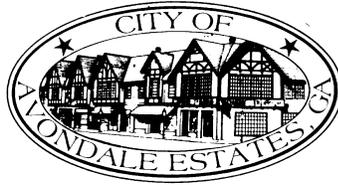


**BOARD OF MAYOR AND
COMMISSIONERS**

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Brian Fisher
Mayor Pro Tem
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This is a time of great and positive change in Avondale Estates, and this change has inspired passionate interest in many residents. The Board of Mayor and Commissioners recognizes this reality and wishes to do nothing to dampen either the passion or the interest. However, high emotions have recently led some meeting participants to conduct themselves in a manner that is in keeping neither with the neighborly culture of our city nor with the high standards of professional decorum necessary to conduct an effective public process.

The BOMC firmly believes in the value of ensuring that all citizens feel welcome and comfortable providing public comment. We fear argumentative or disrespectful comments made in the Public Comment periods of recent meetings, both directly to the Board, City staff, and between members of the audience, may have dissuaded other residents from attending meetings and making their voices heard. It is precisely to encourage the widest possible participation that the BOMC resolved to adopt a formal public comment policy on July 23, 2018, and the board remains committed to both the principles and protocols specified therein.

Therefore, we would like to remind everyone in attendance of the importance of following this policy, and in particular these provisions:

- Each commenter is limited to **2 minutes on agenda items** and **3 minutes in the general comment period at the end of the meeting.**
- **Commenters must wait to be recognized by the Mayor before speaking.** The Mayor may give preference in the General Comment period to those who have not previously had a chance to speak on an agenda item.
- **Clarifying questions related to agenda items are welcome,** but it is not possible or desirable to provide an immediate response in many cases. So, the Mayor may refer questions to the City Manager, and the City Manager may elect to respond at a later time. **Attempts to engage the BOMC or City staff in discussion is a violation of the policy.**
- **Any speaker who behaves in a manner not consistent with the Public Comment Policy, or with norms of professional decorum generally, may be asked to leave the building.**

The BOMC remains committed to promoting the friendly, neighborly atmosphere that is the hallmark of Avondale Estates and invites the public to share in that commitment. There is nowhere that our commitment to positive relations with our neighbors is more important – or more visible – than at the public meetings that shape the future of our city.

Thank you,

The City of Avondale Estates Board of Mayor and Commissioners