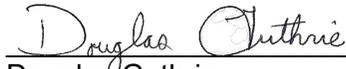


**RESOLUTION MAKING FINDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION  
54953(e) AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas Guthrie  
President & Chief Executive Officer



\_\_\_\_\_  
James Johnson  
General Counsel

**Purpose:** To adopt a Resolution which will enable the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (“Board”) to comply with the requirements of AB 361 and authorize the continued use of teleconferencing for meetings of the Board.

**Issues:** On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (“AB 361”), which adds Government Code section 54953(e) to the Brown Act and provides for remote teleconferencing subject to the existence of certain conditions.

AB 361 amended Government Code section 54953 to add new subsection (e) that permits legislative bodies, when there is a state of emergency declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, to make a determination to authorize meeting remotely via teleconferencing as a result of the emergency. To do so, a resolution would need to be adopted in which the legislative body finds that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, or that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing. The aforementioned procedures for teleconference meetings set forth in Government Code section 54953(e) (AB 361) are set to expire on January 1, 2024.

The proposed Resolution includes findings based upon a determination that, as a result of the proclaimed state of emergency in California due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its continued spread in Los Angeles County and the City of Los Angeles, County health officials continue to recommend social distancing to reduce the transmission of Covid-19.

The Board has effectively and efficiently conducted its meetings by teleconference since March 2020. Adoption of the Resolution will satisfy the findings requirements of Government Code Section 54953(e) and allow the Board to safely continue carrying out its business in a manner that will minimize the risk of contracting COVID-19 for everyone involved.

Board adoption of the Resolution would permit meeting under the provisions of AB 361 for a maximum period of 30 days. After 30 days, the Board would need to renew its resolution, consistent with the requirements of AB 361, if HACLA desires to continue meeting under the modified Brown Act requirements, or allow the resolution to lapse.

**Vision Plan: Pathways Strategy #5 – Organizational Efficiency; People Strategy – Community Health & Wellness and Public Safety**

Adopting this Resolution authorizing remote meetings pursuant to AB 361 is consistent with the Vision Plan's strategies to engage residents and program participants in HACLA's programs while protecting public health.

**Funding:** No funds are required for this action.

**Environmental Review:** Not applicable.

**Section 3:** Not applicable.

**Attachments:**

1. Resolution
2. LACDPH Publication: "Covid 19: Reducing Risk[,] Keeping Safe & Reducing Spread"

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION MAKING FINDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(e) AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

**WHEREAS**, the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (“HACLA”) is a public body, corporate and politic, duly created, established, and authorized to transact business and exercise powers under and pursuant to the provisions of the Housing Authorities Law, Section 34200, et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code;

**WHEREAS**, HACLA is committed to preserving and encouraging public access and participation in meetings of its Board of Commissioners (“Board”);

**WHEREAS**, all meetings of HACLA’s Board are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code sections 54950, et seq.) (the “Brown Act”), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the Board conduct its business;

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (“AB 361”), which added subsection (e) to Government Code section 54953 of the Brown Act, and makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions;

**WHEREAS**, it is required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees;

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency exists in California as a result of the threat of the COVID-19 virus, and despite sustained efforts, the virus continues to spread and is impacting nearly all sectors of California;

**WHEREAS**, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health Officer has issued numerous recommendations advising residents to social distance to reduce their risk of contracting or spreading Covid-19, such as in their publication entitled “Covid 19: Reducing Risk[,] Keeping Safe & Reducing Spread”;

**WHEREAS**, as a consequence of the state of emergency and social distancing recommendations, the Board does hereby find that it may conduct its meetings as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, and that HACLA shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to such meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board will continue to post meeting agendas online in accordance with Brown Act requirements, make the meetings available online, and allow for public participation in the Board meetings, including by offering public comment in real time at the Board meetings.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board does hereby resolve as follows:

**Section 1. Recitals.** The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

**Section 2. State of Emergency.** The Board hereby finds that the Governor of the State of California (the “Governor”) proclaimed a state of emergency on March 4, 2020 related to the Covid-19 pandemic, and that this state of emergency is ongoing until terminated by the Governor.

**Section 3. Protecting Public Health.** The Board hereby finds that the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing to reduce the risk of transmission of Covid-19.

**Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings.** The President and Chief Executive Officer is hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution, including conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) (AB 361) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

**Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

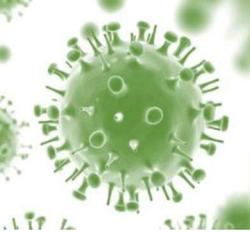
APPROVED AS TO FORM

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
James Johnson, General Counsel

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cielo Castro, Chairperson

DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_



# COVID-19: Reducing Risk

## Keeping Safe & Preventing Spread

The following information is to help people understand who is most at risk of getting infected and sick from COVID-19 and which situations are riskier. It outlines what steps people can take to stay safe and slow the spread of COVID-19.

To see what the current LA County community COVID-19 level is click [here](#).

### WHO IS MOST AT RISK?

People who are not vaccinated are at the highest risk of getting infected with COVID-19. Unvaccinated adults who are older or who have [certain medical conditions](#) are at highest risk of severe COVID-19 disease. In addition, some people with [severely weakened immune systems](#) can get very sick from COVID-19 even if they are vaccinated.

Most people who are fully vaccinated are well protected from getting very sick and dying from COVID-19. [Booster doses](#) provide added protection. When vaccinated people get infected with COVID-19, they usually get mild symptoms, if any. But they can still spread the virus to other people.

### WHICH SITUATIONS ARE RISKIER?

Understanding how the COVID-19 virus is spread is important. It will help you to assess your risk and take steps to protect yourself in different situations.

