



Metro

*One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012,
3rd Floor, Metro Board Room*

Agenda - Final

Monday, March 23, 2026

1:00 PM

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Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee

Ara J. Najarian, Chair
Lindsey Horvath, Vice Chair
Kathryn Barger
Terry Dipple
Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker
Fernando Dutra
John Fasana
Tracy Hernandez
Jeremy Oliver-Ronceros
Ernesto Medrano
Imelda Padilla
Gloria Roberts, non-voting member

Stephanie Wiggins, Chief Executive Officer

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD AGENDA RULES

(ALSO APPLIES TO BOARD COMMITTEES)

PUBLIC INPUT

A member of the public may address the Board on agenda items, before or during the Board or Committee's consideration of the item for one (1) minute per item, or at the discretion of the Chair. A request to address the Board must be submitted electronically using the tablets available in the Board Room lobby. Individuals requesting to speak will be allowed to speak for a total of three (3) minutes per meeting on agenda items in one minute increments per item. For individuals requiring translation service, time allowed will be doubled. The Board shall reserve the right to limit redundant or repetitive comment.

The public may also address the Board on non-agenda items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board during the general public comment period, which will be held at the beginning and/or end of each meeting. Each person will be allowed to speak for one (1) minute during this General Public Comment period or at the discretion of the Chair. Speakers will be called according to the order in which their requests are submitted. Elected officials, not their staff or deputies, may be called out of order and prior to the Board's consideration of the relevant item.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, and in accordance with the Brown Act, this agenda does not provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on any Consent Calendar agenda item that has already been considered by a Committee, composed exclusively of members of the Board, at a public meeting wherein all interested members of the public were afforded the opportunity to address the Committee on the item, before or during the Committee's consideration of the item, and which has not been substantially changed since the Committee heard the item.

In accordance with State Law (Brown Act), all matters to be acted on by the MTA Board must be posted at least 72 hours prior to the Board meeting. In case of emergency, or when a subject matter arises subsequent to the posting of the agenda, upon making certain findings, the Board may act on an item that is not on the posted agenda.

TECHNOLOGY DISRUPTIONS - Although staff will do their due diligence to restore service, if joining the meeting virtually, please be aware that the Committee or Board may continue its meeting notwithstanding a technical disruption that prevents members of the public from attending or observing the meeting via the two-way telephonic service or two-way audio visual platform.

CONDUCT IN THE BOARD ROOM - The following rules pertain to conduct at Metropolitan Transportation Authority meetings:

REMOVAL FROM THE BOARD ROOM - The Chair shall order removed from the Board Room any person who commits the following acts with respect to any meeting of the MTA Board:

- a. Disorderly behavior toward the Board or any member of the staff thereof, tending to interrupt the due and orderly course of said meeting.
- b. A breach of the peace, boisterous conduct or violent disturbance, tending to interrupt the due and orderly course of said meeting.
- c. Disobedience of any lawful order of the Chair, which shall include an order to be seated or to refrain from addressing the Board; and
- d. Any other unlawful interference with the due and orderly course of said meeting.

INFORMATION RELATING TO AGENDAS AND ACTIONS OF THE BOARD

Agendas for the Regular MTA Board meetings are prepared by the Board Clerk and are available prior to the meeting in the MTA Records Management Department and on the Internet. Every meeting of the MTA Board of Directors is recorded and is available at <https://www.metro.net> or on CD's and as MP3's for a nominal charge.

DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

The State Political Reform Act (Government Code Section 84308) requires that a party to a proceeding coming before an agency involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use including all contracts (other than competitively bid contracts that are required by law, agency policy, or agency rule to be awarded pursuant to a competitive process , labor contracts, personal employment contracts, contracts valued under \$50,000, contracts where no party receives financial compensation, contracts between two or more agencies, the periodic review or renewal of development agreements unless there is a material modification or amendment proposed to the agreement, the periodic review or renewal of competitively bid contracts unless there are material modifications or amendments proposed to the agreement that are valued at more than 10 percent of the value of the contract or fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), whichever is less, and modifications of or amendments to any of the foregoing contracts, other than competitively bid contracts), shall disclose on the record of the proceeding any contributions in an amount of more than \$500 made within the preceding 12 months by the party, or the party's agent, to any officer of the agency. When a closed corporation is party to, or participant in, such a proceeding, the majority shareholder must make the same disclosure. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the assessment of civil or criminal penalties.

ADA REQUIREMENTS

Upon request, sign language interpretation, materials in alternative formats and other accommodations are available to the public for MTA-sponsored meetings and events. All requests for reasonable accommodations must be made at least three working days (72 working hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date. Please telephone (213) 364-2837 or (213) 922-4600 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Our TDD line is (800) 252-9040. Requests can also be sent to boardclerk@metro.net.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

A Spanish language interpreter is available at all Committee and Board Meetings. All other languages must be requested 72 hours in advance of the meeting by calling (213) 364-2837 or (213) 922-4600. Live Public Comment Instructions can also be translated if requested 72 hours in advance.



323.466.3876

x2 *Español (Spanish)*

x3 *中文 (Chinese)*

x4 *한국어 (Korean)*

x5 *Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)*

x6 *日本語 (Japanese)*

x7 *русский (Russian)*

x8 *Հայերէն (Armenian)*

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS AND EMAIL

Copies of Agendas/Record of Board Action/Recordings of Meetings - (213) 922-4880 (Records Management Department) - <https://records.metro.net>

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NOTE: ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM IDENTIFIED ON THE AGENDA

Live Public Comment Instructions:

Live public comment can be given by telephone or in-person.

The Meeting begins at 1:00 PM Pacific Time on March 23, 2026; you may join the call 5 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

Dial-in: 888-978-8818 and enter
English Access Code: 5647249#
Spanish Access Code: 7292892#

Public comment will be taken as the Board takes up each item. To give public comment on an item, enter #2 (pound-two) when prompted. Please note that the live video feed lags about 30 seconds behind the actual meeting. There is no lag on the public comment dial-in line.

Instrucciones para comentarios publicos en vivo:

Los comentarios publicos en vivo se pueden dar por telefono o en persona.

La Reunion de la Junta comienza a las 1:00 PM, hora del Pacifico, el 23 de Marzo de 2026. Puedes unirse a la llamada 5 minutos antes del comienzo de la junta.

Marque: 888-978-8818 y ingrese el codigo
Codigo de acceso en ingles: 5647249#
Codigo de acceso en espanol: 7292892#

Los comentarios del público se tomaran cuando se toma cada tema. Para dar un comentario público sobre una tema ingrese # 2 (Tecla de numero y dos) cuando se le solicite. Tenga en cuenta que la transmisión de video en vivo se retrasa unos 30 segundos con respecto a la reunión real. No hay retraso en la línea de acceso telefónico para comentarios públicos.

Written Public Comment Instruction:

Written public comments must be received by 5PM the day before the meeting.
Please include the Item # in your comment and your position of "FOR," "AGAINST," "GENERAL COMMENT," or "ITEM NEEDS MORE CONSIDERATION."
Email: BoardClerk@metro.net
Post Office Mail:
Board Administration
One Gateway Plaza
MS: 99-3-1
Los Angeles, CA 90012

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

- 36. SUBJECT: ELIGIBILITY TO MEET VIA TELECONFERENCE IN COMPLIANCE WITH SENATE BILL 707 (DURAZO)** [2026-0203](#)

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE the Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee's use of relaxed teleconferencing rules for eligible subsidiary bodies pursuant to Senate Bill 707 (SB 707), Government Code section 54953.8.6, as authorized by the findings made by the Metro Board of Directors.

Attachments: [Attachment A - SB707 \(Durazo\)](#)
[Presentation](#)

- 37. SUBJECT: GUIDING VALUES FOR AD HOC BOARD COMPOSITION COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS** [2026-0169](#)

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE draft guiding values to support and inform the Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee's deliberations regarding governance considerations.

Attachments: [Presentation](#)

(CARRIED OVER FROM FEBRUARY'S COMMITTEE CYCLE)

- 38. SUBJECT: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** [2026-0197](#)

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE the monthly oral report on the Ad Hoc Board Composition Community Engagement.

- 39. SUBJECT: BENCHMARKING ANALYSIS OF TRANSIT AND INFRASTRUCTURE AGENCIES** [2026-0198](#)

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE the Report on Benchmarking Analysis of Transit Agencies.

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- Attachments:** [Attachment A – Motion 33.1](#)
[Attachment B - Summary of Findings \(Peer Agencies\)](#)
[Attachment C - Summary of Findings \(Reference Agencies\)](#)
[Attachment D - Appointment of County Representatives](#)
[Attachment E - Local Infrastructure Agency Peer Review](#)

SUBJECT: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

[2026-0237](#)

RECEIVE General Public Comment

Consideration of items not on the posted agenda, including: items to be presented and (if requested) referred to staff; items to be placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the Committee or Board; and/or items requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC INTEREST WITHIN COMMITTEE'S
SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

Adjournment



Board Report

File #: 2026-0203, **File Type:** Policy

Agenda Number:

AD HOC BOARD COMPOSITION COMMITTEE MARCH 23, 2026

SUBJECT: ELIGIBILITY TO MEET VIA TELECONFERENCE IN COMPLIANCE WITH SENATE BILL 707 (DURAZO)

ACTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE the Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee's use of relaxed teleconferencing rules for eligible subsidiary bodies pursuant to Senate Bill 707 (SB 707), Government Code section 54953.8.6, as authorized by the findings made by the Metro Board of Directors.

ISSUE

SB 707 (Attachment A), signed into law in October 2025, updates and extends the relaxed teleconferencing options first authorized under Assembly Bill 2449 (Rubio). These relaxed rules allow members of a legislative body to participate in a teleconference meeting from a remote location that is not accessible to the public, provided certain requirements are met.

While SB 707 continues to provide relaxed teleconferencing options for a legislative body of a local agency (i.e., bodies subject to the Brown Act) under updated "just cause" requirements or as a reasonable accommodation, it adds an additional avenue for "eligible subsidiary bodies" (defined in SB 707) to meet remotely using the relaxed teleconferencing standards (outside of "just cause" reasons). Under these expanded rules, an eligible subsidiary body may elect to meet remotely under the relaxed teleconferencing standards if the Metro Board adopts the required statutory findings and renews them every six months.

This Committee qualifies as an eligible subsidiary body; however, the relaxed meeting requirements do not take effect automatically. Formal adoption is required before the Committee may utilize these provisions.

BACKGROUND

The Brown Act, first enacted in 1953, governs meetings conducted by local legislative bodies, such as boards of supervisors, city councils and school boards. It establishes open meeting requirements for legislative bodies to ensure transparency and public access to governmental decision-making.

Assembly Bill 2449 (AB 2449), enacted in September 2022, amended the Brown Act to allow limited remote participation by members of legislative bodies under specified “just cause” or emergency circumstances, subject to notice, access, and quorum requirements. AB 2449 expired on December 31, 2025.

SB 707 further amended the Brown Act by extending and modifying the teleconferencing provisions set forth by AB 2449 and by authorizing certain eligible subsidiary bodies to meet using relaxed teleconferencing standards without requiring a “just cause” determination for each participating member. SB 707 requires the adoption of specific findings by the governing body (the Metro Board) and mandates periodic reaffirmation of those findings for continued use of the relaxed requirements.

On February 26, 2026, the Metro Board approved the required statutory findings under SB 707, establishing that eligible subsidiary bodies may utilize the relaxed teleconferencing provisions. The Metro Board must make these findings every 6 months for the eligible bodies to continue to use relaxed teleconferencing under SB 707.

The Committee, as an eligible body, may approve by majority vote to operate under these relaxed teleconferencing rules.

DISCUSSION

The Committee qualifies as an eligible subsidiary body under SB 707. The Committee’s advisory role to the Metro Board and part of its composition meet the statutory criteria for use of the relaxed teleconferencing provisions.

Authorizing the Committee to operate under the relaxed meeting requirements would provide additional flexibility in meeting participation and support the Committee’s ability to maintain a quorum while continuing to comply with applicable Brown Act requirements.

Use of the relaxed teleconferencing provisions authorized under SB 707 is optional and requires adoption by the Committee. Continued use of these provisions is contingent upon the Metro Board’s renewal of the required statutory findings at least every six months.

If the relaxed provisions are not reaffirmed by Metro’s Board every six months, the Committee would be required to conduct meetings in accordance with standard Brown Act meeting requirements.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

This action does not have an impact on safety.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact associated with this action as teleconferencing mechanisms are already in place.

EQUITY PLATFORM

This action supports equitable access to the Committee's advisory processes by allowing flexible participation options for members. Teleconference flexibility reduces barriers to participation for advisory body members who travel from across Los Angeles County and may face challenges related to work schedules or other responsibilities. This item supports inclusive participation and the Committee's ongoing operations.

VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED OUTCOME

VMT and VMT per capita in Los Angeles County are lower than national averages, the lowest in the SCAG region, and on the lower end of VMT per capita statewide, with these declining VMT trends due in part to Metro's significant investment in rail and bus transit.* Metro's Board-adopted VMT reduction targets align with California's statewide climate goals, including achieving carbon neutrality by 2045. To ensure continued progress, all Board items are assessed for their potential impact on VMT.

While this item does not directly encourage taking transit, sharing a ride, or using active transportation, it is a vital part of Metro operations, as it will allow Metro's eligible advisory bodies to meet virtually, increasing membership and participation without increasing VMT. Because the Metro Board has adopted an agency-wide VMT Reduction Target, and this item supports the overall function of the agency, this item is consistent with the goals of reducing VMT.

*Based on population estimates from the United States Census and VMT estimates from Caltrans' Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) data between 2001-2019.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The recommendation supports strategic plan goal #5 to provide responsive, accountable, and trustworthy governance within the Metro organization by allowing the Committee to meet virtually.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Committee can choose not to adopt the relaxed rules that allow virtual meetings outside of "just cause" reasons; however, members would generally be required to participate in person, which may limit the Committee's ability to accommodate members' attendance. This could result in challenges in achieving or maintaining a quorum.

NEXT STEPS

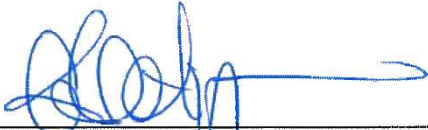
Upon approval, staff will implement the adopted meeting procedures and periodically reaffirm the Metro Board's authorization for the continued use of the relaxed procedures.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment A - SB 707 (Durazo)

Prepared by: Collette Langston, Board Clerk, (213) 922-2837

Reviewed by: Collette Langston, Board Clerk, (213) 922-2837



Collette Langston, Board Clerk

Senate Bill No. 707**CHAPTER 327**

An act to amend Sections 54952.7, 54953, 54953.5, 54953.7, 54954.2, 54954.3, 54956, 54956.5, 54957.6, 54957.9, and 54957.95 of, to amend and repeal Section 54952.2 of, to add Sections 54953.8, 54953.8.1, 54953.8.2, and 54957.96 to, and to add and repeal Sections 54953.4, 54953.8.3, 54953.8.4, 54953.8.5, 54953.8.6, and 54953.8.7 of, the Government Code, relating to local government.

[Approved by Governor October 03, 2025. Filed with Secretary of State October 03, 2025.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 707, Durazo. Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.

(1) Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate.

This bill would, beginning July 1, 2026, and until January 1, 2030, require an eligible legislative body, as defined, to comply with additional meeting requirements, including that, except as specified, all open and public meetings include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a 2-way telephonic service or a 2-way audiovisual platform, as defined, and that the eligible legislative body take specified actions to encourage residents to participate in public meetings, as specified. The bill would require an eligible legislative body, on or before July 1, 2026, to approve at a noticed public meeting in open session a policy regarding disruption of telephonic or internet services occurring during meetings subject to these provisions, as specified, and would require the eligible legislative body to comply with certain requirements relating to disruption, including for certain disruptions, recessing the open session for at least one hour and making a good faith attempt to restore the service, as specified.

(2) Existing law prohibits a majority of the members of a legislative body, outside a meeting authorized by the act, from using a series of communications of any kind to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item of business that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. Existing law defines “meetings” for these purposes to mean any congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body at the same time and location, as specified, to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. Until January 1, 2026, existing law excepts from the prohibition a member engaging in separate conversations or communications outside of a meeting with any other person using an internet-based social media platform for specified purposes, provided, among other things, that a majority of the members do not use the internet-based social media platform to discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

This bill would make the above-described exception related to communications on an internet-based social media platform applicable indefinitely.

(3) Existing law requires a legislative body, prior to taking final action, to orally report a summary of a recommendation for a final action on specified forms of compensation for a local agency executive, as defined, during the open meeting in which the final action is to be taken.

This bill would also require the legislative body to make that oral report, as provided above, prior to taking final action on those specified forms of compensation for a department head or other similar administrative officer of

the local agency.

(4) Existing law requires a legislative body of a local agency or its designee, at least 72 hours before a regular meeting, to post an agenda that meets specified requirements, including that the agenda contain a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting, as specified.

This bill would, beginning July 1, 2026, and until July 1, 2030, require the agenda for each meeting of an eligible legislative body, as defined, to be translated into all applicable languages. The bill would define “applicable languages” to mean languages, according to data from the most recent American Community Survey, spoken jointly by 20% or more of the applicable population, as specified, provided that 20% or more of the population that speaks that language that in that city or county speaks English less than “very well,” as specified, and except as provided.

Existing law requires every agenda for regular meetings to provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest of the public, as specified. Existing law specifies that the agenda is not required to provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body on any item that has already been considered by a committee, as specified, except if the item has been substantially changed since the committee heard the item, as determined by the legislative body.

This bill would add certain exceptions to the provision related to an item that has already been considered by a committee, including excepting committees whose primary subject matter jurisdiction focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, removing from, or restricting access to, materials available in public libraries, or taxes or related spending proposals, except as specified.

(5) Existing law authorizes a legislative body of a local agency to require a copy of the act to be given to each member of the legislative body and specified persons elected to serve as a member of the legislative body, and authorizes an elected legislative body member to require a copy to be given to each member of each legislative body all or a majority of whose members are appointed by or under the authority of the elected legislative body.

