

County Connection

To: Board of Directors

Date: January 15, 2026

From: Bill Churchill, General Manager

SUBJECT: Approve Allowing Advisory Committee to Meet Remotely Pursuant to Senate Bill 707

Background:

The Brown Act, codified at California Government Code section 54950 et seq., requires meetings of local legislative bodies to be open and accessible to the public. Rules cover everything from the contents, publication and posting of meeting notices and agendas; to the timing and structure of public comment; to the use of teleconferencing by local legislators.

The law has been modified via a string of executive orders and bills (including but not limited to Assembly Bill (AB) 361, SB 2449 and SB 707) over the past six years, initially to address pandemic-related needs for remote meetings.

On October 3, 2025, Governor Newsom signed SB 707 into law, which among other changes, amended the Brown Act to allow certain advisory committees defined as "eligible subsidiary bodies" to participate fully remotely.

Based on definitions set forth in SB 707, Legal Counsel advises that the Advisory Committee (AC) qualifies as an "eligible subsidiary body." As required by SB 707, before the AC could begin meeting remotely, the Board would need to adopt a resolution making findings that (1) the Board has considered the circumstances of the AC; (2) the public has been made aware of the type of remote participation being contemplated and has been provided with an opportunity to comment at this in-person meeting of the Board; and (3) fully remote, teleconference meetings of the AC will improve the attraction, retention, and diversity of AC members. The findings expressed in the attached resolution, which would need to be adopted again every six months, reflect that:

1. Staff has reviewed the operational needs of the AC, which consist of volunteers who represent a broad geographic area. Requiring (a) in-person attendance, (b) limiting the frequency and reasons for remote participation, or (c) public disclosure of and access to private residences as required under the Brown Act's traditional teleconference rules, are likely to (i) be a continuing barrier to service and (ii) hinder the AC's ability to attract a quorum for every scheduled meeting.
2. Through the publication of this report and this public meeting, (a) the public has been notified that remote participation for this body will be provided through two-way audio-video Zoom

teleconferencing, and (b) the public is being provided the opportunity to comment on the use of remote meeting technology.

3. Allowing remote participation will directly enhance CCCTA's ability to recruit and retain a diverse membership for the AC. Use of remote meetings would remove barriers for individuals with disabilities, those with caregiving responsibilities, and those with jobs and other schedule limitations or lack of predictability.

If the Board adopts these findings, the AC may then vote to authorize remote meetings. Thereafter, AC members may participate from remote locations for any or no stated reason, and without posting their addresses or opening their locations to the public. They would, however, need to appear on camera during the entire open portion of each meeting and only shut off their cameras if they are having connectivity problems (or if needed as a reasonable accommodation for a disability). CCCTA still would be required to provide a staffed, publicly accessible physical location for each meeting.

Financial Implications:

None.

Action Requested:

Staff requests and recommends that the Board of Directors consider adopting a resolution authorizing the Advisory Committee to meet remotely under new procedures created by SB 707 for six months, with the understanding that similar resolutions would be required every six months hereafter to facilitate continuation of remote meetings.

Attachments:

Resolution No. 2026-19

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-19

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS, CENTRAL CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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**APPROVE ALLOWING THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO MEET REMOTELY
PURSUANT TO SENATE BILL 707**

WHEREAS, the County of Contra Costa and the Cities of Clayton, Concord, the Town of Danville, Lafayette, Martinez, the Town of Moraga, Orinda, Pleasant Hill, San Ramon and Walnut Creek (Member Jurisdictions) have formed the Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (CCCTA), a joint exercise of powers agency created under California Government Code Section 6500 et seq., for the joint exercise of certain powers to provide coordinated and integrated public transportation services within the area of its Member Jurisdictions and certain unincorporated portions of Contra Costa County;

WHEREAS, on October 3, 2025, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill 707 (SB 707), which amends the Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code 54950 et seq.);

WHEREAS, effective January 1, 2026, SB 707 permits certain advisory committees, designated as “eligible subsidiary bodies,” to hold remote meetings once (1) a board of directors has considered the circumstances of the committee; (2) the board of directors finds that teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body will improve the attraction, retention, and diversity of committee members; (3) the public has been made aware of the type of remote participation available and has been provided with an opportunity to comment at an in-person meeting of the board of directors concerning the transition to remote meetings; and (4) the eligible subsidiary body take subsequent action to approve their use of remote meetings;

WHEREAS, “eligible subsidiary bodies” are defined as committees that serve exclusively in an advisory capacity and are not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, permits, or any other entitlements, grants, or allocations of funds, nor have subject matter jurisdiction, as defined by charter, ordinance, resolution, or any formal action of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body, over elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, removal or restriction of materials in public libraries, or taxes or related spending proposals;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (Board) of CCCTA established the Advisory Committee (AC) to review, analyze, and advise the Board on issues and policies relating to fixed-route and paratransit service;

WHEREAS, the AC meets this definition of “eligible subsidiary bodies;”

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the circumstances of the AC and finds that allowing the AC to hold remote meetings via Zoom teleconferencing under SB 707 would promote the attraction, retention, and diversity of AC members;

WHEREAS, the public has been made aware of the types of remote participation being contemplated and has been provided with an opportunity to comment at an in-person meeting of the Board regarding the use of remote meetings;

WHEREAS, the Board desires to authorize the AC to hold remote meetings, with the understanding that at least one staffed physical location will be made available to AC members and the members of the public who wish to attend in person, though there will be no need for a quorum of the committees to attend in person, publish their respective remote locations, or open such locations to the public;

WHEREAS, the Board further recognizes that any recommendations made by the AC during a remote meeting must be presented to the Board through an oral report at one meeting before the Board may take action on such recommendation at a subsequent meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Board understands that SB 707 limits the authority granted hereunder to be in effect for up to six months.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (Board) hereby authorizes the Advisory Committee to meet remotely as an eligible subsidiary body under Senate Bill 707; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution will be in effect for six months, and the Board directs staff to agendize reconsideration of the authority granted hereunder at the Board’s June 2026 meeting.

Regularly passed and adopted this 15th day of January, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Robert Storer, Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Lathina Hill, Clerk to the Board