

SAN DIEGO CONVENTION CENTER CORPORATION
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022, 9:40 A.M.
111 West Harbor Drive, Room 23
San Diego, CA 92101

AGENDA

Pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e)(1)(B), City of San Diego City Council Resolution R-2022-396, and San Diego Convention Center Corporation Resolution No. 2022-15 approved on October 21, 2022, members of the San Diego Convention Center Corporation Board and all of its legislative bodies may participate in public meetings via teleconference or video conference. In the interest of reducing the spread of COVID-19, in-person public participation is prohibited at this time. Board meetings are held live via teleconference at the number indicated at the top of the agenda. Members of the public may participate live in the Board meeting and submit comments live on this teleconference line.

**Telephone number for members of the public
to observe, listen, and address the meeting telephonically:
1(888) 251-2909 – Access code is 6724115#**

1. Call to Order –Carlos Cota, Vice-Chair

2. Public Comments

This portion of the agenda provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on items that are listed on the special meeting agenda.

3. Board Committee Reports and Board Action Items

Consent Item(s):

- A. Approval of Resolution (2022-16) of the San Diego Convention Center Corporation, Inc. Extending the Authorization for all or Partial Remote Teleconference Meetings of all Legislative Bodies as Needed During the Covid-19 Local and State Emergency Pursuant to *Brown Act* Provisions**

Board Retreat:

- B. Presentations and general discussion regarding: Convention Center Industry, SDCCC Business, and SDCCC Strategic Plan Review. No action to be taken.**

4. **Board Comment** [Govt. Code § 54954.2(a)(2)]

5. **Adjournment**

This information is available in alternative formats upon request. To request an agenda in an alternative format, or to request a sign language or oral interpreter, or an Assistive Listening Device ("ALD") for the meeting, please call Pat Evans at (619) 525-5131 at least five working days prior to the meeting to ensure availability. **Audio copies of Board of Director meetings are available upon request. Please contact Pat Evans at (619)525-5131 or pat.evans@visitsandiego.com to request a copy.**

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt written material that is distributed to the Board prior to the meeting will be available at the meeting or it may be viewed in advance of the meeting at the corporation's offices at 111 West Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA. Materials distributed to the board after the posting of this agenda also will be available. Please contact Pat Evans at (619)525-5131 or pat.evans@visitsandiego.com if you would like to pick up a copy of any material related to an item on this agenda.

Action items on this agenda may be consolidated for voting purposes into a single vote of the Board, to the extent they are routine or otherwise do not require further deliberation. A Board member may comment on an action item before it is voted upon as part of the consolidated vote; however, if a Board member wishes to discuss an action item, that item will not be included in the consolidated vote. If a member of the public wishes to comment upon an action item, they should so advise the Board chair at or before the public comment portion of the meeting, in which case that item will not be included in any consolidated vote.

Agenda Item 3.A

**SAN DIEGO CONVENTION CENTER CORPORATION
M E M O R A N D U M**

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Jennifer Lyon, General Counsel

DATE: For the Agenda of November 17, 2022

RE: A RESOLUTION OF THE SAN DIEGO CONVENTION CENTER CORPORATION, INC. EXTENDING THE AUTHORIZATION FOR ALL OR PARTIAL REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF ALL LEGISLATIVE BODIES AS NEEDED DURING THE COVID-19 LOCAL AND STATE EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS.

BACKGROUND

On March 17, 2020 the Governor issued Executive Order N-29-20 related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pursuant to his Executive Order certain requirements under the Ralph M. Brown Act ("Brown Act") that govern the procedure for public meetings were suspended allowing legislative bodies of agencies across the State to conduct meetings remotely. Executive Order N-29-20 expired on September 30, 2021. On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed into law AB 361 which amends the Brown Act to allow continued flexibility for conducting public meetings. AB 361 was effective on October 1, 2021.

DISCUSSION

AB 361 amended Government Code section 54953 of the Brown Act to allow virtual public meetings through January 1, 2024 in any of the following circumstances:

- The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.
- The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
- The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

These circumstances allow public agencies to hold entirely virtual and partially virtual public meetings during the current pandemic while California is in a proclaimed state of emergency. If a public meeting is held virtually under the new provisions of AB 361, the agenda must still be posted under the appropriate timelines: 72 hours in advance for a regular board meeting, and 24 hours in advance for a special meeting. The agenda must include the meeting link or dial-in, so that members of the public may access the meeting electronically. Also, the following are requirements under AB 361 for public comments during virtual meetings:

- Members of the public must be allowed to directly address the legislative body or board in real-time during the meeting.
- Legislative bodies or boards can no longer require public comments to only be submitted in writing in advance.
- When legislative bodies or boards use agenda items with timed public comment periods, they must allow those time limits to expire before closing public comment.
- When legislative bodies or boards take public comment separately on each agenda item, they must allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item.
- In the event the meeting broadcast is disrupted, or if a technical issue on the agency's end disrupts public comment, the legislative body or board cannot take any further action on the agenda until the technical issue is resolved.