This bill would instead require a local agency to provide a copy of the act to any person elected or appointed to serve as a member of a legislative body of the local agency.

Existing law authorizes legislative bodies of local agencies to impose requirements upon themselves which allow greater access to their meetings than prescribed by the minimal standards set forth in the act, and authorizes an elected legislative body of a local agency to also impose those requirements on those appointed legislative bodies of the local agency of which all or a majority of the members are appointed by or under the authority of the elected legislative body.

This bill would remove the above-described requirement that members of an appointed legislative body of a local agency must be appointed by or under the authority of the elected legislative body of a local agency in order for the elected legislative body to impose the above-described requirements on the appointed legislative body.

(6) Existing law provides any person attending an open and public meeting of a legislative body of a local agency with the right to record the proceedings with an audio or visual recorder or a still or motion picture camera, as specified.

This bill would remove the reference to an audio or visual recorder or a still or motion picture camera for purposes of recording the proceedings, as described above.

(7) Existing law authorizes a legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing, as specified, and requires a legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing to comply with specified general requirements, including that the local agency post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Existing law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum

of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as specified.

Existing law authorizes members who are outside the jurisdiction of a health authority, as defined, that conducts a teleconferencing meeting to, notwithstanding the above-described general teleconference provisions, count towards the establishment of a quorum when participating in the teleconference if, among other things, at least 50% of the number of members that would establish a quorum are present within the boundaries of the territory over which the authority exercises jurisdiction.

Existing law authorizes, in certain circumstances, the legislative body of a local agency to use specified alternative teleconferencing which include provisions related to, among others, notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment and identifying and including an opportunity for all persons to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option. Those circumstances in which the legislative body of a local agency is authorized to use the alternative teleconferencing provisions include specified circumstances relating to a state of emergency, as defined, and, until January 1, 2026, subject to specified limitations, a member's need to participate remotely due to just cause, defined to include, among other things, a need related to a physical or mental disability, or emergency circumstances, as defined, if certain quorum and disclosure requirements are met.

Existing law also authorizes certain eligible legislative bodies, including neighborhood councils and student body associations and student-run community college organizations to, until January 1, 2026, use alternate teleconferencing if, among other requirements, the city council or board of trustees, as applicable, has adopted an authorizing resolution and $\frac{2}{3}$ of the neighborhood city council or specified student organization, as applicable, votes to use alternate teleconference provisions, as specified.

This bill would revise and recast the above-specified teleconferencing and alternative teleconferencing provisions to uniformly apply certain noticing, disclosure, accessibility, and public commenting provisions. The bill would require a legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions to comply with, in addition to any other applicable requirements under the act, specified requirements, including that the legislative body provides at least either 2-way audiovisual platform or 2-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting as a means by which the public may, among other things, remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and that a member of the legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions and the specific provision of law that the member relied upon to permit their participation by teleconferencing are listed in the minutes of the meeting. The bill would require a local agency to identify and make available to legislative bodies a list of one or more meeting locations that may be available for use by the legislative bodies to conduct their meetings.

The bill would specify that nothing in the bill's provisions is to be construed to prohibit a member of a legislative body with a disability, as defined, from participating in any meeting of the legislative body by remote participation as a reasonable accommodation pursuant to any applicable law. The bill would apply certain provisions relative to, among other things, quorum establishment to that circumstance.

The bill would instead authorize a health authority, as defined, to conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to the above-described alternative teleconferencing provisions.

The bill would revise and recast the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable in a state of emergency, as defined. The bill would also include a local emergency, as defined, as a circumstance in which a legislative body of a local agency is authorized to use the alternative teleconferencing provisions.

The bill would revise and recast the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable in cases of a member's need to participate remotely due to just cause or emergency circumstances, as defined, to remove the provision applicable to emergency circumstances, to revise related definitions, including broadening the definition of just cause to include, among other things, a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person, and to require the minutes for a meeting to identify the specific provision of law that each

member relied upon to participate remotely, as specified. The bill would extend the authorization to use the alternative teleconferencing provision until January 1, 2030.

The bill would revise and recast the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable to neighborhood councils and student body associations and student-run community college organizations. In regards to the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable to student body associations and student-run community college organizations, the bill would exempt the California Online Community College from specified requirements for an in-person quorum, a physical location for public participation, and certain accommodations under the authorization, and remove the ability for a person with a disability that requires certain accommodations to count towards the in-person quorum requirement. The bill would specify that the student body associations and student-run community college organizations described above are those in any community college recognized within the California Community Colleges system, and would extend the authorization to the Student Senate for California Community Colleges. The bill would extend the authorization to use the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable to neighborhood councils and student body associations and student-run community college organizations until January 1, 2030.

The bill would, until January 1, 2030, also authorize a specified subsidiary body of local agencies to conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to the above-described alternative teleconferencing provisions, provided that it complies with the requirements for alternative teleconferencing described above and additional requirements, including that the subsidiary body designates one physical meeting location within the boundaries of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body where members of the subsidiary body who are not participating remotely shall be present and members of the public may physically attend, observe, hear, and participate in the meeting, as specified.

The bill would, until January 1, 2030, also authorize specified multijurisdictional bodies of local agencies to conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to the above-described alternative teleconferencing provisions, provided that it complies with the requirements for alternative teleconferencing described above and additional requirements, including that the eligible multijurisdictional body has adopted a resolution that authorizes the multijurisdictional body to use teleconferencing at a regular meeting in open session.

The bill would specify that these teleconferencing provisions are cumulative, and would authorize a legislative body to elect to use any teleconferencing provisions that are applicable to a meeting, regardless of whether any other teleconferencing provisions would also be applicable to that meeting.

Existing law defines “teleconference” for purposes of the authorization for a legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing to mean a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

This bill would specify that “teleconference” does not include the attendance of one or more members of a legislative body in a meeting of the body solely by watching or listening via webcasting or any other similar electronic medium that does not permit members to interactively speak, discuss, or deliberate on matters.

(8) Existing law authorizes a special meeting to be called any time by, among other persons, the presiding officer of the legislative body of a local agency, by delivering specified written notices and posting a notice on the local agency’s internet website, if the local agency has one. Existing law requires specified legislative bodies to comply with the internet website posting requirement.

The bill would remove the requirement that only specified legislative bodies comply with the internet website posting requirement, thereby imposing that requirement on all legislative bodies.

(9) Existing law authorizes a legislative body of a local agency to hold an emergency meeting without complying with specified notice and posting requirements in the case of emergency circumstances, as specified, and imposes various requirements under these provisions applicable to either legislative bodies generally or legislative bodies which are a school board.

This bill would remove the school board distinction from the above-described provisions, thereby imposing the same requirements to hold an emergency meeting on all legislative bodies of local agencies.

By imposing additional duties on legislative bodies of local agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(10) Existing law authorizes, in addition to other related specified authorizations, the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee to remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting. Existing law defines “disrupting” for these purposes to mean engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting, as specified.

This bill would specify that a meeting for purposes of that provision includes any teleconferenced meeting. The bill would specify that the existing authority of a legislative body or its presiding officer to remove or limit participation by persons who engage in behavior that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting, as specified, applies to members of the public participating in a meeting via a 2-way telephonic service or a 2-way audiovisual platform, as those terms are defined.

(11) The bill would make other updates to references in the act.

(12) Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

(13) The California Constitution requires local agencies, for the purpose of ensuring public access to the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies, to comply with a statutory enactment that amends or enacts laws relating to public records or open meetings and contains findings demonstrating that the enactment furthers the constitutional requirements relating to this purpose.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

(14) The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.

(15) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Digest Key

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

Bill Text

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 54952.2 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 89 of the Statutes of 2020, is amended to read:

54952.2. (a) As used in this chapter, “meeting” means any congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body at the same time and location, including teleconference location as permitted by Section 54953, to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

(b) (1) A majority of the members of a legislative body shall not, outside a meeting authorized by this chapter, use a series of communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item of business that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not be construed as preventing an employee or official of a local agency, from engaging in separate conversations or communications outside of a meeting authorized by this chapter with members of a legislative body in order to answer questions or provide information regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the local agency, if that person does not communicate to members of the legislative body the comments or position of any other member or members of the legislative body.

(3) (A) Paragraph (1) shall not be construed as preventing a member of the legislative body from engaging in separate conversations or communications on an internet-based social media platform to answer questions, provide information to the public, or to solicit information from the public regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body provided that a majority of the members of the legislative body do not use the internet-based social media platform to discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. A member of the legislative body shall not respond directly to any communication on an internet-based social media platform regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body that is made, posted, or shared by any other member of the legislative body.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, all of the following definitions shall apply:

(i) “Discuss among themselves” means communications made, posted, or shared on an internet-based social media platform between members of a legislative body, including comments or use of digital icons that express reactions to communications made by other members of the legislative body.

(ii) “Internet-based social media platform” means an online service that is open and accessible to the public.

(iii) “Open and accessible to the public” means that members of the general public have the ability to access and participate, free of charge, in the social media platform without the approval by the social media platform or a person or entity other than the social media platform, including any forum and chatroom, and cannot be blocked from doing so, except when the internet-based social media platform determines that an individual violated its protocols or rules.

(c) Nothing in this section shall impose the requirements of this chapter upon any of the following:

(1) Individual contacts or conversations between a member of a legislative body and any other person that do not violate subdivision (b).

(2) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at a conference or similar gathering open to the public that involves a discussion of issues of general interest to the public or to public agencies of the type represented by the legislative body, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specified nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the local agency. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to allow members of the public free admission to a conference or similar gathering at which the organizers have required other participants or registrants to pay fees or charges as a condition of attendance.

(3) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and publicized meeting organized to address a topic of local community concern by a person or organization other than the local agency, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(4) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and noticed meeting of another body of the local agency, or at an open and noticed meeting of a legislative body of another local agency, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled meeting, business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(5) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at a purely social or ceremonial occasion, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(6) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and noticed meeting of a standing committee of that body, provided that the members of the legislative body who are not members of the standing committee attend only as observers.

SEC. 2. Section 54952.2 of the Government Code, as added by Section 2 of Chapter 89 of the Statutes of 2020, is repealed.

SEC. 3. Section 54952.7 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54952.7. A local agency shall provide a copy of this chapter to any person elected or appointed to serve as a member of a legislative body of the local agency.

SEC. 4. Section 54953 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 534 of the Statutes of 2023, is amended to read:

54953. (a) All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing for the benefit of the public and the legislative body of a local agency in connection with any meeting or proceeding authorized by law. The teleconferenced meeting or proceeding shall comply with all otherwise applicable requirements of this chapter and all otherwise applicable provisions of law relating to a specific type of meeting or proceeding.

(2) Teleconferencing, as authorized by this section, may be used for all purposes in connection with any meeting within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. If the legislative body of a local agency elects to use teleconferencing, the legislative body of a local agency shall comply with all of the following:

(A) All votes taken during a teleconferenced meeting shall be by rollcall.

(B) The teleconferenced meetings shall be conducted in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of the parties or the public appearing before the legislative body of a local agency.

(C) The legislative body shall give notice of the meeting and post agendas as otherwise required by this chapter.

(D) The legislative body shall allow members of the public to access the meeting and the agenda shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body directly pursuant to Section 54954.3.

- (3) If the legislative body of a local agency elects to use teleconferencing, it shall post agendas at all teleconference locations. Each teleconference location shall be identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and each teleconference location shall be accessible to the public. During the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body shall participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as expressly provided in this chapter.
- (4) The teleconferencing requirements of this subdivision shall not apply to remote participation described in subdivision (c).
- (c) (1) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a member of a legislative body with a disability from participating in any meeting of the legislative body by remote participation as a reasonable accommodation pursuant to any applicable law.
- (2) A member of a legislative body participating in a meeting by remote participation pursuant to this subdivision shall do both of the following:
- (A) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology, except that any member with a disability, as defined in Section 12102 of Title 42 of the United States Code, may participate only through audio technology if a physical condition related to their disability results in a need to participate off camera.
- (B) The member shall disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with any of those individuals.
- (3) Remote participation under this subdivision shall be treated as in-person attendance at the physical meeting location for all purposes, including any requirement that a quorum of the legislative body participate from any particular location. The provisions of subdivision (b) and Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, inclusive, shall not apply to remote participation under this subdivision.
- (d) (1) No legislative body shall take action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final.
- (2) The legislative body of a local agency shall publicly report any action taken and the vote or abstention on that action of each member present for the action.
- (3) (A) Prior to taking final action, the legislative body shall orally report a summary of a recommendation for a final action on the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of either of the following during the open meeting in which the final action is to be taken:
- (i) A local agency executive, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 3511.1.
- (ii) A department head or other similar administrative officer of the local agency.
- (B) This paragraph shall not affect the public's right under the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1) to inspect or copy records created or received in the process of developing the recommendation.
- (e) For purposes of this section, both of the following definitions apply:
- (1) "Disability" means a physical disability or a mental disability as those terms are defined in Section 12926 and used in Section 12926.1, or a disability as defined in Section 12102 of Title 42 of the United States Code.
- (2) (A) "Teleconference" means a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), “teleconference” does not include one or more members watching or listening to a meeting via webcasting or any other similar electronic medium that does not permit members to interactively speak, discuss, or deliberate on matters.

(3) “Remote participation” means participation in a meeting by teleconference at a location other than any physical meeting location designated in the notice of the meeting.

SEC. 5. Section 54953.4 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.4. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that public access, including through translation of agendas as required by this section, is necessary for an informed populace. The Legislature encourages local agencies to adopt public access requirements that exceed the requirements of this chapter by translating additional languages, employing human translators, and conducting additional outreach.

(b) (1) In addition to any other applicable requirements of this chapter, a meeting held by a eligible legislative body pursuant to this chapter shall comply with both of the following requirements:

(A) (i) (I) (ia) All open and public meetings shall include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform, except if adequate telephonic or internet service is not operational at the meeting location. If adequate telephonic or internet service is operational at the meeting location during only a portion of the meeting, the legislative body shall include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform during that portion of the meeting.

(ib) (Ia) On or before July 1, 2026, an eligible legislative body shall approve at a noticed public meeting in open session, not on the consent calendar, a policy regarding disruption of telephonic or internet service occurring during meetings subject to this sub-subclause. The policy shall address the procedures for recessing and reconvening a meeting in the event of disruption and the efforts that the eligible legislative body shall make to attempt to restore the service.

(Ib) If a disruption of telephonic or internet service that prevents members of the public from attending or observing the meeting via the two-way telephonic service or two-way audiovisual platform occurs during the meeting, the eligible legislative body shall recess the open session of the meeting for at least one hour and make a good faith attempt to restore the service. The eligible legislative body may meet in closed session during this period. The eligible legislative body shall not reconvene the open session of the meeting until at least one hour following the disruption, or until telephonic or internet service is restored, whichever is earlier.

(Ic) Upon reconvening the open session, if telephonic or internet service has not been restored, the eligible legislative body shall adopt a finding by rollcall vote that good faith efforts to restore the telephonic or internet service have been made in accordance with the policy adopted pursuant to sub-sub-subclause (Ia) and that the public interest in continuing the meeting outweighs the public interest in remote public access.

(II) Subclause (I) does not apply to a meeting that is held to do any of the following:

(ia) Attend a judicial or administrative proceeding to which the local agency is a party.

(ib) Inspect real or personal property provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the real or personal property.

(ic) Meet with elected or appointed officials of the United States or the State of California, solely to discuss a legislative or regulatory issue affecting the local agency and over which the federal or state officials have jurisdiction.

(id) Meet in or nearby a facility owned by the agency, provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the facility.

(ie) Meet in an emergency situation pursuant to Section 54956.5.

(ii) If an eligible legislative body elects to provide a two-way audiovisual platform, the eligible legislative body shall publicly post and provide a call-in option, and activate any automatic captioning function during the meeting if an automatic captioning function is included with the two-way audiovisual platform. If an eligible legislative body does not elect to provide a two-way audiovisual platform, the eligible legislative body shall provide a two-way telephonic service for the public to participate in the meeting, pursuant to subclause (I).

(B) (i) All open and public meetings for which attendance via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform is provided in accordance with paragraph (1) shall provide the public with an opportunity to provide public comment in accordance with Section 54954.3 via the two-way telephonic or two-way audiovisual platform, and ensure the opportunity for the members of the public participating via a two-way telephonic or two-way audiovisual platform to provide public comment with the same time allotment as a person attending a meeting in person.

(2) (A) An eligible legislative body shall reasonably assist members of the public who wish to translate a public meeting into any language or wish to receive interpretation provided by another member of the public, so long as the interpretation is not disrupting to the meeting, as defined in Section 54957.95. The eligible legislative body shall publicize instructions on how to request assistance under this subdivision. Assistance may include any of the following, as determined by the eligible legislative body:

(i) Arranging space for one or more interpreters at the meeting location.

(ii) Allowing extra time during the meeting for interpretation to occur.

(iii) Ensuring participants may utilize their personal equipment or reasonably access facilities for participants to access commercially available interpretation services.

(B) This section does not require an eligible legislative body to provide interpretation of any public meeting, however, an eligible legislative body may elect to provide interpretation of any public meeting.

(C) The eligible legislative body is not responsible for the content or accuracy of any interpretation facilitated, assisted with, or provided under this subdivision. An action shall not be commenced or maintained against the eligible legislative body arising from the content or accuracy of any interpretation facilitated, assisted with, or provided under this subdivision.

(3) An eligible legislative body shall take the following actions to encourage residents, including those in underrepresented communities and non-English-speaking communities, to participate in public meetings:

(A) Have in place a system for electronically accepting and fulfilling requests for meeting agendas and documents pursuant to Section 54954.1 through email or through an integrated agenda management platform. Information about how to make a request using this system shall be accessible through a prominent direct link posted on the primary internet website home page of the eligible legislative body.

(B) (i) Create and maintain an accessible internet webpage dedicated to public meetings that includes, or provides a link to, all of the following information:

(I) A general explanation of the public meeting process for the eligible legislative body.

(II) An explanation of the procedures for a member of the public to provide in-person or remote oral public comment during a public meeting or to submit written public comment.

