

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-\_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN CARLOS  
ADOPTING A MEETING DECORUM AND CIVILITY POLICY FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS.**

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**WHEREAS**, across the nation many Cities have adopted policies and rules to establish decorum and enhance civility at public meetings, including the United States Conference of Mayors, which adopted a Civility Accord; and

**WHEREAS**, Government Code Sections 54954.3, 54957.9, and 54957.95 provide that the City Council may adopt reasonable regulations to ensure public participation, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public testimony on particular issues and for each individual speaker, a procedure for readmitting persons after a meeting is cleared and to provide for removal of persons whose behavior is disrupting a meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of San Carlos has a strong commitment to the democratic process, individual rights of expression, robust debate, and tolerance for disparate views, with such expression and debate conducted in a civil manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the San Carlos City Council, the City's boards and commissions, other public bodies, citizens, interested persons and various community groups participate in public meetings, which at times entail consideration of controversial issues that may engender passionate and often conflicting opinions; and

**WHEREAS**, intentional behavior designed to disrupt a meeting, impropriety, incivility, and disrespect at these public meetings can stifle participation and debate, threaten the quality of decisions, and undermine the local democratic process; and

**WHEREAS**, adopting rules of decorum and civility applicable to all public meetings will ensure that civic engagement and local democracy continue to flourish in San Carlos; and

**WHEREAS**, appropriate and reasonable rules of decorum and civility will enable the Mayor and presiding officer to conduct an orderly meeting, while respecting participation of the public.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of San Carlos hereby adopts the attached Decorum and Civility Policy for the conduct of public meetings.

\* \* \* \* \*

I, City Clerk Crystal Mui, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of San Carlos at a scheduled meeting thereof held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2023, by the following vote:

**AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY CLERK** of the City of San Carlos

APPROVED:

**MAYOR** of the City of San Carlos

Exhibit A: Meeting Decorum and Civility Policy