

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

AGENDA AND NOTICE OF THE **SPECIAL** MEETING OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

Monday, November 22, 2021 -- 9:00 AM

Teleconference Meeting

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89206251767>

Livestream Link: <https://youtu.be/uaLvNHIQoHM>



Chair
Becky Shevlin
City of Monrovia

Vice-Chair
Margaret Clark
City of Rosemead

MEMBERS
Arcadia
Azusa
Baldwin Park
Claremont
Duarte
Glendora
Irwindale
Monrovia
Pasadena
Pomona
Rosemead
South El Monte
South Pasadena
Upper San Gabriel Valley
Municipal Water District
West Covina
LA County Supervisorial
District #1

Thank you for participating in today’s meeting. The Homelessness Committee encourages public participation and invites you to share your views on agenda items.

MEETINGS: *Regular Meetings of the Homelessness Committee are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:00 AM at the West Covina Council Chambers Meeting Room (1444 W. Garvey Avenue S., West Covina, CA 91790).* The Meeting agenda packet is available at the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government’s (SGVCOG) Office, 1000 South Fremont Avenue, Suite 10210, Alhambra, CA, and on the website, www.sgvkog.org. Copies are available via email upon request (sgv@sgvcog.org). Documents distributed to a majority of the Committee after the posting will be available for review in the SGVCOG office and on the SGVCOG website. Your attendance at this public meeting may result in the recording of your voice.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Your participation is welcomed and invited at all Committee meetings. Time is reserved at each regular meeting for those who wish to address the Board. SGVCOG requests that persons addressing the Committee refrain from making personal, slanderous, profane, or disruptive remarks.

TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE: At a regular meeting, the public may comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee during the public comment period and may also comment on any agenda item at the time it is discussed. At a special meeting, the public may only comment on items that are on the agenda. Members of the public wishing to speak are asked to complete a comment card or simply rise to be recognized when the Chair asks for public comments to speak. We ask that members of the public state their name for the record and keep their remarks brief. If several persons wish to address the Committee on a single item, the Chair may impose a time limit on individual remarks at the beginning of discussion. **The Committee may not discuss or vote on items not on the agenda.**

AGENDA ITEMS: The Agenda contains the regular order of business of the Committee. Items on the Agenda have generally been reviewed and investigated by the staff in advance of the meeting so that the Committee can be fully informed about a matter before making its decision.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Items listed on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Committee member or citizen so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after the Consent Calendar. If you would like an item on the Consent Calendar discussed, simply tell Staff or a member of the Committee.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the SGVCOG office at (626) 457-1800. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the SGVCOG to make reasonable arrangement to ensure accessibility to this meeting.



MEETING MODIFICATIONS DUE TO THE STATE AND LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM THE THREAT OF COVID-19: AB 361 (Rivas), signed by California Governor Gavin Newsom on September 16, 2021, authorizes local agencies to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and allows for members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or electronically to promote social distancing due to the state and local emergency resulting from the threat of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

To follow the new provisions in AB 361 and ensure the safety of Committee Members and staff for the purpose of limiting the risk of COVID-19, in-person public participation at the Homelessness Committee meeting scheduled for November 22, 2021 at 9:00 AM will not be allowed. To allow for public participation, the Homelessness Committee will conduct its meeting through Zoom Video Communications. To participate in the meeting, download Zoom on any phone or computer device and copy and paste the following link into your browser to access the live meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89206251767> . You may also access the meeting via the livestream link on the front of the agenda page.

Submission of Public Comments: For those wishing to make public comments on agenda and non-agenda items you may submit comments via email or participate by zoom.

- Email: Please submit via email your public comment to Victoria Urenia at vurenia@sgvcog.org at least 1 hour prior to the scheduled meeting time. Please indicate in the Subject Line of the email “FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.” Emailed public comments will be read into the record and will be part of the recorded meeting minutes. Public comment may be summarized in the interest of time, however the full text will be provided to all members of the Committee prior to the meeting.
- Zoom: Through Zoom, you may speak by using the web interface “Raise Hand” feature. Wait to be called upon by staff, and then you may provide verbal comments for up to 3 minutes. Public comment is taken at the beginning of the meeting for items not on the agenda. Public comment is also accepted at the beginning of each agenda item.

Any member of the public requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact Victoria Urenia at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (626) 255-2598 or at vurenia@sgvcog.org.

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment (*If necessary, the Chair may place reasonable time limits on all comments*)

ACTION ITEM

4. Adopt Resolution 21-02-HC of the Homelessness Committee Making Findings to Enable Them to Continue to Hold Meetings Via Teleconferencing – Page 1
Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 21-02-HC making certain findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California exists, that social distancing being mandated or recommended by state or local officials due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and that meeting in person presents an imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees.

ADJOURN

REPORT

DATE: November 22, 2021

TO: Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: ADOPT RESOLUTION 21-02-HC OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE MAKING FINDINGS TO ENABLE THEM TO CONTINUE TO HOLD MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution 21-02-HC making certain findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California exists, that social distancing being mandated or recommended by state or local officials due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and that meeting in person presents an imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees.

BACKGROUND

Introduced by Assemblymember Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) on February 1, 2021, AB 361 codifies portions of Governor Gavin Newsom's prior order suspending certain teleconferencing requirements under the Ralph M. Brown Act. It permits a local agency to continue to teleconference with fewer limitations if a local agency makes specified findings, and upon making such findings for the first time, makes the findings every 30 days thereafter. Specifically, the AB 361 exempts a local agency from Brown Act requirements to post agendas and make accessible to the public every location from which a member of a Brown Act body teleconferences. The legislation expires in December 2024. On September 16, 2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 361 into law, effective immediately.

A local agency wishing to rely on the provisions of AB 361 must meet one of the following criteria:

1. The local agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or
2. The local agency 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.

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency in California due to the threat of COVID-19 and shortly thereafter issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain Brown Act provisions relating to teleconferencing as public meetings began to be held online.¹ However, this Executive Order expired on September 30, 2021, despite the State of Emergency remaining in place.

¹ Similarly, on March 4, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Los Angeles County Health Officer declared a local and health emergency due to the threat of COVID-19.

The threat that COVID-19 has presented continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to conduct Governing Board/committee meetings safely in person. The Centers for Disease Control and Los Angeles Department of Public Health (LADPH) continue to advise governmental entities to refrain from conducting indoor meetings and consider moving operations outdoors, where feasible, to prevent transmission. Additionally, LADPH continues to recommend social distancing measures throughout Los Angeles County in all settings.

In order to continue to conduct meetings in a safe manner and to prevent unnecessary COVID-19 exposure to members, staff and the public, staff is recommending that the Homelessness Committee adopt Resolution 21-02-HC making certain findings in order to be able to continue teleconferencing for its meetings.

Prepared by: Victoria Urenia
Victoria Urenia
Management Analyst

Approved by: Marija Creter
Marija Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Resolution 21-02-HC

RESOLUTION 21-02-HC

**RESOLUTION OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE OF THE
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SGVCOG) MAKING
FINDINGS TO ENABLE THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE TO
HOLD MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING**

WHEREAS, AB 361 (Rivas), and specifically Government Code section 54953 (“Section 54953”), authorizes local agencies to use teleconferencing without complying with the specified teleconferencing requirements imposed by the Ralph M. Brown Act when the legislative body of a local agency holds a meeting during a declared state of emergency and makes certain findings relating thereto; and

WHEREAS, Section 54953 allows for local agencies to teleconference if the legislative body finds, among other things, that state or local official continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing or whether a state of emergency directly impacts the ability of the legislative body to meet safely and that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of California proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as result of the threat of COVID-19, which state of emergency remains in place; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Los Angeles County Health Officer declared a local and health emergency as result of the threat of COVID-19, which emergency remains in place; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County and State health officials continue to recommend social distancing as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, due to the resurgence of COVID-19 reported cases and surge of the Delta variant statewide and in particular, in Los Angeles County, the California Department of Public Health’s Best Practice Guidance encourages all governmental entities to refrain from conducting indoor meetings and consider moving operations outdoors, where feasible, in order to prevent transmission; and

WHEREAS, SGVCOG’s inability to facilitate Governing Board and Committee meetings using a centralized outdoor space with audio/visual capabilities, as well as the lack of indoor capacity to accommodate safe social distance practices among members and joining staff makes it unsafe for its members and the public to meet safely in person; and

WHEREAS, teleconferencing meetings enables the SGVCOG to retain the ability to continue to conduct meetings in a safe manner that would reduce exposure to members and staff to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, public access and participation remain a core value of the SGVCOG, and the SGVCOG has the capability to meet the requirements in Section 54953 to provide the public with

the ability to view, hear, and participate in such meetings in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of all persons to participate in such meetings; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of extending the use of the provisions to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with specified Brown Act teleconference requirements, the SGVCOG must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency that exists, and the SGVCOG Homelessness Committee has done so.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Homelessness Committee does hereby find the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by COVID-19 continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in person and local and state health officials continue to recommend social distancing.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED by the Homelessness Committee of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, on November 22, 2021.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Becky Shevlin, Homelessness Committee, Chair

Attest:

I, Marisa Creter, Executive Director and Secretary of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, do hereby certify that Resolution 21-02-HC was adopted at a meeting of the Homelessness Committee held on the 22nd day of November, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:	
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	

Marisa Creter, Secretary