(III) A calendar of all public meeting dates with calendar listings that include the date, time, and location of each public meeting.

(IV) The agenda posted online pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 54954.2.

(ii) The eligible legislative body shall include a link to the webpage required by subparagraph (A) on the home page of the eligible legislative body's internet website.

(C) (i) Make reasonable efforts, as determined by the legislative body, to invite groups that do not traditionally participate in public meetings to attend those meetings, which may include, but are not limited to, all the following:

(I) Media organizations that provide news coverage in the jurisdiction of the eligible legislative body, including media organizations that serve non-English-speaking communities.

(II) Good government, civil rights, civic engagement, neighborhood, and community group organizations, or similar organizations that are active in the jurisdiction of the eligible legislative body, including organizations active in non-English-speaking communities.

(ii) Legislative bodies shall have broad discretion in the choice of reasonable efforts they make under this subparagraph. No action shall be commenced or maintained against an eligible legislative body arising from failing to provide public meeting information to any specific group pursuant to this subparagraph.

(c) (1) (A) The agenda for each meeting of an eligible legislative body shall be translated into all applicable languages, and each translation shall be posted in accordance with Section 54954.2. Each translation shall include instructions in the applicable language describing how to join the meeting by the telephonic or internet-based service option, including any requirements for registration for public comment.

(B) The accessible internet webpage provided under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) shall be translated into all applicable languages, and each translation shall be accessible through a prominent direct link posted on the primary internet website home page of the eligible legislative body.

(2) A translation made using a digital translation service shall satisfy the requirements of paragraph (1).

(3) The eligible legislative body shall make available a physical location that is freely accessible to the public in reasonable proximity to the physical location in which the agenda and translations are posted as described in paragraph (1), and shall allow members of the public to post additional translations of the agenda in that location.

(4) The eligible legislative body is not responsible for the content or accuracy of any translation provided pursuant to this subdivision. No action shall be commenced or maintained against an eligible legislative body arising from the content, accuracy, posting, or removal of any translation provided by the eligible legislative body or posted by any person pursuant to this subdivision.

(5) For the purposes of this section, the agenda does not include the entire agenda packet.

(d) This section shall not be construed to affect or supersede any other applicable civil rights, nondiscrimination, or public access laws.

(e) For purposes of this section, all of the following definitions apply:

(1) (A) "Applicable languages" means languages, according to data from the most recent American Community Survey, spoken jointly by 20 percent or more of the applicable population, provided that 20 percent or more of the population that speaks that language in that city or county speaks English less than "very well."

(B) For the purposes of subparagraph (A), the applicable population shall be determined as follows:

(i) For an eligible legislative body that is a city council or county board of supervisors, the applicable population shall be the population of the city or county.

(ii) For an eligible legislative body of a special district, the applicable population shall be either of the following, at the discretion of the board of directors of the special district:

(I) The population of the county with the greatest population within the boundaries of the special district.

(II) The population of the service area of the special district, if the special district has the data to determine what languages spoken by the population within its service area meet the requirements of paragraph (A).

(C) If more than three languages meet the criteria set forth in subparagraph (A), “applicable languages” shall mean the three languages described in subparagraph (A) that are spoken by the largest percentage of the population.

(D) An eligible legislative body may elect to determine the applicable languages based upon a source other than the most recent American Community Survey if it makes a finding, based upon substantial evidence, that the other source provides equally or more reliable data for the territory over which the eligible legislative body exercises jurisdiction.

(2) “Eligible legislative body” means any of the following:

(A) A city council of a city with a population of 30,000 or more.

(B) A county board of supervisors of a county, or city and county, with a population of 30,000 or more.

(C) A city council of a city located in a county with a population of 600,000 or more.

(D) The board of directors of a special district that has an internet website and meets any of the following conditions:

(i) The boundaries of the special district include the entirety of a county with a population of 600,000 or more, and the special district has over 200 full-time equivalent employees.

(ii) The special district has over 1,000 full-time equivalent employees.

(iii) The special district has annual revenues, based on the most recent Financial Transaction Report data published by the California State Controller, that exceed four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000), adjusted annually for inflation commencing January 1, 2027, as measured by the percentage change in the California Consumer Price Index from January 1 of the prior year to January 1 of the current year, and the special district employs over 200 full-time equivalent employees.

(3) “Two-way audiovisual platform” means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service.

(4) “Two-way telephonic service” means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

(f) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2026.

(g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 6. Section 54953.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54953.5. (a) Any person attending an open and public meeting of a legislative body of a local agency shall have the right to record the proceedings in the absence of a reasonable finding by the legislative body of the local agency that the recording cannot continue without noise, illumination, or obstruction of view that constitutes, or would constitute, a persistent disruption of the proceedings.

(b) Any recording of an open and public meeting made for whatever purpose by or at the direction of the local agency shall be subject to inspection pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1), but, notwithstanding Section 34090, may be erased or destroyed 30 days after the recording. Any inspection of an audio or video recording shall be provided without charge on equipment made available by the local agency.

SEC. 7. Section 54953.7 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54953.7. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, legislative bodies of local agencies may impose requirements upon themselves which allow greater access to their meetings than prescribed by the minimal standards set forth in this chapter. In addition thereto, an elected legislative body of a local agency may impose those requirements on appointed legislative bodies of the local agency.

SEC. 8. Section 54953.8 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8. (a) The legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing as authorized by subdivision (b) of Section 54953 without complying with the requirements of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953 in any of the circumstances described in Sections 54953.8.1 to 54953.8.7, inclusive.

(b) A legislative body that holds a teleconference meeting pursuant to this section shall, in addition to any other applicable requirements of this chapter, comply with all of the following:

(1) The legislative body shall provide at least one of the following as a means by which the public may remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and remotely address the legislative body:

(A) A two-way audiovisual platform.

(B) A two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting.

(2) In each instance in which notice of the time of the teleconference meeting held pursuant to this section is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment. The agenda shall identify and include an opportunity for all persons to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option.

(3) In the event of a disruption that prevents the legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the local agency's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

(4) The legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and must provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comment in real time.

(5) Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the local legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(6) (A) A legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to paragraph (5), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(B) A legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to paragraph (5), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(C) A legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to paragraph (5), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

(7) Any member of the legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to this section and the specific provision of law that the member relied upon to permit their participation by teleconferencing shall be listed in the minutes of the meeting.

(8) The legislative body shall have and implement a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities, consistent with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and resolving any doubt in favor of accessibility. In each instance in which notice of the time of the meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the procedure for receiving and resolving requests for accommodation.

(9) The legislative body shall conduct meetings subject to this chapter consistent with applicable civil rights and nondiscrimination laws.

(c) A local agency shall identify and make available to legislative bodies a list of one or more meeting locations that may be available for use by the legislative bodies to conduct their meetings.

(d) (1) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a legislative body from providing the public with additional teleconference locations.

(2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a legislative body from providing the public with additional physical locations in which the public may observe and address the legislative body by electronic means.

(e) A member of a legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to this section shall publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with those individuals.

(f) The teleconferencing provisions described in Section 54953 and Sections 54953.8.1 to 54953.8.7, inclusive, are cumulative. A legislative body may elect to use any teleconferencing provisions that are applicable to a meeting, regardless of whether any other teleconferencing provisions would also be applicable to that meeting.

(g) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Remote location" means a location from which a member of a legislative body participates in a meeting pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b), other than any physical meeting location designated in the notice of the meeting. Remote locations need not be accessible to the public.

(2) "Teleconference" means a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

(3) "Two-way audiovisual platform" means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service. A two-way

audiovisual platform may be structured to disable the use of video for the public participants.

(4) “Two-way telephonic service” means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

(5) “Webcasting” means a streaming video broadcast online or on television, using streaming media technology to distribute a single content source to many simultaneous listeners and viewers.

SEC. 9. Section 54953.8.1 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.1. (a) A health authority may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section.

(b) Nothing in this section or Section 54953.8 shall be construed as discouraging health authority members from regularly meeting at a common physical site within the jurisdiction of the authority or from using teleconference locations within or near the jurisdiction of the authority.

(c) For purposes of this section, a health authority means any entity created pursuant to Sections 14018.7, 14087.31, 14087.35, 14087.36, 14087.38, and 14087.9605 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, any joint powers authority created pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 for the purpose of contracting pursuant to Section 14087.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and any advisory committee to a county-sponsored health plan licensed pursuant to Chapter 2.2 (commencing with Section 1340) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code if the advisory committee has 12 or more members.

SEC. 10. Section 54953.8.2 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.2. (a) A legislative body of a local agency may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8 during a proclaimed state of emergency or local emergency, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and the teleconferencing is used in either of the following circumstances:

(1) For the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(2) After a determination described in paragraph (1) is made that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(b) If the state of emergency or local emergency remains active, in order to continue to teleconference pursuant to this section, the legislative body shall, no later than 45 days after teleconferencing for the first time pursuant to this section, and every 45 days thereafter, make the following findings by majority vote:

(1) The legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency or local emergency.

(2) The state of emergency or local emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

(c) This section shall not be construed to require the legislative body to provide a physical location from which the public may attend or comment.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953.8, a legislative body conducting a teleconference meeting pursuant to this section may elect to use a two-way telephonic service without a live webcasting of the meeting.

(e) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) “Local emergency” means a condition of extreme peril to persons or property proclaimed by the governing body of the local agency affected, in accordance with Section 8630 of the California Emergency Services Act

(Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2), as defined in Section 8680.9, or a local health emergency declared pursuant to Section 101080 of the Health and Safety Code. Local emergency, as used in this section, refers only to local emergencies in the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(2) “State of emergency” means state of emergency proclaimed pursuant to Section 8625 of the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2).

SEC. 11. Section 54953.8.3 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.3. (a) A legislative body of a local agency may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8 if, during the teleconference meeting, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda, which location shall be open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, provided that the legislative body complies with the requirements of Section 54953.8 and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) A member of the legislative body notifies the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible, including at the start of a regular meeting, of their need to participate remotely for just cause, including a general description of the circumstances relating to their need to appear remotely at the given meeting.

(2) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.

(3) (A) The provisions of this subdivision shall not serve as a means for any member of a legislative body to participate in meetings of the legislative body solely by teleconference from a remote location for just cause for more than the following number of meetings, as applicable:

(i) Two meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less.

(ii) Five meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets twice per month.

(iii) Seven meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets three or more times per month.

(B) For the purpose of counting meetings attended by teleconference under this paragraph, a “meeting” shall be defined as any number of meetings of the legislative body of a local agency that begin on the same calendar day.

(b) The minutes for the meeting shall identify the specific provision in subdivision (c) that each member relied upon to participate remotely. This subdivision shall not be construed to require the member to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information that is otherwise exempt under existing law, including, but not limited to, the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 56) of Part 2.6 of Division 1 of the Civil Code).

(c) For purposes of this section, “just cause” means any of the following:

(1) Childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely. “Child,” “parent,” “grandparent,” “grandchild,” and “sibling” have the same meaning as those terms do in Section 12945.2.

(2) A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person.

(3) A need related to a physical or mental condition that is not subject to subdivision (c) of Section 54953.

(4) Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.

(5) An immunocompromised child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner of the member that requires the member to participate remotely.

(6) A physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.

(7) Military service obligations that result in a member being unable to attend in person because they are serving under official written orders for active duty, drill, annual training, or any other duty required as a member of the California National Guard or a United States Military Reserve organization that requires the member to be at least 50 miles outside the boundaries of the local agency.

(d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 12. Section 54953.8.4 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.4. (a) An eligible neighborhood council may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following have occurred:

(1) (A) The city council for a city described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) considers whether to adopt a resolution to authorize eligible neighborhood councils to use teleconferencing as described in this section at an open and regular meeting.

(B) If the city council adopts a resolution described in subparagraph (A), an eligible neighborhood council may elect to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section if a majority of the eligible neighborhood council votes to do so. The eligible neighborhood council shall notify the city council if it elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section and its justification for doing so.

(C) Upon receiving notification from an eligible neighborhood council described in subparagraph (B), the city council may adopt a resolution to prohibit the eligible neighborhood council from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section.

(2) After completing the requirements of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), an eligible neighborhood council that holds a meeting pursuant to this subdivision shall do all of the following:

(A) At least a quorum of the members of the eligible neighborhood council shall participate from locations within the boundaries of the city in which the eligible neighborhood council is established.

(B) At least once per year, at least a quorum of the members of the eligible neighborhood council shall participate in person from a singular physical location that is open to the public and within the boundaries of the eligible neighborhood council.

(3) If the meeting is during regular business hours of the offices of the city council member that represents the area that includes the eligible neighborhood council, the eligible neighborhood council shall provide a publicly accessible physical location from which the public may attend or comment, which shall be the offices of the city council member who represents the area where the eligible neighborhood council is located, unless the eligible neighborhood council identifies an alternative location.

(4) If the meeting is outside regular business hours, the eligible neighborhood council shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate any member of the public that requests an accommodation to participate in the meeting.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Accommodation" means providing a publicly accessible physical location for the member of the public to participate from, providing access to technology necessary to participate in the meeting, or identifying locations or resources available that could provide the member of the public with an opportunity to participate in the meeting.

(2) "Eligible neighborhood council" means a neighborhood council that is an advisory body with the purpose to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs

that is established pursuant to the charter of a city with a population of more than 3,000,000 people that is subject to this chapter.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 13. Section 54953.8.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.5. (a) An eligible community college student organization may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) An eligible community college student organization may only use teleconferencing as described in Section 54953.8 after all the following have occurred:

(A) The board of trustees for a community college district considers whether to adopt a resolution to authorize eligible community college student organizations to use teleconferencing as described in this section at an open and regular meeting.

(B) If the board of trustees for a community college district adopts a resolution described in subparagraph (A), an eligible community college student organization may elect to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section if a majority of the eligible community college student organization votes to do so. The eligible community college student organization shall notify the board of trustees if it elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section and its justification for doing so.

(C) Upon receiving notification from an eligible community college student organization as described in subparagraph (B), the board of trustees may adopt a resolution to prohibit the eligible community college student organization from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section.

(D) (i) Except as specified in clause (ii), at least a quorum of the members of the eligible community college student organization shall participate from a singular physical location that is accessible to the public and is within the community college district in which the eligible community college student organization is established.

(ii) The requirements described in clause (i) shall not apply to the California Online Community College.

(iii) Notwithstanding the requirements of clause (i), a person may count toward the establishment of a quorum pursuant to clause (i) regardless of whether the person is participating at the in-person location of the meeting or remotely if the person meets any of the following criteria:

(I) The person is under 18 years of age.

(II) The person is incarcerated.

(III) The person is unable to disclose the location that they are participating from because of either of the following circumstances:

(ia) The person has been issued a protective court order, including, but not limited to, a domestic violence restraining order.

(ib) The person is participating in a program that has to remain confidential, including, but not limited to, an independent living program.

(IV) The person provides childcare or caregiving to a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely. For purposes of this

subclause, “child,” “parent,” “grandparent,” “grandchild,” and “sibling” have the same meaning as those terms are defined in Section 12945.2.

(2) An eligible community college student organization that holds a meeting by teleconference as described in Section 54953.8 shall do the following, as applicable:

(A) (i) Except as specified in subparagraph (B), if the meeting is during regular business hours of the offices of the board of trustees of the community college district, the eligible community college student organization shall provide a publicly accessible physical location from which the public may attend or comment, which shall be the offices of the board of trustees of the community college district, unless the eligible community college student organization identifies an alternative location.

(ii) Except as specified in subparagraph (B), if the meeting is outside regular business hours, the eligible community college student organization shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate any member of the public that requests an accommodation to participate in the meeting. For the purposes of this subparagraph, “accommodation” means providing a publicly accessible physical location for the member of the public to participate from, providing access to technology necessary to participate in the meeting, or identifying locations or resources available that could provide the member of the public with an opportunity to participate in the meeting.

(B) The requirements described in subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the California Online Community College.

(b) For purposes of this section, “eligible community college student organization” means a student body association organized pursuant to Section 76060 of the Education Code, or any other student-run community college organization that is required to comply with the meeting requirements of this chapter, that is in any community college recognized within the California Community Colleges system and includes the Student Senate for California Community Colleges.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 14. Section 54953.8.6 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.6. (a) An eligible subsidiary body may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) The eligible subsidiary body shall designate one physical meeting location within the boundaries of the legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body where members of the subsidiary body who are not participating remotely shall be present and members of the public may physically attend, observe, hear, and participate in the meeting. At least one staff member of the eligible subsidiary body or the legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body shall be present at the physical meeting location during the meeting. The eligible subsidiary body shall post the agenda at the physical meeting location, but need not post the agenda at a remote location.

(2) (A) A member of the eligible subsidiary body shall visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform, except if the member has a physical or mental condition not subject to subdivision (c) of Section 54953 that results in a need to participate off camera.

(B) The visual appearance of a member of the eligible subsidiary body on camera may cease only when the appearance would be technologically infeasible, including, but not limited to, when the member experiences a lack of reliable broadband or internet connectivity that would be remedied by joining without video.

(C) If a member of the eligible subsidiary body does not appear on camera due to challenges with internet connectivity, the member shall announce the reason for their nonappearance prior to turning off their

camera.

(3) An elected official serving as a member of an eligible subsidiary body in their official capacity shall not participate in a meeting of the eligible subsidiary body by teleconferencing pursuant to this section unless the use of teleconferencing complies with the requirements of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953.

(4) (A) In order to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section, the legislative body that established the eligible subsidiary body by charter, ordinance, resolution, or other formal action shall make the following findings by majority vote before the eligible subsidiary body uses teleconferencing pursuant to this section for the first time, and every six months thereafter:

(i) The legislative body has considered the circumstances of the eligible subsidiary body.

(ii) Teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body would enhance public access to meetings of the eligible subsidiary body, and the public has been made aware of the type of remote participation, including audio-visual or telephonic, that will be made available at a regularly scheduled meeting and has been provided the opportunity to comment at an in-person meeting of the legislative body authorizing the subsidiary body to meet entirely remotely.

