

Planning and Economic Development Commission Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Resolution of the PEDC re-authorizing the ability to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency

Commission Meeting Date: 12/8/2021

Prepared by: Sandra Moberly, Community and Economic Development Director

Recommended Motion: Staff recommends that the PEDC adopt the resolution allowing the Commission to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency.

Summary: The passage of AB 361 amended the Brown Act to allow local legislative bodies to meet by teleconference (virtually) and modified the conditions for virtual meetings. Government Code Section 54953(e) is the provision of the Brown Act establishing special rules that apply under specific circumstances to meetings of local government legislative bodies that are conducted remotely via teleconference. On November 10, 2021, the Planning and Economic Development Commission adopted a resolution finding that pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), the legislative bodies of the Town of Mammoth Lakes shall conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of Section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of Section 54953.

As a condition of extending the use of the provisions found in Section 54953(e), the Planning and Economic Development Commission must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency that exists in the Town of Mammoth Lakes and take affirmative action to continue to meet virtually. The declared state of emergency by the Governor and Mono County continues to exist. The Mono County Health Department continues to recommend the practice of social distancing. The amended Brown Act requires the Commission to review these conditions every 30 days and act on whether to continue virtual meetings. Finding that these conditions still exist, it is recommended the Commission adopt the provided resolution re-authorizing the Commission to meet virtually.