

November 13, 2025



LEAGUE OF
**CALIFORNIA
CITIES**

Strengthening California Cities
through Advocacy and Education

2025 City Clerk New Law and Elections Seminar

Johnnie Pina, Legislative Advocate
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Agenda Overview

- **Legislative Overview** — Johnnie Pina, Legislative Advocate, Cal Cities
- **FPPC Update** — Artin Berjikly, City Ethics Officer-Assistant City Attorney, Anaheim City Attorney's Office
- **CPRA Update** — Christine N. Wood, Partner, BBK Law
- **Brown Act Update** — Javan Rad, City Attorney, Ventura and Ruben Duran, Partner, BBK Law
- **Q&A**

Lobbyists



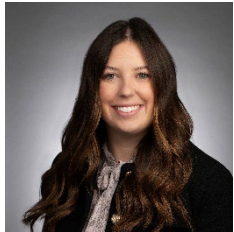
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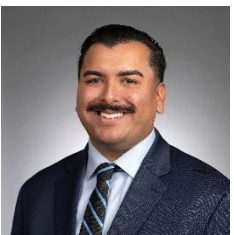
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Johnnie Pina

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Legislative Overview

- The California Legislature Runs on a Two-Year Legislative Session
 - **First Year of Session (Odd Years)**
 - **Legislative Session Ends in Mid-September and Governor Has Until Mid-October to Sign/Veto Bills**
 - **Second Year of Session (Even Years)**
 - Legislative Session Ends on August 31st and Governor Has Until September 30th to Sign/Veto Bills

Legislative Overview

- California Legislature
 - State Assembly – 80 Members
 - State Senate – 40 Members
- Assembly Members (Assembly Bills) and Senators (Senate Bills) Are Generally Limited to Introducing 50 Bills Per Two-Year Legislative Session. 35 this two-year session!
- Bills Have to Pass Both the State Assembly and State Senate to Reach the Governor

Year End Overview

- In total, legislators introduced over 2,300 bills, with around 900 reaching the Governor's desk.
- Cal Cities ran an ambitious, proactive legislative agenda, sponsoring 15 bills focused on short-term rentals, climate resiliency and adaptation, housing, sober living facilities, wildfire mitigation, the Brown Act, and clean drinking water. Eight reached Newsom's desk, six of which he signed.

Legislative Overview

Veto Rates

2025 (Newsom): 123 of 917 Bills Vetoed (13.41%)

2024 (Newsom): 189 of 1206 Bills Vetoed (15.67%)

2023 (Newsom): 156 of 1046 Bills Vetoed (14.91%)

2022 (Newsom): 169 of 1166 Bills Vetoed (14.49%)

2021 (Newsom): 66 of 836 Bills Vetoed (7.89%)

2020 (Newsom): 56 of 428 Bills Vetoed (13.08%)

2019 (Newsom): 172 of 1042 Bills Vetoed (16.51%)

Looking Ahead

- Cities submitted over 1,300 letters to the Legislature.
- It is difficult to know for sure what to expect in the new year. However, state leaders are staring down a \$15-\$20 billion budget deficit, the nation's second-highest unemployment rate, uncertain federal actions, new leadership in the state Senate, and a gubernatorial election.
- Newsom's lame duck status and higher political aspirations will also likely hang over next year's proceedings.

Ralph M. Brown Act

Ralph M. Brown Act

- For years, Cal Cities has pursued much-needed reforms to the Brown Act. In 2025, lawmakers responded — albeit not in the way Cal Cities had hoped — by making the most extensive changes to the Brown Act in years. [SB 707 \(Durazo\)](#) includes several provisions that give cities more meeting flexibility. But these changes come with [sweeping and costly new mandates](#) on cities without adequate resources, flexibility, or time to implement them.

Fair Political Practices Commission

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FPFC

- **AB 1029 (Valencia)** Statements of financial interest: digital financial assets.
- **AB 1286 (Boerner)** Political Reform Act of 1974: prospective employment.
- **SB 42 (Umberg)** Political Reform Act of 1974: public campaign financing: California Fair Elections Act of 2026.
- **SB 760 (Allen)** Behested payments: public appeal for payment.

