

### **CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

DATE: MARCH 15, 2022

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: KINDON MEIK, CITY MANAGER

BY: MARICELA HERNANDEZ, MMC, CPMC, CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION ON WHEN TO BEGIN HOLDING IN-

PERSON CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

**MEETING** 

DATE: MARCH 30, 2022

#### **SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the City Council discuss and provide direction on when to begin holding in-person City Council meetings.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Pursuant to AB 361, which went into effect on October 1, 2021, at their October 13 meeting the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-1751, authorizing remote teleconferencing meetings so long as the City Council complied with certain requirements. Determinations by the City Council that the emergency affects the ability to meet safely in person have been and continue to be renewed every 30 days.

If the City Council moves to hold in-person meetings, the remote model can continue for members of the public to allow participation. A technological glitch in the meeting could prevent action in the meeting. Over the past several months, the City has not observed any lessening of public participation in City Council meetings because of virtual meetings. Commission meetings can continue holding remote meetings.

Staff contacted the COG and other LA cities to inquire how their meetings are being handled. Summary of cities that responded are listed below.

City	In-person/Hybrid	Notes
Agoura Hills	In-Person/Hybrid	Effective March 23. several members will continue to utilize Zoom. Staff members making presentations will be in- person. The Planning Commission will also be in-person. All Council subcommittees will remain in the Zoom format. Members of the public will be able to participate in-person or remote. A health notice will be posted at the door (i.e., if you have symptoms, please do not attend).
Hidden Hills	Virtual	Being discussed on March 28.
Malibu	Virtual	Being discussed on March 28.
Westlake Village	In-Person	Effective March 9. Staff with agenda items attend in-person. Consultants and outside agencies are allowed to participate remotely. Members of the public are allowed to attend in-person. They plan to continue with hybrid model to allow members of public to join via Zoom. Masks are not required. Commissions and Council committees

		will continue meeting via Zoom.
Alhambra	In-Person	Effective March 28. Will be dependent on the number of members of public that attend. Commissions will be inperson. No masks will be required.
Beverly Hills	In-Person	Effective March 15. All presenting staff and department heads inperson. The public can participate in-person or remote. All commissions have been directed to begin in-person immediately. Hybrid only provided to commissioners with medical conditions due to COVID-19 restrictions. Masks are recommended per the County's guidelines. They're not required.
Culver City	In-Person	Will be returning to inperson city council and other body meetings in April. Only council and planning commission will have the option for hybrid attendance (by the public only) and will require masks to attend all of the meetings in person.
Downey	In-Person	Effective March 22. Staff and members of the public in-person. Commission will also meet in person. No masks required.
El Segundo	In-Person	Returned to in-person on April 1. All staff and

		members of the public are in-person. No mask requirement.
La Cañada Flintridge	In-Person	Starting March 1, all legislative body meetings returned to in-person. No more virtual / hybrid. Staff also in-person. The public only allowed in-person participation. All Commission all in-person too. Masks not required. Only highly encouraged.
Lancaster	In-Person	Staff in-person. Members of the public can participate in-person or remote. Commissions continue on hybrid model. Masks are optional.
Lomita	Hybrid	City Council meets in Council Chamber with the City Manager and the City Attorney. All staff participate via Zoom. The public can join in-person or via Zoom. They don't plan to require masks. Commissions are still participating via Zoom only. Unsure when they plan to return to in-person.
Norwalk	In-Person	Have been in-person for quite some time. Staff and members of the public participate in-person only. Commissions will continue with hybrid option for another month. Masks are recommended. City Hall opened on March 14, City Hall opened with no

		mask requirement for
		anyone.
Paramount	In-Person	Staff and Commission
		meetings are in-person.
		Members of the public
		allowed to return in-
		person as of March 1. No
		mask requirement.
Pasadena	Hybrid	Was thought they might
		return on April 4 but now
		it appears more likely in
		May. Council is currently
		allowed to participate in
		person or Zoom. When
		they return in-person,
		Council, staff and public
		too. Masks for those who
		wish to wear one.
Rosemead	In-Person	Since February. Staff and
		consultants are allowed
		to be remote.
		Commission are also
		meeting in-person. Masks
		are highly recommended.
San Marino	In-Person	Council never stopped
		meeting in-person with
		staff present. They
		moved meetings to a
		larger room to spread
		out. Commissions
		continue be virtual. Mask
		are recommended.
Santa Clarita	In-Person	Since June 21, 2021.
		Staff, members of the
		public and Commissions
		all in-person. No masks
		required.
Santa Monica	In-Person	Effective April 7. All staff
		and members of the
		public to participate in-
		person only. Do not have
		the staffing to provide
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		hybrid option.
		are recommended.  Since June 21, 2021. Staff, members of the public and Commissions all in-person. No masks required.  Effective April 7. All staff and members of the public to participate inperson only. Do not have

		with the remote option.  Masks are not required, but recommended. They have done a thorough look and cost analysis to provide a hybrid option, and if their Council decided to move to that option, it is going to be very costly because they will need to increase staffing.
South Pasadena	In-Person	Effective March 16. All staff in-person too. Members of the public can participate in-person or remote during transition. Commissions continue on hybrid model. Masks are strongly recommended, not required
Temple City	In-Person	Effective April 5. Only staff with agenda items will attend in-person. Members of the public to attend in-person too. Masks are strongly suggested.
Torrance	In-Person	Since July 2021 with staff present. Initially, public participated inperson, but returned to hybrid after one month. Commissions are meeting virtually. Masks were required until order was lifted.
West Hollywood	In-Person	City Council to return inperson on April 4. Commissions will also return in April. All staff will be in person. No masks required.

Whittier	In-Person	Returned to in-person
		meetings on March 8. All
		Council, public, and staff
		are in-person with no
		face masks or distancing
		requirements.
		Commissions follow same
		format.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council discuss and provide direction on when to begin holding inperson City Council meetings.

# **ATTACHMENT:**

None.