

RESOLUTION NO. 22-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY HARBOR DISTRICT RECONSIDERING THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY AND MAKING FINDINGS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH TO AUTHORIZE MEETINGS TO BE HELD VIA TELECONFERENCING PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(e)

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) of the San Mateo County Harbor District (the “District”) is committed to public access and participation in its meetings while balancing the need to conduct public meetings in a manner that reduces the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of the Board are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the Board conduct its business; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, signed by Governor Newsom and effective on September 16, 2021, legislative bodies of local agencies may hold public meetings via teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), without complying with the requirements of Government Code Section 54953(b)(3), if the legislative body complies with certain enumerated requirements in any of the following circumstances:

1. The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.
2. The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
3. The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared a [State of Emergency](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (the “Emergency”).

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention continue to advise that COVID-19 spreads more easily indoors than outdoors and that people are more likely to be exposed to COVID-19 when they are closer than 6 feet apart from others for longer periods of time.

WHEREAS, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the need to promote social distancing to reduce the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19, the District determined that meetings of its legislative bodies may be held via teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e).

WHEREAS, to continue meeting remotely pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), an agency must make periodic findings that: (1) the body has reconsidered the circumstances of the declared emergency; and (2) the emergency impacts the ability of the body's members to meet safely in person, or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY HARBOR DISTRICT DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Recitals provided above are true and correct and are hereby incorporated by reference.
2. The Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency and the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person. As required by Government Code Section 54953(e)(3), the findings made pursuant to this Section 2 shall apply as of May 25, 2022 and shall cover the period of time until the next regular meeting of the Board.
3. The Board hereby finds that the District may conduct its meetings via teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e).
4. Staff is hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of the San Mateo County Harbor District this 15th day of June 2022, by the following vote:

For: Reyerling, Zemke, Mattusch, Chang Kiraly

Against: None


Absent: Larenas

Abstention: None

Attested: BOARD OF HARBOR COMMISSIONERS



Melanie Hadden
Deputy Secretary



Nancy Reyerling
President