FPPC

- **SB 827 (Gonzalez)** Local agency officials: training.
- **SB 852 (Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments)** Political Reform Act of 1974: Citizens Redistricting Commission.
- AB 351 (McKinnor) Campaign contributions: agency officers. **Failed**

California Public Records Act

Other Bills

Other

SB 482 (Weber Pierson) Roster of Public officials: Local Government. Chapter 762, Statutes of 2025

This measure requires, no more than 120 days after each general election, the governing body of each city, county, or city and county, or their delegated local entity, to submit to the Secretary of State an updated list of local elected or appointed officials for publication.

Other

AB 94 (Bennett) Recall Elections: Successors.

Chapter 251, Statutes of 2025

This measure provides that when the local officer is recalled and removed, that officer may not be appointed to fill the vacancy.

AB 287 (Lackey) Elections: Polling Places and Vote Centers.

Chapter 253, Statutes of 2025

This measure specifies that when a public entity provides use of one of its buildings for a polling place or vote center, it must also provide accessible parking, curbside parking, and storage at the location.

City Clerks Department Legislative Series

Calling all City Clerks!

The Cal Cities City Clerks Department is launching a new legislative series in 2025!

Hear about the latest legislation impacting city clerks from your Cal Cities lobbyist.

Presented by: Johnnie Pina, Legislative Affairs,
Lobbyist for Governance, Transparency, and Labor
Relations

Interested? *Send an email to:*

Meghan McKelvey mmckelvey@calcities.org or
Isaac Black iblack@calcities.org



QUESTIONS?

Johnnie Pina

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CPRA Updates

CAL CITIES

NEW LAW AND ELECTIONS SEMINAR 2025

Christine Wood
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Email:

Presenter



Christine Wood

Partner

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Christine Wood is a partner and member of Best Best & Krieger LLP's (BBK) Special Districts practice group. She has significant experience providing legal opinions and advice to municipalities on a wide range of issues, conducting investigations that support legal strategy and risk mitigation, and litigating cases involving the California Public Records Act and E-Discovery. Christine was also the first leader of BBK's Advanced Records Center, a team of lawyers and paralegals at BBK who focus on advising and assisting California government agencies responding to CPRA requests.

Agenda

- Updates in CPRA Case Law
- Legislation Impacting the CPRA



Key Cases

Updates in CPRA Case Law



Case Spotlight

Sacramento Television Stations Inc. v. Superior Court (2025)

Sacramento Television Stations, Inc. filed a writ against City of Roseville under the CPRA, seeking an order compelling City to disclose audio and video recordings related to an incident in which police officers discharged firearms at a person.

- The Superior Court denied the writ, finding that, while CPRA required more disclosure than the short clips of body camera footage and audio clips that the City provided, an exemption applied because further release would substantially interfere with an active investigation.
- Sacramento Television Stations sought review.
- The Court of Appeal vacated the Superior Court decision.

Updates in CPRA Case Law



Case Spotlight

City of Vallejo v. Superior Court (2025)

The ACLU filed a petition for writ of mandate against City of Vallejo and its police department, challenging the sufficiency of the PD's response to the ACLU's CPRA Request for records relating to allegations of "badge-bending" by officers involved in on-duty lethal shootings.

- The Superior Court ordered disclosure of portions of the investigative report and related materials, with identifying information regarding officers, witnesses, and their families redacted.
- Both parties sought review in the Court of Appeal.
- The Court of Appeal held that the records requested were publicly disclosable personnel records concerning an officer-involved shooting. Blanket redaction of all names was not justified under the CPRA.
- The Court of Appeal issued a writ ordering the Superior Court to vacate its judgment and conduct further proceedings consistent with its findings.

Legislative Update

2025–2026 Legislative Session

Assembly Bill No. 1147 (Addis) Disability Equity, Transparency, and Accountability Act of 2024.

- AB 1147 holds the group of 21 regional centers that serve nearly 500,000 Californians with developmental disabilities subject to PRA requirements beginning January 1, 2026, in order to increase transparency into regional center operations.

Effective **January 1, 2026**

Assembly Bill No. 343 (Pacheco) California Public Records Act: elected or appointed officials.

- Expands the definition of “elected or appointed official” under Government Code § 7920.500 to include: retired judges or court commissioners, an active or retired judge of the State Bar Court, a retired federal judge or federal defender, a retired judge of a federally recognized Indian tribe, and a court appointee serving as children’s counsel in family or dependency proceedings.
- Prohibits disclosure of the home address or telephone number, or posting of such information online.

Effective **January 1, 2026**

Assembly Bill No. 370 (Carrillo) California Public Records Act: cyberattacks.

- Amends Government Code § 7922.535 to revise the definition of “unusual circumstances” under the CPRA that allow a public agency to extend its time to respond to a public-records request.
- Adds inability to access electronic servers or systems due to a cyberattack as an “unusual circumstance” that justifies the extension of the records-response time.
- It requires that the state of emergency must directly affect the agency’s ability to timely respond to the request.

Effective **January 1, 2026**

Assembly Bill No. 847 (Sharp-Collins, D) Peace officers: confidentiality of records.

- Amends Penal Code § 832.7.
- Extends the list of entities that may access otherwise confidential personnel records of peace officers or custodial officers: specifically, civilian law-enforcement oversight boards/commissions and county inspector general offices for the conduct of investigations or oversight proceedings.
- Authorizes closed sessions to review confidential records consistent with applicable law (including confidentiality protections) when needed to perform oversight duties.

Effective **January 1, 2026**

Assembly Bill No. 1004 (Wallis, R) Tribal financial information: public records: exemption.

- Requires that each agreement or contract with an Indian tribe related to financial assistance must include a provision that any financial information disclosed pursuant to that agreement remains confidential and is not subject to public inspection under the CPRA.
- Establishes that records provided by an Indian tribe to a public agency, as a condition of or requirement for receiving financial assistance, that contain financial information shall be confidential (i.e. not a public record that is open to public inspection).

Effective **January 1, 2026**

Assembly Bill No. 1178 (Pacheco, D) Peace officers: confidentiality of records.

- Requires a court, in an action to compel disclosure of personnel records of a peace or custodial officer under existing law, to consider whether the officer is currently operating undercover and whether their duties demand anonymity.
- Maintains that records relating to serious uses of force, sexual assault by officers, dishonesty, bias, and unlawful arrest/search remain subject to disclosure under the CPRA and Penal Code § 832.7(b) (as amended)
 - does not broadly exempt misconduct records merely because an officer is undercover

Effective **January 1, 2026**

Assembly Bill No. 1388 (Bryan, D) Law enforcement: settlement agreements.

- Under existing law, the personnel records of peace officers and custodial officers are confidential and not subject to public inspection.
- Existing law provides certain exemptions to this confidentiality, including the reports, investigations, and findings of certain incidents involving the use of force by a peace officer.
- This bill provides an additional exemption to settlement agreements between an employing agency and a peace officer that, among other things, require the agency to destroy, remove, or conceal a record of a misconduct investigation.

Effective **January 1, 2026**

Senate Bill No. 851 (Cervantes, D) Elections.

- Requires a state or local agency or political subdivision that files or is served with a court action relating to elections that contains a claim arising under federal law to provide written notice to the Secretary of State and the Attorney General within three (3) days.
- Requires a state or local agency or political subdivision to provide notice to the Secretary of State and the Attorney General at least fourteen (14) days before entering into a settlement, consent decree, or other court-approved agreement.
- Exempts records or information exchanged pursuant to the CPRA.

Effective **January 1, 2026**

Senate Bill No. 635 (Durazo)

Food vendors and facilities: enforcement activities

“Street Vendor Business Protection Act”

- Requires agencies to stop collecting or sharing vendors’ PII except in response to a judicial warrant or subpoena and to destroy certain records before 3/1/2026.
- Records not disclosable under the CPRA.

Effective **January 1, 2026**

QUESTIONS?

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2025 City Clerks New Law and Elections Seminar *Open Meetings*

Javan N. Rad
City Attorney, Ventura



Ruben Duran, Best, Best & Krieger
City Attorney, Ontario & Fontana



BBK
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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

November 13, 2025

Recent Court Decisions

- ***Berkeley People's Alliance v. City of Berkeley*, 114 Cal.App.5th 984 (2025)**
 - City Council meetings unable to continue due to disruptive members of the public (for three meetings)
 - Meeting room not cleared; City Council convened in different room
 - Court of Appeal held that city's conduct did not fall within exception to Brown Act allowing Council to order meeting room cleared and continue in session
- ***Burton v. Campbell*, 106 Cal.App.5th 953 (2024)**
 - Person who files a Brown Act lawsuit must be the same person who made the demand to cure or correct

SB 707

- Signed on October 3, 2025
- Revises and recasts existing provisions of the Brown Act, and adds new requirements

California's First Open Meeting Law

The series printed in this booklet led to the adoption of California's first Open Meeting Law in 1953. While the text of today's amended law (1990) comprises 21 pages, the proposed version in 1952 was contained in just two typewritten pages, and is reprinted herewith. The preamble, written by Michael Harris in 1952, is still preserved in today's law.

(An act to add chapter 9, comprising sections 54950 to 54957 inclusive, to Part 1, Division 2, Title 5, of the Government Code relating to meetings of legislative bodies of local agencies.)

Preamble. The public commissions, boards and councils and the 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.

The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.

The people of the State of California do therefore enact as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 9, comprising Sections 54950 to 54957 inclusive, is added to Part 1, Division 2, Title 5, of the Government Code, to read: CHAPTER 9. MEETINGS

54950. "Local agency" defined. As used in this chapter, "local agency" means a county, city, town, school district, municipal corporation, district, political subdivision, public corporation, or any board, commission or agency thereof, or other public agency of the State.

54951. "Legislative body" defined. As used in this chapter, "legislative body" means the governing board, commission, directors or body of a local agency, or any board or commission thereof.

54952. Meetings to be public. All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

54953. Regular meetings. Time and place. The legislative body of a local agency shall provide,

by ordinance, the time and place for holding regular meetings. Meetings of the legislative body shall be held within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction. If at any time any regular meeting falls on a holiday, such regular meeting shall be held on the next business day. If, by reason of fire, flood, earthquake or other emergency, it shall be unsafe to meet in the place designated, the meetings may be held for the duration of the emergency at such place as is designated by the presiding officer of the legislative body.

54954. Adjourned meetings. The legislative body of a local agency may adjourn any regular or adjourned meeting to a time and place specified in the order of adjournment. When so adjourned, the adjourned meeting is a regular meeting for all purposes. When an order of adjournment of a regular or adjourned meeting fails to state the hour at which the adjourned meeting is to be held, it shall be held at the hour specified by ordinance for regular meetings.

54955. Special meetings. A special meeting may be ordered at any time by the presiding officer of the legislative body of a local agency, or by a majority of the members of the legislative body, by delivering personally or by mail written notice to each member of the legislative body and to each local newspaper of general circulation printed and published within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction. Such notice must be delivered personally or by mail at least twenty-four hours before the time of such meeting as specified in the notice. The order shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted. No other business shall be considered at such meetings by the legislative body.

54956. Exceptions. A private meeting or executive session shall not be held by the legislative body of a local agency, except to consider the employment or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints or charges brought against such officer or employee by another public officer or employee. The legislative body also may exclude from any public or private meeting, during the examination of a witness, any or all other witnesses in the matter being investigated by the legislative body.

54957. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to the legislative body of every local agency notwithstanding the conflicting provisions of any other State law.

Senate Bill No. 707

CHAPTER 327

An act to amend Sections 54952.7, 54953, 54953.5, 54953.7, 54954.2, 54954.3, 54956, 54956.5, 54957.6, 54957.9, and 54957.95 of, to amend and repeal Section 54952.2 of, to add Sections 54953.8, 54953.8.1, 54953.8.2, and 54957.96 to, and to add and repeal Sections 54953.4, 54953.8.3, 54953.8.4, 54953.8.5, 54953.8.6, and 54953.8.7 of, the Government Code, relating to local government.

[Approved by Governor October 3, 2025. Filed with Secretary of State October 3, 2025.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 707, Durazo. Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.

(1) Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate.

SB 707

- Local agency must **give a copy of the Brown Act** to every elected/appointed member of a legislative body of the local agency
- **Makes permanent AB 992** – public officials use of social media
- **Codifies July 2024 California Attorney General Opinion re: ADA access**
 - Allows remote participation as reasonable accommodation (and treats it as in-person attendance for quorum purposes) if both of the following are met
 - Member participates through audio and video – except any member with a disability may participate only through audio (no video) if “a physical condition related to their disability results in a need to participate off camera”
 - At the meeting, and before any action is taken, member discloses (a) whether any other individuals 18 or older are in the room at the remote location; and (b) the “general nature” of their relationship with the