(iii) Teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body would promote the attraction, retention, and diversity of eligible subsidiary body members.

(B) (i) An eligible subsidiary body authorized to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section may request to present any recommendations it develops to the legislative body that created it.

(ii) Upon receiving a request described in clause (i), the legislative body that created the subsidiary body shall hold a discussion at a regular meeting held within 60 days after the legislative body receives the request, or if the legislative body does not have another regular meeting scheduled within 60 days after the legislative body receives the request, at the next regular meeting after the request is received.

(iii) The discussion required by clause (ii) shall not be placed on a consent calendar, but may be combined with the legislative body's subsequent consideration of the findings described in subparagraph (A) for the following 12 months.

(iv) The legislative body shall not take any action on any recommendations included in the report of a subsidiary body until the next regular meeting of the legislative body following the discussion described in clause (ii).

(C) After the legislative body makes the findings described in subparagraph (A), the eligible subsidiary body shall approve the use of teleconferencing by majority vote before using teleconference pursuant to this section.

(D) The legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body may elect to prohibit the eligible subsidiary body from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section at any time.

(b) (1) For purposes of this section, "eligible subsidiary body" means a legislative body that meets all of the following:

(A) Is described in subdivision (b) of Section 54952.

(B) Serves exclusively in an advisory capacity.

(C) Is not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, permits, or any other entitlements, grants, or allocations of funds.

(D) Does not have primary subject matter jurisdiction, as defined by the charter, an ordinance, a resolution, or any formal action of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body, that focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, removing from, or restricting access to, materials available in public libraries, or taxes or related spending proposals.

(2) An eligible subsidiary body may include members who are elected officials, members who are not elected officials, or any combination thereof.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 15. Section 54953.8.7 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.7. (a) An eligible multijurisdictional body may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) The eligible multijurisdictional body has adopted a resolution that authorizes the eligible multijurisdictional body to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section at a regular meeting in open session.

(2) At least a quorum of the members of the eligible multijurisdictional body shall participate from one or more physical locations that are open to the public and within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(3) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body who receives compensation for their service on the eligible multijurisdictional body shall participate from a physical location that is open to the public. For purposes of this paragraph, “compensation” does not include reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses.

(4) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body may participate from a remote location provided that:

(A) The eligible multijurisdictional body identifies each member of the eligible multijurisdictional body who plans to participate remotely in the agenda.

(B) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.

(5) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body shall not participate in a meeting remotely pursuant to this section, unless the location from which the member participates is more than 20 miles each way from any physical location of the meeting described in paragraph (2).

(6) The provisions of this section shall not serve as a means for any member of a legislative body to participate in meetings of the legislative body solely by teleconference from a remote location for more than the following number of meetings, as applicable:

(A) Two meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less.

(B) Five meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets twice per month.

(C) Seven meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets three or more times per month.

(D) For the purpose of counting meetings attended by teleconference under this paragraph, a “meeting” shall be defined as any number of meetings of the legislative body of a local agency that begin on the same calendar day.

(b) For the purposes of this section, both of the following definitions apply:

(1) “Eligible multijurisdictional body” means a multijurisdictional board, commission, or advisory body of a multijurisdictional, cross-county agency, the membership of which board, commission, or advisory body is

appointed, and the board, commission, or advisory body is otherwise subject to this chapter.

(2) “Multijurisdictional” means either of the following:

(A) A legislative body that includes representatives from more than one county, city, city and county, or special district.

(B) A legislative body of a joint powers entity formed pursuant to an agreement entered into in accordance with Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 16. Section 54954.2 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 92 of Chapter 131 of the Statutes of 2023, is amended to read:

54954.2. (a) (1) At least 72 hours before a regular meeting, the legislative body of the local agency, or its designee, shall post an agenda that meets all of the following requirements:

(A) The agenda shall contain a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting, including items to be discussed in closed session. A brief general description of an item generally need not exceed 20 words.

(B) The agenda shall specify the time and location of the regular meeting and shall be posted in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public and on the local agency’s internet website, if the local agency has one.

(C) (i) If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof.

(ii) The agenda shall include information regarding how, to whom, and when a request for disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting.

(2) For a meeting occurring on and after January 1, 2019, of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that has an internet website, the following provisions shall apply:

(A) An online posting of an agenda shall be posted on the primary internet website home page of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that is accessible through a prominent, direct link to the current agenda. The direct link to the agenda shall not be in a contextual menu; however, a link in addition to the direct link to the agenda may be accessible through a contextual menu.

(B) An online posting of an agenda, including, but not limited to, an agenda posted in an integrated agenda management platform, shall be posted in an open format that meets all of the following requirements:

(i) Retrievable, downloadable, indexable, and electronically searchable by commonly used internet search applications.

(ii) Platform independent and machine readable.

(iii) Available to the public free of charge and without any restriction that would impede the reuse or redistribution of the agenda.

(C) A legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that has an internet website and an integrated agenda management platform shall not be required to comply with subparagraph (A) if all of the following are met:

(i) A direct link to the integrated agenda management platform shall be posted on the primary internet website home page of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state. The direct link to the integrated agenda management platform shall not be in a contextual menu. When a person clicks on the direct link to the integrated agenda management platform, the direct link shall take the person directly to an internet website with the agendas of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state.

(ii) The integrated agenda management platform may contain the prior agendas of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state for all meetings occurring on or after January 1, 2019.

(iii) The current agenda of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state shall be the first agenda available at the top of the integrated agenda management platform.

(iv) All agendas posted in the integrated agenda management platform shall comply with the requirements in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (B).

(D) The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to a political subdivision of a local agency that was established by the legislative body of the city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state.

(E) For purposes of this paragraph, both of the following definitions apply:

(1) "Integrated agenda management platform" means an internet website of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state dedicated to providing the entirety of the agenda information for the legislative body of the city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state to the public.

(2) "Legislative body" means a legislative body that meets the definition of subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

(3) No action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except that members of a legislative body or its staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under Section 54954.3. In addition, on their own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public, a member of a legislative body or its staff may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on their own activities. Furthermore, a member of a legislative body, or the body itself, subject to rules or procedures of the legislative body, may provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, request staff to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the legislative body may take action on items of business not appearing on the posted agenda under any of the conditions stated below. Prior to discussing any item pursuant to this subdivision, the legislative body shall publicly identify the item.

(1) Upon a determination by a majority vote of the legislative body that an emergency situation exists, as defined in Section 54956.5.

(2) Upon a determination by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present at the meeting, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that there is

a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda being posted as specified in subdivision (a).

(3) The item was posted pursuant to subdivision (a) for a prior meeting of the legislative body occurring not more than five calendar days prior to the date action is taken on the item, and at the prior meeting the item was continued to the meeting at which action is being taken.

(c) This section is necessary to implement and reasonably within the scope of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution.

(d) For purposes of subdivision (a), the requirement that the agenda be posted on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one, shall only apply to a legislative body that meets either of the following standards:

(1) A legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

(2) A legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (b) of Section 54952, if the members of the legislative body are compensated for their appearance, and if one or more of the members of the legislative body are also members of a legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

SEC. 17. Section 54954.3 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54954.3. (a) (1) Every agenda for regular meetings shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest to the public, before or during the legislative body's consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body, provided that no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by subdivision (b) of Section 54954.2.

(2) (A) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the agenda need not provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body on any item that has already been considered by a committee, composed exclusively of members of the legislative body, at a public meeting wherein all interested members of the public were afforded the opportunity to address the committee on the item, before or during the committee's consideration of the item.

(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply if any of the following conditions are met:

(i) The item has been substantially changed since the committee heard the item, as determined by the legislative body.

(ii) When considering the item, a quorum of the committee members did not participate from a singular physical location, that was clearly identified on the agenda, open to the public, and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(iii) The committee has primary subject matter jurisdiction, as defined by the charter, an ordinance, a resolution, or any formal action of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body, that focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, removing from, or restricting access to, materials available in public libraries, or taxes or related spending proposals. This clause shall not apply to an item if the local agency has adopted a law applicable to the meeting of the committee at which the item that was considered prohibits the committee from placing a limit on the total amount of time for public comment on the item.

(3) Every notice for a special meeting shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body concerning any item that has been described in the notice for the meeting before or during consideration of that item.

(b) (1) The legislative body of a local agency may adopt reasonable regulations to ensure that the intent of subdivision (a) is carried out, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public testimony on particular issues and for each individual speaker.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), when the legislative body of a local agency limits time for public comment, the legislative body of a local agency shall provide at least twice the allotted time to a member of the public who utilizes a translator to ensure that non-English speakers receive the same opportunity to directly address the legislative body of a local agency.

(3) Paragraph (2) shall not apply if the legislative body of a local agency utilizes simultaneous translation equipment in a manner that allows the legislative body of a local agency to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously.

(c) The legislative body of a local agency shall not prohibit public criticism of the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the legislative body. Nothing in this subdivision shall confer any privilege or protection for expression beyond that otherwise provided by law.

SEC. 18. Section 54956 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54956. (a) (1) A special meeting may be called at any time by the presiding officer of the legislative body of a local agency, or by a majority of the members of the legislative body, by delivering written notice to each member of the legislative body and to each local newspaper of general circulation and radio or television station requesting notice in writing and posting a notice on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one. The notice shall be delivered personally or by any other means and shall be received at least 24 hours before the time of the meeting as specified in the notice. The call and notice shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted or discussed. No other business shall be considered at these meetings by the legislative body. The written notice may be dispensed with as to any member who at or prior to the time the meeting convenes files with the clerk or secretary of the legislative body a written waiver of notice. The waiver may be given by telephone or electronic mail. The written notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who is actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes.

(2) The call and notice shall be posted at least 24 hours prior to the special meeting in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, a legislative body shall not call a special meeting regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits, of the legislative body or of a local agency executive, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 3511.1. However, this subdivision does not apply to a local agency calling a special meeting to discuss the local agency's budget.

SEC. 19. Section 54956.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54956.5. (a) For purposes of this section, "emergency situation" means both of the following:

(1) An emergency, which shall be defined as a work stoppage, crippling activity, or other activity that severely impairs public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the legislative body.

(2) A dire emergency, which shall be defined as a crippling disaster, mass destruction, terrorist act, or threatened terrorist activity that poses peril so immediate and significant that requiring a legislative body to provide one-hour notice before holding an emergency meeting under this section may endanger the public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the legislative body.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), in the case of an emergency situation involving matters upon which prompt action is necessary due to the disruption or threatened disruption of public facilities, a legislative body may hold an emergency meeting without complying with either the 24-hour notice requirement or the 24-hour posting requirement of Section 54956 or both of the notice and posting requirements.

(2) Each local newspaper of general circulation and radio or television station that has requested notice of special meetings pursuant to Section 54956 shall be notified by the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee thereof, one hour prior to the emergency meeting, or, in the case of a dire emergency, at or near the time that the presiding officer or designee notifies the members of the legislative body of the emergency meeting.

(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the notice required by this paragraph shall be given by telephone and all telephone numbers provided in the most recent request of a newspaper or station for notification of special meetings shall be exhausted. In the event that telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirements of this paragraph shall be deemed waived, and the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, shall notify those newspapers, radio stations, or television stations of the fact of the holding of the emergency meeting, the purpose of the meeting, and any action taken at the meeting as soon after the meeting as possible.

(B) For an emergency meeting held pursuant to this section, the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee thereof, may send the notifications required by this paragraph by email instead of by telephone, as provided in subparagraph (A), to all local newspapers of general circulation, and radio or television stations, that have requested those notifications by email, and all email addresses provided by representatives of those newspapers or stations shall be exhausted. In the event that internet services and telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirements of this paragraph shall be deemed waived, and the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, shall notify those newspapers, radio stations, or television stations of the fact of the holding of the emergency meeting, the purpose of the meeting, and any action taken at the meeting as soon after the meeting as possible.

(c) During a meeting held pursuant to this section, the legislative body may meet in closed session pursuant to Section 54957 if agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, by a unanimous vote of the members present.

(d) All special meeting requirements, as prescribed in Section 54956 shall be applicable to a meeting called pursuant to this section, with the exception of the 24-hour notice requirement.

(e) The minutes of a meeting called pursuant to this section, a list of persons who the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, notified or attempted to notify, a copy of the rollcall vote, and any actions taken at the meeting shall be posted for a minimum of 10 days in a public place as soon after the meeting as possible.

SEC. 20. Section 54957.6 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54957.6. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a legislative body of a local agency may hold closed sessions with the local agency's designated representatives regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of its represented and unrepresented employees, and, for represented employees, any other matter within the statutorily provided scope of representation, subject to all of the following conditions:

- (1) Prior to the closed session, the legislative body of the local agency shall hold an open and public session in which it identifies its designated representatives.
- (2) The closed session shall be for the purpose of reviewing its position and instructing the local agency's designated representatives.
- (3) The closed session may take place prior to and during consultations and discussions with representatives of employee organizations and unrepresented employees.
- (4) Any closed session with the local agency's designated representative regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits may include discussion of an agency's available

funds and funding priorities, but only insofar as these discussions relate to providing instructions to the local agency's designated representative.

(5) The closed session shall not include final action on the proposed compensation of one or more unrepresented employees.

(6) For the purposes enumerated in this section, a legislative body of a local agency may also meet with a state conciliator who has intervened in the proceedings.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the term "employee" shall include an officer or an independent contractor who functions as an officer or an employee, but shall not include any elected official, member of a legislative body, or other independent contractors.

SEC. 21. Section 54957.9 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54957.9. In the event that any meeting is willfully interrupted by a group or groups of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the members of the legislative body conducting the meeting may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the legislative body from establishing a procedure for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for willfully disturbing the orderly conduct of the meeting.

SEC. 22. Section 54957.95 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54957.95. (a) (1) In addition to authority exercised pursuant to Sections 54954.3 and 54957.9, the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee may remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting, including any teleconferenced meeting.

(2) Prior to removing an individual, the presiding member or their designee shall warn the individual that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal. The presiding member or their designee may then remove the individual if they do not promptly cease their disruptive behavior. This paragraph does not apply to any behavior described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "Disrupting" means engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not limited to, one of the following:

(A) A failure to comply with reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by a legislative body pursuant to Section 54954.3 or any other law.

(B) Engaging in behavior that constitutes use of force or a true threat of force.

(2) "True threat of force" means a threat that has sufficient indicia of intent and seriousness, that a reasonable observer would perceive it to be an actual threat to use force by the person making the threat.

SEC. 23. Section 54957.96 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54957.96. (a) The existing authority of a legislative body or its presiding officer to remove or limit participation by persons who engage in behavior that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting, including existing limitations upon that authority, shall apply to members of the public participating in a meeting via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) “Two-way audiovisual platform” means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service. A two-way audiovisual platform may be structured to disable the use of video for the public participants.

(2) “Two-way telephonic service” means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

SEC. 24. The Legislature finds and declares that Section 4 of this act, which amends Section 54953 of, Section 5 of this act, which adds Section 54953.4 to, Sections 8 to 15, inclusive, of this act, which add Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, respectively, to, Section 19 of this act, which amends Section 54956.5 of, Section 22 of this act, which amends Section 54957.95 of, and Section 23 of this act, which adds Section 54957.96 to, the Government Code, impose a limitation on the public’s right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:

(a) This act is necessary to provide opportunities for public participation in meetings of specified public agencies and to promote the recruitment and retention of members of those agencies.

(b) This act is necessary to ensure minimum standards for public participation and notice requirements allowing for greater public participation in meetings.

(c) This act is necessary to modernize the Ralph M. Brown Act to reflect recent technological changes that can promote greater public access to local officials.

(d) The exclusively virtual nature of the California Online Community College presents unique barriers to the requirements for an in-person quorum, a physical location for public participation, and certain accommodations. Participating students of the online community college come from all across the state and necessitating travel for these requirements would pose a significant and exclusionary barrier.

SEC. 25. The Legislature finds and declares that Sections 1 and 2 of this act, which amend and repeal Section 54952.2, respectively, of, Section 3 of this act, which amends Section 54952.7 of, Section 4 of this act, which amends Section 54953 of, Section 5 of this act, which adds Section 54953.4 to, Section 6 of this act, which amends Section 54953.5 of, Section 7 of this act, which amends Section 54953.7 of, Sections 8 to 15, inclusive, of this act, which add Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, respectively, to, Section 16 of this act, which amends Section 54954.2 of, Section 17 of this act, which amends Section 54954.3 of, Section 18 of this act, which amends Section 54956 of, Section 19 of this act, which amends Section 54956.5 of, Section 20 of this act, which amends Section 54957.6 of, Section 21 of this act, which amends Section 54957.9 of, Section 22 of this act, which amends Section 54957.95 of, and Section 23 of this act, which adds Section 54957.96 to, the Government Code, further, within the meaning of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the purposes of that constitutional section as it relates to the right of public access to the meetings of local public bodies or the writings of local public officials and local agencies. Pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the Legislature makes the following findings:

(a) This act is necessary to provide opportunities for public participation in meetings of specified public agencies and to promote the recruitment and retention of members of those agencies.

(b) This act is necessary to ensure minimum standards for public participation and notice requirements allowing for greater public participation in meetings.

(c) This act is necessary to modernize the Ralph M. Brown Act to reflect recent technological changes that can promote greater public access to local officials.

(d) The exclusively virtual nature of the California Online Community College presents unique barriers to the requirements for an in-person quorum, a physical location for public participation, and certain accommodations. Participating students of the online community college come from all across the state and necessitating travel for these requirements would pose a significant and exclusionary barrier.

SEC. 26. The Legislature finds and declares that adequate public access to meetings is a matter of statewide concern and is not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, this bill would apply to all cities, including charter cities.

SEC. 27. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district under this act would result from a legislative mandate that is within the scope of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution.



ELIGIBILITY TO MEET VIA TELECONFERENCE IN COMPLIANCE WITH SENATE BILL 707 (DURAZO)



Metro[®]

March 2026

Senate Bill 707 Overview

Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill 707 into law on October 3, 2025. SB 707 both restores and restructures various provisions (Brown Act modifications) that expired on December 31, 2025 (AB 2449).

