

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

**DEPARTMENT:** Mayor and Council

**AGENDA DATE:** 11/07/2023

**CONTACT PERSON NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:**

Rep. Chris Canales, 915-212-0008

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts

**STRATEGIC GOAL:**

Goal 5 - Promote Transparent & 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 to direct the City Manager and City Attorney to prepare an amendment to the Resolution adopted July 5, 2023 entitled *Process for City Council Members to Attend City Council Meetings by Videoconference Resolution* to establish a process for a member of Council to request on short notice to appear by video conference at a posted meeting in cases of unforeseen circumstances such as sudden illness, personal/family emergencies, or other urgent matters, in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

**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?**

The proposed change to the Resolution last adopted July 5, 2023 would allow a member of Council to request to appear at a meeting by video conference on short notice in cases of unforeseen circumstances such as personal/family emergencies, sudden illness, or other urgent matters. Our currently adopted resolution requires notice of the appearance by videoconference to be included on the meeting agenda at the time of posting, but this is not required by the Texas Open Meetings Act. This change will allow the City Council to avoid potential quorum issues caused by unexpected absence due to illness, emergency, etc., and thus avoid potential delay in the carrying out of City business. Note that this change is not intended to increase the number of Council members who may appear by videoconference, which remains at two, and that the intent is for requests to appear by videoconference to continue to be addressed by the City Clerk's Office on a first-come, first-served basis.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

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

The existing Resolution was adopted on July 5, 2023.

**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

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

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