

[DATE]

The Honorable Joe LaCava, Chair
and Members of the Rules Committee
City of San Diego

Subject: Request for Timely Implementation of SB 707 Teleconferencing Provisions for Advisory Bodies

The undersigned City boards and commissions respectfully request that the Rules Committee consider agendaing and supporting development of recommendations regarding implementation of Senate Bill 707 (SB 707) provisions authorizing teleconference meetings for eligible advisory and subsidiary bodies following the law's July 1, 2026 effective date.

SB 707 provides local agencies with a framework to authorize remote participation for eligible advisory bodies through an affirmative local action. The legislation recognizes that teleconferencing can enhance public access and support the attraction, retention, participation, and diversity of members serving on advisory bodies.

The City of San Diego relies extensively on volunteer advisory boards to provide technical expertise, policy input, and community perspective across a broad range of subject areas. However, many advisory bodies continue to experience recurring quorum challenges and barriers to participation. These challenges can delay public business, reduce continuity of policy discussions, and limit participation opportunities for otherwise qualified community members.

At the same time, we recognize the continued value of in-person meetings for public engagement, relationship-building, and collaborative discussion. We view teleconferencing as a tool to support participation and improve continuity of advisory body operations when in-person attendance is not feasible, rather than as a replacement for in-person meetings.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued efforts to support accessible, inclusive, and effective public participation in City governance.

Sincerely,

- [list of Boards, Chairs]

Cc:

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