

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL

March 19, 2024

Suspension of Board Policy 3.055 to Allow for a Thorough Review of Any Changes for Hosting Agenda and Policy Committee Meetings (also known as Cluster Meetings)

In response to Governor Newsom’s announcement to end the State’s COVID-19 emergency declaration effective February 28, 2023, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) passed a motion on February 7, 2023,¹ to suspend the application of the Board Policy 3.055 (Policy) until June 30, 2023. This suspension was to continue to maintain public participation and staff efficiency realized through the virtual meeting environment, while ensuring the same or greater level of public access and transparency. The motion also directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to work with County Counsel and the Executive Officer of the Board to evaluate amendments to the Policy to maintain public participation and staff efficiency realized through the virtual meeting environment, while ensuring the same or greater level of public access and transparency.

On June 27, 2023,² and August 8, 2023,³ the Board approved motions to further extend the suspension of the application of the Policy to provide time to analyze and review the Policy’s original intent and recommendations for revisions. After reviewing the

¹ <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/177545.pdf>

² <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/182208.pdf>

³ <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/dfb55c30-203b-419c-9a9a-d4d2c7e6b330.pdf>

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Policy and recommended revisions, it is clear the County needs options to utilize virtual and hybrid tools to allow the public to access public meetings. This Policy was introduced and approved almost twenty-two years ago in April 2002. The County changed its administrative organization in 2007 and 2015, and there have been many organizational changes and technological advancements that need to be addressed and incorporated.

On March 6, 2024, the CEO provided their report back to the Board,⁴ which included recommended revisions to the Policy. The revised Policy has not been vetted through the standard process of reviewing changes to Board policy, such as review by the Audit Committee. Thorough review of any changes to the Policy should be completed before approving a revised Board Policy to avoid unintended consequences that could disrupt the public meetings.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Suspend Board Policy 3.055 until the Board takes action to approve a revised policy.
2. Direct the Chief Executive Officer to present a revised Board Policy 3.055 to the Audit Committee for review and consideration.

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⁴ <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/183231.pdf>