

BROWN ACT

"...the Legislature finds and declares that the public commissions, boards and councils and other public agencies in this State exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business. It is the intent of the law that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly."

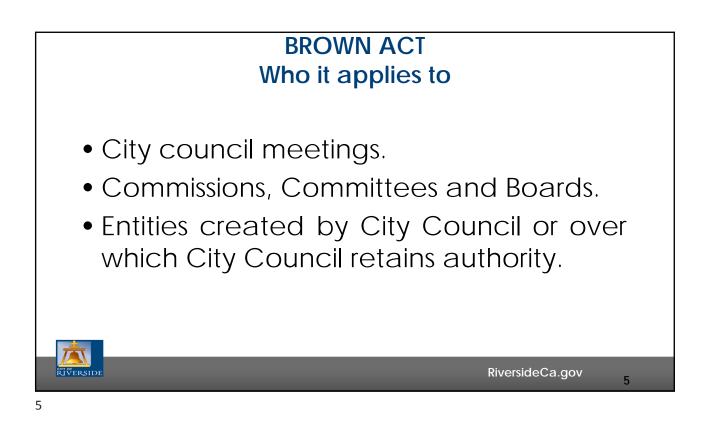
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BROWN ACT Requirements

- The Brown Act creates certain minimum procedural requirements for conducting meetings.
- One of these rules requires the Commission to adopt rules as to the conduct of business of the Commission, which includes the time and place for holding regular meetings.



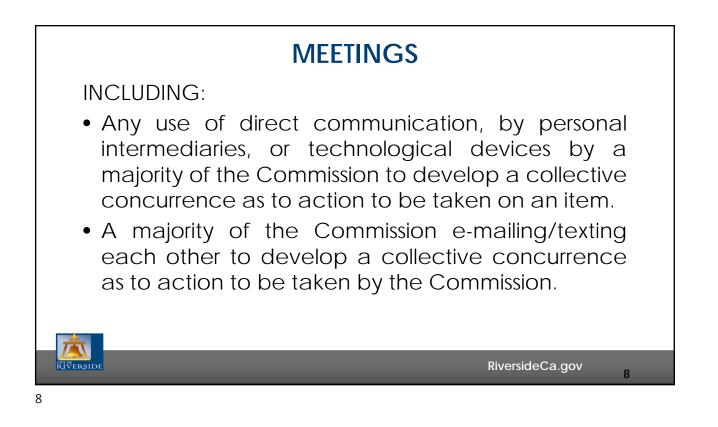
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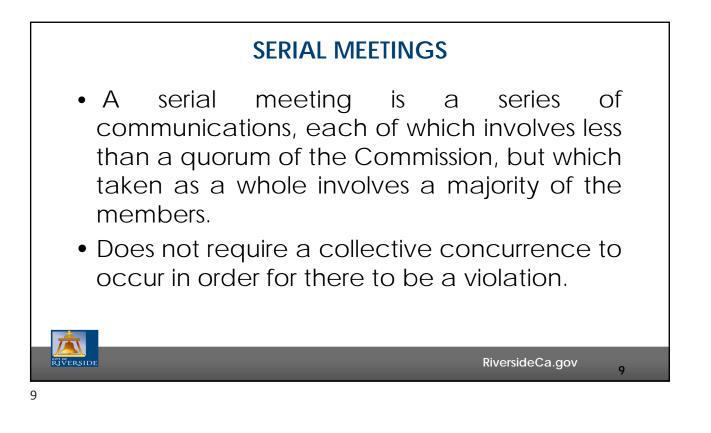
MEETINGS

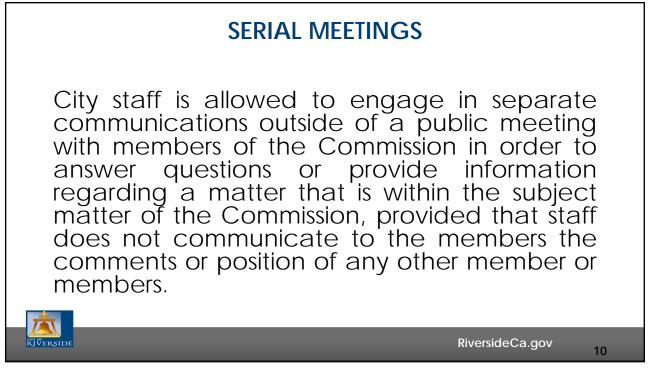
A "meeting" includes any congregation of a majority of the members of the Commission at the same time and place to hear, discuss, or deliberate upon any item that is within the subject matter of the Commission.

