POLICY AND PROCEDURE

REACH for Tomorrow

POLICY: RG-102

TITLE: Rights of the Public to be Present and Address the Meeting

EFFECTIVE DATE: 2/8/24 **AUTHORIZED BY: Board of Trustees**

This policy shall apply to all REACH for Tomorrow services operated by or under contract with it.

1.0 Policy

All REACH for Tomorrow Board/Committee Meetings are required to be open to the public unless a closed meeting is held.

1.1 All persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting except as discussed subsequently.

1.2 The right of a person to attend a meeting includes the right to audio record, video record, broadcast live on radio and television.

1.3 A person cannot be required, as a condition of attendance at a meeting, to register or otherwise provide his/her name or other information.

1.4 A person shall be permitted to address a meeting of REACH for Tomorrow Authority providing the individual wishing to address the meeting identifies him/herself.

1.5 Public comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

1.6 Public comment shall be allowed only where so designated on the agenda.

2.0 Order of Business

The agenda shall occur according to Board Bylaws Section 7.

3.0 Closed Meeting

Upon a two-thirds roll call vote of REACH for Tomorrow Authority Board members appointed and serving, REACH for Tomorrow Board may meet in closed session utilizing the agenda as outlined in Section 7.3 of the Board Bylaws for any of the following reasons:

3.1 To consider the purchase or lease of real property up to the time an option to purchase or lease that real property is obtained [not the sale of real estate owned by REACH for Tomorrow

3.2 To consult with its attorneys regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation, but only if an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement

position of the public body.

3.3 To review and consider the contents of an application for employment or appointment to a public office if the candidate requests that the application remain confidential. All interviews of a public body for employment or appointment to a public office shall be held in an open meeting pursuant to this Act except as otherwise provided in this subdivision.

3.4 To consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by State or Federal statute. To hold a closed session for consideration of a written legal opinion within the attorney-client privilege. A closed session may not be held for consideration of an oral opinion.

3.5 Closed sessions may also be held by REACH for Tomorrow Board for the following reasons without a two-thirds roll call vote:

3.5.1 To consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against or to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of, a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent, if the named person requests a closed hearing. The named person requesting a closed hearing may rescind the request at any time, in which case the matter at issue shall be considered thereafter only in open sessions.

3.5.2 For strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement when either negotiating party requests a closed hearing.

4.0 Disorderly Conduct

The President shall call to order any person who is being disorderly by speaking or otherwise disrupting the proceedings, by failing to be germane, by speaking longer than the allotted time, or by speaking vulgarities.

4.1 Such person shall thereupon be seated until the President shall have determined whether the person is in order.

4.2 If the person shall continue to be disorderly and to disrupt the meeting, the President may ask the person to leave the meeting.

4.3 No person shall be requested to leave an open meeting except for an actual breach of the peace committed at the meeting.

4.4 The President shall have the right to immediately declare a recess of the meeting for such time as may be, in the President's discretion, necessary to deal with disruptive or disorderly behavior.