



AGENDA ITEM 8A

MEETING: November 15, 2023
TO: Humboldt LAFCo Commissioners
FROM: Colette Santsche, Humboldt LAFCo
SUBJECT: **Meeting Location for LAFCo Meetings**
Staff will provide an overview of the current meeting location and receive direction from the Commission as to the suitability of the meeting space or any change in location, as necessary.

BACKGROUND

AB 2449 was signed into law in 2022 and went into effect on January 1, 2023. This law made changes to the Brown Act regarding remote participation of members of a governing body. Under the new law, less than a majority of members of the governing body may attend the meeting remotely for "just cause" or "emergency circumstances". For some public agencies this means a return to fully in person meetings with no remote participation option. However, the Commission decided to hold hybrid meetings going forward in order to increase public access for residents of Humboldt County that live far away from the typical meeting location in Eureka. Since March 2023, the Commission has been holding hybrid meetings from the City of Eureka Council Chambers located at 531 K Street, Eureka, CA.

DISCUSSION

At the January 18, 2023 Regular Commission Meeting, commissioners voted to hold hybrid meetings at the City of Eureka Council Chambers. This location can accommodate 7 members on the dais, staff seating for 6, and a total room capacity of 147. No special training is required to operate technology for meetings and one staff member is able to run the hybrid meeting options. The Commission has now held four meetings at this location. Based on Commission direction, LAFCo meetings can continue to take place at the City of Eureka Council Chambers or staff can look into other meeting locations.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission discuss the suitability of the current meeting location and provide direction to staff regarding in-person meetings as necessary.