Indian Valley Community Services District

POLICY HANDBOOK

POLICY TITLE: **Public Comment Conduct**
POLICY NUMBER: **5035**

Indian Valley Community Services District (IVCSD) welcomes and encourages public input and values transparency and community engagement. However, to maintain a respectful and productive environment for all participants, the following standards apply to any comments submitted via the District's website, email, or other electronic platforms:

5035.1   All public comments must adhere to standards of civility and constructive engagement. Comments containing the following will not be accepted, published, or included in the public record:

> **5035.1.1** Hate speech, slurs, or derogatory language targeting any individual or group, including those based on race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, disability, or any other protected class under state or federal law.

> **5035.1.2** Profane, obscene, or abusive language.

> **5035.1.3** Personal attacks against District staff, Board members, or members of the public. While criticism of District decisions, policies, or public conduct is allowed, it must be expressed respectfully and without demeaning or hostile language.

5035.2   The District reserves the right to:

> **5035.2.1**   Withhold publication or sharing of comments that violate this policy.

> **5035.2.2**   Redact or remove inappropriate content from public records to ensure compliance with state and federal anti-discrimination laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Civil Rights Act, and related protections.
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5035.3   Public comment is intended to inform decision-making, not to serve as a platform for personal grievances, harassment, or defamatory content. While differing opinions are welcomed, all discourse must remain respectful and within the bounds of lawful and ethical communication.

5035.4   This policy shall be administered by the District's administrative staff under the direction of the General Manager or designee. Repeated violations may result in limited access to digital comment platforms or require submission through alternative formats.