

RESOLUTION NO. 6742

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING A NEW CITY COUNCIL POLICY ADDRESSING A DISRUPTION OF TELEPHONIC OR INTERNET SERVICE DURING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS (SB 707)

WHEREAS, On October 3, 2025, Governor Newsom signed into law Senate Bill 707 (SB 707), which amended the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code § 54950 et seq.) ("Brown Act") to expand public access and participation in local government meetings; and

WHEREAS, SB 707 amended the Brown Act to update teleconferencing and accessibility requirements, including provisions related to remote participation in public meetings; and

WHEREAS, 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 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; 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 meeting has been prepared in accordance with Government Code § 54953.4 and is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY FIND, DETERMINE, AND 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 Assistant 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. That this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption, and the Policy shall become operative on July 1, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution; shall cause the same to be entered among the original Resolutions of said City; and shall make a minute of the passage and adoption thereof in the records of the proceedings of the City Council of said City in the minutes of the meeting at which the same is passed and adopted.

Passed, approved, and adopted this 23rd day of June, 2026.



TASHA CERDA, Mayor

ATTEST:



MINA SEMENZA, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



CARMEN VASQUEZ, City Attorney



COUNCIL POLICY

SUBJECT: DISRUPTION OF TELEPHONIC OR INTERNET SERVICE DURING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Document: Resolution No. 6742	Revision:
Subject: Disruption of Telephonic or Internet Service During City Council Meetings	Effective Date: July 1, 2026
Author: Clint D. Osorio, City Manager	Reference No. 2026-02
Authorized by: Tasha Cerda, Mayor	

1.0 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.

2.0 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 Gardena City Council as required by the Brown Act (Gov. Code § 54953.4). The policy ensures transparency, public participation, and continuity of government during technology disruptions.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this policy:

- “Meeting” a meeting held by the City Council pursuant to the Brown Act.
- “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.



COUNCIL POLICY

SUBJECT: DISRUPTION OF TELEPHONIC OR INTERNET SERVICE DURING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

- “Remote access services” means the two-way telephonic service and/or two-way audiovisual platform used to provide real-time remote public attendance and observation of meetings.
- “Two-way Telephonic Service” a telephone-based service that allows members of the public to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate in a Meeting of the City Council without requiring internet access.

4.0 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. It does not apply to City Council-appointed boards and commissions.

5.0 PROCEDURE IN THE EVENT OF A SERVICE DISRUPTION

5.1 Response to Service Disruption

If the Presiding Officer or Clerk becomes aware of a disruption to the agency’s remote access services that prevents members of the public from attending or observing the meeting remotely:

1. The Presiding Officer or Clerk shall immediately announce the disruption to the public.
2. The Presiding Officer may then call for a recess of the open session or convene the legislative body in closed session, consistent with the Brown Act.
3. Staff shall begin efforts to diagnose and restore the disrupted service.
4. The meeting shall remain in recess for at least one hour or until service is restored, whichever is sooner. The recess period may be extended if restoration efforts are ongoing.

5.2 Efforts to Restore Service

The agency shall make good faith efforts to restore remote access services, which may include:

- Troubleshooting platform or teleconferencing software
- Resetting or replacing audiovisual equipment
- Attempting alternative connection methods



COUNCIL POLICY

SUBJECT: DISRUPTION OF TELEPHONIC OR INTERNET SERVICE DURING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Contacting necessary support staff or service providers
- Switching to back-up equipment or platforms, if available

The Assistant City Clerk, in consultation with staff or designated contractors from Technology Resources, shall document the restoration efforts undertaken.

6.0 **RECONVENING THE OPEN SESSION**

6.1 Timing

The open session may be reconvened after at least one hour has elapsed from the time of disruption or as soon as service is restored, whichever occurs earlier.

6.2 If Service is Restored

If the remote access service is restored before or at the time the meeting reconvenes, the meeting shall continue as normal.

6.3 If Service is ***NOT Restored***

If service has not been restored after one hour, the City Council may reconvene and:

1. Adjourn the meeting; or
2. Continue the meeting in open session by adopting, by roll call vote, the following, or a substantially similar, finding:

“The City Staff has made good faith efforts to restore telephonic or internet service in accordance with its adopted policy, and the public interest in continuing the meeting outweighs the public interest in remote public access.”

Upon adoption of the finding, the City Council may continue the open session despite the fact that remote access services have not been restored.

7.0 **RECORDKEEPING**

The Assistant City Clerk shall enter a brief statement into the meeting minutes, including the following:

- The nature and time of the disruption
- The restoration efforts undertaken
- The time the meeting was reconvened (if applicable)
- Any finding adopted pursuant to Section 6.3



COUNCIL POLICY

SUBJECT: DISRUPTION OF TELEPHONIC OR INTERNET SERVICE DURING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

8.0 NOTICE OF REMOTE ACCESS

For each Meeting subject to this Policy, the Assistant City Clerk shall ensure that the Meeting agenda clearly identifies:

- The available remote access options;
- Instructions for accessing the Meeting and providing public comment; and
- Contact information for reporting technical difficulties during the meeting

9.0 PUBLIC AVAILABILITY

This Policy shall be posted on the City of Gardena's meeting webpage. In addition, the Policy is available from the City Clerk's Office by emailing cityclerk.web@cityofgardena.org

10.0 REVIEW AND UPDATES

This Policy shall be reviewed periodically and updated as necessary to reflect changes in law, technology, or City procedures. It may be amended by the City Council at a noticed public meeting in open session, not on the consent calendar.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) SS:
CITY OF GARDENA)

I, **MINA SEMENZA**, City Clerk of the City of Gardena, do hereby certify that the whole number of members of the City Council of said City is five; that the foregoing Resolution, being **Resolution No. 6742** duly passed and adopted by the City Council of said City of Gardena, approved and signed by the Mayor of said City, and attested by the City Clerk, all at a regular meeting of said City Council held on the **23rd day of June 2026**, and that the same was so passed and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: MAYOR PRO TEM HENDERSON AND COUNCIL MEMBER TANAKA,
 MAYOR CERDA AND COUNCIL MEMBER FRANCIS

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER LOVE

for Becky Romero
City Clerk of the City of Gardena, California

(SEAL)