SB 707 also makes permanent some transparency-related reforms and establishes new requirements regarding public access and participation in local government proceedings. Some of the amendments became effective January 1, 2026, while others will become effective July 1, 2026.

Under SB 707, before subsidiary advisory bodies (Ad Hoc) can adopt some of the provisions, the legislative body (Metro Board) had to adopt findings authorizing their subsidiary bodies to consider holding teleconference meetings.



SB 707 Metro Board Findings

On February 26, 2026, the Metro Board adopted the following findings on behalf of eligible subsidiary bodies as defined by SB 707:

- (i) The Board of Directors has considered the circumstances of the eligible subsidiary body.*
- (ii) Teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body would enhance public access to meetings of the eligible subsidiary body, and the public has been made aware of the type of remote participation, including audio-visual or telephonic, that will be made available at a regularly scheduled meeting and has been provided the opportunity to comment at an in-person meeting of the legislative body authorizing the subsidiary body to meet entirely remotely.*
- (iii) Teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body would promote the attraction, retention, and diversity of eligible subsidiary body members.*

The Board has power to authorize or revoke the remote meeting option.



SB 707 All Legislative Bodies, updates

- Public must have access via either two-way audio-visual platform (like Teams/Zoom) or two-way telephonic PLUS live webcasting
 - both when using relaxed teleconferencing, under “just cause” or proclaimed state of emergency
- Any members who are teleconferencing (under relaxed teleconferencing rules, just cause, or as a reasonable accommodation):
 - must use both audio and video, or audio if a physical condition related to their disability results in a need to participate off camera
 - must announce whether anyone 18 or older in the room with them
 - must announce the reason prior to turning off their camera due to challenges with internet connectivity



SB 707 Relaxed Teleconferencing Rules

- The Metro Board authorized eligible subsidiary bodies to meet via teleconference, by either audio-visual or telephonic means, *if they choose*, subject to SB 707 requirements; and updating relaxed teleconferencing rules as stated in SB 707
 - *Subsidiary bodies must vote to adopt relaxed teleconferencing rules at their respective meetings by vote*
 - The key difference is that eligible subsidiary bodies will have the ability to meet remotely *without* just cause, *if they choose*
 - If the subsidiary body *does not* adopt relaxed teleconferencing rules for their respective meetings, they would still be able to use the just cause/emergency rules or during a proclaimed a state of emergency
 - Findings must be made every 6 months by the Board after the initial adoption for eligible subsidiary bodies to continue to meet under relaxed teleconferencing rules

SB 707 Relaxed Teleconferencing Rules

- This subsidiary bodies can meet by teleconference almost **entirely remotely**:
 - Without identifying all teleconferencing locations on the agenda or posting agendas at each location
 - One physical meeting location within the boundaries of the legislative body that created it must be designated so members and the public can physically attend the meeting;
 - At least one staff member is present at the physical meeting location during the meeting
 - The meeting agenda is posted at the physical meeting location (not required at remote locations)
 - Meeting agenda specifies the means of public access and allows for public comment, including a call-in or internet-based option, in real time
 - Public comments shall not be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting
 - Only Committee members not acting in their official elected capacity are eligible for these relaxed rules
 - Quorum not required to be in the room
 - Two-way audio/visual platform or telephonic service with live webcasting is provided for remote public access
 - If service is disrupted, no further action can be taken until phone or internet-based option is restored
 - Members participating remotely visibly appear on camera (subject to connectivity or disability)



Questions?

Addendum – Just Cause

SB 707 Just Cause Teleconferencing Requirements

SB 707 allows virtual participation for “just cause”

- Members must notify the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible (including at the start of a meeting) of the need to participate remotely and their “just cause” reason
 - The member is not required to disclose specifics: medical diagnosis or disability, or personal medical information that is otherwise exempt under existing law
- At least a quorum of the members (Ad Hoc= 6/11) must participate in person from a single physical location open to the public within the boundaries of Los Angeles County
- The member participating remotely must use audio and visual technology
- The minutes for the meeting shall identify the specific provision that each member relied upon to participate remotely
- “Just cause” remote appearance limits based on regular meeting schedules:
 - ✓ two meetings per year, if the body regularly meets once per month or less



SB 707 Just Cause Reasons for Teleconferencing

“Just cause” reasons include:

- Childcare or caregiving needs of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner;
- Contagious illness preventing the member from attending;
- Physical or mental conditions not subject to reasonable accommodation;
- Official travel on behalf of the legislative body or another state/local agency;
- Needs related to an immunocompromised child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner;
- Physical or family medical emergency; or
- Military service obligations

Remote appearance for just cause is effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2029.



Board Report

File #: 2026-0169, File Type: Informational Report

Agenda Number: 37.

AD HOC BOARD COMPOSITION COMMITTEE MARCH 23, 2026

**SUBJECT: GUIDING VALUES FOR AD HOC BOARD COMPOSITION COMMITTEE
DELIBERATIONS**

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE draft guiding values to support and inform the Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee's deliberations regarding governance considerations.

ISSUE

As the Metro Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee considers governance-related issues in context created by Measure G, it is appropriate to identify guiding values that can frame and inform Committee deliberations. This report presents a set of potential values aligned with Metro's mission, Strategic Plan, and adopted principles for the Ad Hoc Committee's review and feedback.

BACKGROUND

The passage of Measure G represents the most significant change to Los Angeles County governance. While Measure G does not apply to Metro and does not alter Metro's governance structure, it has prompted broader discussions regarding governance alignment, accountability, and representation within the County.

Metro remains a separate legal entity governed by state statute, with responsibilities that include stewardship of countywide transportation revenues, oversight of long-term capital investments, and delivery of services to a diverse regional population. In this context, staff has identified a set of guiding values that may assist the Committee in framing its deliberations. These values are intended to provide a common framework for Committee deliberations and discussion.

DISCUSSION

To frame the Committee's discussion, the following draft Guiding Values are intended to help ground deliberations in shared principles that reflect Metro's statutory role, regional responsibilities, and long-term obligations to riders and taxpayers. Together, they provide a values-based lens through which potential governance considerations can be evaluated.

Draft Guiding Values

- **Legal Integrity** - Governance changes shall maintain Metro's status as an independent legal entity governed by state statute.
- **Intergovernmental Balance** - Metro should reflect a regional body that balances county, city, and state interests.
- **Electoral Accountability** - Governance should reflect clear accountability to countywide voters.
- **Regional Equity** - Board composition should reflect the geographic, demographic, and economic diversity of Los Angeles County.
- **Transparency and Public Trust** - Governance structures and any changes should be understandable, explainable, and defensible to the public.
- **Fiscal Stewardship** - Decision-making authority shall be grounded in responsibility for long-term fiscal risk, including budgets, debt, and capital programs, and shall not impose additional costs to and obligations on taxpayers.
- **Functional Effectiveness** - Governance should support stable oversight, institutional memory, and the Board's ability to make timely, informed, and high-quality decisions, particularly for multi-decade investments and programs.
- **Customer Experience** - Governance should support decisions that prioritize customer experience, rider outcomes, and system performance.
- **Adaptability** - Governance structures should be resilient and flexible in response to future changes in county or regional governance.

These draft values are presented for the Committee's consideration and feedback to ensure that future deliberations remain anchored in a clear, consistent, and mission-aligned framework.

EQUITY PLATFORM

This item is informational and does not propose changes to Metro governance, policies, or programs. The identification of guiding values that include regional equity, accountability, and customer experience supports Metro's commitment to equitable outcomes by encouraging governance discussions that consider the diverse needs of communities and riders across Los Angeles County.

VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED OUTCOME

VMT and VMT per capita in Los Angeles County are lower than national averages, the lowest in the SCAG region, and on the lower end of VMT per capita statewide, with these declining VMT trends

due in part to Metro's significant investment in rail and bus transit.* Metro's Board-adopted VMT reduction targets align with California's statewide climate goals, including achieving carbon neutrality by 2045. To ensure continued progress, all Board items are assessed for their potential impact on VMT.

As part of these ongoing efforts, this item is not expected to contribute to further reductions in VMT. Because the Metro Board has adopted an agency-wide VMT Reduction Target, and this item supports the overall function of the agency, this item is consistent with the goals of reducing VMT

*Based on population estimates from the United States Census and VMT estimates from Caltrans' Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) data between 2001-2019.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

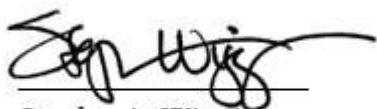
This recommendation supports Metro Strategic Plan goal 5 related to organizational excellence, customer focus, equity, and transparent governance by establishing shared values for Committee deliberations.

NEXT STEPS

Upon receipt and filing of this report, the Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee may reference or consider adoption of these guiding values during future discussions.

Prepared by: Madeleine Moore, Deputy Executive Officer, Government Relations, 213 922-4604
Marisa Perez, Deputy Chief, Community Relations, 213-922-3808

Reviewed by: Nicole Englund, Chief of Staff, 213-922-7950



Stephanie Wiggins
Chief Executive Officer

Draft Guiding Values for Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee Deliberations

**Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee
March 2026**



DRAFT GUIDING VALUES FOR GOVERNANCE REVIEW

- **Legal Integrity** – Governance changes shall maintain Metro’s status as an independent legal entity governed by state statute.
- **Intergovernmental Balance** – Metro should remain a regional body that balances county, city, and state interests.
- **Electoral Accountability** – Governance should maintain clear accountability to countywide voters.
- **Regional Equity** – Board composition should reflect the geographic, demographic, and economic diversity of Los Angeles County.
- **Transparency and Public Trust** – Governance structures and any changes should be understandable, explainable, and defensible to the public.

DRAFT GUIDING VALUES FOR GOVERNANCE REVIEW

- **Fiscal Stewardship** – Decision-making authority shall be grounded in responsibility for long-term fiscal risk, including budgets, debt, and capital programs, and shall not impose additional costs to and obligations on taxpayers.
- **Functional Effectiveness** – Governance should support stable oversight, institutional memory, and the Board’s ability to make timely, informed, and high-quality decisions, particularly for multi-decade investments and programs.
- **Customer Experience** – Governance should support decisions that prioritize customer experience, rider outcomes, and system performance.
- **Adaptability** – Governance structures should be resilient and flexible in response to future changes in county or regional governance.

THANK YOU





Board Report

File #: 2026-0197, **File Type:** Oral Report / Presentation

Agenda Number: 38.

**AD HOC BOARD COMPOSITION COMMITTEE
MARCH 23, 2026**

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ACTION: RECEIVE ORAL REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE the monthly oral report on the Ad Hoc Board Composition Community Engagement.

ISSUE

The Metro Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee approved an inclusive community and stakeholder engagement plan designed to gather timely, accessible, and geographically representative input from riders, local governments, and community stakeholders across Los Angeles County.

This monthly oral report will include a recap of completed stakeholder outreach and an update on planned outreach.

To date, Metro has reached approximately 200 stakeholders at the following meetings:

- Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce
- Central City Association Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
- Metro Citizen Advisory Council
- Gateway Cities Service Council
- Greater San Fernando Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments
- San Fernando Valley Service Council
- San Gabriel Valley Service Council
- Westside/Central Service Council
- Valley Industry Commerce Association Transportation Committee

EQUITY PLATFORM

Robust community and stakeholder engagement advances Metro's equity objectives by prioritizing outreach to underrepresented communities, riders, and stakeholders across all regions of Los

Angeles County. Metro includes multilingual outreach, accessible meeting formats, and partnerships with community-based organizations and faith leaders to reduce participation barriers and ensure diverse perspectives are reflected in Committee deliberations.

VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED OUTCOME

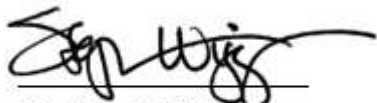
VMT and VMT per capita in Los Angeles County are lower than national averages, the lowest in the SCAG region, and on the lower end of VMT per capita statewide, with these declining VMT trends due in part to Metro's significant investment in rail and bus transit.* Metro's Board-adopted VMT reduction targets align with California's statewide climate goals, including achieving carbon neutrality by 2045. To ensure continued progress, all Board items are assessed for their potential impact on VMT.

As part of these ongoing efforts, this item is expected to contribute to further reductions in VMT. While this item does not directly encourage taking transit, sharing a ride, or using active transportation, it is a vital part of Metro operations, as it the Metro Board has broad authority over Metro policies. Because the Metro Board has adopted an agency-wide VMT Reduction Target, and this item supports the overall function of the agency, this item is consistent with the goals of reducing VMT.

*Based on population estimates from the United States Census and VMT estimates from Caltrans' Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) data between 2001-2019.

Prepared by: Marisa Perez, Deputy Chief, Community Relations, 213-922-3808
Lilian De-Loza Gutierrez, Executive Officer, Community Relations,
213-922-7479

Reviewed by: Nicole Englund, Chief of Staff, 213-922-7950



Stephanie Wiggins
Chief Executive Officer



March 23, 2026

Ad Hoc Board Composition Community Engagement

Community Engagement Update

- The Metro Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee approved an inclusive community and stakeholder engagement plan designed to gather timely, accessible, and geographically representative input from riders, local governments, and community stakeholders across LA County.
- The monthly oral report will include a recap of completed stakeholder outreach and an update on planned outreach.



Initial Engagement Activities

The focus of this first round of outreach has been to:

- Educate stakeholders about the creation of the Metro Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee
- Begin to promote Community Listening Sessions being held in April and May 2026.

200+

Stakeholders Reached

Organization	Date
Metro SR-14 Coordinating Group (Lancaster, Palmdale, Santa Clarita)	Feb. 25
AV Edge	Feb. 26
South Bay Service Council	March 2
Valley Industry Commerce Association Transportation Committee	March 3
San Fernando Valley Service Council	March 4
Gateway Cities Council of Governments Board	March 4
San Gabriel Valley Service Council	March 9
Westside/Central Service Council	March 11
Greater San Fernando Valley Chamber of Commerce	March 11
Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce	March 18
Central City Association Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	March 18

Scheduled Presentations to Key Groups

Organization	Date
Westside Cities COG Transportation Working Group	March 24 @ 2 PM
Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee	March 25 @ 8:45 AM
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership	March 25 @ 9 AM
California Contract Cities Association	April 1 @ 6 PM
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Transportation Committee	April 1 @ 4 PM
Gateway Cities Council of Governments Board	April 1 @ 6 PM
Greater Los Angeles Realtors Group	April 8 @ 1 PM
LADOT Transportation Commission	April 9 @ 12 PM
Westside Cities Council of Governments Board	April 9 @ 12 PM
San Fernando Valley Council of Governments Board	April 13 @ 10 AM
North LA County Transportation Coalition	April 13 @ 1 PM
South Bay Council of Governments Board	April 21 @ 6 PM

➤ **Metro staff also attends and monitors Los Angeles County Governance Reform Task Force Meetings**

Planned Presentations to Key Groups

Organization

- League of Cities – LA County Division
- Independent Cities Association
- Greater Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
- Metro Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Metro Technical Advisory Committee
- Metro Transportation Business Advisory Council
- Metro Youth Council
- CEO Faith Leaders Roundtable
- Los Angeles County Youth Climate Commission
- Los Angeles City Youth Council



- **Metro staff available to present to other groups as invited.**

Community Listening Sessions

Hosted By	Date
San Fernando Valley Service Council	April 1, 2026 @ 6:30 PM
South Bay Service Council	April 6, 2026 @ 5 PM
Westside/Central Service Council	April 8, 2026 @ 6 PM
Gateway Cities Service Council	April 9, 2026 @ 5 PM
Public Safety Advisory Committee	April 9, 2026 @ 6 PM (tentative)
San Gabriel Valley Service Council	April 13, 2026 @ 5 PM
Metro Community Advisory Council	April 22, 2026 @ 6 PM
Metro Virtual Listening Session	May 6, 2026 @ 6:30 PM

Other Activities

- Implementing Pop Up Events at Key Metro Stations to reach riders
- Tabling at Community Events (e.g., Open Streets, Farmers Markets)
- Engaging Metro CBO Partners to support outreach activities (in progress)



Communications Channels (in progress)

- Website
- Email
- Telephone Line
- Fact Sheet
- Take Ones
- Frequently Asked Questions – Ad Hoc Board Composition
- Community Listening Session Flyer
- Social Media Toolkit with QR Code
- E-Blasts to Metro CBOs, LIFE, and Go Pass participants
- Community Relations Newsletter
- The Source/El Pasajero



Metro Ad Hoc Governance Committee/
Comité Ad Hoc de Gobernanza

Community Listening Sessions at Metro Service Councils

Escuchando a la Comunidad en los Consejos de Servicio de Metro

Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
miércoles, 1 de abril del 2026, 6:30 p.m.

San Fernando Valley
Marvin Braude Constituent Center
6280 Van Nuys Bl
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Zoom Link/Enlace de Zoom:
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1619035092>
Webinar ID/ID de la Junta: 161 903 5092

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To request interpretation and materials in other languages, call (213) 922-4600 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at least three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled session date.

Submit your comments/ Envíe sus comentarios

Send comments no later than **May 15, 2026**:
Envíe sus comentarios a más tardar el 1 de mayo de 2026:



213.922.3992



governance@metro.net



Board Report

File #: 2026-0198, **File Type:** Informational Report

Agenda Number: 39.

AD HOC BOARD COMPOSITION COMMITTEE MARCH 23, 2026

SUBJECT: BENCHMARKING ANALYSIS OF TRANSIT AND INFRASTRUCTURE AGENCIES

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE the Report on Benchmarking Analysis of Transit Agencies.

ISSUE

In November 2024, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure G, a charter amendment that expands the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors from five to nine members and implements related county governance reforms, including the election of a countywide Chief Executive Officer. Measure G does not amend Metro's statutory governance structure, though its passage has prompted discussion of whether Metro's Board composition should be changed to accommodate the impending change in county governance.

BACKGROUND

An Ad Hoc Committee of the Board was established by Chair Dutra in January 2026 to focus on potential governance considerations arising from Measure G. Motion 33.1 by Directors Dutra, Barger, Horvath, Padilla, Najarian, and Dupont-Walker (Attachment A) directs that the Ad Hoc Committee's deliberations and recommendations be informed by relevant demographic, historical, and comparative context which was presented at last month's Ad-Hoc meeting. The motion also requested that staff provide benchmarking of peer agencies, which is the purpose of this report.

DISCUSSION

Motion 33.1 specifically directed staff to prepare a benchmarking analysis of peer transit agencies of comparable size, scope, and governance complexity, including a summary of each agency's governing board composition, appointment or selection structure, voting authority, and any relevant statutory or local governance provisions.

To benchmark governance practices among large U.S. transit systems, staff reviewed peer agencies with comparable scale, multimodal operations, and regional service areas.

PEER AGENCIES

	Metropolitan Transportation Authority (NYMTA) New York City, NY
	New Jersey Transit (NJT) Newark, NJ
	Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) Boston, MA
	Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) Philadelphia, PA
	Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Washington, D.C.
	Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) Chicago, IL
	Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) San Francisco, CA

While not direct peers in scale, the following agencies were also selected as examples of different transit governance structures to further inform the benchmarking analysis.

REFERENCE AGENCIES

	Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit) Seattle, WA
	Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) Atlanta, GA
	Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) Toronto, ON
	Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) Pittsburgh, PA
	Community Transit Snohomish County, WA

Attachment B (Summary of Findings Peer Agencies) focuses on the agencies’ Board composition and governance, including member selection process, statutory authority, voting authority, and member compensation. In addition, it includes a detailed overview of the agencies’ area of jurisdiction, organization and structure, service characteristics, budget and funding sources.

Attachment C (Summary of Findings Reference Agencies) summarizes the findings for other reference agencies. Attachment D provides a summary of the appointment process for county representatives. Attachment E provides an analysis of the board structure of other government agencies in Southern California.

Transit Agency Key Themes

Board Composition

Board composition and appointment structures vary across transit agencies. On average, peer agency Boards have 10 voting members. Large transit agencies in this study (operating budgets greater than \$2 billion) have an average of 10 voting members, whereas smaller transit agencies (operating budgets less than \$2 billion) have 12 members on average.

County Representation and Appointment Processes

The agencies reviewed demonstrate that no two transit systems use the same governance structure or appointment process. While counties often play an important role in board composition, the method of appointment, eligibility requirements, and level of county representation vary significantly across agencies.

At Metro, five members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors serve, representing 38% of the Board. Metro is the only agency reviewed in which all County-elected officials serve on the board by virtue of their positions as County Supervisors.

Among the agencies reviewed, CTA is the only other system whose jurisdiction is entirely within a single county, similar to Metro. Most other agencies serve multi-county regions, which results in governance structures designed to balance representation across multiple jurisdictions.

Across these multi-county systems, counties typically participate through direct appointments or nominations by county executives or county governing bodies. For example, SEPTA, Sound Transit, MARTA, and Pittsburgh Regional Transit include members appointed by county officials or county governing bodies, sometimes with confirmation by local legislative bodies. These agencies may also require appointees to be local elected officials or residents with relevant expertise, and in some cases ensure geographic representation across the service area.

The New York MTA uses a hybrid structure in which county executives recommend candidates to the governor, who then appoints members subject to state senate confirmation. In contrast, Community Transit includes two county representatives selected by the Snohomish County Council, reflecting a more limited county role.

Overall, these examples illustrate that county involvement in transit governance is common but structured differently across agencies, reflecting differences in service areas, regional governance arrangements, and statutory frameworks.

Attachment D provides additional details on the appointment process for each agency reviewed for which the board includes County representation.

Local and Regional Infrastructure Agencies Key Themes

To provide further context for different approaches to regional governance, staff also reviewed several countywide and regional public authorities operating in Los Angeles County (Attachment E). The examples include entities responsible for infrastructure investment, environmental regulation,

regional planning, and public service delivery.

While each agency operates under a different statutory framework, Attachment E summarizes key governance features for each agency, including governing body composition, the process for selecting county representatives, voting structures, statutory authority, and the scale of fiscal oversight.

While LA County Board members commonly play a role in board composition, the method of representation and appointment varies significantly across entities, reflecting differences in statutory design, service responsibilities, and institutional purpose.

In several agencies, including the Metropolitan Water District, South Coast Air Quality Management District, the LA County Local Agency Formation Commission, and the Southern California Association of Governments, county representatives are appointed directly by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through formal Board action. Some governance structures rely on ex officio representation, such as the LA County Sanitation Districts, where the Chair of the Board of Supervisors represents unincorporated county areas and other Board members service on the Districts that encompass their jurisdiction. In contrast, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District is governed directly by the Board of Supervisors acting as the district board, with all supervisors serving as members.

These examples demonstrate that no single model governs Los Angeles County's participation in regional authorities, and that governance structures are often shaped by the statutory authority, service area, and policy objectives of the agency.

EQUITY PLATFORM

This item is informational and does not propose changes to Metro governance, policies, or programs. Providing contextual information regarding County governance reforms supports informed and transparent decision-making, which aligns with Metro's equity principles.

VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED OUTCOME

VMT and VMT per capita in Los Angeles County are lower than national averages, the lowest in the SCAG region, and on the lower end of VMT per capita statewide, with these declining VMT trends due in part to Metro's significant investment in rail and bus transit.* Metro's Board-adopted VMT reduction targets align with California's statewide climate goals, including achieving carbon neutrality by 2045. To ensure continued progress, all Board items are assessed for their potential impact on VMT.

As part of these ongoing efforts, this item is not expected to contribute to further reductions in VMT. Because the Metro Board has adopted an agency-wide VMT Reduction Target, and this item supports the overall function of the agency, this item is consistent with the goals of reducing VMT.

*Based on population estimates from the United States Census and VMT estimates from Caltrans' Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) data between 2001-2019.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Approval of this recommendation supports Metro Strategic Plan goal #5 to provide responsive, accountable, and trustworthy governance within the Metro organization by establishing organizational excellence, transparency, and accountable governance.

NEXT STEPS

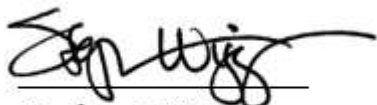
Upon receipt and filing of this report, staff will incorporate Committee feedback and continue to provide informational materials as requested to support future deliberations of the Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A - Motion 33.1
- Attachment B - Summary of Findings (Peer Agencies)
- Attachment C - Summary of Findings (Reference Agencies)
- Attachment D - Appointment of County Representatives
- Attachment E - Local Infrastructure Agency Peer Review

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Stephanie Wiggins
Chief Executive Officer



Board Report

File #: 2026-0035, **File Type:** Motion / Motion Response

Agenda Number: 33.1.

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
JANUARY 15, 2026**

Motion by:

DIRECTORS DUTRA, BARGER, HORVATH, PADILLA, NAJARIAN, AND DUPONT-WALKER

Metro Governance Review Motion

In November 2024, voters in Los Angeles County (County) approved Measure G, a voter-initiated charter amendment that significantly restructured County governance by providing for the creation of an elected County Executive, the expansion of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and related reforms. Under existing law, if the number of members of the County Board of Supervisors is increased, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is required to submit a plan to the legislature for revising the composition of the Metro Board within 60 days of the increase.

The passage of Measure G has prompted renewed discussion regarding the structure, composition, and representational frameworks of major regional governing bodies operating within the County.

Metro serves a geographically expansive and demographically diverse constituency encompassing 88 incorporated cities and extensive unincorporated areas, and its Board of Directors exercises critical oversight of regionwide transportation planning, investment, and policy decisions that affect residents across the County.

Accordingly, it is essential that Metro’s Board composition continue to reflect the diversity and geographic breadth of the County it serves, and that any consideration of potential changes be guided by principles of geographic equity, balanced representation, cost neutrality and jurisdictional inclusion.

Any review of Metro’s Board structure should be conducted in a transparent manner and led by Metro itself, consistent with its statutory authority and regional role. In this context, an Ad Hoc Committee has been established to review the current Board composition in a transparent and locally-driven manner. The Committee’s deliberations and recommendations should be informed by relevant comparative, historical, and demographic context.

SUBJECT: METRO GOVERNANCE REVIEW MOTION

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE Motion by Dutra, Barger, Horvath, Padilla, Najarian, and Dupont-Walker that the Board direct the Chief Executive Officer to:

- A. A benchmarking analysis of peer transit agencies of comparable size, scope, and governance complexity, including a summary of each agency's governing board composition, appointment or selection structure, voting authority, and any relevant statutory or local governance provisions;









- B. An overview of the governing body composition of other major public agencies operating within the Los Angeles Metropolitan region, particularly those with regionwide responsibilities or significant public investment oversight, to provide local context on common approaches to representation and jurisdictional participation;

- C. An explanation of the historical context for Metro's current Board composition, including agency consolidation and the evolution of the agency's governance structure and key considerations that shaped representation;

- D. A compilation of basic demographic and jurisdictional context for Los Angeles County, including a snapshot of incorporated cities and unincorporated areas, population distribution, and governance geography, presented for informational purposes to support the Committee's understanding of regional representation; and

- E. A plan for community and stakeholder engagement, including but not limited to Los Angeles County Councils of Government, to ensure any recommendation reflects the diverse viewpoints of local residents, organizations, and municipalities.









Attachment B: Summary of Findings (Peer Agencies)

								
Service Region	LA Metro serves one county, 88 cities, and unincorporated county areas, organized into nine subregional planning areas.	MTA serves 12 Counties in NY and 2 Counties in CT (partial), with 250+ cities, towns and municipalities including New York City	NJ TRANSIT operates across the entire state of New Jersey, serving 21 counties, 564 municipalities	MBTA serves the Greater Boston area with 176 cities and towns across 8 counties in Massachusetts	SEPTA serves 5 primary Pennsylvania counties, with cross-state connections into New Jersey and Delaware, covering over 300 district municipalities	WMATA serves 1 federal district (District of Columbia), 2 states (Maryland, Virginia), 5 counties and 4 cities	CTA operates in Chicago and 35 surrounding municipalities, primarily within Cook County, Illinois.	Service across San Francisco Bay Area, serving 5 counties, (Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara) and 22 cities
Service Area Population	10.4 million	15 million	8.46 million	4 million	4 million	4 million	3.4 million	3 million
Operating Budget (FY2024)	\$9 billion (July 1,2023 – June 30, 2024)	\$19.29 billion (January 1, 2024 – December 31,2024)	\$2.86 billion (July 1,2023 – June 30, 2024)	\$2.21 billion (July 1,2023 – June 30, 2024)	\$1.69 billion (July 1. 2023 – June 30, 2024)	\$2.4 billion (July 1,2023 – June 30, 2024)	\$1.99 billion (January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024)	\$1.08 billion
Service Area	1,433 sqm	5,000 sqm	5,325 sqm	3,244 sqm	2,200 sqm	1,500 sqm	283 sqm	2,073 sqm
Annual Ridership (2024)	311 million	1.75 billion	222.5 million	235.7 million	198 million	242.1 million	309.1 million	50.66 million
Modes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy Rail • Light Rail • Bus • Paratransit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy Rail • Commuter Rail • Bus • Paratransit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commuter Rail • Light Rail • Bus • Paratransit • Vanpool 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy Rail • Commuter Rail • Light Rail • Bus • Paratransit • Ferry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy Rail • Commuter Rail • Light Rail • Bus • Paratransit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy Rail • Bus • Paratransit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy Rail • Bus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy Rail
Board Composition	13 voting 1 non-voting	14 total votes (1 collective vote between 4 county-appointed members) 17 voting members 6 rotating non-voting members (including 4 alternate non-voting members)	11 voting members Members primarily appointed by Governor or State representatives	9 voting members Members appointed by Governor based on areas of expertise plus agency and mayor appointees	15 voting members Members based on geographic representation plus legislature appointees	8 voting members Members based on signatories (Maryland, the District of Columbia and Virginia) plus federal appointees	7 voting members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 appointed by the Mayor of Chicago • 3 appointed by the Governor of Illinois 	9 members Members elected from geographic districts
Selection Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38% (5 of 13 members) represent the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors • 31% (4 of 13 members) being mayors or council members appointed by the LA County City Selection Committee • 31% (4 of 13 members), including Mayor of City of LA and 3 Mayoral appointees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29% (4 of 14 votes) recommended by County executives, including one collective Hudson Valley vote • 43% (6 of 14 votes) recommended by the Governor • 29% (4 of 14 votes) recommended by New York City’s mayor <p>All members confirmed by the NY State Senate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% (11 of 11 votes) are State appointments including NJ Commissioner of Transportation, State Treasurer and 9 members appointed by the Governor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 67% (6 of 9 members) appointed by the Governor based on specified areas of expertise • 11% (1 of 9 members) appointed by the Mayor of Boston • 22% (2 of 9 members) being: the State Secretary of Transportation and 1 MBTA advisory board appointee with municipal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 53% (8 of 15 members) appointed by County commissioners of each of the four counties, 2 per county • 13% (2 of 15 members) appointed by the City/County of Philadelphia • 7% (1 of 15 members) appointed by the Governor, they may be an ex-officio • 27% (4 of 15 members), appointed by State 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% (6 of 8 members) appointed by jurisdictions of Maryland, Virginia and District of Columbia, 2 each • 25% (2 of 8 members) appointed by the Federal Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 43% (3 of 7 members) appointed by the Governor of Illinois • 57% (4 of 7 members) appointed by the Mayor of Chicago 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% (9 elected officials) from the nine BART districts, each representing a geographical district within the BART system <p>Directors are directly elected by voters in their respective districts to four-year terms and must be registered voters and reside in the area they seek to represent.</p>



Board Representation	<p>Voting (13) includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 members represent 1 from each of the 5 supervisorial districts. One Mayor of the City of LA 3 appointed by the Mayor of the City of LA. At least one must be a member of the LA City Council. 4 appointed by the LA County City Selection Committee to represent the other incorporated and unincorporated areas in LA County. <p>1 non-voting, appointed by the Governor of California. Traditionally, represented by the Caltrans District 7 Director</p>	<p>Voting (17) includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 recommended by the Governor 4 recommended by NYC mayor 7 recommended by county executives (4 votes) <p>6 non-voting members from organized labor and citizen committee.</p>	<p>Voting (11) includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NJ Commissioner of Transportation (ex officio) State Treasurer (ex officio) 1 Executive Branch member chosen by the Governor (ex officio) <p>8 public members appointed by the Governor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointments with advice and consent of the Senate Appointments based on recommendations from the President of the Senate and Speaker of the General Assembly Appointments recommended by regional planning organizations (NJTPA and DVRPC). <p>2 non-voting labor representatives appointed by Governor upon recommendation of labor unions representing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rail Bus 	<p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary of Transportation 1 appointed by Mayor of City of Boston 1 appointed by MBTA Advisory Board <p>6 members appointed by the Governor include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 with safety experience 1 with experience in transportation operations 1 with experience in public or private finance 1 rider of MBTA and a resident of an environmental justice population 1 municipal official representing a city/town in the service area 1 from a list of 3 recommended by the president of Massachusetts State Labor Council, AFL-CIO 	<p>Legislature Majority and Minority Leaders</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Bucks County Members 2 Chester County Members 2 Delaware County Members 2 Montgomery County Members 2 Philadelphia County Members 1 Governor's Appointee 1 Senate Majority Leader Appointee 1 Esquire Senate Minority Leader Appointee 1 Esquire House Majority Leader Appointee 1 House Minority Leader Appointee 	<p>Voting (8) includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 from District of Columbia 2 from State of Maryland 2 from Commonwealth of Virginia 2 from Federal Government <p>Alternate (8) includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 from District of Columbia 2 from State of Maryland 2 from Commonwealth of Virginia 2 from Federal Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 appointed by the Mayor of Chicago. Each appointment must be approved by both the Chicago City Council and the Governor of Illinois. 3 appointed by the Governor of Illinois. Appointments require confirmation by the Illinois State Senate and approval by the Mayor of Chicago. <p>The Governor of Illinois must appoint at least one metropolitan area resident living outside Chicago's city limits; all appointments need Senate confirmation and approval from Chicago's Mayor.</p>	<p>9 members, each representing a geographical district within the BART system,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> District 1–3: largely Contra Costa County District 4–6: mainly Alameda County District 7–9: primarily in San Francisco
Statutory Authority	<p>Established by the California Legislature under the California Public Utilities Code (Division 12, § 130051 et seq.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established as a public benefit corporation New York Public Authorities (PBA) Law, Article 5, Title 11 (§1263) 	<p>Established under the New Jersey Public Transportation Act of 1979 (N.J.S.A. 27:25-1 et seq.), which created the New Jersey Transit Corporation as a public transportation authority.</p>	<p>Established under Chapter 161A of the Massachusetts General Laws as a body politic, corporate and a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formed by the Pennsylvania General Assembly as a state-created authority 74Pa. Consolidated Statutes (§1713) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governed under an interstate compact approved by Congress WMATA Compact (Article III, Paragraph 5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created by the Metropolitan Transit Authority Act (70 ILCS 3605), which provides the legal framework for its governance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established in accordance with California Public Utilities Code, as a special purpose transit district California Public Utilities Code Section 28500, Division 10, Part 2
Voting Authority	<p>Quorum: Majority of voting members</p>	<p>Quorum: Majority of voting members</p> <p>Majority voting with the four Hudson Valley members' vote counting as one vote</p>	<p>Quorum: Majority of voting members</p> <p>Majority of members present</p>	<p>Quorum: Presence of 4 members</p> <p>Majority of members present</p> <p>Statutory quorum requirement did not change in 2013 when Board size increased from 7 to 9 members</p>	<p>Quorum: Majority of Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority voting of all members Enhanced voting protection for highly populated counties' appointees having veto power unless overridden by 75% of the full board 	<p>Quorum: Presence of 4 members, at least one from each signatory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority voting including at least one affirmative from each signatory Except for actions of a plan of finance or the adoption, revision or amendment of mass transit plan, unanimous vote of 	<p>Quorum: Majority of Board (4 out of 7 members)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board actions need at least four affirmative votes Chair must sign for effectiveness. <p>If vetoed by the Chair, the Board can override with five affirmative votes</p>	<p>Quorum: Presence of 5 members</p> <p>Majority voting of all the board members (5 of 9 members)</p>



