



AGENDA NO: I

MEETING DATE: January 27, 2023

**AGENDA CORRESPONDENCE
RECEIVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR
PUBLIC REVIEW PRIOR TO THE MEETING**

From: [Carolyn R Brinkman](#)
To: [Council](#)
Cc: [Scott Collins](#)
Subject: Public Comments for Special Meeting Today 1/27/2023
Date: Friday, January 27, 2023 11:38:21 AM

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Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I'm sorry that I won't be able to attend the meeting scheduled for today at 1pm, so I'm going to have to write my public comment.

You have very important business on your agenda. I do have some concerns about the meeting, though. Depending on the agreements you make together, the meeting may honor the Brown Act legally but may not honor the spirit of the Act,

__ You will be coming to agreement on issues **critical** to how you will conduct Council: business : you will establish Council values, discuss how to cooperate as a Council, and decide how to make agreements on how you will collaborate and coordinate on community needs and issues.

__ Unfortunately, the meeting is scheduled for 1pm on a Friday afternoon. I'm concerned that few people will be able to attend the meeting or even be aware that it is taking place, Also, the meeting will not be televised or teleconferenced.

___ Our community is facing **huge** issues in a time when—as the last election shows—people are concerned about how decisions get made by Council. Many think decisions in the past were made out of full view of the public, decisions that may seriously impact this community for years to come.

__ The Brown Act was meant to make our governing bodies' deliberations **public** and to let constituents know the arguments members of a governing bodies make in reaching their decisions.

__ Please, Council members, honor the Brown Act. Here is the preamble to that act:

"Public commissions, boards, councils and other legislative bodies of local government agencies exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business. The people do not yield their sovereignty to the bodies that serve them. The people insist on remaining informed to retain control over the legislative bodies they have created."

__ Please, Council members, as you establish your values and make commitments on how you will cooperate, collaborate, and coordinate in meeting your community's needs, remember that we, the people "insist on remaining informed to retain control of the legislative bodies (we) have created."

Thank you, and I wish you a fruitful session today. Thank you for being willing to serve us as Council members. I know your job will not be easy.

Be well,

Carolyn (Bonnie) Brinkman