



STUDY SESSION: CITY COUNCIL ROLES AND NEW LAWS & ELECTIONS UPDATE

January 25, 2024

Get Started





The Brown Act & Remote Participation

Assembly Bill 2449

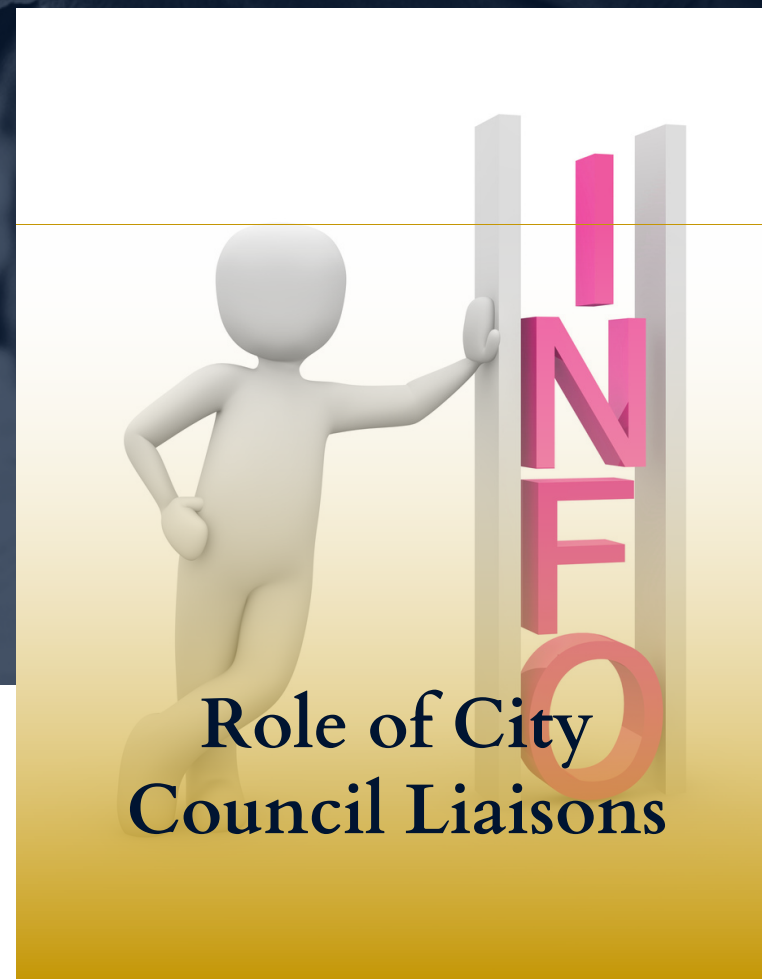
- Sunsets January 2026

Assembly Bill 557

- No Sunset Date

- AB 2449 allows individual members to remote participation for Just Cause and Emergency Circumstances. Cannot exceed 3 consecutive months or 20% of regular meetings.
- AB 557 provides for a legislative body to meet remotely during a proclaimed state of emergency to determine whether meeting in person would present imminent risks to health and safety. Finding must be renewed every 45 days.

Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces



Palm Desert Municipal Code 2.34.060: City council liaisons facilitate communication between the city council and appointed bodies. A city council liaison is not a member nor advocate of the appointed body and does not give direction or influence decisions but can assist and provide information.

Ballot Designations

Elections Code 13107(a)(1): Words designating the elective city office which the candidate holds at the time of filing the nomination documents to which the candidate was elected by vote of the people

Mayor & Mayor Pro Tem

- Can not be used as a ballot designation.
- These titles can be used in the candidate statement.

Council Member/Incumbent

- Councilmember is an acceptable ballot designation
- Incumbent may not be used for district-based elections, unless the member was directly elected from that district.

Senate Bill 1439: Amendments to the Levine Act

- Local officials must recuse themselves from most license, permit, contract, or other entitlement decisions involving a person who contributed more than \$250 to their political campaigns within 12 months before the decision, unless they comply with specific disclosure and refund requirements.
- Local officials are prohibited from accepting, soliciting, or directing campaign contributions over \$250 from a party or participant involved in a pending proceeding to any political campaign committee - their own or others. This prohibition lasts 12 months after a final decision.

