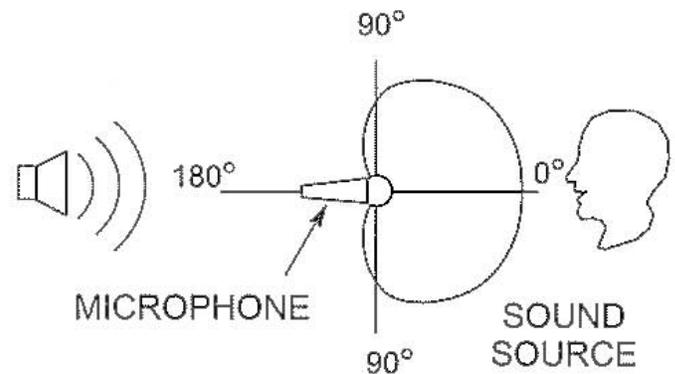


Microphone Etiquette

We use cardioid microphones. They are called cardioid because the pickup area is roughly heart shaped.

Imagine that there is a basketball centered on the front tip of the microphone. Now imagine a plane cutting the ball in half. The plane is perpendicular (90°) to the direction the tip of microphone points. Sound is moving from the speaker's mouth in the direction they face. A cardioid microphone cannot pickup the sound if it is not in the path of the sound waves.



The commission chambers carry audio pretty easily to everyone in a quiet room. The microphones main purpose is to record spoken words in the chambers. Secondary is to broadcast the spoken words.

For example: A person approaches the podium in an empty chamber. The only people present are officials and the speaker. The speaker dispenses with formality of the podium and microphone. While speaking directly to the board or commission, they are heard very clearly. However, by not observing microphone etiquette, none of this person's speech are recorded or broadcast.

Follow the basic etiquette outlined bellow, the technicians can tune audio so that it is heard loudly and clearly in recordings, broadcasts and by anyone using ADA assistive listening devices.

1. The microphone works best when positioned Six inches directly in front of your mouth at a 0° angle.
2. The microphone will continue to pick up within the hemisphere, but the further from 0° you move, the less you will be heard.
3. At any angle, your must speak to the microphone to get optimum pickup. Just speaking in proximity of the microphone is not enough.
4. The microphone is used to broadcast and record spoken words.