comment Policy**

#### **Section 1 – Policy**

It is the policy of the Washington Metrorail Safety Commission (WMSC) to invite, through reasonable means, the participation of private citizens and interested stakeholders in its public meetings in order to gain the value of public feedback and aid the WMSC in the performance of its duties.

#### **Section 2 – Procedures**

In the interests of order and efficiency, the WMSC must establish a framework to manage public comments. Accordingly, the WMSC hereby establishes the following guidelines to govern public participation:

- (a) Participants shall be physically present at the public meeting in order to provide comment;
- (b) Participants with a disability shall make every effort to inform the WMSC in advance of the meeting of any need for a reasonable accommodation;
- (c) Participants shall provide their name on a written sign-in sheet that will be provided by the WMSC before the commencement of the public meeting;
- (d) Participants shall not speak until recognized by the Chair;
- (e) Each individual participant shall be afforded 2:00 minutes to speak;
- (f) Participants shall be prohibited from transferring all or a portion of their allotted time to other participants;
- (g) Participants' comments shall be made verbally, and any written materials provided by participants shall be reviewed and retained by the WMSC in its sole discretion;
- (h) Participants shall make every effort to speak only as to issues that fall within the purview of the WMSC; and
- (i) The Chair maintains the right to revoke speaking privileges of any participants whose remarks, in the opinion of the Chair, are deemed to be disruptive or inappropriate.

#### **Section 3 – No limitation**

Nothing herein shall be construed as to limit in any way the ability of a public citizen or interested stakeholder to alert the WMSC or other authorities of a safety concern or other hazard on WMATA Metrorail.