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PUBLIC SPEECH

The public has a right to address the legislative body or Commission at any meeting on any subject that is within that body's subject matter jurisdiction. The public also has a right to speak on a specific item **before** formal action is take.



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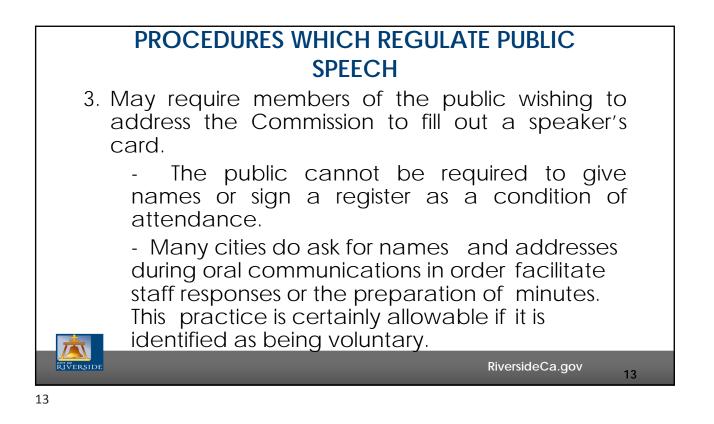
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PROCEDURES WHICH REGULATE PUBLIC SPEECH

- 1. May impose reasonable restrictions upon public comment at meetings so long as such restrictions are not too broad and do not constitute "prior restraints."
- 2. May prohibit a member of the public from speaking on a matter not within the Commission's subject matter jurisdiction or from addressing their comments to one member rather than the Commission as a whole.



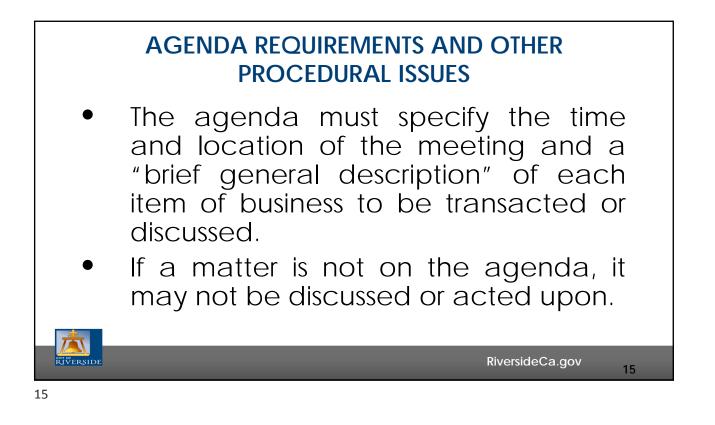


PROCEDURES WHICH REGULATE PUBLIC SPEECH

- 4. May regulate the total amount of time on a particular issues and for each individual speaker, subject to the requirements of due process.
 - Time limits of 3 5 minutes are most common.
 - The chair is responsible for enforcing the time limit and monitoring the time.



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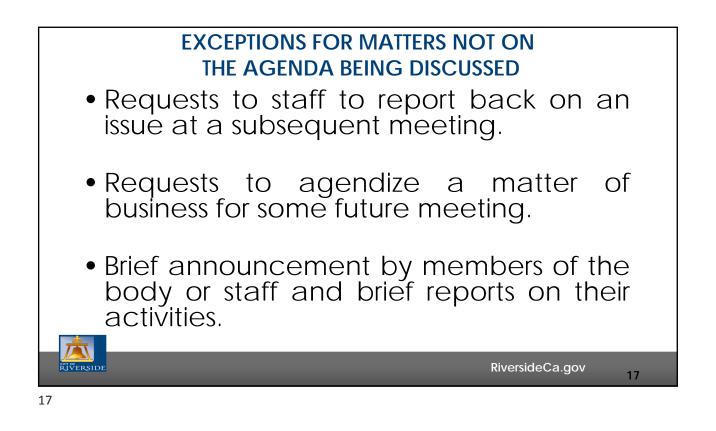
EXCEPTIONS FOR MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA BEING DISCUSSED

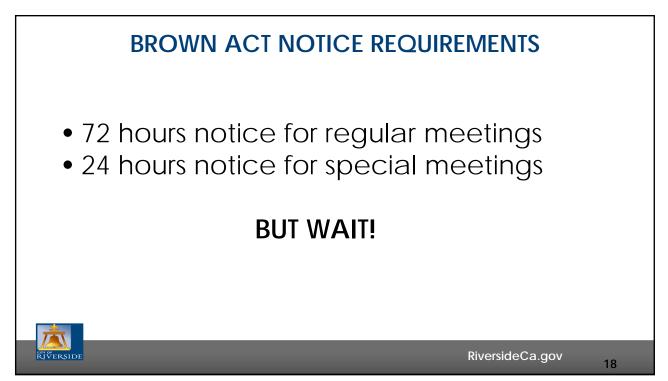
- Brief responses by members of the body and staff to statements or questions posed by the public.
- Questions for clarification.
- References to staff or other resources for factual information.

