

CITY OF ALAMEDA

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION BYLAWS

August 2023

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. These Bylaws shall be known as "Bylaws of the Transportation Commission, City of Alameda." A copy of these Bylaws and amendments thereto shall be filed in the City of Alameda (City) Planning, Building, and Transportation Department for examination by the public.
- B. These Bylaws, and any amendments thereto, shall be effective on the date of the adoption hereof and shall govern the conduct of the Transportation Commission (TC or Commission).
- C. These Bylaws may be amended hereafter by a majority vote of the Transportation Commission except for the rules of membership and purpose of the Commission, which require City Council action.

II. PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION

The purpose, scope, duties and authority of the Transportation Commission was approved by the City Council on April 16, 2002 and is described in Alameda Municipal Code section 2-16. Generally, the Commission shall advise the City Council on City transportation plans, policies, programs, and capital projects, and shall monitor implementation via staff reports on a regular basis, but no less frequently than twice per year. The TC shall review proposed plans and policies with the Planning Board, where appropriate, prior to making recommendations to the City Council. The Transportation Commission will serve as the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), for the purpose of meeting funding requirements and providing opportunities for public input on the bicycle and pedestrian programs and capital projects. The TC also arbitrates formal appeals of certain types of transportation decisions made by the Public Works Director, including those authorized under [Alameda Municipal Code Section 8-1.3 \[Appeal of Public Works Director Decisions\]](#).

In no event shall the authority of the Transportation Commission subvert, duplicate, or lessen the authority, duties, and responsibilities of existing City Committees, Commissions, Boards, or City Manager.

III. MEMBERSHIP

- A. Appointment. The Commission shall consist of seven (7) members nominated by the Mayor and appointed by the City Council. The voting members shall be selected to represent a diversity of transportation modes and be balanced between commuter, business, and recreational use. All voting members shall, at the time of

their appointment and continuously during their incumbency, either be residents of the City or employed by a business operating within the City. No more than two (2) non-resident members shall serve as voting members at the same time. In addition to these seven (7) voting members, AC Transit, WETA, and BART may each appoint one representative to be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Commission.

- B. Term of Office. Appointed members shall serve four (4) year terms. A new member may be appointed to fulfill the unexpired term of a member who can no longer serve. Appointed Commissioners shall serve a maximum of two full terms plus any unexpired term, which the member has been appointed to complete. The Chair and Vice-Chair, selected by the Commission, shall each serve for a one (1) year term or until successors are appointed.
- C. Maintenance of Membership. Persons appointed members shall continue to serve except for:
 - a. Expiration of their term and appointment of their successor.
 - b. Voluntary resignation.
 - c. Failure to attend 50% of meetings held during any 12 month period, whether excused or not excused.
 - d. Members who are no longer residents of the City should there already be two voting non-resident members on the TC.

In accordance with the above, the Chair of the Commission is authorized to communicate with individual members whose absences exceed the 50% standard to seek their resignation if they cannot attend the prescribed number of meetings and, if unsuccessful, to remind them that one subsequent missed meeting will mean an automatic dismissal from the Commission.

IV. OFFICERS

- A. The officers of the Commission shall be:

Chair: who shall preside at all meetings of the Commission, call special meetings, appoint committees, and perform other proper duties of a presiding officer. Except as otherwise authorized by the Commission, the Chair shall sign all correspondence, reports and other instruments approved by the Commission and perform other activities as directed by a majority of the Commission.

Vice Chair: who shall perform the duties of the Chair in the absence or incapacity of the Chair; and in case of the resignation or other permanent absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall perform such duties as are imposed on the Chair until such

time as the Commission shall select a new chair.

Secretary: who shall keep a written record of business transacted by the Commission, notify members of meetings, maintain the official records of the Commission, and perform such other duties as a majority of the Commission may direct.

- B. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected by the Commission from its membership at the first meeting after July 1 of each year when the Commission is fully constituted.
- C. Secretary: The Planning, Building, and Transportation Director shall appoint the Secretary of the Transportation Commission.
- D. Additional Duties. The officers of the Commission shall perform such other duties and functions as may from time to time be required by the Commission.

V. MEETINGS

- A. Regular Meetings. The Commission shall adopt a regular meeting calendar for each year. The Commission shall generally meet at 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the odd-numbered months. As needed, even-numbered months may be added and alternate dates chosen to avoid holidays. In compliance with the Brown Act and Sunshine Ordinance, all meetings shall be open and public. An agenda will be prepared and posted seven (7) days before a regular meeting.
- B. Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Chair or by a majority of the Commissioners. Notice shall be provided in accordance with the Sunshine Ordinance. The Secretary shall poll Commissioners and attempt to arrange a date and time convenient to all Commissioners. A minimum of 48 hours' notice shall be given each Commissioner, unless Commissioners have unanimously consented to date and time of the special meeting. If all Commissioners agree to date and time of a special meeting, the public will be given a minimum of twelve (12) days before the time of such meeting as specified in the notice, consistent with Brown Act and AMC requirements.
- C. Meeting Location. Meetings shall be held in the City Hall Council Chambers or other appropriate location that is accessible by public transit. When the City Hall Council Chambers are unavailable and in exceptional circumstances, the Commission may change this meeting location by notice on its agenda.
- D. Adjournment. Meetings shall adjourn no later than 11:00 p.m. By a majority vote, the Commission may extend the meeting to an additional specified amount of time.
 - (1) If the Commissioners extend three meetings in a row past 11:00 p.m., the Commissioners shall also be required, as a part of the motion to extend the meeting, to increase the number of regular meetings of the Commission

to accomplish the business before the Commission before 11:00 p.m.