The virus spreads from person to person mainly through respiratory droplets that are released into the air by a person who has COVID-19. For example, when they speak, sing, cough, shout, sneeze, or breathe heavily. These droplets are then breathed in by other people or land on their eyes, nose, or mouth. A person's risk of getting infected goes up the closer they are to someone with COVID-19. Enclosed places with poor air flow can also increase the risk of getting infected. This is because the droplets that have the virus can concentrate and spread in the air past 6 feet. They can even stay floating in the air after an infected person has left the room.



This is why masks are important. They lower the number of respiratory droplets people release into the air AND also the number that they breathe in.

It is also possible, but less common, for the virus to spread by touching a surface with droplets on it and then touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.

Knowing the level of spread in your area can help you decide what protective measures to take. Everyone needs to take extra precautions when the risk is high. When the risk is low, you can make decisions based on personal preference and comfort level. You should also consider your own level of risk and the level of risk to others in your household or workplace. Consider the following:

- Do you live with others who have a health condition that puts them at higher risk for severe illness from COVID?

- Do you live with anyone who is unvaccinated? This includes young children who are not yet eligible for vaccines.
- Does anyone in your home work in a setting with vulnerable people who are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID?

To learn about the current situation in LA County, see [COVID-19 community risk level](#).

### There are certain places where COVID-19 spreads more easily

- **Closed spaces** with poor air flow.
- **Crowded places** with many people nearby
- **Close contact settings** especially where people are talking (or breathing heavily) close together

## HOW TO REDUCE THE RISK OF COVID-19

- **Get vaccinated and get a booster when you are eligible.** It is the best way to protect against COVID-19 (see [Vaccination](#) below).
- **Wear a mask that fits and filters well.** See [ph.lacounty.gov/masks](https://ph.lacounty.gov/masks) for more information on the types of masks and mask wearing rules and recommendations in Los Angeles County. If you are at [high risk for severe disease](#) or if you are around people who are at high risk, it is very important to wear a highly effective mask indoors and in crowded outdoor places. Children under the age of 2 should not wear a mask.
- **Get medicine to prevent COVID-19.** If you cannot receive a COVID-19 vaccine for medical reasons or your immune system is not strong enough to mount a response to the vaccine, talk to your doctor about treatment to help prevent you from getting COVID-19. See [ph.lacounty.gov/covidmedicines](https://ph.lacounty.gov/covidmedicines) for more information.
- **Avoid crowded places.** Being in crowds, especially indoors, puts you at a higher risk. If you need to be indoors, try to go during non-peak hours and wear a more protective mask. Limit how long you are there.
- **Improve air flow.** Go outside. Avoid indoor spaces with poor air flow as much as possible. Open windows and doors, use fans and portable air cleaners, run heating and air, and upgrade filters. (See CDC [Improving Ventilation in Your Home](#).)
- **Choose outdoor spaces** for social and fitness activities.
- **Get a COVID-19 viral test** before gathering indoors with others who are not in your household. This is most important if you will be with people who are at high risk of severe illness, especially if you are not fully vaccinated and boosted or have been in crowded indoor places in the past two weeks. Visit [ph.lacounty.gov/covidtests](https://ph.lacounty.gov/covidtests) to learn more about when to get a test.
- **Keep your distance.** Use two arms lengths as your guide (about 6 feet) for social distancing with people outside your household when you are not sure that they are vaccinated.
- **Socialize with the same set of friends and relatives** rather than mixing with many different people who are not vaccinated.



- **Be flexible.** Be willing to change your plans or leave if you find yourself in a place where COVID-19 can spread more easily. For example, indoors in a loud crowded restaurant with a lot of people who are not wearing masks.
- **Wash your hands and/or use hand sanitizer often** - especially after being in public spaces where surfaces are touched by many people. Avoid eating and touching your face with unwashed hands.
- **Stay home when sick.** If you have symptoms<sup>1</sup> of COVID-19, talk to a doctor, and get a test. You should stay home and away from others until you get the result of your COVID-19 test or until your provider tells you that you don't have COVID-19. **Contact a doctor right away** if you are at high risk of getting very sick from COVID-19 and you test positive, even if your symptoms are mild. You may be eligible for [medicines](#) that help keep people with COVID-19 out of the hospital. Don't delay: the medicines work best when they are given as soon as possible after symptoms start. To learn about symptoms and what to do if you are sick see [ph.lacounty.gov/covidcare](http://ph.lacounty.gov/covidcare).
- **Delay travel until you and the people you are traveling with are fully vaccinated and have received their booster, if eligible.** Be sure to review and follow the CDC [domestic](#) and [international](#) travel guidance. See [LAC DPH Travel Advisory and Guidance](#) for more information.



## VACCINATION

Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID-19. It will slow the spread of COVID-19 including variants of the virus.



- If you are already vaccinated, encourage your family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors to get vaccinated. This includes recommended additional doses or booster doses. See [COVID-19 Vaccine Schedules](#).
- If you are not yet fully vaccinated, consider getting vaccinated now. Vaccines are safe, effective, and free to everyone regardless of immigration status. Talk with your doctor about any concerns.

Vaccines are widely available across LA without an appointment. Visit [www.VaccinateLACounty.com](http://www.VaccinateLACounty.com) to find a location near you. Call 1-833-540-0473 if you need help making an appointment, need transportation to a vaccination site, or are homebound. Phone lines are open from 8am to 8:30pm 7 days a week. Information is also available in many languages 24/7 by calling 2-1-1.

<sup>1</sup> Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after being exposed to the virus and may include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell, fatigue, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. This list does not include all possible symptoms of COVID-19. Some people with COVID-19 never get symptoms. Visit [ph.lacounty.gov/covidcare](http://ph.lacounty.gov/covidcare) to learn more about what to do if you are sick.