

AB 2449: REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION POLICY

- Assembly Bill 2449 requires cities to adopt and give notice of reasonable accommodation policy consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA").
- Under the policy, a person could make reasonable accommodation request orally or in writing through the City Clerk's Office.
- Requests must indicate the specific proposed accommodation requested, the requestor's identity, and the meeting or meeting for which the accommodation is sought.
- The Resolution would allow the City Manager, or designee to modify the policy in order to comply with applicable law.
- *City Brown-Act meeting agendas, including those for Committees, Commissions and Boards (CCB)s, must include specific language advising of the adoption and availability of the City's reasonable accommodation policy.

AB 2449 — ALTERNATIVE TO TRADITIONAL BROWN ACT TELECONFERENCING

MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING RULES IN ORDER TO INACT AB 2449

- *A quorum of the Council must participate in person.
- City Council/staff must provide a two-way audiovisual platform, such as Zoom, or a two-way telephonic service and live webcasting of the meeting, which allows the public to hear and/or visually observe the meeting, and remotely address City Council.
- The agenda must give notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment.
- The meeting must be paused (no action may be taken) if the broadcasting platform, either audio or visual is interrupted.

AB 2449 — ALTERNATIVE TO TRADITIONAL BROWN ACT TELECONFERENCE

THE FOLLOWING MUST APPLY IF A COUNCIL MEMBER WISHES TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY:

- ❖The request qualifies as a "just cause" or "emergency" circumstance.
- The Council Member publicly discloses, before any action is taken, whether any individuals 18 years of age or older are present at the remote location, and the general nature of the relationship.
- *The Council Member is participating through both audio and visual technology.
- A Council Member can only use "just cause" circumstances for up to two meetings in a calendar year.
- A Council Member can use both "just cause" or "emergency" circumstances combined for no more than three months, or 20% of regular meetings, within a single calendar year for.

RECOMMENDATION

ADOPT THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO:

- 1. Approve the reasonable accommodations policy by AB 2449;
- 2. Direct staff to update the meeting agenda templates; and
- 3. Allow AB 2449 teleconferencing for the City Council and limit CCBs to traditional Brown Act teleconferencing procedures.