

RESOLUTION 2026-###

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO APPROVING AN ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY PERTAINING TO DISRUPTIONS OF THE CITY'S TELEPHONE OR INTERNET SERVICES DURING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic accelerated use of remote participation, but many existing statutes (in the Brown Act) had older rules limiting teleconferencing (e.g., requiring all teleconference locations to be identified in advance, physical quorum location, limited ability to participate remotely, just-cause/emergency). SB 707 addresses those legacy constraints;

WHEREAS, the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code § 54950 et seq.) establishes requirements for open and public meetings of local legislative bodies;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 707 (SB 707, 2025) amended the Brown Act to update teleconferencing and accessibility requirements, including provisions related to remote participation in public meetings;

WHEREAS, Government Code § 54953.4(b)(1)(A) requires eligible legislative bodies, on or before July 1, 2026, to adopt at a noticed public meeting in open session, and not on the consent calendar, a policy addressing disruption of telephone or internet service during meetings conducted with remote participation;

WHEREAS, the required policy must address procedures for recessing and reconvening a meeting in the event of a disruption and the efforts the legislative body will make to attempt to restore service;

WHEREAS, Government Code § 54953.4 further requires that, in the event of a disruption preventing members of the public from observing or participating in the meeting through a two-way telephone or audiovisual platform, the legislative body shall recess the open session for at least one hour and make a good faith effort to restore service, and may not reconvene open session until at least one hour has passed or service has been restored, whichever occurs first;

WHEREAS, if telephone or internet service has not been restored upon reconvening, the legislative body must make findings by roll call vote that good faith efforts to restore service have been made and that the public interest in continuing the meeting outweighs the public interest in remote public access;

WHEREAS, adoption of a technology disruption policy is required to ensure compliance with state law and to promote transparency and continuity of public meetings; and.

WHEREAS, the proposed City Council policy addressing disruption of telephone or internet service during City Council meetings has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Government Code § 54953.4.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the foregoing recitations are true and correct, and are included herein by reference as findings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of San Pablo hereby adopts the City Council policy entitled “Disruptions of the City’s Telephone or Internet Service During City Council Meetings,” as attached hereto as Exhibit 1, with such minor modifications as may be required or approved by the City Attorney, a copy of which shall be kept on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk’s Office is authorized and directed to implement the policy in coordination with agency staff, legal counsel, and technology support staff, as appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk’s office in cooperation with City Attorney’s office may approve minor, non-substantive modifications to the policy as necessary to conform to applicable law, agency practices, or formatting requirements, provided such modifications do not materially alter the intent of the policy.

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ADOPTED this 15TH day of June, 2026, by the following votes:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS:
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Dorothy Gantt, City Clerk

Elizabeth Pabon-Alvarado, Mayor