

BayRICS Authority
STAFF REPORT

DATE: Thursday, November 18, 2021
TO: BayRICS Board of Directors
FROM: Corey Reynolds, General Manager
Mala Subramanian, General Counsel
SUBJECT: Item 6 – Staff Report: Resolution 2021-01 of BayRICS Board of Directors
Allowing for Video and Teleconference Meetings during the COVID-19 State of
Emergency under California Assembly Bill 361
RECOMMENDATION: Approve Resolution 2021-01

I. Background

AB 361 was recently passed by the State Legislature and signed by Governor Newsom and went into effect immediately. AB 361 continues many of the provisions related to the Brown Act that were in place under Executive Orders, which expired September 30, 2021 that allowed for video and teleconferencing during the state of emergency. Since AB 361 has been signed into law, the Board can continue to meet virtually until such time as the Governor declares the State of Emergency due to COVID-19 over and measures to promote social distancing are no longer recommended, or could return to in-person meetings sooner, if desired.

On September 23, 2021, the Director of the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency recommended and continues to recommend social distancing measures for safely holding public meetings based on the continued threat of COVID-19 to the community and the continued increased safety protection that social distancing provides as one method to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. The proposed resolution provides that the Board and all subsidiary committees with the option to continue to hold video and teleconference meetings while the state of emergency is still in effect and social distancing is recommended.

In order to continue to hold video and teleconference meetings, the Board will need to review and make findings every thirty days or thereafter that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and that state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

II. Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board adopt Resolution 2021-01 to allow for Video and Teleconference Meetings during the COVID-19 State of Emergency under California Assembly Bill 361