

Policy on Using Chat or other Electronic Messaging during Commission Meetings

All meetings of the Commission and its committees must satisfy the requirements of the Commission's own constitutional provisions and statutes and the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act, as modified by the Governor's Executive Orders on COVID. Consequently, all substantive discussions during open sessions must be conducted in a manner that is open to the public. The use of Chat during zoom meetings and any electronic messaging that is directed to other Commissioners or staff during public meetings constitute discussions that are not open to the public.

Therefore, the use of Chat and other electronic messaging during Commission meetings shall be limited to non-substantive matters, such as informing other Commissioners that you are stepping away from the meeting, seeking clarification as to the time of the next break or an upcoming agenda item, or letting a Commissioner know that he or she is muted or unmuted. If you are in doubt as to whether a matter is substantive, you may either convey the message in public, or wait for a break and seek advice from counsel.

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