								
						Directors representing any two Signatories is required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jurisdictional veto (e.g. one signatory does not affirm) requires advance notice of intent 		
Board Compensation	Per Diem allowance plus direct expenses	No member compensation except for direct expenses	No member compensation except for direct expenses	No member compensation except for direct expenses	No member compensation except for direct expenses	No member compensation except for direct expenses	Annual Salary plus direct expenses	Monthly stipend plus direct expenses.
Chair Appointment Process	The Metro Board Chair serves a one-year term rotating annually between the Los Angeles Mayor, a member of the LA County Board of Supervisors, and a City Selection Committee member.	Per legislative amendments enacted in 2009, NYMTA Board Chair is also the Chief Executive Officer of the NYMTA and is appointed by the Governor, subject to State Senate confirmation.	The New Jersey Commissioner of Transportation serves as Board Chair (ex officio). The Board designates a Vice Chair and Secretary annually.	The MBTA Board of Directors chair is appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts.	The Board elects a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members for one-year terms, and their authority and duties are defined by board resolution rather than statute.	The WMATA Board of Directors annually elects a Chair, a First Vice-Chair, and a Second Vice-Chair, typically during their January meeting, according to WMATA Board Bylaws. These officers are elected from the existing board membership without regard to their jurisdiction of residence or representation.	The Chair may be a member of the Board of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) and is selected by the Board from among its members.	The Chair of the BART Board of Directors is elected by the 9-member Board from among its members during the Board's annual reorganization meeting. The Chair presides over meetings and represents the Board but holds the same voting authority as other members.
Areas of Authority	Key regional transit, highway, and funding decisions, directing sales tax revenue, and overseeing infrastructure projects	Long-term strategic planning, budget approvals (operating and capital), issuance of bonds and notes, major service contract procurements, labor relations, and agency performance	Responsible for overseeing and approving Agency policies, strategic direction, operating and capital budgets, major contracts and procurement decisions, transit service levels, fare structures, and infrastructure investments. Hiring and oversight of the President & CEO of NJ Transit	Strategic oversight, safety, financial stability (operating budget and Capital Investment Plans), major contracts and procurements, service improvements, appointment of the General Manager	Operating and capital budgets, fare policies, service standards, hiring or evaluating the agency's General Manager/CEO and conducting comprehensive reviews of SEPTA's services, technological applications, and overall organizational structure	Policy making, financial oversight, governance, and managing WMATA's relationships with its customers, jurisdictional partners, and signatories	Approving annual budgets, capital improvement programs, service standards, and key contracts, while overseeing management's performance in safety, hiring, and service delivery	District policies, strategic goals, annual budget, major contracts, setting fares, safety initiatives, and long-term system planning
State Oversight	State authority If Board of Supervisors expands, the authority must submit a plan to the Legislature within 60 days, detailing necessary changes to reflect the new board structure.	State authority Its board size, membership, appointment rules and core governance are set in the Public Authorities Law, so changes to the board structure require state legislative action.	State authority Board structure is established in state statute (N.J.S.A. 27:25-4), so changes require legislative amendment. The Governor can appoint or remove members within the existing statutory structure but cannot change the board structure itself without legislative action.	State authority Any change to the Board structure requires State Legislative Approval.	State created regional authority Any changes to SEPTA's Board of Directors, size, composition, or appointment methods must be made through amendments to Pennsylvania's enabling legislation, specifically Title 74 (Transportation) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes	District and State oversight Amendments to the Board Structure become effective after approval by the Mayor (or Council override of a veto), a 30-day congressional review per D.C. Code § 1-206.02(c)(1), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.	State oversight Changes to the CTA board require approval from the Illinois legislature. Governed by state law under the Metropolitan Transit Authority Act, the CTA is now overseen by the newly created Northern Illinois Transit Authority (NITA), established in 2025 through SB 2111 to replace the RTA.	State and Federal oversight State law defines district boundaries, powers, and legal framework
Funding	State dedicated funding plus local voter-enacted countywide sales taxes	State dedicated funding plus local taxes/subsidies	State dedicated funding plus statutory state contributions, passenger fares, and federal transit funding	State dedicated funding plus local assessments	State dedicated funding plus small local contributions from Philadelphia and the four suburban counties	Subsidies from the jurisdictional partners in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of Maryland, and the District of Columbia	State dedicated funding plus statutory local required contributions	State provides dedicated transportation funding and allows local revenue options

Attachment C: Summary of Findings (Reference Agencies)



Service Region	Sound Transit serves three counties, 53 cities, and unincorporated areas within its voter-approved regional transit district in Washington State.	MARTA serves four counties in Georgia and the 12 cities, including City of Atlanta	TTC primarily serves the City of Toronto (single-tier municipality), with limited extensions into 3 neighboring municipalities.	PRT serves four counties (Allegheny, and small portions of Beaver, Butler, and Westmoreland), 2 cities, 130+ municipalities (boroughs, townships)	Serves Snohomish County with connections to King County and 19 cities
Operating Budget (FY2024)	\$875.1 million (January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024)	\$631.4 million (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)	\$1.88 billion (CA\$2.57 billion) (January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024)	\$535.36 million (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)	\$231.6 million (January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024)
Service Area Population	3 million	2 million	1.7 million	1.23 million	663 thousand
Service Area	1,087 sqm	947 sqm	243 sqm (630 km ²)	745 sqm	1,300 sqm
Annual Ridership (FY 2024)	42 million	69.3 million	800.2 million	33.27 million	8.4 million
Modes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commuter Rail Light Rail Bus Paratransit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heavy Rail Bus Paratransit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heavy Rail Light Rail Bus Paratransit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus Light Rail Paratransit Inclines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus Paratransit
Board Composition	18 voting members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 officials from counties 1 ex-officio member, the Washington State Secretary of Transportation 	13 voting members Members primarily based on geographic representation plus governor appointee, 2 non-voting ex-officio members	10 voting members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 City Councilors 4 Citizen Commissioners 	11 voting members 6 appointed by the Allegheny County Executive.	9 voting members
Selection Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 94% (17 of 18 members) appointed from county officials based on population and confirmed by councils 6% (1 of 18 members) being the State Secretary of Transportation or their designee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69% (9 of 13 members) represent counties and are appointed by the County Board of Commissioners 8% (1 of 13 members) appointed by the Governor 23% (3 of 13 members) nominated by the Mayor of Atlanta and elected by the City Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60% (6 of 10 members) appointed by Toronto City Council 40% (4 of 10 members) appointed through City of Toronto's public appointment process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 55% (6 of 11 members) appointed by the Allegheny County Executive. 9% (1 of 11 members) appointed by Governor 36% (4 of 11 members) appointed by leaders from parties in the PA House of Representatives and Senate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22% (2 of 9 members) selected from the governing body of Snohomish County 78% (7 of 9 members) elected officials from cities subject to population criteria



<p>Board Representation</p>	<p>Based on population representation from the 3 member counties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 members elected from Snohomish County • 10 from King County • 4 from Pierce County <p>Total board members can be up to 25 members with composition revised to reflect county population.</p>	<p>Voting (13) includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 from the City of Atlanta • 3 from Fulton County • 2 from Clayton County • 4 from DeKalb County • 1 appointee by the Governor of Georgia <p>Non-voting (2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 from Georgia DOT • 1 from Georgia Regional Transportation Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 City Councilors appointed by the Toronto City Council • 4 public members appointed through the City of Toronto's public appointment process. Once nominated, these individuals must be confirmed by City Council. <p>Public members should meet a set of criteria (residency, age, employment restrictions, etc.) to be eligible and demonstrate directorship and executive-level experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 members representing Allegheny County • 2 members representing City of Pittsburgh • 2 members representing other municipalities in Allegheny County outside the City of Pittsburgh. (Selected by the Allegheny County Mayors' Association) • 2 members representing the State (Appointed by the Pennsylvania Senate and the Pennsylvania House of Representatives leadership) 	<p>Voting (9) members</p> <p>Representation is allocated by city population tiers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 members, selected from the governing body of Snohomish County • 3 members from cities with populations over 35,000 • 2 members from cities with populations between 15,000–35,000 • 2 members from cities with populations under 15,000 <p>These representatives are chosen by officials from jurisdictions within each population category, meaning cities in the same tier select one of their elected officials to represent them on the board.</p> <p>Non-voting (1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labor Representative <p>Alternates (5)</p>
<p>Statutory Authority</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorized by state law to propose ballot measures for voter approval of regional transit projects • Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 81.112.040 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established under Georgia state law as a joint public instrumentality of City of Atlanta and five counties • Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority Act of 1965, Section 9 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto Act and continued under the City of Toronto Act, 2006 • Additional governance provisions outlined in Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 279 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established pursuant to Pennsylvania state law, specifically the Second-Class County Port Authority Act (55 Pa.C.S. Chapter 55). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a Public Transportation Benefit Area (PTBA), Community Transit is authorized under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 36.57A



Voting Authority	<p>Quorum: Majority of Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority voting For major decisions, affirmative vote of two thirds of the full board State Secretary of Transportation or designee may vote with approval of majority of other members of the Board 	<p>Quorum: Majority of Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority voting of members present Exception: majority of members present plus one vote for certain actions in legislation including: issuance and sale of revenue bonds, purchase/lease of privately owned system of transportation of passengers, contracts over \$200k, granting concessions or contract award for management of Authority-owned property or facility. 	<p>Quorum: Majority of Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority voting of members present 	<p>Quorum: Majority of Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 of 11 members' affirmative vote 	<p>Quorum: Majority of Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority voting of members present
Board Compensation	Per Diem allowance plus direct expenses	Per Diem allowance plus direct expenses	Annual retainer plus per Diem allowance	Do not receive financial compensation	Per Diem allowance plus direct expenses
Chair Appointment Process	The board elects a board chair and two vice chairs and must all be from different counties serving two-year terms that coincide with calendar years. The Executive Committee develops recommendations to the Board for the selection of Board chair and vice chairs, and the selection is made when a nominee receives a majority vote of all board members in attendance	The MARTA Board of Directors elects a new chair and leadership annually, typically at the beginning of the year, from its 13 voting members. The board, which includes a Governor's appointee and two ex-officio members, votes on a new chair, vice-chair, and other officers.	The Board Chair is appointed by City Council and is chosen from among the council members serving on the TTC Board while the Vice-Chair is elected by the Board from among its public members	The Board members annually elect a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer from among its member individuals.	The leadership roles within the Board, Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary are filled by elections from among the voting Board members.
Areas of Authority	Budgets, financial plans, major contracts, and project milestones	System expansion and innovation, Operating and Capital budgets, major contracts and procurement, policies and collective bargaining agreements	Policy decisions, annual budgets, fare structures, service levels, and significant operational plans	Providing strategic oversight, hiring the CEO, approving capital and operating budgets, and setting policy for the region's bus, light-rail, and incline services	Review and approval of the annual budget, oversee development of 6-year Transit Development Plan. Articulate Transit's positions to public, legislative bodies, and the broader community. Hire, supervise, and evaluate the CEO
State Oversight Role	Regional oversight ST's board composition and appointment process are governed by RCW 81.112.040; any changes to the board structure must be approved by the Washington State Legislature.	Regional oversight According to the By-Laws of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, the Board shall consist of members whose number, qualifications, appointments, and terms of office are determined in accordance with the provisions set forth in the MARTA Act.	City Oversight Changes to the board structure does not require direct approval from the provincial (Ontario) state legislature, remaining directly accountable to the Toronto City Council	Regional Oversight Since the board size, structure, and appointment authority are explicitly defined within state statutes (Second-Class County Port Authority Act - 55 Pa.C.S. Chapter 55), the board does not possess independent authority to alter its composition	Regional Oversight Under RCW 36.57A.055, the representatives of county and cities are empowered to review and change the governing body composition. When annexations exceed the 15% or 25% population thresholds, the representatives must meet within 90 days to reassess representation. If it is determined that change is appropriate, they can modify the board composition directly during that meeting; the statute does not require separate legislative approval.
Funding	State dedicated funding plus local taxes	Local sales taxes; no dedicated state funding	City's property tax revenues plus Provincial funding	State provides over 50% of PRT's total operating revenue along with federal grants	Primarily funded by a 1.2% local sales tax plus state and federal grants

Attachment D: Appointment of County Representatives

Agency	County Official / County Appointee	Appointment Process
Metro	38% (5 of 13 members) are members of the LA County Board of Supervisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA County Board supervisors from each of the five districts are appointed to the Board.
NYMTA	29% (4 of 14 votes) recommended by County executives, including one collective Hudson Valley vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The elected County Executive from each of the 7 suburban counties recommends up to 3 potential candidates to the Governor by gathering suggestions from local officials, community leaders, business groups, or transportation experts, with no specific selection qualifications described in statute. Governor makes a selection subject to confirmation by the NY State Senate.
SEPTA	53% (8 of 15 members) appointed by County commissioners/council of each of the four suburban counties, two members each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The elected County Council or Board of County Commissioners in each suburban county appoints two residents from the county through a majority vote of the counties' governing bodies. County commissioners may sometimes choose to serve on the Board themselves.
Sound Transit	94% (17 of 18 members) appointed from county officials based on population and confirmed by councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board members are appointed by the elected County Executive and confirmed by the elected council or legislative authority of each member county. Appointees must be local elected officials, either a city mayor, city councilmember, county councilmember, or county executive within the authority area. County executives must ensure representation from the largest city in each county and proportional representation from other cities and unincorporated areas within the service area. At least half of the appointees from each county are to serve on the governing authority of a public transportation system.
MARTA	69% (9 of 13 members) represent counties and appointed by local legislative delegations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The elected County Board of Commissioners and/or a caucus of mayors of the municipalities in each county appoint members by a majority vote. Members may or may not be elected officials and are subject to specific residency requirements within each county.
PRT	55% (6 of 11 members) represent the County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four members are appointed directly by the elected County Executive. Two members are appointed by the elected County Executive with elected County Council approval. All appointees may or may not be elected officials, must reside in Allegheny County with expertise in budgeting, finance, economic development, transportation or mass transit.
CT	22% (2 of 9 members) represent the County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Board members are elected officials selected from the Snohomish County Council approved by the council at large.

Attachment E: Local Infrastructure Agency Peer Review

Agency / model	Governing body	Selection / appointment process	County representative selection process	Voting authority / structure	Statutory / legal authority	State role in oversight	Role / purpose	Budget / fiscal oversight magnitude
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD)	38-member Board representing 26 member agencies	Each member public agency appoints one or more directors to represent that agency; number of directors scales with assessed valuation within the district.	The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors appoints the County's MWD directors through a formal Board motion. A supervisor (often the Chair or a sponsoring supervisor) nominates the candidate(s), and the Board confirms the appointment by majority vote in a public meeting.	Weighted voting tied to assessed valuation; votes may be shared across multiple directors	Metropolitan Water District Act (Uncodified Act of the State of California, 1927; amended)	State enabling statute governs governance structure and weighted voting provisions	Wholesale water supply, regional reliability, and long-term water infrastructure investment	Multi-billion-dollar enterprise including water purchases and major capital program
Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)	86-member Regional Council	Representatives are designated by member jurisdictions from population-based districts; cities appoint mayors or councilmembers.	The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors designates specific supervisors to serve as the County's SCAG representatives through Board action. Supervisors typically self-select or are nominated by the Chair, and the full Board ratifies the designation.	One-member / one-vote in council proceedings, subject to SCAG bylaws	23 U.S.C. §134; 49 U.S.C. §5303; California Government Code §65080 et seq.	State and federal transportation planning requirements govern MPO authority	Regional transportation planning and federal/state funding programming	Planning and programming oversight rather than enterprise operating budget
South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD)	13-member Governing Board	Ten local elected officials representing counties and cities plus three state appointees	The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors appoints one of its members to the AQMD Governing Board. A supervisor is nominated (often aligned with regional representation practices), and the Board approves the appointment by majority vote.	Board adopts regulations, establishes policy, and appoints Executive Officer	California Health & Safety Code §§40400–40474	State appointees and California Air Resources Board oversight; federal Clean Air Act requirements	Air quality regulation and permitting across four counties	Major regulatory agency with permit fee revenues and significant policy authority
LA County Sanitation Districts	Boards of Directors for each district composed of member city representatives and county representation	Member cities are represented by mayors or councilmembers serving ex officio	The Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors serves automatically (ex officio) as the county representative for unincorporated territory within each district; no separate appointment action is required.	District boards vote on service, capital, and rate decisions	California Health & Safety Code §§4700–4858 (County Sanitation District Act)	State environmental permitting and special district law oversight	Wastewater treatment, solid waste management, recycled water	Combined enterprise and capital programs frequently in the hundreds of millions
Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LAFCD)	Governing Board composed of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors	Supervisors serve as the governing board of the district	All five supervisors serve ex officio as the Flood Control District Board; the Board of Supervisors itself functions as the district governing body, so no separate appointment process occurs.	One-member / one-vote among supervisors acting as district board	California Water Code §§56–73 (Los Angeles County Flood Control District Act)	State law defines powers; subject to water regulation and infrastructure oversight	Flood protection and stormwater infrastructure across the county	Major watershed infrastructure and flood control capital program
LA County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)	Commission with county, city, special district, and public members	Members appointed by their respective constituencies	The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors appoints two supervisors to serve as county commissioners on LAFCO through Board motion. Appointments are typically nominated by the Chair or through supervisor agreement and confirmed by majority vote.	One commissioner / one vote	California Government Code §§56000–57550 (Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act)	State law establishes LAFCO structure and oversight framework	Oversees formation, consolidation, and boundary changes for cities and special districts	Small administrative oversight budget rather than service delivery



Transit Agency Governance Models – Benchmarking Analysis



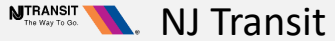
Item 39: Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee, March 23, 2026

