

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
AGENDA SUMMARY FORM**

DEPARTMENT: Mayor and Council

AGENDA DATE: 05/11/2021 (Regular Agenda)

CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Rep. Isabel Salcido, 915-212-0005

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All

STRATEGIC GOAL:

Goal 5 - Promote Transparent and Consistent Communication Amongst All Members of the Community

SUBJECT:

APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? OR AUTHORIZE the City Manager to do what? Be descriptive of what we want Council to approve. Include \$ amount if applicable.

Discussion and action regarding virtual attendance at future City Council meetings by members of Council and members of the public, including but not limited to:

1) consideration of amending the City Council's adopted Rules of Order to allow members of the public to continue to address the Council virtually/telephonically even after such time that the City Council returns to in-person meetings (and setting up the infrastructure to facilitate virtual public participation); and

2) consideration of amending the City Council's adopted Rules of Order to clarify the process by which members of Council can appear virtually/telephonically at a City Council meeting after all provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act are reinstated following the pandemic.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action? What are the citizen concerns?

I have received feedback from the public that virtual participation in City Council meetings has been easier than having to appear in person, allowing members of the public to participate without having to leave work, use their entire lunch break, etc. I think that setting up the infrastructure for ongoing virtual participation even after the Council returns to in-person meetings will serve to broaden access to public participation in our meetings.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

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

N/A

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?

N/A

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