

COUNTY OF YOLO

Health and Human Services Agency

Karen Larsen, LMFT Director

MAILING ADDRESS

Aimee Sisson, MD, MPH **Health Officer**

137 N. Cottonwood Street • Woodland, CA 95695 www.yolocounty.org

Date: January 4, 2022

To: All Yolo County Boards and Commissions

From: Dr. Aimee Sisson, Health Officer

Subject: Remote Public Meetings

On September 22, October 20, and November 20, 2021, I issued memoranda recommending remote meetings. The case rate in Yolo County has increased significantly since the November 20 memorandum, and the current case rate represents high community transmission. In the context of high community transmission, I recommend meetings 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 January 4, 2022, the case rate is 32.3 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.

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

West Sacramento

500 Jefferson Boulevard West Sacramento, CA95605 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 and available protective measures. The Public Health Officer will continue to evaluate this recommendation on an ongoing basis and will communicate when there is no longer such a recommendation with respect to meetings for public bodies.