

County Government Position – 2022

CMAL supports measures to ensure accountability and visibility of county government. (1975, 2022)

CMAL believes that accountability and visibility of a governmental body, such as a county, are obtained by

- ✓ Effective communication of its policies and procedures to residents of the jurisdiction;
- ✓ Public access to the budget process where priorities and policies are set, including an opportunity for the public to give timely and meaningful input;
- ✓ Offering members of the public opportunities to provide timely and meaningful input into policy development, county initiatives and capital projects, including, by way of example, one-on-one meetings with county commissioners, virtual and in-person town meetings, and open houses;
- ✓ Provision of ample and easily accessible notice of the location, time, date and agenda for county board meetings, county board committee meetings, county board work sessions and county advisory committee/commission meetings;
- ✓ Posting on its website minutes or discussion notes from county board meetings, county board committee meetings, county board work sessions, and county board advisory committee/commission meetings;
- ✓ Posting on its website video recordings of county board meetings and county board committee meetings;
- ✓ Dissemination of information on the procedures for appointment to advisory committees/commissions, as well as posting the number of members for each committee/commission and the identity of current appointees;
- ✓ Ensuring public access to county board meetings, county board committee meetings, county board work sessions and county advisory committee/commission meetings, plus the opportunity for members of the public to make public comment at county board meetings and county board committee meetings;
- ✓ Regular communication between county government and municipalities and between county government and other levels of government.

CMAL also recognizes the responsibility of residents to become adequately informed.

CMAL views the Metropolitan Council as the regional planning and coordinating body, while the counties are viewed as administrators, implementers and enforcers of regional policy. CMAL believes that counties should be involved in the initial planning and policy-making stages of Metropolitan Council activities in order for counties to carry out their eventual implementation.

CMAL supports measures to improve cooperation and communication between the Metropolitan Council and county government in the metropolitan area.

CMAL believes that county government should post general information on its website about funds received from or through the Metropolitan council and how such funds are used.