



TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Police Chief Brian Sandell

DATE: May 30, 2023

MEETING DATE: June 5, 2023

Agenda Item: Public Assembly First Amendment Rights Policy

Background: The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

The Bill of Rights in Article 1 of the [Minnesota Constitution](#) addresses the rights of free speech and the liberty of the press. However, neither the state nor federal constitutions protect criminal activity or threats against citizens, businesses, or critical infrastructure.

The Breezy Point Police Department supports all people's fundamental right to peaceably assemble and their right to freedom of speech and expression.

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to Breezy Point Police Department personnel regarding the application and operation of acceptable law enforcement actions addressing public assemblies and First Amendment Activity.

Requested Action: Approve the mandated Public Assembly First Amendment Rights Model Policy.