

**RESOLUTION NO. -2020, ADOPTING LOCAL LAW
NO. -2020, A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS
FOR ADVISORY BODIES CONDUCTING MEETINGS USING
VIDEOCONFERENCING**

WHEREAS, there was duly presented and introduced to this County Legislature at a meeting held on _____, 2020, a proposed local law entitled, "**A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVISORY BODIES CONDUCTING MEETINGS USING VIDEOCONFERENCING**"; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that said local law be enacted in form as follows:

LOCAL LAW NO. -2020, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK

**A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVISORY
BODIES CONDUCTING MEETINGS USING VIDEOCONFERENCING**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF
SUFFOLK**, as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent.

This Legislature hereby finds and determines that Chapter 172 of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CODE requires that all County advisory bodies conduct meetings in compliance with Article 7 of Public Officers Law.

This Legislature further finds and determines that, due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, most advisory bodies are utilizing videoconferencing to safely continue their work.

This Legislature also finds and determines that when Chapter 172 was enacted in 2010, videoconferencing was not widely used to conduct meetings.

This Legislature finds that uniform regulations should be established to provide clarity on how advisory bodies conduct virtual meetings.

Therefore, the purpose of this law is to amend Chapter 172 of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CODE to ensure that advisory bodies comply with Article 7 of New York Public Officers Law when utilizing videoconferencing.

Section 2. Amendments.

Chapter 172 of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CODE is hereby amended as follows:

Chapter 172. Open Meetings

Article I. Advisory Bodies

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§ 172-3. Conduct of meetings and executive sessions.

- A. Advisory bodies shall comply with the open meeting and public notice requirements set forth in Article 7 of New York Public Officers Law.
- B. Advisory bodies may conduct executive sessions for the purposes set forth in § 105 of the New York Public Officers Law.
- C. Advisory bodies which use videoconferencing to conduct business shall utilize the videoconferencing platform and account information provided by the County. Advisory bodies shall confer with the department or office which provides support to the body prior to conducting a meeting through the use of videoconferencing. The supporting department or office shall, when possible, provide the advisory body with the videoconferencing platform and account information necessary to conduct the meeting. If the supporting department does not have videoconferencing capabilities, it shall request that the County Legislature provide the videoconferencing platform and account information for use by the advisory body. Such meetings shall take place under the supervision of the entity providing the videoconferencing platform and account information to ensure compliance with Article 7 of New York Public Officers Law.

Section 3. Applicability.

This law shall apply to the meetings of advisory bodies occurring on or after the effective date of this law.

Section 4. SEQRA Determination.

This Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this law constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(26), (27) and (33) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW in that the action constitutes routine or continuing administration and management not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment. The Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this law.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This law shall take effect immediately upon its filing in the Office of the Secretary of State.

[] Brackets denote deletion of existing language
 ___ Underlining denotes addition of new language

DATED:

APPROVED BY:

 County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: