



Memorandum

Date: June 9, 2021

To: Civil Service Commission

From: Christina Pizarro Winting, Executive Director

Subject: Repopulation of City Facilities

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At the Civil Service Commission meeting of March 4, 2020, the Commission was provided an update on the activation of the Emergency Communication and Operation Center because of the emergency declared by the County of Los Angeles due to the corona virus. On March 12, 2020 Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20 proclaiming a State of Emergency because of the threat of the corona virus, that was now being referred to as COVID-19. The issuance of this order impacted the Civil Service Commission directly, as the order limited access to public assemblies.

On March 17, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-29-20 which further detailed the teleconferencing procedures of public meetings. With the order in place the Civil Service Commission began conducting their Civil Service Commission meetings via teleconference beginning with the March 18, 2020 meeting. At the April 1, 2020 meeting, Commissioners discussed the possibility of also conducting disciplinary hearings via teleconference and asked the Special Projects Committee to explore the possibility of virtual disciplinary hearings. The Special Projects committee proceeded to create a procedure to conduct virtual hearings and held mock hearings to test technical capabilities. Staff is currently in the meet and confer process with impacted associations.

During the past 15 months, the Civil Service Commission has continued to carry out the business of the Commission as defined in the City Charter and the Civil Service Rules and Regulations during the declared pandemic, meeting weekly for most of the time to meet the ever-changing staffing needs of the City. As conditions have begun to improve and with the implementation of several vaccines, Governor Newsom has stated that the State will fully open the economy on June 15, 2021 if hospitalization rates remain low and vaccinations are available to individuals 16 years and older.



In preparation for the reopening of the State, City Manager Tom Modica notified City employees on April 26, 2021 that the City was gearing up for a phased implementation of the repopulation of City Hall and other City facilities. Locally, the number of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations continued to drop, and vaccination rates have steadily increased. In a communication to City employees on June 1, 2021, Mr. Modica stated that for the City to be in alignment with the state's reopening date, the City will begin to have employees return to City facilities starting June 21, 2021.

Additional information for your consideration is that City Council will be returning to Civic Chambers to conduct live meetings June, with only City staff in attendance. Beginning with the July meetings, the public will also be allowed to join the staff and City Council in the live meetings in Civic Chambers. With this development, all Boards and Commissions are being advised that they too will be able to conduct live meetings in July.

The City is still in the process of developing repopulation safety protocols and once those protocols have been developed staff will share them with the Commission.

In conclusion, staff suggests that the Civil Service Commission begin planning for the repopulation of City Hall to coincide with the anticipated July 2021 date where meetings will be open to the public and in line with other City Boards and Commissions.



