

Resolution of the Civic Engagement Commission:

WHEREAS, the Civic Engagement Commission has been meeting regularly for the entire duration of the Covid-19 pandemic, having begun virtual meetings in April of 2020 in accordance with the State Open Meetings Law as amended by the Governor’s executive orders suspending certain provisions thereof; and

WHEREAS, section 2 of Part WW of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022, codified at Open Meetings Law § 103-a(3), empowers the Commission to meet entirely remotely if during a state disaster emergency declared by the Governor or a local state of emergency declared by the Mayor, the Commission determines that the circumstances necessitating the emergency declaration affect or impair its ability to hold in-person meetings; and

WHEREAS, in Executive Order 11.7, dated June 14, 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul continued the state disaster emergency for an additional 30 days, or through July 14, finding that “New York continues to experience COVID-19 transmission, with the rate of new COVID-19 hospital admissions remaining at over 100 new admissions a day” and that “the SARS-CoV-2 variant known as Omicron, determined a variant of concern by the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is known to be highly-transmissible”; and

WHEREAS, in Emergency Executive Order 103, dated May 26, 2022, Mayor Eric Adams continued the local state of emergency for an additional 30 days, identifying “the propensity of the virus to spread person-to-person” as a reason for the extension;

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that

1. The Commission, consistent with the authority granted by the State of New York, determines that the circumstances necessitating the emergency declarations by the Governor and Mayor would affect or impair the ability of the Commission to hold in-person meetings and, therefore, Commission meetings shall continue to be held entirely by remote means and the in-person participation requirements of the Open Meetings Law shall not apply; and

2. This resolution shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until the earlier of: 1) such time as the Governor ends the state disaster emergency and the Mayor ends the city state of emergency based on COVID-19 transmission; or 2) such time that the Commission concludes that the circumstances necessitating the emergency declarations by the Governor and Mayor would no longer affect or impair the ability of the Commission to hold in-person meetings.

DATED: 6-22-2022