



# *Camarillo City Council*

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## **AGENDA REPORT**

Date: May 11, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

From: Greg Ramirez, City Manager

Submitted by: Kristy Buxkemper, City Clerk

Subject: Remote Teleconference of Public Meetings – Adopt a Resolution Proclaiming the Continuing Need to Meet by Teleconference Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953 (e) in Accordance with AB 361 for an Additional 30-day period

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## **BACKGROUND**

On April 13, 2022, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2022-31 authorizing the continuation of the use of remote teleconference meetings under the provisions of Government Code Section 54953. The resolution is effective for a 30-day period and must be renewed every 30 days.

## **DISCUSSION**

On March 4, 2020, a State of Emergency was proclaimed by Governor Gavin Newsom in response to the threat of COVID-19. On March 12, 2020, Dr. Robert Levin, Ventura County Health Officer issued a Declaration of Local Health Emergency in which he proclaimed and ordered that a local health emergency exists in the County of Ventura due to COVID-19. On March 13, 2020, City Manager David J. Norman, acting in his capacity as the City of Camarillo Director of the Emergency Operations Center, issued a Proclamation declaring a local state of emergency in the City of Camarillo due to COVID-19 which was confirmed by Camarillo City Council Resolution No. 2020-36.

On March 17, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order (EO) N-29-20 which suspended and modified specified provisions of the Brown Act and authorized local legislative bodies to hold public meetings via video/teleconferencing and to make public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to all members of the public seeking to observe and address the local legislative body. On June 11, 2021, the Governor issued EO N-08-21 which extended the provision of EO N-29-20 for public meeting through September 30, 2021.

Assembly Bill (AB) 361 was signed into law by the Governor on September 16, 2021, which went into effect immediately as urgency legislation and waived certain provisions of the Brown Act in order to allow local agencies to continue to meet remotely during a state of emergency. On November 15, 2021, the Ventura County Public Officer recommended that physical/social distancing measures continue to be practiced throughout Ventura County to minimize the spread of COVID 19, including at meetings of legislative bodies of the County of Ventura.

The County's recommendation for physical/social distancing remains in effect so staff recommends adoption of the proposed resolution which would allow the City Council and subordinate bodies, at their discretion, to continue to conduct their meetings with remote participation, for an additional 30-day period, in the manner authorized by Government Code section 54953(e).

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no budget impact as a result of this action.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt a Resolution proclaiming the continuing need to meet by teleconference pursuant to Government Code Section 54953 (e) in accordance with AB 361 for an additional 30-day period.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution

### **REFERENCE MATERIALS – AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT CITY HALL**

None