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CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Date: June 2, 2026

Subject

Adoption of a Council Policy regarding Disruptions of Telephonic or Internet Service During Public Meetings under Senate Bill (SB) 707.

Recommended Action

Adopt Resolution No. 26-XXX adopting the Council Policy, "Disruption of Telephonic or Internet Service During Public Meetings," as required by Senate Bill (SB) 707.

Background

The Ralph M. Brown Act requires that, with limited exceptions, all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency be open and public, and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate.

In 2025, the Legislature adopted Senate Bill 707 (Durazo), which amends the Brown Act with the intent to diversify and increase public engagement during local government meetings of legislative bodies. Among the various new requirements under SB 707, all eligible legislative bodies must now offer hybrid meetings (through a two-way phone or video platform). City Council, Commission and Committee meetings, except for the Library Commission, are already and will continue to be conducted in a hybrid format via Zoom.

In addition, SB 707 requires the City to formally adopt a policy, on or before July 1, 2026, that outlines the procedures for recessing and reconvening a City Council meeting in the event of disruption and the efforts that the City Council and staff must make to restore the service. This policy pertains to all open and public meetings of the City Council. (Government Code § 54953.4).

Reasons for Recommendation and Available Options

Staff prepared the attached draft Council Policy (Attachment B) to satisfy this new State requirement. The Policy mirrors the meeting disruption guidelines that are already outlined in SB 707, which require the legislative body (i.e., the City Council) to take a recess and attempt to restore service for at least one hour. If service cannot be restored within one hour, the City Council must conduct a roll-call vote confirming that good faith efforts were made and that the

public interest in continuing the meeting outweighs the need for remote access. (Cal. Gov. Code § 54953.4(b)(1))

The draft Council Policy outlines the accommodations that would take place if disruptions were to occur. If adopted, the requirements would take effect July 1, 2026.

The full text of SB 707 can be found here:

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB707

Based on the findings outlined above, staff recommend adopting the draft resolution approving the Council Policy on Disruption of Telephonic or Internet Service During Public Meetings (Attachment A).

Sustainability Impact

No sustainability impact.

Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impact.

City Work Program (CWP) Item/Description

None.

Council Goal:

Public Engagement and Transparency California Environmental Quality Act

No California Environmental Quality Act impact.

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Reviewed by: Kirsten Squarcia, Deputy City Manager
Floy Andrews, Interim City Attorney

Approved for Submission by: Tina Kapoor, City Manager

Attachments:

A – Draft Resolution

B – Draft Policy