

RESOLUTION NO. OC SAN 22-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT AUTHORIZING
THE CONTINUATION OF REMOTE MEETINGS
PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 54953(e) allows a legislative body to hold remote meetings through teleconferencing without complying with the requirements of Government Code Section 54953(b)(3), subject to certain conditions and requirements; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency based on the threat of COVID-19 and its variants, and the State of Emergency remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, based on the threat of COVID-19 and its variants, the County of Orange recommends measures to promote social distancing for vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, in-person meetings of the Orange County Sanitation District's Governing Board and Committees involve relatively large numbers of attendees, as the Board has 25 members and OC San has a large staff; and

WHEREAS, the room in which Board and Committee meetings take place is not large enough to easily accommodate social distancing given the number of Board Members and staff that regularly attend; and

WHEREAS, while effective COVID-19 vaccines are widely available, many Orange County residents have not been vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, some individuals who contract COVID-19 and its variants have no symptoms or have only mild symptoms and are therefore unaware that they carry the virus and may be transmitting it to others; and

WHEREAS, older adults and individuals with medical conditions are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and its variants; and

WHEREAS, sustained COVID-19 and its variants community transmission continues to occur; and

WHEREAS, the age, condition, and health of a significant portion of residents within the Orange County Sanitation District's jurisdiction place them at risk for serious health complications, including hospitalization and death, from COVID-19 and its variants; and

WHEREAS, younger and otherwise healthy people are also at risk for serious health problems and may transmit COVID-19 and its variants to others; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Orange County Sanitation District finds that the conditions stated above have caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the Orange County Sanitation District that are likely beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the Orange County Sanitation District.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. The conditions described in Government Code Section 54953(e) are present, in that (a) the Governor has proclaimed a state of emergency and the County of Orange recommends social distancing for vulnerable populations, and (b) the Board of Directors has determined that meeting in person would present an imminent risk to the health of Board members, staff, and the public based on the circumstances described above.

Section 3. The Board of Directors and the Committees of the legislative body shall conduct its meetings as authorized by Government Code Section 54953(e) and comply with the requirements set forth therein.

Section 4. The General Manager of the Orange County Sanitation District is 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) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a Regular meeting of the Board of Directors held
August 24, 2022.

Chad P. Wanke
Board Chairman

ATTEST:

Kelly A. Lore, MMC
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Bradley R. Hogin
General Counsel

