

**Accommodation of Members of the Public with an ADA-Recognized
Disability to Participate in Public Meetings**

Act 393 of the 2023 Louisiana Legislative Session requires public bodies to accommodate members of the public with a disability recognized by the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) so that those members of the public, or their designated caregiver, can participate during open public meetings through teleconference or video conference.

The Bayou D’Arbonne Lake Watershed District (the “District”) has adopted procedures for accommodating members of the public who have an ADA-recognized disability or their caretakers which include the following:

- (1) the process by which members of the public with an ADA-recognized disability, or their caretakers, are to notify the District of their desire to participate in a public meeting.
- (2) the documentation the District will require such members of the public to provide to show they have an ADA-recognized disability which results in a functional limitation caused by the disability which affects their ability to attend the public meeting.
- (3) the method by which public meeting(s) will be conducted to allow for public members of the public with an ADA-recognized disability to participate in the meeting.

**Notification of District for Accommodation of Members of the Public with
an ADA-Recognized Disability**

A member of the public with an ADA-recognized disability or their caregiver who desires to participate in a public meeting of the District may contact the District by mail at P. O. Box 696 Farmerville, LA 71241 or by email at lakedarbonne@gmail.com, for information and guidance as to the procedures adopted by the District to facilitate participation in a public meeting.

**Accommodation of Members of the Public Body with an ADA-
Recognized Disability to Participate in Public Meetings**

Act 393 also creates procedures and requirements when a member of a public body itself with an ADA-recognized disability seeks accommodation for remote participation. In that case, the municipality must enable the member to participate and vote in the meeting either by teleconference and/or video conference.

The District has adopted procedures to accommodate members of the District's public body who have an ADA-recognized disability which include the following:

- (1) the process by which a District Board member(s) with an ADA-recognized disability may request to attend meetings electronically rather than in person, including the documentation needed.
- (2) the method by which such Board member(s) may participate in the meetings electronically.
- (3) recognition that a Board member attending electronically counts towards a quorum and may participate and vote in meetings. R.S. 42:17.2.1(A).

**Notification of District for Accommodation of a Member of the District
Public Body with an ADA-Recognized Disability**

A member of the District's Board with an ADA-recognized disability who desires to participate in a public meeting of the District, may contact the District by mail at P. O. Box 696 Farmerville, LA 71241 or by email at lakedarbonne@gmail.com for information and guidance as to the procedures adopted by the District to facilitate participation in a public meeting.