Benchmarked Transit Agencies

Peer Agencies



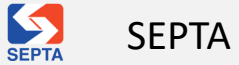
NYMTA



NJ Transit



MBTA



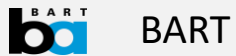
SEPTA



WMATA

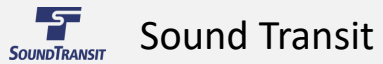


CTA



BART

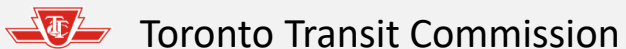
Reference Agencies



Sound Transit



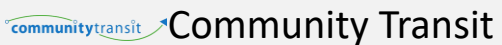
MARTA



Toronto Transit Commission









Pittsburgh Regional Transit








































Community Transit



Peer Agencies – Characteristics









KEY	 HEAVY RAIL/SUBWAY	 BUS
	 COMMUTER RAIL	 PARATRANSIT
	 LIGHT RAIL	 FERRY

Agency	Service Region	Service Area Population	Operating Budget*	Service Area	Transit Modes
 Metro Los Angeles, CA	1 County 88 Cities	10.4 million	\$9.0 billion	1,433 sqm	   
 NYMTA New York City, NY	12 Counties 2 Counties in CT (partial) 250+ Cities & Municipalities	15 million	\$19.3 billion	5,000 sqm	   
 NJ Transit Newark, NJ	21 Counties 2 Counties in NY (partial) 564 Municipalities	8.46 million	\$2.86 billion	5,325 sqm	   
 MBTA Boston, MA	8 Counties 176 Cities and Towns	4 million	\$2.2 billion	3,244 sqm	     
 SEPTA Philadelphia, PA	5 Counties 1 City	4 million	\$1.7 billion	2,200 sqm	    
 WMATA Washington, D.C.	1 Federal District (DC), 2 States (MD, VA) 5 Counties 4 Cities	4 million	\$2.4 billion	1,500 sqm	  
 CTA Chicago, IL	1 County 1 City	3.4 million	\$2.0 billion	283 sqm	 
 BART San Francisco, CA	5 Counties 22 Cities	3 million	\$1.1 billion	2,073 sqm	

- Based on FY24. FY24 dates vary by agency. Some agencies include COVID relief funding. Metro's total includes asset acquisitions for Transit & Highway projects.
- No County Executive Representation on any of the Boards



Peer Agencies – Voting Member Appointments

Agency	Chart	Voting Members	County Appointee(s)	State Appointee(s)	Major City Appointee(s)	Other Appointee(s)
Metro		13	38% (5 of 13) are members of the LA County Board of Supervisors	None	31% (4 of 13) – Mayor of City of LA + 3 Mayoral appointees	31% (4 of 13) appointed by LA County City Selection Committee representing other LA County incorporated and unincorporated areas
NYMTA*		14	29% (4 of 14) recommended by County executives	43% (6 of 14) recommended by the Governor	29% (4 of 14) recommended by New York City's mayor	None
NJ Transit		11	None	100% (11 of 11) – Commissioner of Transportation + State Treasurer + 9 appointed by the Governor	None	None
MBTA		9	None	78% (7 of 9) – State Secretary of Transportation + 6 appointed by Governor based on specific expertise	11% (1 of 9) appointed by the Mayor of Boston	11% (1 of 9) MBTA advisory board appointee with municipal government experience
SEPTA		15	53% (8 of 15) appointed by County commissioners	33% (5 of 15) – 1 Governor appointee + 4 appointed by State Legislature Majority and Minority Leaders	13% (2 of 15) appointed by the City / County of Philadelphia	None
WMATA		8	None	75% (6 of 8) appointed by jurisdictions of MD, VA and DC	None	25% (2 of 8) appointed by the Federal Government
CTA		7	None	43% (3 of 7) appointed by the Governor	57% (4 of 7) appointed by the Mayor of Chicago	None
BART		9	None	None	None	100% (9 of 9) are elected by voters to represent the 9 BART districts

* NYMTA is considered to have 14 voting members (rather than 17 Board members), as 4 members cast one collective vote.

Key Themes

Board Composition

Board composition and appointment structures vary across transit agencies.

Changes to board composition generally **require formal legislative action** at the state level.

Voting Members

On average, Metro's **peer agency Boards have 10-11 voting members.**

- Large transit agencies in this study (operating budget >\$2B) have an average of 10 voting members, whereas smaller transit agencies (operating budget <\$2B) have 12 members on average.

County Representation

Compared to peers, Metro is unique in having all its Board of Supervisors serve on the Board.

Of the peer agencies, no entity has a County Executive serve on the Board.

County representation is generally a **mixture of appointees selected by the county's elected legislative body** (i.e. county executives, board of commissioners, council or municipality mayors) **and elected officials.**

Other than Metro, CTA is the only other single-county peer agency and **does not have any direct County representation.** Nor do multi-county MBTA and BART, or the multi-state WMATA.

Example Approach: Collective One Vote



NYMTA's Board includes the concept of one collective vote, where **4 of the 7 County-appointed members cast 1 collective vote.**

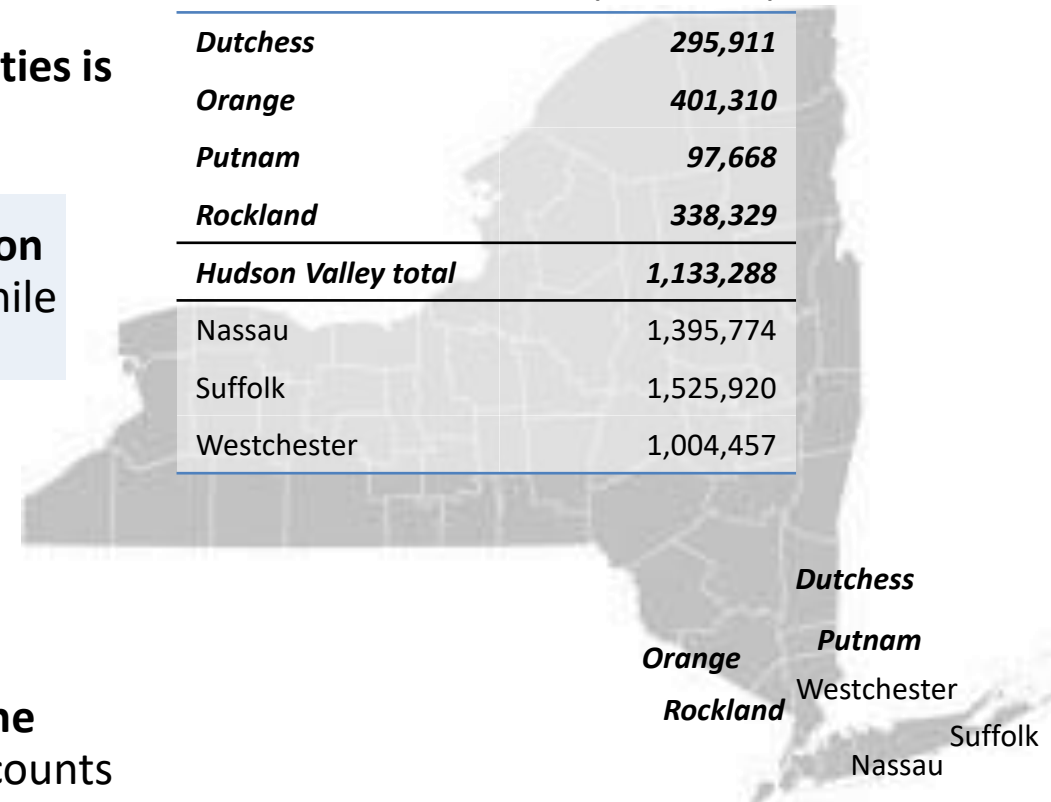
- These 4 members represent the Hudson Valley counties, being Dutchess, Orange, Putnam and Rockland.
- Together, the **collective population of the Hudson Valley counties is comparable to the other full vote County members.**

The collective one vote approach ensures **balanced representation** where **highly populated areas hold more direct voting power** while still including **input from suburban and less populated areas.**

Voting rules:

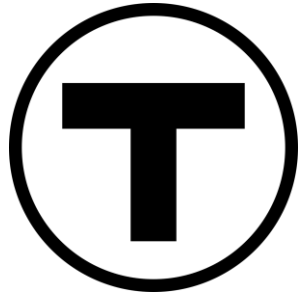
- For each vote taken by the full board, the four members **must internally agree** on how to cast their one vote.
- The board then counts their position as one vote in total.
- For the purposes of quorum, the **group of four is treated as one member.** If any one of the four is present, the collective vote counts as present.

County	Population (2020 Census)
<i>Dutchess</i>	295,911
<i>Orange</i>	401,310
<i>Putnam</i>	97,668
<i>Rockland</i>	338,329
<i>Hudson Valley total</i>	1,133,288
Nassau	1,395,774
Suffolk	1,525,920
Westchester	1,004,457



New York State County Map with MTA Board Representation

Example Approach: Specific Expertise



MBTA requires each of its six **Governor-appointed members** have areas of expertise / background:



Safety



Transportation
operations



Public or
private finance



Rider and resident
of environmental
justice population



Municipal official
within service
area



Recommended
by MA State
Labor Council



































Multiple agencies have expertise requirements for some or all of their board members.

Generally, areas commonly required include:

- Executive experience
- Transportation experience
- Business management
- Financial management
- Engineering
- Capital project experience
- Labor relations

Reference Agencies – Characteristics

KEY	 HEAVY RAIL/SUBWAY	 BUS
	 COMMUTER RAIL	 PARATRANSIT
	 LIGHT RAIL	 FERRY

Agency	Service Region	Service Area Population	Operating Budget*	Service Area	Transit Modes
 Metro Los Angeles, CA	1 County 88 Cities	10.4 million	\$9.0 billion	1,433 sqm	   
 Sound Transit Seattle, WA	3 Counties 53 Cities	3 million	\$875 million	1,087 sqm	   
 MARTA Atlanta, GA	3 Counties 12 Cities	2 million	\$631 million	947 sqm	  
 Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) Toronto, ON	1 City 3 Municipalities	1.7 million	\$1.9 billion	243 sqm	   
 Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) Pittsburgh, PA	4 Counties 2 Cities 130 Municipalities	1.2 million	\$535 million	745 sqm	  
 Community Transit Snohomish County, WA	1 County 19 Cities	0.7 million	\$231 million	1,300 sqm	 

* Based on FY24. FY24 dates vary by agency. Some agencies include COVID relief funding. Metro’s total includes asset acquisitions for Transit & Highway projects.



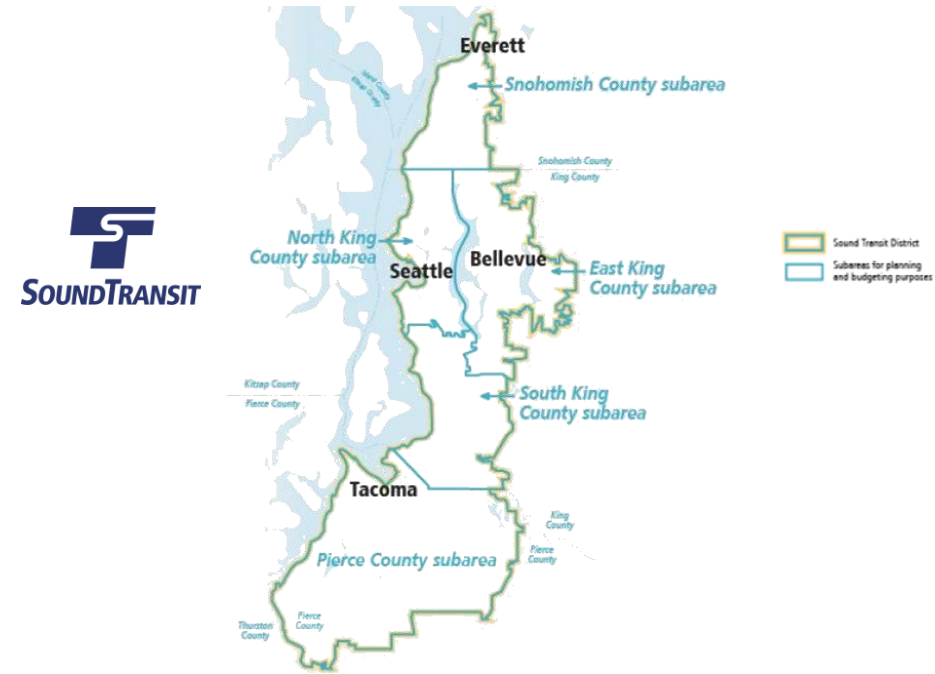
Example Approach: Population-Driven Board Changes

ST's Board composition is defined in the State of Washington bylaws and based on population from that portion of each county which lies within the service area:

- **The elected County CEO from each of the three counties appoints the board member, and may sit on the board**
- **Sometimes the elected CEO sits on the board, and other times it doesn't**
- **The governing board shall be reconstituted on a population basis, using the official office of financial management population estimates, 5 years after its initial formation and, at minimum, in the year following each official federal census.**
- Board membership may be reduced, maintained, or expanded to reflect population changes but **may not exceed 25 members.**







Each county representative member of the board shall be:

- **An elected official** who serves on the legislative authority of a city or as mayor of a city within the boundaries of the authority
- **On the legislative authority of the county**, if 50% of the population of the legislative official's district is within the authority boundaries; or
- **A county executive** from a member county within the authority boundaries.



When making appointments, each county executive shall ensure that representation on the board includes an elected city official representing the largest city in each county and assures proportional representation from other cities, and representation from unincorporated areas of each county within the service area. At least one-half of all appointees from each county shall serve on the governing authority of a public transportation system.

Reference Agencies – Voting Member Appointments

Agency	Chart	Voting Members	County Appointee(s)	State Appointee(s)	Major City Appointee(s)	Other Appointee(s)
Metro		13	38% (5 of 13) are members of the LA County Board of Supervisors	None	31% (4 of 13) – Mayor of City of LA + 3 Mayoral appointees	31% (4 of 13) appointed by LA County City Selection Committee representing other LA County incorporated and unincorporated areas
Sound* Transit		18	94% (17 of 18) appointed from elected county officials	6% (1 of 18) – State Secretary of Transportation	None	None
MARTA		13	69% (9 of 13) appointed by County Board of Commissioners and/or mayors	8% (1 of 13) appointed by the Governor	23% (3 of 13) nominated by Mayor of Atlanta, elected by City Council	None
TTC		10	None	None	60% (6 of 10) – Toronto City Councilors	40% (4 of 10) citizens nominated through a public appointment process and confirmed by the City
PRT*		11	55% (6 of 11) appointed by Allegheny County Executive	45% (5 of 11) – 1 Governor appointee + 4 appointed by House and Senate	None	None
Community Transit*		9	22% (2 of 9) selected from the Snohomish County Council	None	78% (7 of 9) elected city officials, subject to population criteria	None

*As requested by the Ad Hoc Committee on February 23, 2026

Conclusions

Board Composition

Board composition and appointment structures vary across transit agencies. Metro's governance structure is consistent with peer agencies.

Voting Members

On average, Metro's **peer agency Boards have 10-11 voting members.**

County Representation

Compared to peers, Metro is unique in having all its Board of Supervisors serve on the Board. Of the peer agencies, no entity has a County Executive serve on the Board.

County representation is generally a **mixture of appointees selected by the county's elected legislative body** (i.e. county executives, board of commissioners, council or municipality mayors) **and elected officials.**

Representation is achieved through the structure and composition of board members.

Appendix



LA COUNTY – DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT

Year	City of Los Angeles	% of County	All Other LA County Cities (Combined)	% of County	Unincorporated Areas	% of County	Total LA County Population
1950	1,970,358	47.5%	1,863,000	44.9%	318,329	7.6%	4,151,687
1960	2,479,015	41.3%	3,050,000	50.8%	465,000	7.9%	5,994,000
1970	2,816,061	39.1%	3,650,000	50.7%	735,000	10.2%	7,201,000
1980	2,968,528	38.5%	3,900,000	50.6%	850,000	10.9%	7,718,000
1990	3,485,398	39.3%	4,407,046	49.7%	970,720	11.0%	8,863,164
2000	3,694,820	38.8%	4,836,981	50.8%	987,537	10.4%	9,519,338
2010	3,792,621	38.6%	4,968,558	50.6%	1,057,426	10.8%	9,818,605
2020	3,898,747	38.9%	5,093,095	50.9%	1,022,167	10.2%	10,014,009



Los Angeles County includes 88 incorporated cities as well as unincorporated areas governed directly by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.



Approximately 90 percent of County residents live in incorporated cities.



Approximately 10 percent reside in unincorporated communities.



The City of Los Angeles accounts for roughly 40 percent of the County's total population, making it larger than any other municipality in the region.

City of LA - If LA's population falls below 35% of all county cities, one mayoral appointee seat would be vacated and filled by a City Selection Committee appointee from a city not already represented.



Metro LA County – Demographic Snapshot - Revised

Year	City of Los Angeles	% of Total County	All Other LA County Cities (Combined)	% of County	LA City % Compared to all incorporated Cities	Unincorporated Areas	% of County	Total LA County Population
1950	1,970,358	47.5%	1,863,000	44.9%	51.4%	318,329	7.6%	4,151,687
1960	2,479,015	41.3%	3,050,000	50.8%	44.8%	465,000	7.9%	5,994,000
1970	2,816,061	39.1%	3,650,000	50.7%	43.6%	735,000	10.2%	7,201,000
1980	2,968,528	38.5%	3,900,000	50.6%	43.2%	850,000	10.9%	7,718,000
1990	3,485,398	39.3%	4,407,046	49.7%	44.2%	970,720	11.0%	8,863,164
2000	3,694,820	38.8%	4,836,981	50.8%	43.3%	987,537	10.4%	9,519,338
2010	3,792,621	38.6%	4,968,558	50.6%	43.3%	1,057,426	10.8%	9,818,605
2020	3,898,747	38.9%	5,093,095	50.9%	43.4%	1,022,167	10.2%	10,014,009

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If the **City of LA** population falls below 35% of all incorporated cities in LA County, one City of Los Angeles Mayoral appointee seat would be vacated and filled by a City Selection Committee appointee from a city not already represented.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census (1950-2020); figures for “All Other Cities” and “Unincorporated Areas” are calculated based on published county and city-level data.