

MOTION

The Brown Act is a state law that governs the operation of public legislative meetings in California. While the Brown Act has traditionally required all legislative bodies in the state to meet in person, over the course of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils were given the opportunity to meet virtually over Zoom. During this period, many members of the neighborhood council system found that meeting virtually made it easier to participate in local government, and would now like to continue this practice.

On October 8, 2023 Governor Gavin Newsom signed SB 411 into law, which modifies the Brown Act to authorize eligible legislative bodies, including Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils, to use teleconferencing for their meetings. To allow this, the City Council must first adopt an authorizing resolution, and then two thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of each participating neighborhood council must vote to use the alternate teleconferencing provisions. An accompanying resolution is being introduced to start this legislative process.

Practically, in order for Neighborhood Councils to meet virtually they also need access to Zoom or other teleconferencing accounts, and technical assistance from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) to effectuate this change.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to report back in 30 days on what technology, support and other resources are needed to provide Neighborhood Councils with the ability to meet virtually through the end of Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

PRESENTED BY:


HUGO SOTO-MARTÍNEZ
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

PK

OCT 10 2023