

CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 26-65

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING A POLICY
ADDRESSING DISRUPTION OF TELEPHONIC OR
INTERNET SERVICE DURING PUBLIC MEETINGS

WHEREAS, the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code § 54950 et seq.) establishes requirements for open and public meetings of local legislative bodies; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 707 (2025) amended the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act) to update teleconferencing and accessibility requirements, including provisions related to remote participation in public meetings; and

WHEREAS, as amended by Senate Bill 707, Government Code § 54953.4(b)(1)(A) requires “eligible legislative bodies”, on or before July 1, 2026, to adopt at a noticed public meeting in open session, and not on the consent calendar, a policy addressing disruption of telephonic or internet service during meetings conducted with remote participation; and

WHEREAS, the required policy must address procedures for recessing and reconvening a meeting in the event of a disruption and the efforts the legislative body will make to attempt to restore service; and

WHEREAS, Government Code § 54953.4 further requires that, in the event of a disruption preventing members of the public from observing or participating in the meeting through a two-way telephonic or audiovisual platform, the legislative body shall recess the open session for at least one hour and make a good faith effort to restore service, and may not reconvene open session until at least one hour has passed or service has been restored, whichever occurs first; and

WHEREAS, if telephonic or internet service has not been restored upon reconvening, the legislative body must either (i) make findings by roll call vote that good faith efforts to restore service have been made and that the public interest in continuing the meeting outweighs the public interest in remote public access or (ii) adjourn the meeting in accordance with the Brown Act; and

WHEREAS, adoption of a technology disruption policy is required to ensure compliance with state law and to promote transparency and continuity of public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the proposed policy addressing disruption of telephonic or internet service during meetings of the City Council of the City of Irvine, California, has been prepared in accordance with Government Code § 54953.4 and is attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the activity is not a "Project" as defined under Section 15378 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) State Guidelines; and therefore, pursuant to State Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3), no environmental review is required.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Irvine DOES HEREBY RESOLVE as follows:

SECTION 1. Adoption of Policy. The City Council hereby adopts the policy entitled "Disruption of Telephonic or Internet Service During Public Meetings," substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A.

SECTION 2. Implementation. The City Clerk is authorized and directed to implement the policy in coordination with agency staff, legal counsel, and technology support staff, as appropriate.

SECTION 3. Minor Modifications. The City Attorney may approve minor, non-substantive modifications to the policy as necessary to conform to applicable law, agency practices, or formatting requirements, provided such modifications do not materially alter the intent of the policy.

SECTION 4. The City Clerk shall certify passage of this Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Irvine at a special meeting held on the 23rd day of June 2026.


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) SS
CITY OF IRVINE)

I, CARL PETERSEN, City Clerk of the City of Irvine, HEREBY DO CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Irvine, held on the 23rd day of June 2026.

AYES: 6 COUNCILMEMBERS: Carroll, Go, Liu, Mai, Treseder,
and Agran

NOES: 0 COUNCILMEMBERS: None

ABSENT: 1 COUNCILMEMBERS: Martinez Franco

ABSTAIN: 0 COUNCILMEMBERS: None



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

City Council Policies and Procedures
Disruption of Telephonic or Internet Service During Public Meetings

1. Background

Senate Bill 707 (2025) amended the Brown Act to require eligible legislative bodies to adopt, on or before July 1, 2026, a policy addressing how the agency will respond to disruptions in telephonic or internet service that prevent members of the public from attending or observing a meeting remotely. This policy is adopted to comply with that requirement and to ensure continuity of public participation during technical disruptions.

2. Purpose

This policy establishes procedures for responding to a disruption in the telephonic or internet services that provide two-way remote public access to meetings of the City Council of the City of Irvine, as required by the Brown Act (Gov. Code § 54953.4). The policy ensures transparency, public participation, and continuity of government during technology disruptions.

3. Definitions

For purposes of this policy:

- “Disruption” means any failure, outage, or other interruption that prevents members of the public from attending or observing the meeting via these remote access services.
- “Eligible legislative bodies” means a city council of a city with a population of 30,000 or more.

4. Applicability

This policy applies to all open and public meetings of the City Council at which remote public participation is offered or required under the Brown Act and shall be incorporated into the City Council Agendas and Meetings section of the City Council Policy and Procedures Manual.

5. Procedures in the Event of a Service Disruption

If any City official or employee becomes aware that a disruption in technology for the purpose of remote participation is occurring, such person shall notify the City Clerk or the Mayor of the disruption. The Mayor shall announce that there is a disruption and recess the meeting for up to one hour or until service is restored, whichever occurs earlier. In lieu of a recess, the City Council may convene to Closed Session to consider matters listed on the agenda under Closed Session.

During the recess, the City shall make a good faith effort to restore two-way audiovisual capabilities. If the disruption is not resolved within one hour, the City Clerk shall inform the Mayor that a good faith effort was made to restore the service and the Mayor shall then reconvene the meeting and inform the City Council and members of the public that the City was unable to resolve the disruption. Following the Mayor's announcement, the City Council may take one of the following actions:

- (1) Adopt findings that (a) good faith efforts to restore the service were made together with a description of those efforts; and (b) the public interest in continuing the meeting outweighs the public interest in remote public access. Following an affirmative majority roll call vote, the City Council may resume the meeting.
- (2) Adjourn the meeting to a future date and time in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code § 54950 et seq.).

The City Clerk shall ensure that this Technology Disruption Policy is publicly available on the City's website and that the meeting minutes document the nature of the disruption, the duration of the recess, a description of the efforts made to restore service, and the decisions made regarding continuation or adjournment of the meeting. Members of the public may also request a copy of the Technology Disruption Policy by contacting the City Clerk's Office at 949-724-6205 or via email at clerk@cityofirvine.org.

6. Review and Updates

This policy may be amended by the City Council at a noticed public meeting in open session, not on the consent calendar.