Most significantly, to continue to hold virtual meetings under AB 361 when a state of emergency remains active, the legislative body/board must make findings every 30 days that:

- The legislative body/board has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency; and
- The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

On September 28, 2021, the Board approved the first resolution to allow for remote meetings and has extended it regularly thereafter. The attached Resolution includes the necessary findings to allow the Board and all its standing committees to extend the authorization to continue to meet all or partially in a virtual mode while this local and state emergency continues for another 30 days. The attached Resolution shows that the Board did consider and reconsider the emergency circumstances and the need to meet remotely. The Resolution includes the fact that the State of California and the City of San Diego declared emergencies in March of 2020 and that those emergency declarations are still in effect. The City of San Diego recently (10-2022) approved a resolution to allow it and all its legislative bodies, which includes SDCCC, to continue to meet remotely pursuant to AB 361.

Additionally, local conditions still require necessary precautions related to COVID-19 because state and/or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, such as when there have been recent exposures to COVID-19 positive individuals or persons are experiencing any symptoms of illness. Also, having the legislative bodies of the San Diego Convention Center Corporation conduct in-person meetings at this time would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees due to the small size of the Board meeting room, the unknown number of attendees, the potential need for booster shots, the contagious nature of the Omicron variant and other COVID-19 variants, the unknown vaccination status of members of the public who might attend meetings, and the need for a specific number of directors to be present during a meeting to have a quorum for the conduct of business. This Resolution does not mandate that all public meetings be virtual public meetings; it merely lays the framework to allow for all virtual or partially virtual meetings during this pandemic.

Please note that these public meetings under the Brown Act are drastically different than the conventions that are held in the Center because the conventions are held in large areas of the Center and are not freely accessible to the public. The conventions are held under State requirements which may require proof of vaccine status or negative COVID-19 tests for attendance at the conventions. Those same requirements are not in place for members of the public who might attend a Board meeting. Additionally, a person can choose not to attend a convention if they are sick or have been exposed to a person with COVID-19. Directors are required to attend Board meetings because the Board needs a quorum to transact its business.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board approve the attached Resolution.

Attachment:

1. Corporation Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE SAN DIEGO CONVENTION CENTER CORPORATION, INC. EXTENDING THE AUTHORIZATION FOR ALL OR PARTIAL REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF ALL LEGISLATIVE BODIES AS NEEDED DURING THE COVID-19 LOCAL AND STATE EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS.

WHEREAS, the San Diego Convention Center Corporation (“SDCCC”) is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of SDCCC and its advisory bodies/standing committees;

WHEREAS, all meetings of SDCCC’s legislative bodies, as defined in the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act” Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), are open and public so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and observe the bodies conduct their business;

WHEREAS, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body and the public, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions;

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor or a local agency pursuant to state law, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state or local agency caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558;

WHEREAS, it is further required that state and/or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, and that the legislative body meeting in-person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees;

WHEREAS, a state of emergency was proclaimed on March 4, 2020 by the Governor of the State of California as a result of the threat of COVID-19, and the City of San Diego proclaimed a local state of emergency related to COVID-19 on March 12, 2020 which has been continued regularly thereafter as required by law;

WHEREAS, the state of emergency continues to exist at a state and local level, and the Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the emergency;

WHEREAS, orders from state and/or local officials continue to recommend social distancing measures to prevent an imminent risk to health and safety as a result of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the state and local emergency and pursuant to the City of San Diego resolution, the Board does hereby find that the legislative bodies of SDCCC, as defined in the Brown Act, may conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, and that such bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953;

WHEREAS, the agendas for all remote meetings of SDCCC’s legislative bodies shall identify and include an opportunity for all persons to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option and provide a method for real-time public comments as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Board approved a resolution pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e) in October of 2022, has reconsidered it, and wishes to extend it at this time.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the San Diego Convention Center Corporation (the “Board”) as follows:

1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution as findings.
2. Reconsideration of State of Emergency. The Board continues to acknowledge the Governor’s Proclamation of State of Emergency, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2020, and the City of San Diego Mayor’s Proclamation of State of Emergency, effective March 12, 2020 which have been continued regularly thereafter. The Board has reconsidered the circumstances of this state of emergency.
3. Social Distance Measures and Risks: The Board finds that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person. The Board further finds that state and/or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing to reduce exposure to COVID-19 and its transmission, such as when there have been recent exposures to COVID-19 positive individuals or persons are experiencing any symptoms of illness. In compliance with recommended or mandated state and/ or local social distancing measures, the Board further finds that having the legislative bodies of the San Diego Convention Center Corporation conduct in-person meetings at this time would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees due to the small size of the Board meeting room, the unknown number of attendees, the potential need for booster shots, the contagious nature of the Omicron variant and other COVID-19 variants, the unknown vaccination status of members of the public who might attend meetings, and the need for a specific number of directors to be present during a meeting to have a quorum for the conduct of business.
4. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The President & CEO, or designee, and the legislative bodies of the San Diego Convention Center Corporation are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) as needed and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption. This Resolution applies for at least 30 days. The Board may extend the terms of this Resolution as required by law every 30 days.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 17th day of November, 2022 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Carol Kim, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Jeff Gattas, Secretary of the Board