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To: [Carney, Tom](#); [Casale, Juli](#); [Long, Rob](#); [Burns, Angela](#); [Markert, Tom](#)
Cc: [Terrence R. Moore](#)
Subject: Public Comment During Workshops
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 6:15:00 PM
Attachments: [Sunshine Law workshop meetings public participation.pdf](#)

Good evening, Mayor and Commissioners. At our City Commission meeting last week, the Commission discussed tomorrow's workshop and whether or not there would be public comment during same. As you know, as a matter of practice, we do not allow public comment during workshops.

In order to maintain a uniform application of our Local Rules, it is my opinion that we should amend our Local Rules to allow public comment during all publicly-noticed meetings (ie regular meetings and workshops). Arbitrary decisions concerning when to allow public comment could be viewed as a restraint on speech which could create a potential liability for the City. I have attached an attorney general opinion confirming that public comment should be afforded during workshops. While this is a departure from our current practice and procedure, in light of this Commission's understandable desire for input and participation from the public and to ensure that our rules are uniformly applied, I would recommend making a change to the Local Rules as referenced herein.

This is sent to you as an FYI for potential future discussion and I would respectfully request that you refrain from discussing this amongst yourselves. Thank you and have a good night.

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CITY OF DELRAY BEACH



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