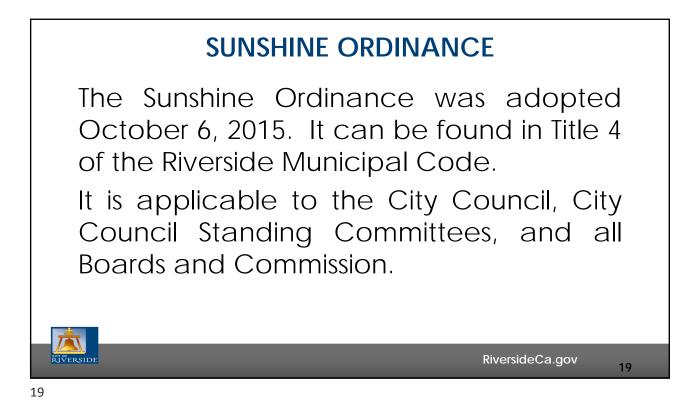
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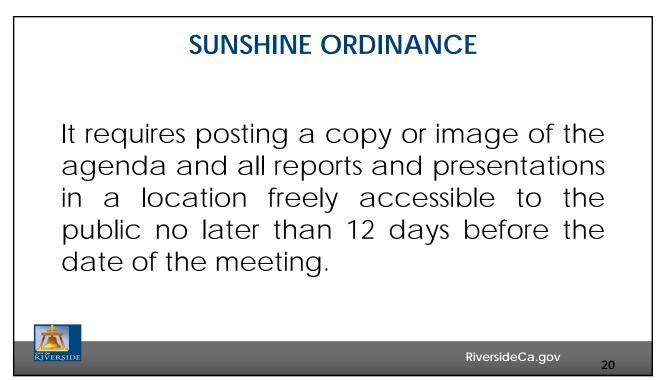
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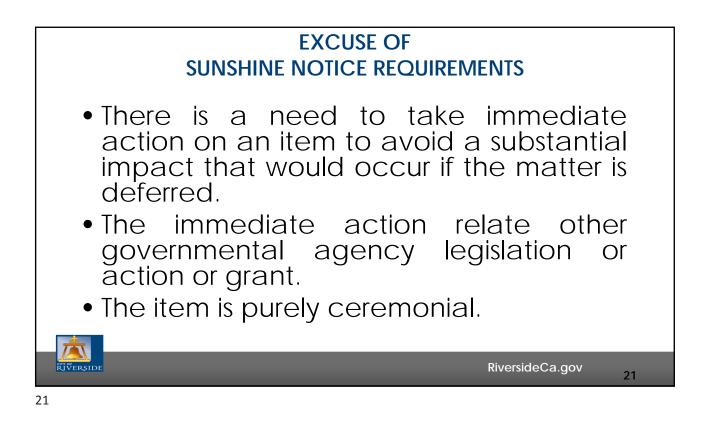
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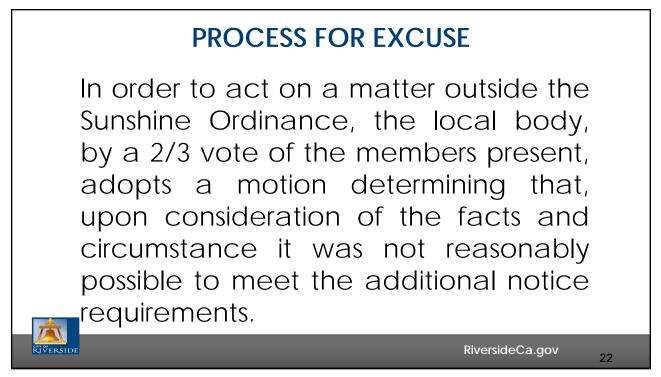


