



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: MAY 12, 2020**
FROM: OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER **WARDS: ALL**
SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENT IN THE ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER DURING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

ISSUES:

Review the current orders, directives and guidelines for public meetings during the COVID-19 emergency and provide direction to staff regarding the plan for how and when to return to opening the Art Pick Council Chamber to the public.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Review the current orders, directives and guidelines for public meetings during the COVID-19 emergency; and
2. Provide staff with direction to update the City's operational response to how and when to open the Art Pick Council Chamber for public comment during the COVID-19 emergency.

COVID-19 POLICY GROUP:

The COVID-19 Policy Group, with Mayor Bailey, Mayor Pro-Tem Edwards, Public Safety Chair Perry and staff met on May 7, 2020. During the meeting, it was requested that a City Council discussion was scheduled at the next possible City Council to consider public comment from the Council Chamber podium.

ORDERS, DIRECTIVES, GUIDELINES:

The following list of Orders, Directives, and Guidelines is a summary, and is not inclusive of all applicable orders as applicable, as of the writing of this report. It is anticipated that given the COVID-19 emergency, additional Orders, Directives, and Guidelines may be issued prior to this discussion with the City Council on May 12, 2020. Each of these documents may be found on the official websites of the issuing agency at the internet locations listed for each item.

State of California orders respective to the Brown Act:

Executive Order N-25-20, March 12, 2020

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3.12.20-EO-N-25-20-COVID-19.pdf>

Executive Order N-29-20, March 17, 2020

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3.17.20-N-29-20-EO.pdf>

Executive Order N-35-20, March 21, 2020

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3.21.20-EO-N-35-20-text.pdf>

State of California Stay at Home Order:

Executive Order N-33-20, March 19, 2020

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3.19.20-attested-EO-N-33-20-COVID-19-HEALTH-ORDER.pdf>

State of California Guidelines:

Industry Guidelines, May 7, 2020

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/05/07/governor-newsom-releases-updated-industry-guidance/>

Resilience Roadmap, May 7, 2020

<https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap/>

Industry guidance to reduce the risk – Office Workspaces, May 7, 2020

<https://covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-office-workspaces.pdf>

Riverside University Health System Orders:

[NOTE: At the time of this report's publishing, the Riverside County Board of Supervisor's was meeting to consider the following orders. Thus, at the time of the presentation for this agenda item, the following orders/amended orders may or may not be still in effect.]

Public Health Order: Amended Stay at Home Order, April 29, 2020

https://www.rivcoph.org/Portals/0/Documents/CoronaVirus/April/PHOrders/PHO_Order_Stay_at_Home_Order_5.1.20.pdf?ver=2020-04-29-140642-993×tamp=1588194829599

Final Signed Amended Public Health Order - Gathering and face covering, April 20, 2020

https://www.rivcoph.org/Portals/0/Documents/CoronaVirus/April/PHOrders/Health_Officer_order_no_gatherings_face_coverings_outdoor_activities_permitted.pdf?ver=2020-04-20-165734-900×tamp=1587427322715

County buildings will close to in-person visits - March 17, 2020

<https://www.rivcoph.org/Portals/0/Documents/CoronaVirus/31720Countyofficesclosed.pdf>

Public Health Order: Cancellation orders of gatherings of more than 10 - March 16, 2020
https://www.rivcoph.org/Portals/0/Documents/CoronaVirus/SharpMFD_20200316.pdf

DISCUSSION:

The facilitation of public comment in the Art Pick Council Chamber will require the City to ensure the personal safety measures are provided for staff and the public as outlined in the current orders, directives, and guidelines at the time of each meeting.

Safety of City staff and the public is of primary concern of the City Manager's Office during this pandemic. Potential safeguards for staff and public that can be anticipated for public comment from the Council Chamber podium, include but not limited to:

1. Six feet of social distancing for members at the dais
2. Six feet of social distancing in public seating – estimated space for 26 members of the public
3. Phone-in public comment option remains an option
4. Police officers will be present in the Art Pick Council Chamber
5. Queuing outside the Council Chamber may be needed
6. Continue the process to not use speaker cards to limit exchange of materials
7. Face masks requirement direction
8. Change of equipment from the close podium microphone to a shotgun microphone for distancing

Other considerations for safety: minimizing staff in attendance to support meeting; providing temperature check stations; communications with the public regarding “stay at home” if you are sick, washing hands, etc.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact of the action is dependent on the type and amount of personal protective equipment and sanitization measures.

Approved by: Al Zelinka, FAICP, City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney