



SFCTA Clerk <clerk@sfcta.org>

Item 16 Public Comment: Request to Voluntarily Adopt SB 707 Remote Participation Standards for SFCTA Meetings

1 message

Roland Lebrun <ccss@msn.com>

Mon, Jul 13, 2026 at 2:27 PM

To: SFCTA Clerk <clerk@sfcta.org>

Cc: "SauterStaff@sfgov.org" <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>, "ChanStaff@sfgov.org" <ChanStaff@sfgov.org>, "ChenStaff@sfgov.org" <ChenStaff@sfgov.org>, "DorseyStaff@sfgov.org" <DorseyStaff@sfgov.org>, "fielderstaff@sfgov.org" <fielderstaff@sfgov.org>, "MahmoodStaff@sfgov.org" <MahmoodStaff@sfgov.org>, "mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org" <mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org>, "SherrillStaff@sfgov.org" <SherrillStaff@sfgov.org>, "waltonstaff@sfgov.org" <waltonstaff@sfgov.org>, "WongStaff@sfgov.org" <WongStaff@sfgov.org>, "MelgarStaff@sfgov.org" <MelgarStaff@sfgov.org>, SFCTA CAC <cac@sfcta.org>, Tilly Chang <tilly.chang@sfcta.org>, Maria Lombardo <maria.lombardo@sfcta.org>, MTC Commission <info@mtc.ca.gov>

Dear Chair Melgar and Commissioners,

Thank you for your reply.

While the Transportation Authority is technically exempt from the mandatory remote public comment requirements of Senate Bill 707 due to its legal classification as a special district with under 200 employees, I urge the Board to consider voluntarily adopting two-way remote public comment options for all future meetings.

The 11 members of this body are the exact same elected officials who serve on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. When acting as Supervisors, you are required by law to provide robust, two-way telephonic or audiovisual access to the public. Swapping legal "hats" to sit as the SFCTA Board should not diminish the public's ability to participate in crucial transit and infrastructure decisions, especially for residents with disabilities, caregiver responsibilities, or work conflicts that prevent in-person attendance at City Hall.

Relying solely on static email submissions restricts the public's ability to respond to real-time meeting developments. For the sake of consistency, equity, and democratic transparency, I am respectfully requesting that the SFCTA consider utilizing the existing City Hall and SFGovTV communication infrastructure to restore real-time remote public comment.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Roland Lebrun

CC

MTC Commissioners

SFCTA CAC

From: amy.saeyang@sfcta.org <amy.saeyang@sfcta.org> on behalf of SFCTA Clerk <clerk@sfcta.org>

Sent: Monday, July 13, 2026 1:01 PM

To: Roland Lebrun <ccss@msn.com>

Cc: SauterStaff@sfgov.org <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; ChanStaff@sfgov.org <ChanStaff@sfgov.org>; ChenStaff@sfgov.org <ChenStaff@sfgov.org>; DorseyStaff@sfgov.org <DorseyStaff@sfgov.org>; fielderstaff@sfgov.org <fielderstaff@sfgov.org>; MahmoodStaff@sfgov.org <MahmoodStaff@sfgov.org>; mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org <mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org>; SherrillStaff@sfgov.org <SherrillStaff@sfgov.org>; waltonstaff@sfgov.org <waltonstaff@sfgov.org>; WongStaff@sfgov.org <WongStaff@sfgov.org>; MelgarStaff@sfgov.org <MelgarStaff@sfgov.org>; Tilly Chang <tilly.chang@sfcta.org>; Maria Lombardo <maria.lombardo@sfcta.org>

Subject: RE: DEMAND TO CURE AND CORRECT BROWN ACT VIOLATION (Gov. Code § 54960.1) – July 14, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda

Dear Mr. Lebrun,

Thank you for your inquiry. Senate Bill (SB) 707 (Durazo), which makes changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Section 54950 et. Seq.) (Brown Act), was signed into law on October 3, 2025. Among the changes made by the bill are establishing a new requirement mandating that an 'Eligible Legislative Body' provide remote public comment from July 1, 2026 until January 1, 2030 and requiring that the agenda for each meeting of an 'Eligible Legislative Body' be translated into all 'applicable languages' during this same time period. **The Transportation Authority, which is a special district, is not subject to the aforementioned new requirements because it does not meet the 'Eligible Legislative Body' definition that triggers these requirements. For your reference, the relevant excerpt from SB 707 is provided below:**

California Government Code Section 54953.4.(e)(2) as amended by SB 707 (Durazo):

(2) "Eligible legislative body" means any of the following:

(A) A city council of a city with a population of 30,000 or more.

(B) A county board of supervisors of a county, or city and county, with a population of 30,000 or more.

(C) A city council of a city located in a county with a population of 600,000 or more.

(D) The board of directors of a special district that has an internet website and meets any of the following conditions:

(i) The boundaries of the special district include the entirety of a county with a population of 600,000 or more, and the special district has over 200 full-time equivalent employees.

(ii) The special district has over 1,000 full-time equivalent employees.

