



**Beverly Hills City Council Liaison /
Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee
will conduct a Special Meeting, at the following time and place, and will address the
agenda listed below:**

**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
455 N. Rexford Drive
Room 280A
Beverly Hills, CA 90210**

IN-PERSON / TELEPHONIC / VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING

**Beverly Hills Liaison Meeting
<https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/committee>
Meeting ID: 516 191 2424
Passcode: 90210**

**You can also dial in by phone:
+1 669 900 9128 US
+1 833 548 0282 (Toll-Free)**

**One tap mobile
+16699009128,,5161912424# US
+18335480282,,5161912424# US (Toll-Free)**

**Thursday, September 22, 2022
9:30 AM**

Please be advised that pre-entry metal detector screening requirements are now in place in City Hall. Members of the public are requested to plan visits accordingly.

In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can view this meeting through live webcast at www.beverlyhills.org/live and on BH Channel 10 or Channel 35 on Spectrum Cable, and can participate in the teleconference/video conference by using the link above. Written comments may be emailed to mayorandcitycouncil@beverlyhills.org and will also be taken during the meeting when the topic is being reviewed by the Beverly Hills City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee. Beverly Hills Liaison meetings will be in-person at City Hall.

AGENDA

- 1) Public Comment
 - a. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to directly address the Committee on any item listed on the agenda.

- 2) Resolution of the Beverly Hills City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee continuing to authorize public meetings to be held via teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) and making findings and determination regarding the same.

Recent legislation was adopted allowing the Beverly Hills City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee to continue virtual meetings during the COVID-19 declared emergency subject to certain conditions and the proposed resolution implements the necessary requirements.

- 3) Welcome, Introductions and Purpose of the Task Force
- 4) Presentation on the BHPD Real Time Watch Center and Safety Programs for the Business Community
- 5) Updates from City Staff and General Business Discussion Regarding:
 1. Open BH Status and Next Steps
 2. Holiday Lighting in the City
 3. Next Night Street Festival – Saturday, October 22, 2022
- 6) Overview of the Summer Business Traffic to the City and Feedback from Business Owners
- 7) Update and Discussion on Business Improvements in the Southeast Section of Beverly Hills
- 8) Future Agenda Items
- 9) Adjournment



Huma Ahmed
City Clerk

Posted: September 15, 2022



Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please call (310) 285-1014 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY). Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, including Room 280A is wheelchair accessible.



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: September 22, 2022

To: City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee

From: Laura Biery, Committee Secretary

Subject: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL LIAISON / SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE TASK FORCE COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS CONTINUING TO AUTHORIZE PUBLIC MEETINGS TO BE HELD VIA TELECONFERENCING PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(e) AND MAKING FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS REGARDING THE SAME

Attachments: 1. Proposed resolution

RECOMMENDATION

Staff and the City Attorney's office recommend that the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee adopt a resolution making the following findings so that meetings of the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee will be subject to the special Brown Act requirements for teleconference meetings: (1) the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee has reconsidered the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency; (2) the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; and (3) state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing. Though the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee adopted such a resolution in the past, these findings must be continuously made to continue to hold meetings under these special teleconferencing requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed resolution allowing the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee greater flexibility to conduct teleconference meetings is unlikely to cause a greater fiscal impact to the City as the City Council Liaison / Small Business

Assistance Task Force Committee has been conducting such teleconference meetings for over a year.

INTRODUCTION

AB 361 allows the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee to continue virtual meetings during the COVID-19 declared emergency subject to certain conditions. These special requirements give the City greater flexibility to conduct teleconference meetings when there is a declared state of emergency and either social distancing is mandated or recommended, or an in-person meeting would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees.

BACKGROUND

On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, amending the Brown Act to establish special requirements for teleconference meetings if a legislative body of a local public agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and either state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or the body determines, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

AB 361 authorizes local agencies to continue meeting remotely without following the Brown Act's standard teleconferencing provisions if the meeting is held during a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor and either of the following applies: (1) state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or (2) the agency has already determined or is determining whether, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

DISCUSSION

To continue to hold meetings under these special teleconferencing requirements, the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee needs to make two findings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3). First, there must be a declared state of emergency and the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee must find that it has reconsidered the circumstances of such emergency. Second, the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee must find that such emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee's members to meet in person. Alternatively, for the second finding, the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee must find that state or local officials continue to impose or recommend social distancing measures. These findings must be continuously made to continue to hold meetings under these special teleconferencing requirements.

The declared emergency is still in effect. Furthermore, the State of California and the County of Los Angeles have recommended measures to promote social distancing. 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.

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Additionally, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health still encourages people at risk for severe illness or death from COVID-19 to take protective measures such as social distancing and, for those not yet fully vaccinated, to physically distance from others whose vaccination status is unknown. The County Health Department also continues to recommend that employers take steps to support physical distancing and the City Council continues to recommend steps to reduce crowding indoors and to support physical distancing at City meetings to protect the health and safety of meeting attendees.

Please note that AB 361 applies to all legislative bodies. Therefore, Commissions and standing committees will need to also comply with the requirements of AB 361.

Laura Biery
Secretary of the
City Council Liaison / Small Business
Assistance Task Force Committee

Approved By

RESOLUTION NO. CCL-SBTFC-02

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL LIAISON / SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE TASK FORCE COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS CONTINUING TO AUTHORIZE PUBLIC MEETINGS TO BE HELD VIA TELECONFERENCING PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(e) AND MAKING FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS REGARDING THE SAME

WHEREAS, the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee 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 to support physical distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code Sections 54950 – 54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee 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”); and

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; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County “Responding together at Work and in the Community Order (8.23.21)” provides that all individuals and businesses are strongly encouraged to follow the Los Angeles County Public Health Department Best Practices. The Los Angeles County Public Health Department “Best Practices to Prevent COVID-19 Guidance for Businesses and Employers”, updated on September 13, 2021, recommend that employers take steps to reduce crowding indoors and to support physical distancing between employees and customers; and

WHEREAS, the unique characteristics of public governmental buildings is another reason for continuing teleconferenced meetings, including the increased mixing associated with bringing people together from across several communities, the need to enable those who are immunocompromised or unvaccinated to be able to safely continue to fully participate in public

meetings and the challenge of achieving compliance with safety requirements and recommendations in such settings; and

WHEREAS, the Beverly Hills City Council has adopted a resolution that continues to recommend steps to reduce crowding indoors and to support physical distancing at City meetings to protect the health and safety of meeting attendees; and

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 City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee intends to continue holding public meetings via teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e).

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee of the City of Beverly Hills resolves as follows:

Section 1. The Recitals provided above are true and correct and are hereby incorporated by reference.

Section 2. The City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee hereby determines that, as a result of the Emergency, meeting in person presents imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

Section 3. The City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee shall continue to conduct its meetings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e).

Section 4. Staff is hereby authorized and directed to continue 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.

Section 5. The City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and finds that: (i) the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, and (ii) state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Section 6. The Secretary of the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and shall cause this Resolution and her certification to be entered in the Book of Resolution of the City Council Liaison / Small Business Assistance Task Force Committee of this City.

Adopted: September 22, 2022

LILI BOSSE
Presiding Councilmember of the City
Council Liaison / Small Business
Assistance Task Force Committee of
the City of Beverly Hills, California