

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Kaye, President, PICO NC

Date Submitted: 11/13/2023 03:16 PM

Council File No: 23-1113

Comments for Public Posting: Neighborhood Council Resolution I, Lisa Kaye (declare that I am the President of the PICO Neighborhood Council(NC) and that on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 (date adopted), at a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held by this NC with a quorum of 13 board members present and that by a vote of 13 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstentions adopted the following resolution: Whereas, this resolution is the official statement adopted by this Neighborhood Council. The PICO NC satisfies the 2/3 board requirement of SB 411 and approves meeting virtually for board and/or committee meetings by utilizing the Zoom or teleconferencing platform, the board and committee meetings had increase in community stakeholder participation, greater accessibility for those who may need to participate virtually for health and safety purposes and overall, ease of administration and coordination with public speakers, presenters and constituents who are interested in being more involved with their local community.



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Whereas, this resolution is the official statement adopted by this Neighborhood Council. The PICO NC satisfies the $\frac{2}{3}$ board requirement of SB 411 and approves meeting virtually for board and/or committee meetings by utilizing the Zoom or teleconferencing platform, the board and committee meetings had increase in community stakeholder participation, greater accessibility for those who may need to participate virtually for health and safety purposes and overall, ease of administration and coordination with public speakers, presenters and constituents who are interested in being more involved with their local community.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Kaye President PICO NC
Date Submitted: 11/13/2023 05:57 PM
Council File No: 23-1113
Comments for Public Posting: Please find two previous letters in support of enacting the virtual meetings under 23-1113 and previous council files 23-0002-S16 and 23-0002-S17 respectively.



P.I.C.O. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
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VICE PRESIDENT
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COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
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Date: February 9, 2023
To: Los Angeles City Council
Re: Council File # 23-0002-S16
Support For Amending The Ralph M. Brown Act To Permit The City Of Los Angeles Neighborhood Council System To Choose To Operate Remote Meetings Indefinitely.

Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

The P.I.C.O. Neighborhood Council is in support of City Council file 23-0002-S16 to amend the Ralph M. Brown Act to permit the City of Los Angeles Neighborhood Council System to choose to operate remote meetings indefinitely.

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared an Emergency in the state of California due to COVID-19. On March 17, the Governor signed Executive Order #N-29-20, which modified the "Brown Act" to permit local bodies to meet virtually. In the City of Los Angeles, this also applied to neighborhood councils. On April 17, 2020, EmpowerLA released a Virtual Governance Plan for neighborhood councils and authorized them to meet via Zoom beginning May 1. Since 2020, the P.I.C.O. Neighborhood Council along with our committees have been meeting virtually. Given that people no longer have to appear in person, we have noticed a great increase in the number of public commenters and general public participation. This has led to more robust meetings and deeper community engagement than previously possible. Additionally, virtual meetings ensure that even those working, at home with children, or otherwise unavailable to come in person to meetings are still able to participate; it has strengthened and made our local democracy more equitable. Furthermore, virtual neighborhood council meetings has improved sustainability options which help to reduce the need for people to drive to and from meetings, helping us achieve our climate goals. They also provide a safe option for those concerned about getting out of a board meeting late at night. The P.I.C.O. Neighborhood Council supports urgent changes to the Brown Act which would allow neighborhood councils the option to hold remote board and committee meetings, and urge the City of Los Angeles to support efforts at the state level to accomplish this goal.

Sincerely,

Brad S. Kane
President