

Code of Conduct of the Mar Vista Community Council

POL-2019-003

Approved by MVCC Board of Directors on
August 13, 2019

Neighborhood Council Board Members are required to read and sign a copy of the following Code of Conduct and participate in training approved by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. The MVCC additionally adopts this Code of Conduct as applicable guidelines for all MVCC Standing and Ad Hoc Committees.

1. Neighborhood Council Board Members should conduct themselves in a professional and civil manner.
2. Neighborhood Council Board Members should treat other Board Members and members of the public with respect regardless of the other's opinion, ethnicity, race, religion, religious belief or non-belief, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender expression, age, disability, marital status, income, homeowner status, renter status or political affiliation.
3. Neighborhood Council Board Members should not, during meetings, functions or events engage in or threaten to engage in any physical attack on any other individual.
4. Neighborhood Council Board Members should not use language that is threatening, obscene, or slanderous, including profanities, insults or other disparaging remarks or gestures directed toward other Board Members.
5. Neighborhood Council Board Members should promote and, if necessary, enforce a safe meeting environment. If other Board Members become disruptive or violate the Code of Conduct Neighborhood Council Board Members have agreed to abide by, Board Members should demand that the offending Board Member conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner.
6. Neighborhood Council Board Members should not engage in "bullying" or "harassment" which is generally defined as follows:
 - a. "Bullying" is conduct that meets all of the following criteria:
 - i. is reasonably perceived as being dehumanizing, intimidating, hostile, threatening, or otherwise likely to evoke fear of physical harm or emotional distress;
 - ii. Is directed at one or more Board Members;
 - iii. Is conveyed through physical, verbal, or technological means;
 - iv. Substantially interferes with participation opportunities, benefits, or programs of one or more Board Members at Neighborhood Council sponsored activities or events;
 - v. adversely affects the ability of a Board Member to participate in or benefit from the Neighborhood Council programs or activities by placing the Board Member in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing emotional distress; and,
 - vi. Is based on a Board Member's actual or perceived protected characteristic (see 2 above), or is based on an association with another person who has or is perceived to have any of these characteristics.
 - b. "Harassment" is conduct that meets all of the following criteria
 - i. is reasonably perceived as being dehumanizing, intimidating, hostile, threatening, or otherwise likely to evoke fear of physical harm or emotional distress;
 - ii. Is directed at one or more Board Members;
 - iii. Is conveyed through physical, verbal, or technological means;
 - iv. Substantially interferes with participation opportunities, benefits, or programs of one or more Board Members at Neighborhood Council sponsored activities or events;

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- v. adversely affects the ability of a Board Member to participate in or benefit from the Neighborhood Council programs or activities because the conduct, as reasonably perceived by the Board Member, is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive as to have this effect; and,
- vi. Is based on a Board Member's actual or perceived protected characteristic (see 2 above), or is based on an association with another person who has or is perceived to have any of these characteristics.

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