

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk's Office

AGENDA DATE: May 23, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING DATE: N/A

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: City Clerk's Office, Laura D. Prine, (915) 212-0049

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

STRATEGIC GOAL: Goal 6 – Set the Standard for Sound Governance and Fiscal Management

SUBGOAL: 6.8 – Support transparent and inclusive government

SUBJECT:

A Resolution regarding the process for up to two City Council Members at a time to attend City Council meetings via videoconference on a first come, first served basis each meeting week beginning June 6, 2023.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

On August 17, 2021 City Council approved a Resolution to institute a process for up to 2 Council members to attend City Council meetings via videoconference on a rotating basis due to the ongoing pandemic and on October 26, 2021 the City Council approved amended the Resolution by giving priority to only 1 Council Representative and allowing the second slot to be filled on a first come, first serve basis during the pandemic. Following the expiration of the COVID-19 pandemic disaster declaration on May 11, 2023, Council wishes to continue the process to allow up to 2 Council members to appear via videoconference on a first come, first serve, basis.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one?

Yes, on August 17, 2021 and on October 26, 2021.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?

Not applicable.

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

Laura D. Prine 5/16/2023

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Texas Open Meetings Act, *Texas Government Code 551.001 et. seq.* (“TOMA”) allows members of the governing body to attend meetings by videoconference, and the City’s Rules of Order require that members notify the City Clerk no later than the Wednesday before each meeting at noon if attending by videoconference in order to post on the agenda; and

WHEREAS, the TOMA requires that a quorum of Council be present at the meeting location in order to constitute a meeting; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain a quorum during each meeting, beginning on the meeting week of June 5, 2023, up to two members of Council may appear by videoconference at each meeting in accordance with this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That up to two members of City Council may attend the City Council Meetings by videoconference at each Council meeting on a first come, first served basis each meeting week beginning June 5, 2023.

Members who wish to attend by videoconference must notify the City Clerk no later than noon on the Wednesday before each meeting.

In order to ensure equity among the members of Council, members may request to attend by videoconference no more than three months in advance, and shall not request to attend by videoconference more than one regular meeting week in a row without prior approval of Council.

Up to two members may participate in any Special City Council meeting by videoconference on a first come, first served basis by notifying the City Clerk prior to the agenda being posted.

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2023.

Signatures appear on the following page

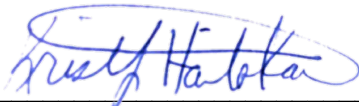
THE CITY OF EL PASO

Oscar Leeser,
Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Kristen L. Hamilton-Karam
Senior Assistant City Attorney