

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, April 6, 2020

Despite COVID-19 Emergency, Council Will Move Critical City Business Forward

Proposal to be Considered Tuesday Creates Temporary Meeting Procedures

SAN DIEGO – Under a proposal from Council President Georgette Gómez, the San Diego City Council will meet on Tuesdays, with some exceptions, while the Governor’s emergency order is in effect to discuss and act on critically important ordinances and resolutions. The temporary rules will be considered by the Council on Tuesday, April 7.

The proposal would temporarily replace the normal rules of Council regarding time, place and procedures of meetings. They also suspend meetings of the Council’s policy committees, except for the Budget Review Committee and the Rules Committee, which has deadlines and legal requirements for ballot measures to follow.

“San Diegans are pulling together and weathering this public-health and economic crisis. Our day-to-day lives have changed dramatically, and we are unable to do many of the things we have taken for granted,” Council President Gomez said. “Still, city government continues, and the proposal I’m putting forward will allow us to take care of crucially important business while at the same time letting residents’ voices be heard.”

“San Diegans are relying on city government like never before – for crisis-related public safety and economic relief as well as moving our city forward – so we have to be there for San Diego,” she added.

The Tuesday meetings will begin in open session at 9 a.m. before heading into closed session. The Council will return to open session 11 a.m. to complete the day’s business.

In-person attendance at the meetings will be limited to necessary city personnel and members of the media, with current social-distancing practices in effect. Members of the public may watch the meetings on television or stream them online. The temporary rules establish procedures for the public to express themselves on agenda items, non-agenda items, and matters to be considered in closed session.

To have their comments read into the record during a meeting or included in Council members’ reading materials, members of the public must fill out [this form](#) created by the City Clerk. For deadlines associated with public comment on agenda, non-agenda, and closed-session items, please refer to the “COVID-19 PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING COUNCIL MEETING ACCESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT” section here: <https://www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk/officialdocs/council-agendas-minutes-results>.

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Council President Gómez represents the Ninth Council District of the City of San Diego, which includes the communities of Alvarado Estates, City Heights, College Area, College View Estates, El Cerrito, Kensington, Mountain View, Mt. Hope, Rolando, Southcrest, and Talmadge. She chairs the City of San Diego Rules Committee and sits on the Metropolitan Transit System Board of Directors and on the SANDAG Board of Directors and Executive Board.