

## CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Ordinance amending Sections 3.55.030, 3.56.030, 3.61.030, 3.62.030, 3.63.030, and 3.64.030 of the Bellevue City Code to reinstate limitations on members of commissions and boards attending meetings remotely.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As directed by Council on March 21, this Ordinance reinstates, with more flexibility, limits in the Bellevue City Code on remote participation by advisory board and commission members.

## RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6659

## BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

On June 1, 2020, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 6516, amending the Bellevue City Code (BCC) to eliminate the restrictions that prevented all members of the Environmental Services Commission, Arts Commission, Human Services Commission, Parks and Community Services Board, Transportation Commission, and Planning Commission from participating remotely in board or commission meetings. This amendment was intended to be temporary, to allow the boards and commissions to meet fully remotely while in-person meetings were not available due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In-person attendance by board and commission members is now possible.

At its March 21 meeting, Council directed staff to bring back an Ordinance that provided consistency across all boards and commissions, but also provided more flexibility for remote participation as needed, not to exceed a maximum of three board or commission members attending remotely, per meeting.

The proposed Ordinance allows no more than three members of the boards and commissions to participate remotely at any meeting, expanding from the prior limit of two members. It also eliminates the previous code restriction that allowed members to participate remotely no more than four times a year.

As directed by Council, staff will bring these amendments back after one year, so Council may discuss how these new parameters for remote participation are working and whether Council wants to make any changes.

## **POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS**

### **Policy Impact**

RCW 35A.13.080 authorizes the Council to establish boards and commissions advisory to the council. The Council has established these boards and commissions in Chapters 3.55, 3.56, 3.61, 3.62, 3.63, and 3.64 of the Bellevue City Code.

RCW 42.30, Open Public Meetings Act, governs the way in which board and commission meetings are conducted.

### **Fiscal Impact**

There is no fiscal impact associated with implementing these changes.

## **OPTIONS**

1. Adopt the Ordinance amending Sections 3.55.030, 3.56.030, 3.61.030, 3.62.030, 3.63.030, and 3.64.030 of the Bellevue City Code to reinstate limitations on members of commissions and boards attending meetings remotely.
2. Do not adopt the Ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Proposed Ordinance No. 6659 redlined  
Proposed Ordinance No. 6659

## **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

N/A