

September 25, 2026

As-Salamu Alaikum IAGD Community Members,

I pray that you and your families are doing well and that Allah SWT continues to bless you with good health, happiness, and prosperity.

On behalf of the Islamic Association of Greater Detroit (IAGD), I am writing to you regarding an important matter that will help shape the governance of our organization for many years to come.

Proposed Update to the IAGD Constitution & By-Laws

Our current Constitution & By-Laws have served IAGD and our community for more than four decades. During this time, IAGD has grown significantly—from a community organization into a large and multifaceted Islamic institution serving thousands of families through our masjid, schools, Hifz and weekend programs, youth activities, community services, and expanding facilities.

With this growth comes the responsibility to ensure that our governing document reflects the size, complexity, and needs of IAGD today.

Following an extensive review, the IAGD Board has developed a **proposed amended and restated Constitution & By-Laws** to modernize our governance structure, clarify responsibilities and authority, strengthen accountability, and establish more comprehensive procedures for the future.

The proposed Constitution & By-Laws were **unanimously approved by the Board of Directors (BOD) and Board of Trustees (BOT)**. We strongly encourage all eligible members to carefully review the proposed document and **vote to APPROVE** it by returning the completed ballot in the enclosed self-addressed envelope **no later than October 21, 2026**.

Importantly, the proposed document **does not change the fundamental Islamic foundation of IAGD**. It continues to affirm the **Holy Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)** as the ultimate foundation of the Association and maintains IAGD's commitment to keeping the Masjid open for prayer to all Muslims in accordance with Islamic norms.

Major Changes at a Glance

The proposed Constitution & By-Laws contain numerous updates. The following are the major areas members should review:

1. Modernized Governance and Legal Framework: Updates the language, structure, and governance framework to better reflect IAGD's role as a Michigan nonprofit religious organization.

2. Board Term Limits and Election Procedures: Maintains a **nine-member BOD and five-member BOT** with staggered terms while establishing limits of **three consecutive terms (9 years) for BOD members and two consecutive terms (20 years) for BOT members**. It also provides for electronic voting when appropriate safeguards are available and establishes clearer procedures for nominations, ballots, elections, and tied elections.

3. Clearer BOT/BOD roles and authority: The proposed document more clearly defines the BOT as the governing board under the Michigan Nonprofit Act and the BOD as the executive body responsible for managing and executing IAGD's programs and activities.

4. Stronger Continuity and Accountability: Provides clearer provisions concerning term limits, vacancies, removal in certain serious circumstances, and potential conflicts of interest involving immediate family members.

5. Clearer Membership and General Body Procedures: Defines membership and Voting Member requirements more specifically and establishes clearer procedures for dues, General Body meetings, special meetings, voting rights, and quorum.

6. Stronger Officer and Committee Structure: Formally defines key standing committees and clarifies the responsibilities of the President, Vice President, BOD Secretary, Treasurer, BOT Secretary, and BOT Chair.

7. Enhanced Financial and Organizational Controls: Provides additional financial and administrative procedures covering special-purpose accounts, financial reporting, electronic fund transfers, authorization of corporate documents, and protections for individuals serving IAGD. It also establishes a framework for creating a charitable foundation in the future.

8. Dispute Resolution and Future Amendments: Establishes a formal arbitration process for certain organizational disputes, including disputes between the BOD and BOT, and provides a more structured process for future amendments to the Constitution & By-Laws.

Your Vote Matters

The Constitution & By-Laws establish the framework through which IAGD will be governed. The proposed document is intended to provide a stronger, clearer, and more sustainable governance structure for IAGD today and for future generations.

We ask every eligible member to **carefully review both the current and proposed Constitution & By-Laws** before voting. The documents are available at www.iagd.net/constitution. After reviewing the proposed document, please complete and return the enclosed ballot according to the instructions provided. **Please ensure your completed ballot is returned by October 21, 2026.**

As President of IAGD, I sincerely appreciate your participation in this important process. IAGD belongs to our entire community, and thoughtful participation by our membership is essential to maintaining a strong, transparent, and sustainable institution.

Our objective is to ensure that IAGD's governance structure reflects the needs and responsibilities of our growing community while preserving the Islamic principles and values upon which this institution was founded.

May Allah SWT guide us toward what is best for IAGD and our community, bless our efforts, and make IAGD a source of worship, education, unity, service, and benefit for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support, trust, and participation in the affairs of IAGD.

Rahmat Awan
President IAGD