

Metropolitan Transportation Commission

February 23, 2022

Agenda Item 7d - 22-0195

Introduction to the Hybrid Meeting Environment

Subject:

Staff will provide an introduction to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Brown Act hybrid meeting environment that will be implemented upon the sunset of AB 361.

Background:

AB 361 originally signed in September 2021, extends the flexibilities provided in a prior executive order enabling public agencies to meet remotely and waives noticing requirements during the COVID-19 emergency through March 31, 2022.

During the period when virtual Brown Act Meetings due to Covid-19 have been allowed, MTC leadership used the experience of the live lab to determine ways to change and improve how we serve the region. Beginning at the expiration of the current emergency order (March 31, 2022), the agency will implement hybrid Committee and Commission Meetings. Hybrid Brown Act meetings will allow for both virtual and in-person attendance, so the increased public participation achieved in virtual meetings continues. Commissioners who opt to join hybrid meetings virtually will need to comply with the original Brown Act requirements including the noticing of the remote location from which they will participate.

During Brown Act hybrid meetings:

- Commissioners, MTC staff and members of the public may attend in person or virtually via the web or phone;
- To protect the health and safety of persons attending in person contactless visitor registration, that includes a symptom check/health screen will be required, along with socially distanced capacity limits, face coverings, and enhanced cleaning; and
- Commissioners will have full virtual access to MTC staff.

Beginning at the expiration of the emergency order (March 31, 2022) Commissioners that choose to attend virtually or via phone will be required to provide a public notice of their remote location so the public can access those locations. Staff is requesting that Commissioners provide

their public office locations to the Commission Clerk so those addresses can be noticed. Those locations need to be made available to the public during the meeting to allow the public to view/attend the meeting from the noticed location, even if the Commissioner chooses to attend the meeting in person. This will provide the Commissioner with maximum flexibility and satellite locations for the public to view and attend hybrid Brown Act meetings.

Staff will test the hybrid environment in March 2022, so that any issues encountered can be corrected before the MTC Brown Act hybrid meeting environment is launched in April 2022.

Issues:

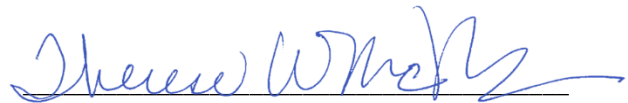
None identified.

Recommendations:

Staff requests MTC Commission input on formally noticed regional satellite locations.

Attachments:

- None.



Therese W. McMillan