(iii) The special district has annual revenues, based on the most recent Financial Transaction Report data published by the California State Controller, that exceed four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000), adjusted annually for inflation commencing January 1, 2027, as measured by the percentage change in the California Consumer Price Index from January 1 of the prior year to January 1 of the current year, and the special district employs over 200 full-time equivalent employees.

Transportation Authority meeting agendas provide instructions for how to provide public comment in person, by email and mail. For instance, members of the public may comment on the meeting during public comment periods in person. Written public comment may be submitted prior to a meeting by emailing the Clerk of the Transportation Authority at clerk@sfcta.org or sending written comments to Clerk of the Transportation Authority, [1455 Market Street, 22nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103](#).

Further, as required, our agendas also include information regarding how, to whom, and when a request for disability-related modification of accommodation, including auxiliary aides or services may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification of accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting.

Best Regards,

Amy Saeyang

Clerk of the Transportation Authority

On Mon, Jul 13, 2026 at 4:33 AM Roland Lebrun <ccss@msn.com> wrote:
Resending with corrected email addresses.

From: Roland Lebrun <ccss@msn.com>

Sent: Monday, July 13, 2026 3:40 AM

To: SFCTA Board Secretary <clerk@sfcta.org>

Cc: Bilal.Mahmood@sfcta.org <Bilal.Mahmood@sfcta.org>; Chyanne.Fielder@sfcta.org <Chyanne.Fielder@sfcta.org>; Connie.Chan@sfcta.org <Connie.Chan@sfcta.org>; Danny.Sauter@sfcta.org <Danny.Sauter@sfcta.org>; Ellen.Wong@sfcta.org <Ellen.Wong@sfcta.org>; Jackie.Sherrill@sfcta.org <Jackie.Sherrill@sfcta.org>; Matt.Dorsey@sfcta.org <Matt.Dorsey@sfcta.org>; Myrna.Melgar@sfcta.org <Myrna.Melgar@sfcta.org>; Rafael.Mandelman@sfcta.org <Rafael.Mandelman@sfcta.org>; Shamann.Walton@sfcta.org <Shamann.Walton@sfcta.org>; Sharon.Chen@sfcta.org <Sharon.Chen@sfcta.org>

Subject: DEMAND TO CURE AND CORRECT BROWN ACT VIOLATION (Gov. Code § 54960.1) – July 14, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda

TO: Clerk of the Board, San Francisco County Transportation Authority

CC: SFCTA General Counsel & Commissioners

DATE: July 12, 2026

VIA: Email / Certified Mail

RE: DEMAND TO CURE AND CORRECT BROWN ACT VIOLATION (Gov. Code § 54960.1) – July 14, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda

Dear Chair Melgar and Commissioners,

This letter serves as a formal demand to cure and correct a substantial violation of the **Ralph M. Brown Act**, pursuant to **California Government Code Section 54960.1**.

The Violation:

The published agenda for the July 14, 2026, meeting of the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) Board states that *"Members of the public may comment on the meeting during public comment periods in person."* It fails to provide a real-time, two-way telephonic or audiovisual method for remote public testimony.

As of **July 1, 2026**, under **California Senate Bill 707 (Durazo)**, "eligible legislative bodies" operating in counties of this size are strictly mandated by **Government Code Section 54953** to provide the public with an opportunity to both attend and provide real-time, live public comment via a **two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform**.

One-way broadcasts (such as SFGovTV) paired solely with pre-meeting email submissions explicitly **do not comply** with the statutory definition of two-way real-time participation.

Additional SB 707 Violation: Failure to Meet Language Translation Mandates

Furthermore, pursuant to **California Government Code Section 54953.4** (enacted by SB 707 and active as of **July 1, 2026**), any eligible legislative body serving a jurisdiction of this size must translate meeting agendas and provide translation services if any limited-English-proficient group constitutes 20% or more of the local population.

The SFCTA's July 14 agenda fails to include the mandatory translated agenda materials and explicit instructions detailing how non-English speakers can request real-time translation for remote public participation. This serves as a secondary, distinct violation of the Brown Act open-meeting mandates.

The Demand:

To cure these violations, the SFCTA must immediately take one of the following actions:

1. **Amend the Agenda:** Instantly update the July 14 agenda to:
 - a. Include a dial-in phone number or a two-way video link (e.g., Zoom/Webex) that allows members of the public to offer live oral testimony remotely.
 - b. Include the mandatory translated agenda materials and explicit instructions detailing how non-English speakers can request real-time translation for remote public participation.
2. **Postpone Action:** Postpone any final votes or actions scheduled for the July 14 meeting until a meeting can be noticed in full compliance with SB 707's Hybrid and Language Translation mandates.

Please be advised that if the SFCTA fails to cure these violations and proceeds to take action on agenda items during this meeting, those actions may be subject to being declared **null and void** by a court of competent jurisdiction. Furthermore, the agency may face legal actions for declaratory or injunctive relief.

I look forward to your prompt response indicating how the SFCTA intends to resolve these structural omissions.

Sincerely,

Roland Lebrun

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Clerk
SFCTA

Office: 415-522-4800
clerk@sfcta.org



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Authority**

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