

DATE: July 14, 2021

ISSUE SUMMARY: ARC Board Meeting Protocols

FROM: Kerry Armstrong, Governance Committee

IMPORTANCE:

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, ARC closed its offices to in person operations on March 13, 2020. In preparation for reopening, ARC leadership and staff developed an Office Reintegration Plan to guide protocols for that process. A draft of that document was presented to the ARC Board as an information item on June 24, 2020. With the changes in information and medical advancements regarding the pandemic making reopening imminent, ARC staff updated that document and have recently finalized it. Included in the document are protocols for in-person Board meetings to ensure the safety of our Board Members, and the staff involved in facilitating those meetings. Staff are presenting the protocols to the Board to adopt governing its operations.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Adopt recommended meeting protocols.



A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION'S BOARD MEETING PROTOCOLS

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission is a Metropolitan Area Planning and Development Commission created pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-8-80, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. § 50-8-98 authorizes such a commission to adopt rules and regulations concerning all aspects of its functions and operations; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission closed its offices to in person operations due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, effective March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission is planning to reopen for in person operations in the near future due to changing circumstances; and

WHEREAS, in preparation for reopening the office, ARC Staff have developed the ARC Office Reintegration Plan;

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission Board is subject to the Georgia Open Meetings requirements of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Regional Commission Board has been meeting virtually since March 13, 2020, as necessitated by emergency conditions, and authorized by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 (g); and

WHEREAS, the ARC Office Reintegration Plan established safety standards for in person operations, including in-person Board Meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlanta Regional Commission Board adopts the following Board Meeting Protocols to preserve the health and safety of the ARC Board, staff, and members of the public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that vaccinations are strongly encouraged for all participants in ARC meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that masks must be worn at all ARC Board and Committee meetings, unless participants have provided proof of vaccination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in person attendance at meetings will be limited to Board and Committee members and essential staff, due to space limitations which will not allow for proper social distancing, and until such time as the Chair of the Board deems the meetings may be opened to in person attendance by the general public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that public comment will be heard virtually, with public access to the meeting simultaneously virtually provided until the Chair has opened meetings to in person attendance by the general public.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Atlanta Regional Commission on July 14, 2021.

Charissa White-Fulks, ARC Executive Assistant/Board Secretary