

**CITY OF FAIRFIELD**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-256**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRFIELD AUTHORIZING PUBLIC MEETINGS TO BE HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(e) AND MAKING FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS REGARDING THE SAME**

**WHEREAS**, the Fairfield City Council (“the City Council”) is committed to public access and participation in its meetings while balancing the need to conduct public meetings in a manner that reduces the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, all meetings of the City Council are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the City Council conduct its business; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, signed by Governor Newsom and effective on September 16, 2021, legislative bodies of local agencies may hold public meetings via teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), without complying with the requirements of Government Code Section 54953(b)(3), if the legislative body complies with certain enumerated requirements in any of the following circumstances:

1. 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.
2. 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; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared a declared a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (the “Emergency”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) continue to advise that COVID-19 spreads more easily indoors than outdoors and that people are more likely to be exposed to COVID-19 when they are closer than 6 feet apart from others for longer periods of time; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Department of Public Health (“CDPH”) and the CDC caution that the Delta variant of COVID-19, currently the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the CDC has established a “Community Transmission” metric with 4 tiers designed to reflect a community’s COVID-19 case rate and percent positivity; and

**WHEREAS**, Solano County currently has a Community Transmission metric of “high” which is the most serious of the tiers; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the need to promote social distancing to reduce the likelihood of exposure to COVID-19, the District intends to hold public meetings via teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e).

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRFIELD HEREBY RESOLVES:**

Section 1. The Recitals provided above are true and correct and are hereby incorporated by reference.

Section 2. The City Council hereby determines that, as a result of the Emergency, meeting in person presents imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees

Section 3. The City Council and all other legislative bodies of the City shall conduct its meetings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e).

Section 4. Staff is 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) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: PRICE / BERTANI / MOY / PANDURO / TIMM / TONNESEN / VACCARO

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK