

	King County Council (current rule)	King County Council (proposed rule)	Seattle City Council	Bellevue City Council	Puget Sound Regional Council	Sound Transit Board	Snohomish County Council	Pierce County Council	Spokane County Commissioners	Multnomah County Commissioners	NACo Executive Committee
Permitted form(s) of remote attendance	"[B]y telephone or other electronic means"	No change from current rule.	"[B]y any electronic means (e.g. multi-party telephone or video conferencing) utilized by the Council for such purpose"	"[U]sing approved teleconferencing equipment."	"[T]elephone conference or other electronic communications media"	"[T]eleconference," defined as "attendance at a meeting by two-way communication that allows the Board member to be heard by other board members and the public."	"[B]y speakerphone or other form of telephonic communication by means of which the member can hear what is said at the meeting and be heard by other persons attending the meeting."	Not permitted (though the councilmembers have discussed the possibility of adopting such a rule, per the clerk).	"Any member of the board of county commissioners may attend any board meeting by telephone" [subject to technical requirements below]	"A commissioner who cannot be physically present at a meeting may attend and participate by telephone."	"[T]elephone conference calls or similar communications equipment."
Permissible circumstances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency; • Special meetings during recess; • "Urgent circumstances"¹ 	Revised definition of "urgent circumstances" ² KCC 1.24.145.C.5.	Only at an "Emergency Meeting" (due to "a natural disaster, fire, flood, earthquake, enemy attack, imminent enemy attack, or other catastrophic emergency that renders a Councilmember's physical attendance at a meeting impracticable")	When "[a] Councilmember [is] not able to be physically present for a meeting." ³	No limitation.	"[E]xtraordinary circumstances such as emergencies, illness, accident, being away from the agency's region due to official business, or similar circumstances"	No limitation.	Not applicable.	No limitation.	No limitation.	No limitation.
Approval required?	No	For more than three meetings	No	Yes. See notice requirements on p. 3 of this table.	No	No	No	Not applicable.	No	No	No

¹ Defined as either (1) "inclement weather that poses an immediate life, health or safety risk to the member if the member were to travel to the meeting, such as a flood alert in the member's district or snow in the member's district or in an area through which the member must travel to get to the meeting" or (2) "the member or an immediate family member, including spouse or domestic partner, child, child of spouse or domestic partner, parent, parent of spouse or domestic partner, grandparent or grandparent of spouse or domestic partner, has a medically related emergency or urgent need for assistance that makes the member unable to attend the meeting."

² Defined as either (1) "inclement weather that poses an immediate life, health or safety risk to the member if the member were to travel to the meeting, such as a flood alert in the member's district or snow in the member's district, or in an area through which the member must travel to get to the meeting that results in circumstances that make it difficult for the member to attend the meeting" or (2) "the member or an immediate family member, including spouse or domestic partner, child, child of spouse or domestic partner, parent, parent of spouse or domestic partner, grandparent or grandparent of spouse or domestic partner, has a medically related emergency issue or other urgent need for assistance that makes it difficult for the member unable to attend the meeting."

³ The resolution further provides: "Examples of situations where remote participation is authorized include, but are not limited to:

- An agenda item is time sensitive, and remote participation is needed to achieve a quorum;
- An agenda item is of high importance to the Councilmember who cannot be physically present;
- It is considered important for **all** Councilmembers to participate in a key policy decision, but a Council member is unable to be physically present."

	King County Council (current rule)	King County Council (proposed rule)	Seattle City Council	Bellevue City Council	Puget Sound Regional Council	Sound Transit Board	Snohomish County Council	Pierce County Council	Spokane County Commissioners	Multnomah County Commissioners	NACo Executive Committee
Voting permitted?	Yes	No change from current rule.	Yes.	Not specified, but resolution provides in part: "Such remote participation will be considered attendance at the meeting and shall be counted toward determination of a quorum."	Yes	Not specified, but legislative action is by "an affirmative vote of a majority of the Board members in attendance"	Yes	Not applicable.	Not specified.	Yes.	Yes. "Participation by means of telephone conference call or other communications equipment shall constitute presence in person at such meeting."
Applicable to committee meetings or only full body?	Council meetings only, not committee meetings	Both council and standing committee meetings. KCC 1.24.145.C.1.	No distinction made as to type of meeting.	No distinction is made as to type of meeting.	Identical rules for meetings of the General Assembly and meetings of the Executive Board.	Both full board and committee (and subcommittee) meetings.	Both council and committee meetings.	Not applicable.	Not specified, except that the rule applies to "any board meeting."	No distinction is made as to type of meeting.	No distinction is made as to type of meeting.
Number of times permitted per member	"Urgent circumstances" are limited to three times per calendar year; otherwise, unspecified.	Remote attendance based on member's declaration of "urgent circumstances" remains limited to three times per year, but additional times are permitted if approved by "an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at the meeting." "For a council meeting, approval of the request also requires that a quorum be present." KCC 1.24.145.C.2, 3.	Not specified.	"[N]o more than four time per year, unless absent for medical reasons, and only two Councilmembers may participate remotely during any one Council meeting."	Not specified.	Not specified.	Six per calendar year	Not applicable.	Not specified.	Not specified.	Not specified.

	King County Council (current rule)	King County Council (proposed rule)	Seattle City Council	Bellevue City Council	Puget Sound Regional Council	Sound Transit Board	Snohomish County Council	Pierce County Council	Spokane County Commissioners	Multnomah County Commissioners	NACo Executive Committee
Technical requirements	"The clerk of the council, in consultation with the chair, shall establish authentication and operating procedures."	"When participating by telephone or other electronic means, the member must have their voice audible so that the public can hear the discussion and voting process." KCC 1.24.145.C.4.	Not specified.	Must use "approved teleconferencing equipment."	"[S]o long as all members may simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting"	"The teleconference technical connection for the meeting must allow the Board member to hear and be heard by other Board members and the public."	"[T]he member can hear what is said at the meeting and be heard by other persons attending the meeting."	Not applicable.	"[S]peaker phone equipment must be available at the location of the meeting which will allow all present at the meeting, including the public, to hear the member's voice and for the member participating by telephone to hear all that is stated at the meeting."	"Except for executive sessions, the public will be provided a place to listen to the communication."	"[P]rovided that all persons participating in such a meeting can hear each other."
Notice requirements	Declaration orally or in writing to the chair of the Council. No time requirement.	"To facilitate connection to the broadcasting system, requests for participation by telephone or other electronic means should be made half an hour in advance of the meeting when possible." KCC 1.24.145.C.4.	None.	"Remote participation must be approved in advance, either at an earlier Council meeting or before joining a current meeting."	None.	"[A]dequate notice given to the Board Administrator."	Notice at a prior regular meeting is requested, or reasonable notice to clerk of council is required.	Not applicable.	None.	None.	None.

	King County Council (current rule)	King County Council (proposed rule)	Seattle City Council	Bellevue City Council	Puget Sound Regional Council	Sound Transit Board	Snohomish County Council	Pierce County Council	Spokane County Commissioners	Multnomah County Commissioners	NACo Executive Committee
Additional requirements						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “No more than 25% of the membership of the Board or a Committee or a Subcommittee may attend a meeting of the Board or a Committee of the Board by teleconference, except as may otherwise be permitted by suspending the rules of procedure as provided in this Resolution.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A quorum must be physically present. • “A member who is physically present must preside over the meeting.” 				
Source	KCC 1.24.145	Proposed Ordinance 2014-0320	General Rules and Procedures of the Seattle City Council, § II.D	Resolution No. 8928, § 6.E (28 May 2015)	PSRC Bylaws, art. V, § 8; art. VI, § 13.	Resolution No. 1-1 (Amended), §§ 1.M, 8.C, 8.D.	Snohomish County Code § 2.48.035.	Pierce County Code, Chapter 1.28.	Spokane County Code § 1.01.050.	Multnomah County Board of County Commissioners, Board Rules § 8	NACo Executive Committee Bylaws, art. VII, § 4