

# RANCHO MURIETA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

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# **COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

(Directors John Merchant and Linda Butler)

Regular Meeting November 4, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

This meeting will be held via ZOOM video conference only. You can join the conference by (1) logging on to https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87186678345, entering Meeting ID no. 871 8667 8345, and using the audio on your computer, or (2) dialing into 1-669-900-9128 and entering the meeting code 871 8667 8345. Those wishing to join with audio only can simply call the telephone number above and enter the code. Participants wishing to join the call anonymously have the option of dialing \*67 from their phone. Please refer to your telephone service provider for specific instructions. PLEASE NOTE – MOBILE DEVICE USERS MAY NEED TO INSTALL AN APP PRIOR TO USE AND MAC AND PC DESKTOP AND LAPTOP USES WILL REQUIRE YOU TO RUN A ZOOM INSTALLER APPLICATION – PLEASE FOLLOW DIRECTIONS AS PROVIDED BY ZOOM. IT IS RECOMMENDED YOU ATTEMPT TO LOGIN AT LEAST 5 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE MEETING.

### **AGENDA**

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Consider Finding That as a Result of the COVID-19 Emergency: (i) Meeting in Person Would Present Imminent Risks to the Health or Safety of Attendees; and (ii) the Meeting is Authorized to be Held by Teleconference Pursuant to Gov. Code, § 54953, subd. (e)(1)(C).
- 3. Comments from the Public
- 4. Monthly Website and Social Media Update
- 5. Update on Website and FAQ's
- 6. Directors & Staff Comments/Suggestions
- 7. Adjournment

<sup>&</sup>quot;In accordance with California Government Code Section 54957.5, any writing or document that is a public record, relates to an open session agenda item and is distributed less than 24 hours prior to a special meeting, will be made available for public inspection in the District

offices during normal business hours. If, however, the document is not distributed until the regular meeting to which it relates, then the document or writing will be made available to the public at the location of the meeting."

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act if you are an individual with a disability and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting or need assistance to participate in this teleconference meeting, please contact the District Office at 916-354-3700 or awilder@rmcsd.com. Requests must be made as soon as possible.

Note: This agenda is posted pursuant to the provisions of the Government Code commencing at Section 54950. The date of this posting is October 29, 2021. Posting locations are: 1) District Office; 2) Post Office; 3) Rancho Murieta Association; 4) Murieta Village Association.

#### **MEMORANDUM**

Date: October 29, 2021

To: Communications & Technology Committee

From: Tom Hennig, General Manager

Subject: Continuation of Holding District Meetings via Teleconference

#### **BACKGROUND:**

During the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board approved holding District meetings via teleconference. Since that date, all the District Committee meetings and most of the monthly Board meetings have been held using Zoom as a teleconference media. Holding the meetings via teleconference was necessary to address the potential spread of COVID-19. With this action the Communications & Technology Committee finds that it has reconsidered the state of the COVID-19 emergency, that meeting in person continues to present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and the Committee meeting should be held by teleconference as authorized by subdivision (e)(1)(C) of section 54943 of the Government Code

## **DISCUSSION:**

In light of the Governor's declaration that a state of emergency exists due to the incidence and spread of the novel coronavirus, and the pandemic caused by the resulting disease COVID-19, the Committee should consider whether meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of meeting attendees.

The Centers for Disease Control indicates that COVID-19 is a highly transmissible virus that is spread when an infected person breathes out droplets and very small particles that contain the virus, and such droplets and particles are breathed in by other people.<sup>1</sup> Since June of 2021, a more infectious variant of the virus, known as the Delta Variant, has emerged and now accounts for the vast majority of COVID-19 cases.

Although effective vaccines have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for emergency use, vaccination rates are slow and have not yet reached a point to significantly control community transmission. As of October 29, 2021, only 72.9% of Californians who are eligible to be vaccinated are fully vaccinated.<sup>2</sup>

Those who become infected with COVID-19 are at risk of serious illness and death. As of October 1, 2021, over 743,650 Americans have died from the virus.<sup>3</sup> Many more have been hospitalized with serious illness. Currently, in Sacramento County,198people are hospitalized with COVID-19.

Conducting meetings by teleconference would directly reduce the risk of transmission among meeting attendees, including members of the public and agency staff, which has the ancillary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> www.cdc.gov/cornonavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> State of California Covid-19 Dashboard <a href="https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccination-progress-data/">https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccination-progress-data/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Center <a href="https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/">https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/</a>

effect of reducing risk of serious illness and death as well as reducing community spread of the virus.

If the authorization to meet by teleconference is not approved by a majority vote, then the meeting will adjourn after this item and the remaining agenda items will be rescheduled to a future in-person meeting.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Consider finding by a majority vote under Gov. Code § 54953(e)(3) that a result of the continuing COVID-19 emergency: (i) the Committee has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency; (ii) renew prior findings that meeting in person would continue to present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and (iii) the authorization for meetings to be held by teleconference pursuant to Gov. Code, § 54953, subd. (e)(1)(C) is renewed.

4. Monthly Website & Social Media Update - Pending