



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 2/17/2021

Agenda Placement: 8A

## Napa County Planning Commission Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Napa County Planning Commission  
**FROM:** Brian Bordona for David Morrison - Director  
Planning, Building and Environmental Services  
**REPORT BY:** Brian Bordona, Deputy Director of PBES - (707) 259-5935  
**SUBJECT:** Brown Act Workshop

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **BROWN ACT WORKSHOP - INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

**CEQA Status:** Not applicable; no action is requested

**Staff Recommendation:** Receive an informational presentation regarding the Ralph M. Brown Act.

**Staff Contact:** Brian Bordona (707) 259-5935 or [brian.bordona@countyofnapa.org](mailto:brian.bordona@countyofnapa.org)

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **Proposed Action:**

This is a presentation on the Brown Act; no action is requested.

#### **Discussion:**

The Brown Act is officially known as the Ralph M. Brown Act and was enacted in 1953 to guarantee the public's right to attend and participate in meetings of local legislative bodies.

### **FISCAL & STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?

No

County Strategic Plan pillar addressed:

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

### **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

The Brown Act or "Open Meeting Law" is officially known as the Ralph M. Brown Act and is found in the California Government Code Section 54950. The Brown Act was enacted in 1953 to guarantee the public's right to attend and participate in meetings of local legislative bodies, and as a response to growing concerns about local government officials' practice of holding meetings that were not in compliance with advance public notice requirements. The Brown Act is important in enabling the public to participate in the decision making process.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None

Napa County Planning Commission: Approve

Reviewed By: Brian Bordona