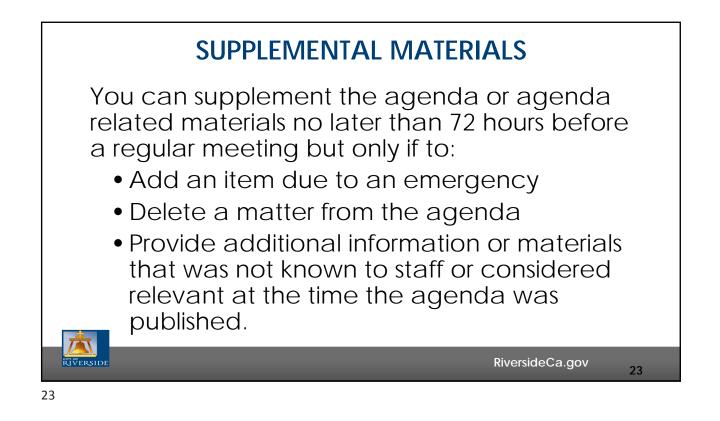


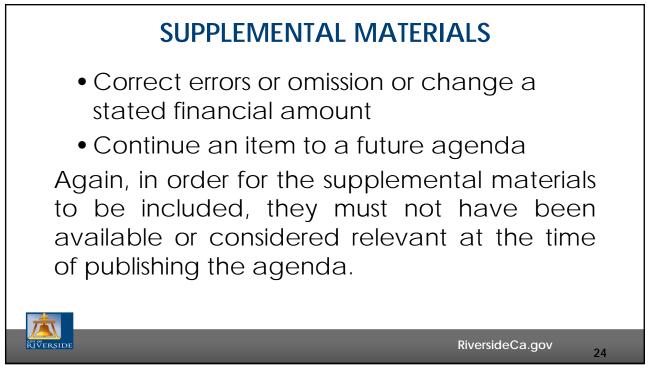


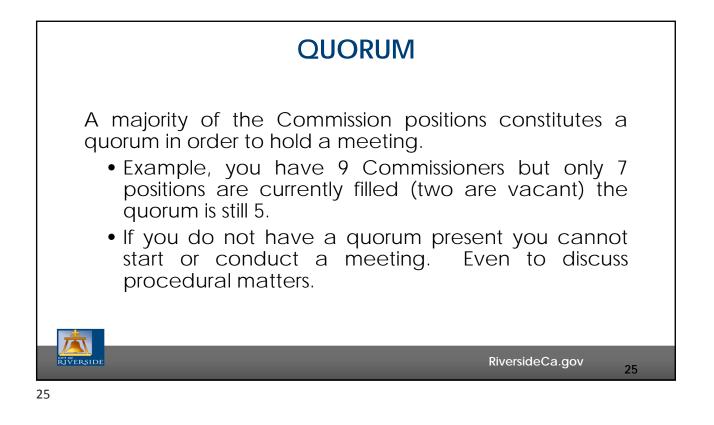


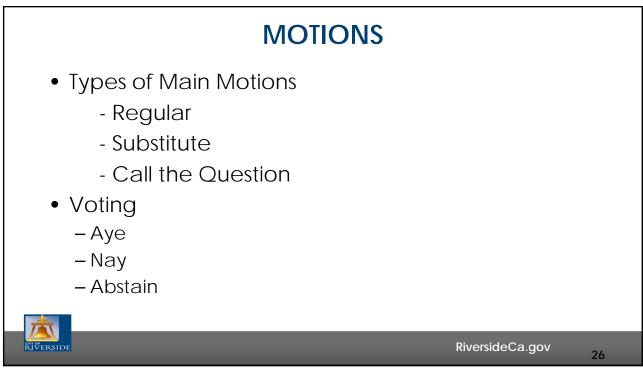




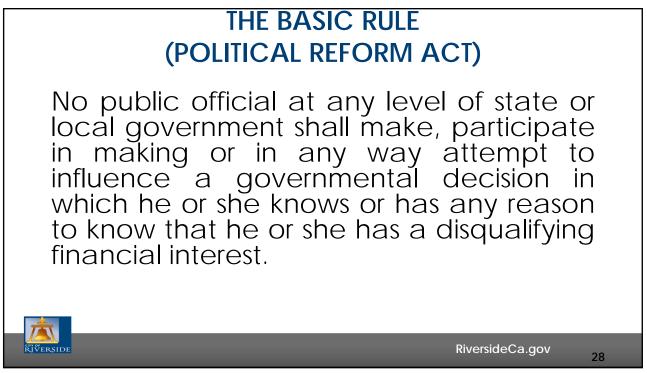














A public official has a disqualifying financial interest in a decision if it is reasonably foreseeable that the decision will have a material financial effect, distinguishable from its effect on the public generally, on the official, a member of his or her immediate family, or on any "economic interest."