(2) No new items will begin after 10:30 p.m. unless a supermajority of the Commission votes to allow the items to be heard. Commission communications may continue to be heard after 10:30 p.m. whether or not a supermajority of the Commission has voted to extend the meeting.

VI. AGENDA

A. Order of Business

1. Roll Call
2. Agenda Changes
3. Staff Communications
4. Non-Agenda Public Comment
5. Consent Calendar
6. Regular Agenda Items
7. Commission Communications
8. Adjournment

B. Placement of items on meeting agenda by Commission Members.

Any Commission Member may place items on any regular or special agenda pertaining to the Commission's jurisdiction for discussion or action by the Commission. All Member requests for items to be placed on a regular meeting agenda must be received by the Secretary at least 30 calendar days prior to the scheduled meeting date. The Secretary shall accept both written and verbal requests.

VII. MINUTES

A. Provision of Minutes. The minutes shall be provided as required by [Alameda Municipal Code section 2-91.16](#) – Minutes.

B. Remarks of Commission Member - When Entered in Minutes. Any Commission Member may request, through the presiding officer, the privilege of having a written abstract of said Member's statement on any subject under consideration by the Commission entered in the minutes. If the Commission consents thereto, such statement shall be entered in the minutes.

VIII. RULES OF ORDER

The following definitions and rules shall govern the proceedings and order of business of the Commission:

A. Motions. The acts of the Commission shall be expressed by motion. No motion shall have any validity or effect unless passed by the affirmative votes of a majority of the members present, provided the members constitute a quorum of the

Commission. A tie vote is a negative decision of the Commission.

B. Public Discussion.

- a. Description of Item. Prior to public discussion or Commission deliberation, the presiding officer or other person designated thereby shall describe the item or business before the Commission.
- b. Permission. Any person addressing the Commission shall first secure the permission of the presiding officer.
- c. Not a Debate. Public discussion should not be used to elicit a debate between Commission members and the public. Speakers should not be interrupted unless they are out of order.
- d. Time Limits. All speakers shall limit comments to three (3) minutes or less. Comments shall be limited to two (2) minutes for items with eleven (11) or more speakers. The Chair has the discretion to allow speakers more time.
- e. Pending Motion. When a motion is pending before the Commission, no person other than a Commission Member shall address the Commission without first securing the permission of the Commission to do so.
- f. Public Discussion. Public discussion shall precede Commission deliberation.
- g. No discussion shall be permitted without approval of the Commission after a motion, which would terminate further deliberation, has been adopted.

C. Commission Deliberation.

- a. Presiding Officer May Deliberate. The presiding officer may deliberate from the chair, subject only to such limitations of deliberation as are by these rules imposed on all members, and shall not be deprived of any of the rights and privileges as a Member of the Commission by reason of his or her acting as the presiding officer.
- b. Conflict of Interest. In situations where there is a conflict of interest, members of the Transportation Commission are required to abstain from voting on the item and participating in the decision-making process. The following procedures should be followed:
 1. Declare the conflict of interest.
 2. State the basis of the conflict of interest.
 3. Do not discuss or vote on the matter.
 4. Step down from the podium and leave the room until the

item is completed.

- c. Getting the Floor - Improper References to be Avoided. Every Member desiring to speak shall address the Chair, and upon recognition by the presiding officer, shall confine himself or herself to the questions under deliberation, avoiding all personalities and indecorous language.
- d. Interruptions. A Member, once recognized, shall not be interrupted when speaking unless it be to call said Member to order, or as herein otherwise provided. If a Member, while speaking, is called to order, said Member shall cease speaking until the question of order is determined, and if in order, said Member shall be permitted to proceed.
- f. Motion to Reconsider. A motion by a Member to reconsider any action taken by the Commission may be made only on the date such action was taken. It may be made either immediately during the same session; or at a recessed or adjourned session thereof. Such motion must be made by one Member of the prevailing side, and may be made at any time and have precedence over all other motions or while a Member has the floor; it shall be debatable. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent any Member of the Commission from making or remaking the same or other motion at a subsequent meeting of the Commission or a motion to rescind.
- g. Motion to Table. A motion to table shall preclude all amendments or deliberation of the subject under consideration. If the motion shall prevail, the consideration of the subject may be resumed only upon a motion of a Member voting with the majority.
- h. Motion to Call for Question or Continue to a Date Specific. A motion to call for the question or continue the matter to a specific date shall preclude all amendments to or deliberation of the subject under consideration and is not debatable.
- i. Statement of Position. When a motion to call for question or table is adopted, each Member of the Commission may briefly state his/her position on the matter before roll call or call for the next item of business.
- j. Privilege of Closing Deliberation. The Commission Member moving the adoption of a motion shall have the privilege of closing the deliberations or making the final statement.
- k. Division of Question. If the question contains two (2) or more divisible propositions, the presiding officer may, and upon request of a Member shall, divide the same.

- l. Second Required. All motions except for a point of order shall require a second.
- m. Voting. The votes of a majority of a quorum shall be necessary to take any action thereof. If a motion fails to receive the required number of votes to pass or fail, the request of any Commissioner would cause the item to be carried over to the next meeting.
- n. Forms of Action. The Commission may act by motion or resolution. All resolutions shall be in writing.
- o. Miscellaneous. All other matters not covered by these rules shall be decided by a majority of the Commission. Rosenberg's Rules of Order may be used as a guide.

IX. ATTENDANCE

1. It shall be the responsibility of each Commission Member to notify the Secretary, who shall thereupon notify the Chair, of an inability to attend a scheduled Commission meeting.

X. PREEMPTION

1. The applicable City of Alameda's policies, resolutions and ordinances and state and federal laws shall prevail where a conflict exists between any of them and these Bylaws.