

Public Participation Guidelines
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Public Participation at EDIC Meetings

The Framingham Economic Development and Industrial Corporation (EDIC) invites residents of the town to attend its meetings so that they may become better informed about economic development activities taking place in Town, and to provide input on those activities.

In order that all citizens who wish to be heard before the EDIC have a chance to do so and to ensure the ability of the EDIC to conduct business in an orderly and efficient manner, the following rules and procedures are adopted:

1. All meetings of the EDIC shall be held in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25.
2. Attendees who are not members of the EDIC, staff members of the Community & Economic Development (C&ED) Division, or invited guests are requested to sign in so that their attendance can be recorded in the meeting minutes, and are requested to sit around the perimeter of the conference room.
3. Discussion for each topic on the agenda will proceed as follows:
 - a. Discussion is initiated by the Chairperson of the EDIC.
 - b. Members of the EDIC and C&ED staff will discuss the topic freely, not having to be recognized by the Chair but being respectful of one another.
 - c. Once members of the EDIC and C&ED staff have discussed the topic, the Chair may at his/her discretion call upon members of the public to speak according to the following guidelines:
 - i. Participants must be recognized by the Chairperson before speaking. Once recognized, participants are requested to introduce themselves and direct their comments only to the Chairperson.
 - ii. Speakers will be allowed three (3) minutes to present their comments. The Chairperson may permit extension of this time limit. Written comments longer than three (3) minutes may be presented to the EDIC before or after the meeting for the members' review and consideration at an appropriate time.
 - iii. The Chairperson shall reserve the right to limit comments to those that are relevant to the topic being discussed and are not repetitive to points previously made.
 - iv. Improper conduct and defamatory or abusive remarks will not be allowed. If a speaker persists in improper conduct or remarks, the Chairperson may terminate that individual's speaking privilege.
 - v. The Chairperson may, at his/her discretion, discontinue public input on any topic.