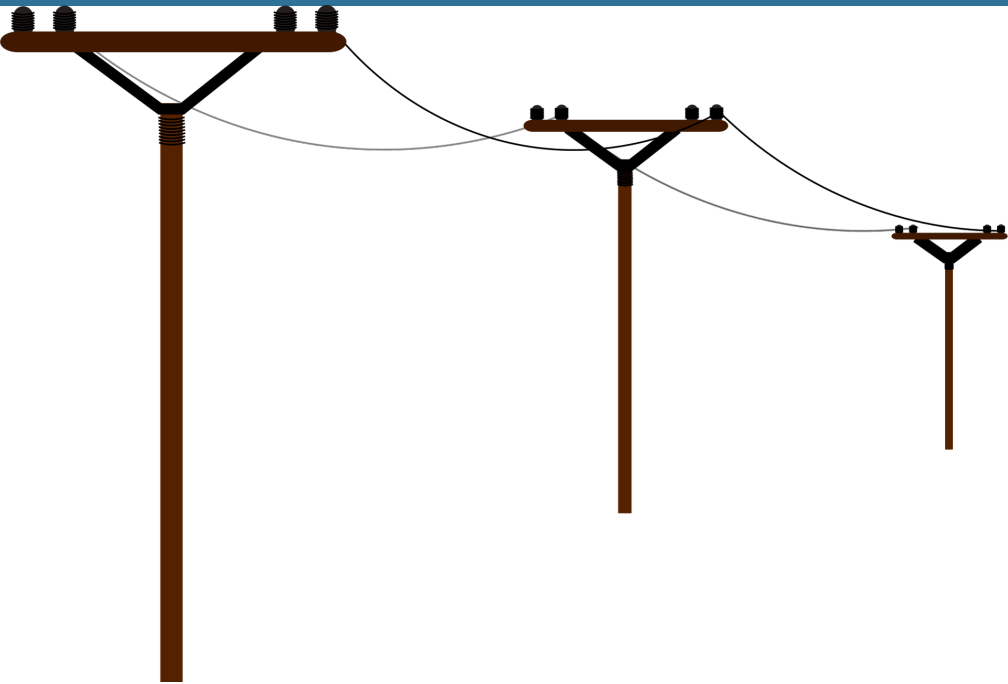
SB 707 - New requirements for “eligible legislative bodies” – effective July 1, 2026, sunsets January 1, 2030 (Government Code Section 54953.4)

- **“Eligible legislative body”**
 - City Council of city with population of 30,000 or more
 - No source cited for population determination
 - County Board of Supervisors of county, or city and county, with population of 30,000 or more (46 of 58 counties)
 - City Council of a city in a county with a population of 600,000 or more (15 of 58 counties)
 - Board of Directors of special district that has an internet website and one of the following:
 - Boundaries include entirety of county with a population of 600,000 or more, and special district has more than 200 full-time equivalent employees
 - Over 1,000 full-time equivalent employees
 - Annual revenues of over \$400 million and over 200 full-time equivalent employees

SB 707 - New requirements for “eligible legislative bodies” (cont.)

- **Must allow members of the public to attend via two-way telephone or two-way audio-visual platform**, “except if adequate telephonic or internet service is not operational at the meeting location”
 - Two-way audio-visual platform – allows participation “via both” (a) interactive video conference; and (b) two-way telephone service
- On or before July 1, 2026, must approve at open session, not on consent calendar, a **policy regarding telephonic/internet disruptions** – must include
 - Procedures for recessing/reconvening if telephone/internet service disrupted
 - Efforts that the body “shall make” to attempt to restore the service

SB 707 - New requirements for “eligible legislative bodies” (cont.)

