2022 Resolutions
Adopted
By
The SFPUC
Full Citizens’ Advisory Committee
Resolution to Continue Online Meetings Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 54953(e) empowers local policy bodies to convene by teleconferencing technology during a proclaimed state of emergency under the State Emergency Services Act so long as certain conditions are met; and

WHEREAS, In March, 2020, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a state of emergency in California in connection with the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") pandemic, and that state of emergency remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, In February 25, 2020, the Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco (the "City") declared a local emergency, and on March 6, 2020 the City's Health Officer declared a local health emergency, and both those declarations also remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, On March 11 and March 23, 2020, the Mayor issued emergency orders suspending select provisions of local law, including sections of the City Charter, that restrict teleconferencing by members of policy bodies; those orders remain in effect, so City law currently allows policy bodies to meet remotely if they comply with restrictions in State law regarding teleconference meetings; and

WHEREAS, On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, a bill that amends the Brown Act to allow local policy bodies to continue to meet by teleconferencing during a state of emergency without complying with restrictions in State law that would otherwise apply, provided that the policy bodies make certain findings at least once every 30 days; and

WHEREAS, While federal, State, and local health officials emphasize the critical importance of vaccination and consistent mask-wearing to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City's Health Officer has issued at least one order (Health Officer Order No. C19-07y, available online at www.sfdph.org/healthorders) and one directive (Health Officer Directive No. 2020-33i, available online at www.sfdph.org/directives) that continue to recommend measures to promote physical distancing and other social distancing measures, such as masking, in certain contexts; and

WHEREAS, The California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety and Health ("Cal/OSHA") has promulgated Section 3205 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, which requires most employers in California, including in the City, to train and instruct employees about measures that can decrease the spread of COVID-19, including physical distancing and other social distancing measures; and

WHEREAS, Without limiting any requirements under applicable federal, state, or local pandemic-related rules, orders, or directives, the City’s Department of Public Health, in coordination with the City’s Health Officer, has advised that for group gatherings indoors, such as meetings of boards and commissions, people can increase safety and greatly reduce risks to the health and safety of attendees from COVID-19 by maximizing ventilation, wearing well-fitting masks (as required by Health Officer Order No. C19-07), using physical distancing where the vaccination status of attendees is not known, and considering holding the meeting remotely if feasible, especially for long meetings, with any attendees with unknown vaccination status and where ventilation may not be optimal; and

WHEREAS, On July 31, 2020, the Mayor issued an emergency order that, with limited exceptions, prohibited policy bodies other than the Board of Supervisors and its committees from meeting in person under any circumstances, so as to ensure the safety of policy body members, City staff, and the public; and WHEREAS, The Citizens’ Advisory Committee has met remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic and can continue to do so in a manner that allows
WHEREAS, On December 17, 2020 the Mayor issued the Forty-First supplement to the Mayoral Proclamation declaring the existence of a local emergency dated February 25, 2020, requiring City committee members to meet in-person, starting on February 28, 2022, and indicating that the public interest of in-person meetings has a priority over public health risks from the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, there are no vaccinations available for children under 5, and Citizen’s Advisory Committee members include parents of children under 5, and immune-compromised individuals; and;

WHEREAS, the Citizen’s Advisory Committee has met virtually for almost two years now, with increased attendance, maintaining public comment and high productivity, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Citizens’ Advisory Committee finds as follows:

1. As described above, the State of California and the City remain in a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this meeting, the Citizens’ Advisory Committee has considered the circumstances of the state of emergency.

2. As described above, State and City officials continue to recommend measures to promote physical distancing and other social distancing measures, in some settings.

3. As described above, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, conducting meetings of the Citizens’ Advisory Committee and its subcommittees in person would present imminent risks to the safety of attendees, and the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Citizens’ Advisory Committee urges the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, the General Manager, and the Board of Supervisors to advocate to the Mayor’s Office to allow the continuation of virtual meetings, or allow hybrid meetings, until the State of California and the City are no longer in a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That in the event the requirement to begin in-person meetings does take effect the Citizens’ Advisory Committee requests that the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and the General Manager provide rapid COVID-19 testing and a large meeting room that would allow social distancing to protect the health of the committee’s 16 members, their families, and our community.

As adopted by the Full Citizens’ Advisory Committee on February 15, 2022.
Resolution in Support of Electric Grid Reliability on Treasure Island

Sponsors: Barklee Sanders; Moisés García

WHEREAS, On February 18, 2022, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission confirmed that approximately 124 unplanned power outages have occurred on Treasure Island since January 2016; and

WHEREAS, The SFPUC has an Interconnection Agreement with the Port of Oakland and pays an annual fee directly to the Port to deliver electricity to Treasure Island; and

WHEREAS, currently residents and businesses (or their landlords) on Treasure Island pay electricity rates set by the Treasure Island Development Authority (TIDA); and

WHEREAS, Customers who will be served by the new infrastructure being deployed as part of the redevelopment project will become direct customers of SFPUC’s Hetch Hetchy Power program and will pay SFPUC-set electricity rates; and

WHEREAS, The existing electrical system on Treasure Island is owned and overseen by TIDA, is not part of PG&E’s transmission and distribution system, and does not fall under the regulatory oversight of the California Public Utilities Commission; and

WHEREAS, The SFPUC makes recommendations to TIDA to upgrade the existing electrical infrastructure, and those recommendations are reviewed and approved by TIDA based on priorities, budget, and other factors, and, upon TIDA approval, the SFPUC will implement the electrical infrastructure upgrades; and

WHEREAS, The City’s adopted approach to upgrading utilities on the island, such as power, water, and sewer services, has been to enter into a development agreement that binds the developer to finance the replacement of the utility systems over time; and

WHEREAS, The existing electrical distribution system has exceeded its expected life and, while TIDA has made some investments to enhance system reliability and serviceability, a broad upgrade utilizing long-term revenue bonds is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, SFPUC staff have stated that an ideal goal for reliable electrical service is no more than three power outages per year and one hour or less for each occurrence; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Citizens’ Advisory Committee supports the SFPUC's recommendations to TIDA that will help improve reliability of the island’s current electricity grid in the next five years; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Citizens’ Advisory Committee supports a study to determine necessary improvements and replacement of the power infrastructure on Treasure Island to improve the reliability of the services to all residential and business customers; and be it

PROPOUNDED BY: Barklee Sanders
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Citizens’ Advisory Committee urges the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to ensure that a full inspection of the electric distribution system on Treasure Island and Yerba Island is conducted by SFPUC and an independent third party; and in accordance with California Public Utilities Commission General Order 165, a plan is established to replace aged electrical infrastructures, and report on the inspection results and details of plans for improvement regularly; and be it

FINALLY RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Citizens’ Advisory Committee supports upgrading the electric distribution system on Treasure Island and Yerba Buena Island to achieve a reasonable level of safety and reliability for pre and post DDA residents.

As adopted by the Full Citizens’ Advisory Committee on July 19, 2022.