

OPEN MEETINGS VIA ELECTRONIC MEANS POLICY
DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the policy of the Town of Golden Meadow (“Town of GM”) to facilitate participation in its public meetings by members of the public with disabilities recognized by the Americans with Disabilities Act by telephone and to fully comply with Louisiana Revised Statutes 42:14€ and 17.2.1. Accordingly:

A. Telephone Participation in Meetings by Members of the Public with Disabilities.

1. If any member of the public who has a condition which meets the definition of a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act wishes to participate in a public meeting of the Town of GM or any committee thereof, such person, or a designated caregiver of such person, shall contact the Golden Meadow Town Hall at 985-475-5212 at least three business days in advance of the meeting and request that such participation by telephone be arranged.
2. The disabled individual shall provide the staff with necessary information regarding the nature of the disability so that the means of telephone participation can be determined.
3. The staff shall then arrange for a telephone conference call at the time of the meeting and provide the information regarding such call to the disabled person or designated caregiver.
4. In the event that the nature of the disability of the person requesting telephone participation is such that assistance in participation by telephone may be required by means such as TTY, Voice Carry Over (VCO), Hearing Carry Over (HCO), Speech-to-Speech (STS), or Visually Assisted Speech-to-Speech (VA STS), the TOWN OF GM will provide information concerning the free services of Louisiana Relay and the link to its website for such services at <https://hamiltonrelay.com/louisiana/index.html>.
5. At the designated time for the meeting Town of GM will initiate the conference call as the host to allow members of the public with qualifying disabilities or their designated caregiver or Louisiana Relay, as the case may be, to initiate participation in the conference call.

B. Telephone Participation in Meetings by Members of Town of GM with Disabilities.

1. In the event that any council member or elected official of the Town of GM who has a condition which meets the definition of a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act wishes to participate in a meeting of the Town of GM or a

committee thereof, by telephone, the policy outlined in the preceding section shall also apply.

2. In the event of participation by telephone in a meeting of the Town of GM or one of its committees by a council member who is qualified to so participate pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17.2.1, said official's participation in that manner shall count in the determination of whether a quorum exists, the council member shall be entitled to vote on any matters on the agenda, and the council member shall be entitled to receive a per diem. The meeting chairperson shall ensure that the council member or members participating by telephone and voting on any matter on the agenda shall have their voting decision recorded during each vote and recorded in the minutes and archive of the meeting.

A copy of this policy shall be posted on the Town of GM website.