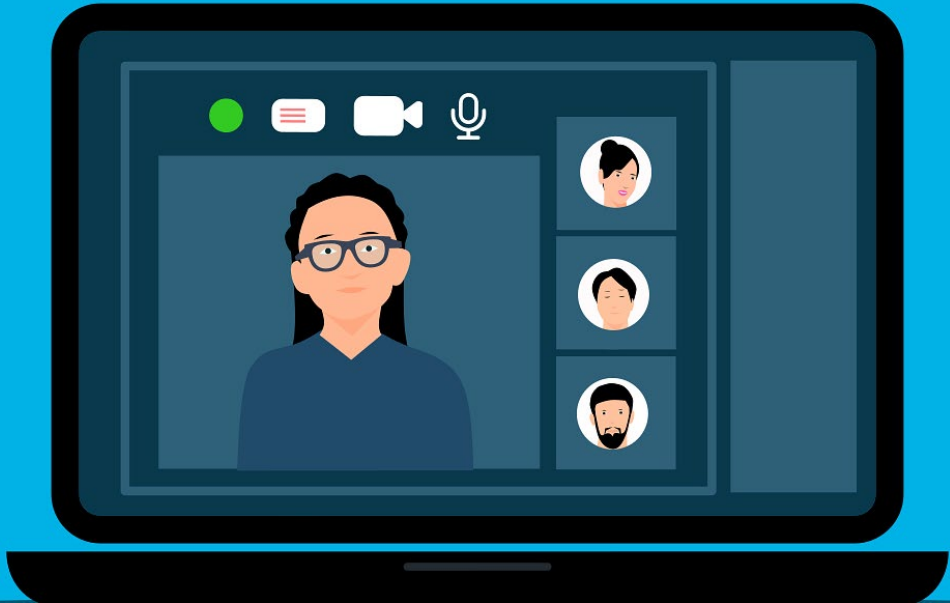


- If **telephone/internet service disruption** prevents public attendance/observation, body “**shall recess ... for at least one hour** and make a good faith attempt to restore the service”
 - Body may meet in closed session during the disruption
 - Can only reconvene when service is restored, or if disruption lasts for one hour
 - Upon reconvening, if telephone/internet service not restored, body must make a finding by rollcall vote that (a) “good faith efforts to restore the telephone or internet service have been made in accordance with [the body’s] policy;” and (b) “the public interest in continuing the meeting outweighs the

SB 707 - New requirements for “eligible legislative bodies” (cont.)

- **Exceptions to disruption policy and recess requirement (if telephone/internet service disrupted)**
 - Attendance at a judicial or administrative proceeding where the local agency is a party
 - Inspect real or personal property (if meeting limited to items “directly related” to that property)
 - Meet with elected or appointed officials of the United States or the State of California, “solely to discuss a legislative or regulatory issue affecting the local agency and over which the federal or state officials have jurisdiction”
 - Meet in or nearby a facility owned by the agency (if meeting limited to items “directly related” to the facility)
 - Meet in an emergency situation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.5

SB 707 - New requirements for “eligible legislative bodies” (cont.)



- If two-way audiovisual platform provided, must publicly post and provide a call-in option, and activate “automatic captioning” if function is included in two-way audiovisual platform
- Bodies allowing for two-way telephonic service or two-way audiovisual platform must
 - Allow remote public comment, giving speakers the “same time allotment” as an in-person
 - Reasonably assist members of the public who wish to translate a public meeting into any language – could include
 - Arranging space for interpreters at meeting location
 - Allowing extra time for interpretation
 - Ensuring participants may utilize their personal equipment or “reasonably access” facilities for participants to access “commercially available” interpretation

SB 707 - New requirements for “eligible legislative bodies” (cont.)



- **Bodies must take the following actions to encourage residents to participate in public meetings** – includes residents in underrepresented communities and non-English speaking communities
 - Electronically accept requests for meeting agendas/documents through email or an integrated agenda management platform
 - Must post information on how to make request through a “prominent direct link” on primary homepage
 - Create and maintain webpage “dedicated to public meetings” that includes or links to:
 - General explanation of public meeting process for the body
 - Explanation of public comment procedures, as well as procedures to provide “written public comment”
 - Calendar of public meeting dates with “calendar listings” of date/time/location of meeting
 - Agenda posted online
 - Make reasonable efforts to invite groups “that do not traditionally participate in public meetings” to attend – statute gives bodies “broad discretion” in efforts made

SB 707 - New requirements for “eligible legislative bodies” (cont.)

- Meeting agenda and website translation requirements
 - Requirements
 - Must **translate meeting agendas into all “applicable languages”** and post such translation, with instructions on how to join remote meeting, including public comment instructions
 - Full agenda packet not required to be translated
 - “Applicable languages” – languages spoken jointly by 20% of population according to most recent American Community Survey, provided that 20% or more of the population speaks English less than “very well”



SB 707 - New requirements for “eligible legislative bodies” (cont.)

