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## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** November 17, 2022  
**To:** City Council  
**From:** Planning and Zoning Commission  
**Re:** Recommending Proposed Remote Meeting Code Changes

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The Fort Collins Planning and Zoning Commission would like to offer support for a City Ordinance that would allow for remote participation by the public and applicant teams in quasi-judicial proceedings.

We believe that the experience since spring of 2020 has shown the benefits of remote participation in public hearings. At the Commission's November Work Session, the Commission discussed the following points:

1. **Allowing remote participation by Commission members.** There was not consensus on this point among the commission members.
2. **Allowing remote participation by members of the public.** Our observation is that this has opened up opportunities for members of the public to provide comment who wouldn't/couldn't otherwise.
3. **Allowing remote participation by applicant team members.** Our observation is that we are more likely to get all of the specialist professionals who worked on the plan to be available for Commission questions if they can participate remotely. For some Commissions this has also made it easier to get projects scheduled for hearings.
4. **Staff should continue to provide technical support for members of the public who are participating remotely.**

For these reasons the Commission supports an ordinance that allows for remote participation by members of the public and the applicant team.