

RESOLUTION NO. 16032

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY DECLARING THE CONTINUED STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY AND NEED FOR THE CITY COUNCIL AND OTHER CITY LEGISLATIVE BODIES SUBJECT TO THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT TO CONTINUE TO TELECONFERENCE IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California (“Governor”) proclaimed a State of Emergency pursuant to Government Code Section 8265 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which State of Emergency remains in effect as of the date of this Resolution, as do the existence of conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons within the state under which the proclamation was issued; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 15827 declaring a local emergency due to COVID-19, which local emergency remains in effect as of the date of this Resolution, as do the facts, circumstances, and emergency under which the declaration was issued; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act in order to allow local legislative bodies to conduct meetings telephonically or by other electronic means; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2021, the Governor issued Executive Order N-08-21, which terminated Executive Order N-29-20’s suspension of those Ralph M. Brown Act provisions related to teleconferencing on September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City, including its City Council and all other City legislative bodies subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act Bodies”) have been holding meetings using teleconferencing and virtual meeting technology in an effort to help protect City officials, the public and City staff from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to spread and the Delta variant (a highly infectious COVID-19 strain) has emerged, resulting in ten times the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases throughout San Mateo County since June 2021; and

WHEREAS, the California Occupation Health and Safety Administration has issued COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards (“ETS”) which, among

other things, require employees to wear masks indoors with limited exceptions, such as when they are eating and drinking, provided they can maintain six feet of distance from other persons; and

WHEREAS, on August 2, 2021, in response to the Delta variant, the San Mateo County Health Department issued Order C19-12, which requires all individuals to wear face coverings when indoors in workplaces and public settings; and

WHEREAS, the City has made social distancing recommendations to its employees, including the recommendation that they maintain six feet of distance from each other whenever possible, that only two people use a shared bathroom at a time, and that employees should refrain from sharing food; and

WHEREAS, because of the rise in COVID-19 cases due to the Delta variant, the City is concerned about the health and safety of all individuals who intend to attend public meetings of the City in person; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361 into law as an urgency measure that went into effect immediately; and

WHEREAS, the mask mandate continues to be in effect for all persons, regardless of vaccination status, in certain indoor settings, including but not limited to public transit, healthcare settings, and homeless shelters; and

WHEREAS, the County and State continue to strongly recommend use of masks as a preventative measure against the spread of COVID-19 for all persons, regardless of vaccination status; and

WHEREAS, AB 361 authorizes local legislative bodies to continue to conduct meetings using teleconferencing without complying with the Ralph M. Brown Act's standard teleconferencing requirements if certain conditions are met; and

WHEREAS, AB 361 requires local findings that meeting in person would present an imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on October 11, 2021 the City Council adopted Resolution No. 15991 declaring the continued state of local emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and making findings on the need for the City Council and other Brown Act Bodies to continue to teleconference in order to ensure the health and safety of the public; and

WHEREAS, on October 25, 2021, November 22, 2021, December 20, 2021, January 10, 2022, January 24 2022 and February 14, 2022, the City Council adopted Resolution Nos. 15995, 16005, 16013, 16022 and 16023 respectively, declaring the continued state of local emergency and affirming the findings on the need for the City Council and other City legislative bodies subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act to continue to teleconference as authorized by AB 361 to preserve public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to continue conducting public meetings of its Brown Act Bodies using teleconferencing as authorized by AB 361.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City Council hereby finds and determines that the foregoing recitals are true and correct; the recitals are hereby incorporated by reference into each of the findings as though fully set forth therein.

2. The City Council has reviewed the need for continuing the local emergency as identified in Resolution No. 15827 and finds that such proclamation remains in effect as of the date of this Resolution, as do the facts, circumstances, and emergency under which they were issued, and finds that there is a need for continuing the local emergency.

3. In compliance with AB 361, the City Council makes the following findings:

a. The City Council has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency, and the state of emergency remains active; and

b. The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the City's Brown Act Bodies, as well as staff and members of the public, to meet safely in person.

c. State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

4. Meetings of the City's Brown Act Bodies will continue to be conducted via teleconference, pursuant to AB 361.

5. The City Council and the City's Brown Act Bodies will comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in Government Code § 54953(e)(2).

6. This Resolution will be effective upon adoption.

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Passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Redwood City at a
Joint City Council/Successor Agency Board/Public Financing Authority Meeting
thereof held on the 7th day of March 2022 by the following votes:

AYES: Aguirre, Espinoza-Garnica, Gee, Howard, Reddy and
Mayor Hale
NOES: None
ABSENT: Smith
ABSTAINED: None
RECUSED: None



Giselle Hale
Mayor of the City of Redwood City

Attest:



Pamela Aguilar, CMC
City Clerk of Redwood City

I hereby approve the foregoing resolution this
8th day of March 2022.



Giselle Hale
Mayor of the City of Redwood City