



Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Pierson and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

Approved by: Reva Feldman, City Manager

Date prepared: March 24, 2021 Meeting date: April 26, 2021

Subject: Closed Session (Councilmember Uhring) (Continued from April 12, 2021)

RECOMMENDED ACTION: At the request of Councilmember Uhring, consider allowing public access to all or portions of Closed Session meetings of the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

WORK PLAN: This item was not included in the Adopted Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. This project is part of normal staff operations.

DISCUSSION: [California Government Code Title 5, Chapter 9, Section 54950](#), commonly referred to as the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires local government business to be conducted at open and public meetings, except in certain limited situations, so the people are informed of business conducted by their elected officials on their behalf.

The Brown Act allows a legislative body during a meeting to convene a closed session in order to meet privately with its advisors on specific topics. Examples of business which may be conducted in closed session include personnel evaluations or labor negotiations, pending litigation, and real estate negotiations (Sections 54956.7 through 54957 and Sections 54957.6 and 54957.8).

The Brown Act prohibits the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information acquired in a closed session by any person present. However, in certain circumstances, the Council acting as a body can agree to divulge confidential closed session information. Councilmember Uhring is requesting the Council consider allowing public access to all or portions of the Council's closed session meetings.

ATTACHMENTS: None.