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www.sanbenitocountyca.gov

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Esperanza Colio Warren

COUNTY COUNSEL:
Gregory P Priamos

CLERK OF THE BOARD:
Vanessa Delgado

Agenda Item
Regular Meeting of the
Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Item Number: 3.3

MEETING DATE: 06/23/2026

DEPARTMENT: CLERK OF THE BOARD

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Vanessa Delgado

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Vanessa Delgado

SUBJECT:

CLERK OF THE BOARD - V. DELGADO

1. Receive presentation regarding reasonable efforts to encourage members of the public to participate in public meetings in accordance with SB707; and
2. Provide staff direction as desired.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 156

AGENDA SECTION:

REGULAR AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

Effective July 1, 2026, Government Code section 54953.4(b)(3) establishes new requirements for eligible legislative bodies intended to enhance public access to, and participation in, public meetings. These requirements focus on improving transparency, promoting broader civic engagement, and supporting participation from underrepresented and none-English-speaking communities.

The statute requires counties to implement a system for electronically accepting and fulfilling requests for meeting agendas and related documents pursuant to Section 54954.1. This system may utilize email or an integrated agenda management platform. A prominent, direct link to instructions for submitting such requests must be placed on the County's primary website homepage so members of the public can easily locate and utilize this service.

In addition, counties must create and maintain an accessible webpage dedicated specifically to public meetings. This webpage is required to include, or provide clear links to:

- A general explanation of the County's public meeting process.

- Instructions for submitting public comment - both in-person and remotely - and procedures for submitting written public comments.
- A meeting calendar listing all scheduled public meetings, including the date, time, and location of each meeting.
- Agendas posted online in accordance with Section 54954.2(a)(2).

A link to this public-meeting webpage must also be included on the County's homepage to ensure visibility and ease of access.

The statute further directs counties to make reasonable efforts to invite participation from groups that do not traditionally engage in public meetings. Such efforts may include outreach to:

- Media organizations that provide coverage within the County, including those serving non-English-speaking communities.
- Good-government, civil rights, civic engagement, neighborhood, and community-based organizations active within the County, including those representing or serving none-English-speaking populations.

The law provides legislative bodies with broad discretion in determining what constitutes reasonable outreach, and it expressly states that no legal action may be brought for failure to provide meeting information to any specific group.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Receive presentation regarding reasonable efforts to encourage members of the public to participate in public meetings in accordance with SB707; and
2. Provide staff direction as desired.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Agenda Fact Sheet - SB707](#)

[Presentation - SB707 Public Participation](#)