



DATE: January 24, 2023

TO: Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Megan Wiegelman, City Clerk *MW*

VIA: Greg Humora, City Manager *GH*

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION MAKING FINDINGS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953, AS AMENDED BY ASSEMBLY BILL 361, AND AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUED USE OF VIRTUAL AND/OR HYBRID MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF THE CITY OF LA MESA FOR THE 30-DAY PERIOD B

The City Council, Board and Commission meetings returned to in-person meetings on April 12, 2022. On February 22, 2022, it was the consensus of the Council to permit hybrid meetings of the legislative bodies of the City of La Mesa. A city may meet remotely or use a combination of in-person/virtual (hybrid) platform under AB 361 during a declared state of emergency by the Governor via Government Code § 54953(e) *et seq.* The attached Resolution (**Attachment A**) would need to be adopted by Council to allow for hybrid meetings, in which Councilmembers and/or Board and Commission Members may choose to continue to attend meetings virtually while still allowing the public to attend in-person.

On September 28, 2021, the City Council was apprised of the latest Assembly Bill No. 361 (AB 361) signed by Governor Newsom allowing legislative bodies to continue to utilize remote/virtual platforms for meetings as long as one of the following three criteria was met:

- State or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; **or**
- For the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the state of emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; **or**
- The City Council has previously determined, by majority vote, that, as a result of the state of emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

Based on the above criteria, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-115 to allow continued remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of the City of

La Mesa for the month of October 2021 at its September 28, 2021 meeting. Subsequently, the City Council adopted Resolution Nos. 2021-129, 2021-153, 2022-006, 2022-018, 2022-020, 2022-028, 2022-042, 2022-063, 2022-083, 2022-087, 2022-103, 2022-120, 2022-125, and 2022-139 to allow continued remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of the City of La Mesa for the months of November and December 2021, January through December 2022, and January 2023.

To continue meeting based on the parameters set forth in AB 361, the City Council must adopt subsequent resolutions each month prior to the expiration date of the previously adopted resolutions requesting the same. The adoption of the proposed Resolution is required to allow the City's legislative bodies to hold hybrid meetings in which Councilmembers, Board Members, and Commissioners may choose to continue to participate virtually. Staff recommends adopting the attached draft resolution this evening to allow the hybrid meeting option for the month of February.

Attachment: A. Draft Resolution