

Continuation of Virtual Meetings Under AB 361 and Transition to Hybrid Meetings

March 1, 2022



## **Assembly Bill 361**

- Allows local agencies to continue to hold virtual meetings during a proclaimed state of emergency when any of the following also apply:
  - State/local officials impose or recommend social distancing measures
  - The body is holding the meeting to determine if meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health/safety of attendees
  - As a result of the emergency, the body finds that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health/safety of attendees
- Requires the Board to reconsider circumstances of emergency every 30 days (or less if meeting schedule requires)

## **State and County Guidance**

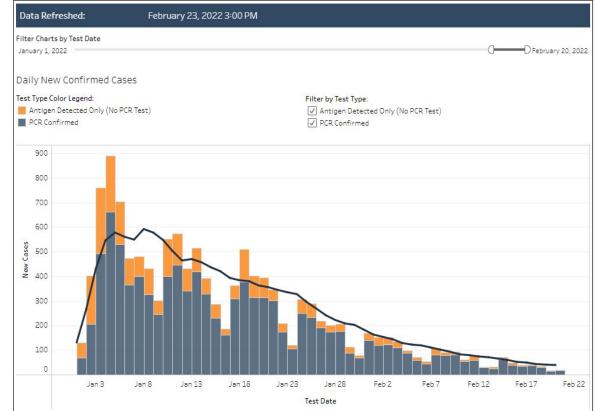
- September 22, 2021- County of Marin Director of Health & Human Services issued recommendation for continued social distancing and use of virtual meetings
- February 15, 2022
  - Marin County Health Department confirms recommendations remain in place
  - Marin County Board of Supervisors continues to allow virtual meetings, while holding hybrid meetings
- February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022, California Department of Public Health (CDPH) eliminates facecovering mandate for fully-vaccinated individuals. Unvaccinated individuals are still required to wear face coverings indoors.
  - Both Marin HHS and CDPH still strongly encourage the use face-coverings for all individuals regardless of vaccination status.

## **COVID-19 Considerations**

- 1. Current local case rates/hospitalizations
- 2. Cal/OSHA requirements
- 3. Risk Factors associated with exposures

#### Risk factors for COVID-19 exposure

- Indoor shared spaces
- Inability to social distance
- Poor Ventilation
- Not wearing face coverings



Marin County Case Rates Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 – Feb, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

## **Allow Virtual Meetings to Continue**

- Adopt Resolution that will allow continued use of Zoom for all Directors, staff and public participation per AB 361
- Reconsider the appropriateness of continuing virtual meetings every 30 days until the declaration of emergency is lifted or until January 2024
- Start some in-person participation as it is safe to do so, with safety protocols in place (hybrid meetings)

## **Hybrid Meetings**

➢Are a cross between in-person and virtual meetings.

Limited amount of people are physically present at the meetings and members of the staff, some Directors and the public may participate virtually.

Examples include:

- County of Marin
- City of Santa Rosa
- City of San Jose

# **Consider Commencing Hybrid Meetings**

- Key staff and Directors may participate in person or virtually
- Other staff members and the public may participate virtually
- ➤This will limit the number of people in the Board room, which has limited capacity
- ➢Consider March 24<sup>th</sup> Finance and Administration Committee meeting to start

#### **Current Recommendation**

- Staff recommends that the Board adopt the prepared resolution to allow continuation of virtual Board and Committee meetings pursuant to AB 361
- Staff to commence limited hybrid meetings (some staff and Directors in person) as soon as the March 24<sup>th</sup> FAC