

Introduced by _____

First Reading _____

Second Reading _____

Ordinance No. _____

Council Bill No. B 196-22

AN ORDINANCE

amending Ordinance No. 024848 to establish a program for virtual meetings and virtual public participation for certain designated advisory boards and commissions; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective and when this ordinance shall expire.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 024848 authorized a trial program for virtual meetings and virtual public participation for certain designated advisory boards and commissions until June 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to continue the program to allow virtual meetings and virtual public participation for the Disabilities Commission and Youth Advisory Council indefinitely.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Ordinance No. 024848 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Material to be deleted in ~~strikeout~~; material to be added underlined.

~~“authorizing a trial program for virtual meetings and virtual public participation for certain designated advisory boards and commissions; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective and when this ordinance shall expire.~~

SECTION 1. **Definitions.** For the purpose of this ordinance, the following words and terms are defined to mean the following:

“Eligible Board” shall mean the following named City advisory boards or any subcommittee thereof: ~~Broadband Business Planning Task Force,~~ Disabilities Commission, and Youth Advisory Council.

“Qualifying Participant” shall mean an individual who is reasonably prevented from attending an Eligible Board’s meeting in-person. For purposes of this definition, an individual may be reasonably prevented for reasons including, but not necessarily limited to, difficulties related to a

disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, health-related concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic, transportation issues or lack of available child care. It is the intent of the City that virtual participation is not for mere convenience; rather, it is to increase accessibility of the meetings for individuals deterred from in-person attendance for difficulties outside of the reasonable control of such individual.

“Virtual Meeting” shall mean a public meeting of an Eligible Board in which a quorum of the Eligible Board is attending the meeting utilizing the Virtual Meeting Platform.

“Virtual Meeting Platform” shall mean the video application or software, being utilized by the City at the time of the meeting, to conduct the Virtual Meeting and allow for Virtual Public Participation.

“Virtual Public Participation” shall mean virtual attendance at a meeting of an Eligible Board by a Qualifying Participant using the Virtual Meeting Platform.”

. . .

“SECTION 6. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage ~~and shall expire on June 30, 2022.~~”

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2022.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor