

EXHIBIT A

VILLAGE OF THORNTON PROPOSED PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY AUGUST 18, 2025

1. Members of the public shall have an opportunity to make comments to the Village Board at all public meetings during a specific time designated on the agenda. Public comments shall be related to matters pertaining to the Village. The manner in which individuals shall be recognized to make comments may include raising their hand, placing their name on a sign-in sheet, or submitting a request to the Village Clerk prior to the start of the meeting. The manner of recognition is at the discretion of the Mayor or presiding officer, and may be dependent on how many individuals are present at a given meeting. Notwithstanding the foregoing, once a manner of recognition is decided upon for a given public meeting, such manner of recognition shall be applied uniformly throughout the entirety of the applicable public meeting.

2. No member of the public shall address the Village Board without first securing the recognition of the Mayor or presiding officer. After being recognized by the Mayor or presiding officer, and before addressing the Village Board, the individual shall state his or her name for the record. All comments shall be directed to the Mayor or presiding officer. No questions shall be directed to a member of the Village Board, staff, or audience member without obtaining permission from the Mayor or presiding officer.

3. Any person attending an open meeting of the Village Board shall be permitted to record the proceedings by audio or video means, provided that such recording is conducted in a manner that does not disrupt the meeting or interfere with the rights of others to observe or participate. The Mayor or presiding officer may establish reasonable rules to govern the placement and use of recording equipment to ensure the orderly conduct of the meeting.

4. The Village Board may ask a member of the public to clarify a comment. However, the Village Board shall have no obligation to respond to a comment made by a member of the public. If an answer to a question cannot be provided during the meeting in which it was asked, the Village shall work diligently to provide an answer in a timely manner if so requested. The Village shall consider, but not be obligated, to provide an answer to a question in a manner for public consumption if, in the Village's estimation, the question pertains to more than just the questioner.

5. Comments shall be limited to five minutes per member of the public. Members of the public may not yield unused time to other members. Members of the public may not speak to the Village Board more than once during the public comment portion of a public meeting.

6. Members of the public, as an alternative to speaking, may submit written materials to the Village Board regarding any matter pertaining to the Village.

7. Any person who engages in threatening, slanderous, or disorderly behavior when addressing a meeting of the Village Board shall be deemed out of order by the Mayor or presiding officer. The Mayor or presiding officer shall have the right at any time to close comment by that person, when in the Mayor or presiding officer's discretion, such behavior violates the provisions of these rules,

or is otherwise disruptive. The person violating these rules may be removed from the meeting at the discretion of the Mayor or Presiding officer.

8. Failure to adhere to the provisions of this policy shall not affect any ordinances, resolution, motion, or other action of the Village Board.