

MOTION

Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill (SB) 707 into law on October 3, 2025. This bill makes significant changes to the Brown Act, intending to increase public participation and expand remote access to public meetings. As the City meets the definition of an eligible legislative body (a city council with a population of 30,000 or more), current policies and procedures must be updated to comply with the new requirements.

The new law mandates several key actions, including, but not limited to the following: (1) the City must offer remote participation in meetings via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform; (2) the City has a new responsibility for public outreach, requiring reasonable efforts to encourage residents that do not traditionally participate in public meetings to attend; and (3) the City must commit to offering translation services, both during public meetings and on the City's dedicated webpages. It is important to note that these are only a portion of the changes enacted by the bill. The implementation date for SB 707 is July 1, 2026; therefore, the City must move diligently to fully understand and fulfill all new requirements by this deadline.

I THEREFORE MOVE that Council request the City Attorney and instruct the City Clerk to report on the impacts Senate Bill 707 will have on current City procedures and the necessary changes the City would be required to complete to be in compliance with the new adaptations to the Brown Act.

I FURTHER MOVE that Council instruct the Information Technology Agency to report on the costs for necessary software and installation to be in compliance with Senate Bill 707, a strategic plan for build-out, and the estimated time required to update current systems.

PRESENTED BY:


IMELDA PADILLA
Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY:



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