



COUNTY OF YOLO

Health and Human Services Agency

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Date: March 1, 2022

To: All Yolo County Boards and Commissions

From: Dr. Aimee Sisson, Health Officer

Subject: Remote Public Meetings

Since September 2021, I have issued monthly memoranda recommending remote meetings. The case rate in Yolo County has declined to 19 cases per 100,000 per day from a peak of 244 in January, but it continues to represent high community transmission. In the context of high community transmission, I recommend meetings continue to be held remotely whenever possible. I am re-issuing the earlier memorandum with updated COVID-19 case rate data.

In light of the ongoing public health emergency related to COVID-19 and the high level of community transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19, the Yolo County Public Health Officer recommends that public bodies continue to meet remotely to the extent possible. Board and Commissions can utilize the provisions of newly enacted AB 361 to maintain remote meetings under the Ralph M. Brown Act and similar laws.

Among other reasons, the grounds for the remote meeting recommendation include:

- The continued threat of COVID-19 to the community. As of March 1, 2022, the case rate is 19 cases per 100,000 residents per day. This case rate is considered “High” under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) framework for assessing community COVID-19 transmission; and
- The unique characteristics of public governmental meetings, including the increased mixing associated with bringing together people from across the community, the need to enable those who are immunocompromised or unvaccinated to be able to safely continue to fully participate in public governmental meetings, and the challenges of ensuring compliance with safety requirements and recommendations at such meetings.

Meetings that cannot feasibly be held virtually should be held outdoors when possible, or indoors only in small groups with face coverings, maximal physical distance between participants, use of a portable HEPA filter (unless comparable filtration is provided through facility HVAC systems), and shortened meeting times.

Davis

600 A Street
Davis, CA 95616
Mental Health (530) 757-5530

West Sacramento

500 Jefferson Boulevard
West Sacramento, CA 95605
Service Center (916) 375-6200
Mental Health (916) 375-6350
Public Health (916) 375-6380

Winters

111 East Grant Avenue
Winters, CA 95694
Service Center (530) 406-4444

Woodland

25 & 137 N. Cottonwood Street
Woodland, CA 95695
Service Center (530) 661-2750
Mental Health (530) 666-8630
Public Health (530) 666-8645

This recommendation is based upon current conditions. Given the ongoing decrease in case rates, with community transmission soon expected to drop below the threshold for high community transmission into substantial community transmission (<14 cases per 100,000 per day), this will likely be the final monthly memorandum recommending remote public meetings unless the COVID-19 situation unexpectedly worsens. Boards and Commissions should consider preparations for in-person or hybrid meetings beginning in April, except to the extent they may independently determine—as AB 361 allows—that meeting in person would present “imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.”