

POLICY TITLE: Public Complaints

POLICY NUMBER: 2410

2410.1 The Board of Directors desires that public complaints be resolved at the lowest possible administrative level, and that the method for resolution of complaints be logical and systematic.

2410.2 A public complaint is an allegation by a member of the public of a violation or misinterpretation of a District policy, or state, or federal law, by an individual who has been adversely affected by that alleged violation or misinterpretation.

2410.3 Complaints shall be resolved as follows:

- a) An individual with a complaint shall first discuss the matter with the General Manager designee to resolve the matter informally if possible.
- b) If an individual registering a complaint is not satisfied with the disposition of the complaint by the General Manager or designee, it shall be forwarded to the Board. At the option of the General Manager [or other designee], he/she may conduct conferences and take testimony or written documentation in the resolution of the complaint. The General Manager [or designee] shall memorialize his/her decision in writing, providing the individual registering the complaint with a copy.
- c) If an individual filing a complaint is not satisfied with the disposition of the matter by the General Manager or designee, he/she may request consideration by the Board of Directors by filing said request in writing within ten (10) days of receiving the General Manager's decision. The Board may consider the matter at its next regular meeting, call a special meeting, or decline to consider the matter further. In making a decision, the Board may conduct conferences, hear testimony, and review the materials provided to the General Manager. The Board's final decision shall be memorialized in writing with an explanation regarding the decision, copied to the individual registering the complaint. The action of the Board, including an action to decline to consider a complaint, is the final action of the District, not subject to further internal appeal.

2410.4 This policy is not intended to prohibit or deter a member of the community or a staff member from appearing before the Board to orally present testimony, a complaint, or a statement in regard to actions of the Board, District programs and services, or pending considerations of the Board as permitted by the Brown Act. Nothing in this policy shall alter the duties of District employees to protect the District's confidences and avoid insubordination and as otherwise provided by law and District policy.