



Staff Report

July 5, 2022 Council Workshop Meeting

Camas Municipal Code Clean-Up for Remote Attendance

Presenter: Jennifer Gorsuch, Administrative Services Director

Time Estimate: 5 minutes

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SUMMARY: With the changes to the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) under ESHB 1329 now in effect, the Camas Municipal Code (CMC) needs to be changed to reflect the new law.

While under OPMA, meetings must have a physical location for the public to attend, the law now expressly allows members of a governing body to attend meetings remotely. A governing body as defined in the OPMA, is any multimember board, commission, committee, council, or other policy or rule-making body of a public agency. As such, these code changes apply to all the City's meeting bodies that meet these criteria. This will allow their members to participate remotely.

This change does not apply to attendance in Executive Sessions. Given the strict laws surrounding the confidentiality of Executive Sessions, the updates state that they be attended in person, while permitting remote participation on a case-by-case basis. The remote participation is allowable only if City Council considers a member's participation necessary and is confident in the security of that member's remote communication.

EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS:

What are the desired results and outcomes for this agenda item? *Changes to the CMC to reflect OPMA changes to be approved by Council at a future meeting.*

What's the data? What does the data tell us? *N/A*

How have communities been engaged? Are there opportunities to expand engagement? *N/A.*

Who will benefit from, or be burdened by this agenda item? *Members of the public and the City's governing bodies will benefit from this item.*

What are the strategies to mitigate any unintended consequences? *N/A.*

Does this agenda item have a differential impact on underserved populations, people living with disabilities, and/or communities of color? Please provide available data to illustrate this impact. *N/A.*

Will this agenda item improve ADA accessibilities for people with disabilities? *Yes, should any members have accessibility issues, remote attendance can accommodate their participation.*

What potential hurdles exists in implementing this proposal (include both operational and political)? *N/A.*

How will you ensure accountabilities, communicate, and evaluate results? *Staff will continue to follow state guidelines surrounding the OPMA.*

How does this item support a comprehensive plan goal, policy or other adopted resolution? *N/A.*

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends placing these ordinances on the July 18, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda for Council's consideration.