



**CITY OF
OAKLAND**

PLANNING COMMISSION BYLAWS

Presented to the Planning Commission on May 15, 2024

PLANNING COMMISSION BYLAWS

Why are they needed?

- Planning Commission and related committees have been operating informally under Rosenberg's Rules of Order, but without formal bylaws for many years
- Since the Covid-19 pandemic, new technologies exist for remote or hybrid participation. But the City's Boards & Commission bylaws do not yet clarify how they may be used
- Commissioner roles and responsibilities, and public participation procedures need further clarification

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What do they seek to do?

1. Establish an updated framework for conducting business and decision-making by the Planning Commission;
2. Clarify roles and responsibilities of Commissioners and support staff;
3. Clarify processes and procedures for hosting hybrid meetings; and
4. Clarify processes and procedures for public comment and participation at Planning Commission meetings

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What key principles are being affirmed?

1. Commissioners (under *very* limited circumstances) and members of the general public may participate in hybrid hearings, in keeping with State law.
2. Remote attendees at hybrid meetings must be able to participate *in an equal manner* as those in-person. For example, functionally comparable means of making public comments and viewing meetings must be made available.
3. Speaker time shall be consistently and uniformly applied throughout meetings in accordance with the Brown Act.