



Department Source: Law

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: November 1, 2021

Re: Authorizing a Virtual Meeting Trial Program for Three Advisory Boards and Commissions

## Executive Summary

An ordinance has been prepared to authorize virtual meetings for three (3) designated boards and commissions for a six (6) month trial period

## Discussion

On June 21, 2021, City Council expressed interest in a six month trial program of virtual meetings for three (3) boards and commissions and requested the Disabilities Commission to make recommendations with regard to the three (3) Boards and Commission.

The Disabilities Commission recommends the following: Broadband Task Force, Disabilities Commission, Youth Advisory Council.

In making its recommendation, the Commission considered boards and commissions who were advisory with no quasi-judicial functions, as well as willingness to participate in the trial program. All recommended commissions have agreed to take part in a trial program.

The proposed terms of the virtual meeting ordinance are consistent with recommendations of the Disabilities Commission: (a) virtual attendees count towards a quorum and retain all rights to vote; (b) the chair and staff member must be physically present in the meeting space; (c) virtual public participation is allowed; (d) all members must keep their cameras on and have the ability to communicate; (e) chat box comments will be disabled; (f) members must request virtual participation before the meeting starts; (g) virtual attendance is not intended merely for convenience, but to be used to increase accessibility.

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Not applicable.

Long-Term Impact: Not applicable.

## Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

### [Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Inclusive Community, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

### [Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Mobility, Connectivity, and Accessibility, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable



# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

## Legislative History

Date	Action
06/21/2021	Report to Council from the Disabilities Commission: Virtual Meeting Policy and Accessibility. City Council approved a motion to try virtual meetings with three boards and commissions, and for the Disabilities Commission to provide recommendations with regard to the three boards and commissions.

## Suggested Council Action

Approval of the ordinance.