



City Hall, Room 346B 801 Plum Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Phone

(513) 352-3640

Betsy.Sundermann@cincinnati-oh.gov

Calendan Mem

Betsy Sundermann

Cincinnati City Councilmember

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MOTION

WE MOVE the City Administration pursue policy changes of indefinitely preserving the ability of members of the public, the city administration, the mayor and city council to fully participate in city council business virtually. Full participation for the public includes virtual access to public comment and presentations. Full participation for the mayor and councilmembers includes virtual access to participation and voting during committee and council meetings.

WE FURTHER MOVE if this is found to be an option that the City Administration take the necessary steps to provide for and implement the option of full virtual participation.

Betsy Sundermann

Jan-Michele Kearney

STATEMENT

Since full virtual participation has been allowed for, and at times required, due to the COVID-19 pandemic over the past year, we have seen both the need and desire for this option to be allowed in the future.

The option for a councilmember to participate in meetings virtually should be available when special sessions are scheduled, when s/he is sick, when s/he is caring for a sick family member, or for any other personal reason.

These measures can also allow for greater public participation, as many people who may want to speak before council are unable to do so for personal or work related reasons, and our city has a duty to provide such access to the public.