

Discussion of Chat Functionality Concerns for Remote Commission Meetings

City Attorney's Office
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Citywide Consistency & Brown Act Concerns

- City Council, City Commissions and Boards follow consistent procedures so all may participate
- Brown Act requires deliberation in public
 - > Chat is not accessible for those attending via phone
 - > Comments/discussion in the chat function could be considered deliberation outside of the public purview



Brown Act Concerns

- Inability to make chats, as well as links to documents in the chat feature, immediately available to the public creates issues regarding compliance with legal requirements



Robert's Rules of Order

- Inability for Chair to allow those who have the floor to speak uninterrupted, consistent with Robert's Rules of Order



ADA & Unruh Civil Rights Act Concerns

- Unequal opportunity to participate for those with screen readers
 - > Screen readers read each chat message at the time the message appears in the chat box. When someone is speaking at the same time a chat message appears, screen reader users must listen to two voices at the same time, or forego one.