- Meeting agenda and website translation requirements (cont.)
 - Webpage encouraging residents to participate in public meetings (above) must be translated into all “applicable languages” and be posted through “prominent direct link” on body’s “primary internet website home page”
 - Digital translation services permissible
 - Body must make available a “**physical location** that is freely accessible to the public” which is “in reasonable proximity” where agenda and translations are posted to **allow members of the public to post additional translations of agenda**
 - Body not responsible for content/accuracy of public’s additional translations posted



SB 707 - Reorganized / recast teleconference rules – applicable to legislative bodies – Government Code Section 54953.8 (and subsections), sunsets January 1, 2030

- **New/revised requirements if body holds teleconference**
 - Must allow public to remotely hear and observe, and provide public comment by way of
 - Two-way audio-visual platform; or
 - Two-way telephonic service and live webcasting
 - If disruption that prevents (a) observation through call-in or internet service; or (b) public comment (if within agency's control), body prohibited from taking action on agenda items until service is restored
 - Must list in meeting minutes the identity of teleconferencing member of body and "specific provision of law" allowing teleconferencing
 - Teleconferencing member must publicly disclose
 - Whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are in the remote location room; and
 - Member's general relationship with those individuals

SB 707 - Reorganized / recast teleconferenc e rules – applicable to legislative bodies (cont.)

- Local agencies must **provide their bodies with a “list” of meeting locations** “available for use by the legislative bodies to conduct their meetings”
- **COVID-19-era teleconference rules revised** (Government Code Section 54953.8.3)
 - Quorum required in single physical location
 - Teleconferencing member must
 - Notify of need to participate by “**just cause**” (seven categories in definition) – no vote required
 - Participate through both audio and video
 - Annual limits on teleconferencing
 - Two meetings – if body regularly meets monthly or less
 - Five meetings – if body regularly meets twice per month
 - Seven meetings – if body regularly meets three or more times per month



SB 707 - Reorganized / recast teleconference rules – applicable to legislative bodies (cont.)

- **Teleconference meeting requirements for “eligible subsidiary bodies”**
 - Definition of “eligible subsidiary body”
 - Exclusively advisory
 - No final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, license, permits, or any other entitlements, grants, or allocation of funds
 - No primary jurisdiction that focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, public library material access, or taxes/related spending proposals



SB 707 -
Reorganized /
recast
teleconference
rules –
applicable to
legislative
bodies (cont.)

- **Teleconference meeting requirements for “eligible subsidiary bodies” (cont.)**
 - Teleconference meetings permitted where
 - Legislative body that established the “eligible subsidiary body” makes certain findings to allow the eligible subsidiary body to teleconference – and make findings every six months thereafter
 - Legislative body that established eligible subsidiary body may prohibit teleconferencing at any time
 - Physical meeting location where (a) members not remote are present; (b) public can attend; and (c) at least one staff present
 - Meeting agenda posted at physical meeting location
 - Teleconferencing members must be on camera, unless need to participate off camera due to physical or mental condition not covered by ADA reasonable accommodation
 - If teleconferencing member has lack of reliable broadband or internet, may join without video if it would remedy issue
 - Announce reason for lack of video before turning off

SB 707 - Reorganized / recast teleconference rules – applicable to legislative bodies (cont.)



- **Other bodies that may conduct teleconferenced meetings** (following certain requirements)
 - Health authorities
 - Eligible neighborhood councils (Los Angeles neighborhood councils)
 - Eligible community college student organizations
 - Eligible multijurisdictional bodies (multijurisdictional boards, including Joint Powers Authorities - only if members drive 20+ miles one-way to meetings)

SB 707 - “Committee exception” to public comment requirement

- Existing law - body not required to allow for public comment on regular meeting agenda item if item was previously considered by a committee, and item has not “substantially changed”
- Adds requirement that **quorum of committee members had to have participated from a singular meeting location** at the





Considerations for 2026 (1 of 2)

- **Before January 1, 2026**
 - Provide a **copy of the Brown Act** to members of city-created legislative bodies
 - Provide bodies with a “**list**” of **meeting locations** “available for use by the legislative bodies to conduct their meetings”
 - **Evaluate staffing and technology resources** to confirm compliance with legal requirements
 - **For “eligible subsidiary bodies”** that could/should teleconference their meetings, **ensure “formal action” is taken** and calendar six-month come-ups to renew the action



Considerations for 2026 (2 of 2)

- **Before July 1, 2026** – for “eligible legislative bodies” (City Councils in cities, if population threshold met)
 - Offer observation of/public comment at meeting through **two-way telephone service or two-way audio-visual service**
 - **Outreach** to encourage participation in public meetings
 - **Webpage development** that explains public meeting process and public comment procedures (translated in “all applicable languages”)
 - Post **agendas translated** in “all applicable languages”
 - **Identify “physical location”** for agenda translations
 - **Adopt disruption policy** re: connectivity issues

THANKS